



South Gloucestershire Council Playing Pitch Strategy

Strategy and Action Plan Report March 2024

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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Abbreviations

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
AP	Active Partnership
BC	Bowls Club
BE	Bowls England
CC	Cricket Club
CFA	County Football Association
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FE	Further Education
FF	Football Foundation
FIT	Fields in Trust
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GFA	Gloucestershire Football Association
GMA	Grounds Management Association
HE	Higher Education
HC	Hockey Club
IRB	International Rugby Board
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LMS	Last Man Stands
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
MUGA	Multi Use Games Area
MOD	Ministry of Defence
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RFL	Rugby Football League
RLFC	Rugby League Football Club
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
SGC	South Gloucestershire Council
TC	Tennis Club
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under
UWE	University of the West of England Bristol
WECA	West of England Combined Authority
WR	World Rugby

Part 1: Introduction

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd was appointed by South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) to undertake an assessment and develop a strategy for all formal outdoor playing pitch facilities across the authority to assist in strategically planning for the future. This forms part of a wider study including an Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy.

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy for South Gloucestershire. It has been developed in accordance with Sport England guidance and under the direction of a steering group led by the Council and including National Governing Bodies of Sport. It builds upon the preceding Assessment Report and is capable of:

- ▶ Providing adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting outdoor sports facilities, as appropriate, directing open space contributions secured through development and informing and shaping local planning policy.
- ▶ Informing the protection and provision of playing pitches.
- ▶ Informing land use decisions in respect of future use of existing playing pitch areas and playing fields (capable of accommodating pitches).
- ▶ Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of playing pitches.
- ▶ Supporting external funding bids and maximising support for playing pitches.
- ▶ Providing the basis for ongoing monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality and accessibility of playing pitches.

Monitoring and updating

It is important to ensure there is regular annual monitoring and review of the actions identified in the Strategy. This monitoring should be led by the Council and supported by the Steering Group. As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the Steering Group, then Sport England and the National Governing Bodies of Sport would consider the PPS; and the information on which it is based, to be out of date. If the Strategy is used as a 'live' document, and kept up to date, the time frame can be extended.

The PPS should be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the Steering Group. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment built up when developing the PPS. Considering the time spent developing the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed. Part 8 of this strategy report contains a suggested process for undertaking the update and monitoring. Appendix One provides a more detailed process for the Council to consider regarding the PPS update process.

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Scope

The scope of the PPS will focus geographically on all local provision, regardless of ownership and management arrangements. Provision included within the project is as follows:

Table 1.1: Summary of PPS scope

Grass playing pitches	Artificial turf pitches	Non-pitch facilities
Football pitches Cricket pitches Rugby union pitches Rugby league pitches	Hockey pitches (artificial grass pitches ¹) Third generation (3G) artificial grass pitches ²	Tennis courts Netball courts Bowling greens Athletics facilities

Pitch sports (i.e. football, rugby union, rugby league, hockey and cricket) will be assessed using the guidance set out in Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy (2013). In addition, any other grass sport pitches identified during the project will also be included.

Non-pitch facilities (bowls, tennis, netball, athletics facilities) will be assessed using Sport England's Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (2014). This requires a different methodology to assess supply and demand to that used for pitch sports.

With regards to each sport, the PPS will specifically consider the number of pitches/facilities and will take into account the size, quality, location, accessibility and capacity of the provision as well as accompanying ancillary facilities such as changing accommodation, toilets and car parking.

Study area

The study area is the South Gloucestershire Council boundary area. The analysis area divide is based on the 'South Gloucestershire Core Strategy 2006 - 2027 which identifies six 'Spatial Areas' for the purposes of developing 'place-making' policies (including playing pitch provision). These areas are used in the PPS, however, Severnside sub area has been included alongside Rural Areas. Therefore, there are five analysis areas applied as follows:

- ◆ Communities of the North Fringe of Bristol Urban Area (Bristol North)
- ◆ Communities of the East Fringe of Bristol (Bristol East)
- ◆ Rural Areas & Severnside
- ◆ Thornbury
- ◆ Yate & Chipping Sodbury

For many residents locally, the communities of Bristol in the Northern and Eastern fringes will see themselves as an extension of Bristol itself. These areas have a high population density and concentrated demand for sport, as identified in Table 1.2.

¹Artificial grass pitches are a surface of synthetic fibres with sand or water infills made to look like natural grass and are most often used to accommodate hockey. For further detail on the specifications, please see Part 6: Artificial grass pitches.

² Third generation artificial grass pitches provide infills of varying types which are most often used to accommodate football and rugby. For further detail on the specifications please see Part 3: Third generation artificial grass pitches.

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Figure 1.1: South Gloucestershire study area with analysis areas

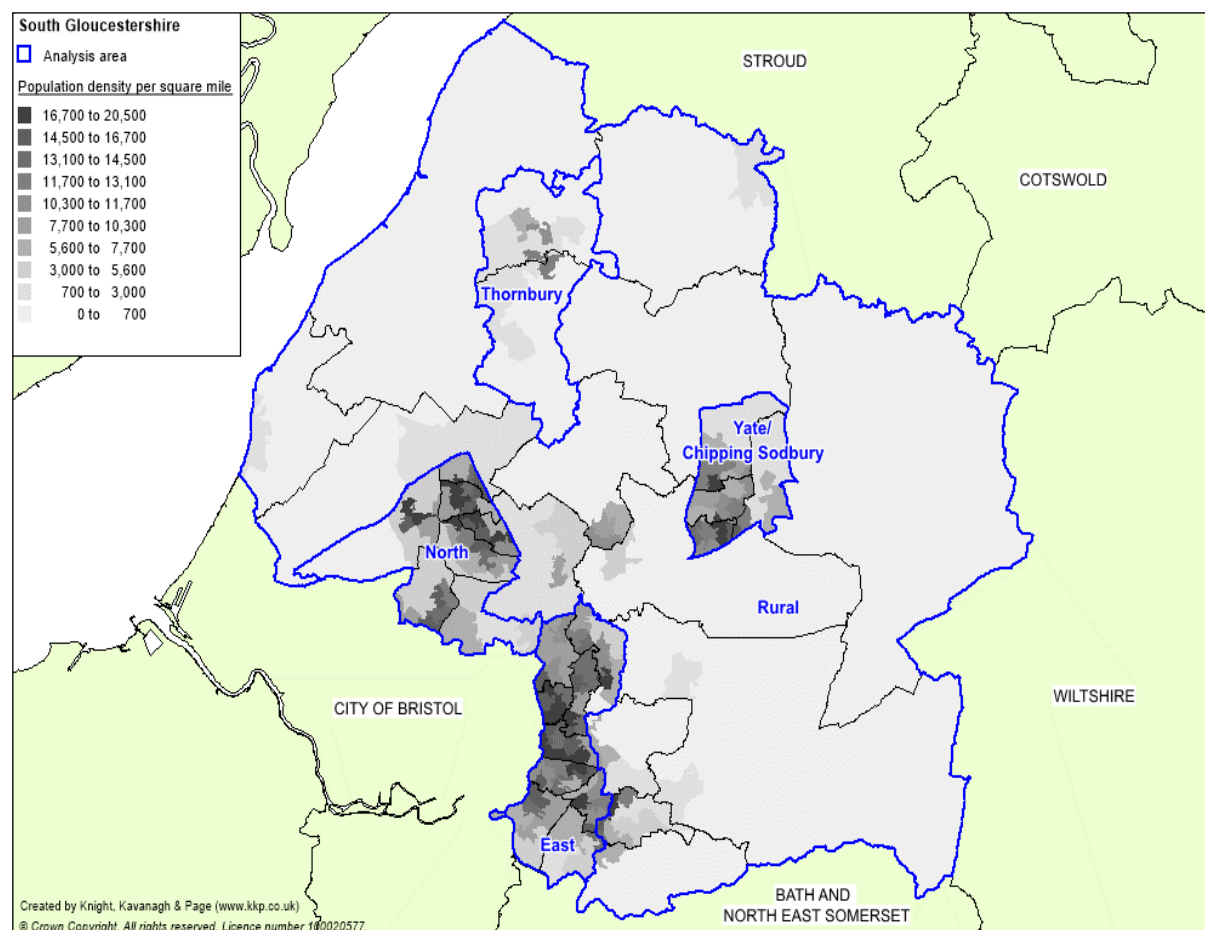


Table 1.2: Summary of South Gloucestershire analysis areas

Sub-area	Wards
Communities of the North Fringe of Bristol Urban Area (Bristol North)	Bradley Stoke Central & Stoke Lodge Bradley Stoke North Bradley Stoke South Filton Frenchay and Stoke Park Patchway Stoke Gifford
Communities of the East Fringe of Bristol Urban Area (Bristol East)	Downend Emerson's Green Hanham Kings Chase Longwell Green Parkwall and Warmley Rodway Staple Hill Woodstock
Rural Areas & Severnside	Almondsbury Bitton Boyd Valley Charfield

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Sub-area	Wards
	Cotswold Edge Frampton Cotterell Ladden Brook Oldland Common Pilning and Severn Beach Severn Siston Westerleigh Winterbourne3
Thornbury	Thornbury North Thornbury South and Alveston
Yate & Chipping Sodbury	Chipping Sodbury Dodington Yate Central Yate North

Population and housing growth

The current population in South Gloucestershire is 286,318 (2020 mid-year estimates)³. By 2038 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand, in line with the Local Plan period) the population is projected to increase to predicted to rise to 341,440⁴, representing population growth of 19.25%.

As Office of National Statistics figures are available by individual age brackets (to reflect team growth) this is considered the most accurate data set to apply to team generation rates (as identified above) to calculate likely future demand within the Assessment Report.

1.1: Context

The primary purpose of the Playing Pitch Strategy is to provide a strategic framework which ensures that the provision of outdoor playing pitches and sports facilities meet local and community needs of existing and future residents and visitors to South Gloucestershire. The PPS will be produced in accordance with Sport England PPS and ANOG guidance to provide a robust and up to date assessment of need to comply with Paragraph 102 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), to provide robust and objective justification for future playing pitch provision throughout South Gloucestershire.

One of the core planning principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs. Section 8 of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities, with paragraph 102 discussing the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Paragraph 103 discusses assessments and the protection of “existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields”. Paragraphs 105, 106, and 107 set the parameters for the designation of Local Green Space. Such spaces may include playing fields and outdoor sport facilities.

³ Source: ONS Mid-2019 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas in England and Wales

⁴ Data Source: ONS 2020-based projections 2018-2038

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This strategy provides an evidence base for planning decisions and funding bids and background evidence to support Local Plan policies in relation to formal recreation. It will ensure that this evidence is sound, robust and capable of being scrutinised through examination and meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Local context

The Grange School

The Grange School, a specialist Sports College in South Gloucestershire closed in October 2016. It is expected that the site will be lost in the future through development. One of the key drivers behind the commission of the PPS is to determine how it should be appropriately mitigated for through providing an evidence base which can be used to inform decision making.

South Gloucestershire Council: Climate Emergency

In 2019 South Gloucestershire Council declared a Climate Emergency and pledged to provide leadership to enable South Gloucestershire to become carbon neutral by 2030. The Council has published a Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-2030 and also publishes an annual Climate Emergency Action Plan. All Council policies and strategies are considered to ensure the common thread that relates to the declaration of a Climate and Nature Emergency runs through all of the Council's strategies and plans.

South Gloucestershire Local Plan

South Gloucestershire Council is working on the development of its Local Plan and is at Phase 3⁵ with the current position reviewing issues, opportunities, and challenges for the Authority. At present, these comprise of the following:

- ◆ A declared Climate Emergency that the Council must respond to positively and proactively, informing the way it locates and designs new housing, jobs and key services.
- ◆ A change in the size and ages of the population - which will require the delivery of new homes to meet identified needs of current and future residents.
- ◆ Creating a strong, clean and green economy that provides land for businesses and investment and enhances the connectivity of people and businesses across our area.
- ◆ Planning for new development that promotes healthy and active lifestyles and creates well designed liveable spaces.
- ◆ Our ecological, heritage and built environments which face a range of challenges and issues, and whose resilience is critical to support our plans for growth.

The Local Plan will cover a 15-year period, from the date of adoption. Fifteen years is the current minimum period required by government rules with need to confirm with when producing a Local Plan. The Council is hoping to adopt its plan in 2024. The plan period is thus likely to be 2024 – 2040. This PPS projects to 2038 and as such will require update throughout its lifespan to ensure its long term validity.

The Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) will ensure that existing facilities are the most appropriate in terms of quantity, quality and location and consider how best to meet the additional needs generated by the planned housing and economic growth. It will also become vital evidence for future infrastructure delivery plans that will support the new Local Plan.

⁵<https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/publications/local-plan-phase-3-towards-a-preferred-strategy/1-introduction/>

The Local Plan will eventually replace the adopted planning policies in the Core Strategy 2006 – 2027 (adopted in 2013), Policies, Sites and Places Plan (adopted in 2017) and where appropriate policies from the Joint Waste Core Strategy (adopted in 2011).

The existing policies will remain central to effective planning because they form the council's adopted Development Plan, which identifies appropriate areas for sustainable development and are used when determining planning applications. These adopted documents will remain in place until they are replaced by the formal adoption of the new plan.

1.2: Headline findings

The table below highlights the quantitative headline findings identified for all sports included in the preceding Assessment Report. Match equivalent sessions (MES) has been used as the comparable unit for natural grass pitches. Converting both the amount of play a site can accommodate (its carrying capacity) and how much play takes place there (its current use) into the same unit of demand enables a comparison to be undertaken.

Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions.

Based on how they tend to be played, this unit for football and rugby union pitches relates to a typical week within the season for each sport.

For cricket pitches it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season. How much play a cricket pitch can accommodate is primarily determined by the number and quality of wickets on a pitch. Only one match is generally played per pitch per day. However, play is rotated across the wickets to reduce wear and allow for repair. Each wicket can accommodate a certain amount of play per season as opposed to a week.

The PPS guidance does not advocate the conversion of MES to pitches as there is not always a case for providing pitches to meet the demand/shortfalls expressed. For example, improving the quality of pitches can also increase the capacity of existing pitches to accommodate such demand. For qualitative findings and site-specific findings, please see Part 4: Sport Specific Recommendations and Scenarios, and Part 6: Action Plan.

For artificial surfaces (AGPs and 3G pitches), how much play can be accommodated is primarily determined by availability, rather than how much play it can accommodate before its quality is adversely affected as with natural grass pitches. Therefore, whole pitches are used as the comparable unit. Similarly, for the other non-pitch sports (i.e. tennis, bowls, other sports etc) where it is not as easy to determine carry capacity, whole facilities are used as the comparable unit.

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Table 1.3: Quantitative headline findings

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current demand	Future demand (2038)
			Current capacity balance in MES ^[1] per week	Future capacity balance in MES per week ^[1]
Football (grass pitches)	Bristol East	Adult	Shortfall of 19.5	Shortfall of 23.5
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 3.5	Shortfall of 1.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 9.5	Shortfall of 12
		Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 12	Shortfall of 14.5
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 3
	Bristol North	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5	Shortfall of 8.5
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 8.5	Shortfall of 14
		Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1	Shortfall of 0.5
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 2	Spare capacity of 1
	Rural areas & Severnside	Adult	Shortfall of 23.5	Shortfall of 32.5
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 2	Shortfall of 2.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1	Shortfall of 2.5
		Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 1	Shortfall of 3
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1.5
	Thornbury	Adult	Spare capacity of 0.5	Played to capacity
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5	Shortfall of 2
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 0.5
		Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	Adult	Spare capacity of 2.5	Spare capacity of 1.5
		Youth 11v11	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1.5
		Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
		Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 0.5
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 0.5
Football (3G pitches) ^[2]	Bristol East	Full size w/sports lighting	Shortfall of 4.5 full size pitches	Shortfall of 4.5 full size pitches
	Bristol North		Shortfall of 2.5 full size pitches	Shortfall of 3.5 full size pitches
	Rural areas & Severnside		Shortfall of 3.25 full size pitches	Shortfall of 4.25 full size pitches
	Thornbury		No shortfall	No shortfall
	Yate & Chipping Sodbury		No shortfall	No shortfall
MES per season for cricket				
Cricket	Bristol East	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12	Shortfall of 24
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 70	Spare capacity of 70
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 90	Spare capacity of 78
	Bristol North	Saturday	Shortfall of 13	Shortfall of 49
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 17	Spare capacity of 17
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 17	Spare capacity of 11
		Saturday	Spare capacity of 54	Shortfall of 66

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

^[2] Based on accommodating 38 teams on one full size pitch

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Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current demand	Future demand (2038)
			Current capacity balance in MES ^[1] per week	Future capacity balance in MES per week ^[1]
	Rural areas & Severnside	Sunday	Spare capacity of 160	Spare capacity of 160
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 366	Spare capacity of 312
	Thornbury	Saturday	Shortfall of 6	Shortfall of 18
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 4	Spare capacity of 4
		Midweek	Shortfall of 6	Shortfall of 6
	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	Saturday	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
		Sunday	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
		Midweek	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6
Rugby union	Bristol North	Senior	Shortfall of 8	Shortfall of 10.5
	Bristol East	Senior	Shortfall of 5.25	Shortfall of 6.25
	Rural & Severnside	Senior	Shortfall of 8.75	Shortfall of 11.75
	Thornbury	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5	Shortfall of 7.5
	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	Senior	Shortfall of 1.75	Shortfall of 1.75
Rugby league	District	Senior	Sufficient provision	Sufficient provision
Hockey (sand AGPs) w/sports lighting	District	Full size w/sports lighting	Shortfall based on quality deficiencies at: ◀ Abbeywood Community School ◀ Bradley Stoke Community School ◀ Mangotsfield School ◀ The Castle School	Shortfall will remain and be exacerbated unless targeted investment is provided at aforementioned school sites.

For non-pitch sports, quantitative shortfalls can be more difficult to determine, with capacity guidance differing and with focus often away from formal club activity. The current and future picture for each sport is therefore instead summarised in the table below.

Table 1.4: Quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Sport	Current picture	Future picture (2038)
Tennis	There is a shortfall of capacity for three clubs at their current venues and one is played to capacity. In addition, there is a requirement to focus on park courts at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites)	There is a shortfall of capacity for five clubs at their current venues. In addition, there will remain a requirement to focus on park courts at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites) if no improvement of existing provision has been undertaken.
Netball	There is deemed to be sufficient capacity for netball in South Gloucestershire although further growth of the game is limited by the lack of a central venue. England Netball is continuing to work with the Council and Sport England to return the Grange School and Sports College as	If adequate provision to The Grange School is sought, there is expected to be a sufficient provision for netball. If this does not materialise, then this may not be the case. The shortfall would be relative to a central venue for the sport. Typically this would be a minimum of a four court site

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Sport	Current picture	Future picture (2038)
	part of the proposed women and girls' sports hub development on site.	with suitable ancillary facilities which are conducive to a largely women's and girls experience.
Athletics	Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand although priority should be placed on sustaining quality at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) and Yate Outdoor Sports Complex and improving quality at Mangotsfield School.	Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand although priority should be placed on sustaining quality at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) and Yate Outdoor Sports Complex and improving quality at Mangotsfield School.
Bowls	Where known, there is sufficient capacity for flat bowling greens to meet demand.	Where known, there is sufficient capacity for flat bowling greens to meet demand.

Conclusions

From a quantitative perspective, the existing position for each sport is either that demand is being met or that there is a shortfall, whereas the future position shows the creation of shortfalls for some pitch types and in some areas where demand is currently being met, as well as the exacerbation of existing shortfalls.

Due to the rural nature of the District, most pitches are owned by town/district councils. The Council only manages the playing field site at Page Park, with the majority managed by either Circadian Trust on behalf of the Council (across a portfolio of dual-use school sites), or through a mixture of parish or town council or private ownership.

There are current grass pitch capacity shortfalls for adult, youth and mini football pitches, cricket and rugby union pitches, as well as for tennis courts and athletics tracks. There is a current and future shortfall of full size 3G pitches with sports lighting for affiliated football team training. For hockey, there are sufficient sand-based AGPs provided within South Gloucestershire although not of adequate quality.

Imminent quality improvements are required to continue to accommodate hockey within the Authority at least four sites (as identified in Table 1.3).

Where demand is being met, this does not necessarily equate to a surplus of provision, with any spare capacity instead considered to be a solution to overcoming current or future demand shortfalls.

There is a resultant need to protect all existing outdoor sport provision until all demand is met, or there is a requirement to replace provision in accordance with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and NPPF paragraph 103.

Where shortfalls are identified, in some areas, and certain sports, they are high. For some sports, such as football, there will be opportunities to work to meet these deficiencies through better utilisation of existing provision, such as via pitch re-configuration, improving quality and encouraging or enabling access to unused/unavailable provision. Likewise, for cricket, quality improvements to existing squares and utilisation of NTPs or hybrid wickets will aid in accommodate demand. Solutions to identified issues in this report should be sought as part of Stage E discussion.

The impact of such approaches is shown in Part 4 of this report through scenario testing and modelling.

Part 2: Vision

2.1: Vision

The vision below provides a clear focus with desired outcomes for the South Gloucestershire Playing Pitch Strategy, and Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy.

“An accessible, high quality and sustainable network of sports pitches, indoor and outdoor sports facilities capable of supporting the health and well-being needs of residents and increased engagement in physical activity and sport by all residents, at all levels of play, from grassroots to elite”.

To achieve this vision the PPS will deliver the following objectives:

- ◀ Ensure that all valuable facilities are protected for the long-term benefit of sport.
- ◀ Promote a sustainable approach to the provision of playing pitches and management of sports clubs.
- ◀ Ensure that there are enough facilities in the right place to meet current and projected future demand.
- ◀ Ensure that all clubs have access to facilities of appropriate quality to meet current needs and longer-term aspirations.

Part 3: Aims

The following overarching aims are based on the three Sport England themes. It is recommended that they are adopted by the Council and partners to enable delivery of the overall PPS vision and Sport England planning objectives.

AIM 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sports facilities where it is needed to meet current and future needs.

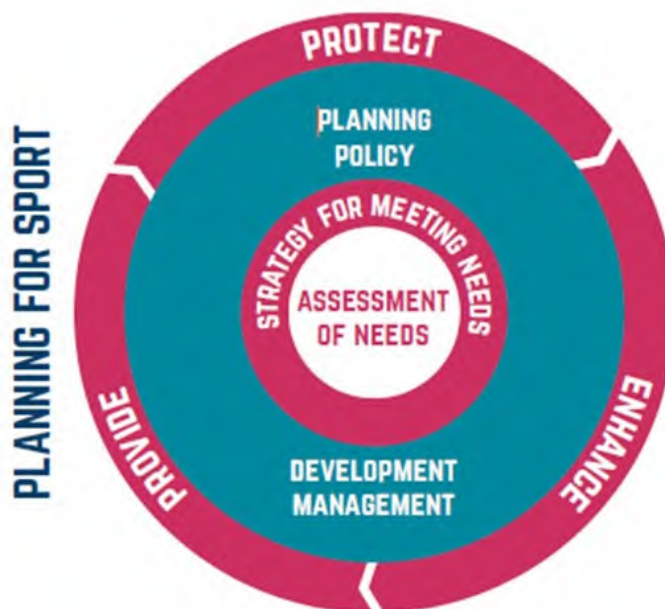
AIM 2

To **enhance** outdoor sports provision and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites.

AIM 3

To **provide** new outdoor sports facilities where feasible and there is current or future demand to do so.

Figure 3.1: Sport England themes



Source: Sport England, Planning for Sport Guidance (2019)

Part 4: Sport Specific Issues, Scenarios and Recommendations

To help develop the recommendations/actions and to understand their potential impact, relevant scenario questions are tested against the key issues in this section for each playing pitch sport, resulting in sport specific recommendations.

Football – grass pitches

Football – grass pitch summary

- ◀ **Overall, there is a current shortfall evidenced for adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches, whilst mini 5v5 pitches have minimal actual spare capacity.**
- ◀ **Accounting for future demand, the existing shortfalls are expected to worsen whilst all pitch types will become overplayed.**
- ◀ The audit identifies a current total of 249 grass football pitches within South Gloucestershire across 98 sites. Of these, 223 pitches are available for community use across 83 sites.
- ◀ In addition, three disused sites have been identified that previously accommodated football provision.
- ◀ Tenure of sites in South Gloucestershire is generally secure although, tenure remains unsecure at education sites such as Patchway Community School, despite being used by the community.
- ◀ St Nicholas Youth FC and Stoke Lane Athletic Youth FC both aspire to agree long-term lease agreements for their respective home venues.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches, 107 are managed by the respective Parish/Town council, 53 by schools/colleges/universities and 33 by clubs. The remaining pitches are managed by trusts, community or commercial organisations.
- ◀ In total, 39 pitches are assessed as good quality, 126 as standard quality and 63 as poor quality.
- ◀ Changing facilities are generally viewed as being adequate by clubs, with 39% rating provision as good, 44% rating facilities as standard and 17% rating facilities as poor.
- ◀ A total of 807 teams are identified as playing within South Gloucestershire. This consists of 225 men's, 16 women's, 288 youth boys', 61 youth girls' and 217 mini soccer teams.
- ◀ Clubs across South Gloucestershire report team numbers at adult, youth and mini level have remained fairly static over the previous three years.
- ◀ St Nicholas Youth FC, Bradley Stoke Youth & Ladies FC and Mangotsfield United FC Juniors all express some level of unmet demand.
- ◀ There are 15 clubs in South Gloucestershire competing within the men's National League System and nine clubs compete within the women's National League System.
- ◀ A total of 33 clubs express latent demand (potential demand which clubs could generate, but do not) linked to grass pitch, training and/or ancillary facility provision.
- ◀ Rockleaze Rangers FC exports an adult team to Bristol due to a lack of pitch availability.
- ◀ Bristol Ladies Union Youth FC is a Bristol-based Club although is located close to the border of South Gloucestershire. Therefore, it imports four youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 teams into South Gloucestershire although expresses no concerns with this.
- ◀ Of the clubs which quantify their potential future demand, there is a predicted growth of 82 teams equating to 11 adult, 18.5 youth and 11.5 mini match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ Through population increases, a further 123 teams are likely to be generated, although this falls to 110 teams when broken down by analysis area.

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Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

In total there are 59 pitches overplayed in South Gloucestershire across 32 sites, with overplay equating to 107 match equivalent sessions per week. Improving quality of such provision (i.e. through increased maintenance or improved drainage) will increase capacity at the sites and consequently reduce both current and future shortfalls.

To illustrate the above, Table 4.1 highlights the current levels of overplay that would be alleviated if quality improved to good at each site. As a reminder, the capacity rating for each type and quality rating is:

Adult pitches		Youth pitches		Mini pitches	
Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

Table 4.1: Overplay if all pitches were good quality (match equivalent sessions)

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating ⁶	Good quality capacity rating ⁶
3	Almondsbury Sports and Social Club	Adult	1	Standard	1	0
7	Badminton Playing Field	Adult	1	Standard	11.5	10.5
8	Baileys Court Activity Centre	11v11	2	Good	2	2
13	Beesmoor Road Playing Fields	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
14	Bitton AFC	Adult	2	Good	1.5	1.5
15	Blackhorse Road Playing Fields	Adult	1	Standard	1	0
			1	Poor	2	0
16	Bradley Stoke Community School	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	0.5
20	Bromley Heath Playing Field	Adult	1	Standard	2	1
38	Coronation Park	Adult	2	Standard	0.5	1.5
57	Greenbank Recreation Ground	Adult	1	Good	1	0
		Adult	1	Standard	1.5	0.5
		9v9	1	Standard	6.5	4.5
58	Hallen Centre	Adult	2	Standard	4	2
		7v7	1	Standard	1	1
59	Hambrook Sports Club	Adult	1	Poor	1	1
63	Hardwicke Road Playing Field	Adult	1	Poor	1	1
77	Lees Hill	Adult	1	Poor	3	1
78	Little Stoke Park	Adult	1	Poor	1	1
80	Longwell Green Community Centre	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	0.5
		11v11	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
		7v7	1	Good	2	2

⁶ Match equivalent sessions per week

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Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating ⁶	Good quality capacity rating ⁶
82	Lyde Green Sports Ground	Adult	2	Standard	1.5	0.5
85	Manor Playing Field	9v9	1	Poor	0.5	2.5
		5v5	1	Poor	1	3
		7v7	1	Poor	1	3
91	Mike Gallivan Memorial Field	Adult	3	Poor	1.5	4.5
92	Mile Straight Sports & Social Club	Adult	2	Standard	1	1
93	Mundy Playing Fields	11v11	1	Poor	1.5	1.5
100	Olveston United Football Club	Adult	1	Good	3.5	3.5
102	Patchway Community School	Adult	3	Standard	6.5	3.5
105	Pomphrey Hill Playing Field	Adult	1	Good	1	1
		Adult	1	Poor	1	1
		9v9	2	Poor	3	3
118	Soundwell	Adult	1	Poor	2	0
120	Southey Avenue Playing Fields	9v9	1	Poor	1.5	1.5
		7v7	1	Poor	11	7
130	Tenniscourt Road	Adult	2	Poor	2	2
132	The Castle School	Adult	1	Standard	1.5	0.5
		9v9	1	Standard	1.5	0.5
136	The Ridings	Adult	5	Standard	2.5	2.5
142	UWE Bristol Hillside Gardens	11v11	1	Poor	7.5	4.5
146	Walkers Playing Field	Adult	1	Standard	1.5	0.5
155	Winterbourne Academy Sports Field	Adult	2	Standard	7	5
		9v9	2	Standard	0.5	3.5

Please note the match equivalent sessions are in reference to the overall capacity of the pitch and are not in reference to peak time demand.

As seen, most overplayed pitches could accommodate current demand if quality improved to good although 15 sites would continue to accommodate some level of overplay.

Given the above, some play at overplayed sites should be transferred to sites with actual spare capacity or to an existing or additional 3G pitch (if suitably located for clubs). Alternatively, if space and other usage allows, pitch re-configuration at said sites could also be considered.

Overall, 50.5 match equivalent sessions per week of overplay would remain across South Gloucestershire, compared to 107 match equivalent sessions currently. The impact this would have on the supply and demand balance across the District is shown in the table overleaf, with shortfalls on adult and youth 11v11 pitches being alleviated and overplay on youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches being reduced.

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Table 4.2: Impact of improving pitch quality on overall supply and demand

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Current actual spare capacity	Current overplay	Current total	Potential overplay	Potential total
Adult	30.5	66	35.5	22	8.5
Youth 11v11	7	11.5	4.5	6.5	0.5
Youth 9v9	2.5	13.5	11	4	1.5
Mini 7v7	3	15	12	9	6
Mini 5v5	3	1	2	0	3

Given the costs of improving pitch quality, alternatives also need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The alternative to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches (where use is viable) for competitive matches, which can not only alleviate overplay of grass pitches but can also aid quality improvements through the transfer of play and therefore reduced use. However, for sustainability, there also needs to be a sufficient level of midweek training demand taking place on the pitches.

Loss of sites without secure tenure

The table below identifies the total amount of demand that would need to be replaced if access was to be lost at all existing sites with unsecure tenure. This in total would amount to 76.5 match equivalent sessions.

Table 4.3: Summary of demand at unsecure sites

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
			Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
11	BAWA Healthcare & Leisure	Bristol North	8	-	-	2.5	2
16	Bradley Stoke Community School	Bristol North	1.5	-	1	-	-
58	Hallen Centre	Rural areas & Severnside	8	-	-	5	-
62	Hanham Woods Academy	Bristol East	0.5	0.5	1	-	-
87	Marlwood School	Thornbury	0.5	0.5	-	-	-
102	Patchway Community School	Bristol North	9.5	-	-	-	-
119	South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise)	Bristol North	8	3	-	-	-
132	The Castle School (Thornbury)	Thornbury	2.5	-	2.5	-	-
142	UWE Bristol Hillside Gardens	Bristol North	-	8.5	-	-	-
155	Winterbourne Academy Sports Field	Rural areas & Severnside	9	-	2.5	-	-
-	-	Total	47.5	12.5	7	7.5	2

It should be noted that despite being listed as unsecure, King's Oak Academy, Sir Bernard Lovell School (Site Two) and Lockleaze Sports Centre do not feature in the list above as they are not currently accessed by the community.

If access to these sites was lost, it would have a dramatic impact on the overall supply and demand analysis of football pitches across South Gloucestershire, as indicated in the table overleaf. Shortfalls would be significantly exacerbated on adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches spare capacity would be lost on mini 5v5 pitches.

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Table 4.4: Summary of supply and demand comparison without unsecure sites

Pitch type	Demand (MES)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Supply and demand					
Adult	30.5	66	35.5	20.5	56
Youth 11v11	7	11.5	4.5	17	21.5
Youth 9v9	2.5	13.5	11	5	16
Mini 7v7	3	15	12	6.5	18.5
Mini 5v5	3	1	2	6	4
Supply and demand excluding sites with unsecure tenure					
Adult	-	83	83	20.5	103.5
Youth 11v11	-	17	17	17	34
Youth 9v9	-	18	18	5	23
Mini 7v7	-	19.5	19.5	6.5	26
Mini 5v5	1	1	0	6	6

Based on this information, it is important to secure tenure at these sites in order ensure current and future pitch shortfalls are minimised, although it is noted that this may not be possible at all venues.

