



South Gloucestershire Council

Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

September 2020

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

September 2018

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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**SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH
STRATEGY& ACTION PLAN**

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY& ACTION PLAN

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial grass pitch)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
CC	Cricket Club
CFA	County Football Association
CSP	County Sports Partnership
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
GFA	Gloucestershire Football Association
FC	Football Club
FE	Further Education
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
HE	Higher Education
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
GCB	Gloucestershire Cricket Board
LDF	Local Development Framework
LMS	Last Man Stands
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
PF	Playing Field
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RFC	Rugby Football Club
RLFC	Rugby League Football Club
S106	Section 106
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for South Gloucestershire Council and its partners. Building upon the preceding Assessment Report it provides a strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities up to 2036. The PPS covers the following facilities:

- ◀ Football pitches
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Artificial grass pitches (AGPs – including use for hockey)
- ◀ Rugby union pitches
- ◀ American football pitches
- ◀ Lacrosse pitches

The Strategy is capable of:

- ◀ Providing adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting playing fields, as appropriate, directing open space contributions secured through development and informing and shaping local planning policy.
- ◀ Informing the protection and provision of sports facilities and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and S106 and CIL schedules.
- ◀ Informing land use decisions in respect of future use of existing outdoor sports areas and playing fields (capable of accommodating pitches) across South Gloucestershire;
- ◀ Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of outdoor sports across South Gloucestershire;
- ◀ Supporting external funding bids and maximise support for outdoor pitch provision;
- ◀ Providing the basis for on-going monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality and accessibility of outdoor sport.

Context

South Gloucestershire Core Strategy

The ‘*South Gloucestershire Core Strategy*’ (adopted December 2013) is the key document in the Council’s Local Plan. It sets out a vision for the area based on evidence, community objectives and the detailed spatial strategy for future development in South Gloucestershire to 2027. It includes policies and programmes for the general location of new development, its type and scale, and the resources to deliver it, as well as protecting what is valued about the area.

Vision, Strategic Objectives and Strategy for Development

The Core Strategy’s elements of direct relevance to the provision and use of playing pitches are as follows.

- ◀ The open spaces, playing fields, footpaths and cycleways, which contribute to each town’s unique identity will be strengthened and enhanced with improved linkages throughout the towns and beyond into the surrounding countryside.
- ◀ Planning policies will seek to improve health and well-being by provision and access to a range of social, cultural, community, recreational facilities and green space in step with development, whilst realising opportunities to redress any deficit.
- ◀ Developers will be required to contribute to infrastructure, services and community facilities to mitigate its impacts on existing communities and provide for the needs arising from the development, including financial contributions towards their maintenance where appropriate. This may include playing pitch provision.

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1.1: Structure

The Strategy has been developed from research and analysis of playing pitch provision and usage within South Gloucestershire to provide:

- ✦ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of playing pitches
- ✦ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch stock.
- ✦ A series of sport by sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision.
- ✦ A prioritised area-by-area action plan to address key issues.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommends a number of priority projects for South Gloucestershire which should be implemented from 2016 to 2036. It provides a framework for improvement and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, potential partners and possible sources of external funding (see Appendix Four: Funding Plan).

The recommendations that come out of this Strategy should be translated into Local Plan policy so there is a policy mechanism to protect existing provision and secure investment where the opportunity arises.

1.2: Study area

South Gloucestershire is a unitary local authority situated in the West of England, lying to the North and East of Bristol. The district has close links, particularly transport and economic, with Bristol City. In addition, the villages in the North and East of the District have close functional links with places in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Bath and North East Somerset.

The district covers an area of 497 square kilometres and has a resident population of 277,600¹. The settlement pattern is characterised by urban development within the North and East Fringes of Bristol and a large rural area containing the towns of Yate & Chipping Sodbury (population circa 34,500), Thornbury (population circa 15,000) and over 30 villages. Approximately 57% of the population lives within the urban area, 18% within the two towns and 25% within the rural areas.

South Gloucestershire has experienced substantial levels of development throughout the past half century but which has not been matched by the provision of essential physical and social infrastructure. The heart of this growth is located to the South of the junction of the M4 and M5 motorways around the intersection of the North/South East/West rail links in the vicinity of Stoke Gifford and Bradley Stoke. Cribbs Causeway provides the largest concentration of shopping and leisure facilities in the District and is a major source of employment.

Substantial growth has also taken place on the Eastern fringe of Bristol at Longwell Green and Emersons Green and beyond the Green Belt at Yate & Chipping Sodbury.

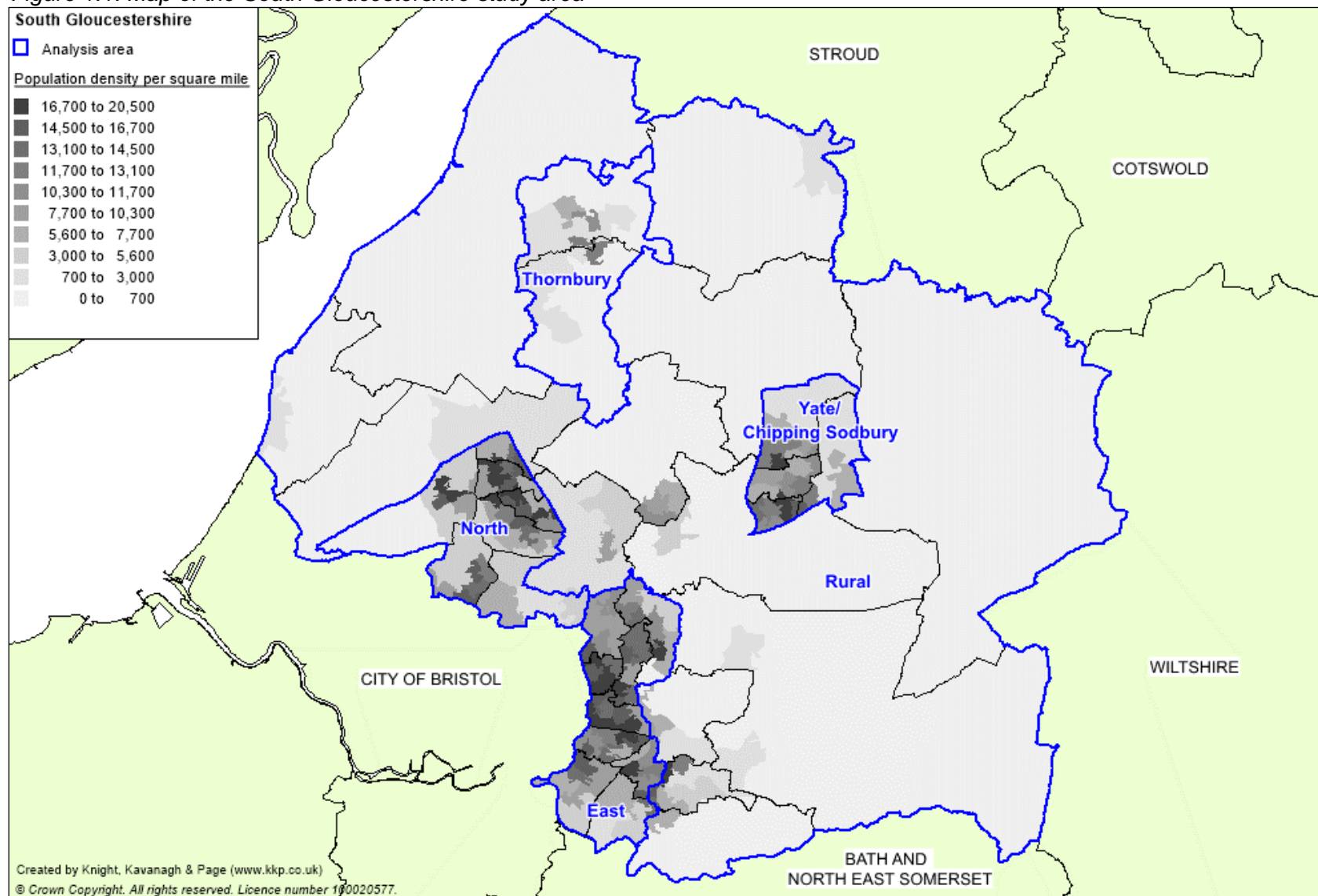
¹ Data Source: ONS Mid-2016 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas in England and Wales by Single Year of Age and Sex

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The area has many contrasting landscapes, ranging from the distinctive scarp and hills of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) to the flat expanses of the Severn levels and the urban landscape around the edge of Bristol. Many landscapes have undergone significant change as a result of the expansion of the Bristol urban area.

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Figure 1.1: Map of the South Gloucestershire study area



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1.3 Headline findings

The table below highlights the quantitative headline shortfalls from the South Gloucestershire Playing Pitch Assessment Report.

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand shortfall ²	Future demand shortfall (2036) ³
Football (grass pitches)	Bristol North Fringe	No current shortfall	Three youth 9v9 match equivalent sessions per week
	Bristol East Fringe	3.5 adult match equivalent sessions per week 1.5 youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions per week 0.5 mini 7v7 match equivalent sessions per week	Seven adult match equivalent sessions per week 9.5 youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions per week 5.5 youth 9v9 match equivalent sessions per week 4.5 mini 7v7 match equivalent sessions per week
	Rural/ Severnside	No current shortfall	1.5 youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions per week One mini 7v7 match equivalent sessions per week
	Thornbury*	No current shortfall	One youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions per week, 0.5 youth 9v9 match equivalent sessions per week Two mini 7v7 match equivalent sessions per week
	Yate/ Chipping Sodbury	0.5 adult match equivalent sessions per week	1.5 adult match equivalent sessions per week 0.5 mini 5v5 match equivalent sessions per week
	South Gloucestershire	Current demand can be met district wide, though shortfalls exist in some Areas.	Seven youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions per week 2.5 youth 9v9 match equivalent sessions per week
* The online consultation flagged discrepancies in the data set for the Mundy Playing Field site along with additional pitch supply at Poulterbrook which was not included in the 2016/2017 season pitch assessment. The strategy recognises these discrepancies materially affect the balance of supply and demand for the Thornbury sub-area and both sites will be reviewed during the action plan review in Autumn 2018.			
Football (3G AGPs) ⁴	South Gloucestershire	Seven full sized pitches with floodlighting to accommodate training Key need in the Bristol East Fringe and Bristol North Fringe Areas.	Nine full sized pitches district wide with floodlighting to accommodate training.

² Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay, demand and spare capacity.

³ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2036 if the current demand is not met.

⁴ Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training. Refer to the scenario in Appendix One.

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Sport	Analysis area	Current demand shortfall²	Future demand shortfall (2036)³
			Key need in the Bristol East Fringe and Bristol North Fringe Areas.

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Sport	Analysis area	Current demand shortfall ⁵	Future demand shortfall (2036) ⁶
Cricket	South Gloucestershire	Current demand based on the 2016 season can be met district wide. The position needs to be monitored in the light of the transfer of a number of sites to the community during 2017.	District wide shortfall of 9.5 match sessions per week⁷.
Rugby union (senior pitches)	Bristol North Fringe	Ten match sessions per week	14 match equivalent sessions per week
	Bristol East Fringe	Two match equivalent sessions per week	4.5 match equivalent sessions per week
	Rural/ Severnside	10.5 match equivalent sessions per week	15.5 match equivalent sessions per week
	Thornbury	No current shortfall	No future shortfall
	Yate/ Chipping Sodbury	1.5 match equivalent sessions per week	1.5 match equivalent sessions per week
	South Gloucestershire	23.5 senior match sessions district wide	35 senior match sessions district wide
Hockey (Sand/water based AGPs)	Bristol North Fringe	Need for additional training capacity.	Need for additional training capacity.
	Bristol East Fringe	No current shortfall	No future shortfall
	Rural/ Severnside	One AGP in the Rural & Severnside Area for both training and match play. Need for additional training capacity.	One AGP in the Rural & Severnside Area for both training and match play. Need for additional training capacity.
	Thornbury	No current shortfall	No future shortfall
	Yate/ Chipping Sodbury	No current shortfall	No future shortfall
	South Gloucestershire	One AGP in the Rural & Severnside Area for both training and match play. Additional training capacity in the Rural & Severnside and Bristol North Fringe Areas.	One AGP in the Rural & Severnside Area for both training and match play. Additional training capacity in the Rural & Severnside and Bristol North Fringe Areas.

⁵ Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay, demand and spare capacity.

⁶ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2036 if the current demand is not met.

⁷ When accounting for future demand projections and potential loss of all 'at risk' sites detailed on page 14.

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Sport	Analysis area	Current demand shortfall ⁵	Future demand shortfall (2036) ⁶
Rugby league	South Gloucestershire	Requirement for increased capacity and better quality provision due to play on overplayed rugby union pitches.	Future demand can be catered for on the condition that rugby league users are accommodated at proposed new developments.
American Football	South Gloucestershire	No current shortfall	No future shortfall
Lacrosse	South Gloucestershire	No current shortfall	No future shortfall

Conclusions

The existing position for pitch sports is either demand (with some spare capacity on football pitches) is being met or there is a shortfall. The future position shows that current shortfalls for rugby union and 3Gs for football use are exacerbated, whereas additional shortfalls will be created for both football and cricket, particularly for cricket in light of the transfer of some sites to the community during 2017. Therefore, there is a need to protect existing levels of provision and seek opportunities for increasing provision or capacity of existing pitches.

Key strategic recommendations

- ✦ Increase full sized 3G pitch provision in the Bristol East Fringe Area given the level of current and future shortfalls.
- ✦ Support proposed new 3G pitch developments and maximise use in order to help reduce or eliminate current and future shortfalls, for example increased use for rugby union training.
- ✦ In the short term, re-accommodate all existing cricket demand which is to be affected by a loss of provision.
- ✦ Seek to increase cricket provision where possible at existing sites and determine opportunities to develop new cricket provision as part of new residential developments.
- ✦ Consider options to increase capacity for hockey through increased hockey suitable AGP provision in the Rural Areas.
- ✦ Aim to promote sports association or trust based models of site management in order to develop combined strength of management infrastructure and resources and to greater protect the interests of each sport at multi-sport and hub sites.
- ✦ Secure investment into sporting provision from new housing developments. Ensure new provision or investment into existing facilities in the locality appropriately meets the anticipated needs of this newly created demand in the primacy, whilst determining subsequent opportunities to also cater for current shortfalls.

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Recommended high priority actions (short term – 12-18 months):

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Action	Indicative cost
NEW	Shaftesbury Park	Bristol North Fringe	Ensure proposed plans are delivered to meet NGBs recommended specifications and dimensions and are built to the required quality.	High: >£250k
73	Kings Oak Academy	Bristol East Fringe	Seek to resurface the AGP to bring it back into use for both Academy and community, potentially as a 3G surface given shortfalls.	High: >£250k
55	Greenbank Recreation Ground	Bristol East Fringe	Retain/increase cricket provision. Investigate potential for a linked solution between these sites and potentially Tenniscourt Road Playing Fields to create either new cricket provision at Fisher Road Playing Field or more widely accessible, less restricted cricket provision at Greenbank Recreation Ground.	Medium: £50k-250k
49	Tennis Court & Fisher Road Playing Field			
NEW	North Bristol Park	Bristol North Fringe	Consider future options for the site, including potential rationalisation and development. In the event that these pitches are lost to development, s106 funding to be used to replace like for like in the first instance. If this proves unsustainable or unworkable then re-investment will be required into existing nearby playing field provision through council's Section 106 planning obligation funding processes to improve playing pitch quality and capacity.	Medium: £50 - £250k
98	Page Park	Bristol East Fringe	Determine potential to retain this site for cricket, install NTP provision and feasibility to create a new trust organisation which may be able to sustain the site.	Medium: £50k-250k
41	Deanery Road Playing Fields	Bristol East Fringe	Support Kingswood RFC in renegotiating a long-term lease to secure tenure. Seek to increase floodlit capacity and improve ancillary facilities to accommodate increased levels of demand.	Medium: £50k-250k
70	KGV Playing Field (Downend)	Bristol East Fringe	Secure the future and sustainability of the site for both football and cricket through negotiations with the Parish Council.	Low: £50k

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			Consider options to resurface the AGP to 3G ensuring no impact on hockey in the area (no present hockey use by clubs). Determine feasibility to create a football/cricket hub offer combining the school and neighbouring sites.	High: >£250k
42	Downend School/Sports Centre			
148	Yate International Academy	Yate/Chipping Sodbury	Ensure the pitch is of sufficient quality to pass performance standard testing and seek to test/register the pitch as FA/FIFA certified, maximising use of subsequent capacity made available for competitive football. Encourage the Academy to undertake any qualitative improvements that might be required to ensure ability to meet testing criteria and to submit testing subsequent evidence documents to officially register.	Low: £50k

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1.4 Definitions

Match sessions (per week)

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 likely to be for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions but may for example include training sessions.

Based on how they tend to be played, this unit for football, rugby union and rugby league pitches relate 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.

Pitch capacity

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing football. In extreme circumstances it can result in the inability of the pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times. Pitch quality is often influenced by weather conditions and drainage.

As a guide, each NGB has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its current quality (pitch capacity):

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches per week		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3	2	1
	Youth pitches	4	2	1
	Mini pitches	6	4	2
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2	1.5	0.5
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3	2	1.5
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25	2.5	1.75
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5	3	2
Rugby league	Senior	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	N/A	N/A
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	N/A	N/A

Shortfalls

Please note that shortfalls are expressed in match sessions rather than converted to pitches. A pitch is able to accommodate one match session at peak time; however, one match per team is typically recorded as 0.5 match sessions per week based on the principal of playing matches on a home and away basis. Therefore, a team only requires use of one pitch every fortnight rather than every week. As such, it is considered that two teams are generally able to share use of one pitch by programming home matches on alternate weeks as shown below:

$1 \text{ pitch} \div 2 \text{ weeks} = 0.5 \text{ match sessions required per week}$

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OR

0.5 match sessions (home team) + 0.5 match sessions (away team) = one pitch

Where demand of one match session per week exists in this manner it directly equates to a need for access to one additional pitch. However, demand for 0.5 match sessions also equates to a requirement for one additional pitch, as although the pitch may lie unused when the team is playing away from home, the following week a whole pitch is required to accommodate that team when it plays a home fixture.

For a full Glossary of terms please refer to Appendix Four.

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PART 2: VISION

2.1 Vision

A vision has been set out to provide a clear focus with desired outcomes for the South Gloucestershire Playing Pitch Strategy:

“To ensure that there are enough playing pitches and related facilities in South Gloucestershire of the right type, the right quality and in the right place to meet the needs of the inhabitants of the district now and in the future.”

There is clear alignment between this and the vision for the emerging South Gloucestershire Council Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Strategy:

“To progress the development of a network of high quality, accessible and sustainable sports facilities capable of promoting healthy lifestyles, including a strong health and wellbeing offer and the provision of inclusive services for all; enabling the inactive to become active and more residents to fulfil their potential by participating in sport and physical activity, thus improving their long-term health and well-being.”

Alongside the vision of the PPS, the South Gloucestershire Core Strategy 2006-2027⁸ outlines a clear vision as follows for both the entire area and the distinct areas within it which are adopted as the five analysis areas within the PPS.

South Gloucestershire

South Gloucestershire will continue to be a ‘great place to live and work’. Within an attractive and accessible environment, everyone will be enjoying healthier and more sustainable lifestyles in balanced, vibrant and safe communities with ready access to jobs, supporting services and facilities. Adaptation to a changing climate will be taking place through the active management of impacts. The economy will be buoyant and prosperous and recognised internationally.

Bristol North Fringe

The north fringe of Bristol urban area will continue to be a major economic driver in the south west region and the west of England sub region. It will continue to maintain its role as a major focus for employment, commercial and retail activity, education and learning. The distinctive identities and heritage of the existing communities will also have been strengthened and preserved. New neighbourhoods will provide opportunities for people to live near to where they work and be well integrated with existing communities. All residents and workers will have better access to local amenities and high quality public transport, walking and cycling links. Community identity and neighbourhood distinctiveness will be improved by the development of new public spaces and high quality landscaping. The green network will be enhanced through opportunities to provide new and improved green spaces, within the existing urban area and which connect to the wider countryside. This network will include new corridors along

⁸ <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/documents/cleanversionforinterimpublishation2.pdf>

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the Henbury Trym, and Stoke Park to Three Brooks nature reserve via the East of Harry Stoke New Neighbourhood.

Bristol East Fringe

The distinctive identity and heritage of the linked communities in the east fringe of Bristol will be preserved and enhanced. The vibrancy and vitality of the traditional town centres at Downend, Staple Hill, Kingswood, and Hanham will be strengthened. The area will benefit from improved employment opportunities including the science park. Public transport services, especially to the north fringe and central Bristol from the north of the area, will be more reliable, punctual and frequent.

Well designed housing developments, including the major development at Emersons green, will be integrated with and connected to existing communities. This will achieve a stronger town centre at Emersons green and support balanced and quality neighbourhoods throughout the urban area.

The landscape setting of the area and of surrounding villages will be preserved and opportunities will be taken to make the urban area greener. Green spaces, walking and cycling routes will lead through and out of the area into the open countryside. These routes will include key links to the commons, Warmley forest park and an enhanced forest park based around Overscourt Wood.

Rural Areas & Severnside

Severnside will remain a strategically important location for employment uses. Employers, landowners and developers will work with the council, other agencies and Bristol City Council to unlock economic potential and improve local transport infrastructure. The Severn estuary and adjoining floodplain is internationally important for a wide range of ecology and will be safeguarded and maintained. Its archaeological heritage and interest will also be protected and conserved, and a network of new nature reserves will be implemented. A longer term durable and robust strategy for addressing flood risk due to climate change will be adopted. The area's potential for power generation will be managed.

The rural areas will continue to be an important asset contributing to the economy, biodiversity and heritage of the district; providing public access to the countryside and recreation opportunities; and supporting local food production. The diversity and unique character of individual settlements and the open countryside will be conserved and enhanced and recognised as providing a valuable setting to the main urban area contributing to a unique sense of place and identity. Through engagement with rural communities and where environmentally appropriate new limited development will be provided which meets local needs. Innovative transport solutions will link rural communities with centres of employment, services and facilities. The rural areas will make a positive contribution to the generation of renewable energy and healthier lifestyles.

Thornbury

Thornbury will be a thriving and socially cohesive historic market town with a diverse range of employment opportunities and modern healthcare facilities. The vibrant town centre will provide a range of facilities for the needs of its residents, visitors & workers, as well as its surrounding villages and farming communities.

These aims will be supported by an appropriate amount of high quality housing growth which will help to strengthen and develop the town centre, local schools and community facilities and

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activities. This growth will provide for the needs of young families and the elderly. The town centre will build on its rich historic character and setting and will promote itself as an attraction, a centre for the arts and an exciting place to shop.

Yate & Chipping Sodbury

Yate and Chipping Sodbury will build upon their distinct yet complementary heritage, character and roles to develop a coherent sense of place, and provide a richer mix of social, cultural and economic opportunities. The towns will develop as a popular destination and a more attractive service centre for their surrounding villages and farming communities. Chipping Sodbury town centre will realise its retail and tourism potential. Yate's evening economy will develop and the range of town centre uses increased. Public transport services will be more attractive and accessible to users.

The open spaces, playing fields, footpaths and cycleways, which contribute to each town's unique identity will be strengthened and enhanced with improved linkages throughout the towns and beyond into the surrounding countryside.

A new neighbourhood to the north of Yate, will accommodate around 3,000 new homes (2,400 up to 2026), employment and community uses. This will enable the towns to meet locally generated housing requirements, provide a broader employment base and provide opportunities for modern flexible working practices, enhancing their sustainability.

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PART 3: OBJECTIVES

The following overarching objectives are based on the three Sport England themes (see figure 1 below). Delivery of the Strategy is the responsibility of and relies on, all stakeholders.

It is recommended that the following are adopted by the Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the Playing Pitch Strategy and Sport England planning objectives.

Aim 1

To **protect** the existing supply of playing pitches where it is needed for meeting current and future needs

Aim 2

To **enhance** playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites

Aim 3

To **provide** new playing pitches where there is current or future demand to do so

Figure 1: Sport England themes - Protect, Enhance and Provide



Source: Sport England 2015

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PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to help develop the recommendations/actions and to understand their potential impact a number of relevant scenario questions are tested against the key issues in this section for the playing pitch sports resulting in the sport specific recommendations.

