



HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

DECEMBER 2022

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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Cert Num: 6543-QMS-001

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
CE	Cricket East
CFA	County Football Association
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GMA	Grounds Management Association
HC	Hockey Club
HDC	Huntingdonshire District Council
HFA	Huntingdonshire Football Association
IOG	Institute of Groundsmanship
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facilities Plan
MOD	Ministry of Defence
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB	National Governing Body
NHS	National Health Service
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
TC	Tennis Club
U	Under

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) for Huntingdonshire District Council. Building upon the preceding Assessment Report, it provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports facilities and accompanying ancillary provision.

The Strategy is capable of:

- ◀ Providing planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting outdoor sports facilities and, as appropriate, directing contributions secured through development.
- ◀ Informing the protection and provision of outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ Informing land use decisions in respect of future use of existing outdoor sports areas and areas capable of accommodating provision.
- ◀ Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of provision.
- ◀ Supporting external funding bids and maximising support for outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ Providing the basis for ongoing monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality and accessibility of outdoor sports facilities.

It is delivered in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Guidance (for playing pitch sports) and Sport England's Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (for "non-pitch" sports). Sport England's PPS Guidance details a 13-stepped approach, separated into five distinct sections:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (1)
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision (2 & 3)
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views (4, 5 & 6)
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the strategy (7 & 8)
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date (9 & 10)

Stage D is covered in this report, with stages A-C evidenced in the Assessment Report and Stage E ongoing once the work has been adopted. The lifespan of a PPOSS is considered to be three years, although this can be increased if it is kept up to date.

The PPOSS forms one part of a wider, inter-related strategy for sports and recreation that also includes an Indoor Facilities Strategy. The relationship between the strategies must be noted as some sports covered by the PPOSS also use indoor facilities for matches or training as well as open space areas for informal use.

Agreed scope

The following are the key outdoor sports (and associated facilities, including artificial surfaces) in Huntingdonshire PPOSS and as such are included within the scope:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| ◀ Football (including third generation (3G) artificial grass pitches) | ◀ Athletics |
| ◀ Rugby union | ◀ Outdoor tennis |
| ◀ Rugby league | ◀ Outdoor netball |
| ◀ Hockey (artificial grass pitches AGPs) | ◀ Outdoor lawn bowls |
| ◀ Cricket | ◀ Outdoor gym equipment/Trim trails |
| | ◀ Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA) |

Further to the above, there is also a need to recognise the role of informal recreational space (and informal outdoor sport activity) in meeting the changing demands of local communities and links to the current Huntingdonshire Open Spaces Assessment.