Whilst difficult to secure community use formally at sites managed by academy trusts, where opportunities aligned to external grant funding and any future planning conditions (to include a community use agreement) are able to be agreed upon, these should be pursued by the District Council and Governing Bodies of Sport to ensure long term access to facilities can be achieved.

Thornbury Fields

The Thornbury Fields development has seen two full size football pitches built which are fenced off to the public. As it stands in late 2023, the pitches have not been used despite being built for almost two years. The specific issue surrounding pitch access is complex and outside the specific guidelines of the PPS. However, the position of need for new provision/access to unavailable provision (as is the case here) is evidenced below:

Based on data from the 21/22 football season and the overall supply vs demand position for football in Thornbury, there are identified deficiencies of provision. This equates to the following:

- ✦ Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week for youth 11v11 pitches.
- ✦ Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week for youth 9v9 pitches.

Future demand deriving from population growth exacerbates these shortfalls by one match equivalent session per week (0.5 match equivalent sessions per pitch). However, since the initial data capture was collated, Thornbury FC has grown by five teams (equivalent to 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week). This demand is over and above what was initially projected through team generation rates and as such, it is expected that local shortfalls are now higher than originally projected.

Providing two adult size pitches (which could also be reconfigured to meet shortfalls for specific pitch types) would provide a theoretical capacity of four match equivalent sessions per week, which could, in theory, alleviate all existing shortfalls (as of 21/22 season).

On this basis, there is a clear and justifiable need for partners to work together to enable access to the pitches for the benefit of Thornbury FC.

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Moving all mini soccer match play to 3G pitches

The FA is particularly keen on enabling 3G match usage for mini teams given the high volume of matches that can be played at one time. The table below therefore tests a scenario to permit all 5v5 and 7v7 football to transfer to 3G pitches within South Gloucestershire based on a programme of play at current peak time (Sunday AM).

Table 4.5: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

Time	AGP	Total games/teams ⁷
9.30am – 10.30am	4 x 5v5	4/8
10.30am – 11.30am	2 x 7v7	2/4
11.30am – 12.30pm	2 x 7v7	2/4
12.30pm – 1.30pm	2 x 7v7	2/4

Based on the above programming and separate start times for mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 matches, the overall need is for 13 full size 3G pitches to accommodate all current mini match play demand. This is calculated based on 103 teams playing 5v5 football requiring 13 pitches (rounded up from 12.88) and 115 teams playing 7v7 football requiring ten pitches (rounded up from 9.58). With a current 3G pitch requirement in South Gloucestershire for training demand of 21 pitches, it is therefore considered feasible that all mini football could be accommodated on 3G pitches if training shortfalls were to be alleviated.

Recommendations

- ◆ Protect all grass football pitches currently in use and pitches that are no longer in use due to the potential that they may offer for meeting current and future needs (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided in line with NPPF and Sport England Playing Field Policy).
- ◆ Prioritise investment to improve the quality of grass pitches at key strategic sites identified within the PPS Action Plan, either to address overuse or to support high levels of site demand or accommodate growth.
- ◆ Utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to identify pitch conditions and recommendations to maintain or enhance pitch quality and enable future grant funding from the Football Foundation.
- ◆ Seek to gain access to pitches provided for at Thornbury Field which have recently been provided by Bloor Homes. This should be directly related to the benefit Thornbury FC.
- ◆ Work to accommodate future demand as well as any exported, unmet and latent demand at sites which are not operating at capacity or at sites not currently available for community use that could be moving forward.
- ◆ Consider opportunities for community asset transfer where football clubs express desire and evidence ability to feasibly manage, sustain and improve provision, in line with an established criteria for asset transfer.
- ◆ Seek to gain increased access to education sites and where possible seek to formalise this use through community use agreements. This is specific to sites which are currently unavailable (or severely underutilised) but have large playing fields capable of accommodating community demand.
- ◆ Improve ancillary facilities at key sites, prioritising those identified within the PPS Action Plan. Priority should be where there is existing demand for use and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer.
- ◆ In line with the development of new 3G pitches, ensure that there is an appropriate level of use for both match and training purposes and that 3G pitches are appropriately accredited to accommodate this activity.

⁷ Number of teams is double the number of games based on teams playing home and away

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- ◀ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site football provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls, with accompanying clubhouse provision included given that single pitch sites without appropriate ancillary facilities can be unsustainable.

Third Generation Turf (3G) Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)

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Football and Rugby Union – 3G pitch summary

- ◀ **In conclusion, there is deemed to be sufficient 3G pitches to cater for demand in the Thornbury and Yate & Chipping Sodbury analysis areas should pitches remain of adequate quality. Supply in the Bristol North, Bristol East and Rural & Severnside analysis areas is deemed to be insufficient to meet the current level of training demand.**
- ◀ There are currently 17 full size 3G pitches within South Gloucestershire across 14 sites, all of which are available to the community and with sports lighting.
- ◀ There are also 23 small-size 3G pitches identified in South Gloucestershire across 12 sites. All of these are available for community use and all but one is supported by sports lighting (at Ashley Down Old Boys RFC).
- ◀ There are ten FA approved and four FIFA approved 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire which can therefore host competitive matches.
- ◀ In addition, there are six World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire.
- ◀ The majority of 3G pitches are managed by their respective education establishments. The pitch at Longwell Green Community Centre is managed by the community whilst Shaftesbury Park is managed by Dings RFC. The pitch at Oaklands (North Bristol RFC) is managed by the RFU and the remaining pitches are managed commercially.
- ◀ There are ten good quality full size 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire, five standard quality pitches and two poor quality pitches.
- ◀ Downend Saints FC reports there are issues with unofficial use and vandalism at Downend Sports Centre and maintenance of the pitch is not as regular as it should be.
- ◀ No issues are raised relating to ancillary facilities at any 3G pitch sites and all are reported to be serviced by good or standard quality facilities.
- ◀ During the week, spare capacity does exist although this is almost exclusively between the hours of 17:00-18:00 which could be considered too early in the evening for clubs to regularly access.
- ◀ At weekends, only Yate Academy and Chipping Sodbury School have a large portion of spare capacity. Despite both pitches being FA/FIFA approved, they are assessed as poor quality which leads to limited affiliated demand.
- ◀ The full size 3G pitches currently available for community use in South Gloucestershire are all operating at, or close to, capacity at peak times, especially during winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting).
- ◀ Of the clubs that responded to consultation, 36 (42%) indicate a demand for additional training facilities. Of these, 33 (92%) explicitly report that they require additional access to 3G provision although the number of clubs/teams that state they require access to 3G pitches but do not currently do so cannot be quantified.

Scenarios

During the last decade 3G pitches have played an increasing role within the national game. They are regarded by the Football Association (FA) as the optimum facility for training by clubs. In recent seasons they have also become more popular for competitive matches. Before developing the recommendations and action plan for this PPS, two scenarios have been looked at to help with understanding what demand there may be for full size sports lit

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3G pitches in South Gloucestershire if increased amounts of play were to take place on them.

Information from the 'Assessment' stage of developing this PPS, alongside details from the FA, have been used to help answer the following questions:

How many full size sports lit 3G pitches may be required to meet demand within South Gloucestershire if all teams playing competitive football had access to a full size sports lit 3G pitch to train on once a week?

The answers to this question are set out below and are based on full size sports lit 3G pitches which have full community use during peak periods. However, the results should be viewed as providing an indication of the 'full size pitch equivalents' that may be demanded. In practice, the most appropriate ways of meeting any such increase in demand will vary depending on the nature of the local area. For example, in some areas new full size sports lit pitches may be appropriate, whereas in others small sided provision to cater for increased training use or securing greater community use/hours of existing provision may be the best way forward.

Given the above, what the answers mean for South Gloucestershire, taking into account the wider findings from the Assessment stage of developing the PPS, is presented below. These details have been used to help inform the development of the PPS's recommendations and the action plan.

Accommodating football training demand

To satisfy current football training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size 3G pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a calculated theoretical need for 21 full size 3G pitches (rounded down from 21.2).

There are ten full size pitches considered to contribute to this demand as identified below.

Table 4.6: Full size 3G pitches meeting demand for training (by analysis area – minimum dimensions of 91 x 55m)

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No of pitches	Pitch size ⁸	Contribution to meeting full size shortfall
43	Downend Sports Centre	Bristol East	1	Full size	1
80	Longwell Green Community Centre	Bristol East	1	Full size	1
54	Gloucestershire FA Headquarters	Rural areas & Severnside	1	Full size	1
87	Marlwood School	Thornbury	1	Full size	1
102	Patchway Community School	Bristol North	1	Full size	1
113	Shaftesbury Park	Bristol North	1	Full size	1
116	Sir Bernard Lovell Academy (Site One)	Rural areas & Severnside	1	Full size	1
154	Winterbourne Academy	Rural areas & Severnside	1	Full size	1

⁸ The FA states a full size pitch as 106 x 70m. However, for the purposes of this report, any pitch meeting dimensions of 91 x 55m is considered full size due to it being the minimum dimensions for accommodating adult football.

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Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No of pitches	Pitch size ⁸	Contribution to meeting full size shortfall
30	Chipping Sodbury School	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	1	Full size	1
157	Yate Academy	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	1	Full size	1

Seven full size 3G pitches are also located in the District which do not contribute to meeting this FA training model. This is due to six having an extensive curricular programme midweek and one being largely a rugby union specific offer. These are listed below:

- ◆ Lockleaze Sports Centre (2)
- ◆ South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) (2)
- ◆ Oaklands (North Bristol RFC) (1)
- ◆ UWE Bristol Hillside Gardens (2)

In addition to the ten full size pitches contribution to meeting training model requirements, there are six small sided which also contribute to the model. These are listed below.

Table 4.7: Small sided 3G pitches meeting demand for training (by analysis area)

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Pitch size	Contribution to meeting full size shortfall
75	King's Oak Academy	Bristol East	9v9	0.5
78	Little Stoke Park	Bristol North	5v5	0.25
94	Norman Scott Park	Bristol North	7v7	0.25
14	Bitton AFC	Rural areas & Severnside	5v5	0.25
58	Hallen Centre	Rural areas & Severnside	7v7	0.25
152	Wick Playing Field	Rural areas & Severnside	5v5	0.25

Based on the above number of pitches contributing to demand, the following position is apparent:

Table 4.8: Current demand for 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	3G requirement ⁹	Current number of football available 3G pitches	Current shortfall
807	21	11.75	9.75

When considering future demand for an additional 110 teams (based on population increases), the requirement increases to 24 full size 3G pitches (rounded down from 24.1) which means a future shortfall of 12.75 pitches.

Table 4.9: Future demand for 3G pitches South Gloucestershire (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	3G requirement ¹⁰	Current number of football available 3G pitches	Future shortfall
917	24	11.75	12.75

⁹ Rounded to the nearest whole number

¹⁰ Rounded to the nearest whole number

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Alternatively, the table below considers the number of full size 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the respective analysis area that they play in. This not only identifies where the needs exist across the South Gloucestershire, but it can also be used to guide which areas should be targeted for new provision.

Table 4.10: Current demand for 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement ¹⁵	Current number of football available 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Bristol East	247	7	2.5	4.5
Bristol North	207	5	2.5	2.5
Rural areas & Severnside	262	7	3.75	3.25
Thornbury	24	1	1	-
Yate & Chipping Sodbury	67	2	2	-
Total	807	22	11.75	10.25

Assessing need by analysis area shows a shortfall 10.25 full size 3G pitches. Bristol North Analysis Area has the highest theoretical deficit of provision. It should also be noted that although there are no specific shortfalls in either the Thornbury or Yate & Chipping Sodbury analysis areas that they do overlap with the remaining analysis areas and there will be a general flow of residents/sports clubs moving between these area catchments. On this basis, the development of 3G provision in these specific analysis areas should not be discounted as being a genuine option to meet overall need for this provision type if a suitable programme of use can be established.

When considering future demand, the shortfall of full size 3G pitches increases to 12.25 pitches with full details of this in the table below.

Table 4.11: Future demand for 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement ¹⁵	Current number of football available 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Bristol East	281	7	2.5	4.5
Bristol North	237	6	2.5	3.5
Rural areas & Severnside	299	8	3.75	4.25
Thornbury	26	1	1	-
Yate & Chipping Sodbury	74	2	2	-
Total	917	24	11.75	12.25

Potential new 3G pitch opportunities identified during consultation (in 2021) include:

- ✦ Bitton AFC – full size (Rural areas & Severnside)
- ✦ Mangotsfield United Football Club – full size (Bristol East)
- ✦ Soundwell - small size (Bristol East)
- ✦ New Lyde Green Secondary School – full size (Bristol East)¹¹
- ✦ Filton Airfield – one full size or two full sized pitches – not yet determined (Bristol North)

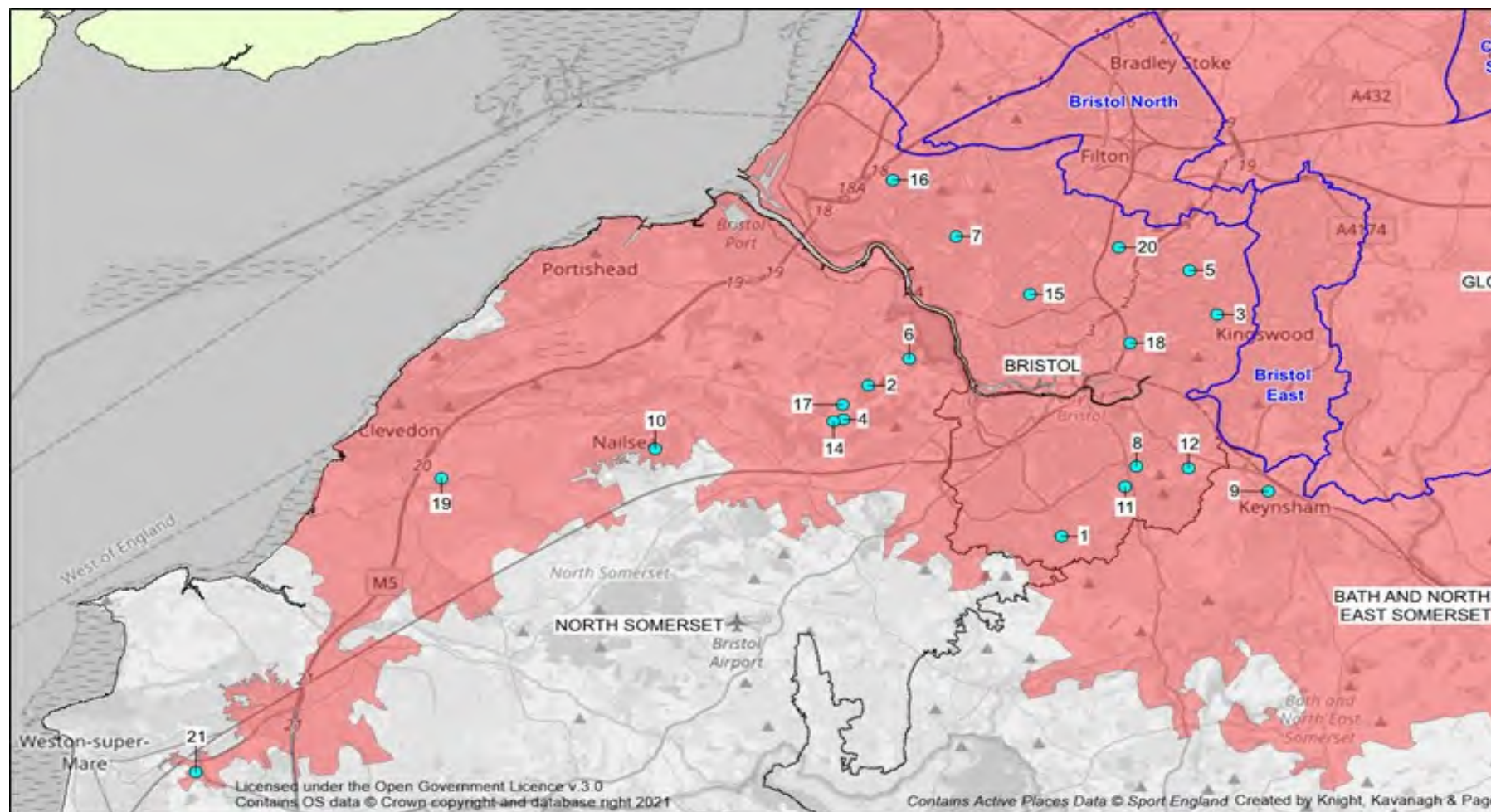
¹¹ The pitch at Lyde Green School has been built but is not yet open for formal use.

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Based on current and future football training shortfalls identified above, all these projects should be explored for development and additional 3G pitch development opportunities should be sought to alleviate training shortfalls across South Gloucestershire. This should be established through Stage E.

Understanding 3G supply in Bristol

Figure 4.1: Full size (minimum dimensions 91 x 55m) in Bristol – Adjacent to Bristol North and Bristol East analysis areas



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There are a number of 3G pitches in Bristol which are within a 20-minute drive time distance of the Bristol North and East analysis areas in South Gloucestershire. These are identified in the figure above and within the table below.

In total, there are 21 full size pitches identified of which 17 offer community use. This supply does not reduce that identified for South Gloucestershire in itself but should be considered when new proposals emerge for the development of new provision on the fringe of both local authorities.

These require consideration due to the fluid movement of clubs and teams across the border of each authority. As an example, the pitch at St Bedes Catholic College is just a short drive from residents in the Bristol North Analysis Area and may have a programme of use deriving from residents from both authorities.

Table 4.12: Supply of full size 3G pitches within a 20-minute drive time of Bristol North and Bristol East analysis areas

Site ID	Site ¹²	No of pitches	Community use?
1	Bridge Learning Campus Sports Facilities	1	Yes
2	Bristol Bears Training Ground	1	No
3	Bristol Brunel Academy	1	Yes
4	Bristol Grammar School Playing Fields	1	Yes
5	Bristol Metropolitan Academy	1	Yes
6	Clifton College Sports Ground (Beggar Bush)	1	Yes
7	Coombe Dingle Sports Complex	1	Yes
8	Imperial Sports Ground (South Bristol)	1	Yes
9	Keynsham Town Football Club (The A J N Stadium)	1	Yes
10	Nailsea School Playing Fields	1	Yes
11	Oasis Academy John Williams	1	Yes
12	Oasis Academy Brislington	1	Yes
13	Odd Down Sports Ground	1	Yes
14	Queen Elizabeths Hospital School Playing Fields	1	No
15	Redland Green School	1	Yes
16	St Bedes Catholic College	1	Yes
17	Stirratt Pitch	1	Yes
18	The City Academy Bristol	1	Yes
19	The Everyone Active Stadium	1	Yes
20	Trinity Academy Bristol	1	No
21	Winterstoke Hundred Academy	1	No

Sand based artificial grass pitches (for football)

Sand based artificial grass pitches are not the preferred surface type for affiliated training (as defined by the FA). However, it is clear that in South Gloucestershire they play an integral part in meeting demand for football training. Realistically, it is noted that many of these pitches require a level of football demand to be sustainable.

¹² Data provided from Active Places Power.

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As identified below in the hockey section of this report (Part 4) the current position is that all sand based surfaces are required to be retained for hockey based on the current quantity and quality of the supply.

Two pitches are currently unused for hockey based at Hanham Wood and John Cabot academies (but are acting as strategic reserves for the sport). These both have poor quality surfaces and associated sports lighting. These may, in the future, relative to surface replacement (and wider improvements to things such as goalposts, sports lighting and fencing) to the existing supply of sand-based pitches, which are in active use at:

- ✦ Abbeywood Community School
- ✦ Bradley Stoke Community School
- ✦ Mangotsfield School
- ✦ The Castle School (Thornbury)

Be suitable for conversion into 3G surfaces. This will need to be established as part of Stage E and any subsequent update to the PPS. England Hockey must also have full acceptance of any proposals.

Recommendations

- ✦ Protect the current level of supply of 3G pitches.
- ✦ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA full size (adult 11v11) recommended dimensions of 100 x 64m (106 x 70m including safety run off area) for football (or RFU recommended dimensions where a specific rugby build facility may be beneficial) where feasible and of performance quality standards to meet performance testing criteria for match play.
- ✦ Develop additional 3G pitches to alleviate identified shortfalls in the Bristol East, Bristol North and Rural areas & Severnside analysis areas.
- ✦ Seek to resurface existing stock of 3G pitches that have exceeded recommended lifespan e.g., Chipping Sodbury School and Yate Academy.
- ✦ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are on the FA Pitch Register are re-tested every three years, or annually for clubs competing in the football pyramid, to sustain certification.
- ✦ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are World Rugby compliant are re-tested every two years to sustain certification.
- ✦ Explore options to remove permitted development rights for the change of artificial pitch surfaces (from sand-based to 3G or vice versa).
- ✦ Ensure England Hockey is consulted by the Council with regards to any proposals for any proposed conversion of any existing based pitch to a 3G surface, in order to ensure the sustainability and sufficient supply of existing AGPs for hockey.
- ✦ Ensure that any new 3G pitches have formal community use agreements associated as part of the planning permission in order to secure access for local sports clubs. This should form part of conditions where partnership funded.
- ✦ Encourage providers to put in place a mechanism for long-term sustainability, preferably a sinking fund formed over time, to fund future repair and eventual surface replacement at end of lifespan.
- ✦ Encourage greater transfer of match play demand from grass pitches to 3G pitches where sites are overplayed and ensure that pitches remain a suitable quality to accommodate such demand through appropriate certification when required to be renewed or retested.

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Cricket pitches

Assessment Report summary

Cricket summary

- ▶ **On a broad level, there is a sufficient supply of cricket provision at a Districtwide level to cater for current demand for both senior and junior cricket.**
- ▶ **Currently, some large clubs are operating over capacity and struggling to accommodate existing levels of demand.**
- ▶ **When considering future demand, a high shortfall is expected to be generated for Saturday cricket throughout most of the District.**
- ▶ In total, there are 46 grass cricket squares in South Gloucestershire, with 43 available for community use.
- ▶ There is one NTP accompanying a grass wicket square (at Marshfield Cricket Club) and there are standalone NTPs at three sites.
- ▶ A cricket square was lost at Avlon Works due to the proposed development of an industrial estate on site. The square is yet to be mitigated.
- ▶ A cricket square is proposed as part of the new secondary school at Lyde Green.
- ▶ Of the responding clubs, seven clubs have freehold of their home venues whilst 12 have lease agreements in place. The remaining 14 clubs rent their playing provision.
- ▶ The audit of community available grass wicket cricket squares found 26 to be good quality, 16 to be standard quality and one to be of poor quality.
- ▶ Hallen, Charfield, Almondsbury and Westerleigh cricket clubs are without access to ancillary provision at their home venues whilst nine clubs are serviced by poor quality facilities.
- ▶ Of the responding clubs, 19 report demand for new, improved or additional training facilities.
- ▶ There are 39 clubs in South Gloucestershire which collectively provide 115 senior men's, 11 senior women's, 92 junior boys and 19 junior girls' teams.
- ▶ Hawkesbury Upton and Hanham cricket clubs export their third teams outside of South Gloucestershire to neighbouring authorities.
- ▶ Eighteen cricket clubs are signed up to be part of the All Stars Cricket initiative, whilst 14 clubs are also signed up to deliver Dynamos Cricket.
- ▶ Future demand for 19 senior men's, one senior women's, 15 junior boys and two junior girls' team is predicted via population growth although this falls to 17 senior men's, one senior women's, 12 junior boys' and one junior girls' team when broken down by analysis area.
- ▶ Of the 26 responsive clubs in South Gloucestershire, 13 indicate aspirations to increase levels of participation. This amounts to a total predicted growth of 38 teams, equating to ten senior men's, five senior women's and 23 junior teams.
- ▶ There are five squares that show potential spare capacity on grass wickets on Saturdays, 20 on Sundays and 25 during midweek for junior cricket.
- ▶ Five sites in South Gloucestershire are overplayed by a total of 49 match equivalent sessions.

Scenarios

Addressing overplay

In South Gloucestershire, overplay is identified on five sites by a total of 49 match equivalent sessions per season. This is broken down in the table below.

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Table 4.13: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Overplay (matches per season)
8	Baileys Court Activity Centre	Bristol North	12
71	Jubilee Playing Field	Thornbury	6
92	Mile Straight Sports & Social Club	Bristol North	1
139	Tockington Manor School	Rural areas & Severnside	15
179	Rockhampton Cricket Club	Rural areas & Severnside	15
-	-	Total	49

Of these, squares at Baileys Court Activity Centre, Jubilee Playing Field and Rockhampton Cricket Club are assessed as good quality and therefore, shortfalls cannot be reduced or alleviated through quality improvements.

Although a regular, sufficient maintenance regime can sustain sites with minimal levels of overplay a reduction in play is recommended to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.

The remaining squares at Mile Straight Sports & Social Club and Tockington Manor School are assessed as standard quality. Improving the squares at these sites to good quality would alleviate overplay at Mile Straight Sports & Social Club and reduce overplay at Tockington Manor School to eight match equivalent sessions per season.

Where shortfalls cannot be alleviated through quality improvements, the best solution is usually to install a non-turf pitch in *situ* as this would allow for the transfer of junior demand away from grass wickets. None of the overplayed sites are currently serviced by NTPs.

Removing junior demand from the grass wickets at Baileys Court Activity Centre, Tockington Manor School and Rockhampton Cricket Club would completely alleviate overplay at each site. Only Jubilee Playing Field would continue to accommodate overplay, with only senior demand taking place on site. Despite this, Charlton Super Kings CC utilises Jubilee Playing Field for its T20 and Friendly teams whilst Alveston CC also fields its Midweek team on site. If any two of these three teams could be accommodated on an NTP, demand on the grass wickets would be sufficiently reduced to eradicate overplay. Therefore, further investigation should be undertaken into league regulations to determine whether this demand could be suitably accommodated on an NTP.

Hybrid wickets

Although not readily available within grassroots cricket, there may be potential in the future to address overplay through the installation of hybrid wicket/s on competitive senior squares. The ECB has been working with SIS Pitches on the installation of hybrid cricket wickets at county cricket clubs (2019) and more recently recreational squares such as Perry Hall Park in Birmingham (2021) and Didsbury Cricket Club in Manchester (2022).

Due to provision at Baileys Court Activity Centre, Jubilee Playing Field and Rockhampton Cricket Club already being good quality, there is scope to potentially explore the opportunity to install hybrid wickets in the future.

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A hybrid wicket combines natural turf grass with less the 5% of uniquely engineered, soft polyethylene yarn, which has already been used to improve golf tees and pitch surrounds. These wickets offer a greater capacity in addition to reducing time on repair works with a faster recovery time. Reports found that hybrid wickets improve surface stability, reduced wear, reduced bowler foot holes and significantly extended hours of playing time.

Ideally, once these become more readily available for community cricket clubs and have gone through the required testing, they could act as a way to increase levels of playing capacity on overplay squares. This would be particularly beneficial for those sites which are limited on space and cannot create additional wickets due to restrictions things such as boundary length or ball strike.

Although it is difficult at this stage to understand what impact hybrid wickets could have on each site's capacity, it is suggested that it could potentially alleviate all the overplay on both junior and senior wickets. This is based on the assumption that more senior demand can take place on the hybrid wickets allowing for the outer senior wickets to be used/converted for junior demand.

Accommodating future demand

Of the 12 clubs that express aspirations to increase their number of junior teams, seven have capacity to fully accommodate their junior demand aspirations on their current facility stock. However, both sites used by Bristol United Banks CC (Coronation Park and BAWA Healthcare & Leisure) are deemed to be unsecure, meaning an increase in demand on site is not recommended.

Additionally, Rockhampton CC would have to host its aspirational junior demand at its second site (The Common) as its home site (Rockhampton Cricket Club) is currently overplayed, despite The Common also suffering from unsecure tenure.

Of the remaining five clubs, Alveston and Bradley Stoke cricket clubs already overplay their home sites (Jubilee Playing Field and Baileys Court Activity Centre respectively). Carsons & Mangotsfield, Hambrook and Marshfield cricket clubs all have insufficient spare capacity to accommodate their junior future demand aspirations. However, Marshfield CC is serviced by an NTP and so this demand could be accommodated on the artificial wicket on site. For the remaining clubs, the feasibility of providing NTPs at their respective home venues would provide a solution to accommodate a growth in junior demand.

Twelve clubs indicate a desire to field additional senior teams although only Charfield and Thornbury cricket clubs have capacity to do so on their current facility stock. For other clubs, demand will either need to be fielded outside of peak time, or alternative venues will be required.

Gloucestershire County Facilities Strategy

Gloucestershire Cricket Foundation has recently (2023) developed a dedicated Facilities Strategy. The purpose of the Strategy is to:

- ◆ Understand the county and its current cricket design.
- ◆ Understand and to analyse facilities which are currently available and used.
- ◆ Identify the needs of cricket across the County.
- ◆ Ensure that distribution of capital funds goes into the right places.
- ◆ Identifying new opportunities to service cricket better.
- ◆ Help to secure funds from external partners.

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Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

The Strategy identifies specific recommendations for South Gloucestershire and a localised narrative to validate potential priority projects within it. There are three key capital projects identified, these are for pavilion projects at:

- ✦ Bradley Stoke CC
- ✦ Chipping Sodbury CC
- ✦ Frenchay CC

The Strategy also identifies pressures on the existing infrastructure for cricket (as also verified by the findings of the PPS) and the need for additional facilities to be provided in the future. Any future decision making around cricket clubs and associated facilities should also consider the ambitions of this Strategy and how it correlates to the findings of the PPS.

Recommendations

- ✦ Protect cricket pitch provision currently in use (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ✦ Ensure protection from development that may prejudice the use of a cricket square such as residential development near a cricket outfield (ball strike issues). This includes development of other sports provision which may compromise continued use for cricket.
- ✦ Uphold what are typically high quality maintenance and preparatory regimes at club managed sites to sustain quality and continue to have sufficient capacity to meet levels of demand.
- ✦ Support clubs to enhance maintenance regimes and improve pitch quality, particularly at overplayed sites such as Mile Straight Sports & Social Club.
- ✦ Work with clubs and site providers to ensure long-term tenure through formal agreement where current agreements may be due to expire.
- ✦ Support clubs with sufficient access to net training provision, including development of fixed lane net provision onsite where possible (e.g., Pucklechurch, Bristol United Banks and Hallen cricket clubs).
- ✦ Support clubs to provide non-turf pitches at their respective home sites to alleviate overplay and better accommodate future demand (e.g., Alveston and Bradley Stoke cricket clubs).
- ✦ Work with clubs to accommodate targeted growth for women's and girls' cricket through the ECB Inspiring Generations Strategy.
- ✦ Improve quality of ancillary provision where poor quality or old and in need of replacing (e.g. The Park and Winterbourne Recreation Ground).
- ✦ Improve facilities to meet growth markets (All Stars Cricket, Dynamos Cricket, women and girls' cricket) at key clubs. Specifically, improve quality of toilets, changing room and showers and social spaces to meet these growing demands, as well as ensuring sufficient pitch access to help promote these formats.

Rugby union pitches

Assessment Report summary

Summary – rugby union

- ◆ Overall, there is currently shortfall of 31.25 match equivalent sessions per week on senior rugby union pitches to meet current demand. When accounting for future demand, this increases to 37.75 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◆ In total, there are 38 rugby union pitches in South Gloucestershire across 19 sites. There are no mini pitches identified. Only the pitch at Bradley Stoke Community School is unavailable for community use.
- ◆ There are six 3G pitches in the Authority constructed for contact rugby union use and listed on the RFU register of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches. These are located at Oaklands (North Bristol RFC), Lockleaze Sports Centre, Shaftesbury Park, South Gloucestershire and Stroud College, UWE Bristol Hillside Gardens and Winterbourne Academy.
- ◆ Of the community available pitches in South Gloucestershire, 15 are assessed as poor quality, 12 as standard quality and ten as good quality.
- ◆ Cleve RFC, Clifton RFC, Chipping Sodbury RFC, Bristol Saracens RFC, North Bristol RFC and Old Elizabethans RFC all report a need, or have a need, for ancillary provision improvements.
- ◆ An additional sports lit pitch is expected to come online at Bakewell Memorial Ground.
- ◆ From respondents, six clubs own their site, two club has a lease arrangement in place and two clubs rent their sites.
- ◆ Five clubs report future demand aspirations, equating to the growth of two senior men's and five senior women's teams.
- ◆ There are 15 affiliated rugby union clubs based and playing within the Authority, identified as fielding a total of 187 affiliated teams.
- ◆ In addition to the clubs included above, Bristol Bisons RFC are an inclusive, two team club that plays and trains at Clifton Rugby Club. It competes in the UK IGR Southern League although fixtures are played on an ad-hoc basis.
- ◆ Population forecasts show the creation of six senior men's, one senior women's, seven age grade boys', one age grade girls and seven age grade mixed teams. Figures also suggest that participation is likely to grow across all age groups.
- ◆ When broken down by analysis area, this falls to five senior men's, one senior women's, three age grade boys and two age grade mixed teams.
- ◆ There is one pitch, located at St Marys Old Boys Rugby Football Club (Northwood Park) that is identified as having actual spare capacity at peak time, to a total of one match equivalent session per week.
- ◆ There are 20 pitches overplayed across nine sites, to a total of 32.25 match equivalent sessions per week.