Football pitches

Summary - grass

- ✦ The audit identifies a total of 309 grass football pitches in South Gloucestershire across 110 sites, of which, 279 are reported to be available for community use on some level. These pitches available for use are made up of 206 pitches currently used by community clubs and 73 pitches with no regular recorded community club use
- ✦ There are four 3G pitches on which competitive football matches are permitted to be played
- ✦ The majority (79%) of pitches available for community use are rated as standard quality, with 14% rated as good and 19 pitches as poor, equating to just 7%.
- ✦ Changing facilities are a key issue at some football sites. Nine sites were identified as having poor quality changing provision whilst three have provide no onsite changing facilities to accompany the pitches.
- ✦ As part of its Council Savings Programme (CSP) in March 2017 the Council removed its budget for the management and maintenance of sports pitches and pavilions. The PPS data set is instrumental in providing key data during the transfer process of six sites to existing site users/Parish Councils. The PPS data set ensures site sustainability for future generations, as the outcomes form the foundations for each sites' business plans. A total of 661 affiliated teams are identified as playing competitive football within South Gloucestershire.
- ✦ Team generation rates based on population indicate the likely creation of an additional 29 adult teams, 69 youth teams and 37 mini soccer teams.
- ✦ Actual spare capacity in South Gloucestershire amounts to 94.5 match sessions across all pitches types, some of which exists on pitches which are available but currently unused by clubs.
- ✦ There are 27 pitches overplayed across South Gloucestershire, totalling 20.5 match sessions, of which 73% is overplay on adult pitches.
- ✦ On a district wide level, all pitch types currently exhibit spare capacity and can adequately accommodate recorded demand at present, notwithstanding some specific shortfalls at some pitch formats and Analysis areas.
- ✦ However, when considering future demand there are significant future shortfalls at both formats of youth football, creating a need for seven additional match sessions on youth 11v11 pitches and 2.5 match sessions on youth 9v9 pitches.
- ✦ TGRs are applied on an area wide basis, however in practice this additional demand may be actualised in one or more particular Analysis area (for example major housing developments at Cribbs Patchway – Filton Airfield or in Yate), subsequently creating a need for increased capacity within them.

Scenarios - grass

- ✦ **Improving pitch quality** – improving poor quality pitches at Southey Avenue Playing Fields, Severn Beach Playing Fields and Chantry Road Playing Fields to standard quality would eliminate overplay at each of the three sites.
- ✦ However, overplay would still exist at Hanham Common (adult pitch, 0.5 match sessions) and would require improvement to good quality in order to increase capacity sufficient to eliminate overplay without transferring any current use.
- ✦ **Loss of access to unsecured pitches** presently in use by clubs would create a need to accommodate 48.5 match sessions across 21 sites. This breaks down as 24 match

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sessions on adult pitches, 8.5 on youth 11v11 pitches, seven on youth 9v9 pitches and nine sessions on mini 7v7 pitches.

- ◆ **Loss of access to presently used education sites** - presently in use by clubs would create a need to accommodate 20 match sessions across 16 sites. This breaks down as 4.5 match sessions on adult pitches, four on youth 11v11 pitches, 3.5 on youth 9v9 pitches and eight sessions on mini 7v7 pitches. Note some of these sites are considered to have insecure tenure and are also included within the aforementioned scenario.

Loss of access to low value pitch sites – there are four sites managed by District/Parish/Town Councils or by community organisations which have just a solitary football pitch and no other sports pitch provision onsite. These sites are considered to be of low value and as such are not preferable for investment or improvement. Where appropriate, loss of these sites to other uses and re-provision of playing field land as part of a broader community offer could be considered. They are:

- ◆ The Avenue Playing Field
 - ◆ Severn Beach Playing Fields
 - ◆ Old Sodbury Playing Fields
- ◆ Loss of access to these sites which presently accommodate three adult pitches and one youth 11v11 pitch would generate the need to re-accommodate six match equivalent sessions per week elsewhere – 3.5 on adult pitches and 2.5 on youth 11v11 pitches.

Recommendations – grass

- ◆ Where pitches are overplayed and/or assessed as standard or poor quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality.
- ◆ Work with clubs, operators and football stakeholders to secure access at currently unsecured sites. This would increase capacity considered to be available, in order to reduce existing and future shortfalls of match sessions on youth pitches.
- ◆ Support forthcoming clubs with proposed asset transfer and increased responsibility in order to ensure future sustainability and maximise opportunities for improvement.
- ◆ Seek to increase use of certified 3G pitches for match play in order to reduce grass pitch shortfalls.
- ◆ On a site by site basis, determine feasibility of reconfiguring pitch formats to address shortfalls on youth pitches.
- ◆ Secure investment linked to new housing developments to address current shortfalls and anticipated future demand in areas of housing growth either through the creation of new pitches or increasing capacity of existing pitches where appropriate.

Summary – 3G pitches

- ◆ There are seven full sized 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire, all of which have floodlighting and are available for community use. They are:
 - ◆ Gloucestershire FA (FIFA certified)
 - ◆ Marlwood School
 - ◆ Sir Bernard Lovell School (FA certified)
 - ◆ South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE Campus) – two pitches (one FA certified)
 - ◆ Yate international Academy
 - ◆ Chipping Sodbury School (FA certified)

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- There are a further 15 small sized 3G pitches across four sites, all of which are reported to be available for community use, though some function mainly as commercial small sided football provision.
- Four full sized 3G pitches (are FA or FIFA certified which permits them to be used for competitive football play. There is currently one World Rugby certified 3G pitch at South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE campus).
- There are proposed future plans for at least six additional 3G pitches to be provided across South Gloucestershire. Further to this, future demand is likely to create more proposals for provision.
- Of the seven full sized 3G pitches, four are rated as good quality and three are rated as standard quality, with no pitches rated as poor.
- There are 61 teams which play competitive club football on 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire. Use of 3G pitches for competitive matches is significant and also extends beyond football and rugby union, including rugby league, lacrosse (mainly for training) and American football.
- The FA model applied on an Analysis area level, estimates that there is a current need for 11 full sized 3G pitches to service football training needs in South Gloucestershire, with a future need by 2036 for 14 pitches (refer to Appendix One for further detail).
- Access to affordable floodlit training facilities is a key issue for most clubs in South Gloucestershire, particularly those with a large number of youth and mini teams.
- Rugby union use of 3G pitches generally extends to accommodating training demand to protect match pitches, whilst retaining use for match play if and when required during poor weather.
- Several 3G pitches both full sized and small sized operate commercial small sided football leagues which limit availability access for club training, particularly Goals which is primarily run as a commercial small sided football centre.
- In summary, supply and demand analysis highlights that South Gloucestershire is currently underserved with regards to full sized 3G pitch provision to service football and as such is a priority. However, there are a number of proposals in place that will help to contribute towards meeting the shortfall identified.

Scenarios – 3G pitches⁹

- Accommodating training demand** - The FA training model estimates that there is a current need on an Analysis area wide level for 14 full sized 3G pitches to service all football training needs in South Gloucestershire, which equates to a current shortfall by Analysis area of seven pitches.
- In light of forecasted future demand, the FA training model suggests a need for 13 full sized pitches by 2036, equating to a shortfall of nine pitches. There is particular need for increased provision in the Bristol North Fringe and Bristol East Fringe Areas, the latter which evidences the highest level of demand but does not have a full sized 3G pitch.
- It is acknowledged that not all teams have a desire to train and some football use of sand based AGPs should be retained, for example in the Thornbury area particularly where there is not sufficient demand to warrant an additional full sized 3G at present, whilst there is just one full sized sand AGP and the retention of football demand is key to ensuring its sustainability.
- Moving all competitive mini teams to play on 3G pitches¹⁰** – there are currently 82 mini 5v5 teams and 133 mini 7v7 teams which would require a total of 11 full size 3G pitches to accommodate all mini teams. This is on the basis that both playing formats can be accommodated on one day (Sunday morning peak time) using staggered kick off times.

⁹ Refer to Appendix One: 3G Pitch Scenario for the programming model used.

¹⁰ Figures are rounded up to the nearest full sized pitch.

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- ◀ Extending this to include all mini (both formats) and youth 9v9 football, the requirement would increase to 20 full size 3G pitches.
- ◀ **Increases in 3G provision** – should currently proposed developments take place at Lockleaze Sports Complex, Hillside Gardens and Patchway Community College take place, there would be three additional full sized 3G pitches primarily for football use, reducing the current district wide shortfall from four to one. However, all three sites are in the Bristol North fringe Area and there would not reduce shortfalls in the Bristol East Fringe Area.
- ◀ Also, should proposed developments of World Compliant 3G pitches mainly for rugby union use take place, there would be three new full sized 3G pitches able to accommodate some football demand, with sufficient capacity for football between them to eliminate the current district wide shortfall.
- ◀ **Resurfacing full sized AGPs to 3G surfaces** – both Kings Oak Academy and Downend Sports Centre have plans to resurface existing sand based surfaces to 3G. Neither is currently used for hockey and therefore resurfacing either or both would not have an identified impact on hockey clubs in South Gloucestershire.
- ◀ By resurfacing both pitches the current shortfall would be halved and would impact significantly on future shortfalls for 3G pitches in the Bristol East Fringe Area.

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Recommendations – 3G pitches

- ◀ Explore opportunities to increase provision of 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire to meet training demand.
- ◀ Ensure new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA recommended dimensions and FIFA quality performance standard where possible to ensure eligibility to meet performance testing criteria.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have a mechanism in place which ensures the long term sustainability of provision.
- ◀ Encourage providers to undertake performance standard testing to increase capacity available to accommodate match play, prioritising Yate International Academy where play currently takes places unsanctioned.
- ◀ Gloucestershire FA to carry out consultation with leagues/clubs to gauge acceptance/buy in of moving competitive play to 3G pitches in the future.
- ◀ The FA, England Hockey and the RFU to work together to identify sand based AGPs which could be resurfaced to 3G, ensuring a balance of surface types to best meet needs of all three sports.
- ◀ Encourage providers to maximise programming of 3G pitches for competitive football to be played.

Cricket pitches

Summary

- ◀ In total, there are 49 natural turf cricket squares identified in South Gloucestershire across 43 sites. All natural turf squares are reported to be available for community use in some capacity, though three are available but currently unused by community clubs.
- ◀ All Analysis areas have available natural turf cricket provision with the majority (51%) of natural turf cricket squares located in the Rural Area. The Thornbury and Yate & Chipping Sodbury Areas have the least with just two (4%) each.
- ◀ 34 natural turf squares to be good quality and 14 to be standard quality. There is just one poor quality square at The Star Ground in the Bristol East Fringe Area.
- ◀ There are 12 NTPs located across 12 sites, seven of which are standalone pitches and seven are situated on natural turf squares. All are reported to be available for community use with the exception of Brimsham Green School for safety reasons. Additionally, there is an NTP at Frenchay Hospital which is now disused.
- ◀ There is no Last Man Stands league in South Gloucestershire and the extent of senior midweek cricket played is limited.
- ◀ Of the 43 sites, 24 are considered to offer unsecure tenure, representing 56% of sites with natural turf cricket provision; a critical issue for cricket in the district. This is largely due to the impact of the Council Savings Programme (CSP) through which the Council has seen need to withdraw the budget available for the maintenance and management of sports pitch provision at local authority sites.
- ◀ Cricket provision at Lees Hill, Blackhorse Road and The Star Ground (Soundwell) has ceased, whilst provision at Greenbank Recreation Ground is also at threat of loss in the short term. Page Park cricket remains secure for the foreseeable future. Management and maintenance of Badminton Road Playing Field and KGV Playing Field (Downend) have transferred to Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council.
- ◀ In total there are 121 senior teams, of which four are ladies teams. There are 90 junior teams playing in South Gloucestershire of which seven are specific girls' teams.
- ◀ Four club teams export demand to neighbouring authorities at peak time, whilst a further two teams from UWE export demand on Wednesday afternoons.
- ◀ Future demand projections represent a total requirement for an additional seven senior match sessions and 9.5 junior match sessions at peak time.
- ◀ Only three sites offer secure tenure, are available at senior peak time (Saturday afternoon) and have sufficient capacity to accommodate at least one additional season

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team. In total, there are two match sessions available at peak time to accommodate additional senior play.

- Three sites in South Gloucestershire are considered to be overplayed by a total of 48 match sessions per season
- Overall there is sufficient supply of cricket pitches at present to cater for demand from clubs within South Gloucestershire at peak times.
- There are also enough pitches to accommodate demand for additional senior cricket on Sundays and for midweek junior and short format cricket.
- However, in order to accommodate future demand, unmet and displaced demand there is a requirement for an additional 5.5 match sessions at senior peak time which cannot be sufficiently catered for at present. All Areas but the Thornbury Area display future shortfalls.
- Most pertinently, future shortfalls may increase significantly in the short term as several cricket pitches have insecure tenure and may be at risk of loss. Of key importance is the need to protect cricket provision as part of planned asset transfer from Council management and maintenance, as loss would impact significantly on participation within the district.

Scenarios

- Loss of natural turf cricket provision at 'at risk' sites** – loss of Council managed squares at Blackhorse Road Playing Fields, Lees Hill, Page Park and The Star Ground would create a need to accommodate 97 matches a year, of which 65 (3.5 match sessions) are at peak time.
- Furthermore, loss of natural turf cricket provision at Greenbank Recreation Ground would exacerbate this to 106 matches a year, of which 74 (four match sessions) are at peak time.
- Loss of natural turf cricket provision at all insecure sites** – loss of all insecure grass squares would see a loss of 27 pitches across 24 sites.
- It would create a need to accommodate 550 matches a year, which breaks down as follows:
 - Bristol North Fringe: 166 matches per season across six sites, 137 (seven match sessions) at peak time.
 - Bristol East Fringe: 223 matches per season across nine sites, 142 (7.5 match sessions) at peak time.
 - Rural: 122 matches per season across six sites, 86 (4.5 match sessions) at peak time.
 - Thornbury: no matches.
 - Yate & Chipping Sodbury: 59 matches per season at one site, 40 (two match sessions) at peak time.
- Creation of new provision** – creation of new provision linked to proposed development sites including any new school facilities would increase capacity to offset the short term loss of provision and longer term shortfalls.
- Reducing overplay** – additional capacity is required to reduce overplay at Pucklechurch Recreation Ground and Winterbourne Recreation Ground. This could be by extending capacity onsite through increasing the number of wickets or installation of an NTP, or by accessing additional capacity where present at other sites.
- Overplay at Bailey's Court Activity Centre could be addressed through transferring junior play, friendly matches and Sunday matches onto the NTP. Alternatively, this could also be achieved through greater use of provision at Bradley Stoke Community School which is already used by two adult teams from Bradley Stoke CC.

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Recommendations – cricket

- ✦ Existing quantity of cricket pitches not implicated by the CSP to be protected.
- ✦ Seek to create new cricket provision and increase capacity at existing sites to mitigate the impact of the CSP in both the immediate and longer term.
- ✦ Determine feasibility of creating cricket provision at existing sites which are large enough and suitable. Those such as Fisher Road Playing Field where there is no cricket provision may help to act as mitigation in the immediacy.
- ✦ In the short term, maintain current level of demand and participation amidst likely loss of cricket provision at several sites.
- ✦ The Council should continue to work alongside the ECB, Gloucestershire Cricket Board and clubs to establish a sustainable long term plan for cricket in the area.
- ✦ All stakeholders should work to secure tenure for clubs where possible, particularly at education and Parish or Town Council sites.
- ✦ Consider potential to develop new cricket provision linked to new housing developments, establishing a sustainable management arrangement, ideally through the relocation of an existing club from which to accommodate predicted growth in demand.
- ✦ Address overplay at Bailey's Court Activity Centre, Pucklechurch Recreation Ground and Winterbourne Recreation Ground through access to capacity at other sites or transfer of play to NTPs.

Rugby union pitches

Summary

- ✦ In total, there are 63 exclusive rugby union pitches in South Gloucestershire across 20 sites, of which there are 43 senior pitches, three junior pitches and 17 mini pitches.
- ✦ There are 59 pitches available for community use, all but one at Hanham Woods Academy are presently used by clubs in some capacity.
- ✦ There is just one full sized World Rugby certified 3G pitch in South Gloucestershire suitable for competitive play or full contact rugby training, located at South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE Campus).
- ✦ There are four other World Rugby compliant facilities planned at:
 - Shaftesbury Park, Frenchay; Dings Crusaders RFC is in the process of relocating with the current site sold for residential development. Two senior and two mini pitches are to be created at the new Shaftesbury Park site alongside a new full sized World Rugby compliant 3G pitch.
 - Lockleaze (Bristol); The new full sized World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at Lockleaze Sports Complex is complete and in use for the 2017/18 season.
 - Hillside Gardens, Frenchay; The University of the West of England is planning for a full size World Rugby compliant pitch alongside a full sized 3G football pitch at the nearby Hillside Gardens.
 - Almondsbury; The RFU plans to deliver a full size World Rugby compliant pitch at North Bristol RFC as part of the RFU 365 Programme. This will replace pitch no.1 and will have 200 lux match lights and will improve capacity both on site and for other clubs.
- ✦ The majority of rugby union provision is located in the Rural Areas (38%) where there are 24 pitches, though the Bristol North Fringe Area also has a significant proportion, equating to 20 pitches (32%).
- ✦ The majority of pitches available for community use (71%) are rated as standard quality, whilst 24% are rated as poor. There are just three good quality pitches at Cleve Rugby Club and Clifton Rugby Club,
- ✦ Both Bristol Saracens RFC and North Bristol RFC have unsecured use of pitches based on casual agreement with the local landowner. Yate RFC, Thornbury RFC and North Bristol RFC also rent pitches where use is also considered to be unsecure.

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- ◀ Kingswood RFC and Thornbury RFC both have desires to extend and improve changing and clubhouse provision at their respective sites, whilst there is a need to refurbish poor quality floodlighting at the latter.
- ◀ Clubs generally train on match pitches and the twice weekly training undertaken under floodlights by most senior sections is a key contributor to overplay at a number of sites.
- ◀ Use of AGPs for training is limited with few clubs consistently using them. Only UWE and Bristol Rugby Academy teams make regular use of compliant 3G pitches, though Yate RFC regularly uses the sand based AGP at Yate Outdoor Sports Complex.
- ◀ There are 15 rugby union clubs playing in South Gloucestershire as well as one university and one college, providing a total of 162 teams. There are 52 senior teams, of which there are seven women's teams. There are 39 junior boys' teams, ten junior girls' teams and 61 mini squads.
- ◀ Bristol Rugby imports demand for use of use training provision at Clifton Rugby Club, whilst Bristol Ladies RFC imports demand for both match play and training at Cleve rugby Club.
- ◀ TGRs forecast the likely creation of at least seven additional senior men's teams, eight junior boys' teams, two junior girls' teams and 12 mini age groups.
- ◀ Current supply is not sufficient to cater for the level of demand expressed in South Gloucestershire at present, totalling a need for a further 23.5 match sessions on senior pitches. This is further exacerbated to create a future requirement for 35 match sessions.
- ◀ Availability at senior peak time is not a key issue, more so overplay caused mainly by high levels of training and junior and mini demand, or at some sites reduced capacity due to poor quality pitches.

Scenarios

- ◀ **Improving pitch quality** – improving pitch quality from poor (M0) to good (M2) would eliminate overplay on pitches at Deanery Road Playing Fields and North Bristol Rugby Club (one pitch).
- ◀ However, improvement in pitch quality would not create sufficient capacity to eliminate overplay at Clifton Rugby Club. This is due to the regular use of one pitch by Bristol Rugby, though overplay could be eliminated in the long term should the Club relocate to develop its own dedicated training ground as proposed. Bristol Rugby would also likely leave behind the newly built small sized 3G pitch, which could then be managed by Clifton RFC to support training demand.
- ◀ Overplay at Landseer Avenue will in effect be eliminated when Dings RFC relocates to Shaftesbury Park, where pitches will be installed as at least good quality with drainage from new and there will be a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch to support grass pitch use. Removing this from the current total reduces the shortfall in the Bristol North Fringe Area from ten to five match sessions per week.
- ◀ **Loss of access to provision at school sites** – loss of access to presently used school sites at Castle School Sixth Form Centre and Patchway Community College/Sports Centre would present a need to accommodate two match sessions else, one each in the Bristol North Fringe and Thornbury Areas respectively.
- ◀ **Establishing security of tenure** – seven pitches are considered to have insecure tenure for clubs currently using them. Securing tenure of pitches at Bakewell Memorial Ground and Chantry Road Playing Fields would create an additional 1.5 total match sessions considered as available capacity, currently not accounted for in the analysis due to insecurity.
- ◀ Securing tenure at Patchway Community College/Sports Centre is not considered to create additional capacity as it is likely the pitch is played at least to capacity by additional school use throughout the week.
- ◀ Kingswood RFC has a short-term lease at Deanery Road Playing Fields and is in negotiations with the Council regarding asset transfer of the site. This would not only

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secure tenure for the Club moving forwards but also open up opportunities to access grant funding not previously available to develop onsite facilities.

- ◆ **Increased World Rugby compliant 3G provision** – should the proposed development of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches take place at Hillside Gardens and Lockleaze Sports Complex, additional capacity of four match sessions (based on two games played per pitch with staggered kick off times) would be created at senior peak time.
- ◆ This in part would replace peak time capacity from the loss of the second senior pitch at Ashley Down Old Boys RFC but would nonetheless represent a net increase of three match sessions.
- ◆ Creation of a new compliant pitch at Shaftesbury Park would also increase capacity available for match play but is likely to be used exclusively by Dings Crusaders RFC. It would however increase 3G capacity to accommodate training though this is dependent on how the Club chooses to manage the facility and whether there is potential for any additional community use beyond Dings Crusaders RFC training.

Recommendations – rugby union

- ◆ Existing quantity of rugby pitches to be protected.
- ◆ Where pitches are lost to development seek like for like replacement in the first instance, with re-investment into existing nearby playing field provision as a requirement through council's Section 106 planning obligation funding processes to improve playing pitch quality and capacity.
- ◆ As a priority, improve pitch quality Deanery Road Playing Fields, North Bristol Rugby Club, Patchway Community College/Sports Centre, Little Stoke Park and Yate Outdoor Sports Complex (YOSC).
- ◆ Seek to increase capacity to accommodate training at Deanery Road Playing Fields through increased floodlighting coupled with increased maintenance to improve pitch quality.
- ◆ Support Kingswood RFC, Thornbury RFC and Aretians RFC with plans to improve and develop changing room and social space provision. Determine opportunities to access external (including partnership) funding to assist.
- ◆ Work to secure access at sites where tenure is currently unsecured in order to increase capacity considered available for use.
- ◆ RFU to work with other providers, operators and stakeholders to determine feasibility of potential sites for a shared scheme.
- ◆ Consider greater and more regular use of 3G pitches to accommodate training and match play in order to reduce pressure on and protect quality of grass pitches.

Consider future options for the site, including potential rationalisation and development. In the event that these pitches are lost to development, s106 funding to be used to replace like for like in the first instance. If this proves unsustainable or unworkable

Hockey pitches (AGPs)

Summary

- ◆ There are currently 11 full size sand based AGPs in South Gloucestershire, all of which have floodlighting and are available for community use. Only 10 pitches are available for use at weekends as John Cabot Academy is unavailable at weekends due to staffing and access issues.
- ◆ There is a condemned AGP at Kings Oak Academy which is not included within the current supply audit. The Academy plans to resurface the pitch in order to bring it back into curriculum and community use but has preference for a 3G surface.