Scenarios

Improving pitch maintenance

Currently, there are 20 rugby union pitches across nine sites in South Gloucestershire which are overplayed by a total of 32.25 match equivalent sessions per week. To show how this could be reduced, the first scenario considers the impact of enhancing maintenance across the overplayed sites by an achievable level (one stage e.g. from M0 to M1).

As seen in Table 4.14, overplay at two sites and on six pitches (at Cleve RFC and Clifton Rugby Club) can be alleviated through quality improvements alone. All remaining pitches would remain overplayed. Where pitches are already maintained to a good (M2) standard, capacity cannot be improved through maintenance improvements. As a reminder, the quality ratings for rugby union pitches are shown in the table below.

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Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Table 4.13: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	0.5	1.5	2
	Natural Adequate or Pipe Drained (D1)	1.5	2	3
	Pipe Drained (D2)	1.75	2.5	3.25
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	2	3	3.5

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Table 4.14: Improving maintenance on overplayed rugby union pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Sports lighting?	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Improved quality	New capacity rating
34	Cleve RFC	Bristol East	1	Yes	M0 / D0	1.5	M1 / D0	0.5
			3	No	M0 / D0	2	M1 / D0	1
35	Clifton Rugby Club	Rural & Severnside	1	Yes	M2 / D0	1.5	M2 / D0	1.5
			1	Yes	M1 / D0	0.5	M2 / D0	0
			2	No	M1 / D0	0.75	M2 / D0	0.25
76	Kingswood RFC (Deanery Road)	Bristol East	2	No	M1 / D3	1.75	M2 / D3	0.75
78	Little Stoke Park (Aretians RFC)	Bristol North	1	Yes	M1 / D0	2.5	M2 / D0	2
			1	No	M1 / D0	1	M2 / D0	0.5
135	The Park (Frampton Cotterell RFC)	Rural & Severnside	1	No	M0 / D3	2.5	M1 / D3	1.5
			1	No	M0 / D0	3.5	M1 / D0	2.5
136	The Riding (Chipping Sodbury RFC)	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	1	No	M2 / D0	1.75	M2 / D0	1.75
138	Thornbury RFC	Thornbury	1	Yes	M2 / D3	3	M2 / D3	3
			1	No	M2 / D0	4.5	M2 / D0	4.5
160	Bakewell Memorial Ground	Rural & Severnside	2	No	M2 / D0	1	M2 / D0	1
161	Lockleaze Sports Centre	Bristol North	1	No	M0 / D1	4.5	M1 / D1	4

Improving pitch drainage

This scenario considers the effect of enhancing drainage by one stage (e.g. D0 to D1) on overplayed pitches. Where pitches already have pipe and slit drainage installed (D3), capacity cannot be further increased through drainage improvements. As seen in the table overleaf, overplay at nine pitches (at Cleve RFC, Clifton Rugby Club, Little Stoke Park (Aretians RFC) and Bakewell Memorial Ground) would be alleviated through drainage improvements alone.

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Table 4.15: Improving drainage on overplayed rugby union pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Sports lighting?	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Improved quality	New capacity rating
34	Cleve RFC	Bristol East	1	Yes	M0 / D0	1.5	M0 / D1	0.5
			3	No	M0 / D0	2	M0 / D1	1
35	Clifton Rugby Club	Rural & Severnside	1	Yes	M2 / D0	1.5	M2 / D1	0.5
			1	Yes	M1 / D0	0.5	M1 / D1	0
			2	No	M1 / D0	0.75	M1 / D1	0.25
76	Kingswood RFC (Deanery Road)	Bristol East	2	No	M1 / D3	1.75	M1 / D3	1.75
78	Little Stoke Park (Aretians RFC)	Bristol North	1	Yes	M1 / D0	2.5	M1 / D1	1.5
			1	No	M1 / D0	1	M1 / D1	0
135	The Park (Frampton Cotterell RFC)	Rural & Severnside	1	No	M0 / D3	2.5	M0 / D3	2.5
			1	No	M0 / D0	3.5	M0 / D1	2.5
136	The Riding (Chipping Sodbury RFC)	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	1	No	M2 / D0	1.75	M2 / D1	0.75
138	Thornbury RFC	Thornbury	1	Yes	M2 / D3	3	M2 / D3	3
			1	No	M2 / D0	4.5	M2 / D1	3.5
160	Bakewell Memorial Ground	Rural & Severnside	2	No	M2 / D0	1	M2 / D1	0
161	Lockleaze Sports Centre	Bristol North	1	No	M0 / D1	4.5	M0 / D2	4.25

Improving pitch maintenance and drainage

A combination of improving maintenance and drainage, each by one stage, would create actual spare capacity on seven pitches (at Cleve RFC, Clifton Rugby Club and Little Stoke Park (Aretians RFC)). Shortfalls on three pitches at Cleve RFC and Bakewell Memorial Ground would also be alleviated. Only the first team pitch at Thornbury RFC would not benefit from improved maintenance and drainage, with shortfalls on all remaining pitches being reduced.

South Gloucestershire Council Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Table 4.16: Improving maintenance and drainage on overplayed rugby union pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Sports lighting?	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Improved quality	New capacity rating
34	Cleve RFC	Bristol East	1	Yes	M0 / D0	1.5	M1 / D1	0
			3	No	M0 / D0	2	M1 / D1	2.5
35	Clifton Rugby Club	Rural & Severnside	1	Yes	M2 / D0	1.5	M2 / D1	0.5
			1	Yes	M1 / D0	0.5	M2 / D1	1
			2	No	M1 / D0	0.75	M2 / D1	2.25
76	Kingswood RFC (Deanery Road)	Bristol East	2	No	M1 / D3	1.75	M2 / D3	0.75
78	Little Stoke Park (Aretians RFC)	Bristol North	1	Yes	M1 / D0	2.5	M2 / D1	1
			1	No	M1 / D0	1	M2 / D1	0.5
135	The Park (Frampton Cotterell RFC)	Rural & Severnside	1	No	M0 / D3	2.5	M1 / D3	1.5
			1	No	M0 / D0	3.5	M1 / D1	2
136	The Riding (Chipping Sodbury RFC)	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	1	No	M2 / D0	1.75	M2 / D1	0.75
138	Thornbury RFC	Thornbury	1	Yes	M2 / D3	3	M2 / D3	3
			1	No	M2 / D0	4.5	M2 / D1	3.5
160	Bakewell Memorial Ground	Rural & Severnside	2	No	M2 / D0	1	M2 / D1	0
161	Lockleaze Sports Centre	Bristol North	1	No	M0 / D1	4.5	M1 / D1	4

Based on the above, whilst maintenance and drainage improvements on rugby union pitches across South Gloucestershire should be supported, these developments alone are insufficient to holistically address shortfalls.

South Gloucestershire Council

Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Increasing access to training provision with sports lighting

There is often a preference for rugby clubs to train at their home sites and on their match pitches if they are without dedicated training facilities. In South Gloucestershire, training demand directly results in overplay of 15 pitches.

None of the clubs with overplayed pitches have sufficient capacity on their remaining pitches to accommodate training demand without overplay still existing or without the additional training pitch/es becoming overplayed. As such, whilst additional sports lighting of grass should be pursued, alternatives also need to be considered such as further provision of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches or dedicated training areas with sports lighting.

The table below presents the scenario that training demand is removed from overplayed pitches within South Gloucestershire, due to the addition of further dedicated sports lit training areas or World Rugby compliant 3G provision. The figures show the significant impact training activity has on grass pitch capacity.

Table 4.17: Impact of training demand transferring away from grass pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Current capacity rating	Training equivalent sessions (per week)	Capacity rating without training demand
34	Cleve RFC	Bristol East	1	1.5	3	1.5
35	Clifton Rugby Club	Rural & Severnside	1	1.5	3	1.5
			1	0.5	2	1.5
			2	0.75	1	0.25
76	Kingswood RFC (Deanery Road)	Bristol East	2	1.75	4	2.25
78	Little Stoke Park (Aretians RFC)	Bristol North	1	2.5	3	0.5
135	The Park (Frampton Cotterell RFC)	Rural & Severnside	1	2.5	2	0.5
			1	3.5	2	1.5
138	Thornbury RFC	Thornbury	1	3	2.5	0.5
			1	4.5	1	3.5
160	Bakewell Memorial Ground	Rural & Severnside	2	1	3.5	2.5
161	Lockleaze Sports Centre	Bristol North	1	4.5	3	1.5

The table above suggests significant levels of overplay could be addressed if training demand could be removed from match pitches. Only The Park (Frampton Cotterell RFC), Thornbury RFC and Lockleaze Sports Centre would remain overplayed from match demand alone.

South Gloucestershire Council

Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Increasing the supply of sports lighting available to community clubs

As identified in the preceding Assessment Report, there is a midweek capacity deficiency of at the following clubs:

- ▶ Aretians RFC
- ▶ Ashley Down Old Boys RFC
- ▶ Bristol Saracens RFC
- ▶ Cleve RFC
- ▶ Clifton RFC
- ▶ Frampton Cotterell RFC
- ▶ Kingswood RFC
- ▶ Thornbury RFC

Midweek deficiency at these sites is consistent with the overplay position which is identified in Table 4.17. One solution to overcoming this overplay is through increasing the supply of sports lighting at these sites to enable the transfer of training demand across a site, as opposed to concentrating it onto one specific area or pitch.

On this basis, for all sites identified above, where opportunities to present themselves to increase the supply of sports lighting at these sites, it should be taken to enable these clubs to improve capacity and thus overall quality and improve the user experience.

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

World Rugby produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. The RFU investment strategy for AGPs considers sites where grass rugby pitches are over capacity and where an AGP would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local clubs and education establishments.

There are six full size World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire, located at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise), UWE Bristol Hillside Gardens, Shaftesbury Park, Lockleaze Sports Centre, Oaklands (North Bristol RFC) and Winterbourne Academy.

The pitches at Oaklands (North Bristol RFC), Shaftesbury Park and Lockleaze Sports Centre are heavily used for rugby union demand throughout the peak period. Despite being World Rugby compliant, pitches at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) and UWE Bristol Hillside Gardens are predominantly used for football demand by the community, with the only rugby usage being derived from curricular and extra-curricular use.

It should be noted that at rugby union sites that accommodate 3G pitches, rugby clubs are typically given preference over other sports. At education sites, existing users are usually given first refusal of their existing training slots. If there is spare capacity, this is typically allocated on a first come, first served basis.

With a high number of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches already provided in South Gloucestershire, no demand for additional such pitches has been identified. However, with a considerable current and future shortfall of grass rugby union pitches, further provision should still be considered in order to alleviate demand from natural turf pitches and reduce shortfalls. Any decisions regarding this surface type should be considered in partnership with the RFU to fully determine strategic need on a club by club basis.

Recommendations

- ✦ Protect all rugby union pitches currently in use and pitches that are inaccessible or no longer in use due to the potential that they may offer for meeting current and future needs (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ✦ Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay, foremostly through improved and more regular maintenance at sites used by community clubs. Engage and utilise the GMA Pitch Advisory Service to establish recommended programme of works at key sites.
- ✦ Consider opportunities for community asset transfer where rugby union clubs express desire and evidence ability to feasibly manage, sustain and improve provision, in line with an established criteria for asset transfer.
- ✦ Improve quality of ancillary provision servicing pitches, particularly changing and toilet provision. Ensure provision can suitably meet requirements of site users, particularly women's teams and where there is crossover of youth/adult female use on Sundays.
- ✦ Explore opportunities to reduce the pressure of midweek training on existing sports lit pitches through either transferring demand to 3G pitches, dedicated training areas or by increasing the stock of spotlighting at appropriate sites (as determined by the RFU).

Hockey pitches (sand/water-based artificial grass pitches)

Assessment Report summary

Hockey summary

- ✦ **Current demand for hockey is being met by existing provision in the Authority from a quantity perspective, however, the quality of the supply is in such a broadly poor state that over the lifespan of the PPOSS it is expected that a shortfall will emerge on the basis of provision being unfit for match play.**
- ✦ **There is a requirement for all full size AGPs in the Authority to be protected and retained as hockey suitable (sand based) surfaces for continued hockey use.**
- ✦ **Provision at Mangotsfield School is operating over peak time capacity guidelines.**
- ✦ There are nine full size hockey suitable (sand based) AGPs in South Gloucestershire, seven of these offer a full spectrum of community use. Pitches unavailable for weekend use are located at John Cabot Academy and Cribbs Sports and Social Club (due to curricular demand).
- ✦ There are three further small sided pitches in the Authority, none of which offer community use opportunities.
- ✦ Three hockey suitable (sand based) pitches have been lost to conversion to 3G since 2016. These are located at Downend Sports Centre and Winterbourne Academy.
- ✦ There is a disused hockey suitable (sand based) AGP located at The Grange School.
- ✦ Of the nine full size pitches, six are poor quality and three are good quality.
- ✦ There are nine hockey clubs in South Gloucestershire (including UWE) which cumulatively operate 35 senior teams. This equates to 1,098 participants.
- ✦ Wick HC exports demand outside of South Gloucestershire into Bristol due to a poor supply of provision to utilise as a dedicated home venue.
- ✦ Two clubs highlight specific aspirations to increase the number of teams they currently provide. These aspirations, captured in the table below, equate to one senior men's team, two senior women's team and one junior boys' team. Bristol & West HC, Hanham HC and Redland HC did not raise any specific growth aspirations.
- ✦ Based on existing demand, there is a requirement for five full size pitches to be fully available for hockey use in the Authority.
- ✦ It is likely that quality concerns will exacerbate shortfalls over the lifespan of the PPOSS unless quality improvements are undertaken.

South Gloucestershire Council

Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Scenarios

Impact of pitch deterioration

There are six poor quality hockey suitable sand based pitches in the District (out of a total of nine with three of these being good quality pitches located at; Cribbs Sports and Social, Yate Outdoor Sports Club and Lockleaze Sports Centre).

Four of these poor quality pitches are actively used by hockey clubs. Provision at Hanham Woods Academy is not used for match play due to the quality of the surface being so poor and thus it being unfit for match play. The pitch at John Cabot Academy does not open weekends and is therefore does not play a role in supporting competitive hockey matches.

For the remainder of the pitches, there are issues with surface quality, accompanying sports lighting and varying issues with the quality of goalposts, surrounding boards, fencing and general fittings which make the pitches appropriate for use.

It is broadly considered that the carpet of an artificial grass pitch usually lasts for approximately 12-15 years, and it is the age of the surface, combined with maintenance levels, which most commonly affects quality.

A surface which has been assessed as poor quality will typically have issues with wear and tear, ripped surfaces and sports lighting which may be approaching end of life. Pitches at education sites which are used for informal activity (i.e. accommodating break periods for students) will likely have a lesser life expectancy than the typical 12 – 15 years earlier stated.

Goalposts (hockey specific), if provided, do not impact on the pitch quality assessment, but it is noted that they are required and are essential for hockey to be played.

Most of the providers of pitches are not known to have sufficient funding in place to replace the surfaces. This means, in the near future and most likely over the lifespan of this document, that these pitches will become condemned for competitive hockey. Mangotsfield School is the sole provider which is known to have a sinking fund and is known locally as being one of the best examples of pitch management within South Gloucestershire.

Table 4.18: Poor quality pitch provision and associated clubs

Site ID	Site	Club user	Quality
1	Abbeywood Community School	BAC Ladies HC Hanham HC	Poor
16	Bradley Stoke Community School	South Gloucester HC	Poor
62	Hanham Woods Academy	N/A	Poor
70	John Cabot Academy	N/A	Poor
83	Mangotsfield School	Bristol & West HC	Poor
132	The Castle School (Thornbury)	Thornbury HC	Poor

Pitches coming out of use may directly impact the following five clubs:

- ✦ BAC Ladies HC
- ✦ Hanham HC
- ✦ South Gloucester HC
- ✦ Bristol & West HC
- ✦ Thornbury HC

South Gloucestershire Council

Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

All good quality pitches are at, or near full capacity with existing hockey demand and as such could not accommodate these clubs. This ultimately puts hockey in the District in a perilous position, unless improvements are widely undertaken across the above sites.

Unused poor pitches at Hanham Woods Academy and John Cabot Academy could theoretically play a future role in supporting hockey. This is dependent on future surfaces replacements and increased accessibility at John Cabot Academy. On this basis, these two pitches should also be protected for hockey purposes, unless pitch replacements (and wider infrastructure improvements) are undertaken elsewhere and to the satisfaction of England Hockey.

The pitch at John Cabot Academy is known to accommodate curricular hockey. It is England Hockey's ambition to double the number of state schools offering hockey by 2028 and it is identified as a core objective in its Strategy: Creating A Future For Our Game (2023 – 2028). Replacement of the pitch at John Cabot to a 3G surface would eliminate any opportunities for low level hockey to be continued (on the basis 3G pitches are not suitable for this type of activity).

Impact of 3G conversion on clubs

Many secondary education providers in South Gloucestershire have a hockey suitable (sand based) artificial grass pitch. These schools, as detailed in the table below are operated by academies which the Council or County Council have little control or say in decision making.

Table 4.19: Management of existing artificial grass pitches at school sites

Site	Management
Abbeywood Community School	Inhouse school (Olympus Trust)
Bradley Stoke Community School	Inhouse school (Olympus Trust)
Cribbs Sports And Social Club	Inhouse school (Redmaids' High School)
Hanham Woods Academy	Inhouse school (Cabot Learning Foundation)
John Cabot Academy	Inhouse school (Cabot Learning Foundation)
Mangotsfield School	Inhouse school (Castle School Education Trust)
The Castle School (Thornbury)	Inhouse school (Castle School Education Trust)

As many of these surface types are poor quality (as set out in Table 4.18) these providers may consider converting pitches to 3G surfaces in the future (note, there are not any known plans for this to happen, it is however a known trend nationally).

Club users often have no control over or any influence on this and as already established these existing pitches provide a lifeline for hockey to continue to be played within South Gloucestershire.

Conversion of sand based AGPs to 3G surfaces

Since the introduction of 3G pitches and given their popularity for football, providers have seen this as a way of replacing their tired sand-based carpet and generating money from hiring out a 3G pitch to football clubs and commercial football providers. This has often come at the expense of hockey, with players now travelling further distances to gain access to a suitable pitch and many teams being displaced from their preferred geographical area.

Due to its impact on hockey, it is appropriate to ensure that sufficient sand based AGPs are retained for the playing development of hockey.

South Gloucestershire Council

Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

To that end, a change of surface should require a planning application and, as part of that, the applicants will have to show that there is sufficient provision available for hockey in the locality. Advice from Sport England and EH should therefore be sought prior to any planning application being submitted.

It should also be noted that, if a surface is changed, it could require the existing sports lighting and drainage to be changed and, in some instances, noise attenuation measures may need to be put in place. Furthermore, sand-based surfaces are able to cater for a wider variety of sports such as netball and football as well as hockey whereas 3G surfaces primarily cater for football. Therefore, hockey provision is typically preferential for curricular use.

Based on the findings of the supply and demand analysis findings within the Assessment Report there is no scope to convert any of the full size hockey suitable in the Authority to 3G surfaces and all full size hockey suitable (sand based) AGPs should be retained and protected until a point in which quality improvements on existing pitches have had a positive impact in retaining hockey demand and secure the long term position of hockey in the District.

To enable the above, it is recommended that pre-application advice is sought for any likely application impacting on artificial pitches. As part of this, consultation with England Hockey should be sought as part of that process.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect all existing AGPs in the District.
- ◀ Look to resurface poor quality AGPs in use for hockey demand as soon as possible to ensure demand is safely accommodated. England Hockey must be a key stakeholder to all conversations regarding pitch and lighting improvements.
- ◀ Work to improve the ancillary offer at key sites accessed by key community clubs.
- ◀ Ensure that quality of sports lighting can continue to meet demand at key sites for hockey, replacing bulbs to newer, more effective LED products are in need of replacement.
- ◀ Support providers of pitch provision to have fit and proper maintenance programmes meeting England Hockey baseline standards.
- ◀ Where possible, support clubs through providing solutions to security of tenure, particularly as a condition of any external investment into education sites,
- ◀ Ensure that any recreational based hockey programmes can be accommodated to service non-competitive or recreational demand.
- ◀ Encourage providers to put in place a mechanism for long-term sustainability, preferably a sinking fund formed over time, in order to fund future repair and eventual surface replacement at end of lifespan.
- ◀ Ensure developer contributions or funding which is provided externally is attributed to improving the existing supply of pitches in the District and that any funding offer has conditions based on securing long term community use for club users and a provider responsibility of capturing sufficient sinking funds to ensure future pitch sustainability.
- ◀ Seek to maximise hockey use of AGPs at sites where hockey is being played.

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Tennis courts

Assessment Report summary

Tennis summary

- There is an under supply of tennis courts in parks to meet current and latent demand and therefore, all existing parks courts should be retained.
- There is a sufficient supply of tennis courts to accommodate total club demand in South Gloucestershire. However, Downend and Frenchay, Marshfield, Sodbury and Woodlands tennis clubs are currently operating above the benchmark capacity of their respective home venues.
- If future demand aspirations are realised, Almondsbury, Cleve Hill, Winterbourne and Acton Turville tennis clubs would also be operating above benchmark capacity levels whilst Downend and Frenchay, Woodlands and Cleve Hill tennis clubs would significantly exceed their benchmark capacity.
- The LTA has identified Bromley Heath Playing Field, Kingswood Park, Page Park and The Park as strategic priorities for refurbishment. Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 5,069 people in South Gloucestershire. This aligns with LTA own insight and modelling that these courts would activate latent demand.
- With a number of housing developments planned across South Gloucestershire, the LTA's priority is to increase and improve the number and quality of park courts available for use by the community across the area.
- There are 135 tennis courts identified in South Gloucestershire across 44 sites. Of these, 98 courts across 33 sites are available for community use.
- Most courts are operated by schools, sports clubs or the respective district/parish/town council and have a macadam surface.
- In South Gloucestershire, 67 of the 135 tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing just under 50% of the provision which is a high proportion when compared nationally. South Gloucestershire, Downend and Frenchay, Winterbourne and Marshfield tennis clubs aspire to improve sports lights at their respective home venues.
- Of the courts, 48 are assessed as good quality, 61 as standard quality and 26 as poor quality.
- Downend and Frenchay, South Gloucestershire, Woodlands, Almondsbury and Cleve Hill tennis clubs have plans to improve ancillary facilities at their respective home sites.
- For non-club courts, ancillary provision is generally considered to be problematic.
- There are 13 tennis clubs in South Gloucestershire, all of which responded to consultation requests.
- Sodbury TC is the largest club in the District with 337 members whilst Acton Turville and Hawkesbury Upton tennis clubs are the smallest with 40 members.
- Ten responding clubs quantified their future demand aspirations, planning to add a total of 544 members.
- Away from clubs, it is considered that all local authority courts available for community use in South Gloucestershire have spare capacity for a growth in demand, although this is difficult to quantify as use is not always recorded due to the open access nature of many sites.
- There are limited informal/recreational tennis initiatives currently take place in South Gloucestershire. LTA Youth Start is the only LTA initiative currently operating in South Gloucestershire, hosted by Almondsbury TC and Sodbury TC.

Scenarios

Improving quality and access

The LTA has developed a package of support for LAs to grow the use of park tennis courts by removing key barriers to participation. The three products are ClubSpark, LTA Play and Gate Access and can be used individually or in combination. The products are used to provide a remote booking and access system.

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Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Instead of opting for no management, many local authorities are now securing their courts as per an access scheme that allows users access through the use of a Smart Access gates system following payment of an affordable household annual fee. This helps provide sustainable facilities, providing the operator with a sinking fund for future maintenance on the site as well as the ability to track the usage of the site.

The LTA indicates that any proposed housing developments in South Gloucestershire need to consider the provision of additional tennis courts due to the demand generated from the increased population. For example, at Filton Airfield, it states at least eight new public park tennis courts are required to meet expected demand, utilising pay and play gate access technology. The LTA would also welcome involvement in developments at the new secondary school at Lyde Green regarding plans to develop the tennis offer and discussion around community use opportunities on site.

LTA insight data across park courts in South Gloucestershire shows there is penetration demand of 6,921 residents across the District. Therefore, the provision of increased park courts, further utilisation of court booking systems and an improved customer journey will support the activation of this latent demand.

Likewise, the PPS Assessment identifies that there is a limited supply of tennis provision for recreational activity in parks which sit outside of an education setting across the District and what is available is a mixed quality offer, this the development of new provision is supported by the PPS.

Recommendations

Parks:

- ▶ As a priority, look to establish sources of investment alongside the LTA and improve the quality and accessibility of identified park sites. This includes the implementation of ClubSpark, LTA Play and Gate Access schemes as appropriate.
- ▶ For any new housing developments that have courts adopts a similar operational model as parks i.e. Gate Access, priority public access and online booking.
- ▶ Where possible appropriately leverage section 106/CIL as a contribution to upgrade existing park facilities to a good standard with gate access and online booking.

Housing growth:

- ▶ In key strategic locations for housing development review the potential to add additional courts at sites, such as Filton Airfield, Lyde Green, North Yate and East of Harry Stoke/Harry Stoke. Calculations of Periscope data and current LTA insight have identified the number of tennis courts required at each site (see Part 7).
- ▶ For any new housing developments that have courts adopts a similar operational model as parks i.e. Gate Access, priority public access and online booking.
- ▶ Where possible appropriately leverage section 106/CIL as a contribution to upgrade existing park facilities to a good standard with gate access and online booking.

Padel:

- ▶ Consider building Padel courts within existing tennis clubs to diversify the offer.
- ▶ Investigate the possibility of Padel at multi-sport community locations.

Clubs:

- ▶ Retain and sustain quality of all club courts through implementation of appropriate maintenance regimes.
- ▶ Work with existing clubs to assess the potential of expansion of existing facilities e.g. additional courts, floodlights and covered courts.
- ▶ Resurface and open up School facilities to the public with a clear and affordable customer journey as these provide community tennis courts in areas with no provision.

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Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

- ◆ Sustain club facilities & membership through maintaining current facilities and support sports lighting aspirations where possible to extend court hours.
- ◆ Consider the feasibility of operating LTA programmes such as LTA Youth, Free Parks Tennis and Great British Tennis Weekend in the District to attract new players to the sport.

Netball courts

Assessment Report summary

Netball – supply and demand summary

- ◆ Through club consultation it is identified that at present Avon Netball League has sufficient facilities across South Gloucestershire and Bristol to cater for its demand although quality issues have been identified.
- ◆ The League aspires to return to a central venue format and believes it would grow at a much quicker rate if it had access to a facility that could accommodate this demand once again.
- ◆ For netball demand away from the club and league environment, there is a need to ensure programmes provided by England Netball have suitable provision from which to be ran from and that curricular and extra-curricular needs are being met.

Netball – supply summary

- ◆ There are 52 outdoor netball courts identified in South Gloucestershire across 16 sites, of which, 33 are available for community use across ten sites.
- ◆ Most provision is located in the Bristol North Analysis Area with a total of 15 courts or 29% of provision. This is followed by both Bristol East and Yate & Chipping Analysis Area with 12 courts (23%), Rural Areas & Severnside Analysis Area which accommodates seven courts (13%). There is no community available netball provision within the Thornbury Analysis Area.
- ◆ Three netball courts in South Gloucestershire are operated by the Council, with these being located at Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre, whilst the three courts at Cribbs Sports and Social Club managed by the sports club. All remaining courts are at school sites.
- ◆ All the courts have a macadam surface.
- ◆ In South Gloucestershire, all 52 netball courts are overmarked for tennis.
- ◆ Despite 52 outdoor netball courts being provided in South Gloucestershire, only 26 courts (50%) are serviced by sports lighting.
- ◆ Of the courts in South Gloucestershire, 29 (56%) are rated as standard quality. The remaining courts are either Good (19 courts or 36%) or poor quality (four courts or 8%).
- ◆ The good quality courts that are available for community use are provided at Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre, Brimsham Green School, Cribbs Sports and Social Club and Mangotsfield School.
- ◆ The good quality court unavailable for community use is located at Charlton Wood Primary School.

Netball – demand summary

- ◆ Avon Netball League is large netball league that currently run multiple venues in South Gloucestershire and Bristol. The league currently has ten divisions accommodating a total of 102 teams.
- ◆ Additionally, Avon Netball League runs a junior league consisting of three U12 divisions, four U14 divisions and four U16 divisions.
- ◆ No commercial netball leagues are currently operating in South Gloucestershire. However, Play Netball and Go Mammoth operate leagues in neighbouring Bristol.
- ◆ There are two venues in South Gloucestershire which run Walking Netball, these being Brimsham Green School and Lyde Green Primary School.
- ◆ Sport England Segmentation tool identifies latent demand of 787 people within South Gloucestershire. Of these people, 23% are identified as being in the 'Chloe' segment – (fitness class friends).

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Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Grange School (accommodating netball demand)

Most of the netball in South Gloucestershire was previously played at the Grange School. The School was a hub site and operated as an outdoor central venue used both during evenings and weekends to accommodate training demand and league matches.

The School (along with its sporting facilities) closed over five years ago and part of the site has been identified for development with the existing sports facilities retained for the community. Since the closure, all community sport has dispersed across the Authority and into adjacent authorities as a necessity for competitive play to take place. This equates to demand not ultimately being met for netball within South Gloucestershire.

Currently, it is proposed to upgrade the former Grange School site in two phases. The first involves redevelopment of the indoor facilities to support gymnastics. The second phase is to upgrade indoor and outdoor facilities to support netball. This includes creating a purpose-built indoor netball hall, along with five outdoor sports lit courts.

England Netball's regional team (Avon County Netball Association) is keen to return to the Grange site as a central hub, but is currently concerned that proposed rental costs, which will be priced at commercial rates and likely be unaffordable. The Council (as the Local Planning Authority) will need to work with the respective NGB and Sport England to ensure that all parties are satisfied with the design and proposed management arrangements and hire costs of the new facility moving forward.

The Avon Netball League was previously based at the Grange School. It aspires to have a netball hub site once again in the District and notes that demand has continued to increase since leaving the Grange with the most recent season seeing the highest number of teams competing in the League. Additionally, Avon Netball League also runs a junior league consisting of three U12 divisions (of six teams), four U14 divisions (of seven teams) and four U16 divisions (of seven teams). Demand has remained relatively consistent in recent years, with the main hinderance to growth being available personnel to travel with the teams between venues for safeguarding purposes. Therefore, the League believes the junior section would grow if it could accommodate this demand at a central venue.

Whilst the Avon Netball League has continued to grow since leaving the Grange School, the move to a home and away format has caused players to travel extensively across both South Gloucestershire and Bristol. Court quality also varies across the accessible sites, with Sir Bernard Lovell Academy no longer being used for league play due to perceived poor condition as well as most venues requiring limited or poor quality toilet facilities. Therefore, the League's return to the Grange School should be supported although further negotiation is required to ensure that rental costs for the Netball Association are at an affordable level.

Recommendations

- ✦ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ✦ Deliver improved netball facilities at The Grange.
- ✦ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs and for England Netball initiatives.
- ✦ Consider establishing additional sports lighting at venues in use for netball or at venues that could attract netball demand following installation.
- ✦ Seek to improve access to educational sites, particularly where sports lighting is provided such as Tockington Manor School.

Athletics tracks

Assessment Report summary

Athletics supply and demand summary

- ▶ In South Gloucestershire, supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, with three athletics tracks catering for a known membership of 311 members from Yate & District Athletics Club. Additionally, Westbury Harriers is reported to have over 600 members.
- ▶ Priority should be placed on protecting the existing track and field provision and improving the track at Mangotsfield School.
- ▶ Emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other activities taking place in South Gloucestershire, with a focus on retaining and increasing participation and growing the various initiatives that are in place.

Athletics supply summary

- ▶ There are three formal athletics track in South Gloucestershire located at Mangotsfield School, South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) and Yate Outdoor Sports Complex, which are all eight lane, 400 metre tracks.
- ▶ Both South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) and Yate Outdoor Sports Complex provide a synthetic surface tracks and Mangotsfield School provides a cinder surface track.
- ▶ The tracks located at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) and Yate Outdoor Sports Complex are fully sports lit and provide all accompanying field event facilities including hammer cages, javelin, high jump, long jump and shot put areas.
- ▶ The non-technical assessment undertaken by KKP identified the track and accompanying track and field facilities located at Mangotsfield School as poor quality. The tracks located at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) and Yate Outdoor Sports Complex are assessed as good quality.
- ▶ The track at Yate Outdoor Sports Complex is owned by the Council whilst the tracks located at both Mangotsfield School and South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) are owned by the respective education providers.

Athletics demand summary

- ▶ Yate & District Athletics Club accommodates 311 members, is based at Yate Outdoor Sports Complex and caters for track and field events.
- ▶ Westbury Harriers utilises the track at Yate Outdoor Sports Complex for its Tuesday evening training runs.
- ▶ Emersons Green Running Club meets three times a week, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 18.45 at Pomphrey Hill Playing Fields.
- ▶ Sole Sisters Running Club is a women's road running club that caters for runners of all abilities. It uses Baileys Court Activity Centre as a meeting base.
- ▶ Hogweed Trotters is a road running and cross country club and caters for runners of all abilities. It meets twice a week and uses The Ridings as a meeting base.
- ▶ In South Gloucestershire, Pomphrey Hill is the only location where a Park Run takes place in the District.
- ▶ Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies significant latent demand amounting to 5,887 people in South Gloucestershire. This equates to approximately 2% of the current population, which aligns with the national average.

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Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◆ Protect all existing athletics tracks and supporting facilities.
- ◆ Look to improve the track located at Mangotsfield School.
- ◆ Consider the development of new generation track facilities¹³, particularly where large scale housing developments are planned to provide opportunities for informal and recreational athletic based activities.
- ◆ Continue to increase participation both within affiliated clubs and the wider running market, signposting potential club members from the likes of Parkrun events and other health initiatives.

Bowling greens

Assessment Report summary

Bowls summary

- ◆ **There is currently sufficient capacity for flat bowling greens to meet both current and future demand.**
- ◆ There are eight bowling greens in South Gloucestershire located across eight sites, all of which accommodate one green each.
- ◆ Most bowling greens (three or 38%) are owned and managed by the sports or bowling club itself and are considered to have security of tenure. The remaining are either operated by the Council (Kingswood Park and Page Park), Town/Parish Council (Baileys Court Activity Centre), Commercial (BAWA Healthcare & Leisure) or HMP (HMP Leyhill).
- ◆ All eight greens are rated as good quality.
- ◆ Most sites (four) are accompanied by good quality facilities whereas three sites have standard quality ancillary provision.
- ◆ There are seven bowling clubs identified as playing in South Gloucestershire. Where known, membership of these clubs' totals 267.
- ◆ The largest club according to known membership is currently Page Park BC, with 124 members, followed by Kingswood & Hanham BC with 72 members. Yate BC has the lowest number of members, with 71 members.
- ◆ Of responding clubs, two clubs highlight aspirations to increase membership, however, only one club (Page Park BC) quantifies its growth plans wanting to grow by 16 senior members. Yate BC also aspires for additional members, however, did not quantify this demand with a specific number of players.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◆ Retain existing quantity of greens currently used for outdoor bowls.
- ◆ Assist clubs, where possible, with any future ancillary provision improvements.
- ◆ Support clubs with plans to increase membership so that growth can be maximised.

¹³ <https://www.englandathletics.org/clubs-and-facilities/facilities/newgen-tracks/>

Part 5: Strategic Recommendations

The strategic recommendations for the Strategy have been developed via a combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis which culminated in the production of an Assessment Report, as well as key drivers identified for the Strategy. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed, which apply across outdoor sports facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.

OBJECTIVE 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sports facilities where it is needed to meet current and future needs.

Recommendations:

- a. Ensure, through the use of the Playing Pitch Strategy, that outdoor sports facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. Maximise community use of education facilities where there is a need to do so.

Recommendation (a) – Ensure, through the use of the Playing Pitch Strategy, that outdoor sports facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used outdoor sports sites require protection or replacement and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. Disused, underused and poor quality sites should also be protected from development or replaced as there is a requirement for playing field land to meet the identified shortfalls. Therefore, based on the outcomes of the PPS, local planning policy should reflect this situation.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 103 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◀ An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- ◀ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- ◀ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

Should outdoor sports facilities be taken out of use for any reason (e.g., Council budget restraints), it is imperative that the land is retained so that it can be brought back into use in the future. This means that land containing provision should not be altered (except to improve play) and should remain free from tree cover and permanent built structures, unless the current picture changes to the extent that the site in question is no longer needed, or unless replacement provision is provided to an equal or greater quantity and quality.

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Although there are identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions, most demand is currently being met and most shortfalls are likely able to be addressed through quality improvements. Including the need for additional facilities in the Local Plan is therefore not recommended as a priority, except in the case of where there is significant housing growth. Housing growth is tested as scenarios for notable allocations in Part 7 of this report.

The PPS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new outdoor sports facilities and ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis taking into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing fields and will use the PPS to help assess that planning application against its Playing Fields Policy¹⁴.

Sport England's Playing Fields Policy exception E1 only allows for development of disused playing fields if a Playing Pitch Strategy (in this case PPS) shows a clear excess in the quantity of playing pitch provision at present and in the future across all playing pitch sport types and sizes.

Policy Exception E1:

'A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Sport England that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport'.

Where the PPS cannot demonstrate that the site, or part of a site, is clearly surplus to requirements then replacement of the site, or part of a site, will be required to comply with the remaining Sport England policy exceptions.

Policy Exception E2

'The proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field and does not affect the quantity and quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use'.

Policy Exception E3

'The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:

- ◆ Reduce the size of any playing pitch.
- ◆ Result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas).
- ◆ Reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain quality.
- ◆ Result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site.
- ◆ Prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site'.

¹⁴https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy

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Policy Exception E4:

'The playing field or fields to be lost as a result of the proposed development would be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new playing field site or sites:

- ◀ of equivalent or better quality and
- ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity;
- ◀ in a suitable location and;
- ◀ subject to equivalent or better management arrangements.

Policy Exception E5

'The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice of use, of the area of playing field'.

Disused sites should also be protected from development or replaced in accordance with Sport England's policy exceptions as they currently provide a solution to reducing identified shortfalls. A disused site is a playing field which is not currently being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either.

Any disused playing fields are included within the Action Plan together with a recommendation in relation to bringing the site back into use or to mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified.

Recommendation (b) – Secure tenure and access to sites through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.

Several education and dual-use sites are being used in South Gloucestershire for competitive play, predominately for football or hockey. In some cases, use of pitches has been classified as secure, however, use is not necessarily formalised and further work should be carried out to ensure an appropriate community use agreement is in place (including access to changing provision where required).

For the remaining providers, National Governing Bodies, Sport England and other appropriate bodies such as the Football Foundation can often help to negotiate and engage with providers where the local authority may not have direct influence. This is particularly the case at sites that have received funding from these bodies or are going to receive funding in the future as community access can be a condition of the agreement.

In the context of the Comprehensive Spending Review, which announced public spending cuts, it is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations to enable them to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities. To facilitate this, where practical, it should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds, providing that this is to the benefit of sport.

As a significant proportion of playing pitch sites are managed by parish or town councils, private owners or sports clubs, the Council may need to support clubs and NGBs in developing relationships with these providers and to establish formal community use agreements.

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Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Long-term leasehold

The Council should explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted via lease agreements (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport) so clubs are in a position to apply for external funding. This is particularly the case at poor quality sites, possibly with inadequate ancillary facilities, so that quality can be improved and sites developed.

For clubs with leaseholds already in place, these should be reviewed when fewer than 25 years remain on existing agreements to secure extensions, thus improving security of tenure and helping clubs attract funding for site developments. Any club with less than 25 years remaining on an agreement is unlikely to meet conditions of grants funded by external partners.

In addition, clubs should be made fully aware of the associated responsibilities/liabilities when considering leases of multi-use public playing fields. It is important in these instances that the site, to some degree, remains available for other purposes or for other users.

Community Asset Transfer

Another way of ensuring long term tenure for clubs is through a Community Asset Transfer (CAT). This is the transfer of management and/or ownership of public land and buildings from its owner (usually a local authority) to a community organisation (such as a Development Trust, a Community Interest Company or a social enterprise) for less than market value – to achieve a local social, economic or environmental benefit.

Community based organisations are often much more effective at engaging people than other types of organisation because they are close to and directly accountable to their community.

Communities that come together to plan and deliver services can make them more inclusive and responsive than state run services. Communities can mobilise a lot of volunteer time and energy. Asset transfer can, for example:

- ✦ Help local authorities meet policy objectives.
- ✦ Make better use of underused assets.
- ✦ Open and increase opportunities for clubs/organisations to access grant funding for which local authorities cannot apply (e.g. Football Foundation Grass Maintenance Fund).
- ✦ Improve assets through increased time and resource (both financial and volunteer) than what the local authority may be able to contribute.
- ✦ Give sports clubs and community organisations more security and sustainability and help transition clubs away from being funding dependent. Opens opportunities to revenue generation and greater self-dependence.
- ✦ Enable people to protect the assets in their communities – including iconic heritage buildings and open spaces. Reducing costs to the local authority and protection against further budgetary cuts.
- ✦ Involve people in designing and running the services from which, they benefit.
- ✦ Be a catalyst for getting people more involved as volunteers.
- ✦ Keep money in the local economy through enterprise and locally owned assets.

The Sport England Community Sport Asset Transfer Toolkit is a bespoke, interactive web based tool that provides a step by step guide through each stage of the asset transfer process should this be an option for the Council to consider. It can be accessed here: <https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/community-assets-and-rights>

Recommendation (c) - Maximise community use of education facilities where there is a need to do so

To maximise community use of education facilities more coherent, structured relationship with schools is recommended. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train.

A large number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the schools and local clubs, as well helping to reduce identified shortfalls. It is, however, common for school provision not to be fully maximised for community use, even on established community use sites.

Although there are a growing number of academies over which the Council has little or no control, it is still important to understand the significance of such sites and attempt to work with the schools where there are opportunities for community use. In addition, relevant NGBs have a role to play in supporting the Council to deliver upon this recommendation and communicating with schools where necessary to address shortfalls in provision.

Where new schools are provided in major new residential developments, they should be designed to facilitate community access, with opportunities for meeting the community's outdoor sports needs explored at the outset to maximise the potential for facility provision to be made within the developments, if appropriate. An example of this is ensuring the provision of adult and/or youth 11v11 grass football pitches, full size 3G pitches or multi-use provision such as sports lit courts that can accommodate both tennis and netball activity given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students.

As detailed earlier, NGBs, the Active Partnership and Sport England can often help to negotiate and engage with schools where the local authority may have limited direct influence. This is particularly the case at sites that have received funding from the relevant bodies or are going to receive funding in the future as community access can be a condition of the funding agreement.

Schools which are heavily accessed by community clubs without any formal long term agreement are as follows. These should be treated as the priority sites for securing longer term access for community sports clubs when opportunities to engage with each of them becomes available:

- ◀ Abbeywood Community School
- ◀ Hanham Woods Academy
- ◀ Bradley Stoke Community School
- ◀ John Cabot Academy
- ◀ Castle School (Thornbury)
- ◀ Winterbourne Academy
- ◀ Patchway Community School
- ◀ Mangotsfield School
- ◀ Yate Outdoor Sports Complex
- ◀ UWE Centre for Sport

OBJECTIVE 2

To **enhance** outdoor sports provision and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites.

Recommendations:

- d. Improve quality
- e. Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) to the management and improvement of sites.
- f. Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding
- g. Secure developer contributions.

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality and these are explored below.

GMA Pitch Advisory Service

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation, the Pitch Advisory Service (PAS, formerly the Grounds and Natural Turf Improvement Programme) was launched in 2014 and is funded by the GMA and its partners; the Football Foundation, Sport England, FA, ECB, RFU and RFL.

Its aim is to raise the standards of sports surfaces as well as the understanding of sports turf management practices among grassroots clubs across England and Wales. The PAS provides an enhanced network of support and expertise available to those maintaining natural turf pitches, particularly at a local level.

The service can be utilised by grassroots clubs, organisations and local authorities with the simple aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide members of the programme with advice/practical solutions via a report which will also identify the key enhanced maintenance works required along with machinery requirements.

Pitch providers are encouraged to complete a self-assessment of pitches using the Football Foundation PitchPower app. In August 2022, PitchPower was re-launched, with enhanced capability to support use beyond football pitches and is now accessible for the assessment of natural turf pitches for rugby league and rugby union. Cricket functionality is also set to be added, with this aiming to launch in time for the 2024 season.

In relation to cricket specifically, maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of the sport. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and, in some instances, become dangerous. The ECB recommends full technical assessments of wickets and pitches available through a Performance Quality Standard (PQS) assessment. The Performance Quality Standard Assessment assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether it meets the standards that are benchmarked by the Ground Management Association.

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Football Foundation PitchPower Assessment

The Premier League, The FA and the Football Foundation are increasing efforts to improve the quality of grass pitches in England with the launch of the PitchPower app, with an aim to achieve 20,000 football pitches rated as good quality by 2030. Launched in 2020 for football and re-launched in August 2022 with functionality for cricket, rugby league and rugby union pitches, the app is a new digital self-assessment tool to allow reports and recommendations to be made more quickly and easily once submitted for review by GMA regional pitch advisors.

The tool across mobile app and desktop is open to access by all providers, for example clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower Assessment Report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches.

In addition to PPS non-technical assessments, new technical assessments were undertaken for 14 grass football pitch sites using the PitchPower app. Technical recommendations have therefore been established for these sites to act upon in delivering any improvements.

The outputs of these and future PitchPower assessments at football and non-football sites should be reviewed and the PPS Action Plan updated at Stage E to reflect new technical assessment evidence and information.

Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund

Eligible clubs and organisations can also utilise the report as an evidence base to acquire potential funding streams, for example, to obtain the required maintenance equipment. If a PitchPower assessment categorises pitches as 'poor' or 'basic' they are then eligible to apply for Grass Pitch Funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF)¹⁵, a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help clubs enhance or sustain the quality of their grass pitches. The fund is a key part of the Football Foundation's Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 20,000 quality grass pitches by 2030. Clubs with good or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding.

All applicants must have the required security of tenure and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs, leagues and charities. Local authorities are not currently eligible applicants, however, clubs, leagues and charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure via freehold or a lease/license with more than 12 months to run and permission from the land owner.

Opportunities to access the fund to support presently Council managed sites include establishment of a service level agreement with a resident club for maintenance responsibilities, or transfer of long-term management to the club/organisation through leasehold or CAT, both enabling the club/organisation to apply to the fund.

Clubs playing within the National League System (NLS) are not eligible to apply for works to pitches used for NLS play but can do so for other community pitches elsewhere onsite. Clubs in the NLS are eligible to apply for maintenance machinery and capital improvements to a first-team pitch via the Premier League Stadium Fund (PLSF).

¹⁵ <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/grass-pitch-maintenance-fund>

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Furthermore, the Football Foundation also launched a new Groundskeeping Community online platform in 2019 which provides a resource of expert advice for grounds staff, enabling them to connect with peers, discover new tips and tricks and share advice on best industry practice. Users can seek guidance from the GMA regional pitch advisors, who are available to answer questions and update members on changes to industry standards.

Addressing quality issues

Quality in South Gloucestershire is variable but generally facilities are assessed as standard quality with the exception of rugby union pitches which are mostly assessed as poor quality. Where facilities are assessed as standard or poor quality and/or overplayed, maintenance regimes should be reviewed and, where possible, improved to ensure that what is being done is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring continuance of existing maintenance of good quality pitches is also essential.

Based upon an achievable target, using existing quality scoring to provide a baseline, a standard should be used to identify deficiencies and investment should be focused on those sites which fail to meet the proposed quality standard. For the purposes of quality assessments, the Strategy refers to pitches and ancillary facilities separately as being of 'good', 'standard' or 'poor' quality. However, some good quality sites have poor quality elements and vice versa (e.g., a good quality pitch may be serviced by poor quality changing facilities).

It is also important to note the impact the weather has on quality. The worse the weather, the poorer the facilities tend to become, especially if no, or inadequate, drainage systems are in place. This also means that quality can vary year on year dependent upon the weather and levels of rainfall.

If a poor quality site receives little or no usage that is not to say that no improvement is needed. It may instead be the case that it receives no demand because of its quality, thus an improvement in said quality will attract demand to the site, potentially from overplayed standard or good quality sites (thus reducing capacity issues). Where this occurs, it is vital that the improvements are advertised and marketed towards potential users as their perception of the provision may need altering.

In addition, without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, good quality provision may be underutilised, especially by adults and female users who have more of a requirement. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer (although other provision can be key for income generation) and therefore key sites should be given priority for improvement. For the majority of sports, no senior league matches can take place without appropriate changing facilities and the same also applies to women's and girls' demand.

For the improvement/replacement of 3G and hockey provision, this is most commonly linked to age, with any surfaces older than 10 years generally requiring replacement. Where pitches are provided, sinking funds should be put into place to ensure that refurbishment can take place when it is required.

For further information, please refer to Sport England and the NGBs 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' document for a guide as to suitable AGP surfaces: [Artificial Surfaces for Outdoor Sport](#)

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Addressing overplay

In order to improve the overall quality of the outdoor facility stock, it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a match limit to each (daily for hockey and weekly for football and rugby union).

The FA, RFU and EH all recommend a maximum number of matches that pitches should take based on quality, as seen in the table below.

Table 5.2: Carrying capacity of pitches

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Hockey	Sand/water based AGP	4 per day	4 per day	N/A

It is imperative to engage with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity. Where overplay is identified, play should be encouraged, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity, or quality, where possible, should be improved to increase capacity to appropriate levels. Where play is transferred, this may include transferring play to 3G pitches or to sites not currently available for community use but which may be in the future.

For rugby union, additional sports lighting will reduce levels of overplay at club sites as it will allow clubs to spread demand across a greater number of pitches or unmarked areas, where the space exists. If permanent sports lighting is not possible, portable sports lighting is an alternative.

As mentioned earlier, there are also sites that are poor quality but are not overplayed. These should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than others but demand could increase if the quality was improved. It does, however, work both ways as potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular, which in the long run can lead again to them becoming poor quality pitches if not properly maintained.

Recommendation (e) – Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) to the management and improvement of sites

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 6: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

Recommendation (f) – Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding

Partners, led by the Council, should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision are directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in outdoor sports facilities.

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In order to address the community's needs, to target priority areas and to reduce duplication of provision, there should be a coordinated approach to strategic investment. In delivering this recommendation the Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners and through the Steering Group.

Although some investment in new provision will not be made by the Council directly, it is important that it seeks to direct and lead a strategic and co-ordinated approach to facility development by education sites, National Governing Bodies, Parish and Town Councils, sports clubs and the commercial sector to address community needs whilst avoiding duplication of provision.

One of sport's greatest contributions is its positive impact on public health and it is therefore important to lever in investment from other sectors such as health and wellbeing, for example. Sport and physical activity can have a profound effect on peoples' lives, and plays a crucial role in improving community cohesion, educational attainment and self-confidence.

Recommendation (g) – Secure developer contributions

It is important that this strategy informs policies and supplementary planning documents by setting out the approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development.

For playing pitches, the Council should use Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator as a tool for determining developer contributions linking to sites within the locality.

This uses team information from the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth. It then converts this into pitch requirements and gives the associated costs (both for providing the provision and for its lifecycle).

The PPS should be used to help determine the likely impact of a new development on demand and the capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for improvements to increase capacity of existing provision or if new provision is required. Where a development is located within access of existing high-quality provision, this does not necessarily mean that there is no need for further provision or improvement to existing provision, as additional demand arising from the development is likely to result in increased usage (which can result in overplay or quality deterioration). Please refer to Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios for more detail.

Where it is determined that new provision is required to accompany a development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality. To determine what supply of provision is provided, it is imperative that the PPS findings are taken into consideration and that consultation takes place with the relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport. This is due to the importance of ensuring that the stock of facilities provided is correct to avoid provision becoming unsustainable and unused, such as single grass pitch football sites without adequate ancillary facilities or new cricket/rugby grounds located away from existing clubs. Instead, multi-pitch and multi-sport sites should be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for future artificial grass pitch development.

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Several planning policy objectives could be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- ◀ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to specific planning obligations. Where developer contributions are applicable, a Section 106/CIL Agreement or equivalent must be completed that should specify, when applied, the amount that will be linked to Sport England's Building Cost Information Service from the date of the permission and timing of the contribution/s to be made.
- ◀ Contributions should also be secured towards the first ten years of maintenance on new pitches. National Governing Bodies and Sport England can provide further and up to date information on the associated costs.
- ◀ External funding should be sought/secured to achieve maximum benefit from the investment into appropriate playing pitch facility enhancement and its subsequent maintenance.
- ◀ Where new multiple pitches are provided, appropriate changing rooms and associated car parking should be located onsite.
- ◀ All new or improved outdoor sports facilities on school sites should be subject to community use agreements.

OBJECTIVE 3

To **provide** new outdoor sports facilities where feasible and there is current or future demand to do so.

Recommendations:

- h. Identify opportunities to add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand.
- i. Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current stock.
- j. Consider opportunities to meet the need of community demand for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities through new and proposed education facilities.

Recommendation (h) - Identify opportunities to add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand

The Steering Group should use the Action Plan within this Strategy for improvements to the Council's own outdoor sports facilities whilst recognising the need to support partners. The Action Plan lists improvements to be made to each site focused upon both qualitative and quantitative improvements as appropriate for each area.

Although there are identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions, most current and future demand is currently being met and most shortfalls can be addressed via quality improvements and/or improved access to sites that are presently used minimally or currently unavailable. Adding to the current stock, particularly in the short term, is therefore not recommended as a priority, except in the case where there is significant housing growth, or where sites fall out of use and require mitigation.

Recommendation (i) - Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current stock

The Council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the preceding Assessment Report and the sport by sport specific recommendations (Part 3) as well as the following Action Plan (Part 6).

It is important that the current levels of provision are protected, maintained and enhanced to secure provision now and in the future. For most sports, the current and future demand for provision identified in the District can be overcome through maximising use of existing stock through a combination of:

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity.
- ◀ Securing long term community use at school sites including those currently unavailable.
- ◀ Restoring sites which have fallen out of use (classified as disused sites).

Unmet demand, changes in sport participation and trends, and proposed housing growth should be recognised and factored into future facility planning. Assuming an increase in participation and housing growth occurs, it will impact on the future need for certain types of sports facilities. Sports development work also approximates unmet demand which cannot currently be quantified (i.e. it is not being suppressed by a lack of facilities) but is likely to occur. The following table highlights the main development trends in each sport and their likely impact on facilities. However, it is important to note that these may be subject to change.

Recommendation (i) - Identify opportunities to add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand

Better utilising the stock of provision across South Gloucestershire will lessen the need for new provision, this can be achieved via quality improvements and/or improved access to sites that are presently used minimally or that are currently unavailable and through formally securing community use.

However, for most grass pitch sports, shortfalls are high and are likely to be exacerbated based on future population growth throughout the District. Furthermore, it is unrealistic for many providers of pitch provision to retain high quality surfaces all year round.

As such, providing new playing field should be explored, in conjunction with other approaches, providing that any new provision is well located and established to a good quality in order to attract sufficient demand. Multi-pitch and potentially multi-sport sites with good ancillary provision are likely to be more sustainable than single pitch sites, demand for which can be low.

Large scale housing developments and the establishment of new schools may also necessitate the need for new provision. Where new schools are developed, there is an opportunity to combine the building of the school to the development of a new multi-sport site that can be of a benefit to the School as well as the wider community.

For housing developments, as outlined in Recommendation (g), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can be used as a guide to inform requirements (to support South Gloucestershire Councils inhouse demand calculator). See Part 7 for further information.

Part 6: Action Plan

The site-by-site action plan seeks to address key issues identified in the preceding Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement. It should be reviewed in the light of staff and financial resources in order to prioritise support for strategically significant provision and provision that other providers are less likely to make. The Action Plan covers the whole of the District.

The Council should make it a high priority to work with National Governing Bodies and other partners to comprise a priority list of actions based on local priorities, National Governing Body priorities and available funding. To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of outdoor facility sites and associated provision.

The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance within South Gloucestershire i.e. they accommodate the majority of demand, or the recommended action has the greatest anticipated impact on addressing shortfalls (identified either on a sport-by-sport basis or across the District as a whole).

Table 6.1: Proposed tiered site criteria

Criteria	Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Site location	Strategically located within the District. Priority sites for National Governing Bodies of Sport.	Strategically located within the District.	Serves the local community.
Site layout	Accommodates three or more grass pitches, including provision of an artificial grass pitch.	Accommodates two or more grass pitches.	Accommodates one or more pitches.
Type of sport	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.
Management	Management control remains within the local authority/other provider or with an appropriate lease arrangement through a committee or education owned.	Management control remains within the local authority/provider or with an appropriate club on a lease arrangement.	Management control remains within the local authority/provider or with an appropriate club on a lease arrangement.
Maintenance regime	Maintenance regime aligns with National Governing Bodies guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns with National Governing Bodies guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime either by the club or in house maintenance contract.
Ancillary facilities	Good quality ancillary facility onsite, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	No changing room access on site or appropriate access to accommodate both senior and junior use concurrently (if required).

Hub sites are of strategic importance where users are willing to travel to access the range and high quality of facilities offered and are likely to be multi-sport.

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These have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

Key centres are more community focused sites, although some are still likely to service a wider travel to play area. There may be more of a focus on a specific sport.

Additionally, it is considered that some financial investment may be necessary to improve the ancillary facilities at both hub sites and key centre sites to complement the pitches in terms of access, flexibility (i.e. single-sex changing if necessary), quality and that they meet the rules and regulations of local competitions.

Local sites refer to those sites offering minimal provision or that are of minimal value to the wider community. Primarily they are sites with one facility or a low number of facilities that service just one or two sports. The level of priority attached to them for external investment may be relatively low.

For local authority sites, consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking on a long-term lease (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought. Such sites will require some level of investment, either to the outdoor sport facilities or ancillary facilities, and it is anticipated that one of the conditions of offering a hire/lease is that the Club would be in a position to source external funding to improve/extend the provision.

Other sites considered in this tier may be primary school sites or secondary school sites that are not widely used by the community or that do not offer community availability.

Some local sites may be suitable for rationalisation providing that capital receipts are allocated to replace the lost provision at larger, multi-pitch sites.

Management and development

The following issues should be considered when undertaking sports related site development or enhancement:

- ✦ Financial viability.
- ✦ Security of tenure.
- ✦ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ✦ Adequacy of existing finances to maintain existing sites.
- ✦ Business Plan/Masterplan – including financial package for creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ✦ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ✦ The availability of opportunities to lease sites to external organisations.
- ✦ Options to assist community groups to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ✦ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private hub sites.
- ✦ Football investment programme/ third generation artificial grass pitch development with the FA and Football Foundation.

Partners

The column indicating partners refers to the main organisations that the Council would look to work with to support delivery of the actions. Given the extent of potential actions it is reasonable to assume that partners will not necessarily be able to support all of the actions identified but where the action is a priority and resource is available the partner will endeavour to provide support.

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Priority

Though hub sites are mostly likely to have a high priority level as they have wide importance, high priority sites have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the key issues identified in the assessment. Therefore, some key centres and local sites are also identified as having a high priority level. It is these projects/sites which should generally, if possible, be addressed within the short term (1-2 years).

The majority of key centres are a medium priority, have local area importance and have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

The low priority sites tend to be single pitch or single sport sites and often club or education sites with local specific importance but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment for specific users.

Costs

The strategic actions have also been ranked as low, medium or high based on cost. The brackets are:

- ◀ (L) – Low: less than £50,000
- ◀ (M) – Medium: £50,000 - £250,000
- ◀ (H) – High: £250,000 or more

These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at: [Facility cost guidance | Sport England](#)

Timescales

The Action Plan has been created to be delivered over a ten-year period. The information within the Assessment Report, Strategy and Action Plan will require updating as developments occur.

The indicative timescales relate to delivery times and are not priority based:

- ◀ (S) – Short: 1-2 years
- ◀ (M) – Medium: 3-5 years
- ◀ (L) – Long: 6+ years

Note – for any project assigned an (L) these are project types which are unlikely to be delivered over the lifespan of this Strategy unless its designation is changed as part of any subsequent update to this document.

Aim

Each action seeks to meet at least one of the three aims of the Strategy; Enhance, Provide, Protect.

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Bristol East Analysis Area

Summary pitch sports (Bristol East Analysis Area)

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2038) ¹⁶
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Bristol East	Adult	Shortfall of 19.5	Shortfall of 23.5
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 3.5	Shortfall of 1.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 9.5	Shortfall of 12
		Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 12	Shortfall of 14.5
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 3
	South Gloucestershire	Adult	Shortfall of 36.5	Shortfall of 57
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 4.5	Shortfall of 21.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 11	Shortfall of 16
		Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 13	Shortfall of 19.5
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6
Football (3G pitches)	Bristol East	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 4.5 full size pitches	Shortfall of 4.5 full size pitches
	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 10.25 full size pitches	Shortfall of 12.25 full size pitches
Cricket	Bristol East	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12	Shortfall of 24
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 70	Spare capacity of 70
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 90	Spare capacity of 78
	South Gloucestershire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 11	Shortfall of 193
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 211	Spare capacity of 201
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 407	Spare capacity of 329
Rugby union	Bristol East	Senior	Shortfall of 8	Shortfall of 10.5
	South Gloucestershire	Senior	Shortfall of 31.25	Shortfall of 37.75
Rugby league	South Gloucestershire	Senior	No shortfall locally.	No shortfall locally.
Hockey (sand AGPs)	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall based on quality deficiencies at Mangotsfield School	Shortfall will remain and be exacerbated unless targeted investment is provided at the school.

¹⁶ Future demand (2038) is determined via ONS forecasts and club aspirations identified in PPS Assessment Report (2022).