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- ✦ The Grange School & Sports Centre is currently closed and the AGP is not available for use. The impact of losing this site as one of a reducing number of hockey-compliant surfaces is to be factored into consultation on the future use of the site.
- ✦ Of the 11 pitches available, four are currently unused by clubs in any capacity.
- ✦ Four of the eleven AGPs (36%) are rated as good quality, with the seven other pitches rated as standard.
- ✦ Seven AGPs are in excess of the recommended ten year lifespan and should be considered for surface replacement in coming years. Additionally, the pitches at UWE Centre for Sport and Yate Outdoor Sports Complex are approaching the recommended lifespan in 2017 and should also be considered.
- ✦ Aside from Yate Outdoor Sports Complex, all other hockey suitable AGPs in the district are owned by the education sector. All community clubs hire hockey provision and none hold ownership or leasehold of their respective sites, therefore with the exception of UWE teams, tenure for all other hockey clubs is considered to be insecure.
- ✦ As the majority of pitches are located at school sites, access to social facilities is a key issue for clubs in South Gloucestershire and most travel to other venues after matches to access social provision.
- ✦ There are 59 hockey teams using AGPs, made up of 54 teams across ten community clubs and five teams at The University of the West of England (UWE).
- ✦ Three clubs export demand to other local authorities, mostly midweek for training.
- ✦ Future demand forecasts indicate the likely creation of at least four additional senior men's teams, two senior ladies' teams and an additional team each at both junior boys' and junior girls' age groups.
- ✦ Based on each floodlit AGP accommodating eight teams (four matches per week), on a district wide level there is a need for a minimum of six AGPs with floodlighting and full peak time availability to accommodate current and exported demand. This figure increases to seven AGPs in order to accommodate anticipated future demand.
- ✦ However, in practice there is need for a second pitch in the Rural Area to accommodate displaced midweek training demand from Bristol & West HC, demand at Winterbourne International Academy which exceeds the recommended capacity of four matches per week and to allow for future growth in the Rural Area.
- ✦ In conclusion, by 2036 there is a notional over supply of one AGP in South Gloucestershire based on a supply of nine and a demand for eight. This is based on retaining sufficient existing provision in each Analysis area and the need for an additional pitch in the Rural Area.

Scenarios

- ✦ **Conversion of sand based AGPs to 3G** – both Kings Oak Academy and Downend School/Sports Centre have aspirations to convert existing sand based pitches. Neither site has recorded hockey club use and conversion of the latter would reduce current match capacity available in Bristol East Fringe on Saturdays from 16 match sessions to 12, given the pitch at Kings Oak Academy is unusable.
- ✦ As there is no recorded hockey use of these sites there would be little foreseen impact on hockey, whilst there may be a benefit in that transfer of football demand to the new 3G surfaces may create additional capacity to allow for hockey growth at Hanham Woods Academy.
- ✦ **Reprovision at The Grange School** – the current unavailability of the AGP at The Grange School has had little impact on current hockey demand as there are no present hockey users. The impact of this equates to a reduced match capacity in Bristol East Fringe available on Saturdays from 16 match sessions to 12.
- ✦ Coupled with a potential resurfacing of the pitch at Downend School/Sports Centre to 3G, this would reduce match capacity available in Bristol East Fringe on Saturdays from 12 match sessions to eight, though at present there is only a requirement for one match session from Jaspers Ladies HC.

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- ◀ **Accommodating displaced training demand** – in order to accommodate displaced training demand from Bristol & West HC and South Gloucestershire HC there is a need to access additional midweek capacity of two hours in the Rural Area and 1.5 hours in the Bristol North Fringe Area.
- ◀ In light of proposed 3G pitch developments in the Bristol North Fringe Area, it is likely that a transfer of football training demand from sand based AGPs will create additional capacity to accommodate displaced training demand from South Gloucestershire HC.
- ◀ However, there is just one AGP in the Rural Area and there are no reported proposals to increase full sized 3G provision at present. Creation of a new hockey suitable AGP would create the required capacity to accommodate displaced training demand from Bristol & West HC and match play demand which current exceeds recommended capacity at Winterbourne International Academy.
- ◀ **Loss of aged surfaces** – should all seven surfaces which currently exceed the recommended surface lifespan become unusable (for example they become unsafe or poor quality to be used for matches) there would be a need to accommodate 11 teams district wide, equating to 5.5 match sessions per week. This would equate to four match sessions in the Rural Area and 1.5 match sessions in the Bristol North Fringe Area.
- ◀ **Increasing the number of 3G pitches** – given the shortfall of full sized 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire and use of sand AGPs for football training, there is a likely impact on the future sustainability of hockey suitable AGPs as some football demand is likely to transfer onto 3G pitches as more are provided.
- ◀ This considered, the increase in 3G pitches across the district is likely to lead to an increase in capacity freed up for hockey training, created by the transfer of football training demand onto 3G pitches. However, a proportion of football use should be retained on sand based pitches in order to ensure their future sustainability.

Recommendations – hockey

- ◀ Retain a minimum of eight hockey suitable full sized AGPs to accommodate current and future demand.
- ◀ Monitor the condition of surfaces which currently exceed the recommended lifespan. As a priority this should include the four which are rated as standard quality and may be at risk of becoming poor quality, as all accommodate current club hockey demand.
- ◀ Seek to secure access to midweek capacity for training likely to be created through transfer of football training demand to 3G. This will allow for the accommodation of displaced demand and future growth.
- ◀ Consider options to develop increased provision in the Rural Area. Though use in excess of capacity amounts to just 0.5 match sessions and is sustainable in the short term through co-ordinated fixture scheduling, future demand forecasts indicate the likely creation of at least one new senior team in the Rural Area which will require access to match and training capacity.
- ◀ Encourage providers to put sinking funds (formed by periodically setting aside money over time ready for surface replacement when required) in place to maintain AGP pitch quality in the long term.
- ◀ England Hockey, the FA and the RFU to work in partnership to identify sand based AGPs which could be resurfaced to 3G such as Kings Oak Academy and Downend School/Sports Centre, ensuring a balance of surface types to best meet needs of all three sports.

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Rugby league

Summary

- There are presently no dedicated rugby league pitches in South Gloucestershire. All use takes place on either rugby union pitches or 3G pitches.
- The rugby union pitch at Landseer Avenue used by Bristol Sonics RL is poor quality and receives year-long use, limiting opportunities for required remedial work and rest through the rugby union off-season.
- The full sized 3G pitch at South Gloucestershire & Stroud (WISE Campus) is good quality, however despite certification for World Rugby compliancy the pitch is not certified by the RFL for contact play and practice.
- Bristol Sonics RL is the only rugby league club in South Gloucestershire and has two adult and two junior teams. There are also two other teams, at Bristol Academy of Sport and UWE respectively.
- The quality of current provision for rugby league does not meet present requirements, both in terms of grass pitch quality at Landseer Avenue and uncertainty over whether the 3G pitch at WISE Campus is RFL Community Standard accredited. There is a need for better quality pitch provision to accommodate both Bristol Sonics RL and UWE teams as rugby union pitches used by both at Landseer Avenue are overplayed.
- However, this could be addressed through already identified planned and proposed developments at Shaftesbury Park and Hillside Gardens respectively or through the creation of a specific rugby league pitch. Priority in the short term should be to secure access to better quality capacity either on 3G or grass at Shaftesbury Park for Bristol Sonics RL and UWE.

Scenarios

- Loss of access** – should Bristol Sonics RL not move to Shaftesbury Park with current hosts Dings RFC, there would be a need to accommodate 1.5 match sessions on senior sized grass pitches (one senior and two youth teams) as well as approximately two match sessions of training. Given the extent of demand, this could be on either rugby union pitches as present or on compliant 3G pitches.
Increased demand – more regular play from a competitive league team at UWE would create a need to accommodate 0.5 match sessions training and one match session of training on a weekly basis. The university has existing links with Dings RFC and demand may be accommodated on the compliant 3G pitch without contributing additional demand on grass rugby union pitches.

Recommendations – rugby league

- Establish secured tenure for Bristol Sonics RL at a new site when Landseer Avenue is developed on. This could be through retaining links with Dings Crusaders RFC at Shaftesbury Park.
- Strengthen Bristol Sonics RL and UWE links with Dings RFC to create a dual code hub for community rugby league and rugby union in the area.
- Consider increased use of 3G provision should the Club relocate to Shaftesbury Park, therefore reducing the year round impact on rugby union pitches.
- Continue to develop rugby league participation in schools through the Sky Try programme and at South Gloucestershire & Stroud College through Bristol Rugby League Academy.
- Consider potential for creation of specific grass rugby league pitch in future should demand require.

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Lacrosse

- There are no dedicated grass Lacrosse pitches in South Gloucestershire, neither are any AGPs (sand based or 3G) marked for lacrosse use.
- All lacrosse is played on other grass sports pitches which are overmarked for lacrosse at Filton Sports & Leisure (Elm Park) (standard quality - football) and Clifton Rugby Club (standard quality - rugby union).
- Bristol Bombers Lacrosse Club is the only community club in South Gloucestershire. It has two men's and one women's team, all of which are based at Clifton Rugby Club for matches and training.
- UWE also has two men's teams and two women's teams, all of which at Filton Sports & Leisure (Elm Park).
Current demand for lacrosse is considered able to be sufficiently accommodated by existing provision, though it may have an impact on provision for rugby union which should be reviewed periodically.

Recommendations – lacrosse

- Existing quantity of provision to be protected.
- Ensure sufficient access for Bristol Bombers and UWE teams to both training and competitive provision for lacrosse.
- Review suitability of lacrosse provision in future in order to ensure demand is catered for without impacting on rugby union provision at Clifton Rugby Club.

American football

- There is one American football pitch at South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE Campus). All play presently takes place on either this pitch or the World Rugby compliant 3G pitch on the same site.
- There are three adult American football teams and five U19 teams playing in South Gloucestershire. All American football activity is based at South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE Campus) which acts as a hub site for the sport in the area.
- The level of American football demand is considered able to be accommodated by existing facilities.

Recommendations – American football

- Existing quantity of provision to be protected.
- Ensure a mechanism is in place which ensures the long term sustainability of the World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at WISE Campus. This is a key training and match facility for American football teams and loss of access would impact significantly on the sport in the area.
- Support the continued growth of American football in the area, particularly youth participation in the Bristol Community League, through developing and strengthening links to local schools.
- Consider potential for use of new World Rugby compliant 3G pitches to create satellite clubs and widen competition across the area from the current hub at WISE Campus.

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PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The strategic recommendations for the Strategy have been developed from the key issues cutting across all playing pitch sports and categorised under each of the Strategy Aims. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed which apply across outdoor pitch provision and may not be specific to just one sport.

Aim 1

To **protect** the existing supply of playing pitch facilities where it is needed for meeting current or future needs

Recommendations:

- a. Protect playing field sites through 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 – Protect playing field sites through local planning policy

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used playing field sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. Therefore, based on the outcomes of the PPS, local planning policy should reflect this situation.

NPPF paragraph 74 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 needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

Lapsed and disused – playing field sites that formerly accommodated playing pitches but are no longer used for formal or informal sports use within the last five years (disused) or longer (lapsed).

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used playing field sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. Lapsed, disused, underused and poor quality sites should also be protected from development or replaced as there is a requirement for playing field land to accommodate more pitches to meet the identified shortfalls.

As far as possible the PPS aims to capture all pitches within South Gloucestershire. However, there may be instances, for example at school sites, where access was not possible and has led to omissions within the report. Where pitches have not been recorded within the report they remain as pitches and for planning purposes continue to be so. Furthermore, exclusion of a pitch does not mean that it is not required from a supply and demand perspective.

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New housing development - where proposed housing development is located within access of a high quality playing pitch, this does not necessarily mean that there is no need for further pitch provision or improvements to existing pitches in that area in order to accommodate additional demand arising from that development. The PPS should be used to help determine what impact the new development will have on the demand and capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for improvements to increase capacity or if new provision is required.

The PPS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new playing fields, pitches 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 as statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing field will use the PPS to help assess that planning application against their Playing Fields Policy

Sport England's playing field policy exception E1 only allows for development of lapsed or disused playing fields if a PPS shows a clear excess in the quantity of playing pitch provision at present and in the future across all playing pitch sports 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 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 Sport England policy exception E4.

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.

Further to this, all playing fields should be protected or replaced up until the point where all satisfied demand has been met within the study area or each individual sports catchment areas within a sub area.

Each currently disused/lapsed site is included within the action plan together with a recommendation in relation to the need to bring the site back into use or mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified with the Assessment.

Local authorities wanting to dispose of school playing field land need consent under Section 77 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998, but consent is now also required for disposal of any land used by a school or academy under Schedule 1 to the Academies Act 2010. Academies also need consent to any leases or disposals under their Funding Agreement.

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It should be noted that consent under Section 77 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act does not necessarily mean subsequent planning approval will be granted. Therefore, any application for planning permission must meet the requirements of the relevant policy, in this case paragraph 74 of NPPF, Local Plan Policy and Sport England policy. Indeed, applicants are advised to engage Sport England before submitting applications. Robust implementation of the statutory obligation will ensure protection of school playing fields for use by pupils (and sometimes the community as a whole) to ensure receipt is ploughed back into sports education.

Recommendation b – Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs through a range of solutions and partnership agreements

A number of school sites are being used in South Gloucestershire for competitive play, predominately for football. In all cases use of pitches has not been classified as unsecure, however, use is not necessarily formalised and further work should be carried out to ensure an appropriate Community Use Agreement (CUA) is in place (including access to changing provision where required).

NGBs can often help to negotiate and engage with schools, particularly academies where the local authority may not have direct influence.

Sport England has also produced guidance, online resources and toolkits to help open up and retain school sites for community use and can be found at:

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/use-our-school/>

Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council, NGBs or the County Sports Partnership (CSP) to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership working. For example, to support club development and encourage clubs to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate an income through their facilities. All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)¹¹. Clubs should also be encouraged to work with partners locally whether volunteer support agencies or linking with local businesses.

As well as improving the quality of well-used, local authority sites, there are a number of sites which have poor quality (or no) ancillary facilities. **The Council should further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted to the clubs playing on these sites (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs) so the clubs are in a position to apply for external funding to improve the ancillary facilities.**

Further to this there could be examples in South Gloucestershire where long term leases could be put into place for the continued use of a site. Each club should be required to meet service and/or strategic recommendations. However, an additional set of criteria should be considered, which takes into account the quality of the club, aligned to its long term development objectives and sustainability.

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 in order that they may be able to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities.

To facilitate this, the Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds to allow this.

¹¹ <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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Recommended criteria for lease of sport sites to clubs/organisations

Club	Site
<p>Clubs should have Clubmark/FA Charter Standard accreditation award.</p> <p>Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links.</p> <p>Clubs are sustainable, both in a financial sense and via their internal management structures in relation to recruitment and retention policy for both players and volunteers.</p> <p>Ideally, clubs should have already identified (and received an agreement in principle) any match funding required for initial capital investment identified.</p> <p>Clubs have processes in place to ensure capacity to maintain sites to the existing, or better, standards.</p>	<p>Sites should be those identified as 'Club Sites' (recommendation d) for new clubs (i.e. not those with a District wide significance) but which offer development potential. For established clubs which have proven success in terms of self-management 'Key Centres' are also appropriate.</p> <p>As a priority, sites should acquire capital investment to improve (which can be attributed to the presence of a Clubmark/Charter Standard club).</p> <p>Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site.</p> <p>An NGB/Council representative should sit on a management committee for each site leased to a club.</p>

The Council can further recognise the value of NGB club accreditation by adopting a policy of prioritising the clubs that are to have access to these better quality facilities. This may be achieved by inviting clubs to apply for season long leases on a particular site as an initial trial.

The Council should establish a series of core outcomes to derive from clubs taking on a lease arrangement to ensure that the most appropriate clubs are assigned to sites. As an example outcomes may include:

- ✦ Increasing participation.
- ✦ Supporting the development of coaches and volunteers.
- ✦ Commitment to quality standards.
- ✦ Improvements (where required) to facilities, or as a minimum retaining existing standards.

In addition, clubs should be made fully aware of the associated responsibilities/liabilities when considering leases of multi-use public playing fields.

Community asset transfer

The Council should continue to work towards adopting a policy which supports community management and ownership of assets to local clubs, community groups and trusts. This presents sports clubs and national governing bodies with opportunities to take ownership of their own facilities; it may also provide non-asset owning sports clubs with their first chance to take on a building.

The Council should seek to promote a sports association or trust based model of management, for example by formation of Community Interest Company (CIC) or Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). By transferring management to such an organisation which represents all sporting user groups and clubs playing onsite rather than just the interests of one, it offers equal responsibility for all sports. This would help to protect against sudden threat of loss such as that experienced by cricket clubs in South Gloucestershire, where leaseholders or interested parties are not able or choose not to retain cricket provision onsite and where cricket users have little or influence over the management of the site. The Council should give consideration to adopting this model of asset transfer moving forwards, including the

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renegotiation of existing leases due to expire, providing this does not significantly impact on the business model and sustainability of existing management arrangements. The Council should also advocate the benefits of this model of management which include a strengthening and sharing of both physical and volunteer resources, greater cohesiveness and consciousness of other site users, development of a shared social environment and opportunities for cross participation and recruitment from other sports clubs using the site. This would also allow for greater opportunities for new sports or those which are not currently represented in the district to access playing pitch provision by affiliating to an existing multi sport organisation.

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: <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/asset-transfer/>

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Recommendation c – Maximise community use of education sites where there is a need to do so

In order to maximise community use of educational facilities it is recommended to establish a more coherent, structured relationship with schools. 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. In South Gloucestershire pricing policies at facilities can be barrier to access at some of the education sites but physical access and resistance from schools, especially academies, to open up provision is also an issue.

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 school/college and the local clubs. The Council and other key partners must work with schools and colleges to develop an understanding of the issues that restrict or affect community access. Support should be provided, where appropriate, to address underlying problems. Consideration should be given to a centralised booking system for community use of schools and colleges to minimise administration and make access easier for the users.

It is not uncommon for school pitch stock not to be fully maximised for community use. Even on established community use sites, access to grass pitches for community use is limited.

In some instances grass pitches are unavailable for community use due to poor quality and therefore remedial works will be required before community use can be established.

As detailed earlier, Sport England has also produced guidance, online resources and toolkits to help open up and retain school sites for community use and can be found at:

Community use: <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/accessing-schools/>

Use our schools toolkit: <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/use-our-school/>

Although there are a growing number of academies and college sites in South Gloucestershire where the Council has no control over the running of, 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, the relevant NGB has a role to play in supporting the Council to deliver the strategy and communicating with schools where necessary to address shortfalls in provision, particularly for football pitches.

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Aim 2

To **enhance** playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites

Recommendation:

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

Recommendation d – Improve quality

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality, including for example, addressing overplay and improving maintenance. These are explored in more detail below.

Addressing quality issues

Generally where pitches are assessed as standard or poor quality and/or overplayed, review/improve maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring existing maintenance of good quality pitches continues is also important.

Based on 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 (using the site audit database, provided in electronic format). The Strategy approach to these outdoor sports pitches achieving these standards should be to enhance quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.

For the purposes of the Quality Assessments, this Strategy will refer to pitches and ancillary facilities separately as Good, Standard or Poor quality. In South Gloucestershire, for example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements i.e. changing rooms or a specific pitch.

Good quality refers to pitches that have, for example, a good maintenance regime coupled with good grass cover, an even surface, are free from vandalism, litter etc. In terms of ancillary facilities, good quality refers to access for disabled people, sufficient provision for referees, juniors/women/girls and appropriate provision of showers, toilets and car parking. For rugby union, a good pitch is also pipe and/or slit drained.

Standard quality refers to pitches that have, for example, an adequate maintenance regime coupled with adequate grass cover, minimal signs of wear and tear, goalposts may be secure but in need of minor repair. In terms of ancillary facilities, standard quality refers to adequately sized changing rooms, storage provision and provision of toilets. For rugby union, drainage is natural and adequate.

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Poor quality refers to pitches that have, for example, poor levels of maintenance coupled with inadequate grass cover, uneven surface and damage. In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate size of changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old dated interior. For rugby union, drainage is natural and inadequate.

Please refer to the Sport England/NGB quality assessments. Sites played beyond capacity may require remedial action to help reduce this.

In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate size of changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old dated interior.

Without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, good quality pitches may be underutilised. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer and therefore key sites such as those mentioned above should be given priority for improvement.

In order to prioritise investment into key sites **it is recommended that the steering group works up a list of criteria, relevant to the Area, to provide a steer on future investment.**

Addressing overplay

In order to improve the overall quality of the playing pitches stock; it is necessary to ensure that pitches are not overplayed beyond recommended weekly carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing pitch quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a weekly match limit to each. Each NGB recommends a number of matches that a good quality grass pitch should take:

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 ¹²	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
Rugby league	Senior	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	N/A	N/A
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season		

There are also a number of sites that are poor quality but are not overplayed. These sites should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than other sites but demand could increase if the quality was to increase. Improving pitch quality should not be considered in isolation from maintenance regimes.

Whilst it works both ways in so much as poor pitch condition is a symptom of pitches being over played, potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular.

¹² Please note that the RFU believes that it is most appropriate to base the calculation of pitch capacity upon an assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme afforded to a site.

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There is also a need to balance pitch improvements alongside the transfer of play to alternative pitch sites. Therefore, work with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity and encourage play, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues which are not operating at capacity.

Increasing pitch maintenance

Standard or poor grass pitch quality may not just be a result of poor drainage. In some instances ensuring there is an appropriate maintenance for the level/standard of play can help to improve quality and therefore increase pitch capacity. Each NGB can provide assistance with reviewing pitch maintenance regimes.

For example, the FA, ECB and RFL in partnership have recently introduced a Pitch Advisor Scheme and have been working in partnership with Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG) to develop a Grass Pitch Maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots football clubs with the simple aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide football clubs with advice/practical solutions on a number of areas, with the simple aim of improving the club's playing surface.

Given that the Council will transfer the management and maintenance of its outdoor sports pitches, it is recommended that it works with new site management organisations, users and both local and national governing bodies to fully determine the most appropriate pitch improvements on a site by site basis.

In relation to cricket, maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. The ECB recommends full technical assessments of wickets and pitches available through a Performance Quality Standard Assessment (PQS). The PQS assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether the pitch meets the Performance Quality Standards that are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship. Please note that PQS assessments are also available for other sports.

Recommendation e – Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) for 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 7: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

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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 is directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in playing pitch facilities. It is recognised that due to the CSP, investment in new provision will not be made by the Council directly. However, the Council still maintains a role and responsibility to provide access to sport and exercise facilities for residents, linking to the wider health agenda and aims. It also maintains an important role in helping secure partnership funding and support for schemes for improvement and development.

The Council seeks to direct and lead a strategic and co-ordinated approach to facility development by education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector to address community needs whilst avoiding duplication of provision. In delivering this recommendation the Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners and through the Playing Pitch Steering Group.

Please refer to Appendix Three for further funding information which includes details of the current opportunities, likely funding requirements and indicative project costs.

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. However, one of sport's greatest contributions is its positive impact on public health. It is therefore important to lever in investment from other sectors such as health and wellbeing for example.

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Aim 3

To **provide** new outdoor sports pitches and ancillary provision where there is current or future demand to do so

Recommendations:

- g. Secure planning gain for playing pitches from housing growth
- h. Rectify quantitative shortfalls in the current pitch stock.
- i. Identify opportunities to add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand.

Recommendation g - Secure planning gain for playing pitches from housing growth

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. The Playing Pitch Assessment and Strategy should be used as the evidence base for securing and negotiating developer contributions.

The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate playing fields and subsequent maintenance. Section 106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes of the pitches in order to increase pitch capacity to accommodate more matches. A number of planning policy objectives should 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 must be completed specifying the contributions agreed or the formula/formulae for calculating the contributions, based on uplifted IDP Update 2014 costs. Costs are indexed using GM87 published by the Building Cost Information Service.
- ✦ Contributions should also be secured towards the first fifteen years of maintenance on new pitches. NGBs 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 on site.
- ✦ All new or improved playing pitches on school sites should be subject to community use agreements. For further guidance please refer to Sport England:
<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/community-use-agreements/>

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Housing growth scenario

The current resident population in South Gloucestershire is 277,600^[1]. By 2036 South Gloucestershire's population is projected to increase to 330,831^[2] an increase of 53,231 (or equivalent to a percentage increase of 19%) according to ONS data. This level of future demand has already been factored into the calculation to identify shortfalls in provision.

The adopted Core Strategy (December 2013) contains the following strategic housing site allocations (sites with in excess of 500 new homes):

Cribs Patchway- 5,700 houses
East of Harry stoke- 2,000 houses
North Yate New Neighbourhood- 3,000 houses
Emerson Green- 2,500 houses.
Thornbury – 500 houses

In addition to this, strategic sites identified as part of the 2016 Joint Spatial Plan '*Towards an Emerging Spatial Strategy*'*, which will be taken forward in the new South Gloucestershire Local Plan, are listed below.