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Summary non-pitch sports

Sport	Current picture	Future picture
Tennis	There are 30 courts in total identified in Bristol East. 16 of these are available for community use. High number of poor quality courts, specifically located at Bromley Heath, Page Park, Kingswood Park and Frampton Cotterell.	There is a need for quality improvement at recreational sites. The LTA is working with local councils to improve local provision at Page Park, Kingswood Park, Bromley Heath and Frampton Cotterell.
Netball	There are 12 courts in the area of which 9 offer community use. All provision is standard quality.	Need to sustain provision and promote England Netball recreational programmes (such as walking netball).
Bowls	Dunstable Town BC is at risk of becoming nomadic with the clubs current lease agreement scheduled to expire in 2024. There is the need for the steering group to work with the necessary stakeholders to relocate the Club in line with NPPF.	Need to ensure Dunstable Town BC is adequately relocated to a new site as to prevent it from becoming nomadic and being at risk to folding. Kingsbury Park is identified as the priority site to re-house the Club.
Athletics	A poor quality cinder track is situated at Mangotsfield School.	Consideration should be made for the installation of mini, compact or active tracks in line with future housing growth.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
9	Barley Close Community Primary School	Football	School	One standard quality 7v7 pitch, not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular demand.	School FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
10	Barrs Court Primary School	Football	School	One standard quality 7v7 pitch, not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular demand.	School FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
12	Beacon Rise Primary School	Football	School	One standard quality 7v7 pitch, not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular demand.	School FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
15	Blackhorse Road Playing Fields	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch and one poor quality adult pitch, both currently overplayed. One good quality 5v5 pitch, which is only played to capacity at peak times. Ancillary provision at the site has been rated as poor. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch improvements.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and in work to improve onsite ancillary provision to enable improved sporting outcomes on the site.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
19	Bromley Heath Junior School	Football	Community	Two standard quality 7v7 pitch, not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular demand.	School FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
20	Bromley Heath Playing Field	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch that is currently overplayed by two MES per week. The pitch is available for community use. Ancillary provision at the site has been rated as poor. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch improvements.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and in line with LFFP recommendations.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF LTA	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Two average quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting. Courts are available for community use. The LTA has highlighted the site for court improvements including court works and the installation of an access control gate.	Improve court and fencing quality as well as court accessibility in line with LTA recommendations.			M	S	L	
21	Cadbury Heath Football Club	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality pitch that is played to capacity at peak times.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
34	Cleve RFC	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One standard quality and four poor quality rugby union pitches. Two pitches are sports lit and all are available for community use. There is reported to be a layer of rock beneath the pitches on site which can cause drainage issues. Four of the five pitches are overplayed, with the fifth played to capacity at peak time. The Club reports its clubhouse is dated and has high running costs. It has submitted a planning application for the site to be removed from greenfield land to enable it to sell off a parcel of land for housing. It would then look to install a 3G pitch and a new clubhouse. The Club reports these ambitions as a way of securing its future.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and drainage improvements to alleviate overplay. Increase the supply of sports lighting at the site to enable increased midweek capacity. Explore the feasibility of supporting Cleve RFC's development aspirations although any development must meet Sport England's Playing Field Policy Exception E5 and paragraph 103 of the NPPF.	Sports Club RFU	Local	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
38	Coronation Park	Football	Town/Parish Council	Two standard quality adult pitches, which are available for community use. The pitches are overplayed by 0.5 MES per week.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	Town/Parish Council	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Cricket		One good quality cricket square with eight grass wickets with spare capacity on Saturdays, Sundays and midweek although since the site has been handed back to the Council, issues with the leaseholder have been reported meaning the site is deemed to be unsecure.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to secure a long-term usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	FA/FF ECB/GCF		H	S	L	
43	Downend Sports Centre	3G	School	91 x 55 3G pitch with sports lighting, which is available for community use. The pitch has been rated as good quality, with the current surface being installed in 2019. The pitch is approved to host competitive matches. Despite this, Downend Saints FC reports the pitch has issues with vandalism and unofficial use, as well as pitch maintenance being irregular.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary. Explore the feasibility of better securing the pitch/site to deter vandalism and unofficial use.	School FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
46	Emersons Green (Johnson Road)	Football	Town/Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch, one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch with one MES of actual spare capacity one standard quality 9v9 pitch with one MES of actual spare capacity, one standard quality 7v7 pitch with one MES of actual spare capacity and one poor quality 7v7 pitch. Spare capacity has been discounted from the poor quality pitches. All pitches are available for community use although are not known to be used.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Look to accommodate usage on site to reduce overplay of other playing pitches in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
51	Fisher Road Playing Field	Football	Town/Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch, which is available for community use. The pitch has discounted spare capacity due to poor pitch quality. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch improvements.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and in line with LFFP recommendations.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
56	Grange School and Sports College (Closed)	Football Hockey Rugby Union Netball Tennis	School	<p>The Grange School, a specialist Sports College, closed in October 2016¹⁷. It consists of a northern and southern playing field which is separated by buildings including a four court sports hall with car parking and an artificial sand based hockey pitch which accommodated both hockey match play and training and football training for local clubs. The site also has hard courts for netball (x6) and tennis.</p> <p>The northern playing field has historically accommodated a range of pitch types and formats for winter and summer sports. Typically, this ranged from three senior rugby union pitches to several football pitches of varying sizes. With a minimum 2 senior 11v11 and 1 Youth 11v11 football pitches (*based on Google Earth). The site has also accommodated a grass running track in the months of the summer term. KKP estimates the size of the northern playing field to be circa 3.4 hectares. This northern area of playing field land increases to 4.5 hectares if you include the artificial hockey pitch, which previously accommodated football and hockey training demand for local clubs.</p> <p>The southern area has historically accommodated winter and summer sports with evidence of 3 football pitches ranging in size and rounders. The site is expected to be lost for development.</p>	Ensure any development on site meets Sport England's Playing Field Policy Exception and paragraph 103 of the NPPF.	Council FA/FF RFU EH EN EA LTA	Key	-	-	-	-
57	Greenbank Recreation Ground	Football	Town/Parish Council	One good quality adult pitch, one standard quality adult pitch and one standard quality 9v9 pitch. All pitches are currently overplayed by one, 1.5 and 6.5 MES per week respectively. All pitches are available for community use.	<p>Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to reduce overplay.</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.</p>	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
60	Hanham Common	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch and one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch. Both pitches have actual spare capacity and are available for community use. Warwick FC states changing rooms are being rebuilt on site and a planning application has been submitted to improve the facilities.	<p>Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.</p> <p>Support developments on site to improve ancillary provision.</p>	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
61	Hanham Tennis and Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square with 18 grass wickets. There is actual spare capacity for senior cricket (Sunday) and junior cricket (Midweek).	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club ECB LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

¹⁷ Despite closing in October 2016, there is evidence of goal posts on site until April 2017 via satellite imagery.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Tennis		Two standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting. Courts are available for community use and used by Hanham Community Centre TC. The site provides sufficient capacity for the Club's current and future demand.	Improve court quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
62	Hanham Woods Academy	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch, one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch and one standard quality 9v9 pitch, which is currently played to capacity. The adult and youth 11v11 pitches have discounted spare capacity due to unsecure tenure. The tenure of the site is unsecure.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Look to formalise community use agreement to provide security of tenure.	School FA/FF ECB/GCF EH LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standalone NTP.	Sustain for curricular demand.			L	L	L	
		AGP		One poor quality, 100 x 63 meter, sports lit, sand-dressed AGP. No hockey users access the site. Surface was laid in 2004 and the pitch unlikely to be fit for competitive match play. The pitch has no goalposts and as such cannot be used for hockey activity.	Look to resurface the pitch as soon as feasibly possible for curricular and community use. Goalposts will need to be provided to ensure that the pitch can be used for hockey if it is resurfaced. Ensure a mechanism is in place to implement a sinking fund for the pitch.			H	S	H	
		Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. These courts are not available for community use.	Sustain for curricular demand.			L	L	L	
70	John Cabot Academy	3G	School	One 44 x 24 meters 3G pitch. The pitch has sports lighting and is available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	School FA/FF EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		AGP		One poor quality, sports lit, sand-dressed AGP. Pitch full during midweek hours with all usage being football. Pitch not available on weekends due to staffing issues. The school does provided a level of curricular hockey.	Look to resurface the pitch as soon as feasibly possible to ensure demand can still be safely accommodated on site. Examine the potential of rectifying staffing issues to allow weekend use. Ensure a mechanism is in place to implement a sinking fund for the pitch.			H	S	L	
72	King George V Playing Field (Downend)	Football	Town/Parish Council	Three standard quality adult pitches and three standard quality youth 9v9 pitches. All pitches have actual spare capacity. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch and ancillary improvements.	Improve pitch and ancillary facility quality in line with LFFP recommendations to attract usage and alleviate overplay of other pitches in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB/GCF	Key	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		Two good quality squares, with six grass wickets each. Old Park CC reports one of the squares on site became uneven during the 2022 season resulting in an irregular bounce. This site has potential spare capacity for senior sessions on Saturday and Sunday, also for juniors midweek. Old Park CC indicates the pavilion on site is due to be completely rebuilt in the near future.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	S	M	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
74	Kings Forest Primary School	AGP	School	One small-sided, sand-dressed pitch (40 x 20). This pitch has no sports lighting and is not available for community use.	Sustain for curricular demand.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
75	King's Oak Academy	Football	School	One poor quality adult pitch which is played to capacity through curricular use. This pitch is available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular demand.	School FA/FF RFU LTA EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		3G		One small-sided 3G pitch (78 x 52), that is sports lit and available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.			L	L	L	
		Rugby		One unused poor quality (M0/D0) pitch, with no sports lighting. The pitch is available for community use but only during the week.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular demand.			L	L	L	
		Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting. These courts are available to the community but are currently classed as unused.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Netball		Four standard quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting. These courts are available to the community but are currently classed as unused.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
76	Kingswood RFC (Deanery Road)	Rugby Union	Sports Club	The site has one (M2 / D0) standard quality pitch and two (M1 / D3) good quality pitches. The standard quality pitch is played to capacity at peak time whilst the good quality pitches are overplayed by 1.75 MES per week. Kingswood RFC have a 25-year lease agreement with South Gloucestershire Council.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to reduce overplay. Explore the feasibility of relocating training demand off the grass pitches to alleviate overplay. Increase the supply of sports lighting at the site to enable increased midweek capacity.	Sports Club RFU	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
77	Lees Hill	Football	Town/Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch, which is currently overplayed by three sessions and one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, which is played to capacity. Listed in the LFFP for pitch improvements.	Improve pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime to reduce overplay. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF LTA	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		One poor quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is available to the community.	Improve court quality through resurfacing.			L	L	L	
80	Longwell Green Community Centre	Football	Community	One standard quality adult pitch, one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, one good quality 7v7 pitch and one good quality 5v5 pitch. All pitches are available to the community but are overplayed, except the mini 5v5 pitch which is played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime to reduce overplay. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Community FA/FF RFU	Key	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		One full-size (100 x 64) good quality 3G pitch, with sports lighting that is FIFA compliant. This pitch is available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.			L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
81	Lyde Green Primary School	Netball	School	One standard quality macadam court, with no sports lighting. The court is available for community use and used for Walking Netball.	Sustain quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
82	Lyde Green Sports Ground	Football	Sports Club	Two standard quality adult pitches that are currently overplayed by 1.5 MES per week. The site is available for community use.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
83	Mangotsfield School	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of opening the pitch for community use.	School FA/FF EH LTA EN EA	Key	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Full-size (100 x 60) sand dressed AGP that is suitable for Hockey. The AGP is floodlit and open for community use but is of poor quality and the pitch surface has exceeded its recommended lifespan. The sports lights on site also no longer meet EH technical requirements and are starting to fail. The Academy has received a quote for upgrade to LED lights. This was in the region of £45,000. The two large changing rooms on the site are mixed quality. The male changing room is largely fine but does need some light touch improvements. The female changing rooms need work to upgrade the shower facilities and the open space in the room. To upgrade the female changing room the Academy has been quoted circa £200,000. The site is played to capacity at peak time by Bristol & West HC. Currently the tenure of the site is unsecure.	Improve pitch quality through resurfacing as soon as feasibly possible. Ensure sports lights are improved/replaced to meet EH requirements. Explore options to improve the female specific offer changing offer and work to provide a small-scale ancillary offer to increase social opportunities for Bristol & West HC. This includes accessing the existing tennis pavilion on the site. Look to secure a long-term usage agreement to provide Bristol & West HC with security of tenure.			H	S	H	
		Tennis		Six good quality macadam courts with sports lighting. The courts are available for community use and are currently used by South Gloucestershire TC, which plans to upgrade the sports lighting to LED and refurbish the clubhouse in an attempt to attract new players. The site has sufficient capacity for both current and future demand.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support South Gloucestershire TC to upgrade sports lights and ancillary provision on site.			M	M	M	
		Netball		Four good quality macadam courts with sports lighting. These courts are available for community use.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Athletics		One poor quality cinder athletics track with no sports lighting. The track is dated and only suitable for curricular and informal use.	Look to improve track quality through resurfacing when feasible.			M	S	H	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
84	Mangotsfield United Football Club	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch, which is played to capacity at peak times. Mangotsfield United indicates the pitch at Mangotsfield United Football Club is in poor condition with considerable wormcast and damage to the ground reported and the Club is only able to play every second home game on site. It aspires to convert the main pitch on site to a 3G surface and the ground into a community hub, including the expansion of the existing changing rooms. Additionally, it plans to mark a mini 7v7 pitch on land to the north west of the existing stadia pitch.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Support Mangotsfield United FC to convert its pitch to a stadia 3G with support ancillary facility improvements.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	H	M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
101	Page Park	Football	Council	One adult pitch and two youth 11v11 pitches, all of standard quality. All pitches have actual spare capacity. Ancillary facilities on site are reported to be in poor condition.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to accommodate usage on site to reduce overplay of other playing pitches in the area. Explore the feasibility of improving ancillary facilities on site.	Council FA/FF ECB LTA BE	Key	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		One good quality square, accommodating eight grass wickets. This site is used by Bristol Aces CC and Hambrook CC. There is actual spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays and junior cricket midweek.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Tennis		Three poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. The courts are available for community use. The LTA has highlighted this site as strategically important and a priority for court improvements. This site requires reconstructive work, fencing replacement, an access control gate and court resurfacing.	Improve court quality in line with LTA recommendations.			H	S	M	
		Bowls		One good quality bowling green. This site is home to Page Park BC, which currently has 124 members. The Club aspires to install a standalone changing block with toilets as well as sports lights to service the green.	Sustain green quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of providing sports lights and ancillary facilities on site.			L	L	M	
105	Pomphrey Hill Playing Fields	Football	Town/Parish Council	One good quality adult pitch as well as another adult pitch, two youth 9v9s and four mini 7v7s, all of a poor quality. Adult and youth pitches are overplayed. Mini 7v7 pitches are played to capacity at peak times. The site is listed in the LFFP for grass pitch improvements.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and in line with LFFP recommendations to alleviate overplay.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB	Key	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standard quality square accommodating 12 grass wickets, which has spare capacity for junior cricket in midweek. Another standard quality square accommodating six grass wickets, there is no spare potential capacity for this square. This site is used by Carsons & Mangotsfield CC.	Improve square quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
118	Soundwell	Football	Town/Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch. one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5. All pitches are of poor quality. The adult pitch is overplayed by two MES per week whilst the mini pitches are played to capacity. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision. Bristol Rovers Supporters JFC would like to see existing ancillary provision knocked down and rebuilt on a larger footprint. Bristol Rovers Supporters JFC is in discussions with the Council regarding extending the hardcourt area at Soundwell and converting this to a 3G training facility. It also aspires to remove the mini 7v7 pitch on site and replace it with a grass cricket square.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay. Explore the feasibility of improving ancillary facilities on site and converting the hardcourt part of the site to 3G. If the 3G pitch development moves forward, work with the ECB to determine whether a cricket square could be safely accommodated on site.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB/GCF	Local	M	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
120	Southey Avenue Playing Fields	Football	Town/Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch which is played to capacity. One standard quality youth 11v11 which is played to capacity. One poor quality youth 9v9 which is overplayed by 1.5 MES per week. One poor quality mini 7v7 which is overplayed by 11 MES per week. Site is currently used by Bristol Rovers Supporters JFC. The Club notes ancillary provision has been internally redeveloped although the facility is still insufficient for the whole Club.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to reduce overplay. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
130	Tenniscourt Road	Football	Town/Parish Council	Two poor quality adult pitches that are currently overplayed. Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches that are played to capacity at peak times. This site is available for community use. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch and ancillary facility improvements.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and in line with LFFP recommendations. Improve ancillary facilities on site.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
144	Vicarage Road	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch, which is currently played to capacity. One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, which is played to capacity at peak times. Hanham Athletic states the clubhouse is outdated and in need of total refurbishment/replacement.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of refurbishing/replacing existing ancillary provision.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
145	Vinney Green Secure Unit	AGP	Council	Small-sided (48 x 40) sand-filled AGP. This pitch has sports lighting but is unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality for internal demand.	Council EH LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Tennis		One standard quality macadam tennis court which is sports lit but unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality for internal demand.			L	L	L	
146	Walkers Playing Fields	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch, which is overplayed by 1.5 sessions. This adult pitch is overmarked with youth 9v9. The site also has two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches that are played to capacity at peak times. There is also one standard quality mini 5v5 pitch which is played to capacity. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch improvements.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and in line with LFFP recommendations to reduce overplay. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
165	Cleve Hill Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Three good quality artificial courts with accompanying sports lighting. The Club has circa 170 members and is just within LTA benchmark capacity guidelines. It has an aspiration to improve the quality of its clubhouse.	Support the Club in ensuring its good quality courts remain of a high quality. Explore medium-long term opportunities to improve its ancillary provision to sustain existing growth and improve user experience.	Sports Club LTA	Local	M	L	M	Protect Enhance
166	David Lloyd (Bristol Emersons Green)	Tennis	Commercial	One good quality court. Members use only.	Sustain quality for commercial use.	Commercial	Local	L	L	L	Protect
167	Kingswood Park	Tennis	Council	Two poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. The courts are available for community use. The LTA has highlighted this site for court improvements through their investment programme with the site said to be in need of reconstructive work, fencing replacement, an access control gate and court resurfacing.	Look to improve court quality in line with LTA recommendations.	Council	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
175	WG Grace Memorial Ground	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square that accommodates 16 grass wickets. This site is currently used by Downend CC. Potential capacity for junior cricket sessions during midweek.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club ECB/GCF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
182	Woodlands LTC	Tennis	Sports Club	Two good quality macadam tennis courts. No sports lighting at the site. The site is operating slightly over LTA capacity benchmarks.	Sustain good quality of the courts and consider medium to long term opportunities to provide sports lighting at the site to enable increased levels of use.	Sports Club LTA	Local	L	M	L	Protect Provide

South Gloucestershire Council

Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Bristol North Analysis Area

Summary pitch sports (Bristol North Analysis Area)

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2038) ¹⁸
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Bristol North	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5	Shortfall of 8.5
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 8.5	Shortfall of 14
		Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1	Shortfall of 0.5
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 2	Spare capacity of 1
	South Gloucestershire	Adult	Shortfall of 36.5	Shortfall of 57
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 4.5	Shortfall of 21.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 11	Shortfall of 16
		Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 13	Shortfall of 19.5
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6
Football (3G pitches)	Bristol North	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 2.5 full size pitches	Shortfall of 3.5 full size pitches
	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 10.25 full size pitches	Shortfall of 12.25 full size pitches
Cricket	Bristol North	Saturday	Shortfall of 13	Shortfall of 49
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 17	Spare capacity of 17
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 17	Spare capacity of 11
	South Gloucestershire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 11	Shortfall of 193
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 211	Spare capacity of 201
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 407	Spare capacity of 329
Rugby union	Bristol North	Senior	Shortfall of 5.25	Shortfall of 6.25
	South Gloucestershire	Senior	Shortfall of 31.25	Shortfall of 37.75
Rugby league	South Gloucestershire	Senior	No shortfall. Existing provision at North Bristol RFC meets the needs of Bristol All Golds RLFC.	No shortfall.
Hockey (sand AGPs)	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall based on quality deficiencies at Abbeywood Community School and Bradley Stoke School.	Shortfall will remain and be exacerbated unless targeted investment is provided at school sites.

¹⁸ Future demand (2038) is determined via ONS forecasts and club aspirations identified in PPS Assessment Report (2022).

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

South Gloucestershire Council Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

Summary non-pitch sports

Sport	Current picture	Future picture
Tennis	There are 24 courts identified in this area. 23 are available for community use. Poor quality courts are located at Filton Sports and Leisure Centre.	There is need to ensure court quality is broadly sustained and improved where possible across the area. Improvements are required at Filton Sports and Leisure Centre.
Netball	There are 15 courts in the area of which 14 are available for community use. Provision is either good or standard quality.	Ensure provision remains of a useable standard. Promote England Netball recreational programmes (such as walking netball).
Bowls	Dunstable Town BC is at risk of becoming nomadic with the clubs current lease agreement scheduled to expire in 2024. There is the need for the steering group to work with the necessary stakeholders to relocate the Club in line with NPPF.	Need to ensure Dunstable Town BC is adequately relocated to a new site as to prevent it from becoming nomadic and being at risk to folding. Kingsbury Park is identified as the priority site to re-house the Club.
Athletics	No shortfalls locally. There is a good quality synthetic track at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College.	Consideration should be made for the installation of mini, compact or active tracks in line with future housing growth.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Abbeywood Community School	AGP	School	One full-sized (102 x 62) sand filled AGP available for community use. The pitch has sports lighting but is poor quality, with the surface being built in 2011. It is used by BAC Ladies HC and Hanham HC.	Improve pitch quality (and sports lighting) through resurfacing as soon as feasibly possible. Work to ensure a mechanism is in place to provide a sinking fund to secure the pitches long term future.	School EH LTA EN	Local	H	S	H	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts. Courts have sports lighting and are available for community use.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Netball		Four good quality macadam courts with sports lighting. These courts are available for community use. Toilet facilities on site are said to be in poor condition and in need of refurbishment. The site is one of the venues for the Avon Netball League.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of improving toilet facilities on site.			M	M	L	
4	Aretians RFC	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Two poor quality (M1 / D0) pitches, of which only one has sports lighting. The pitch with sports lighting is overplayed by 2.5 MES per week, whilst the pitch with no lighting is overplayed by 1 MES per week.	Improve pitch quality through maintenance and/or drainage improvements to reduce overplay. Explore options to remove training demand from match pitches to alleviate overplay. Increase the supply of sports lighting at the site to enable increased midweek capacity.	Sports Club RFU	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
5	Ashley Down Old Boys RFC	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch. Available for community use, with actual spare capacity of MES one per week.	Sustain pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area. Increase the supply of sports lighting at the site to enable increased midweek capacity.	Sports Club FA/FF RFU	Local	M	S	L	Protect
		3G		One small sized 3G pitch (40 x 32) which is available for community use. The pitch has no sports lighting.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.			L	L	L	
8	Baileys Court Activity Centre	Football	Town/Parish council	Two good quality youth 11v11 pitches, available for community use. Currently overplayed by 2 MES.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB/GCF BE	Key	H	S	L	Protect Provide
		Cricket		One good quality square which supports 14 grass wickets. Currently the home of Bradley Stoke CC, which has a lease of 28 years. This site is currently overplayed by 12 matches per season.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of providing an NTP on site to accommodate junior demand and alleviate overplay.			H	S	L	
		Bowls		One good quality green, currently the home of Bradley Stoke BC. Serviced by good quality ancillary provision.	Sustain green quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
11	BAWA Healthcare & Leisure	Football	Commercial	Five standard quality adult pitches, which are played to capacity at peak times. One standard quality 7v7 and two standard quality 5v5 pitches, all with spare capacity although this has been discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community use agreement to provide actual spare capacity.	Commercial FA/FF ECB/GCF RFU	Key	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Cricket		Two standard quality squares. One facilitating 12 grass wickets and the other facilitating eight. These squares are available for community use. This site is currently used by Bristol United Banks CC, Bristol Eagles CC, North Bristol CC, West United CC. Both squares have discounted spare capacity on Sundays and midweek. West United CC reports square quality has declined on site due to a lack of maintenance work.	Improve square quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community use agreement to provide actual spare capacity.	LTA BE		M	S	L	
		Rugby Union		One standard quality (M1 / D1) pitch with no sports lighting. Pitch is available for community use but is currently played at capacity.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community use agreement to provide security of tenure.			M	S	L	
		Tennis		Two standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. These courts are available for community use.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Bowls		One good quality bowling green, currently home to Bristol Aeroplane Co BC. The green is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain green quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
16	Bradley Stoke Community School	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch which is currently overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. One standard quality Youth 9v9 which is played to capacity. One poor quality Youth 9v9 which is also played to capacity. All pitches are available for community use but said to be poorly maintained.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay. Look to formalise a community use agreement to provide security of tenure.	School FA/FF ECB/GCF RFU EH LTA EN	Key	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standalone NTP.	Sustain wicket quality for curricular demand.			L	L	L	
		Rugby Union		One poor quality (M0 / D1) pitch which is currently not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		AGP		One poor quality sand dressed (104 x 64) AGP, with sports lighting. This pitch is available for community use and was last resurfaced in 2005. South Gloucester HC aspires to refurbish the pitch at Bradley Stoke Community School. Previous storm damage has damaged the wooden boards surrounding the pitch. The Club is also without dugouts, shelters, or storage facilities on site.	Improve pitch quality through resurfacing as soon as feasibly possible. Along with resurfacing, ensure surrounding boards are replaced and explore the feasibility of providing dugouts and storage facilities on site. Ensure a mechanism is in place to implement a sinking fund for the pitch.			H	S	H	
		Tennis		Six standard quality macadam courts. Courts have sports lighting and are available for community use. Since undertaking site assessments, courts on site have been resurfaced and so these will be of good quality once they are back online.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Netball		Four standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting, which are available for community use. Since undertaking site assessments, courts on site have been resurfaced and so these will be of good quality once they are back online. Toilet facilities on site are said to be in poor condition and in need of improvement.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of improving toilet facilities on site.			L	L	L	

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17	Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre	Football	Town/Parish Council	Two good quality youth 11v11 pitches, available for community use. Actual spare capacity discounted as one pitch on site is reported to be unusable due to poor drainage. Bradley Stoke Youth & Ladies FC have invested in pitch maintenance equipment on behalf of the Town Council although this has made little impact on pitch quality. The Club also aspires to create a sports and community hub on site.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime, Explore options to rectify drainage issues on site to provide actual spare capacity. Consider the feasibility of improving ancillary provision on site to create a community hub at the site.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF LTA EN	Local	M	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
		Tennis		Three good quality macadam courts with sports lighting, which are available for community use.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Netball		Three good quality macadam courts with sports lighting, which are available for community use.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
28	Charlton Wood Primary Academy	Tennis	School	One good quality macadam court. Available for community use but unused. No sports lighting so cannot be used in evenings.	Sustain court quality for curricular demand.	School LTA EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		One good quality macadam court. Available for community use but unused. No sports lighting so cannot be used in evenings.	Sustain court quality for curricular demand.			L	L	L	
35	Clifton Rugby Club	3G	Sports Club	Small-sided (43 x 43) 3G with sports lighting. The pitch is available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	Sports Club FA/FF RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby Union		One standard quality (M2 / D0) pitch, which is overplayed by 1.5 MES. One poor quality (M1 / D0) pitch, which is overplayed by 0.5 MES. Both of these pitches are sports lit. Two poor quality (M1 / D0) pitches, with no sports lighting, overplayed by 0.75 MES. All pitches are available for community use. Clifton RFC states ancillary provision at Clifton Rugby Club is no longer fit for purpose and the running costs are too high.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and the installation of a drainage system on site to alleviate overplay. Explore opportunities to remove some or all training demand from the match pitches. Support Clifton RFC to modernise ancillary provision on site and reduce running costs.			H	S	H	
39	Cribbs Sports And Social Club	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch, with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. Two standard quality pitches, currently played to capacity. These pitches are available for community use. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary provision.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Sports Club FA/FF RFU EH LTA EN	Key	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		3G		One small-sided 3G (60 x 43) with sports lighting. Pitch is available for community use. The pitch is reported to be due to be converted into netball courts in the near future.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Work with the FA/FF and EN to determine whether the 3G is surplus to requirements and if additional netball courts are required. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment if retained.			H	S	M	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		AGP		One good quality full-sized (100 x 62), sand dressed AGP built in 2021. This pitch is suitable for hockey but only used by Redmaids High School. Whilst planning permission was provided for two AGPs, a large clubhouse and extended car parking facilities at Cribbs Sports and Social Club, only one AGP has been constructed to date. The social space on site remains limited, with only temporary toilets and covered outdoor areas offered. There are no known immediate plans to install the second AGP.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of providing the second AGP and improved ancillary facilities if it would facilitate community usage.			M	M	H	
		Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts, with sports lighting. Courts are available for community use. The LTA is working with the Club to make the courts more accessible to the community for which options to introduce court booking systems and SmartAccess gate technology will also be explored.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to install gate access technology to better facilitate community usage.			L	S	L	
		Netball		Three good quality macadam courts, with sports lighting. Courts are available for community use. As part of the planning permission Redmaids High School has been granted for the further development of Cribbs Sports and Social Club, six sports lit netball courts are permitted with associated landscaping and car parking works plus the provision of a pavilion on site.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Work with EN to determine whether additional courts are required on site.			H	S	H	
40	D.R.G Frenchay AFC Sports Ground	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. DRG SV Frenchay FC has received planning permission to install a new adult pitch on site.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support DRG SV Frenchay FC to provide an additional pitch on site. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide
50	Filton Sports and Leisure Centre	Football	Town/Parish Council	Three poor quality adult pitches and two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches, with community access. Both pitch types have discounted spare capacity due to poor pitch quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to provide actual spare capacity.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts with sports lighting. Courts are available for community use.	Improve court quality through enhanced maintenance regime and resurfacing if necessary.			L	L	L	
55	Goals (Bristol North)	3G	Commercial	12 small-sided (32 x 20) 3G pitches, with community access.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	Commercial FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
78	Little Stoke Park	Football	Town/Parish Council	One good quality adult pitch, currently played to capacity. One poor quality adult pitch, currently overplayed by one MES per week. Two standard quality adult pitches, both played at capacity. One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch, which is played to capacity at peak times. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch improvements. Ancillary facilities are reported to be in poor condition. Stoke Lane Athletic Youth FC aspires to agree long-term lease agreements for the site.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and in line with LFFP recommendations. Support Stoke Lane Athletic Youth FC to secure a lease agreement on site. Explore the feasibility of improving ancillary provision on site.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF RFU	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance

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		3G		One small-sided (40 x 35) pitch, with sports lighting and community access.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.			L	L	L	
		Rugby Union		Two poor quality (M1 / D0) senior rugby pitches, one of which has sports lighting. Current home of Aretians RFC, who boast 12 teams. Pitch with sports lighting is overplayed by 2.5 MES per week, whilst the other pitch is overplayed by 1 MES per week.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance and/or the installation of drainage systems to reduce overplay. Explore opportunities to remove some or all training demand from the match pitches.			H	S	L	
91	Mike Gallivan Memorial Field	Football	Town/Parish Council	Three poor quality adult pitch that are currently overplayed 1.5 MES per week. Two poor quality mini 5v5 pitches, that are played at capacity during peak times.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
92	Mile Straight Sports & Social Club	Football	Community	Two standard quality adult pitches that are currently overplayed by one MES per week. One standard quality mini 7v7 and one standard quality mini 5v5 pitches, both played to capacity at peak times. Two groundsmen have been taken on to better maintain pitches on site and Greyfriars AFC aspires to improve drainage and upgrade the clubhouse on site.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay. Support Greyfriars AFC to upgrade the clubhouse on site.	Community FA/FF ECB/GCF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standard quality square that supports six grass wickets. This site is the current home ground of Bohemians CC and Bristol Afghans CC and is overplayed by a single match per season.	Improve square quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay.			M	S	L	
94	Norman Scott Park	Football	Town/Parish Council	Two standard quality adult pitches with actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. One standard youth 11v11 pitch with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. One adult and the youth 11v11 pitch overmark a cricket outfield. These pitches are available for community use. Stoke Lane Athletic Youth FC aspires to agree long-term lease agreements for the site.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Support Stoke Lane Athletic Youth FC to secure a lease agreement on site. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF RFU ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		One small-sided (38 x 34) 3G pitch that is sports lit and available to the community.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Cricket		One good quality square which supports ten grass wickets. There is currently spare capacity for senior cricket (Sunday) and junior cricket (midweek). This site is home to Patchway CC.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
102	Patchway Community School	Football	School	Three standard quality adult pitches, which are currently overplayed by 6.5 MES per week. Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches and one standard quality youth 9v9 pitch which have discounted spare capacity due to unsecure tenure. The pitches suffer from poor drainage and the site is listed in the LFFP for pitch improvements. Patchway Community School is due to be rebuilt and it is reported that the new school will be built on top of the existing playing fields before demolishing the existing building and reinstating the playing fields. Therefore, the pitches are set to be temporarily lost during the construction of the new school.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Ensure pitches are re-provided to an improved quality and explore the feasibility of installing drainage on the new playing fields. Look to formalise community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FA/FF RFU	Local	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		3G		One full-sized (100 x 64) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and community access. This pitch is rated as good quality, as it was resurfaced/built in 2019. It is FA approved.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment.			L	L	L	
113	Shaftesbury Park	3G	Sports Club	One full-sized (130 x 80) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and community access. This pitch is rated as good quality, as it was resurfaced/built in 2017. It is World Rugby compliant.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment.	Sports Club FA/FF RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Rugby Union		One good quality (M2 / D3) with sports lighting and is played to capacity. One good quality (M2 / D3) with no sports lighting which is played to capacity at peak time. This site is currently the home of Dings Crusaders RFC.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
119	South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise)	Football	College	Four good quality adult pitches, currently played at capacity. One youth 11v11 pitch, also played at capacity. The College has submitted a planning application to convert the grass pitch within the athletics track to a 3G pitch that would primarily be used for American Football by the College with a view to growing the game locally.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to formalise community use agreement to provide security of tenure.	College FA/FF RFU EA	Hub	M	M	H	Protect Provide
		3G		One standard quality full-sized 3G pitch and one good quality full-sized 3G pitch. One pitch is FA approved whilst the other is World Rugby compliant. The pitches are only available to the community at the weekends. The College has submitted a planning application to convert the grass pitch within the athletics track to a 3G pitch that would primarily be used for American Football by the College with a view to growing the game locally.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment. Explore the feasibility of providing another 3G pitch on site.			M	M	H	
		Rugby Union		One standard quality (M1 / D1) pitch with no sports lighting. Actual spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to formalise community use agreement to provide security of tenure.			L	L	L	
		Athletics		Good quality synthetic 400m track with sports lighting. South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (Wise) is currently working towards its TrackMark accreditation. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary provision.	Sustain track quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support the College to gain TrackMark accreditation.			M	S	L	
128	Stoke Gifford Trust Ground	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch, with actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. Pitch quality has declined due to poor weather and limited drainage.	Improve pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB/GCF LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standard quality square that supports six grass wickets. This site is the current home of Stoke Gifford CC and Winterbourne CC. The square has actual spare capacity on Sundays and midweek. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary provision although it has suffered from vandalism.	Improve square quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Tennis		Two standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting and access for the community.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
131	The Avenue Playing Field	Football	Town/Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch that is currently played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
142	UWE Bristol Hillside Gardens	Football	University	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch, which is currently overplayed by 7.5 MES per week. Pitch quality is said to have deteriorated due to poor drainage. Rockleaze Rangers FC has raised funds for a new clubhouse although states it needs Council support to develop this on site. The Club's first team cannot be promoted without a new facility.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to reduce overplay. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay or nearby 3G. Support Rockleaze Rangers FC to provide a clubhouse on site.	University FA/FF RFU	Key	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
		3G		Two full-size (120 x 80 and 100 x 64) good quality 3G pitches. Both pitches were built/resurfaced in 2018. The larger pitch is FA and World Rugby compliant whilst the smaller is FA approved.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment.			L	L	L	
143	UWE Centre for Sport	AGP	University	One full-size (101 x 64) poor quality water-based pitch with sports lighting and access for the community. The site is used by the University and Redland HC.	Improve pitch quality via resurfacing as soon as feasibly possible. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment.	University EH	Local	H	S	H	Protect Enhance
160	Bakewell Memorial Ground	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Two standard quality (M2 / D0) pitches that are overplayed by one MES per week. This site is currently home to Bristol Saracens RFC. As part of a neighbouring housing development, the Club lost a pitch although this will be replaced by a sports lit pitch which the Club will be provided with a long-term lease for. However, it is concerned this development will impact the drainage on the existing site. Ancillary facilities are said to be in good condition although the Club is short of storage space and would ideally have a gym on site.	Improve pitch quality through drainage improvement to alleviate overplay. Ensure the additional sports lit pitch is provided on site. Increase the supply of sports lighting at the site to enable increased midweek capacity.	Sports Club RFU	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
161	Lockleaze Sports Centre	Football	Commercial	One standard quality adult pitch which has discounted spare capacity due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to secure a community use agreement to provide actual spare capacity.	Commercial FA/FF RFU	Key	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		Two full-size 3G pitches (one 120 x 75 and one 100 x 64) both of standard quality. Pitches were built/resurfaced in 2017. The larger pitch is FA and World Rugby compliant whilst the smaller pitch is FA approved.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment.			L	L	L	
		Rugby Union		One poor quality (M0 / D1) pitch. The pitch is overplayed by 4.5 MES per week.	Improve pitch quality through maintenance and drainage improvements. Explore opportunities to remove all training demand from the match pitch to alleviate overplay.			H	S	M	

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Rural Areas and Severnside Analysis Area

Summary pitch sports (Rural Areas and Severnside Analysis Area)

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2038) ¹⁹
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Rural areas & Severnside	Adult	Shortfall of 23.5	Shortfall of 32.5
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 2	Shortfall of 2.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1	Shortfall of 2.5
		Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 1	Shortfall of 3
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1.5
	South Gloucestershire	Adult	Shortfall of 36.5	Shortfall of 57
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 4.5	Shortfall of 21.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 11	Shortfall of 16
		Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 13	Shortfall of 19.5
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6
Football (3G pitches)	Rural areas & Severnside	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 3.25 full size pitches	Shortfall of 4.25 full size pitches
	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 10.25 full size pitches	Shortfall of 12.25 full size pitches
Cricket	Rural areas & Severnside	Saturday	Spare capacity of 54	Shortfall of 66
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 160	Spare capacity of 160
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 366	Spare capacity of 312
	South Gloucestershire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 11	Shortfall of 193
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 211	Spare capacity of 201
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 407	Spare capacity of 329
Rugby union	Rural areas & Severnside	Senior	Shortfall of 8.75	Shortfall of 11.75
	South Gloucestershire	Senior	Shortfall of 31.25	Shortfall of 37.75
Rugby League	South Gloucestershire	Senior	No shortfall locally.	No shortfall locally.
Hockey (sand AGPs)	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	No shortfall locally.	No shortfall locally.