Yate/Chipping Sodbury- 2,600
Buckover- 2,200
Charfield- 1,000
Coalpit Health- 1,500
Thornbury- 600.

*- Please note these emerging JSP figures have been superseded by the November 2017 Joint Spatial Plan Publication Document

It is important that the Council secures appropriate contributions from all new developments to provide for the sporting needs arising from the residents of that development. Adopted Core Strategy Policy CS24: Green Infrastructure, Sport and Recreation Standards, sets out the spatial requirements for new outdoor sport facilities.

The exact nature and location of provision associated with future developments should be fully determined through the local planning process, taking account of provision available in the vicinity of the development, and in partnership with each specific NGB, which may, for example, include off site contributions in the form of upgrading pitches at existing sites where appropriate and in accordance with adopted planning policy.

Recommendation h - Rectify quantitative shortfalls in the current pitch stock

The Council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the Assessment Report and the sport by sport specific recommendations.

It is important that the current levels of grass pitch provision are protected, maintained and enhanced to secure provision now and in the future. For most sports the future demand for

^[1] Source: ONS Mid-2016 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas in England and Wales by Single Year of Age and Sex and ONS 2012-based projections 2012-2032. Released: 29 May 2014

^[2] Source: ONS 2012-based projections 2012-2037. Released: 29 May 2014

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provision identified in South Gloucestershire can be overcome through maximising use of existing pitches through a combination of:

- ◀ Improving pitch quality in order to improve the capacity of pitches to accommodate more matches.
- ◀ The re-designation of pitches for which there is an oversupply.
- ◀ Securing long term community use at school sites.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.

While maximising the use of existing pitches offers scope to address the quantitative deficiencies for most sports, new or additional cricket squares on public or private fields, as well as improving existing wickets is required to meet the levels of demand identified for cricket both now and in the future.

There may be an opportunity to use some senior pitches to provide senior, junior or mini pitches (through different line markings/coning areas of the pitch). However, further work should be undertaken on this as an action for the Council/NGBs. Furthermore the re-designation of adult pitches that are not currently used may lead to a deficiency of adult pitches in the medium to longer term as younger players move up the ages. It is likely that for some sports, particularly football, that the provision of new pitches and facilities will be required in the future to support the predicted future demand.

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.

Furthermore, retaining some spare capacity allows some pitches to be rested to protect overall pitch quality in the long term. Therefore, whilst in some instances it may be appropriate to re-designate a senior pitch where there is low demand identified a holistic approach should be taken to re-designation for the reasons cited. The site-by-site action planning will seek to provide further clarification on where re-designation is suitable.

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Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends:

Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
Football	As a result of the FA Youth Development Review pitch demands are changing. This could also see changes in the seasonal demand of pitches (youth football).	Consider re-allocating leases to Community Charter Standard clubs with a large number of teams. Work with clubs to identify facility development opportunities. Work with clubs in relation to their pitch demands as a result of the FA Youth Development Review.
	Demand for senior football is likely to be sustained based on current trends and the move to small sided football. County FA focus to maintain growth of youth football through to adults.	Sustain current stock but consideration given to reconfigure pitches if required.
	An increase in women and girls football following £2.4m investment from Sport England between 2014 and 2016 to increase the number of women and girls taking part in football sessions. Additionally, one of the major goals of The FA's 'Game Changer' strategy for Women's and Girls' football (2017-2020) is to double participation from the current 6,000 teams to 12,000.	A need to provide segregated ancillary facilities and the potential need for more pitches.
Cricket	Demand is likely to remain static in South Gloucestershire for grass wickets for both junior and adult participation.	Isolated pockets of demand for access to additional facilities where pitches are operating at capacity. A need to encourage greater use of non-turf wickets particularly for junior use to help meet shortfalls.
	Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish two girls' and one women's team in every local authority over the next five years.	Support clubs to ensure access to segregated changing and toilet provision and access to good quality cricket pitches to support growth.
Rugby union	Locally, the RFU wants to ensure access to pitches in South Gloucestershire that satisfies existing demand and predicted growth. It is also an aim to protect and improve pitch quality, as well as ancillary facilities including changing rooms and floodlights.	Clubs are likely to field more teams in the future. It is important, therefore, to work with the clubs to maintain the current pitch stock, support facility development where appropriate and increase the number of floodlit pitches where necessary.
Rugby league	RFL is working towards growing rugby league participation including through growth at junior clubs, Play Touch RL and 9 aside RL.	Review the need for dedicated rugby league pitches in the next three years. Seek 3G pitch venues for Play Touch and grass pitches for 9 aside.
Hockey	Potential increase of participation particularly junior teams.	Sinking funds in place to improve quality and ensure continued use of provision for current and future hockey demand.

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Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
AGPs	<p>Demand for 3G pitches for competitive football will increase. It is likely that future demand for the use of 3G pitches to service competitive football, particularly mini and youth will result in some reduced demand for grass pitches.</p> <p>Provision of 3G pitches which are World Rugby compliant will help to reduce overplay as a result of training on rugby pitches.</p>	Ensure that access to new AGP provision across the District is maximised and that community use agreements are in place.

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

The Council should use, and regularly update, the Action Plan within this Strategy for improvements to its own pitches 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.

Furthermore any potential school sites which become redundant over the lifetime of the Strategy may offer potential for meeting community needs on a localised basis. Where schools are closed their playing fields may be converted to dedicated community use to help address any unmet community needs.

Some sites (or adjacent land) in South Gloucestershire also have the potential to accommodate more pitches which may be a solution to meeting shortfalls identified as is further explored within the action plan.

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PART 6: ACTION PLAN

Introduction

The site-by-site action plan list seeks to address key issues identified in the accompanying 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. Recommendation e below explains the hierarchy of priorities on the list. It is imperative that action plans for priority projects should be developed through the implementation of the strategy.

The Council should make it a high priority to work with NGBs and other partners to comprise a priority list of actions based on local priorities, NGB priorities and available funding.

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

To allow for facility developments to be prioritised and programmed within a phased approach a tiered model to for the improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities is useful.

The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in a District-wide context i.e. they accommodate the majority of demand or the recommended action has the greatest impact on addressing shortfalls identified either on a sport by sport basis or across the District as a whole.

Recommended tiered site criteria:

Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Strategically located. Priority sites for NGB.	Strategically located within the analysis area.	Serves the local community. Likely to include education sites.
Accommodates three or more good quality grass pitches. Including provision of at least one AGP.	Accommodates two or more good quality grass pitches.	Accommodates more than one pitch.
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.
Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime either by the club or in house maintenance contract.
Good quality ancillary facility on site, 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.	Appropriate access changing to accommodate both senior and junior use concurrently (if required).

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Hub sites are of District wide importance where users are willing to travel to access the range and high quality of facilities offered and are likely to be multi sport. These have been identified on the basis of high impact on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

The financial, social and sporting benefits which can be achieved through development of strategic sites (also known as hub sites) are significant. Sport England provides further guidance on the development of community sports hubs at:

http://www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/planning_tools_and_guidance/sports_hubs.aspx

Where development of Strategic Sites includes provision of 3G pitches for football it is recommended that further modelling/feasibility work is carried out to ensure sustainability of new 3G pitches to accommodate competitive fixtures. However, as a priority consultation should be carried out with leagues/clubs to gauge acceptance/buy in of moving competitive play to 3G pitches in the future.

Key centres although these sites are more community focused, some are still likely to service a wider analysis area (or slightly wider). However, there may be more of a focus on a specific sport i.e. a dedicated site.

It is considered that some financial investment will be necessary to improve the ancillary facilities at both Hub sites and Key Centres 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 which are generally one and two pitch sites and may be Council owned hired to clubs for a season or are sites which have been leased on a long-term basis. However, they are also likely to be private club sites serving one particular sport.

The level of priority attached to them for Council-generated investment may be relatively low and consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking a long-term lease on the site (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought.

It is possible that sites could be included in this tier which are not currently hired or leased to a club, but have the potential to be leased to a suitable club. NGBs would expect the facility to be transferred in an adequate condition that the club can maintain. In the longer term, the Club should be in a position to source external funding to improve/extend the facilities.

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.

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- ◆ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.
- ◆ Availability of funding for hub site development.
- ◆ Impact on all sports that use a site regardless of the sport that is the subject of enhancements.

Action plan columns

Partners

The column indicating Partners refers to the main organisation that the Council will liaise with in helping to deliver the actions. The next stage in the development of the action plan will be to agree a Lead Partner to help deliver the actions.

Site hierarchy tier and priority level

Although Strategic Sites are mostly likely to have a **high** priority level as they have District 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 and therefore some Key Centres are also identified as having a high priority level. It is these projects/sites which should generally be addressed within the short term (1-2 years).

It is recommended that as the Steering Group reviews and updates the action plan that medium and low priority sites are then identified as the next level of sites for attention. As a guide it is recommended that:

Key centres are a **medium** priority and have analysis 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.

Low priority sites are club or education sites with local specific importance and have been identified on a site by site basis as issues appertaining to individual sites but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment

Costs

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

(L) - Low - less than £50k; (M) - Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) - High £250k and above. These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at www.sportengland.org/media/198443/facility-costs-4q13.pdf

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 timescales relate to delivery times and are not priority based.

Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

Aim

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

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BRISTOL NORTH FRINGE

Table 6.1: Summary of current and future supply and demand balance in the Bristol North Fringe Area

Sport	Current demand ¹³	Future demand (2036) ¹⁴
Football (grass pitches)	Adult: 14 match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 11v11: Five match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 9v9: 1.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 7v7: Nine match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 5v5: 4.5 match sessions actual spare capacity.	Adult: 11 match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 11v11: 1.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 9v9: Shortfall of three youth match sessions per week. Mini 7v7: 7.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 5v5: 3.5 match sessions actual spare capacity.
Football (3G AGPs) ¹⁵	Shortfall of two full sized pitches with floodlighting to accommodate training demand.	Shortfall of three full sized pitches with floodlighting to accommodate training demand.
Cricket	Current demand based on the 2016 season can be met.	Shortfall of six match sessions per week¹⁶.
Rugby union (senior pitches)	Shortfall of ten match sessions per week on senior pitches.	Shortfall of 14 match sessions per week on senior pitches.
Hockey (Sand/water based AGPs)	Demand for access to additional training capacity.	Demand for access to additional training capacity.
Rugby league	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for if Bristol Sonics RL relocates to Shaftesbury Park.
American Football	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
Lacrosse	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.

Summary of grass football pitches required to meet current and future demand

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ¹⁷	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Adult	18	+3	15	4	11
Youth 11v11	5	-	5	3.5	1.5
Youth 9v9	2	+0.5	1.5	4.5	+3
Mini 7v7	9	-	9	1.5	7.5
Mini 5v5	4.5	-	4.5	1	3.5
Total	38.5	+3.5	35	14.5	20.5

¹³ Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay, demand and spare capacity.

¹⁴ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2036 if the current demand is not met.

¹⁵ Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training. Refer to the scenario in Appendix One.

¹⁶ When accounting for future demand projections and potential loss of all 'at risk' sites detailed on page 14.

¹⁷ In match equivalent sessions per week

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- ◆ Spare capacity exists overall on all pitch types pitches both now and in the future, with the exception of youth 9v9 pitches for which there is a future shortfall of three match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◆ Pitches are overplayed at Cribbs Football Club, Filton Sports & Leisure Centre (Elm Park) and South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE Campus).
- ◆ The FA model suggests there is a current requirement for three full sized, floodlit 3G pitches at present, increasing to four by 2036. There is presently one full sized 3G pitch at South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE Campus).

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
1	Abbeywood School	AGP	School	Sand filled AGP with floodlighting, rated as good quality with the carpet now six years old. Used for hockey matches and training by two women's teams from BAC HC. Also used by junior teams from Bradley Stoke United Youth FC for training.	Maintain rigorously to sustain quality for school and community use. Ensure a mechanism for sustainability such as a sinking fund is in place to fund future repairs and resurfacing.	School EH FA	Local site	S-M	L	Protect
8	Bailey's Court Activity Centre	Football	Town Council	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches with no peak time capacity. Marked onto the cricket pitch outfield. Well used by over ten teams from Bradley Stoke Youth FC.	Continue to rigorously maintain the outfield to meet both the needs of football and cricket. Determine the potential to mark additional pitches on the outfield area if required, such as youth 9v9 pitches as mini teams transition to larger pitch sizes.	Town Council FA ECB	Local site	S	L	Protect Provide
		Cricket		Good quality square with six wickets supported by a non-turf pitch (NTP). Used by Bradley Stoke CC and considered to be overplayed by 30 matches per season.	Continue to conduct a high standard of maintenance to sustain levels of overplay in the short term. Seek to transfer play onto the NTP or to Bradley Stoke Community School which the Club also uses, in order to reduce the level of overplay. Consider feasibility of increasing the number of wickets on the square to create additional capacity to reduce overplay.			S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
10	Bakewell Memorial Ground	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Two senior pitches owned by resident club Bristol Saracens RFC, each partially floodlit along one touchline and used for training. Standard (M1/D1) quality and overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week. The Club has aspirations to redevelop current changing provision and improve toilet facilities.	Seek to improve pitch quality through better and more frequent maintenance to eliminate current level of overplay. Support the Club in making improvements to ancillary provision and potential opportunities to access Section 106 funding linked to the Cribbs Causeway development. Monitor Club growth and ability to cater for increased demand arising from nearby housing growth.	Sports Club Private Council RFU	Local site	S-M	L	Protect Provide
			Private	Small sized senior pitch without floodlighting located on neighbouring farming land and maintained by the Club. Privately owned and used on license, mainly by mini and junior teams on Sunday mornings. The area where the pitch is situated forms part of the proposed Cribbs Causeway residential development and use may be lost for a period of time, though a senior pitch is to be retained on the land as publically accessible open space.	Ensure the pitch is reprovided to meet RFU recommended dimensions and is built to the required quality. Secure access for the Club when the pitch is reprovided and seek to formally establish tenure despite need to retain as publicly accessible land. Establish access to supplementary provision in the short term to accommodate for mini and junior demand on Sunday mornings for the time when this pitch is lost.					

¹⁸ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁹ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
13	BAWA Healthcare and Leisure	Football	Commercial	Six adult pitches, one youth 9v9 pitch and one unused mini 7v7 pitch, all rated as good quality. Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions per week on adult pitches but no actual spare capacity for youth 9v9 football. Used by 12 different football clubs as well as UWE teams midweek.	Ensure level and standard of maintenance is continued or improved to sustain good pitch quality. Consider reconfiguration of adult pitches to youth 11v11 size to better suit youth 11v11 teams currently playing on adult pitches.	Commercial FA	Key centre	S	L	Protect
		Rugby union		Two standard quality senior pitches without floodlighting rated as standard quality (M1/D1 and M1/D0). All training takes place on separate floodlit training area. One match session available at peak time but not considered as available capacity as community use is restricted.	Improve pitch quality through better and more frequent maintenance. Seek to address drainage issues on the M1/D0 pitch either through greater aeration or installation of a drainage system.	Commercial RFU		S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Two good quality squares of ten and eight wickets respectively. Used by six teams, most of which are single teams rather than associated to establish clubs, except for Bishopston CC third and fourth teams. No spare capacity at peak time but able to accommodate an additional 32 matches per season.	Maximise capacity available at non-peak times for midweek or Sunday cricket. Continue to conduct a high standard of maintenance to sustain pitch quality.	Commercial ECB		S	L	Protect Enhance
20	Bradley Stoke Community School/Leisure Centre	Football	School/Leisure Trust	Three adult pitches and one mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard quality. Used by Bradley Stoke Youth FC and Bradley Stoke Ladies FC. Likely to be played to capacity in light of school use, though any capacity considered to be unavailable due to insecure tenure for clubs.	Seek to improve pitch quality through increased and better quality maintenance to increase capacity, so better able to sustain levels of combined school and community use. Consider reconfiguration of pitches to youth 11v11 size to not only better suit school use but also community teams, several of which are youth 11v11 teams using adult pitches.	School Leisure Trust FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality square with six wickets supported by an NTP. Used by Bradley Stoke CC third and fourth teams on Saturday as a secondary venue. Grass square unused but for school use with community teams playing on the NTP.	Seek to increase access and transfer use from Bailey's Court Activity Centre to reduce level of overplay there, for example midweek access for junior play.	School Leisure Trust ECB		S	L	Protect
21	Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre	Football	Town Council	Two standard quality adult pitches used by two teams from Bradley Stoke Town FC. Actual spare capacity of one match session. Also onsite is a youth 11v11 pitch currently unused.	Maximise existing spare capacity as an option to reduce overplay at other specific sites, such as Cribbs Football Club. Consider potential to reconfigure the youth 11v11 pitch and/or other adult pitch to accommodate future youth 9v9v shortfalls.	Town Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
34	Clifton Rugby Club	Rugby union	Sports Club	Two good quality senior pitches (M2/D1) with floodlighting, one played to capacity and one overplayed by three match sessions through midweek use by Bristol Rugby based onsite. Partially floodlit junior pitch also overplayed by one match session but a third senior pitch without floodlighting has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions. Three mini pitches onsite have no peak time capacity. Other users based onsite include Bristol Bombers Lacrosse.	Support Bristol Rugby with proposals to develop a performance training base in Failand (North Somerset) which will significant reduce total senior overplay and increase capacity available. Ensure rigorous maintenance to sustain additional lacrosse use and seek to improve quality to reduce level of overplay.	Sports Club RFU	Key centre	S-M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		AGP		Small sized AGP without floodlighting built by Bristol Rugby to help support training demand across the site. Said to be built to World rugby specifications but unsure as to whether officially certified.	Establish whether the pitch has officially been subjected to and passed World Rugby performance standard testing. Explore options to install floodlighting to increase potential to accommodate evening training. Maximise use of the 3G pitch to support grass pitches and reduce level of overplay through transfer of training demand.				L-M	
40	Cribbs Football Club	Football	Sports Club	Four adult pitches, one youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 pitch, as well as a currently unused mini 7v7 pitch. All rated as good quality. Spare capacity of one mini 5v5 and 0.5 youth 9v9 match sessions. Main Step 5 grade pitch considered to be played to capacity but the other three adult pitches are overplayed by 2.5 match sessions per week. Training base of professional club Bristol Rovers FC which significantly contributes to overplay by six match sessions per week through midweek training.	Support Bristol Rovers FC with future plans to develop a performance training base away from the site. This would eliminate overplay. Ensure level and standard of maintenance is continued or improved to sustain good pitch quality.	Sports Club FA	Key centre	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Small sized (61x43m) 3G pitch with floodlighting, used mainly for training by Cribbs FC adult and junior sections. Built in 2008 and rated as good quality, though will exceed the recommended surface lifespan within the next two years.	Ensure rigorous and regular maintenance as required to sustain pitch quality. Ensure the Club has a mechanism for sustainability such as a sinking fund in place to fund future repairs and resurfacing. Encourage the Club to subject the pitch to performance standard testing in order to increase capacity available for mini play.			S	L	
43	DRG Frenchay AFC	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch used by three adult teams. No actual spare capacity.	Ensure level and standard of maintenance is continued or improved to sustain good pitch quality. Maximise use of capacity at non-peak times to develop participation. Linked	Sports Club FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
					to Dings RFC development at Shaftesbury Park, conditional provision of pitch adjacent to existing pitch.					
47	Filton Hill Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
48	Filton Sports and Leisure Centre (Elm Park)	Football	Parish Council	Four adult pitches, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 pitches and one mini 5v5. All used and of standard quality. Youth 9v9 pitch overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week although actual spare capacity of three adult, 0.5 mini 7v7 and 0.5 min 5v5 match sessions exists. Pitches also used by UWE lacrosse teams on Wednesday afternoons.	Seek to improve pitch quality through increased and better quality maintenance to eliminate overplay. Establish possibilities to mark exclusive lacrosse pitches so to reduce impact on pitches for football use.	Parish Council FA English Lacrosse	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
51	Frenchay Hospital	Cricket	Commercial	Standalone NTP which was previously used by midweek teams and for casual use. The site is currently under development for housing though it is unknown whether cricket provision is to be retained.	Determine whether cricket provision is to be retained onsite as part of new development. Ensure cricket provision is retained or reprovided onsite or elsewhere as mitigation given future shortfalls.	Commercial ECB	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
65	Holy Trinity Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
74	Landseer Avenue	Rugby Union	Charity/ Sports Club	Four senior pitches of poor quality, used by Dings RFC, Bristol Sonics RL (summer) and irregular use by UWE rugby league team. Site is lost to housing development once new site has been reprovided to the required quality at Shaftesbury Park and Dings Crusaders RFC has successfully relocated. Linked to DRG Stapleton Site in Frenchay – conditional provision of single adult football pitch.	Support the Club in relocating and ensure that new provision provided at Shaftesbury Avenue is provided to the required standard. Seek to transfer floodlighting previously subject to RFU investment to the new site to increase floodlit capacity. Determine future plans for Bristol Sonics RL and the support the Club to secure a venue for the 2018 season, whether at Shaftesbury Park or otherwise.	Charity Sports Club RFU RFL	Key Centre	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
76	Little Stoke Park	Football	Parish Council	Four adult pitches, three youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches, used by eight different clubs. Actual spare capacity of 2.5 adult, three youth 11v11 and 1.5 youth 9v9 match equivalent sessions per week. Also onsite is a mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 pitch currently unused. All pitches rated as standard quality.	Maximise spare capacity available, notably on youth 11v11 pitches to accommodate future shortfalls. Seek to improve pitch quality through increased and better quality maintenance.	Parish Council FA	Key centre	S	L	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Small sized 3G pitch (35x40m) with floodlighting built in 2014. Used for team training, mainly by Stoke Lane Athletic Youth FC.	Maintain regularly and as required to preserve quality. Ensure the Parish Council has a mechanism for sustainability such as a sinking fund in place to fund future repairs and resurfacing.			S	L	

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
76	Little Stoke Park	Rugby union	Parish Council	Two standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitches on publicly accessible open space. One pitch fully floodlit and used for training along with an overspill training area with partial lighting. The floodlit pitch is overplayed by 2.5 match sessions a week, though the other senior pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions. The Club has aspirations to refurbish the changing rooms and clubhouse area.	Reduce overplay through a combination of improved pitch quality through better maintenance, better drainage and transfer of demand where possible. This could be through access to increased floodlit provision (grass or 3G) or increased use of the overspill training area which has just two floodlighting stanchions. Improve changing and clubhouse provision. Improvements may qualify for Section 106 funding linked to nearby development at North Bristol Park And loss of 2 rugby pitches.	Parish Council RFU	Key centre	S	H	Protect Enhance
77	Little Stoke Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch and mini 5v5 pitch unavailable for community use.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
88	Mile Straight Sports and Social Club	Football	Commercial Sports & Social Club	Two adult pitches, a mini 7v7 pitch and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality and with no regular recorded use. Tenure would be insecure and used through rental agreement.	Explore potential site users and maximise use of capacity onsite despite insecurity of tenure.	Sports & Social Club FA	Local site	S	L	Protect
		Cricket		Good quality eight wicket square used by three teams from Bohemians CC. Capacity of 18 matches per season but no peak time availability and tenure is insecure.	Seek to secure tenure through formal agreement with the sports and social club. Maximise use at non-peak times including Sundays or midweek.	Sports & Social Club ECB		S	L	Protect
91	Norman Scott Park	Football	Parish Council	Three standard quality adult pitches with actual spare capacity of two match session per week. One unused mini 7v7 pitch also of standard quality.	Maximise spare capacity available. Seek to improve pitch quality through increased and better quality maintenance. Site awarded s106 allocation and stakeholders currently reviewing playing pitch layout to accommodate a small sided 3G/4G AGP without loss of other pitches.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect
		Cricket		Good quality ten wicket square used by two teams from Patchway CC. No actual spare capacity but potential to host another 30 matches per season. Tenure is not considered to be secure.	Seek to secure tenure through formal agreement with the sports and social club. Maximise use at non-peak times including Sundays or midweek. Site awarded s106 allocation and stakeholders currently reviewing provision of cricket nets.	Parish Council ECB		S	L	Protect
99	Patchway School/Sports Centre	Football	School	Two adult, two youth 11v11, four youth 9v9 pitches and one mini 5v5 pitch all used. All rated as standard quality as well as three mini 7v7 pitches which are	Potential loss of some rugby, football and cricket capacity due to building of special needs school in the North of the site.	School/FA	Key centre	S-M	H	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
				available but have no recorded community use. Actual spare capacity of 1.5 adult and 0.5 youth 11v11 match sessions but further work required to establish true extent of school usage. Proposals to develop new school provision onsite, including a new full sized 3G pitch.	Linked to allocation of s106 funding for the Charlton Hayes development to include full sized floodlit 3G pitch, improvements to grass pitches and changing facilities, landscaping and ancillary facilities to reduce current and future shortfalls. Further consultation with the school required to fully understand the exact land use proposed by the school build along with the level of school and community use. To seek to improve pitch quality through increased and better quality maintenance to increase capacity, so better able to sustain levels of combined school and community use.					
99		Rugby Union		Poor quality (M0/D1) senior pitch without floodlighting. Used as an overspill pitch by North Bristol RFC to accommodate junior and mini play, with some similarly ad hoc use by Aretians RFC. Insecure tenure and likely to be played at least to capacity by school use.	Improve pitch quality through better and more regular maintenance to better sustain level of school and community use. Consider potential for Section 106 funding linked to nearby housing developments to improve quality and increase capacity. Seek to establish a user agreement securing access for Clubs using the site.	School/RFU	Key centre	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		Standard quality NTP available for community use but unused by clubs, only by the school.	Ensure rigorous and regular maintenance to protect quality for school use. Consider potential to be used for junior club cricket if required. Outfield dimensions to close to the school building to be used for senior cricket. Further consultation with the school required to fully understand the impact of reconfiguring pitches to include NTP.	School/ECB		S	L	
110	South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE)	Football	School/ College	Two adult pitches, a youth 9v9 pitch and a mini 7v7 pitch. Good quality pitches and though spare capacity of 0.5 mini 7v7 match sessions per week exists this is likely to be used by Bristol City Youth FC which is the sole community football user. Playing fields actually owned by Abbeywood School but primarily used by the College/Bristol Academy of Sport.	Continue to maintain the pitches to a high standard to preserve quality.	School/ College FA	Hub	S	L	Protect
		AGP		Two good quality full sized 3G pitches with floodlighting, one World Rugby compliant (built 2013) and the other FA	Maintain regularly and as required to preserve quality.	School/ College		S	L	

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
				certified (refurbished 2011). Used mainly by College/Bristol Academy of Sport and American football clubs and league. Reported to be little capacity due to college bookings and pricing structure. Also onsite is a 60x40m sized indoor 3G pitch.	Seek to increase level of access for community clubs. Ensure the College has a mechanism for sustainability such as a sinking fund in place to fund future repairs and resurfacing.	FA RFU British American Football				
		American football		Grass American football pitch used by all clubs and leagues playing the sport onsite, with use often shared between the grass pitch and World Rugby compliant 3G pitch. Hub for American football development in the South West.	Continue to develop American Football participation onsite and drive participation in the area from the site which acts as a hub for the region. Ensure continued access to grass pitch and 3G pitch provision including increased access to accommodate future increases in demand if required.	School/ College British American Football		S	L	

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁰	Cost ²¹	Aim
119	Stoke Gifford Recreation Ground	Football	Trust	Poor quality adult pitch currently out of use following a serious health and safety incident. Pitch footprint being relocated and safety measures being put in place for the pitch to be available and operating again for the 2017/18 season.	Reinstate the playing field for formal sporting use. Determine whether there is local demand for football use given existing adult capacity and consider potential to reconfigure for youth 9v9 football to address future shortfalls. Improve pitch quality through increased and better maintenance.	Trust FA	Local site	S/M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Standard quality seven wicket square used by just two adult teams from Stoke Gifford CC. Can accommodate an additional 16 matches per season but not actual spare capacity.	Seek to improve pitch quality through better and more regular maintenance of the required standard. Maximise use at non-peak times such as Sundays or midweek for junior cricket. Seek to secure tenure for the Club, potentially through representation as part of the Trust.	Trust ECB		S	L	
123	The Avenue Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Standard quality youth 11v11 pitch actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week.	Seek to improve pitch quality through increased and better quality maintenance to increase capacity. Maximise spare capacity available to accommodate future youth 11v11 shortfalls.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
134	UWE Centre for Sport	AGP	University	Full sized water based AGP with floodlighting. Rated as standard quality and last refurbished in 2007. Used to capacity including by university rugby union teams though mainly by student hockey teams as well as partner clubs Bristol UWE HC and Redland UWE HC.	Monitor pitch quality and consider resurfacing given the pitch exceeds the recommended surface lifespan. Maintain regularly and to a good standard as require to limit deterioration in quality. Ensure the university has a mechanism for sustainability such as a sinking fund in place to fund future repairs and resurfacing.	University EH	Local site	S-M	M	Protect Enhance
155	Goals Soccer Centre (Bristol North)	AGP	Commercial	Twelve standard quality small sized (31x20m) 3G pitches with floodlighting. No recorded use for club training, its primary purpose being for commercial small sided football. Last known resurfacing took place in 2013.	Maintain rigorously as required to preserve and improve surface quality. Ensure the provider has a mechanism for sustainability such as a sinking fund in place to fund future repairs and resurfacing.	Commercial FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
156	Stoke Gifford Stadium	Football	College	Good quality adult pitch with floodlighting, located within an athletics track. Used mainly for performance football and home ground of Bristol City Women's FC, therefore meets Women's Super League (WSL) facility requirements aided by movable spectator seating.	Continue to maintain the pitches to a high standard to preserve quality. Ensure the stadium continues to meet FSL requirements.	College FA	Local site	S	L	Protect

²⁰ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²¹ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁰	Cost ²¹	Aim
158	Mike Gallivan Memorial Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Two adult, one youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches, all of standard quality. Actual spare capacity of two adult match sessions available.	Consider reconfiguration of adult pitches to youth 11v11 size given there are no current adult users, in order to accommodate future shortfalls and be more appropriate for U14 team currently using adult pitches. Seek to improve pitch quality through increased and better quality maintenance to increase capacity.	Parish Council	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
162	Ashley Down Old Boys RFC (Linked to Lockleaze Sports Pitches below)	Rugby union	Sports Club	Senior pitch of standard (M1/D1) quality without floodlighting. Used by two teams from the Club which trains on a grassed area partially floodlit by the access road. Second pitch lost to residential development along with two football pitches, however the Club is part of the Lockleaze Sports Complex proposals and is likely to use new sports provision there.	Ensure the Club has access to 3G and grass pitch provision at Lockleaze Sports Complex for training and matches to compensate for the loss the second grass rugby union pitch to development.	Sports Club Sports Combination RFU	Local site	S	L	Protect
		Football		The site previously had two adult football pitches which have since been lost to residential development. These were previously used by Lockleaze Community FC which is now playing at Eastville Park FC just over the authority border in Bristol. Plans to reprovide football provision as part of Lockleaze Sports Complex in the form of an adult grass pitch and a full sized 3G pitch.	Secure access to use of newly developed football provision should the Club choose to be based at Lockleaze Sports Complex rather than Eastville Park. Ensure appropriate reprovsn of football facilities to mitigate loss of the two grass pitches.	Sports Club Sports Combination FA		S	L	Protect
164	Callicroft Primary School	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches unavailable for community use.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
166	Walls court Farm Academy	Football	Academy	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
NEW	Lockleaze Sports Complex	AGP	Sports Combination	Work underway with site partially complete to include an indoor sports hall, two full sized 3G pitches for both rugby and football use (at least one to be World Rugby compliant), three grass sports pitches (two rugby union and one football) and a fitness centre with squash courts. The cross boundary development would take in Bonnington Walk Playing Fields (Bristol), currently used by Bishopston RFC and would include new ancillary provision for the Club.	Support the sports combination in delivering the scheme which would be located on the local authority border and would help to address area shortfalls both current and future for 3G pitches. Maximise community use, particularly use of 3G pitches for South Gloucestershire based rugby union clubs to reduce shortfalls. Establish use for onsite club Ashley Down Old Boys RFC to increase floodlit capacity.	Sports Combination FA RFU	Hub	M-L	H	Protect Provide Enhance
		Rugby union								
		Football								

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁰	Cost ²¹	Aim
					Consider this document in conjunction with the Playing Pitch Strategy for Bristol to determine the overall picture of provision on the authority border.					
NEW	Hillside Gardens	AGP	University	Proposed plans to create two new full sized 3G pitches (at least one to be World Rugby compliant) with floodlighting. Both would be made available for community use. Grass training area also to be created. Revised planning application submitted linked to loss of UWE St Matthias campus in Bristol.	Support the university in delivering plans which would help to address area shortfalls both current and future for 3G pitches. Ensure proposed plans are delivered to meet NGBs recommended specifications and dimensions to maximise opportunities for use.. Seek to establish community use agreements securing access for community clubs and groups linked to any funding awards and potential investment by NGBs or Sport England.	University FA RFU	Hub	M-L	H	Protect Provide Enhance
		Rugby union								
		Football								
NEW	Shaftesbury Park	Rugby Union	Charity/ Sports Club	Self-funded new site to be created in Frenchay to accommodate Dings Crusaders RFC relocating from Landseer Avenue. To include a full sized IRB22 compliant 3G pitch, two senior and two mini pitches all created from new. Intentions for the site to be ready and in use by the 2017/18 season.	Ensure proposed plans are delivered to meet NGBs recommended specifications and dimensions and are built to the required quality. Evaluate the usage programme once the site is operational and work with the Club to maximise opportunities for community use by other rugby union clubs, football clubs or small sided football where capacity exists.	Charity/ Sports Club RFU FA	Hub	S	H	Protect Provide Enhance
		AGP								
NEW	Cribbs Patchway (Filton Airfield)	TBC	TBC	Plans for the creation of a new neighbourhood comprising of 5,700 new homes, including the accompanying development of new secondary and primary schools and onsite sports provision.	In the first instance, ensure new demand in the area deriving from housing growth is adequately accommodated for by the right type of outdoor provision, either by building new onsite provision or through reinvestment at existing sites. Establish a management organisation to take on any newly created onsite provision, which represents all sporting user groups.	Council FA RFU ECB EH	Potential hub	M/L	H	Provide

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁰	Cost ²¹	Aim
NEW	North Bristol Park	Rugby union	Private	Lapsed site – 2 senior rugby pitches, unused for at least 5 years. Originally part of a larger parcel comprising St Brendan's Old Boys RFC, with re-provision of four pitches at Colony Farm in Almondsbury following the development of North Bristol Park in 2005, the S106 agreement for that planning permission identified that the remaining two pitches (and ancillary facilities) would be made available to local rugby clubs for not less than 10 years. South Gloucestershire Council and the owner of the site has made repeated efforts to attract sports clubs however, there has been no take up since the 2005 agreement.	Consider future options for the site, including potential rationalisation and development. In the event that these pitches are lost to development, s106 funding to be used to replace like for like in the first instance. If this proves unsustainable or unworkable then re-investment will be required into existing nearby playing field provision through council's Section 106 planning obligation funding processes to improve playing pitch quality and capacity.	Council, Owner, NGB's	Local	S/M	H	-

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

BRISTOL EAST FRINGE

Table 6.2: Summary of current and future supply and demand balance in the Bristol East Fringe Area

Sport	Current demand ²²	Future demand (2036) ²³
Football (grass pitches)	Adult: Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions per week. Youth 11v11: Shortfall of three match sessions per week. Youth 9v9: 0.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 7v7: Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions per week. Mini 5v5: Three match sessions actual spare capacity.	Adult: Shortfall of seven match sessions per week. Youth 11v11: Shortfall of 9.5 match sessions per week. Youth 9v9: Shortfall of 5.5 match sessions per week. Mini 7v7: Shortfall of 4.5 match sessions per week. Mini 5v5: 0.5 match sessions actual spare capacity.
Football (3G AGPs) ²⁴	Shortfall of four full sized pitches with floodlighting to accommodate training demand.	Shortfall of five full sized pitches with floodlighting to accommodate training demand.
Cricket	Current demand based on the 2016 season can be met.	Shortfall of one match session per week²⁵.
Rugby union (senior pitches)	Shortfall of two match sessions per week on senior pitches.	Shortfall of 4.5 match sessions per week on senior pitches.
Hockey (Sand/water based AGPs)	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
Rugby league	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
American Football	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
Lacrosse	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.

Summary of grass football pitches required to meet current and future demand

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ²⁶	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Adult	5	+8.5	+3.5	3.5	+7
Youth 11v11	-	+1.5	+1.5	8	+9.5
Youth 9v9	1.5	+1	0.5	6	+5.5
Mini 7v7	1.5	+2	+0.5	4	+4.5
Mini 5v5	3	-	3	2.5	0.5
Total	11	+13	+2	24	+26

²² Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay, demand and spare capacity.

²³ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2036 if the current demand is not met.

²⁴ Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training. Refer to the scenario in Appendix One.

²⁵ When accounting for future demand projections and potential loss of all 'at risk' sites detailed on page 14.

²⁶ In match equivalent sessions

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

- ◀ Spare capacity exists overall on all youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches at present. However, by 2036 there is an overall anticipated shortfall of 26 match equivalent sessions per week, with shortfalls at all pitch types except mini 5v5 pitches.

- ◀ Pitches are overplayed at:
 - ◀ Blackhorse Road Playing Fields
 - ◀ Coronation Park
 - ◀ Emersons Green
 - ◀ Hanham Common
 - ◀ Lees Hill
 - ◀ Southey Avenue Playing Fields
 - ◀ The Star Ground

- ◀ The FA model suggests there is a current requirement for four full sized, floodlit 3G pitches at present, increasing to five by 2036. There are currently no full sized 3G pitches in the Area, consequently the need to increase provision should be a key priority.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
7	Badminton Road Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Two standard quality adult football pitches with peak time availability considered unavailable for use due to insecure tenure. Adjacent to both King George V Playing Field (Downend) with which it shares the changing pavilion and Downend School/Sports Centre. Parish Council in discussions with the school regarding potential for an AGP conversion and operation as an extended community use offer across the three sites. Good quality six wicket square used by Churchways CC and Downend CC on Saturdays and the former on Sundays. Little potential capacity to accommodate further play with only two matches capacity per season and no peak time availability. Pavilion facilities shared with cricket users at King George V Playing Field (Downend) and tea times staggered to accommodate. Site used for the annual fireworks event, the footfall for which can impact on pitch quality.	Consider potential for the site to become a hub as part of an extended community use offer linked to neighbouring sites. Retain cricket onsite given shortfalls should the football offer be broadened. Maximise cricket use of the site to help mitigate the loss of cricket provision at other sites.	Council Parish Council School FA ECB	Key centre (potential hub)	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket								
11	Barley Close Community Primary School	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches unavailable for community use.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
12	Barrs Court Community Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
16	Blackhorse Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch used by two teams from Downend Saints Youth FC. No actual spare capacity at peak time and insecure tenure.	Explore opportunities to provide a home base for the Club around the aforementioned development surrounding Downend School/Sports Centre. This could include retention of youth and adult pitches but with mini football accommodated on a 3G surface should the AGP at Downend School/Sports Centre be converted.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance

²⁷ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁸ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) - High £250k and above.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
17	Blackhorse Road Playing Fields	Football	Sports Club	Two standard quality adult pitches well used by AFC Mangotsfield and Mangotsfield United Youth FC. Overplayed by 1.5 match sessions per week. Used by five adult and six youth 11v11 teams. Cricket ceased on site for 2017 season.	Site reconfigured in 2017 to ensure sustainability as a key football site. Potential location for a 3G pitch subject to consultation with residents and S.Glos Council.	Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket								
24	Bromley Heath Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Two pitches on site (one adult, one youth 11v11) all of standard quality. Used mainly by teams from Downend Saints Youth FC.	Maximise youth 11v11 capacity available at peak time to reduce current and future shortfalls. Improve quality through better and more regular maintenance.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
25	Cadbury Heath Football Club	Football	Sports Club	Good quality adult pitch with floodlighting which meets Step 5 compliant ground grading criteria. Used by two adult teams and one U18 team. No actual spare capacity available.	Continue to maintain the pitch regularly as required to sustain pitch quality. Should the Club have aspirations for promotion to Step 4, support it to develop facilities to meet Grade E ground grading requirements.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
32	Christchurch C of E VC School	Football	School	Youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality, currently unused. Capacity discounted due to insecure tenure.	Improve quality through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
33	Cleve Rugby Club	Rugby union	Sports Club	Three senior pitches, two with full floodlighting and one partially floodlit. Two junior pitches which are partly lit by backlighting and are able to be used for training, as well as three mini pitches. All pitches rated as standard (M1/D1) quality with the exception of the main senior pitch which is Good (M2/D2) quality. Training takes place on match pitches, mainly on one fully floodlit senior pitch which is subsequently overplayed by 1.5 match sessions per week. Actual spare capacity of one senior match session at peak time.	The RFU facilities audit identifies a need to increase floodlit capacity in order to reduce current level of overplay on the main training pitch and spread demand across other pitches which exhibit potential capacity for further use midweek.	Sports Club	Key centre	S/M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
38	Coronation Park	Football	Parish Council	Two standard quality adult pitches overplayed by one match session per week and one standard quality youth 9v9 pitch played to capacity.	Improve quality through better and more regular maintenance. Improving quality to good would eliminate adult overplay.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
41	Deanery Road Playing Fields	Rugby union	Sports Club	Two senior and one junior sized pitches, all of poor quality (M0/D0). No floodlighting on pitches, with all training taking place on a relatively small partially floodlit training area given levels of demand. Overplay of 1.5 senior and one junior match sessions. Club has grown in recent years and has demand for increased floodlit capacity and improvements to	As a priority, support Kingswood RFC in renegotiating a long term lease to secure tenure moving forwards. Seek to increase floodlit capacity onsite. Consider potential opportunities to access grant funding for floodlighting of match pitches to increase capacity.	Sports Club Council RFU	Local site	S	L/M	Protect Enhance Provide

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
				ancillary facilities. Lease due to expire within the coming three years, considered to secure at present but requires renewal to secure for the long term.	S106 awarded for capacity improvements including car park and pavilion expansion to accommodate increased levels of demand. Improve quality through more regular and improved maintenance to reduce current levels of overplay.					
42	Downend School/Sports Centre	AGP	School	Good quality sand dressed AGP with floodlighting. Built in 2005 and exceeds the recommended surface lifespan. No current recorded hockey users. The school has contacted the Parish Council regarding aspirations to convert the AGP to a 3G surface.	Consider potential for the site to form part of an extended community use offer linked to neighbouring sites, as a multi-site hub location. Promote the setup of a CIO or trust led model to operate this proposed expanded site offer should it take place, to include representation from the school.	Council Parish Council School FA ECB	Key centre (potential hub)	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
		Football	School owned, managed and maintained by Downend and Bromley Health Parish Council	One adult sized football pitch is shared between the school and the Parish council (as per original agreement with S.Glos Council).	Consult with Downend Saints Youth FC regarding potential to be a main partner club linking to the proposed new arrangement as it is seeking a singular home venue and training offer. However, community use should not be exclusive and should remain available to other clubs and groups.					
45	Emersons Green	Football	Parish Council	One youth 11v11, two youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches, all rated as standard quality. No actual spare capacity available and overplay of 1.5 youth 11v11 match sessions per week.	Improve quality through better and more regular maintenance, particularly to reduce youth 11v11 overplay.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
46	Emersons Green Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
49	Fisher Road Playing Field (linked to Tennis Court Road and Greenbank)	Football	Sports Club (tenancy at will)	One adult pitch and one mini 7v7 pitch, both rated as standard quality. Sports provision at risk of loss. Subject to future to future agreements for use by AEK Boko of Tennis Court Road and Greenbank. AEK Boko in negotiations with S.Glos Council regarding changing facilities on site. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 adult match sessions currently discounted due to insecure tenure.	Work with AEK Boko FC towards a feasible operational model which would secure tenure and protect sports provision both onsite and at Tennis Court Road Playing Field, potentially developing a wider hub offer across the two sites. Should management be transferred, consider potential to create new cricket provision between pitches. This could be to relocate cricket provision as a solution to allow for development of football facilities at Greenbank Road, or as new provision in addition to mitigate against expected loss of provision in the area.	Council Sports Club Community Organisation	Local site (potential hub)	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
54	Grange School & Sports College	Football	School	Four football pitches and two dual use football/rugby pitches previously used by the school which is now closed. Site is no longer available for community use and now left to become overgrown and disused.	<p>Priorities for consideration include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider options to mitigate for potential loss of pitch supply as a result of residential development onsite, either through reprovion or reinvestment. - Other facilities linked to the sustainability of the outdoor pitches on site include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor – changing and toilet facilities, sportshall, squash court, fitness suite, small gymnasium • Outdoor – 6 x Netball Courts marked for 7 x tennis or 3 x basketball) 	Council EH FA ECB	Key centre	S-M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		NTP between football pitches previously used by the school only – no community use - which is now closed. No longer available for community use and now left to become overgrown and disused.						
		AGP		Full sized sand based AGP with floodlighting built in 2005. Requires improvements to the playing surface. Some previous use by South Gloucestershire HC. Community use no longer available following closure of the school						
55	Greenbank Recreation Ground (linked to Fisher Road and Tennis Court Road)	Football	Sports Club	<p>One youth 11v11, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of good quality. Also onsite is a good quality adult pitch which is Step 7 compliant to meet current needs.</p> <p>Leaseholder AEK Boco has aspirations for progression and has submitted plans to install floodlighting to meet Step 6 Grade G ground grading requirements.</p> <p>The pitch overlaps the onsite cricket square and is fenced with removable perimeter railings which use permanently installed concrete joints, presenting a safety issue for cricket, whilst the planned floodlighting would encroach on the square.</p> <p>Capacity for cricket presently limited to approximately ten weeks during the football post season as AEK Boco has priority access.</p> <p>Terms of the lease state that cricket provision must be retained onsite in some form. Standard quality cricket square used by one team from Bitton CC.</p>	<p>Explore AEK Boco's proposals to upgrade Greenbank to step 6 and investigate options with the club to consider the location in conjunction with Fisher Road and Tennis Court Road sites in an effort to maximise benefit for both football and cricket across the three sites..</p> <p>The AGP at Kings Oak Academy – adjacent to Tennis Court Road - has been resurfaced to 3G. Explore community access by AEK Boko as a partner as this could act as a training base for the Club.</p>	Sports Clubs FA ECB	Local site	S-M	S/M	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket								
58	Hanham Abbots Junior School	Football	School	Two youth 9v9 pitches, one mini 7v7 pitch and one mini 5v5 pitch all of standard quality. Currently unused by community clubs but considered to be available. No spare capacity due to	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
				insecure tenure and likely to be played to capacity by the school.						
59	Hanham Common	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch and one youth 9v9 pitch, both of poor quality. Underplayed since a club vacated the site. Currently only one match being played per week.	Improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to increase capacity, helping to reduce or eliminate overplay.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
60	Hanham Cricket Club	Cricket	Trust	Good quality 14 wicket square. Potential to accommodate an additional 21 match sessions per year however no actual spare capacity available.	Maximise use of available capacity to accommodate additional play at non-peak times, for example midweek or junior cricket.	Trust ECB	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
61	Hanham Woods Academy	Football	Academy	Two adult pitches and a youth 9v9 pitch used by community clubs, along with a youth 11v11 pitch and two mini 7v7 pitches which are currently only used by the Academy. Insecure tenure and therefore considered to have no further capacity for additional community use.	Improve quality for Academy and existing community use through better and more regular maintenance.	Academy FA	Key centre	S	L	Protect Enhance
61	Hanham Woods Academy	Rugby union	Academy	Three rugby union pitches, one of which is retained as an exclusive rugby union pitch whilst two others function as dual use pitches and marked to accommodate school needs each term. Not considered to be available for use.	Maintain as required to sustain current level of Academy use.	Academy RFU	Key centre	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Standard quality standalone NTP used only by the Academy. Considered to be available for community use but currently unused and dimensions do not meet those required to host senior cricket.	Improve quality for Academy and existing community use through better and more regular maintenance. Consider potential to accommodate junior play in future if required.	Academy ECB				
		AGP		Full sized sand filled AGP with floodlighting built in 2004. Standard quality and in excess of the recommended surface lifespan. Used for both matches and training by two teams from Jaspers Ladies HC as well as by AEK Boco teams for football training.	Consider surface replacement in the short term. Ensure the Academy has a sinking fund in place or mechanism for surface replacement and future sustainability.	Academy EH FA		S	H	
68	John Cabot Academy	Football	Academy	Standard quality adult pitch used by one team from Fundamental Football Youth FC. Capacity at peak time not considered to be available due to insecurity of tenure.	Improve quality for Academy and existing community use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	
		AGP		Full sized sand filled AGP with floodlighting built in 2008. Standard quality and approaching the recommended surface lifespan. Unavailable at weekends and not	Consider surface replacement in the short term. Ensure the Academy has a sinking fund in place or mechanism for	School EH FA			H	