¹⁹ Future demand (2038) is determined via ONS forecasts and club aspirations identified in PPS Assessment Report (2022).

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Summary non-pitch sports

Sport	Current picture	Future picture
Tennis	There are 37 courts identified in the area of which 26 are available for community use. Poor quality courts are located at: Charfield Memorial Hall & Playing Field, Oldbury on Severn Playing Field, Pilning Playing Field, The Park (Frampton Cotterell) and Iron Acton Playing Field.	There is a need for improvement at recreational sites identified as poor quality. The LTA is working on the improvement of provision at The Park (Frampton Cotterell).
Netball	There are 7 courts in the area (none have sports lighting). Just two offer community use at Sir Bernard Lovell Academy.	Limited community supply which should be considered when future opportunities to secure community use of existing or opportunities to build new courts emerge.
Bowls	There are two greens in the area based at HMP Leyhill (no community use) and Olvestone Bowls Club.	A potential deficit in provision based on large geographical span. Need to consider opportunities for new provision where opportunities emerge to provide new greens.
Athletics	No provision locally.	Consideration should be made for the installation of mini, compact or active tracks in line with future housing growth.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
2	Aitchison Playing Field	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. One poor quality adult pitch which is currently played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
3	Almondsbury Sports and Social Club	Football	Community	One standard quality adult pitch which is currently overplayed by one MES per week. One standard quality 9v9 pitch which is currently played to capacity. One standard quality 7v7 pitch which is played to capacity at peak times. One standard quality 5v5 pitch which is played to capacity at peak times.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay.	Community FA/FF ECB LTA	Key	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		One standard quality square that supports 16 grass wickets. The site is deemed to have issues with ball strike, with cricket balls often going into the tennis courts. It is currently working with Labosport to undertake a ball strike assessment and explore potential solutions. This site is home to Almondsbury CC and Tamil Nadu Bristol CC. There is spare capacity for junior cricket (midweek).	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure a ball strike assessment is undertaken and support the clubs to provide solutions if required.			H	S	L	
		Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts with sports lighting. The courts are available for community use. This site is home of Almondsbury TC. It has plans to build two additional courts at Almondsbury Sports and Social Club, in addition to resurfacing the existing four courts on site and ancillary improvements; including aspirations to install a viewing balcony on the clubhouse and develop a coffee shop on site.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of providing additional courts and improve ancillary provision on site.			L	L	H	
7	Badminton Playing Field	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch which is currently overplayed. A mini 5v5 and 7v7 are also marked with cones out on the site. The Adult pitch is overmarked on a cricket outfield. This pitch is overplayed by 11.5 MES. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to reduce overplay. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Sports Club FA/FF ECB/GCF	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		There is one standard quality square that supports six grass wickets. Churchways CC reports the pavilion at Badminton Playing Field is in poor condition and was built in the 1960s but is due to be replaced in the near future. This site is currently home of Churchways CC and spare capacity exists at all times.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
13	Beesmoor Road Playing Fields	Football	Community	One poor quality adult pitch, which is currently overplayed by 0.5 MES.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay.	Community FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
14	Bitton AFC	Football	Sports Club	Two good quality adult pitches that are overplayed by 1.5 MES per week. Four good quality mini 7v7 pitches, that are played to capacity at peak times. Bitton AFC previously played at Step 5 of the NLS but has withdrawn.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay	Sports Club FA/FF RFU	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		One small size 3G pitch which is sports lit and available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Cricket		One standard quality square which supports 14 grass wickets. There is spare capacity for senior cricket (Sunday) and for junior cricket (Midweek). A section of the outfield is said to drain poorly and maintenance equipment is outdated.	Improve square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
26	Charfield Junior Football Club	Football	Sports Club	One good quality youth 11v11, one good quality mini 7v7 and one good quality mini 5v5. All pitches on this site have actual spare capacity of one MES per week. Charfield Juniors FC aspires to improve/redevelop clubhouse facilities on site.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support Charfield Juniors FC to improve/redevelop ancillary provision on site.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
27	Charfield Memorial Hall & Playing Field	Football	Community	One good quality adult pitch, with one MES of actual spare capacity. Charfield AFC aspires to improve/redevelop clubhouse facilities on site. Pitch quality is reported to have recently deteriorated following the installation of a footpath on site.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Community FA/FF LTA ECB/GCF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Tennis		One poor quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is available for community use.	Improve court quality through enhanced maintenance regime/resurfacing.			L	L	L	
		Cricket		One good quality square which supports eight grass wickets. This site is currently home to Charfield CC. The site has spare capacity at all times.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
36	Coalpit Heath Cricket Club	Football	Sports Club	Standard quality youth 11v11 with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. This pitch is overmarked on a cricket outfield.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club FA/FF ECB/GCF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One good quality square which supports 12 grass wickets. This site is home to Coalpit Heath CC. There is currently spare capacity for junior cricket (Midweek). The outfield is reported to drain poorly.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
37	Colony Farm	Football	Sports Club	Two good quality adult pitches. Bristol Rovers training ground, unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality through dedicated maintenance regime for pro Club usage.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
44	Doynton Playing Field	Cricket	Town/Parish Council	One good quality square which accommodates ten grass wickets. This site is home of Dyrham & Hinton CC. The site has spare capacity at all times.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Town/Parish Council ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
45	Elm Park Primary School	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting and no access for the wider community.	Sustain court quality for curricular demand.	School EN LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Tennis		One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting and no access for the wider community.	Sustain court quality for curricular demand.						
52	Frenchay Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	Two good quality squares. One accommodating 18 grass wickets and the accommodating 15. The community has access to this site, with it currently being the home of Frenchay CC. Both squares are currently played to capacity at peak times. Drainage of the square has recently been improved.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club ECB LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts with sports lighting and access for the community. Downend and Frenchay TC received a grant to improve the sports lights on site to LED in 2020 and now has plans to install a small clubhouse on site. The site is currently operating above the recommended capacity and this is expected to worsen after considering the Club's future demand aspirations.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support Downend and Frenchay TC to provide ancillary provision on site. Monitor the Club to ensure existing facilities remain sufficient, despite operating above the recommended capacity.			M	M	M	
54	Gloucestershire FA Headquarters	3G	FA	One full size (100 x 64) FIFA compliant 3G pitch. This pitch has sports lighting and is accessible to the community. This pitch is rated as being good quality, with the surface being built/resurfaced in 2020.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.	FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
58	Hallen Centre	Football	Commercial	Two standard quality adult pitches, currently overplayed by four MES per week. One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch, currently overplayed by one MES per week. One adult pitch is overmarked on a cricket outfield.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to reduce overplay. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Commercial FA/FF RFU ECB	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		Small sized (55 x 40) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and access for the community.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.			L	L	L	
		Cricket		One standard quality square that accommodates ten grass wickets. This site is currently home to Hallen CC. There is potential spare capacity at all times although this is discounted due to unsecure tenure. The square and outfield are said to suffer from animal damage and the outfield is also used for football during the winter.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to formalise community use agreement to provide security of tenure.			M	S	L	
59	Hambrook Sports Club	Football	Sports Club	One poor quality adult pitch, which is overplayed by one MES per week. This pitch is overmarked on a cricket outfield. This pitch is available for community use.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay.	Sports Club FA/FF ECB/GCF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One good quality cricket square that accommodates ten grass wickets, which are available for community use. There is no spare capacity at this site. The playing surface has suffered from vandalism with vehicles being driven across the site as well as section of the square and outfield being dug up and set on fire.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore options to deter vandalism on site.			M	S	L	
63	Hardwicke Road Playing Field	Football	Sports Club	One poor quality adult pitch, which is currently overplayed by one MES per week. This pitch is available for community use. A new maintenance team is said to be undertaking an enhanced maintenance regime on site. Tytherington Rocks FC is considering providing an additional youth pitch on site.	Ensure pitch maintenance is enhanced in order to improve pitch quality and alleviate overplay.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
64	Hawkesbury Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square that accommodates 12 grass wickets. This site is home to Hawkesbury Upton CC, with the community having access. There is potential spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays and junior cricket midweek.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club ECB/GCF LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Tennis		Two standard quality tennis courts that are available for community use but without sports lighting. Hawkesbury Upton TC is currently resurfacing the courts on site.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support the Club to resurface the courts on site.			L	L	L	
65	Hawkesbury Upton Village Hall	Football	Trust	One poor quality adult pitch which is played to capacity. There is community access for this pitch.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	Trust FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
66	Hmp Ashfield	AGP	Government	Small sized (55 x 37) hockey suitable AGP with sports lighting. No community access for this site.	Sustain pitch quality for internal use.	Government EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
67	Hmp Leyhill	Football	Government	Two standard quality adult pitches. No community access.	Sustain pitch quality for internal use.	Government FA/FF ECB LTA BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One cricket square which accommodates three grass wickets.	Sustain square quality for internal use.			L	L	L	
		Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting or community access.	Sustain court quality for internal use.			L	L	L	
		Bowls		One good quality bowling green. No access for the community.	Sustain green quality for internal use.			L	L	L	
69	Horton Village Hall Playing Field	Football	Community	One poor quality adult pitch, with community access. Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	Community FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
73	King George V Playing Fields (Wickwar)	Football	Trust	Two standard quality adult pitches with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. These pitches are available for community access.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Trust FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
85	Manor Playing Fields	Football	Town/Parish Council	One poor quality 9v9 pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. One poor quality 7v7, overplayed by one MES per week. One poor quality 5v5, overplayed by one MES per week.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
89	Marshfield Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square, accommodating 12 grass wickets and a non-turf wicket. This site is available for community use. This site is home to Marshfield CC. There is potential spare capacity for junior cricket during midweek. The Club reports that training facilities on site are in need of refurbishment.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support Marshfield CC to improve training facilities on site.	Sports Club ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
90	Marshfield Playing Field	Football	Community	One poor quality adult pitch with discounted spare capacity. Two poor quality youth 11v11 pitches, played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to provide spare capacity.	Community FA/FF ECB LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One poor quality square that accommodates six grass wickets. There is community access to this site although Marshfield CC vacated the square due to the poor condition of the square and it is now unused.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to provide spare capacity.			M	S	L	
		Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts with sports lighting and access for the community. The site is home to Marshfield TC that operates slightly above the sites recommended capacity.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Monitor the Club to ensure existing facilities remain sufficient, despite operating above the recommended capacity.			L	L	L	
95	Oaklands (North Bristol RFC)	Rugby Union Rugby League	Sports Club	One good quality (M2 / D3) pitch with sports lighting, which has 1.5 MES per week of spare capacity. One standard quality (M2 / D0) pitch without sports lighting and spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club RFU FA/FF	Key	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		3G	RFU	Full size (120 x 80) good quality, FA and WR compliant 3G pitch. The pitch is sports lit and available for community use. The site is also home to Bristol Old Golds Rugby League Club which have been using the site for circa 2 years and access the 3G pitch for all its activity on a rental agreement with the rugby union club.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	RFL		L	L	L	
96	Old Down Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square accommodating 12 grass wickets. Currently the home of Old Down CC. There is spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays and junior cricket midweek. The square is said to suffer from litter, dog fouling and animal damage.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club ECB/GCF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
97	Old Elizabethans	Football	Sports Club	One poor quality adult pitch, which is available for community use. Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to provide spare capacity.	Sports Club FA/FF RFU	Local	M	S	L	Protect
		Rugby Union		One poor quality (M0 / D1) with 0.5 potential spare capacity. No sports lighting available. Old Elizabethans RFC indicates ancillary provision on site is dated but functional. It aspires to build two more changing rooms and showers to give the Club opportunity to grow and enable it to consider fielding a ladies team.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Support Old Elizabethans RFC to improve ancillary provision on site.			L	L	L	
98	Old Sodbury Playing Fields	Football	Town/Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch, with community access. Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Pitch quality has declined due to being unable to maintain the pitches as frequently. Old Sodbury FC have had a survey and improvement plan created by a pitch maintenance contractor. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch improvements.	Support Old Sodbury FC to deliver enhanced maintenance plan to improve pitch quality in line with LFFP recommendations.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
99	Oldbury on Severn Playing Fields	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. This pitch is available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB/GCF LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One good quality cricket square that accommodates for ten grass wickets. This site is used by Oldbury CC and Thornbury CC. There is spare capacity for senior cricket on Saturdays and Sundays and for Junior cricket during midweek.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. These courts are available for community use.	Improve court quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
100	Olveston United Football Club	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch, which is overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	H	S	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
103	Pilning Playing Fields	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. This pitch is available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		One poor quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is available for community use.	Improve court quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
106	Pucklechurch Recreation Field	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch, with actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. This pitch is available for community access. New drainage has recently been installed on site.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB/GCF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
		Cricket		One good quality square that accommodates 12 grass wickets. This site is home to Pucklechurch CC. There is spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays and junior cricket midweek.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
108	Rangeworthy Recreation Ground	Football	Town/Parish Council	Two standard quality adult pitch, with a spare capacity of two MES per week. This pitch is available for community access.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
110	Redfield Edge Primary School	Football	School	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch. No community access for this site.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular use.	School FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
111	Severn Beach Playing Fields	Football	Community	One poor quality adult pitch. There is community access for this site. Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Reduced usage last season and adequate weather conditions has improved pitch quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to provide actual spare capacity.	Community FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
112	Severn Beach Primary School	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality that is unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular use.	School FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
116	Sir Bernard Lovell Academy (Site One)	3G	School	Full-size (90 x 50) FA compliant 3G pitch with sports lighting and community access. The quality is rated as standard, with the surface being built/resurfaced in 2008. The pitch was due to be resurfaced in the summer of 2022, meaning quality should have improved to good since assessments were undertaken.	Ensure pitch has been resurfaced as planned. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.	School FA/FF RFU EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts that are available to the community but without sports lighting. Avon Netball reports the courts are not used for league play due to perceived poor condition.	Improve court quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
117	Sir Bernard Lovell School (Site Two)	Football	School	Two poor quality youth 11v11 pitch, which are played to capacity. One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch, which is played to capacity. Two standard quality mini 5v5 pitches that have discounted spare capacity due to unsecure tenure. One adult pitch is overmarked with a youth 9v9. This site is available for community use. Pitch quality has declined due to decreased maintenance and increased usage. Warmley Rangers aspires to install drainage on site.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Support Warmley Rangers to install drainage on site.	School FA/FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
125	St Marys Old Boys Rugby Football Club (Northwood Park)	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. The pitches are reported to suffer from poor drainage.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of rectifying drainage issues on site. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Sports Club FA/FF RFU	Local	M	S	L	Protect
		3G		One small-sized (37 x 30) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and community access.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Rugby Union		One good quality (M1 / D3) with sports lighting, which is currently played to capacity. One good quality (M1 / D3) pitch with sports lighting on half of the pitch. One good quality (M1 / D3) pitch with no sports lighting. These two pitches have actual spare capacity of one MES per week.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
135	The Park	Football	Town/Parish Council	Two poor quality adult pitches, currently played to capacity. One poor quality youth 11v11, also played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB/GCF RFU LTA	Key	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Two good quality squares, with one accommodating eight grass wickets and the other accommodating four. This site is home to Frampton Cotterell CC. There is spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays and junior cricket midweek on both squares. Drainage works have recently been undertaken although this hindered regular maintenance and caused the centre of the pitch to sink.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to rectify the sunken pitch.			H	S	L	
		Rugby Union		One poor quality (M0 / D0) pitch with no sports lighting, overplayed by 3.5 MES per week. One standard quality (M0 / D3) with no sports lighting, overplayed by 2.5 MES per week.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance and drainage. Explore options to remove training demand from the match pitches. Increase the supply of sports lighting at the site to enable increased midweek capacity.			H	S	M	
		Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. Courts are available for community access. The LTA has highlighted the site as strategically important for court improvements including court resurfacing, fencing repairs and the installation of an access control gate.	Improve court quality in line with LTA recommendations.			H	M	M	
138	Thornbury RFC	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One good quality (M2 / D3) pitch with sports lighting, which is overplayed by 3 MES. One standard quality (M2 / D0) pitch with no sports lighting, which is overplayed by 4.5 MES.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore options to remove training demand from the match pitches. Consider the feasibility of accessing additional pitch provision to alleviate overplay. Increase the supply of sports lighting at the site to enable increased midweek capacity.	Sports Club RFU	Local	H	S	L	Protect
139	Tockington Manor School	Football	School	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, with no access for the community.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular demand.	School	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Cricket		One standard quality square accommodating seven grass wickets, available for community use. A further two squares accommodating four and two wickets respectively, not available for community use. The square that is available to the community is overplayed by 15 matches per season by Thornbury CC.	Sustain wicket quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of installing an NTP on site to alleviate overplay.	FA/FF ECB/GCF LTA EN		M	S	M	Provide
		Tennis		Five standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting but have no access for the community.	Sustain court quality for curricular demand. Explore options to open the courts for community use.			L	L	L	
		Netball		Four standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting but have no access for the community.	Sustain court quality for curricular demand. Explore options to open the courts for community use.			L	L	L	
140	Tormarton Recreation Ground	Football	Town/Parish Council	One good quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. This pitch is available for community use. Despite good quality rating, pitch quality has declined due to poor weather and basic maintenance. Tormarton FC would like to raise funds to improve facilities in general on site including improved changing facilities and a social space with a bar.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support Tormarton FC to improve ancillary provision on site.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One good quality square which accommodates six grass wickets. This site is currently home to Tormarton CC and Marshfield CC. There is spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays and junior cricket midweek.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
149	Westerleigh Playing Field	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of one MES per week.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide
		Cricket		One good quality square that accommodates eight grass wickets. This site is available for community use. This site is home to Westerleigh CC and Coalpit Heath CC. There is spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays and for junior cricket during the week. There is no ancillary provision on site.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of providing ancillary provision on site.			L	M	M	
152	Wick Playing Field	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch, currently played to capacity. One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. Pitches are available for community use. Wick FC recently purchased grounds maintenance equipment to provide an improved maintenance regime. The Club is now exploring the feasibility of installing sports lights on the main pitch and improving drainage on site, as well as providing a new changing facility.	Ensure enhanced maintenance regime is undertaken on site. Support Wick FC to further develop and enhance the site.	Sports Club FA/FF RFU	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
		3G		Small-sized (36 x 20) 3G pitch with sports lighting and community access.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.			L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
154	Winterbourne Academy	3G	School	Full-size (98 x 60) FIFA/WR compliant 3G pitch, with sports lighting and community access. Quality of pitch is good, with the surface being built/resurfaced in 2022.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.	School FA/FF RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect
155	Winterbourne Academy Sports Field	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches, that are overplayed by seven MES per week. Two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches, that are overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. These pitches are available for community use. Winterbourne United FC aspires to improve/redevelop clubhouse facilities on site.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay	School FA/FF	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
156	Winterbourne Recreation Ground	Football	Community	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of one MES per week. One good quality mini 7v7 pitch, which is played to capacity at peak times. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of improving ancillary provision on site.	Community FA/FF ECB/GCF LTA	Key	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Two standard quality squares. One square accommodates 14 grass wickets, whilst the other accommodates 12. Currently the home of Winterbourne CC. Despite investment in the squares on site, quality is reported to have declined and toilet facilities on site are said to be insufficient for the Club's current demand. There is potential spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays on one square and for junior cricket on weekends on both squares.	Improve square quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of improving ancillary provision on site.			M	M	M	
		Tennis		Three good quality macadam courts with sports lighting. These courts are available for community use. Winterbourne TC aspires to replace the sports lights on site and resurface the courts.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support Winterbourne TC to improve the facility offer on site.			L	M	M	
159	Yate Town Football Club	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch with a spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Sports Club FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
163	Withymead Playing Fields	Football	Community	One standard quality adult pitch with a spare capacity of one MES per week.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Community FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
168	Olveston and Tockington Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Two standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting and community access.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
174	Olveston Bowls Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality bowling green. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary provision.	Sustain green quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
176	The Common	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality square that accommodates eight grass wickets. This site is used by Rockhampton CC. There is potential spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays and junior cricket during the week although this is discounted due to unsecure tenure. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to formalise a long-term usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	Sports Club ECB/GCF	Local	M	S	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
179	Rockhampton Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square that accommodates nine grass wickets. The square is overplayed by 15 matches per season. The Club will be installing new cricket nets for the 2024 season.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Consider installation of an NTP/hybrid wickets to reduce pressure on existing grass square to aid a reduction in overplay.	Sports Club ECB/GCF	Local	H	S	L	Protect Provide
181	Acton Turville Playing Field	Tennis	Town/Parish Council	One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is available for community use. Acton Turville TC is looking to resurface the court on site. The site is expected to be operating above the recommended capacity when considering future demand.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Monitor the Club to ensure existing facilities remain sufficient, despite operating above the benchmark capacity.	Town/Parish Council LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
183	Iron Acton Playing Field	Tennis	Town/Parish Council	Two poor quality macadam courts without sports lighting.	Improve court quality in line with LTA recommendations.	Town/Parish Council LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Thornbury Analysis Area

Summary pitch sports (Thornbury Analysis Area)

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2038) ²⁰
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Thornbury	Adult	Spare capacity of 0.5	Played to capacity
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5	Shortfall of 2
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 0.5
		Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
	South Gloucestershire	Adult	Shortfall of 36.5	Shortfall of 57
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 4.5	Shortfall of 21.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 11	Shortfall of 16
		Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 13	Shortfall of 19.5
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6
Football (3G pitches)	Thornbury	Full size, floodlit	No shortfall	No shortfall
	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 10.25 full size pitches	Shortfall of 12.25 full size pitches
Cricket	Thornbury	Saturday	Shortfall of 6	Shortfall of 18
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 4	Spare capacity of 4
		Midweek	Shortfall of 6	Shortfall of 6
	South Gloucestershire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 11	Shortfall of 193
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 211	Spare capacity of 201
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 407	Spare capacity of 329
Rugby union	Thornbury	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5	Shortfall of 7.5
	South Gloucestershire	Senior	Shortfall of 31.25	Shortfall of 37.75
Rugby league	South Gloucestershire	Senior	No shortfall locally.	No shortfall locally.
Hockey (sand AGPs)	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall based on quality deficiencies at The Castle School	Shortfall will remain and be exacerbated unless targeted investment is provided at the school.

²⁰ Future demand (2038) is determined via ONS forecasts and club aspirations identified in PPS Assessment Report (2022).

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Summary non-pitch sports

Sport	Current picture	Future picture
Tennis	There are 15 courts available in the area. Just four are available for community use at Mundy Playing Field.	There is a limited community supply in the area, on this basis, courts at Mundy Playing Field need their good quality retaining.
Netball	There are six courts in the area. None offer community use.	There is a need to either secure community use of courts at Marlwood School or develop new courts as of when new opportunities emerge to create opportunities for recreational use.
Bowls	No greens in local area.	Consider strategic need for new provision where opportunities to provide provision emerge. Work with England Bowls if opportunities come forward.
Athletics	No provision locally.	Consideration should be made for the installation of mini, compact or active tracks in line with future housing growth.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
24	Chantry Road Playing Fields	Football	Town/Parish Council	One standard adult pitch with spare capacity of one MES. This pitch is available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to maximise actual spare capacity on site to alleviate overplay of other sites in the area.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF RFU	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby Union		One poor quality (M0/D1) pitch that is currently unused although spare capacity has been discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to provide actual spare capacity.			L	L	L	
71	Jubilee Playing Field	Football	Town/Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch and one poor quality youth 11v11 pitch. This site is available for community use. Spare capacity is discounted on both pitches due to poor pitch quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to provide actual spare capacity.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF ECB/GCF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
		Cricket		One good quality green that accommodates six grass wickets. This site is available for community use and is currently used by Alveston CC, Charlton Super Kings CC. The square is overplayed by six matches per season.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to install an NTP on site to accommodate junior demand to alleviate overplay.			H	S	L	
87	Marlwood School	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch. Three standard quality youth 11v11 pitches. One standard youth 9v9 pitch. All pitches have discounted spare capacity due to unsecure tenure. These pitches are available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Look to formalise community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FA/FF RFU LTA EN	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		A youth 11v11 (91 x 55) FA compliant pitch, with sports lighting and access for the community. The quality of the pitch is rated as standard with the surface being built/resurfaced in 2011. It is only available to the community during the week.	Improve pitch quality through resurfacing as soon as feasibly possible. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.			M	S	H	
		Tennis		Eleven standard quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting or access for the community.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support the School to improve tennis facilities on site and opening the courts to the community.			M	S	L	
		Netball		Six standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting or access for the community.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
93	Mundy Playing Fields	Football	Town/Parish Council	One good quality adult pitch, with spare capacity of one MES per week. One poor quality adult pitch with discounted spare capacity. One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch that is currently overplayed by 1.5 MES per week. One good quality youth 9v9, with spare capacity of one MES per week. These pitches are available for community use.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay and provide actual spare capacity.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. These courts are available for community use. Thornbury LTC plans to install sports lights on two of the four courts on site.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support Thornbury LTC to provide sports lighting on site.			L	L	L	
93	Thornbury Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Four good quality macadam courts with sports lighting. These courts are available for community use. Thornbury LTC converted the sports lights on site to LED. It has also resurfaced all four courts and replaced the fencing for these courts.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
132	The Castle School (Thornbury)	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch, currently overplayed by 1.5 MES per week. One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch, also overplayed by 1.5 MES per week. These pitches are available for community use.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to reduce overplay. Explore the feasibility of relocating some demand to an alternate site with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	School FA/FF ECB EH	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
				There is a playing field located at The Castle School Sixth Form, a short drive from this site. The playing field has not been marked since circa 2014 as sport pitches and is now under consideration for development for residential purposes.	As there are shortfalls of pitch provision in Thornbury, aligned to Thornbury FC, this playing field should be protected in line with NPPF and Sport England Playing Field Policy.						
		Cricket		A standalone NTP that is available for community use.	Sustain wicket quality for curricular and community demand.			L	L	L	
		AGP		Full-size (97 x 60) hockey suitable AGP, with sports lighting and community access. The sand-filled surface is rated as poor, with it being built/resurfaced in 2004. The Academy is planning for the pitch to be resurfaced in 2025, it currently has a small deficit for the work to proceed. Goalposts on site are poor quality and need replacement. The pitch is home to Thornbury HC.	Improve pitch quality through resurfacing as in 2025.. Replace existing sports lighting with LED upgrades. Explore funding options to provide new goalposts. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.			H	S	H	
137	The Ship Field	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality green that accommodates 16 grass wickets. The site is currently used by Thornbury CC. There is spare capacity for senior cricket on Sundays.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	Thornbury Field	Football	N/A	A new site developed recently by Bloor Homes as part of development package aligned to residential development. The site features two adult football pitches and is fenced off from public use. It is understood that the pitches are standard to good quality. Due to unknown complications between the developer and FirstPort (property management agency) as well as South Gloucestershire Council	The Council and partners (as relevant) need to work to resolve issues around access to the new football provision which has been provided. There is a clear and justifiable need for access for Thornbury FC to get access new provision as identified by local shortfalls for pitches being identified.	Council Sports Club CFA FF	Local	H	S	L	Protect

Yate and Chipping Sodbury Analysis Area

Summary pitch sports (Yate and Chipping Sodbury Analysis Area)

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2038) ²¹
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ⁽¹⁾	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	Adult	Spare capacity of 2.5	Spare capacity of 1.5
		Youth 11v11	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1.5
		Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
		Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 0.5
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 0.5
	South Gloucestershire	Adult	Shortfall of 36.5	Shortfall of 57
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 4.5	Shortfall of 21.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 11	Shortfall of 16
		Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 13	Shortfall of 19.5
		Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6
Football (3G pitches)	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	Full size, floodlit	No shortfall	No shortfall
	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 10.25 full size pitches	Shortfall of 12.25 full size pitches
Cricket	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	Saturday	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
		Sunday	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
		Midweek	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6
	South Gloucestershire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 11	Shortfall of 193
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 211	Spare capacity of 201
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 407	Spare capacity of 329
Rugby union	Yate & Chipping Sodbury	Senior	Shortfall of 1.75	Shortfall of 1.75
	South Gloucestershire	Senior	Shortfall of 31.25	Shortfall of 37.75
Rugby league	South Gloucestershire	Senior	No shortfall locally.	No shortfall locally.
Hockey (sand AGPs)	South Gloucestershire	Full size, floodlit	No deficiencies locally.	Sustain quality at Yate Outdoor Sports Complex.

²¹ Future demand (2038) is determined via ONS forecasts and club aspirations identified in PPS Assessment Report (2022).