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
				recorded as being used for hockey, though the school reports a preference to retain a surface which offers flexibility for use. Also used by AEK Boco teams for football training and by South West Soccer Academy.	surface replacement and future sustainability.					
70	KGV Playing Field – Downend – Linked to Badminton Road site	Football	Parish Council	Standard quality youth 11v11 football pitch with no actual spare capacity. Adjacent to both Badminton Road Playing Field where users are able to access shared changing provision and Downend School/Sports Centre. Management of both this site and Badminton Road Playing Field have transferred to the Parish Council. The Parish Council are in discussions with the school regarding potential for an AGP conversion and operation as an extended community use offer across the three sites.	Secure the future and sustainability of the site for both football and cricket through negotiations with the Parish Council. Consider potential for the site to become a hub as part of an extended community use offer linked to neighbouring sites. Retain cricket onsite given shortfalls, should the football offer be broadened. Maximise cricket use of the site to help mitigate the loss of cricket provision at other sites.	Council Parish Council School FA ECB	Key centre (potential hub)	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		Standard quality six wicket square used by Bristol Lions CC on Saturdays and Sundays. 0.5 match sessions available at peak time currently discounted due to insecure tenure but due to be used by Bristol Asians CC which has booked for the 2017 season. Pavilion facilities available at Badminton Road Playing Field and tea times staggered to accommodate sharing between cricket users across the two sites. Site used for the annual fireworks event, the footfall for which can impact on pitch quality.						
73	Kings Oak Academy	Football	Academy	Four poor quality football pitches. Two adult, one youth 11v11 and one mini 5v5. Considered to be available but currently unused. Capacity discounted due to insecure tenure and likely to be played to capacity by school use.	Improve quality for Academy use through better and more regular maintenance.	Academy FA RFU EH	Local site	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
		AGP		Previously condemned and removed from school and public use the facility is due for 3G surface replacement at the time of writing. No details are available on the specific details to the playing surface ie. whether IRB22 rugby compliant, or the extent of community use available.	If resurfaced this site could also form part of an expanded community use offer in conjunction with Tenniscourt Road Playing Field and Fisher Road Playing Field. It could also provide a Step 6 compliant facility for use by AEK Boco for matches and training. Consider feasibility of making any such resurface World Rugby compliant as a potential option to accommodate training demand,					

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
					notably given demand for increased training capacity from Kingswood RFC.					
75	Lees Hill	Football	Sports Club	Two standard quality adult pitches overplayed by 2.5 match sessions per week.. Cricket provision ceased from the 2017 season onwards. Improvements to pavilion completed in January 18.	Mitigate the loss of cricket and/or football provision through creation of new pitches or reinvestment into other existing sites to increase capacity.	Council FA ECB	Local site	S	L/M	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket								
78	Longwell Green Community Centre	Football	Sports Club	Two adult pitches and two mini 7v7 pitches, all rated as good quality. 0.5 adult match sessions available at peak time. Main adult pitch is floodlit and meets Step 5 ground grading requirements. Enquired over a year ago about aspirations to install a 3G stadia pitch in place of the existing grass.	Continue to maintain pitches to the required standard to sustain quality. Explore feasibility of developing a 3G pitch onsite in order to reduce Area shortfalls.	Sports Club FA	Local site	S	L/H	Protect Enhance Provide
81	Mangotsfield School	Football	School	Standard quality adult pitch considered to be available but presently unused other than by the school. Capacity discounted due to insecurity of tenure.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Full sized sand based AGP with floodlighting built in 2006. Rated as good quality but in excess of the recommended surface lifespan. No recorded hockey users,	Consider surface replacement in the short term, potentially to 3G to address Area shortfalls. Ensure the school has a sinking fund in place or mechanism for surface replacement and future sustainability.				H	
82	Mangotsfield United Football Club	Football	Sports Club	Good quality adult pitch with floodlighting, compliant to meet Step 4 ground grading requirements. No actual spare capacity.	Continue to maintain pitches to the required standard to sustain quality.	Sports Club	Local site	S	L	Protect
98	Page Park	Football	Council	One adult and two youth 9v9 pitches, all of which are rated as poor quality and played to capacity.	Improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to increase capacity.	Council FA ECB	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		Standard quality ten wicket square used by five different clubs, most being singular teams with no established club infrastructure. The Council and ECB are exploring potential to increase capacity onsite through creation of a new NTP.	Seek to increase capacity onsite through creation of a new grass cricket square or NTP. Protect provision in light of continued Council budgetary pressures impacting on ability to manage and maintain sites. Consider feasibility of creating a cricket user group for the site which may be able to take on management in the future.			S	L	
101	Pomphrey Hill Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council/Trust	Two adult pitches, three youth 9v9 pitches, two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all rated as standard	Seek to improve pitch quality through better and more regular maintenance. Resolve drainage	Parish Council/Trust	Key centre	S	L/M	Protect Enhance

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
				quality. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 adult, 1.5 youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and 0.5 mini 5v5 match sessions per week. FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP) visit previously undertaken which evidenced a need for improved maintenance. Drainage systems have become blocked, leading to waterlogging of both football and cricket pitches. Maintained by the Parish Council at a cost to Mangotsfield United Youth FC. Initial aspirations to add additional social and bar provision as the current bar is generally in use for function. The Council is planning a phased reduction of the subsidy with intentions for the Club to standalone and self-maintain.	issues through clearing the existing drainage channels and increased verti-draining. Support both the Parish Council and Club with regards to access to maintenance equipment. Consider potential to support both in the form of new maintenance equipment or access to a bank of maintenance equipment which they may not currently have access to in order facilitate full self-maintenance to a better standard. Maximise use of existing capacity to address current and future shortfalls.	FA ECB				
		Cricket		Two good quality squares of ten and six wickets respectively. Used by Carsons & Mangotsfield CC. Potential to accommodate an additional 15 matches per season but no actual spare capacity available.	Sustain quality of maintenance in order to preserve square quality. Work to establish an effective site wide maintenance offer in conjunction with other sites users and the Parish Council with the potential for equipment and resource sharing.					
111	Southey Avenue Playing Fields	Football	Tenancy at Will Bristol Rovers JFC	Three poor quality pitches; two adult sized and one min 7v7. Overplay of two adult and two mini 7v7 match sessions.	Improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to increase capacity, reducing levels of overplay.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
114	St. Augustine of Canterbury Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality for curricular and extra-curricular use and re-examine community needs in the future.	Council	Local site	L	S	Protect
122	Tenniscourt Road Playing Field (linked to Fisher Road and Geenbank sites)	Football	Sports Club	Two youth 11v11 pitches and one youth 9v9 pitch, all rated as standard quality. No actual spare capacity available. Sports provision at risk of loss. AEK Boco FC are in negotiations with the Council regarding taking over management of both the site and neighbouring Fisher Road Playing Field.	Work with AEK Boco FC towards a feasible operational model which would secure tenure and protect sports provision both onsite and at Fisher Road Playing Field, potentially developing a wider hub offer across the two sites. Explore opportunities linking to Kings Oak Academy to maximise use of the resurfaced AGP to further widen the community use offer in this Area.	Council Sports Club Community Organisation FA ECB	Local site (potential hub)	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
131	The Star Ground	Football	Sports Club	Football pitch under temporary licence to Bristol Rovers Junior Supporters Club. Cricket ceased on site in 2016 as part of CSP savings.	Bristol Rovers Junior Supporters Club have a temporary licence.	Council FA ECB	Local site	S	L/M	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket								

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
135	Vicarage Road	Football	Sports Club	Three good quality pitches; one adult sized, one youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7. No actual spare capacity available at peak time. Football club on site currently negotiating new lease / license.	Continue to maintain pitches to the required standard to sustain quality.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
136	Walker Playing Field	Football	Sports Club	Four standard quality pitches; one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions. Used by Emersons Green Junior Youth FC currently negotiating new lease / license. Two pitches on the land to the south are owned by Blackhorse Primary School but are maintained by Emersons Green FC in return for free use.	Maximise use of existing capacity to address current and future shortfalls. Improve quality through better and more regular maintenance.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
140	WG Grace Memorial Ground	Cricket	Sports Club	Good quality 12 wicket square used by Downend CC. Can accommodate an additional 28 matches per season, however, no capacity available at peak time.	Maximise use of available capacity to accommodate additional play at non-peak times, for example midweek or junior cricket.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
154	Warmley Park School	Football	School	No current provision, however, plans are for the school to fence and take on part of the playing field land at neighbouring Grange School & Sports College which has now closed.	Support the school to take on management of the playing field land and establish potential to reinstate as formal football pitches to be available for community use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
161	Christ Church Hanham CofE Primary	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch used by two teams from AEK Boco FC girls section. Peak time capacity discounted due to insecure tenure.	Improve quality for school use through better and more regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
NEW	Lyde Green	TBC	TBC	Plans for the creation of approximately 2,500 new homes in the Emersons Green area. Current plans include the creation of new football and rugby union pitches alongside new school provision, as well as the creation of two new cricket squares.	In the first instance, ensure new demand in the area deriving from housing growth is adequately accommodated for by the right type of outdoor provision, either by building new onsite provision or through reinvestment at existing sites. Establish a management organisation to take on any newly created onsite provision, which represents all sporting user groups.	Council FA RFU ECB EH	Potential key centre	M/L	H	Provide

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

RURAL AREAS & SEVERNSIDE

Table 6.3: Summary of current and future supply and demand balance in the Rural & Severnside Area

Sport	Current demand ²⁹	Future demand (2036) ³⁰
Football (grass pitches)	Adult: 12.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 11v11: Two match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 9v9: Six match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 7v7: 1.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 5v5: Four match sessions actual spare capacity.	Adult: Eight match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 11v11: shortfall of 1.5 match sessions per week. Youth 9v9: 3.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 7v7: shortfall of one match sessions per week. Mini 5v5: 2.5 match sessions actual spare capacity.
Football (3G AGPs) ³¹	Shortfall of one full sized pitch with floodlighting to accommodate training demand.	Shortfall of two full sized pitches with floodlighting to accommodate training demand.
Cricket	Current demand based on the 2016 season can be met with actual spare capacity of two match sessions available.	Shortfall of two match sessions per week³².
Rugby union (senior pitches)	Shortfall of 10.5 match sessions per week on senior pitches.	Shortfall of 15.5 match sessions per week on senior pitches.
Hockey (Sand/water based AGPs)	Shortfall of one AGP for match play and to accommodate demand for additional training capacity.	Shortfall of one AGP for match play and to accommodate demand for additional training capacity.
Rugby league	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
American Football	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
Lacrosse	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.

²⁹ Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay, demand and spare capacity.

³⁰ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2036 if the current demand is not met.

³¹ Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training. Refer to the scenario in Appendix One.

³² When accounting for future demand projections and potential loss of all 'at risk' sites detailed on page 14.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Summary of grass football pitches required to meet current and future demand

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ³³	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Adult	14.5	+2	12.5	4.5	8
Youth 11v11	2	-	2	3.5	+1.5
Youth 9v9	6	-	6	2.5	3.5
Mini 7v7	2	+0.5	1.5	2.5	+1
Mini 5v5	4	-	4	1.5	2.5
Total	28.5	+2.5	26	14.5	11.5

- ◆ Spare capacity exists overall both now and in the future. There are no present shortfalls at any pitch type, however future shortfalls are foreseen for youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitch types.
- ◆ Pitches are overplayed at Aitcheson Playing Field, Olveston Sports & Social Club, Severn Beach Playing Fields and Winterbourne Recreation Ground.
- ◆ The FA model suggests there is a current and future requirement for three full sized, floodlit 3G pitches. There are two existing, located at Gloucestershire FA Headquarters and Winterbourne International Academy.

³³ In match equivalent sessions

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³⁴	Cost ³⁵	Aim
3	Aitcheson Playing Field	Football	Sports Club	One adult, one youth 9v9 and one pitch mini 7v7 pitch. All standard quality, home site of Oldland Abbotonians FC. Adult pitch meets Step 6 Ground Grading requirements of the league. Spare capacity of 0.5 youth 9v9 match sessions per week, however capacity on the main pitch should be retained to protect quality for performance whilst the mini 7v7 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week.	Seek to improve pitch quality through better and more regular maintenance to increase capacity in order to eliminate overplay and service future shortfalls.	Sports Club FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
5	Almondsbury Recreation Ground	Football	Community	Two adult pitches, one good quality and one standard quality, as well as one standard quality mini 7v7 pitch. Good quality pitch meets Step 6 Ground Grading requirements for use by Almondsbury UWE FC. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 adult match sessions available.	Maximise use of spare capacity to develop participation. Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance.	Community FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 14 wicket square used by Almondsbury CC. Can accommodate an additional 50 matches per season, however, no capacity available at peak time.	Maximise use of available capacity to accommodate additional play at non-peak times, for example midweek or junior cricket.	Sports Club ECB		S	L	Protect Enhance
6	Badminton Playing Field	Football	Sports Association	Standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of one match session per week. Marked onto the outfield area of the cricket pitch.	Maximise use of spare capacity to develop participation. Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance.	Sports Association FA	Local site	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 8 wicket square, available but unused. Can accommodate an additional 40 matches per season although outfield overmarked with football.	Maximise use of spare capacity to develop participation.	Sports Club ECB		M	L	
14	Beesmoor Road Playing Fields	Football	Community	Standard adult football pitch used by Frampton Athletic FC. No actual spare capacity at peak time.	Maximise capacity available at non-peak times to develop participation. Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance.	Community FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
15	Bitton Football Club	Football	Trust	Good quality adult (with floodlighting), youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. Also onsite are two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches. No actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	Trust FA	Local site	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 10 wicket square (plus NTP) used by Bitton CC. Can accommodate an additional 7 matches per season, however, no capacity available at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	Trust ECB		L	L	
18	Boundary Field	Cricket	Sports Club	Two standard quality squares, one 14 wickets and one seven wickets. Used by Rockhampton CC. Combined spare	Retain spare capacity until quality can be improved. Recommend PQS assessment to be carried out.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	S	L-M	Protect Enhance

³⁴ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

³⁵ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³⁴	Cost ³⁵	Aim
				capacity of 57 match sessions per season available at peak time.						
23	Broadleys Cricket Ground	Cricket	Sports Club	Good quality 14 wicket square (plus NTP) used by Marshfield CC. Can accommodate an additional 46 matches per season, however, no capacity available at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	L	L	Protect Enhance
28	Charfield Memorial Playing Field	Football	Sports Club	Two standard quality adult pitches with actual spare capacity of one match session per week available.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance. Maximise use of potential capacity at non-peak times.	Sports Club FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 8 wicket square, used by Charfield CC. No capacity available at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	Sports Club ECB		L	L	
29	Cherry Garden Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality for curricular and extra-curricular use and re-examine community needs in the future.	Council	Local site	L	S	Protect
35	Coalpit Heath Cricket Club	Football	Sports Club	Standard quality youth 9v9 pitch with 0.5 match sessions of spare capacity.	Retain spare capacity until pitch quality can be improved.	Sports Club FA	Local site	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 12 wicket square, main home ground to Coalpit Heath CC. No capacity available at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	Sports Club ECB		L	L	
37	Cooper's Farm	Rugby union	Sports Club	Two senior pitches (one floodlit) and one mini pitch, all standard quality. Senior pitches are overplayed due to training. The floodlighting is poor quality and in need of replacement or repair, however, the Club plans to prioritise the extension of ancillary provision before undertaking a floodlighting refurbishment project.	Support club as appropriate in seeking funding to improve ancillary facilities and floodlighting.	Sports Club RFU	Local site	S	M	Protect Enhance
50	Frenchay Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	Two good quality squares, each with 14 wickets. Can accommodate an additional 69 matches per season, however, no capacity available at peak time. Poor quality changing facilities. For the 2017 season, will accommodate Old Park CC, a one team club which was based at Somerdale Pavilion (Bath & North East Somerset) but is relocating due to raised costs. UWE also in discussions regarding use of the site.	Explore potential for Old Park CC to amalgamate and become part of Frenchay CC in the future. Explore funding opportunities for improving changing facilities.	Sports Club ECB	Key centre	S	M	Protect Enhance
		Football		Two mini 7v7 pitches, both standard quality with 1.5 spare sessions at peak time. One mini 5v5 pitch with no recorded use.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance. Explore opportunities to maximise use.	Sports Club FA		S	L	
53	Gloucestershire FA Headquarters	AGP	GFA	One full size 3G pitch built in 2014. Spare capacity of just eight hours each week, two of which exist midweek at undesirable timeslots between 5-6pm on Tuesday and Friday.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment.	FA	Key centre	M	M	Protect

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³⁴	Cost ³⁵	Aim
56	Hallen Centre	Football	Parish Council/ Commercial	One good quality floodlit pitch, no peak capacity. Three standard quality adult pitches with minimal spare capacity and one standard quality mini 7v7 pitch with no peak capacity.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	FA	Key centre	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		Good quality 8 wicket square, used by Hallen CC. No capacity available at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	ECB		L	L	
57	Hambrook Sports Club	Football	Sports Club	One adult and one mini 7v7 pitch both standard quality. No peak time capacity available.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance.	Sports Club FA	Local site	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 12 wicket square, used by Hambrook CC. No capacity available at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	Sports Club ECB		L	L	
62	Hardwicke Road Playing Field	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch with 0.5 match sessions available at peak time.	Retain available capacity to protect pitch quality for Step 6 competition.	Sports Club FA	Local site	L	L	Protect Enhance
63	Hawkesbury Playing Field	Football	Trust	One standard quality adult pitch which is available for community use but no recorded use.	Explore local opportunities to maximise use.	Trust FA	Local site	S	L	Protect
64	Hawkesbury Upton Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	Good quality 14 wicket square, used by Hawkesbury Upton CC. No capacity available at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	L	L	Protect
66	Hortham Playing Fields (Colony Farm)	Football	Sports Club	The site was developed as a re-provision for the St Brendan's OBRFC rugby pitches in 2005. Four pitches currently marked for 2 11v11, (standard quality with spare capacity at peak time) one adult and one youth 9v9 pitch (no use). No changing provision servicing the site. Bristol Rovers FC has submitted a planning application for the creation of new private training ground at this site. The Club hopes to act on a historical planning application but is seeking the removal of conditions currently applicable, including restrictions on daytime use.	The site is currently used by two youth 11v11 teams from Coalpit Heath Youth FC and change of function to a private training facility without community use would create a need to accommodate these teams elsewhere, unless community use could be retained onsite.	Sports Club FA	Local site	S	M	Protect
71	KGV Playing Fields (Wickwar)	Football	Trust	One adult, one mini and two youth pitches, all standard quality and with some spare capacity at peak time.	Retain spare capacity until pitch quality can be improved.	Trust FA	Local site	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 8 wicket square, available but unused. Can accommodate an additional 40 matches per season.	Maximise use of spare capacity to develop participation.	Trust ECB		S	L	
83	Manor Coalpit Heath Primary School	Football	School	Two mini pitches, available for community use but unused*. *to pick up in the 2018 review of playing capacity as consultation revealed in use by Coalpit Heath FC,	Sustain quality for curricular and extra-curricular use and re-examine community needs in the future*. No guarantee of community use going forwards with proposals from the school to fence off.	Council	Local site	L	S	Protect

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³⁴	Cost ³⁵	Aim
89	Moreton Ground	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch. Available for community use but unused.	Explore local opportunities to maximise use.	Sports Club FA	Local site	S	L	Protect
		Cricket		One small cricket square with five wickets. Standard quality and unused.	Explore local opportunities to maximise use.	Sports Club ECB		S	L	
92	North Bristol Rugby Club	Rugby union	Sports Club	Two senior pitches, one standard quality (M1/D1) and one poor (M0/D0) quality. Senior pitches are overplayed by a total of 5.5 match equivalent sessions per week, largely due to training demand.	<p>Improve pitch quality through better and more regular maintenance to increase capacity and reduce level of overplay.</p> <p>Seek to transfer some training demand from match pitches to reduce overplay, either to other training areas or increased access to World Rugby compliant 3G provision.</p> <p>The RFU is currently consulting on the development of an IRB22 compliant 3G facility due for construction for the 2018/19 season.</p> <p>The club has a strategic need to develop the changing facilities due to the growth and development of Women's and Girls rugby at the site. Irrespective of the AGP being planned, the changing facilities need updating to cope with current and future demand</p>	Sports Club RFU	Local site			Protect Enhance Provide
			Private	North Bristol RFC has use of two mini pitches on land which neighbours the main club site on agreement with the local private landowner. There is no formal arrangement for this use which can be revoked at any time, therefore tenure of these pitches is considered to be insecure. Both pitches are poor (M0/D0) quality on what is essentially farming land and are overplayed by one match session per week.	<p>Improve quality through additional maintenance to increase capacity, eliminating overplay.</p> <p>Consider seeking increased access to capacity at alternative, more suitable sites to accommodate mini play.</p>			S	L	
93	Northwood Park	Rugby union	Sports Club	Four senior and three mini pitches, all standard quality. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week to accommodate additional senior play. Training pitch overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.	<p>Sustain and improve pitch quality, particularly in order to eliminate relatively minimal level of overplay on the training pitch.</p> <p>Maximise use of spare capacity available to develop participation, including actual spare capacity available at senior peak time.</p>	Sports Club RFU	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
94	Old Elizabethans Rugby Club	Rugby union	Private/ Sports Club	One standard quality senior pitch (M1/D1). Partially floodlit along one touchline. Used by the Club's two senior teams for all matches as well as training once weekly. Fuel pipeline runs beneath site, limiting potential for installation of any potential pipe drainage system.	Sustain and improve standard of maintenance to preserve quality for use.	Private/ Sports Club RFU	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³⁴	Cost ³⁵	Aim
		Football		Was previously a rugby union pitch, now reconfigured as an adult football pitch and used by Hallen FC based at the nearby Hallen Centre. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week.	Maximise use of existing capacity to accommodate future shortfalls. Seek to maximise use of capacity to develop participation.	Private/ Sports Club FA		S	L	
96	Oldbury-on-Severn Playing Fields	Cricket	Council	Good quality 10 wicket square, used by Oldbury-on-Severn CC. Can accommodate an additional 37 matches per season but no capacity available at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	Council ECB	Local site	L	L	Protect Enhance
97	Olveston Sports & Social Club	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch which is overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week.	Improve quality in order to address overplay.	Sports Club FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 10 wicket square, used by Old Down CC. No capacity available at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through continued high standard of maintenance as required.	Sports Club ECB		L	L	
100	Pilning Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch, available for community use but unused. Poor quality changing facilities.	No demand for use in its current format. Consider future options for the site.	Parish Council FA	Local site	M	L	Protect Enhance
102	Pucklechurch Recreation Ground	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch. No peak time capacity available. Also, one mini 7v7 pitch which is unused.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance in order to increase play.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 8 wicket square, used by Pucklechurch CC. Overplayed by seven match sessions per season. Third team displaced to Bath & North East Somerset.	Overplay can be accommodated through ensuring high pitch quality is sustained. Access to a second pitch is required though to accommodate the third team.	Parish Council ECB		S	L-M	
104	Rangeworthy Recreation Ground	Football	Parish Council	Two standard quality adult pitches used only by one team from Rangeworthy FC on Saturdays. Actual spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions per week.	Consider feasibility of reconfiguring one adult pitch to youth 11v11 size in order to service future shortfalls. Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
106	Redfield Edge Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch used by Warmley Rangers Youth FC. No actual spare capacity available.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to increase capacity so to better sustain level of school and community use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
107	Severn Beach Playing Fields	Football	Community	Poor quality adult pitch overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to increase capacity in order to eliminate current level of overplay.	Community FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
108	Severn Beach Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
109	Sir Bernard Lovell School	AGP	School	One full size medium pile 3G pitch which is FA registered. Eight years old and approaching the recommended lifespan in the coming two years.	Quality and deterioration should be monitored and resurfacing should be considered dependent on quality and continuing to meet FA performance test standards.	School FA	Key centre	S	M	Protect Enhance