⁽¹⁾ MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Summary non-pitch sports

Sport	Current picture	Future picture
Tennis	There are 26 courts in the area of which 12 are available for community use. Poor quality courts are based at Chipping Sodbury School.	There is a need to sustain quality at recreational sites and to consider (with the LTA) the need to improve the offer at the poor quality courts at the school site.
Netball	There are 12 courts in the area of which eight offer community use. Four courts which are available at Chipping Sodbury School are poor quality and need refurbishment.	There is a need to improve quality of provision at Chipping Sodbury School. Recreational programmes should be encouraged to increase participation in the sport locally.
Bowls	There is one green within the area based at Yate Bowls Club. The green is good quality but there are issues with limited parking servicing the Club.	Need to protect the green and ensure it remains of a good quality for local users.
Athletics	No shortfalls locally. There is a good quality synthetic track at Yate Outdoor Sport Complex.	Consideration should be made for the installation of mini, compact or active tracks in line with future housing growth.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
18	Brimsham Green School	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch. One poor quality adult pitch. One poor quality youth 11v11 and one poor quality mini 5v5. These pitches are not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular demand. Explore options to open the pitches for community use.	School FA/FF LTA EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Tennis		Six standard quality macadam courts of which three are sports lit. The courts are unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Netball		Four good quality macadam courts, with sports lighting. These courts are available for community use although only during the week.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
30	Chipping Sodbury School	3G	School	One full-size (100 x 64) 3G pitch with sports lighting and community access. The quality of the pitch is rated as poor, with it being installed/resurfaced in 2010.	Improve pitch quality via resurfacing as soon as feasibly possible.	School FA/FF RFU LTA EN	Key	H	S	H	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Eight poor quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting. The courts are available for community use.	Improve court quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Netball		Four poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. These courts are available for community use. These courts have been rated as poor quality due to the lack of grip underfoot, evidence of moss and worn line markings	Improve court quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
31	Chipping Sodbury School Sports Field	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch and one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch. These pitches are not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality for curricular demand. Explore options to open the pitches for community use.	School FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
107	Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field (Yate)	Football	Town/Parish Council	Three good quality adult pitches, with actual spare capacity of two MES per week. These pitches are available for community use. An adult pitch is overmarked with either 5v5 or 7v7 pitches as required. Listed in the LFFP for ancillary facility improvements.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Improve ancillary facilities in line with LFFP recommendations to ensure actual spare capacity is fully utilised.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
129	Sunnyside Lane Playing Field	Football	Town/Parish Council	Four standard quality adult pitches, with a spare capacity of three MES. Brimsham Green FC reports ancillary facilities and car parking servicing the site are too small. Iron Acton FC also states changing rooms need to be approximately doubled in size. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch improvements.	Improve pitch quality, in line with LFFP recommendations, through enhanced maintenance regime. Improve and extend ancillary and parking facilities to ensure actual spare capacity is fully utilised.	Town/Parish Council FA/FF LTA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting. These courts are available for community use.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
136	The Ridings	Football	Trust	Five standard quality adult pitches, currently overplayed by 2.5 MES per week. Two standard quality mini 7v7 and two standard quality mini 5v5 pitches, all played to capacity at peak times. Chipping Sodbury Town FC has plans to improve pitch quality on site. The site is said to be limited to hosting 26 teams which affiliation data suggests it already exceeds. St Nicolas Youth FC would like a long-term lease agreement for the site. Listed in the LFFP for grass pitch improvements. Chipping Sodbury Town FC has plans for a new clubhouse. St Nicholas Youth FC indicates a grant has been awarded for the improvement and expansion of ancillary provision on site. However, a housing developer is looking to buy a piece of land on site known as 'The Studs' which would include demolishing the existing facilities of all three clubs based on site (Chipping Sodbury Town FC, St Nicholas Youth FC and Chipping Sodbury RFC). In return, they are looking for a combined multisport facility although with each club having a separate social space and bar area.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime and in line with LFFP recommendations to alleviate overplay. Ensure that ancillary provision is improved on site, either through the utilisation of grant funding to improve existing provision or a combined multisport facility to replace the existing facility.	Trust FA/FF ECB RFU LTA	Hub	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		Two standard quality squares. Both accommodating 12 grass wickets each. This site is used by Chipping Sodbury CC. There is no spare capacity at this site. Square quality is said to have declined due to perceived overuse.	Improve square quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		Rugby Union		One good quality (M2 / D3) pitch with sports lighting that is played to capacity at peak time. One standard quality (M2 / D0) pitch with sports lighting that is played to capacity. One standard quality (M2 / D0) pitch with no sports lighting that is overplayed by 1.75 MES per week.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced drainage to reduce overplay. Look to reallocate demand on site to alleviate overplay.			H	S	M	
		Tennis		Four good quality artificial courts, with sports lighting and access for the community. This site is currently used by Sodbury TC, which has 300 members whilst the site only has the capacity for 240. Sodbury TC notes it is not seeking new members due to a lack of court space yet expects an influx of new members to the Club due to multiple new housing developments in its vicinity. From this, the Club is seeking funding to build another four sports lit courts at The Ridings as well as exploring Padel opportunities.	Sustain court quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support Sodbury TC to provide additional courts on site.			H	L	H	
157	Yate Academy	3G	School	Full-size (91 x 55) FA compliant 3G pitch, with sports lighting and access for the community. The pitch is rated as being poor quality, with the surface being installed/resurfaced in 2012.	Improve pitch quality through resurfacing as soon as feasibly possible. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.	School FA/FF RFU LTA EN	Local	H	S	H	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting and no access for the community.	Sustain court quality for curricular demand.			L	L	L	
		Netball		Four standard quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting and no access for the community.	Sustain court quality for curricular demand.			L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
158	Yate Outdoor Sports Complex	Football	Community	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, which is played to capacity. One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch, which is played to capacity at peak times. The site also has one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch. Both pitches are standard quality and played to capacity at peak times. These pitches are available for community use.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	Community FA/FF RFU EH EA	Hub	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby Union		One poor quality (M0 / D1) pitch with no sports lighting. This pitch is currently played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
		AGP		One full-sized (100 x 62) sand-dressed AGP. This pitch is suitable for hockey, has sports lighting and is available for community use. The surface is rated as good quality, with it being resurfaced in 2019.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment when necessary.			L	L	L	
		Athletics		400m synthetic running track, with sports lighting. This site is TrackMark compliant. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary provision.	Sustain track quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
171	Yate Bowls Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green. Despite the good quality ratings, some litter and leaf fall was identified at the site. The ancillary provision at the club is rated as standard, with limited car parking named as an issue.	Sustain green quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Sports Club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
184	Howard Lewis Park and Play Area	Tennis	Town/Parish Council	Two standard quality macadam tennis courts without sports lighting.	Sustain quality and ensure resurfacing takes places as required in the future,	Town/Parish Council LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios

The Playing Pitch Strategy provides an estimate of demand for pitch sports based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2038; this period being broadly in line with the New Local Plan period when work on the strategy began. The figures assume that population growth will average 2.4 persons per dwelling (ppd) and this is consistent with Census 2021 data for average household size in South Gloucestershire. Future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required.

Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converts demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required. This is achieved via team generation rates in the Needs Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth and gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision.

Demand is shown in match equivalent sessions per week for most sports, except for cricket, where match equivalent sessions are by season. Training demand is expressed in either hours or match equivalent sessions. Where expressed in hours, it is expected that demand will be for either a third-generation artificial grass pitch (to accommodate football demand) or an artificial grass pitch (to accommodate hockey demand). Where expressed in match equivalent sessions, it is expected training will take place on grass pitches with sports lighting.

The Council uses a methodology to identify outdoor sport facilities to address demand from housing growth in line with adopted Planning policy; this addresses PPS Action Plan Objective 2d to "Secure developer contributions". The SGC S106 Public Open Space (POS) Calculator has been applied to new housing developments for approximately 20 years. Sections below set out how the Council's S106 POS calculator is used, the housing commitments already made and still to plan for in the district through the next Local Plan, plus examples where the process has been applied to secure outdoor sport facilities for major mixed-use developments.

The Sport England PPC could be used to complement the current methods the Council uses to estimate outdoor sports facility requirements for housing growth and update those requirements over the Local Plan period throughout the lifespan of the PPS to test sites as they come forward.

Applying the SGC S106 Public Open Space (POS) Calculator

For developments of 10 or more new dwellings the Council completes a POS audit to establish existing provision and its S106 POS Calculator to identify the public open space requirements including Outdoor Sports Facilities to meet Local Plan Core Strategy Policy CS24: Green Infrastructure, Sport and Recreation. The local standards for provision and accessibility thresholds are in Appendix 5 which accompanies Policy CS24 of the Local Plan [New Local Plan - Core Strategy \(southglos.gov.uk\)](https://www.southglos.gov.uk/new-local-plan-core-strategy).

When the POS Calculator is applied to Outline planning applications it assumes dwellings will have average occupancy of 2.4 ppd. When dwelling mixes are provided and smaller dwellings or flats proposed, or when fewer dwellings are proposed in reserved matters applications than permitted under outline the estimated population may reduce.

For the largest developments the council seeks provision of outdoor sport facilities on site where feasible unless off-site provision offers a better solution. The approach includes a wider range of outdoor sports than those played on pitches and includes tennis, boules, croquet, bowls, sports tracks, pavilions and ancillary parking. Multi-use games areas

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(MUGA) that meet Sport England specification are also counted towards outdoor sport facilities.

Financial contributions and maintenance sums for off-site outdoor sport based on the POS Calculator are secured through S106 and indexation from the date of committee resolution is applied at time of invoice to allow for increases in cost. S106 funding for off-site outdoor sport provision or enhancement is allocated according to the Council's published process: [Section 106 funding for outdoor sports and facilities for children and young people](#) | BETA - South Gloucestershire Council (southglos.gov.uk)

Housing Growth and New Local Plan

At April 2022 commitments with planning consent gained during the period of the current South Gloucestershire Local Plan 2006 – 2027 accounted for c17,000 new homes; and there are agreed S106 agreements and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payments covering infrastructure necessary to meet policy requirements for this growth. S106 agreements for residential development include provision of or funding towards outdoor sport in line with Policy CS24 of the current Local Plan and CIL Reg 122.

The provision and financial contributions for those developments were calculated using the S106 Public Open Space (POS) Calculator and it is not necessary to use the PPC retrospectively for them. It is advisable to employ the PPC, PPS Action Plan and consultation with local sport bodies in future decisions to inform allocation of S106 funding to outdoor sport facilities.

Existing housing commitments leave 9,300 homes to be allocated through the new Local Plan (nLP) which will cover the period up to 2040. The nLP timetable envisages the Local Plan being adopted end of 2025 and lasting for 15 years to 2040. Assuming an average 2.4 ppd occupation rate, 9,300 new homes would give a population increase of 22,320. Table 7.1 illustrates that applying the S106 POS Calculator to 9,300 dwellings gives a requirement based on current Local Plan policy CS24 of 307,200 sq.m. (30.72Ha) of Outdoor Sport Facilities to support that growth.

Table 7.1: SGC POS calculator results

New dwellings	Persons per dwelling	Population	Outdoor Sports Facilities (16sq.m. per person)
9,300	2.4	22,320	357,120

This is an indicative dwelling figure only and some will come forward in developments below the threshold where the S106 POS calculator is applied.

The new Local Plan is likely to introduce new policies for higher density urban developments, which may introduce different public open space standards to current Local Plan policy CS24. The detail will be brought forward through the formal nLP process.

Outdoor Sport for Committed Strategic Mixed-Use Sites:

The following large-scale housing and mixed-use developments have outdoor sport facilities on site and/or financial contributions to meet need identified using the S106 POS Calculator, evidence about existing facilities, and consultation with Town and Parish Councils and sports clubs. Some facilities are operational, while others are yet to be planned in detail. Timing of delivery is usually connected to dwelling completions.

Harry Stoke PT06/1001/O 1,200 dwellings

Outline planning consent for 1,200 dwellings with supporting infrastructure and facilities was granted on appeal. Reserved matters planning consents have been granted for more than 900 dwellings with nearly 580 completions to date. As flats form a larger proportion of the dwelling mix than originally expected the population is expected to be lower when the outline was determined.

A section 106 agreement, Unilateral Undertaking and deed of variation include a dual-use MUGA. It is envisaged that this will be included in a new planning application to be submitted in due course. Off-site outdoor sport provision is to be provided and detailed plans for those facilities are pending a detailed planning application.

Lyde Green PK04/1965/O up to 2,550 dwellings

Outline planning consent granted for up to 2,550 dwellings plus one primary school, land for a secondary school, a community hall, cricket pavilion and outdoor sport. All parcels have reserved matters consent and much of the development is now complete with almost 2,000 homes completed.

The outdoor sport for this application was determined against Local Plan policy LC8, (which was the policy in place prior to the Core Strategy and CS24 being adopted).

The signed section 106 agreement includes two grass adult football pitches with ancillary facilities, 5.14Ha of sport facilities in the secondary school “Core Area” to include cricket pitch and pavilion.

Two full size grass pitches, changing pavilion, storage facilities and car parking were completed in 2018 and are run by a community sports club.

The Core Area facilities on-site are expected to be available for community use outside normal school hours and will include 6 wicket cricket pitch, cricket nets and cricket pavilion, 1 U9/U10 7v7 football pitch, 1x U11/u12 9v9 football pitch, 1x U18 / U17/youth 11v11 football pitch, 400m athletic track, MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) for 3 x netball and tennis courts with lighting, AGP (Artificial Grass Pitches) with lighting (Over 18, U17/18 and youth full pitch football, 2 x 7-side cross pitch, Rugby U18 and over 18), U7/U8 mini football pitch.

Park Farm, Thornbury PT11/1442/O - up to 500 dwellings

Outline planning consent was granted for up to 500 dwellings and the development is completed.

The section 106 agreement included two senior grass football pitches on-site. One is a community sports pitch, the other a council sports pitch.

Thornbury Fields, Morton Way, Thornbury PT12/2395/O up to 300 dwellings

Outline planning consent was granted on appeal for up to 300 dwellings and they are all completed.

The section 106 agreement included two football pitches on site. One senior grass pitch and one junior grass pitch are built on-site. Officers are working with the Management Company Firstport to arrange access for football club and the public.

North Yate PK12/1913/O up to 2,450 dwellings

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Outline planning consent was granted for up to 2,450 new dwellings with supporting infrastructure and facilities. So far 1,236 dwellings are completed. Final Reserved Matters consent was granted in August 2023. Fewer than 2,450 dwellings will be completed in total and there are 2,123 dwellings in reserved matters permissions.

The signed 106 agreement includes:

- ▶ The school playing fields and changing facilities to be used by the local community.
- ▶ Off-Site Open Spaces contributions of £1,500,271.60 capital and £454,065.40 for maintenance of open spaces which includes pitches and play space. Sums may be reduced if additional on-site space is provided.

The approved Masterplan indicates grass pitches in primary schools and grass pitches and training area in public open space. Consent P19/11377/RM has been granted for three grass pitches in POS northeast of the first primary school site: 1 x no football mini pitch U9/U10 and 2 x no. football mini pitches U7/U8. Dual use pitches will be designed into first primary school located to the northeast of the Local Centre.

Cribbs Patchway new neighbourhood (CPNN) is allocated in Core Strategy 2006-2027 for 5,700. However due to one of the strategic parcels (Patchway Trading Estate) now not being redeveloped for housing, capacity of the existing CPNN allocation will be lower than this figure with some c4,700 dwellings being delivered across three parcels; Filton Airfield, Fishpool Hill and Haw Wood.

Filton Airfield PT14/3867/O up to 2,675 dwellings

There is outline planning consent at the former Filton airfield, which lies north of the boundary between Bristol City and South Gloucestershire, for a mixed-use development including up to 2,675 new dwellings.

The section 106 agreement and CPNN IDP includes 10.294Ha of outdoor sports facilities including 7.65 of dual use facilities in a new secondary school and 2.04Ha of dual use facilities in primary schools. The distribution of these outdoor sport facilities is indicated on the Approved Landscape Parameter Plan and the detail will be determined through Reserved Matters applications. S106 includes Outdoor Sport Facilities off site contributions of £1,534,788.

The first phases are under construction with around 120 homes occupied at April 2023. Consent has been granted for Brabazon Park which will include pétanque and outdoor table tennis.

In April 2022 YTL submitted application P22/02113/O which is under consideration. This proposes increase in dwelling numbers to 6,500, student accommodation, dual use sports in new primary and secondary schools and some outdoor sport in public open space. Details of pitch sports are to be determined and are likely to include dual use pitches in school settings.

Fishpool Hill PT12/1930/O up to 1,100 dwellings

Outline consent for up to 1,100 dwellings plus a primary school with playing fields and an off-site contribution towards outdoor sport. Under construction. No dwelling completions yet.

The section 106 agreement includes:

- ▶ 20,500sqm of outdoor sports facilities on site, with associated changing facility and approved Concept Plan shows an outdoor changing facility adjacent to the playing fields.
- ▶ A financial contribution is to be made of £387,809.00 towards off-site outdoor sport.

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- ◀ POS provision and maintenance figure quoted is at 2012/2013 rates.
- ◀ The applicant shall provide a primary school site to incorporate 6,300 sqm of dual use outdoor sports at nil cost; provision through Per Unit Contribution towards capital cost.

Haw Wood PT14/0565/O up to 1,000 dwellings

Outline consent for up to 1,000 dwellings plus a primary school with playing fields and on site sporting facilities. Under construction, fewer than 20 dwelling completions.

The section 106 agreement includes outdoor sport provision on-site:

- ◀ Bristol Saracens RFC training pitch being replaced with new full size rugby pitch to be available for Saracens RFC for training and the local community at other times
- ◀ Dual use pitch in primary school

East of Harry Stoke PT16/4782/O and PT16/4928/O 2,000 dwellings

East of Harry Stoke new neighbourhood is allocated in the Local Plan Core Strategy for 2,000 dwellings. Two outline planning consents PT16/4782/O Land South of the Railway and PT16/4928/O Land North of the Railway cover most of these dwellings and supporting infrastructure.

The signed section 106 agreement for land South of the Railway includes 50,354sq.m. of outdoor sports facilities. The approved Landscape Open Space provision plan indicates 2 adult grass football pitches, 3 youth grass football pitches, 1 AGP, 1 MUGA, tennis courts and netball courts and other play and recreational facilities; to be located close to a community hub building including social space and sport changing facilities. The details will be the subject of a reserved matters application.

The signed section 106 agreement for land North of the Railway includes a MUGA in the POS and a contribution of £703,373.89 towards provision and/or enhancement and maintenance of outdoor sports facilities.

Other sport developments

In addition to sport facilities delivered on-site or enhanced through S106 to support housing growth other major outdoor sports developments in the district in the last decade include:

- ◀ Shaftesbury Park, Frenchay: completed in 2018 Shaftesbury Park was built to relocate The Dings RFC from their home ground in Lockleaze, Bristol. Sport facilities include a full-size World Rugby compliant 3G pitch, a full-size grass pitch, a floodlit training pitch, 8 changing rooms, Sports hall, and S&C gym.
- ◀ Lockleaze Sport Centre, Lockleaze: completed in 2018. The facilities include a full size World Rugby compliant 3G pitch and full-sized 4G football pitch both with sports lighting, 4G MUGA and several grass pitches.
- ◀ Hillside Gardens University of the West of England (UWE): opened in 2019 facilities include two FA/FIFA approved 3G pitches with sports lighting, one of which is World Rugby compliant, plus artificial surface warm-up area, grass football pitches and training grids, changing rooms.
- ◀ Oaklands, Almondsbury: Home ground to North Bristol RFC, a full-size World Rugby compliant 3G pitch was installed in 2018 and is managed by Gloucestershire RFU
- ◀ Winterbourne Academy, Winterbourne: Facilities include a full-size World Rugby compliant 3G pitch which was resurfaced/installed in 2022.
- ◀ South Gloucestershire Stroud (WISE), Filton: facilities include a full size 3G rugby pitch installed in 2013.
- ◀ Page Park, Staple Hill: has one senior grass football pitch, two 9v9 grass football pitches, one cricket pitch, floodlit tennis courts with pavilion, a bowling green with a

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pavilion. The Tennis Pavilion was refurbished, and a new timber toddler / junior play area provided in 2019. The tennis courts are currently subject to an LTA (Lawns Tennis Association) proposal to refurbish and install keypad gated access and pay to play booking system.

Applying Sport England calculators to a theoretical development of 2,000 dwellings

The estimated population derived from 2,000 dwellings is 4,800 (based on 2.4ppd). This population equates to 7.39 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.38 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on artificial grass pitch for hockey and 32.99 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 13.09 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 1.11 hours of use per week on artificial grass pitches. There are also 0.98 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby union on a grass pitch with sports lighting.

Table 7.2: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 2,000 forecasted dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport	
	Match demand (MES) per week ³²	Training demand ³³
Adult football	1.95	13.09 hours
Youth football	2.82	
Mini soccer	1.77	
Rugby union	0.85	0.98
Adult hockey	0.31	0.92 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.07	0.19 hours
Cricket	32.99	-

Table 7.3 translates estimated demand into pitch provision with associated capital and lifecycle costs. The PPC estimates the total capital cost for anticipated growth across all pitch types to be £1,350,300 which would require an annual lifecycle cost of £203,724.

Table 7.4 shows the calculator estimates that there will be a need for 11.54 changing rooms to support the new pitch provision identified in the table above. The total capital cost to deliver this level of provision is estimated to be £2,243,368.

Table 7.3: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new provision				
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ³⁴	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ³⁵	Changing rooms (numbers)	Changing rooms (capital cost)
Adult football	1.95	£211,391	£44,604	3.91	£760,003
Youth football	2.82	£247,326	£51,938	3.64	£707,036
Mini soccer	1.77	£54,576	£11,461	0	£0
Rugby union	0.85	£139,366	£29,824	1.69	£328,817
Cricket	0.73	£247,905	£50,077	1.46	£283,588
Sand based artificial grass pitches	0.08	£68,270	£2,116	0.15	£29,967
Third generation artificial grass pitches	0.34	£381,465	£13,703	0.69	£133,956

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Tennis

Tennis does not currently feature within the PPC (but does through the SGC POS method). As an addition aid to support conversations around the need for new tennis provision as part of new development, The LTA has utilised its own Periscope data alongside its internal insight and understanding of population growth to determine the following for additional tennis provision at each of the locations below.

Each of these sites should adopt a similar operational model as park facilities, i.e., Gate access, priority public access and online booking. The facility needs, as established by the LTA is as follows:

- ♦ Filton Airfield – a new 6 court park facility of which 3 courts would be floodlit.
- ♦ Lyde Green – 5 park courts of which 2 would be floodlit
- ♦ North Yate – a new 2 court park facility.
- ♦ East of Harry Stoke/Harry Stoke - a new 6 court park facility of which 3 courts would be floodlit.

Table 7.4: Estimated need for new tennis provision at key housing growth sites

Area	Population (10 min Drive)	New population with housing	New Population Total	Demand (20% of population)	Predicted Unique Players (8% of demand)	Number of unique users per park court in UK (250)
Filton	89,237	6420	95,567	19,131	1530	6 Courts
Lyde Green	70,475	6120	76,595	15,319	1225	5 Courts
Yate	31,260	5880	37,140	7,428	594	2 Courts
Harry Stoke	87,789	7680	95,469	19,093	1528	6 Courts

Conclusion

Demand for outdoor sport from new housing growth will be generated in proportion to the population for each development. Over the last two decades the Council has secured outdoor sport provision through S106, to be delivered on site, as enhancements to existing facilities off-site or a combination of the two. The 2018 Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan has been used as evidence alongside the Council's usual approach and POS database in negotiations with major housebuilders to achieve better outcomes in terms of outdoor sport and recreation.

The updated PPS Needs Assessment indicates there is little spare capacity in outdoor sport provision in the district, and in some cases facilities for specific sports are lacking or in urgent need of replacement or upgrade, thereby limiting the potential of existing facilities to meet additional demand for participation in outdoor sports in the district. It is important therefore that the Council continues to seek provision and enhancement of outdoor sport facilities for future housing growth.

Experience shows that only significantly large housing developments are likely to generate demand for new pitch provision on site. Where new pitches are required, consideration should be given to providing multi-pitch sites with suitable ancillary provision, including clubhouse and changing facilities and car parking. Single pitch sites provided by developers are not considered to offer long-term sustainability and it is difficult to attract an operator to run them. Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, contributions should be used to enhance existing provision in the locality through improving quality or providing new or improved ancillary provision. In practice, requirements will be staggered as developments come forward with existing provision able to meet some needs and contributions being directed towards improvements rather than entirely new provision. Developments will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The new Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan, as well as future consultation with National Governing Bodies for sports, should be used to inform decisions about whether on site provision, or allocation of S106 funding to existing sites will achieve the best outcome to increase access to outdoor sport for people.

Part 8: Deliver the Strategy and Keep It Robust and Up To Date

Delivery

The PPS provides guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across South Gloucestershire. By addressing issues identified in the Assessment Report and using the strategic framework presented in this Strategy, the current and future sporting and recreational needs of the District can be met. The Strategy identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and identifies how best to resolve this in the future.

Production of this Strategy is the start of the planning process. Successful Strategy implementation and the benefits to be gained depend upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a mutually bought into, strategic approach. It is important that this document is used in a practical manner, supports engagement with partners and encourages partnerships to be developed, to ensure that outdoor sports facilities are regarded as a vital aspect of community life and which contribute to the achievement of District Council priorities.

Each member of the Steering Group should take the lead to ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence. The role of the Steering Group should not end with the completion of the PPS document.

To help ensure that the PPS is well used it should be regarded as the key document within the study area guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch and outdoor sport provision. It needs to be the document to which people and agencies regularly turn to for information in respect of how current demand should be met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. To ensure that this is achieved the Steering Group needs to have a clear understanding of how the PPS can be applied and therefore delivered.

The process of PPS development has already led to several benefits that assist its application and delivery. These include enhanced partnership work across different agendas and organisations, pooling of resources along with strengthened relationships and understanding between stakeholders, members of the Steering Group and the sporting community. The drivers behind the PPS and the work to develop the recommendations and Action Plan will have also highlighted, and helped the Steering Group to understand, the key areas to which its influence should be applied and strategy delivered.

Following sign off of the PPS, a short-term Action Plan should be prepared by the Council, in consultation with relevant partners, in order to distil the existing Action Plan and to give the Steering Group a short-term focus. This would then need to be revised through regular meetings.

Monitoring and updating

It is important that there is regular annual monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. This should be led by the Council and supported by all members of, and reported back to, the Steering Group. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPS has been applied should be a key component of monitoring its delivery and be an on-going role of the Steering Group.

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The Steering Group that takes the PPS forward should be a sub-regional group made up of representatives from the Council as well as other partners such as the National Governing Bodies of Sport. This offers benefits in terms of joint working on strategic and cross-boundary issues and will also be more efficient in terms of administration when compared to each authority having its own individual Steering Group.

KKP will provide the tools used to produce the PPS to the Council as well as training on how to use such tools, such as the Playing Pitch Database used to hold all information gathered. This will enable the monitoring and updating process to be carried out.

As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the steering group, Sport England and the National Governing Bodies will consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date.

The nature of the supply and in particular the demand for outdoor sports facilities will likely to have changed over the three years. Therefore, without any form of review and update within this time period it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.

Ideally the PPS should be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the Steering Group. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment built up during its development. Taking into account the time to develop the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed.

An annual review should not be regarded as a particular resource intensive task. However, it should highlight:

- ✦ How delivery of the recommendations and action plan has progressed and any changes required to the priority afforded to each action (e.g. the priority of some may increase or reduce following the delivery of others)
- ✦ How the PPS has been applied and the lessons learnt
- ✦ Any changes to particularly important sites and/or clubs in the area (e.g. the most used or high quality sites for a particular sport) and other supply and demand information, what this may mean for the overall assessment work and the key findings and issues
- ✦ Any development of a specific sport or particular format of a sport
- ✦ Any new or emerging issues and opportunities.

Once the PPS is complete, the role of the Steering Group should evolve so that it:

- ✦ Acts as a focal point for promoting the value and importance of the PPS and outdoor sports provision in the area
- ✦ Monitors, evaluates and reviews progress with the delivery of the recommendations and action plan
- ✦ Shares lessons learnt from how the PPS has been used and how it has been applied to a variety of circumstances
- ✦ Ensures that the PPS is used effectively to input into any new opportunities to secure improved provision and influence relevant programmes and initiatives
- ✦ Maintains links between relevant parties with an interest in local outdoor sports provision;
- ✦ Reviews the need to update the PPS along with the supply and demand information and assessment work on which it is based. Further to review the group should either:
 - ✦ Provide a short annual progress and update paper;
 - ✦ Provide a partial review focussing on particular sport, pitch type and/or sub area; or
 - ✦ Lead a full review and update of the PPS document (including the supply and demand information and assessment details).

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- ◀ Consider how provision for sport be made in new development, where onsite provision is required and how developer contributions are used.

Alongside regular Steering Group meetings, a good way to keep the PPS up to date and maintain relationships is to hold annual sport specific meetings with pitch sport National Governing Bodies and other relevant parties. These could be part of a process of updating key supply and demand information plus, if necessary, amending assessment work, tracking progress in respect of implementing action plan recommendations and highlighting new issues and opportunities.

Meetings could be timed to coincide with annual National Governing Body affiliation processes. This would help to signal changes in the number and nature of sports clubs in the area. Other information that is already collected on a regular basis such as pitch booking records for local authority and other sites should also feed into these meetings.

National Governing Bodies will also be able to confirm any further performance quality assessments undertaken within the study area. Discussion with league secretaries may also indicate annual league meetings may be useful to attend to pick up on specific issues and/or enable a review of the relevant club details to be undertaken.

The Steering Group should regularly review and refresh area by area plans taking account of any improvements in pitch quality (and hence increases in pitch capacity) and also any new negotiations for community use of education sites in the future.

It is important that the Council maintains the data contained with the accompanying Playing Pitch Database. This will enable it to refresh and update area by area plans on a regular basis. The accompanying databases are intended to be refreshed on a season by season basis and it is important that there is cross-departmental work encompassing, for example, grounds maintenance and sports development departments, to ensure that this is achieved and that results inform subsequent annual sports facility development plans. Results should be shared with partners via a consultative mechanism.

South Gloucestershire Local Football Facility Plan

The findings of and any subsequent changes to the PPS should align with the Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) for South Gloucestershire, which will also serve as a live document requiring concurrent management by the Football Foundation in partnership with County FAs and the local authority.

The position for formal and affiliated football provision determined and updated through the PPS should form the basis for investment into formalised football provision echoed through the LFFP, which will further explore opportunities for investment into informal, recreational, small sided and indoor football as an extension of the PPS findings, the result being a wholistic plan for partnership investment into football facilities in South Gloucestershire over the next decade. The PPS and LFFP should demonstrate synergy and should inform each other.


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Checklist

To help ensure the Playing Pitch Strategy is delivered and is kept robust and up to date, the steering group can refer to the new methodology Stage E Checklist: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date:

<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport>

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date	Tick 	
	Yes	Requires Attention
Step 9: Apply & deliver the strategy		
1. Are steering group members clear on how the PPS can be applied across a range of relevant areas?		
2. Is each member of the steering group committed to taking the lead to help ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence?		
3. Has a process been put in place to ensure regular monitoring of how the recommendations and action plan are being delivered and the PPS is being applied?		
Step 10: Keep the strategy robust & up to date		
1. Has a process been put in place to ensure the PPS is kept robust and up to date?		
2. Does the process involve an annual update of the PPS?		
3. Is the steering group to be maintained and is it clear of its on-going role?		
4. Is regular liaison with the National Governing Bodies and other parties planned?		
5. Has all the supply and demand information been collated and presented in a format (i.e. single document that can be filtered accordingly) that will help people to review it and highlight any changes?		
6. Have any changes made to the Active Places Power data been fed back to Sport England?		

Appendix One: Tailored Approach for PPS Update

South Gloucestershire Council has set a commitment to update its PPS (2023) in 2024. It has yet to be determined if it will deliver this update in house, or, via an external consultancy (i.e., KKP). It is expected that this process will begin winter 2024 to coincide with the peak of the football, rugby union and hockey season. Remaining sports (typically played in the summer) included within the scope of work will have recently ended and thus, a complete data set will be available to support any update to the PPS documents.

What?	Who?	When?
<p>1. Internal Steering Group Meeting</p> <p>Meeting between council officers internal Steering Group members to discuss and log key changes in provision, covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ New pitch provision ▶ Pitch improvements ▶ Pitch re-configuration ▶ Pitch loss/threat ▶ Community access agreements (e.g., education/private sites) ▶ Plans for future provision <p>The outcomes from the meeting and updates to documents should be recorded.</p>	<p>South Gloucestershire Council</p>	<p>Bi-Annually</p>
<p>2. Sport England and NGB Update Meetings (Steering Group)</p> <p>The Council to hold series of update meetings with individual sports NGBs to discuss and log:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Any changes in club and team details ▶ Any changes in sport format ▶ Any site-specific updates ▶ Changes to supply and demand data ▶ The application and use of the PPS e.g., in delivery of new or improved provision, funding opportunities, programmes and initiatives ▶ Any new issues and opportunities. 	<p>South Gloucestershire Council NGBs Sport England</p>	<p>Annually for each sport, to fit with affiliation process (generally October for winter sports and June for summer sports)</p>

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What?	Who?	When?
<p>3. Prepare Annual Monitoring Report</p> <p>Based on the outcome of actions above, a short Annual Monitoring Report should be produced highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The delivery of PPS recommendations and any changes in priority; ▶ Changes to particularly important sites and/or clubs in the area and other supply and demand information with implications for PPS's key findings; ▶ Details of any developments of a specific sport or particular format; ▶ Details of any new or emerging issues and opportunities; ▶ Any issues with the application of the PPS and lessons learnt; ▶ Actions needed to keep the PPS 'live' and up to date. <p>Based on the above, the Annual Monitoring Report will also consider if a partial or full update of the PPS is required.</p>	PPS Steering Group	Annually
<p>4. Circulation and Agreement</p> <p>Circulate the Annual Monitoring Report or updated PPS document to the Steering Group for comment and agreement with opportunity to hold a further meeting to discuss findings and issues.</p>	PPS Steering Group	Annually
<p>5. Publish Paper</p> <p>Append Annual Monitoring Report to the Strategy documents and make it available online; report any significant findings to appropriate committee if considered necessary. Report if changes are so significant that a full review of the PPS is required.</p>	South Gloucestershire Council	Annually – following completion of all the above

Appendix Two: The Grange School

Grange School closed in October 2016. It sits geographically within the Bristol East Analysis Area used within the South Gloucestershire Playing Pitch Strategy. Sports provision at the School is not included within the PPS as available supply given the site closed in 2016 and became inaccessible to community user groups.