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³⁶	Cost ³⁷	Aim
113	St. Anne's C of E Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
117	St. Michael's C of E VC School	Cricket	Parish Council/ School	Good quality eight wicket square used by Winterbourne CC as a secondary venue for adult and some junior cricket. Can accommodate an additional 13 matches per season but no actual spare capacity. Two fixed bay training nets also onsite. Site not accessible by car but through a public footpath from Friary Grange Park.	Ensure regular maintenance to the required standard to preserve good pitch quality. Maximise use at non-peak times such as Sundays or midweek for junior cricket. Seek to secure tenure for the Club which is the sole user. Consider potential to secure tenure as a genuine second club ground.	School ECB	Local site	S	L	Protect
125	The Meadows Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 5v5 pitch unavailable for community use.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
127	The Park	Football	Parish Council	Standard quality adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all with no recorded community use. Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches used and spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions per week.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance and maximise use of existing capacity to accommodate future shortfalls.	Parish Council FA	Key centre	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Two senior and two mini pitches, all standard quality (M1/D1). Actual spare capacity available at senior peak time. Training away from match pitches on separate floodlit area.	Retain spare capacity until pitch quality can be improved.	Parish Council RFU		S	L	
		Cricket		Two good quality squares, one with 10 and one with four wickets. Capacity available to accommodate additional use at peak time.	Maximise use of spare capacity to develop participation.	Parish Council ECB				
132	Tockington Manor School	Cricket	School	Standard quality 12 wicket square, community use by Bristol Phoenix CC and Thornbury CC. No capacity available at peak time.	Explore funding options to improve quality and seek to secure community use.	School ECB	Local site	M	L-M	Protect Enhance
133	Tormarton Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Standard quality adult pitch used by one team Tormarton FC. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance. Maximise use of capacity to develop participation.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
139	Westerleigh Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Standard quality adult pitch with no actual spare capacity. Marked onto the outfield of the cricket pitch.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance. Maximise use of capacity at non-peak times to develop participation.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Standard quality 6 wicket square, used by Coalpit Heath CC and Westerleigh CC. No capacity available at peak time.	Explore funding options to improve quality and to build future capacity.	Parish Council ECB		M	L-M	

³⁶ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

³⁷ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³⁶	Cost ³⁷	Aim
142	Wick C of E Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
143	Wick Playing Field	Football	Sports Club	Two standard quality adult pitches with actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance. Maximise use of capacity to develop participation.	Sports Club FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
144	Winterbourne International Academy	AGP	Academy	One full size sand dressed AGP built in 2004, standard quality. Used by eight teams from Bristol & West HC and one team from Pucklechurch HC (mornings) on Saturdays. No capacity for additional match play at peak time and operating over considered capacity by 0.5 match session. Used for football training by a number of clubs, mainly by Winterbourne United FC adult and youth sections.	Retain as a hockey pitch and explore funding opportunities to resurface. There is a need for an additional pitch in the Rural Area to accommodate displaced midweek training demand from Bristol & West HC	EH	Key centre	S	H	Protect Enhance
145	Winterbourne Recreation Ground	Football	Community	Two standard quality pitches, one adult sized and one youth 9v9 sized. Adult pitch overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week whilst no actual spare capacity available on youth 9v9 pitch. Pitches marked onto the outfield of the cricket pitch.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to reduce level of overplay.	FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality 9 wicket square, used by Winterbourne CC. Overplayed by 11 match sessions per season.	Overplay can be accommodated through ensuring high pitch quality is sustained.	ECB		S	L	
146	Withymead Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Four standard quality football pitches, two adult sized and two mini 7v7 pitches. Actual spare capacity of two adult match sessions and 1.5 mini 7v7 match sessions per week.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance. Maximise use of capacity to service future shortfalls.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality standalone NTP, unused for community use.	Explore local demand to establish use.	Parish Council ECB		S	L	
150	Yate Town Football Club	Football	Sports Club	Good quality adult football pitch with floodlighting. Compliant with Step 4 ground Grading requirements. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week to be retained to protect quality for performance use.	Sustain high standard of maintenance as required to ensure continued quality. Support the Club with developing facilities to progress to Step 3 should it have ambitions to do so.	Sports Club FA	Local site	S-M	L/M	Protect Enhance
151	Doynton Playing Field	Cricket	Trust	Site managed by an independent trust on which the Parish Council is represented. Standard quality square with 12 wickets used by Dyrham & Hinton CC. Can accommodate an additional 34 matches per season but no spare capacity available at peak time.	Improve quality for use through better and more regular maintenance. Maximise use of available capacity to accommodate additional play at non-peak times, for example midweek or junior cricket.	Parish Council Trust ECB	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³⁶	Cost ³⁷	Aim
157	Winterbourne International Academy Sports Field	Football	Academy	Two standard quality adult pitches with unsecured community use. Capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch unavailable for community use. Likely to be played to capacity in light of weekly Academy use and therefore considered to have no capacity to accommodate additional community use.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance. Work to secure community use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Three standard quality adult pitches, no community use.	Retain for school use.	School		L	L	
160	Sir Bernard Lovell School Playing Fields	Football	School	One youth 11v11 and two mini 7v7 pitches, all of standard quality. Considered to be played to capacity in light of school use midweek.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
165	Ashwicke Hall School	Football	Independent School	Standard quality adult pitch unavailable for community use.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance

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THORNBURY

Table 6.4: Summary of current and future supply and demand balance in the Thornbury Area

Sport	Current demand ³⁸	Future demand (2036) ³⁹
Football (grass pitches)	Adult: 0.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 11v11: Demand is met to capacity. Youth 9v9: Demand is met to capacity. Mini 7v7: One match session actual spare capacity. Mini 5v5: Demand is met to capacity.	Adult: 0.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 11v11: shortfall of one match session per week. Youth 9v9: shortfall of 0.5 match sessions per week. Mini 7v7: shortfall of two match sessions per week. Mini 5v5: Demand can be met to capacity.
Football (3G AGPs) ⁴⁰	Shortfall of one full sized pitch with floodlighting to accommodate training demand.	Shortfall of two full sized pitches with floodlighting to accommodate training demand.
Cricket	Current demand based on the 2016 season can be met.	Future demand can be catered for
Rugby union (senior pitches)	Current demand can be met. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week available.	Future demand can be met. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week available.
Hockey (Sand/water based AGPs)	Current demand can be met.	Future demand can be catered for.
Rugby league	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
American Football	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
Lacrosse	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.

Summary of grass football pitches required to meet current and future demand

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ⁴¹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Adult	1	+0.5	0.5	-	0.5
Youth 11v11	-	-	-	1	+1
Youth 9v9	-	-	-	0.5	+0.5
Mini 7v7	1	-	1	3	+2
Mini 5v5	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	+0.5	1.5	4.5	+3

³⁸ Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay, demand and spare capacity.

³⁹ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2036 if the current demand is not met.

⁴⁰ Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training. Refer to the scenario in Appendix One.

⁴¹ In match equivalent sessions

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

- ◀ Spare capacity exists overall now however there is an anticipated future overall shortfall of three match equivalent sessions per week. There are no present shortfalls at any pitch type, however future shortfalls are foreseen for youth pitches of both formats and mini 7v7 pitches.
- ◀ One pitch is overplayed at Chantry Road Playing Fields.
- ◀ The FA model suggests there isn't a requirement for additional full sized 3G pitches in the Area. One full sized, floodlit 3G pitch exists at Marlwood School.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ⁴²	Cost ⁴³	Aim
26	Castle School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 both standard quality. Unsecure community use and no peak time capacity available. One adult pitch also standard quality no community use.	Improve pitch quality to better sustain levels of both curricular and community use.	School FA	Key centre	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standalone NTP of standard quality and unused.	Maintain regularly and well to ensure performance for school use.	School ECB			L	
		AGP		One full sized sand dressed AGP built in 2004, standard quality. Thornbury HC uses the pitch on Saturday mornings for one match session per week, usually in the 10.30am timeslot. Considered to have spare capacity for additional use. Also used for football training by Thornbury Town Youth FC.	Monitor surface quality and consider resurfacing should it deteriorate over time to a point at which performance is impacted upon. Ensure the provider has a mechanism in place for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund, to undertake repairs or full resurfacing.	School EH FA			L-M	
27	Chantry Road Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week. No accompanying changing provision.	Improve pitch quality through better and more regular maintenance to increase capacity, eliminating level of overplay. Ensure site users are able to access changing room locally given lack of onsite changing provision.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		One standard quality senior pitch with some spare capacity. Some use by Thornbury RFC as an overspill pitch when required to accommodate mini and junior play. No accompanying changing provision.	Seek to formally secure tenure in order to make use of capacity available at peak time. Ensure site users are able to access changing room locally given lack of onsite changing provision.	Parish Council RFU				
69	Jubilee Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with spare capacity available at peak time. One mini 7v7 pitch, standard quality, unused. Poor quality changing provision.	Seek to improve changing provision. Maximise use of spare capacity to address future shortfalls.	Council FA	Local site	S	S-M	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One good quality square with six wickets and one NTP. Used by Alveston CC. No peak time capacity.	Preserve quality through continued regular maintenance as required.	Council ECB		S	L	
84	Manorbrook Primary School	Football	School	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch, available for community use but unused.	Retain for school use. Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
85	Marlwood School	AGP	School	One full sized 3G pitch, good quality built in 2011. Unavailable for community use at weekends.	Engage with the school to fully understand reasons for lack of community use availability at weekends. Seek to establish weekend use if possible and if successful, encourage performance standard testing of the pitch for use for competitive play.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standalone NTP of poor quality and unused.	Seek to improve quality for school use or consider resurfacing should quality be insufficient for use.	School ECB				

⁴² Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

⁴³ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ⁴²	Cost ⁴³	Aim
90	Mundy Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council	One good quality adult pitch*. No peak time capacity available.	Continue to maintain the pitch to high standard to preserve quality for use.	Parish Council FA	Local site	S	L	Protect
116	St. Marys C of E Primary School	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch, standard quality. Unavailable for community use.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
130	The Ship Field	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square with 15 wickets. Used by Bristol Phoenix CC and Thornbury CC. No peak time capacity.	Utilise capacity available to develop participation at non-peak times.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	S	L	Protect
163	Castle School Sixth Form Centre	Football	School	One youth 11v11 pitch, standard quality. No peak time capacity available and unsecure community use. External changing pavilion available onsite.	Improve quality through better and more regular maintenance so to be better able to sustain curricular and community use.	School FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		One poor quality (M0/D1) senior pitch overplayed by 0.5 match sessions. Some use by Thornbury RFC as an overspill pitch when required to accommodate mini and junior play. Likely to be further overplayed in light of school use.	Improve pitch quality through better and more regular maintenance to increase capacity so to better sustain levels of school and community use.	School RFU				

* The online consultation flagged discrepancies in the data set for the Mundy Playing Field site along with additional pitch supply at Poulterbrook which was not included in the 2016/2017 season pitch assessment. The strategy recognises these discrepancies materially affect the balance of supply and demand for the Thornbury sub-area and both sites will be reviewed during the action plan review in Autumn 2018.

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YATE & CHIPPING SODBURY

Table 6.4: Summary of current and future supply and demand balance in the Yate & Chipping Sodbury Area

Sport	Current demand ⁴⁴	Future demand (2036) ⁴⁵
Football (grass pitches)	Adult: shortfall of 0.5 match sessions per week. Youth 11v11: 5.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 9v9: Four match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 7v7: 5.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 5v5: Demand can be met to capacity.	Adult: shortfall of 1.5 match sessions per week. Youth 11v11: 3.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Youth 9v9: Three match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 7v7: 4.5 match sessions actual spare capacity. Mini 5v5: shortfall of 0.5 match sessions per week.
Football (3G AGPs) ⁴⁶	Current training demand is catered for	Future training demand can be catered for
Cricket	Current demand based on the 2016 season can be met.	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions per week⁴⁷.
Rugby union (senior pitches)	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions per week on senior pitches.	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions per week on senior pitches.
Hockey (Sand/water based AGPs)	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
Rugby league	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
American Football	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.
Lacrosse	Current demand is catered for.	Future demand can be catered for.

⁴⁴ Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay, demand and spare capacity.

⁴⁵ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2036 if the current demand is not met.

⁴⁶ Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training. Refer to the scenario in Appendix One.

⁴⁷ When accounting for future demand projections and potential loss of all 'at risk' sites detailed on page 14.

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Summary of grass football pitches required to meet current and future demand

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ⁴⁸	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Adult	0.5	+1	+0.5	1	+1.5
Youth 11v11	5.5	-	5.5	2	3.5
Youth 9v9	4	-	4	1	3
Mini 7v7	5.5	-	5.5	1	4.5
Mini 5v5	-	-	-	0.5	+0.5
Total	15.5	+1	14.5	5.5	9

- ◆ Spare capacity exists overall both now and in the future. There is a relatively minimal present shortfall of adult match equivalent sessions exacerbated in light of future demand, whilst there will be a minimal shortfall for mini 5v5 pitches.
- ◆ Three pitches are overplayed at The Ridings.
The FA model suggests there isn't a requirement for additional full sized 3G pitches in the Area. Two full sized, floodlit 3G pitch exist at Yate International Academy and Chipping Sodbury School.

⁴⁸ In match equivalent sessions per week

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ⁴⁹	Cost ⁵⁰	Aim
22	Brimsham Green School	Football	Yate Outdoor Sports Complex PLC (YOSCPLC)	Two poor quality adult pitches, no community use.	Improve quality through improved maintenance to increase capacity for use. Work with Yate Outdoor Sports Complex PLC to establish community use.	School YOSCPLC FA	Local site	S	L-M	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One poor quality NTP. Unavailable due to safety reasons due to significant damage to the surface at one particular end.	No demand for use. Remove and replace as required for school use.	School YOSCPLC ECB		S	L	
30	Chipping Sodbury School Sports Field	Football	School	Three standard quality adult pitches. Unavailable for community use.	Retain for school use. Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School	Reserve	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standard quality NTP. Unavailable for community use.	Retain for school use.	School		L	L	
103	Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Two poor quality adult pitches minimal spare capacity. One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch, unused. Poor quality changing provision.	Retain spare capacity until pitch quality can be improved. Investigate funding options to improve changing provision.	Parish Council FA	Local site	M	L-M	Protect Enhance
105	Raysfield Junior School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, both standard quality. Unavailable for community use.	Retain for school use. Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School	Reserve	S	L	Protect Enhance
115	St. John Mead Primary School	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch. Unavailable for community use.	Retain for school use. Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance to ensure suitability for school use.	School	Reserve	S	L	Protect Enhance
121	Sunnyside Lane Playing Field	Football	Town Council	Four standard quality adult pitches, used to capacity and no peak time availability.	Consider funding options to improve quality in order to build future site capacity.	Town Council FA	Key centre	M	M	Protect Enhance
129	The Ridings	Football	Trust	Three adult, three mini and one youth pitch, all standard quality with no peak time capacity available. One adult pitch is overplayed by one match session per week.	Seek options to improve quality in order to address overplay and build future capacity.	Sports Club FA	Hub	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		Two good quality squares, each with six wickets. Used by Bristol Phoenix CC and Chipping Sodbury CC respectively. Minimal spare capacity and no peak time capacity.	Preserve quality through continued regular maintenance as required.	Sports Club ECB		L	L	
		Rugby union		Two senior and two mini pitches all standard quality (M1/D1). Main pitch with floodlighting, consequently it accommodates all training demand three nights each week as well as senior matches and is overplayed by two match sessions per week.	Support club as appropriate in seeking funding to improve pitches and reduce play through transferring training to an alternative location (increased floodlighting provision on site).	Sports Club RFU		S	M	

⁴⁹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

⁵⁰ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ⁴⁹	Cost ⁵⁰	Aim
147	Yate Common	Football		One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, both standard quality. Available for community use but unused.	Improve quality through improved maintenance to increase capacity for use and investigate potential future use.	FA	Reserve	S	L-M	Protect Enhance
148	Yate International Academy	Football	Academy	Two youth 11v11 pitches, both standard quality. Clay content soil, drainage issues at one end. No spare capacity due to unsecure community use.	Improve quality through improved maintenance to increase capacity for use and work to secure community use.	Academy FA	Key centre	L	L	Protect Enhance
		AGP		One full sized 3G pitch, standard quality built in 2012. Operates a central venue for the Junior Premier League, however, the pitch is not FA sanctioned and certified for competitive football.	It is key that the pitch is subjected to and passes performance testing in order to continue to host competitive football, as without this both clubs and the league are in a vulnerable position should an accident or significant injury occur on the pitch which is not evidenced as safe to use for matches.	School FA		S	L	
149	Yate Outdoor Sports Complex (YOSC)	Football	Yate Outdoor Sports Complex PLC (YOSCPLC)	Three standard quality youth 11v11 pitches. Available for community use but unused.	Improve quality through improved maintenance to increase capacity for use and investigate potential future use.	YOSCPLC Sports club FA	Hub	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Rugby union		Senior rugby union pitch created this season to accommodate newly created club Yate RFC. Poor quality (M0/D0) played to capacity.	Monitor use and impact on quality and look address deficiencies in the closed season.	YOSCPLC Sports club RFU		S	L	
		AGP		Standard quality sand based AGP with floodlighting. Due to surpass the recommended ten year surface lifespan in 2017. Used by Yate HC and Badminton HC, Yate RFC and various football clubs. YOSC would like to explore potential opportunities to develop a 3G pitch onsite.	Explore potential to develop as a hub site given access to Brimsham Green School available as an extended community use offer. Determine potential for Section 106 investment to cater for new demand from housing growth in Yate. Monitor surface quality and consider resurfacing given the age of the surface.	YOSCPLC Sports club EH FA RFU		S/M	H	
153	Chipping Sodbury School	AGP	School	One full size 3G pitch, good quality built in 2010. Available for a total of 29 hours, including weekends.	Maximise use for competitive football and weekends and ensure FA testing is carried out. Ensure sinking fund is in place for eventual refurbishment.	School FA	Key centre	S	L	Protect
159	Old Sodbury Playing Fields	Football	Other	One standard quality adult pitch. Spare capacity available at peak time.	Seek to improve quality through better and more regular maintenance. Maximise use of potential capacity at non-peak times.	Sports Club FA	Local site	S	L	Protect Enhance
Note: At the time of compilation an application has been made by Shireway Community Centre to develop part of the site from landfill into playing fields.										

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PART 7: KEEP THE STRATEGY ROBUST AND UP TO DATE

Delivery

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

It is important that this document is used in a practical manner, is engaged with partners and encourages partnerships to be developed, to ensure that outdoor pitch provision is regarded as a vital aspect of community life and which contribute to the achievement of Council priorities.

The production of this Strategy should be regarded as the beginning of the planning process. The success of this Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach.

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 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 provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved the steering group need to have a clear understanding of how the PPS can be applied and therefore delivered. Key uses for the PPS include evidence for supporting funding bids, guidance to inform planning decisions and planning applications and decision making for capital investment.

The process of developing the PPS will hopefully have already resulted in a number of benefits that will help with its application and delivery. These may include enhanced partnership working across different agendas and organisations, pooling of resources along with strengthening relationships and understanding between different stakeholders and between 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 it can be applied and how it can be delivered.

Monitoring and updating

It is important that there is regular annual monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. This monitoring should be led by the local authority 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 also form a key component of monitoring its delivery. This should form an on-going role of the steering group. It is possible that in the interim between annual reviews the steering group could operate as a 'virtual' group; prepared to comment on suggestions and updates electronically when relevant.

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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 NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date. If the PPS is used as a 'live' document, and kept up to date, the time frame can be extended to five years.

Furthermore, the process of refreshing the PPS would be much less resource intensive if changes and updates have been made throughout the five years. If there are no updates to the document within the period the nature of the supply and in particular the demand for playing pitches is likely to have changed. 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 could 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 that would have been built up when developing the PPS. 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 particularly resource intensive task. However, it should highlight:

- ◀ How the 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 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 playing pitch 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 the PPS is used effectively to input into any new opportunities to secure improved provision and influence relevant programmes and initiatives
- ◀ Maintains links between all relevant parties with an interest in playing pitch provision in the area;
- ◀ 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:

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- ◀ 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).

Alongside the regular steering group meetings it is recommended that South Gloucestershire Council holds annual sport specific meetings with the pitch sport NGBs and other relevant organisations. These meetings should look to update the key supply and demand information, if necessary amend the assessment work, track progress with implementing the recommendations and action plan and highlight any new issues and opportunities. Things to consider include formation of new teams or loss of teams, any new formats of the sports that would impact on facilities, changes in quality or creation of new facilities.

These meetings could be timed to fit with the annual affiliation process undertaken by the NGBs which would help to capture any 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 could be fed into these meetings. The NGBs will also be able to indicate any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area. Discussion with the league secretaries may also indicate annual league meetings which it may be useful to attend to pick up any 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 or other private sites in the future. Updating the action plans will make the task of updating the PPS much easier.


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 working, including for example, grounds maintenance and sports, to ensure that this is achieved and that results are used to inform subsequent annual sports facility development plans. Results should be shared with partners via a consultative mechanism.

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Checklist

To help ensure the PPS 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:

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/playing-pitch-strategy-guidance/>

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date	Tick 	
	Yes	Requires Attention
Step 9: Apply and 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 and 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 NGBs 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?		

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APPENDIX ONE: INCREASING FOOTBALL USE OF 3G PITCHES

During the last decade 3G AGPs 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. With this in mind, 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 size⁵¹ floodlit 3G AGPs in South Gloucestershire if increased amounts of play were to take place on them.

In order to do so, 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 sized floodlit 3G AGPs may be required to meet demand within South Gloucestershire if:

- ◀ All teams playing competitive football had access to a full size floodlit 3G AGP to train on once a week?
- ◀ All matches for teams currently playing competitive football on Parish or Town Council managed natural grass pitches in South Gloucestershire were played on full size floodlit 3G AGPs?

The answers to these questions are set out below and are based on full sized floodlit 3G AGPs which have full community use during peak periods⁵². 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 floodlit AGPs 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 may mean for the South Gloucestershire area, taking into account the wider findings from the Assessment stage of developing the PPS, is also presented below. These details have been used to help inform the development of the PPS's recommendations and the action plan (see pages 41 to 80).

⁵¹ A full size 3G AGP measuring 106 x70m including run off/safety margins.

⁵² Weekdays 17:00 - 21:00 (or 19:00 on Fridays) and 09:00 - 17:00 on weekends.

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Scenario results

i. If all teams playing competitive football had access to a full size floodlit 3G AGP to train on once a week.

- ✦ As a guide, the FA suggests that one full size floodlit 3G AGP could potentially accommodate this training demand from 42 teams (Ratio of 1:4253).
- ✦ The information from the Assessment stage of this PPS indicates that there are 566 unique teams playing competitive football in South Gloucestershire.
- ✦ Using the FA's 1:42 ratio on an area wide basis suggests that 13 full sized floodlit 3G AGPs would be required to meet this increased training use within South Gloucestershire.
- ✦ However, when applied on an Analysis area level rather than district wide, FA modelling suggests a requirement of 11 full sized 3G pitches. Based on a requirement for 11 pitches, there is a shortfall on an Analysis area level of seven pitches, which the Bristol East Fringe evidencing particular need given there are presently no full sized pitches in this Area.
- ✦ When accounting for future demand forecast through team generation rates, the shortfall increases from seven pitches to nine.

Table A.1: Current and future supply/demand balance by Analysis area for full sized 3G pitches for training.