The PPS, however, recognises the facility mix of provision which was previously available at the site when it was operational. It consisted of two separate sections of natural turf playing field and one artificial grass pitch. The site also has hard courts for netball (x6) and tennis and as well as a sports hall facility.

The northern area of playing field is being promoted to be lost for development by a scheme led by South Gloucestershire District Council. The area impacted is estimated to be 3.4 hectares in size and includes the full extent of natural turf playing field at the site. The northern playing field typically accommodated for football and rugby union and can accommodate up to two adult (11v11) and one youth 11v11 pitch football pitches or up to two senior rugby union pitches.

The PPS has drawn conclusions on the supply and demand position for grass pitch sports in South Gloucestershire both currently and up to 2038. The conclusions shown in the following table are based on information pertaining to the Bristol East Analysis Area where the site is located.

This scenario examines the role that supply of such playing field at the site could theoretically provide in relation to the findings of the PPS. This baseline demonstrates if retaining or mitigating provision at the site (in line with the appropriate policies) is required.

Table 1: Bristol East supply vs demand position

Sport	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Adult	Shortfall of 19.5	Shortfall of 23.5
	Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 3.5	Shortfall of 1.5
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 9.5	Shortfall of 12
	Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 12	Shortfall of 14.5
	Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 3
Football (3G pitches)	11v11 with sports lighting	Shortfall of 4.5 full size pitches	Shortfall of 4.5 full size pitches
Cricket	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12	Shortfall of 24
	Sunday	Spare capacity of 70	Spare capacity of 70
	Midweek	Spare capacity of 90	Spare capacity of 78
Rugby union	Senior	Shortfall of 8	Shortfall of 10.5
Rugby League	Senior	No shortfall locally.	No shortfall locally.

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Sport	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Hockey ²² (sand AGPs)	Full size, floodlit	<p>Shortfall of 3 MES and training slots for both Bristol & West HC (1.5 MES) and Wick HC (1.5 MES & training at peak time) which should be considered if they were to return to South Gloucestershire.</p> <p>Hockey clubs continue to use pitches of poor rating across multiple sites due to lack of quality provision in the area. Further investment required to provide improved facilities and long-term security for hockey clubs.</p> <p>The position of hockey could also be considered on a district wide basis because of how the sport is played and on how far participants are prepared to travel to access provision. The wider district position is a shortfall based on available provision at peak time and poor quality at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Abbey Wood Community School ◀ Bradley Stoke Community School ◀ Hanham Woods Academy School ◀ Mangotsfield School (due for resurface July 2024) ◀ The Castle School <p>Shortfalls relate to both midweek training opportunities and for match play activity.</p>	Shortfall will remain and be exacerbated unless targeted investment is provided to improve the quality and availability of provision at several sites and/or new provision is provided.

Bristol East overview

Based on the above table, the following conclusions can be drawn. There are current match equivalent session shortfalls on:

- ◀ Adult, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 football pitches
- ◀ Senior rugby union pitches
- ◀ 11v11 3G pitches (for football training demand)
- ◀ Hockey artificial grass pitches

Future shortfalls (based on population increases through to 2038) appear on:

- ◀ Senior cricket pitches (natural turf squares)
- ◀ Youth 11v11 football pitches

²² The position for hockey has been provided by England Hockey and provides an updated position on the initial PPS findings.

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Further to this, all current shortfalls are expected to be exacerbated.

As there are identified shortfalls for several pitch sports within Bristol East Analysis Area, the playing field (and artificial pitch) could theoretically play a role in accommodating for pitch sports which have a shortfall (as identified above). Notwithstanding the required investment, if brought back into community use, this would have a positive impact upon the current supply and demand balance for pitch sports.

The information below shows how the existing northern playing field on the site could benefit the shortfalls which exist within the local catchment area.

Football

If three football pitches were reinstated to a standard quality this would create potential spare capacity of six match equivalent sessions per week (three match equivalent sessions in the peak period). This newly generated capacity would reduce the identified current shortfalls.

Rugby union

Kingswood RFC is located a one-mile distance away from The Grange School and has a weekly site shortfall of 1.75 match equivalent sessions. There are also wider shortfalls for rugby union within Bristol East geographical catchment originating from Cleve RFC which is situated 2.7 miles away from the site. One to two senior pitches on this site (particularly with sports lighting) would alleviate all shortfalls at Kingswood RFC and reduce pressures at Cleve RFC.

It is known that Kingswood RFC has an established club facility development plan which could provide an opportunity for relevant stakeholders to consider as part of any mitigation discussions.

3G pitches

Although there are significant shortfalls in the Area, the site has never accommodated a 3G pitch so there is no provision to reinstate. The Sport England position on 3G pitches is that if they are provided in place of grass pitches, they are equated for on a like for like basis i.e. one adult football pitch is one 11v11 3G pitch.

Artificial grass pitches (hockey suitable)

The PPS highlights concern about the quality of existing hockey-suitable artificial grass pitches in the Bristol East Analysis Area and the wider District.

A key issue identified is that all hockey facilities in the District are located on educational sites, leaving clubs without security of tenure or input into decisions regarding sports provision. This has been problematic, as evidenced by the conversion of the hockey AGP at Winterbourne Academy into a 3G football surface in 2022, which displaced a club.

Since the PPS was written, the landscape for hockey has evolved. Wick HC, which has been training and playing matches in Bristol due to a lack of suitable local facilities in South Gloucestershire, is set to lose its training pitch to a 3G conversion at Bristol Metropolitan Academy. The Club is currently seeking new training facilities within the Bristol and South Gloucestershire area.

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England Hockey also reports growth in club participation in South Gloucestershire, despite ongoing facility issues, further emphasizing the need to improve the infrastructure for hockey. The additional demand from Wick HC and the growth of existing clubs exacerbates the shortfall of hockey facilities in South Gloucestershire.

If a new surface were provided at The Grange, it would offer a dedicated home for both hockey and football activity, independent of an educational management model which will serve to safeguarding hockey in South Gloucestershire.

Cricket

The site has never been known to accommodate for cricket in the past, but the playing field dimensions is large enough to accommodate a natural turf square for senior cricket and there are shortfalls in the area. However, there would be challenges in using the site for cricket due to it not being serviced by direct ancillary facilities which are typically required for competitive leagues. On this basis, providing off-site contributions to established clubs (for provisions such as non-turf or hybrid wickets) or providing opportunities for recreational cricket in the locality could be welcomed.

Sport England's Playing Field Policy

To help protect the spaces where people get active, local planning authorities are required by planning law to consult Sport England on planning applications they receive which affect playing fields. Sport England's Playing Field Policy helps it to assess and respond to these applications as a Statutory Consultee. Sport England also provides publicly available guidance alongside its Playing Fields Policy to give clarity and advice to external parties on how we make individual assessments.

On any application it will object to the development unless one of the following five exceptions is met:

- ◀ **Exception 1 (E1): Excess of provision**
 - ◀ A robust and up-to-date assessment has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of Sport England, that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, which will remain the case should the development be permitted, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.
- ◀ **Exception 2 (E2): Ancillary development**
 - ◀ The proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field and does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.
- ◀ **Exception 3 (E3): Land incapable of forming part of a pitch**
 - ◀ The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:
 - ◀ reduce the size of any playing pitch;
 - ◀ result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas);
 - ◀ reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain their quality;
 - ◀ result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site; or
 - ◀ prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site.

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- ◀ **Exception 4 (E4): Replacement provision of equivalent or better quality and quantity**
 - ◀ The area of playing field to be lost as a result of the proposed development will be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new area of playing field:
 - ◀ of equivalent or better quality, and
 - ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity, and
 - ◀ in a suitable location, and
 - ◀ subject to equivalent or better accessibility and management arrangements.
- ◀ **Exception 5 (E5): New sports provision benefit outweighs the loss of the playing field.**
 - ◀ The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice to the use, of the area of playing field.

The full explanation of each exception is available via the link below:

[Link to Sport England Playing Fields Policy](#)

The table below examines how the PPS can be applied to Sport England Playing Field Policy in relation to The Grange School:

Table 2: Sport England Policy Exceptions

SE policy exception	Application to The Grange School
E1 – Excess of provision	The PPS does not show an excess of provision. This is the case on a District-wide basis and in Bristol East. On this basis, E1 cannot be met.
E2 – Ancillary development	The proposal is not for the development of an ancillary project onto playing field. On this basis, E2 cannot be met.
E3 - Land incapable of forming a pitch	The proposal results in playing field which can accommodate several pitches being lost. On this basis, E3 cannot be met.
E4 – Replacement of provision of equivalent or better quality and quantity	As deficiencies are identified locally there is a need to address shortfalls via this exception. Exception E4 is the only exception which can be met.
E5 – New sports provision benefit outweighs the loss of playing field	The proposal is not for sports facilities and therefore this exception is not applicable.

Conclusion

Given that the land remains undeveloped it still has the potential to be brought back into an active use for sport and the potential to meet the community's needs for playing field use. The Grange School site therefore has a value as a resource for sport and recreation that would provide a benefit in reducing the current and therefore future shortfalls identified for natural turf playing field and artificial grass pitches in South Gloucestershire.

As the northern playing field and artificial grass pitch is being promoted to be lost as part of the development it is important to assess the loss of playing field (including the artificial grass pitch) against Sport England Playing Field Policy and NPPF.

Retention of the existing sporting provision will be beneficial (if adequately invested in to bring back into use) but if unrealistic then mitigation should be forthcoming to meet Sport England Playing Field Policy Exception E4 and NPPF Paragraph 103.

In the first instance, providing new provision on a like for like basis, prior to the land being lost, should be the priority. If this is not achievable due to a lack of land availability, then the PPS Steering Group should adopt a focus of establishing the appropriate route of mitigation through Stage E of the PPS process.

Appendix Three: Sporting Context

The following section outlines a series of national, regional and local policies pertaining to the study and which will have an important influence on the Strategy.

National context

The provision of high quality and accessible community outdoor sports facilities at a local level is a key requirement for achieving the targets set out by the Government and Sport England. It is vital that this strategy is cognisant of and works towards these targets in addition to local priorities and plans.

Department of Media Culture and Sport Get Active: A Strategy for the Future of Sport and Physical Activity (2023)

The Government published its new strategy for sport in August 2023. The 2015 government sport strategy, Sporting Future: A New Strategy for a More Active Nation, was a fundamental re-framing of sport and physical activity in the UK. It set out five outcomes delivered by sport and physical activity:

- ◀ Physical wellbeing
- ◀ Mental wellbeing
- ◀ Individual development
- ◀ Social and community development
- ◀ Sustainable economic development

This new strategy builds on the foundations of Sporting Future and retains these five outcomes at its core. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of three core priorities, with seven indicators to achieve these priorities as follows:

- ◀ **Being unapologetically ambitious in making the nation more active**
 - ◀ Ensuring everyone is focused on increasing physical activity, meaning fewer inactive children, and narrowing the gap on inactivity where groups are not being reached, with visible progress across the country by 2030
 - ◀ Focusing on evidence, data and metrics
 - ◀ Setting the future direction for facilities and spaces where people can be active
- ◀ **Making sport and physical activity more inclusive and welcoming for all that everyone can have confidence that there is a place for them in sport**
 - ◀ Helping the sector to be welcoming to all
 - ◀ Improving how issues and concerns are dealt within the sector
- ◀ **Moving towards a more sustainable sector that is more financially resilient and robust**
 - ◀ Supporting the sector to access additional, alternative forms of investment
 - ◀ Working towards a more environmentally sustainable sector

Delivering against these priorities will help create a more active nation and a more sustainable sport sector. These aims are complementary; greater participation, stronger governance and confidence in the sector will help to drive investment, which in turn helps to attract new audiences. The vision is to make sport and physical activity accessible, resilient, fun and fair, for now and the years to come – for the benefit of individuals and the country.

Sport England Uniting the Movement: Our 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport (2021-2031)

Sport and physical activity makes people happier and healthier, and movement is the lens through which we can make that happen. It does the same thing for our communities, with life-changing, sustainable benefits that have huge economic and social value. That's why Sport England wants sport and physical activity to be recognised as essential to help overcome these national challenges.

The Strategy recognises the need to invest in sport and physical activity through NGBs, other sports bodies and local sports clubs, organisations and community groups to increase engagement for different groups as part of our core purpose. It states that there is now a need to go further in promoting movement in general as the means to unlock sport and activity for some people.

Tackling inequalities

There are deep-rooted inequalities in sport and physical activity, which means that there are people who feel excluded from being active because the right options and opportunities aren't there. These inequalities are at the very core of the Uniting the Movement.

Sport England plans on having a laser focus on tackling inequalities in all that it does, because providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity is vitally important.

National Planning Policy Framework (updated 2023)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out planning policies for England. It details how these changes are expected to be applied to the planning system. It also provides a framework for local people and their councils to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

The NPPF states the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

The 'promoting healthy communities' theme identifies that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◀ An assessment has been undertaken, which has clearly shown that the open space, buildings or land is surplus to requirements.
- ◀ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.
- ◀ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

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In order for planning policies to be ‘sound’ local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities.

The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

The Football Association’s (FA) National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a ten-year period.

The Strategy sets out shared aims and objectives it aims to deliver on in conjunction with The Premier League, Sport England and the Government, to be delivered with support of the Football Foundation.

These stakeholders have clearly identified the aspirations for football to contribute directly to nationally important social and health priorities. Alongside this, the strategy is clear that traditional, affiliated football remains an important priority and a core component of the game, whilst recognising and supporting the more informal environments used for the community and recreational game.

Its vision is: *“Within 10 years we aim to deliver great football facilities, wherever they are needed”*

£1.3 billion has been spent by football and Government since 2000 to enhance existing football facilities and build new ones. However, more is needed if football and Government’s shared objectives for participation, individual well-being and community cohesion are to be achieved. Nationally, direct investment will be increased – initially to £69 million per annum from football and Government (a 15% increase on recent years).

The NFFS investment priorities can be broadly grouped into six areas, recognising the need to grow the game, support existing players and better understand the different football environments:

- ◀ **Improve 20,000 Natural Turf pitches**, with a focus on addressing drop off due to a poor playing experience;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 3G AGP ‘equivalents’** (mix of full size and small sided provision, including MUGAs - small sided facilities are likely to have a key role in smaller / rural communities and encouraging multi-sport offers), enhancing the quality of playing experience and supporting a sustainable approach to grass roots provision;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 changing pavilions/clubhouses**, linked to multi-pitch or hub sites, supporting growth (particularly in women and girls football), sustainability and providing a facility infrastructure to underpin investment in coaching, officials and football development;
- ◀ **Support access to flexible indoor spaces**, including equipment and court markings, to support growth in futsal, walking football and to support the education and skills outcomes, exploiting opportunities for football to positively impact on personal and social outcomes for young people in particular;
- ◀ **Refurbish existing stock to maintain current provision**, recognising the need to address historic under-investment and issues with refurbishment of existing facilities;
- ◀ **Support testing of technology and innovation**, building on customer insight to deliver hubs for innovation, testing and development of the game.

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Local Football Facility Plans

To support in delivery of the NFFS, The FA has commissioned a national project. Over the next two years to 2020, a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) will be produced for every local authority across England. Each plan will be unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation, including currently underrepresented communities.

Identifying strategic priorities for football facilities across the formal, recreational and informal game, LFFPs will establish a ten-year vision for football facilities that aims to transform the playing pitch stock in a sustainable way. They will identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. As such, around 90% of all will be identified via LFFPs. LFFPs will guide the allocation of 90% of national football investment (The FA, Premier League and DCMS) and forge stronger partnerships with local stakeholders to develop key sites. This, together with local match-funding will deliver over one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next 10-years.

It is important to recognise that a LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment - it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Therefore, it cannot be used as a replacement for a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and it will not be accepted as an evidence base for site change of use or disposal.

A LFFP will; however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans and may adopt relevant actions from a PPS and/or complement these with additional investment priorities.

The FA: Survive. Revive. Thrive. (2020-24)

This new strategy aims to ensure the grassroots game in England will survive, revive, and thrive over the next four years.

The strategy outlines seven transformational objectives through to 2024:

- ◀ **Male Participation:** Modernised opportunities to retain and re-engage millions of male participants in the game.
- ◀ **Female Participation:** A sustainable model based on a world-class, modernised offer.
- ◀ **Club Network:** A vibrant national club network that delivers inclusive, safe local grassroots football and meets community needs.
- ◀ **Facilities:** Enhanced access to good quality pitches across grassroots football.
- ◀ **Grassroots Workforce:** A transformation in community football by inspiring, supporting and retaining volunteers in the game.
- ◀ **Digital Products and Services:** An efficient grassroots digital ecosystem to serve the administrative and development needs of players, parents, and the workforce.
- ◀ **Positive Environment:** A game that's representative of our diverse footballing communities, played in a safe and inclusive environment.

This strategy was launched as grassroots football was able to safely return after lockdown from Monday 29 March, it also identifies the immediate challenge, in light of COVID-19, to get grassroots football back on its feet.

The new strategy sets out a number of goals to revive the game by addressing the areas that require particular attention. This includes increasing opportunities to ensure girls have the same access as boys to football in schools and clubs, and improving quality of pitches, with the aim of seeing 5000 good quality pitches added to the current number by 2024.

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The FA: Time for Change Strategy (2020-24)

The FA launched its new National Game Strategy in January 2021 which aims to 'unite the game and inspire the nation'. It will do this in two ways, by 'changing the game to maximise its impact' and by 'serving the game to deliver football for all'.

To achieve this, the strategy will focus on six Game Changer objectives, to change the fabric of the game and tackle long-term issues, to make the largest possible impact in the years ahead:

- ◀ Win a major tournament
- ◀ Service > two million through a transformed media platform
- ◀ Ensure equal opportunities for every girl
- ◀ Delivery of 5,000 quality pitches
- ◀ A game free of discrimination
- ◀ Maximise the appeal and revenue of the FA cups and BFAWSL

These are underpinned by eight Serve objectives, ensuring maintenance of brilliant business-as-usual services to support the growing and evolving needs of the game:

- ◀ Trusted, progressive regulation and administration
- ◀ Safe and inclusive football pathways and environment
- ◀ Personalised and connected learning experiences
- ◀ Maximum investment into the game
- ◀ Diverse, high-performing workforce and inclusive culture
- ◀ World class venues and events
- ◀ Strong reputation and clear brand identity
- ◀ Technology enabled and insight driven

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Inspiring Generations (2020-2024)

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic plan in 2019. The strategic plan aims to connect communities and improve lives by inspiring people to discover and share their passion for cricket

The plan sets out six important priorities and activities, these are:

- ◀ ***Grow and nurture the core***
 - ◀ Create an infrastructure investment fund for First Class County Clubs (FCCs)
 - ◀ Introduce a new Community Investment Funding for FCCs and County Cricket Boards (CCBs)
 - ◀ Invest in club facilities
 - ◀ Develop the role of National Counties Cricket
 - ◀ Further invest in County Competitions
- ◀ ***Inspire through elite teams***
 - ◀ Increase investment in the county talent pathway
 - ◀ Incentivise the counties to develop England Players
 - ◀ Drive the performance system through technology and innovation
 - ◀ Create heroes and connect them with a new generation of fans
- ◀ ***Make cricket accessible***
 - ◀ Broaden crickets appeal through the New Competition
 - ◀ Create a new digital community for cricket
 - ◀ Install non-traditional playing facilities in urban areas
 - ◀ Continue to deliver South Asian Action Plans

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◀ **Engage children and young people**

- ◀ Double cricket participation in primary schools
- ◀ Deliver a compelling and coordinated recreational playing offer from age five upwards
- ◀ Develop our safeguarding to promote safe spaces for children and young people

◀ **Transform women's and girls' cricket**

- ◀ Grow the base through participation and facilities investment
- ◀ Launch centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure
- ◀ Invest in girls' county age group cricket
- ◀ Deliver a girls' secondary school programme

◀ **Support our communities**

- ◀ Double the number of volunteers in the game
- ◀ Create a game-wide approach to Trust and Foundations through the cricket network
- ◀ Develop a new wave of officials and community coaches
- ◀ Increase participation in disability cricket

The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan (2021)

The RFU has released its new strategic vision, which is to achieve 'a successful and thriving game across England'. The strategy can be found [here](#).

It identifies four 'Game Objectives' and four 'Driving Objectives', to form priority focuses for the strategy. It believes that these objectives will make the greatest substantive improvements to the game and investment will be aligned to these areas.

Game objectives

- ◀ **Enjoyment** – Enable positive player experiences on and off the field.
- ◀ **Winning England** – Create the best possible high-performance system for England Rugby.
- ◀ **Welfare** – Enhance players welfare to protect and support the wellbeing of players.
- ◀ **Flourishing rugby communities** – Support clubs to sustain and grow themselves and to reflect society.

Driving objectives

- ◀ **Diversity & inclusion** – Drive rugby union in England to reflect the diversity of society.
- ◀ **Understand** – Build a deep understanding of players, volunteers and fans to shape the future of the game.
- ◀ **Connect** – Connect with and grow the rugby community and create exceptional experiences.
- ◀ **Commercial & operational excellence** – Ensure a sustainable and efficient business model delivered by an inspired workforce.

A number of aims, identified as key to the achievement of these main objectives, are particularly relevant to facilities. The provision of good quality and suitable rugby union facilities will help to achieve these aims and in turn objectives:

- ◀ **Enjoyment** – Improve accessibility for women and girls across the game.
- ◀ **Enjoyment** – Make the game inclusive and attractive for 14 to 18 year olds.
- ◀ **Flourishing rugby communities** – Provide support to help clubs maximise the benefit from their facilities and assets.

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- ◀ **Diversity & Inclusion** – Improve the diversity of all facets of our game and continue to create an inclusive environment for all.

Rugby Football League Strategic Plan 2015 – 2021

The RFL's most recent strategy aims to establish rugby league as "a growing sport, available throughout the country, that is recognised as providing positive experience for all participants and spectators, in environments that are welcoming, inclusive, vibrant, safe and comfortable - encouraging people to return again and again, featuring:

- ◀ Financially viable and sustainable professional clubs creating stable employment opportunities, showcasing local, national and international playing talent, and leading the sport's development - and making a difference - in their own communities;
- ◀ Welcoming community clubs, putting players first, offering recreational enjoyment for children and adults alike in a safe and inclusive environment;
- ◀ A central organisation that stands out for excellence, innovation, mutual respect, integrity and inclusion that understands its role in servicing the wider sport;
- ◀ A sports that lives its values in all its decisions and actions.

This vision is underpinned by 13 core principles, including:

- ◀ **An integrated whole sport.** Each constituent part of the sport will have a responsibility to ensure the good health of the entire game;
- ◀ **Return on investment.** Investment will be targeted to ensure the sustainability of member clubs, and growth in the number and quality of players thus seeking an effective return for the game;
- ◀ **Financial parameters.** Financial distributions will be undertaken to ensure the whole of the game will move forward together;
- ◀ **Geographic expansion.** Geographic expansion of the sport should be carried out in a proportionate and sustainable manner.

Rugby League World Cup 'Inspired by 2021' Legacy Programme

The Rugby League World Cup 2021 will develop a £10 million legacy programme with funds driven into local clubs and community projects. The government investment, delivered by Sport England, is part of RLWC 2021's ambitious plan to grow the sport and make it more visible, engaging and welcoming to current and potential participants.

The funding will be split into large transformational community projects, such as changing room improvements and new artificial grass pitches with the remaining funding used for smaller scale initiatives such as supplying new kit and equipment to promote club and community development. The investment will focus on the following four key areas:

- ◀ Creating welcoming environments
- ◀ Encouraging participation growth
- ◀ Building community engagement
- ◀ Cultivating further investment

England Hockey Strategy

England Hockey's Facilities Strategy can be found [here](#). Please note that a new Strategy is currently being developed.

Vision: For every hockey club in England to have appropriate and sustainable facilities that provide excellent experiences for players.

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Mission: More, Better, Happier Players with access to appropriate and sustainable facilities

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

1. PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision

- There are currently over 800 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (club, school, universities) across the country. It is important to retain the current provision where appropriate to ensure that hockey is maintained across the country.

2. IMPROVE: To improve the existing facilities stock (physically and administratively)

- The current facilities stock is ageing and there needs to be strategic investment into refurbishing the pitches and ancillary facilities. England Hockey works to provide more support for clubs to obtain better agreements with facilities providers & education around owning an asset.

3. DEVELOP: To strategically build new hockey facilities where there is an identified need and ability to deliver and maintain. This might include consolidating hockey provision in a local area where appropriate.

England Hockey has identified key areas across the country where there is a lack of suitable hockey provision and there is a need for additional pitches, suitable for hockey. There is an identified demand for multi pitches in the right places to consolidate hockey and allow clubs to have all of their provision catered for at one site.

England Netball

In November 2021 England Netball launched a 10-year 'Adventure Strategy' for the game with a new brand identity for the organisation.

England Netball's 'Adventure Strategy' shares a purpose-led ambition for the game, to build on the momentum the sport has seen in recent years and take it to new heights for the decade ahead. The 'Adventure Strategy' outlines the intention to: -

- ◀ accelerate the development and growth of the game at every level, from grassroots to the elite,
- ◀ elevate the visibility of the sport, and
- ◀ lead a movement to impact lives on and beyond the court.

At the heart of its purpose, England Netball, with its proud and unique female foundations, will remain dedicated to increasing opportunities for women and girls to play the game as a priority, working tirelessly to address the gender participation gap in sport that has widened since the global pandemic.

Underpinned by years of engaging with and delivering netball for female communities, the organisation pledges to understand, support and nurture women and girls more deeply at every life stage, at every age.

The organisation is also committed to opening the sport to new audiences in every community, so netball better represents the rich diversity of the country it proudly represents, and ensures the sport continues to evolve and adapt to thrive in the future, helping to create a truly inclusive sport for all where everyone can belong, flourish and soar. A recent partnership announcement with England Men's and Mixed Netball Association (EMMNA) to help develop and grow male participation in the game, supports this commitment as England

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Netball pledges to promote difference and embrace the opportunity to make the sport a possibility within everyone's reach.

Transforming netball for children and young people is a strategic priority to protect the future of the sport. Working with schools and policy makers to extend physical literacy within, and after the school day with a focus on netball specific provision will pave the way for greater community participation. The organisation will accelerate the expansion of its Bee Netball programme for young children, whilst supporting teens and young women to stay in the game to keep them physically active and in the game for life.

Facility Development

The facility development aspirations stated within the Strategy are to:-

- ✦ Take a fresh look at the spaces required to support the sport, creating accessible places in every community to allow netball to be incorporated into how and where women and girls live their lives;
- ✦ Protect, enhance, and extend the network of homes that house the sport at a local and regional level;
- ✦ Develop an elite domestic professional competition that supports full time athletes underpinned by a world class infrastructure and environments.
- ✦ For England Netball to achieve its ambitions to make the game accessible to wider audiences and in every community, it encourages Local Authorities to adopt policies within Playing Pitch Strategies and Built Facilities Strategies that:-
- ✦ Facilitates informal netball activity within neighbourhood multi use games areas for example by installing combined outdoor basketball and netball goals and art courts in Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs).
- ✦ Incorporates the cultural and health needs of women and girls within any designs for improved or new facilities.
- ✦ Protects and enhances netball facilities within all Primary and Secondary School environments so they offer a positive first experience of the sport for students and the wider community during out of school hours.
- ✦ Supports the installation of floodlights on outdoor courts to increase all year-round use.
- ✦ Facilitates the development of netball growth programmes, club training and competition within public leisure centres.
- ✦ Where appropriate, supports the development of netball homes and performance environments that enable local women and girls to pursue a career in netball as an elite athlete, official, coach or administrator.

Tennis in Britain - LTA Strategy

The LTA's vision for 2019 – 2023, Tennis Opened Up includes seven strategies relating to three objectives which are built around its mission 'to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable'.

Objectives

- ✦ Increase the number of fans on our database from [623,602] to [1,000,000] by 2023.
- ✦ More people playing more often;
 - ✦ Increase the number of adults playing tennis each year from [7.7% (4,018,600)] of the population to [8.5% (4,420,460)], and the frequency of adults playing tennis twice a month 2.5% 1,311,800 to 1.9% 1,500,000 by 2023.
 - ✦ The number of children playing tennis once a week from 550,000 to 700,000 (7.9% to 10% of the population) by 2023.
- ✦ Enable 5 new players to break into the top 100 by 2023 and inspire the tennis audience.

Strategies

1. Visibility - Broaden relevance and increase visibility of tennis all year round to build engagement and participation with fans and players.
2. Innovation - Innovate in the delivery of tennis to widen its appeal.
3. Investment - Support community facilities and schools to increase the opportunities to play
4. Accessibility - Make the customer journey to playing tennis easier and more accessible for anyone
5. Engagement - Engage and collaborate with everyone involved in delivering tennis in Britain, particularly coaches and volunteers to attract and maintain more people in the game.
6. Performance - Create a pathway for British champions that nurtures a diverse team of players, people and leaders.
7. Leadership - Lead tennis in Britain to the highest standard so it is a safe, welcoming, well-run sport.

Bowls England: Fit for the Future (2021-2026)

Bowls England's Strategy; 'Fit For The Future' frames an exciting course for the sport. The five-year plan has been designed with the ultimate goal of getting more people playing & enjoying bowls.

It sets out its vision for the sport, how it plans to achieve its objectives and what success looks like in 2026. The priorities that will get it to the target of 1 million bowls experiences per year by 2026 are:

- ◆ Building the brand of bowls by increasing focus on international & top domestic bowls, and utilizing opportunities such as Birmingham 2022 to achieve larger media coverage;
- ◆ Ensuring the sport is truly accessible to all by offering different formats of the game which suit all time constraints, as well as driving more people to clubs in new ways;
- ◆ Creating positive playing experiences for everyone who steps on the green, both for casual and competitive players, as well as growing our events calendar and introducing a Performance Pathway
- ◆ Putting volunteers first, as the lifeblood of our sport, by increasing our support for clubs in order to empower them to thrive;
- ◆ Leading the sport with purpose by developing our Governance structures, diversifying our revenue streams, and work collaboratively with all the sport's key stakeholders.

England Athletics Strategic Plan – Athletics & Running: for everyone, forever – 2017 and beyond

This plan sets out England Athletics' mission, vision and strategic priorities that will direct how they work as an organisation during the coming years: what they do and how they will do it.

Vision: Make athletics and running the most inclusive and popular sport in England, led by a network of progressive clubs and organisations and supported by a sustainable, respected and trusted governing body.

For England Athletics to achieve this vision, they will focus on three values:

- Pride – taking pride in their work and demonstrating to athletes that they recognise the importance of their role in bettering athletics.
- Integrity – demonstrate integrity to earn respect and to build effective partnerships.
- Inclusivity – promote inclusivity in all their actions.

Mission: To grow opportunities for everyone to experience athletics and running, to enable them to reach their full potential.

In order to achieve their mission, England Athletics will have three strategic priorities.

1. To expand the capacity of the sport by supporting and developing its volunteers and other workforce. The target is to achieve a 6% increase every year of licensed leaders, coaches and officials.
2. To sustain and increase participation and performance levels in our sport. To achieve this, England Athletics' current targets are to increase the number of club registered athletes from (149,000 to 172,000), engage 135,000 people through the RunTogether programme and to increase athlete performance levels across all events and disciplines by 1% every year.
3. To influence participation in the wider athletics market. Their target here is to increase the number of regular athletes or runners by at least one million.

England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)

The purpose of this document is to set out our long term vision for athletics facilities in England. Facilities form a vital component of the overall England Athletics strategy.

The development, protection and enhancement of facilities will support our strategic plan and help England Athletics contribute to the delivery of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's Sporting Futures: A New Strategy for Sport and Sport England's strategy Towards an Active Nation. Appropriate facilities help to attract and inspire new participants and provide the foundation and focus for a significant proportion of the England Athletics family.

The England Athletics Strategic Plan notes that the sport increasingly needs to become financially sustainable and that a business-like and innovative approach is a vital component of its future success. Facilities are fundamental, but they are also expensive to create and to maintain. The sport therefore faces a significant challenge to develop, improve and maintain facilities, most of which are currently operated and funded by third parties.

This strategy sets out a challenge to all those involved with the delivery of the sport to be innovative and business like in the operation and development of facilities at a time of financial challenge, as it aims "To create an innovative and inspiring network of sustainable athletic facilities, with the capacity to meet both current and future demand across England".