Analysis area	Current supply	Current number of teams	Current full sized 3G pitch requirement ⁵⁴	Current shortfall (by Analysis area)	Future number of teams (2036)	Future full sized 3G pitch requirement ⁵⁹	Future shortfall (by Analysis area)
Bristol North Fringe	1	142	3.38 - 3	2	171	4.07 - 4	3
Bristol East Fringe	0	202	4.8 - 4	4	250	5.95 - 5	5
Rural	2	138	3.28 - 3	1	167	3.97 - 3	1
Thornbury	1	30	0.71 - 0	0	39	0.92 - 0	0
Yate & Chipping Sodbury	2	54	1.28 - 1	0	65	1.54 - 1	0
Total	7	566	11	7	692⁵⁵	13	9

⁵³ The FA developed the training ratio following their facilities strategy vision to provide all affiliated clubs with access to a 3G AGP for training. An original ratio of 1:56 was based on a full sized pitch providing 56 slots per week (Mon-Thurs 6-9pm, Fri 6-8pm).

The ratio was subsequently revised to 1:42. This was due to evidence of a number of local authority areas reaching the perceived required number of 3G AGP facilities based on the 1:56 ratio yet still evidencing latent demand. Further FA analysis of 3G AGP facility usage also showed that many affiliated teams seek more than one slot for training and that significant amounts of non-FA affiliated and recreational demand also use 3G AGPs during the peak time, creating a need for further 3G AGP provision.

⁵⁴ Figures rounded down as small sized 3G pitches may be able to contribute towards a proportion of the requirement, either existing or any future new developments.

⁵⁵ Note total future demand from team generation rates differs from the assessment due to application on an Analysis area wide basis rather than district wide. Of the district wide figure, at least this number of teams is predicted to be created in these Analysis areas.

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ii. If all matches for teams playing competitive football on Parish or Town Council managed natural grass pitches were played on full size floodlit 3G AGPs.

- ✦ The FA is keen to work with local authorities (LAs) to understand the potential demand for full size floodlit 3G AGPs should all competitive matches, currently played on LA managed (or Parish/Town Councils in the case of South Gloucestershire) natural grass pitches, be transferred to one.
- ✦ Table A.2 takes information from the Assessment stage of this PPS to present the number of teams playing on Parish/Town Council managed natural grass pitches (not including where sites are known to be managed by trust or Community Interest Organisation where the Parish Council is represented) and the relevant peak periods.

Table A.2: Number of teams playing on LA managed natural grass pitches

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Adult	11v11	Saturday PM	53
Youth	11v11	Sunday AM	50
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	39
Youth	7v7	N/A	-
Mini	7v7	Sunday AM	38
Mini	5v5	Sunday AM	31
Total			211

- ✦ The FA suggests an approach (see below) for estimating the number of full size floodlit 3G AGPs that teams may demand for competitive matches. Table A.3 presents the results of this approach for the teams set out in Table A.2.

Table A.2: Number of full sized 3G AGPs that may be required

Format	No Teams per time (x)	No matches at PEAK TIME (y) = x/2	3G units per match (z)	Total units required formats (A)=(y)*(z)	3G pitches required B= (A)/64
5v5	31	15.5	4	62	0.96875
7v7	38	19	8	152	2.375
9v9	39	19.5	10	195	3.046875
11v11 (Youth)	50	25	32	800	12.5
11v11 (Adult)	53	26.5	32	848	13.25

- ✦ Transferring all matches for teams currently playing competitive football on Parish/Town Council managed natural grass pitches would equate to a demand for 19 (rounded up from 18.89) full sized floodlit 3G AGPs for all the different formats of the game.
- ✦ In practice it is unrealistic to deliver 19 full sized 3G pitches on this basis. In order to accommodate all mini soccer (both formats) and youth 9v9 football on Sunday mornings there

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would be a need for seven full sized 3G pitches in South Gloucestershire. This could also accommodate a proportion of adult demand on Saturday afternoons, sufficient to accommodate 14 matches per week or 28 teams playing within a home and away format.

- ◀ The FA approach for estimating the number of full size floodlit 3G AGPs that teams may demand for competitive matches is based on:
 - ◀ A team playing a 'home' match every other week - therefore dividing the number of teams by two with the result rounded up to provide a figure for the number of matches a week during the peak period (Table A.3 Column y).
 - ◀ A 3G AGP being available for 4 hours⁵⁶ a day during the peak period (e.g. 10am to 2pm). Therefore, all demand being programmed over the four hour period.
 - ◀ Using a unit measure which can be applied to the different formats of the game to quantify how a pitch can be used during this 4 hour period (Table A.3 Column z). One unit is taken as equating to a quarter of a full size 3G AGP for 15 minutes. Therefore, a full size 3G AGP provides 4 units per 15 minutes and 16 units per hour. Across the four hour period this totals a capacity of 64 units (16 units per hour x 4 hours).
 - ◀ As set out in Table A.4 below, each format of the game will require a certain amount of units of a full size 3G AGP per match based on the required pitch size and match duration.

Table A.3: FA set units of a full size 3G AGP per match for each format

Format of the game	No. of pitches that fit on a full size 3G AGP	No. of matches per hour on a full size 3G AGP	No. of matches per 2 hour period on a full size 3G AGP	Number of units per match
5v5	4	4	8	4
7v7	2	2	4	8
9v9	2	2	2	10
11v11 Youth	1	0	1	32
11v11 Adult	1	0	1	32

Current supply

- ◀ There is currently seven full sized floodlit 3G AGPs available for community use and club training.
- ◀ Four are listed on the FA's 3G AGP register⁵⁷ and deemed suitable for competitive matches, though Yate International Academy is used for match play despite not having been subjected to and meeting performance standard testing.
- ◀ No 3G AGPs are identified as having particularly restricted community use hours, though the pitch at South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE Campus) is reported to have little spare capacity for additional use.
- ◀ None of the seven 3G AGPs are currently without floodlighting.

⁵⁶ The rationale for 4 hours is based on a standard approach for match programming nationally and the ability to facilitate 2 adult games.

⁵⁷ The FA has established a 3G AGP register to help users identify facilities that are fit for purpose for competitive matches <http://3g.thefa.me.uk/?countyfa=Gloucestershire>

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- ◀ There are three small sized 3G pitches (not including the 12 commercial based pitches at Goals Soccer Centre), of which two pitches are of sufficient playing dimensions (not taking into account required run off areas) that they could potentially be used to accommodate mini football matches upon certification.

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APPENDIX TWO: STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The recommendations within this Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis. They reflect key areas to be addressed over its lifetime. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to also meet planning considerations.

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 Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation (2015)

The Government published its strategy for sport in December 2015. This strategy confirms the recognition and understanding that sport makes a positive difference through broader means and that it will help the sector to deliver five simple but fundamental outcomes: physical health, mental health, individual development, social and community development and economic development. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of 23 performance indicators under nine key headings, as follows:

- ◀ More people taking part in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ More people volunteering in sport.
- ◀ More people experiencing live sport.
- ◀ Maximising international sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ A more productive sport sector.
- ◀ A more financially and organisationally sustainable sport sector.
- ◀ A more responsible sport sector.

Sport England: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)

Sport England has recently released its new five year strategy 'Towards an Active Nation'. The aim is to target the 28% of people who do less than 30 minutes of exercise each week and will focus on the least active groups; typically women, the disabled and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

Sport England will invest up to £30m on a plan to increase the number of volunteers in grassroots sport. Emphasis will be on working with a larger range of partners with less money being directed towards National Governing Bodies.

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The Strategy will help deliver against the five health, social and economic outcomes set out in the Government's Sporting Future strategy.

- ◀ Physical Wellbeing
- ◀ Mental Wellbeing
- ◀ Individual Development
- ◀ Social & Community Development
- ◀ Economic Development

National Planning Policy Framework

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.

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.

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The FA National Game Strategy (2015 – 2019)

The Football Association's (FA) National Game Strategy provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities, expenditure proposals and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a four year period. The main issues facing grassroots football are identified as:

- ◀ Sustain and Increase Participation.
- ◀ Ensure access to education sites to accommodate the game.
- ◀ Help players to be the best that they can be and provide opportunities for them to progress from grassroots to elite.
- ◀ Recruit, retain and develop a network of qualified referees
- ◀ Support clubs, leagues and other competition providers to develop a safe, inclusive and positive football experience for everyone.
- ◀ Support Clubs and Leagues to become sustainable businesses, understanding and serving the needs of players and customers.
- ◀ Improve grass pitches through the pitch improvement programme to improve existing facilities and changing rooms.
- ◀ Deliver new and improved facilities including new Football Turf Pitches.
- ◀ Work with priority Local Authorities enabling 50% of mini-soccer and youth matched to be played on high quality artificial grass pitches.

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Cricket Unleashed 5 Year Plan

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic five-year plan in 2016 (available at <http://www.cricketunleashed.com>). Its success will be measured by the number of people who play, follow or support the whole game.

The plan sets out five important headline elements and each of their key focuses, these are:

- ◀ **More Play** – make the game more accessible and inspire the next generation of players, coaches, officials and volunteers. Focus on:
 - ◀ *Clubs and leagues*
 - ◀ *Kids*
 - ◀ *Communities*
 - ◀ *Casual*
- ◀ **Great Teams** – deliver winning teams who inspire and excite through on-field performance and off-field behaviour. Focus on:
 - ◀ *Pathway*
 - ◀ *Support*
 - ◀ *Elite Teams*
 - ◀ *England Teams*
- ◀ **Inspired Fans** – put the fan at the heart of our game to improve and personalise the cricket experience for all. Focus on:
 - ◀ *Fan focus*
 - ◀ *New audiences*
 - ◀ *Global stage*
 - ◀ *Broadcast and digital*

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- ◀ **Good Governance and Social Responsibility** – make decisions in the best interests of the game and use the power of cricket to make a positive difference. Focus on:
 - ◀ *Integrity*
 - ◀ *Community programmes*
 - ◀ *Our environments*
 - ◀ *One plan*
- ◀ **Strong Finance and Operations** – increase the game's revenues, invest our resources wisely and administer responsibly to secure the growth of the game. Focus on:
 - ◀ *People*
 - ◀ *Revenue and reach*
 - ◀ *Insight*
 - ◀ *Operations*

The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017)

The RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners.

It identifies that with 1.5 million players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

- ◀ Create a platform for growth in club rugby participation and membership, especially with a view to exploiting the opportunities afforded by RWC 2015.
- ◀ Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of rugby clubs, through supporting not only their playing activity but also their capacity to generate revenue through a diverse range of activities and partnerships.

In summary the priorities for investment which have met the needs of the game for the Previous period remain valid:

- ◀ Increase the provision of changing rooms and clubhouses that can sustain concurrent adult and junior male and female activity at clubs
- ◀ Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches and floodlighting
- ◀ Increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development

It is also a high priority for the RFU to target investment in the following:

- ◀ Upgrade and transform social, community and catering facilities, which can support the generation of additional revenues
- ◀ Facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs
- ◀ Pitch furniture, including rugby posts and pads, pitch side spectator rails and grounds maintenance equipment

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England Hockey (EH) - A Nation Where Hockey Matters (2013-2017)

EH have a clear vision, a powerful philosophy and five core objectives that all those who have a role in advancing Hockey can unite behind. With UK Sport and Sport England's investment, and growing commercial revenues, EH are ambitious about how they can take the sport forward in Olympic cycles and beyond.

"The vision is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters'. A nation where hockey is talked about at dinner tables, playgrounds and public houses, up and down the country. A nation where the sport is on the back pages of our newspapers, where children dream of scoring a goal for England's senior hockey team, and where the performance stirs up emotion amongst the many, not the few"

England Hockey aspires to deepen the passion of those who play, deliver and follow sport by providing the best possible environments and the best possible experiences. Whilst reaching out to new audiences by making the sport more visible, available and relevant and through the many advocates of hockey.

Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes the sport function. EH understand the importance of volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational people can be, the more progressive Hockey can be and the more befitting the facilities can be, the more EH will achieve. The core objectives are as follows:

- ◀ Grow our Participation
- ◀ Deliver International Success
- ◀ Increase our Visibility
- ◀ Enhance our Infrastructure
- ◀ Be a strong and respected Governing Body

England Hockey has a Capital Investment Programme (CIP), that is planned to lever £5.6 million investment into hockey facilities over the next four years, underpinned by £2m million from the National Governing Body. With over 500 pitches due for refurbishment in the next 4-8 years, there will be a large focus placed on these projects through this funding stream. The current level of pitches available for hockey is believed to be sufficient for the medium term needs, however in some areas, pitches may not be in the right places in order to maximise playing opportunities

'The right pitches in the right places'⁵⁸

In 2012, EH released its facility guidance which is intended to assist organisations wishing to build or protect hockey pitches for hockey. It identifies that many existing hockey AGPs are nearing the end of their useful life as a result of the installation boom of the 90's. Significant investment is needed to update the playing stock and protect the sport against inappropriate surfaces for hockey as a result of the rising popularity of AGPs for a number of sports.

EH is seeking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers which have a sound understanding of the following:

⁵⁸ <http://englandhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=1143andsectionTitle=The+Right+Pitches+in+the+Right+Places>

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- ◀ Single System – clubs and providers which have a good understanding of the Single System and its principles and are appropriately places to support the delivery.
- ◀ ClubsFirst accreditation – clubs with the accreditation are recognised as producing a safe effective and child friendly hockey environment
- ◀ Sustainability – hockey providers and clubs will have an approved development plan in place showing their commitment to developing hockey, retaining members and providing an insight into longer term goals. They will also need to have secured appropriate tenure.

England Hockey Strategy

EH's new Club Strategy will assist hockey clubs to retain more players and recruit new members to ultimately grow their club membership. EH will be focusing on participation growth through this strategy for the next two years. The EH Strategy is based on seven core themes. These are:

1. Having great leadership
2. Having Appropriate and Sustainable Facilities
3. Inspired and Effective People
4. Different Ways to Play
5. Staying Friendly, Social and Welcoming
6. Being Local with Strong Community Connections
7. Stretching and developing those who want it

The Rugby Football League Facility Strategy

The RFL's Facilities Strategy was published in 2011. The following themes have been prioritised:

- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe and Playable
- ◀ Sustainable clubs
- ◀ Environmental Sustainability
- ◀ Geographical Spread
- ◀ Non-club Facilities

The RFL Facilities Trust website www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk provides further information on:

- ◀ The RFL Community Facility Strategy
- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe and Playable Programme
- ◀ Pitch Size Guidance
- ◀ The RFL Performance Standard for Artificial Grass Pitches
- ◀ Club guidance on the Annual Preparation and Maintenance of the Rugby League Pitch

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Further to the 2011 Strategy detail on the following specific programmes of particular relevance to pitches and facility planning are listed below and can be found via the trust link (see above):

- ◀ The RFL Pitch Improvement Programme 2013 – 2017
- ◀ Clean, Dry and Safe programmes 2013 - 2017

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APPENDIX THREE: FUNDING PLAN

Funding opportunities⁵⁹

In order to deliver much of the Action Plan it is recognised that external partner funding will need to be sought. Although seeking developer contributions in applicable situations and other local funding/community schemes could go some way towards meeting deficiencies and/or improving provision, other potential/match sources of funding should be investigated. Below is a list of current funding sources that are relevant for community improvement projects involving sports facilities.

Awarding body	Description
Big Lottery Fund http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/	Big invests in community groups and to projects that improve health, education and the environment. For example, Awards for All which is for small Lottery grants of between £300 and £10,000.
Sport England The current funding streams will change throughout 2016/17 so refer to the website for the latest information: http://funding.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/	Sport England is keen to marry funding with other organisations that provide financial support to create and strengthen the best sports projects. Applicants are encouraged to maximise the levels of other sources of funding, and projects that secure higher levels of partnership funding are more likely to be successful.
Football Foundation http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/funding-schemes/	This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development.
Rugby Football Foundation http://www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14&Itemid=113	The Grant Match Scheme in particular provides easy-to-access grant funding for playing projects that contribute to the recruitment and retention of community rugby players. Grants are available on a 'match funding' 50:50 basis to support a proposed project. Projects eligible for funding include: 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts, floodlights. 2. Club House Facilities – Changing rooms, shower facilities, washroom/lavatory, and measures to facilitate segregation (e.g. women, juniors). 3. Equipment – Large capital equipment, pitch maintenance capital equipment (e.g. mowers). Other loan schemes are also available.
The England and Wales Cricket Trust https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding	Interest Free Loan Scheme provides finance to clubs for capital projects and the Small Grant Scheme is also open to applications from affiliated cricket clubs.
EU Life Fund http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm	LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU.

⁵⁹ Up to date as of April 2017.

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Awarding body	Description
National Hockey Foundation http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/	The Foundation primarily makes grants to a wide range of organisations that meet one of the areas of focus: Young people and hockey, Enabling the development of hockey at youth or community level.

Protecting Playing Fields

Sport England's Strategy: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021) will simplify the funding reducing the number of investment programmes from 30 to 7:

- ◀ Tackling Inactivity
- ◀ Children and Young People
- ◀ Volunteering
- ◀ Taking sport and activity into the mass market
- ◀ Supporting sports core markets
- ◀ Local delivery
- ◀ Creating welcoming sports facilities

The current funding streams listed below will remain operational during 2016/17 but will be phased out and replaced by one or more of the seven listed above.

It launched Protecting Playing Fields (PPF) as part of its Places People Play Olympic legacy mass participation programme and is investing £10 million of National Lottery funding in community sports projects.

The programme is being delivered via five funding rounds (with up to £2 million being awarded to projects in each round). Its focus is on protecting and improving playing fields and developing community sport. It will fund capital projects that create, develop and improve playing fields for sporting and community use and offer long term protection of the site for sport. Projects are likely to involve the construction of new pitches or improvement of existing ones that need levelling or drainage works.

Sport England's 'Inspired Facilities' funding programme will be delivered via funding rounds and where clubs, community and voluntary sector groups and local authorities can apply for grants of between £25k and £150k where there is a proven local need for a facility to be modernised, extended or modified to open up new sporting opportunities.

The programmes three priorities are:

- ◀ Organisations that haven't previously received a Sport England Lottery grant of over £10k.
- ◀ Projects that are the only public sports facility in the local community.
- ◀ Projects that offer local opportunities to people who do not currently play sport.

Besides this scheme providing an important source of funding for potential voluntary and community sector sites, it may also provide opportunities for Council to access this funding particularly in relation to resurfacing the artificial sports surfaces. For further up to date information please go to: <http://funding.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/protecting-playing-fields/>
Strategic Facilities Fund

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Facilities are fundamental in providing more people with the opportunity to play sport. The supply of the right facilities in the right areas is key to getting more people to play sport. Sport England recognises the considerable financial pressures that local authorities are currently under and the need to strategically review and rationalise leisure stock so that cost effective and financially sustainable provision is available in the long-term. Sport England has a key role to play in the sector, from influencing the local strategic planning and review of sports facility provision to investing in major capital projects of strategic importance.

The Strategic Facilities Fund will direct capital investment into a number of key local authority projects that are identified through a strategic needs assessment and that have maximum impact on growing and sustaining community sport participation. These projects will be promoted as best practice in the delivery of quality and affordable facilities, whilst demonstrating long-term operational efficiencies. The fund will support projects that bring together multiple partners, including input from the public and private sectors and national governing bodies of sport (NGBs). The fund is also designed to encourage applicants and their partners to invest further capital and revenue funding to ensure sustainability. Sport England has allocated a budget of circa £30m of Lottery funding to award through this fund (2013-17).

Key features which applications must demonstrate are:

- ◆ A robust needs and evidence base which illustrates the need for the project and the proposed facility mix
- ◆ Strong partnerships which will last beyond the initial development of the project and underpin the long-term sustainability of the facility
- ◆ Multi-sport provision and activity that demonstrates delivery against NGB local priorities
- ◆ A robust project plan from inception to completion with achievable milestones and timescales.

Lottery applications will be invited on a solicited-only basis and grants of between £500,000 and £2,000,000 will be considered.

The Strategic Facilities Fund will prioritise projects that:

- ◆ Are large-scale capital developments identified as part of a local authority sports facility strategic needs assessment/rationalisation programme and that will drive a significant increase in community sports participation
- ◆ Demonstrate consultation/support from two or more NGBs and delivery against their local priorities
- ◆ Are multi-sport facilities providing opportunities to drive high participant numbers
- ◆ Are a mix of facility provision (indoor and/or outdoor) to encourage regular and sustained use by a large number of people
- ◆ Offer an enhancement, through modernisation, to existing provision and/or new build facilities
- ◆ Have a long-term sustainable business plan attracting public and private investment
- ◆ Show quality in design, but are fit for purpose to serve the community need
- ◆ Have effective and efficient operating models, combined with a commitment to development programmes which will increase participation and provide talent pathways.

Projects will need to demonstrate how the grant will deliver against Sport England's strategic priorities. The funding available is for the development of the capital infrastructure, which can

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contribute to the costs of new build, modernisation or refurbishment and purchasing of major fixed equipment as part of the facility development.

Funder's requirements

Below is a list of funding requirements that can typically be expected to be provided as part of a funding bid, some of which will fall directly out of the Playing Pitch Strategy:

- ✦ Identify need (i.e., why the Project is needed) and how the Project will address it.
- ✦ Articulate what difference the Project will make.
- ✦ Identify benefits, value for money and/or added value.
- ✦ Provide baseline information (i.e., the current situation).
- ✦ Articulate how the Project is consistent with local, regional and national policy.
- ✦ Financial need and project cost.
- ✦ Funding profile (i.e., Who's providing what? Unit and overall costs).
- ✦ Technical information and requirements (e.g., planning permission).
- ✦ Targets, outputs and/or outcomes (i.e., the situation after the Project/what the Project will achieve)
- ✦ Evidence of support from partners and stakeholders.
- ✦ Background/essential documentation (e.g., community use agreement).
- ✦ Assessment of risk.

Indicative costs

The indicative costs of implementing key elements of the Action Plan can be found on the Sport England website:

<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>

The costs are for the development of community sports facilities and are based on providing good quality sports facility based on the last quarter. The Facilities Costs are updated on the Sport England website every quarter. These rounded costs are based on schemes most recently funded through the Lottery (and therefore based on economies of scale), updated to reflect current forecast price indices provided by the Building Cost Information Service (BCIS), prepared by Technical Team Lead of Sport England.

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APPENDIX FOUR: GLOSSARY

Displaced demand generally relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area (i.e. from residents of the study area) which takes place outside of the area. This may be due to issues with the provision of pitches and ancillary facilities in the study area, just reflective of how the sports are played (e.g. at a central venue for the wider area) or due to the most convenient site for the respective users just falling outside of the local authority/study area.

Unmet demand is demand that is known to exist but unable to be accommodated on current supply of pitches. This could be in the form of a team with access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa. This could also be due to the poor quality and therefore limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement. League secretaries may be aware of some unmet demand as they may have declined applications from teams wishing to enter their competitions due to a lack of pitch provision which in turn is hindering the growth of the league.

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. This could include feedback from a sports club who may feel that they could set up and run an additional team if they had access to better provision.

Future demand is an informed estimate made of the likely future demand for pitches in the study area. This is generally based on the most appropriate current and future population projections for the relevant age and gender groupings for each sport. Key trends, local objectives and targets and consultation also inform this figure.

Casual use or other use could take place on natural grass pitches or AGPs and include:

- ◀ Regular play from non-sports club sources (e.g. companies, schools, fitness classes)
- ◀ Infrequent informal/friendly matches
- ◀ Informal training sessions
- ◀ More casual forms of a particular sport organised by sports clubs or other parties
- ◀ Significant public use and informal play, particularly where pitches are located in parks/recreation grounds.

Carrying capacity is the amount of play a site can regularly accommodate (in the relevant comparable unit) for community use without adversely affecting its quality and use. This is typically outlined by the NGB

Overplay is when a pitch is used over the amount that the carrying capacity will allow, (i.e. more than the site can accommodate). 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.

Spare capacity is the amount of additional play that a pitch could potentially accommodate in addition to current activity. There may be reasons why this potential to accommodate additional play should not automatically be regarded as actual spare capacity, for example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below its carrying capacity to ensure that it can cater for a

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number of friendly matches and training activity. This needs to be investigated before the capacity is deemed **actual spare capacity**.

Match equivalent sessions is an appropriate comparable unit for pitch usage. For football, rugby union and rugby league, pitches should relate to a typical week within the season and one match = one match equivalent session if it occurs every week or 0.5 match equivalent sessions if it occurs every other week (i.e. reflecting home and away fixtures). For cricket pitches it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season and one match = one match equivalent session.