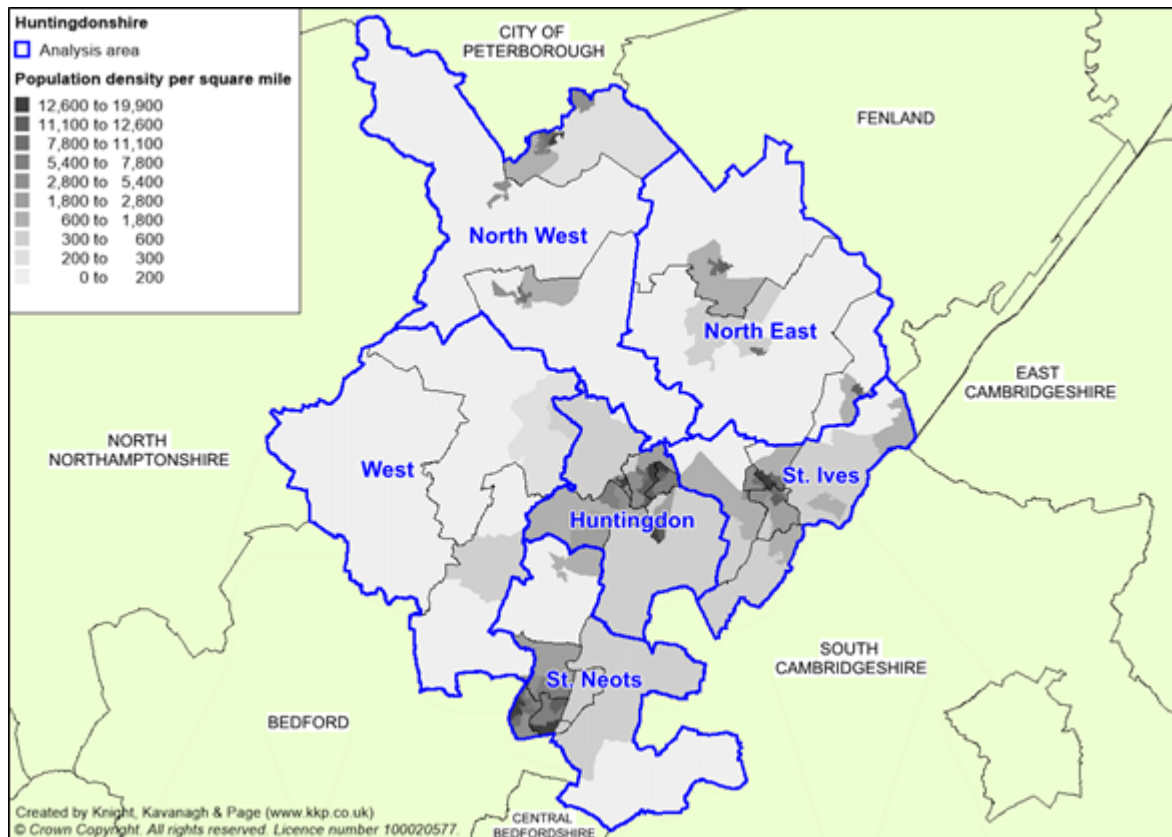
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Study area

The study area comprises the whole of Huntingdonshire District Council's administrative area. Due to its size, Huntingdonshire is broken into smaller subsections known as analysis areas. It is accepted that sports catchment areas do not naturally fall into defined administrative areas and that needs to be taken into account when assessing current and future provision for pitch sports. However, analysis areas are used for reporting purposes to aim to create localised assessments of supply vs demand modelling. The six identified for Huntingdonshire are as follows:

- ◀ Huntingdon
- ◀ North East
- ◀ North West
- ◀ St Ives
- ◀ St Neots
- ◀ West

Figure 1: Huntingdonshire analysis area split



Cross boundary and cross authority issues are also explored to determine the level of imported and exported demand, recognising, for example, that people travel to and make use of strategic facilities irrespective of administrative boundaries.

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1.1: Structure

The Strategy has been developed from research and analysis of playing pitch and outdoor sports provision and usage within Huntingdonshire to provide:

- ◀ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of facilities.
- ◀ A number of aims to help deliver the recommendations and actions.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision.
- ◀ A range of sport-by-sport and local authority wide scenarios to help inform policy recommendations and prioritisation of actions.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, if applicable, the rationalisation of playing pitches.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area action plan to address key issues.

The recommendations made in this strategy should be translated into local plan policy so that there is a mechanism to support delivery and secure provision and investment into provision where the opportunity arises. It also recommends numerous priority projects for Huntingdonshire that should be implemented over the course of its lifespan. These are outlined to provide a framework for improvement, with potential partners and possible sources of external funding identified in light of limited council resources.

There is a need to sustain and build key partnerships between the Council, NGBs, Sport England, parish/town councils, education providers, leisure contractors, maintenance contractors, community clubs and private landowners to maintain and improve relevant provision. In these instances, the potential for the Council to take a strategic lead can be limited (except in terms of Section 106 agreements and developer contributions). This document therefore provides clarity with regard to the way forward and will allow organisations to focus on the key issues and objectives that they can directly influence and achieve.

1.2: Context

Why the strategy is being developed

Huntingdonshire District Council is commissioning the development of a PPOSS to help inform the future priorities for pitch and outdoor sport provision in the district and to help plan for future needs arising from an increasing population. The Strategy will cover the whole local authority boundary of Huntingdonshire. It will be an integral supporting document towards the current Local Plan to 2036 and form an evidence base for the forthcoming Local Plan review scheduled to start in 2022.

The PPOSS will assist the Council in its delivery of several key priorities. It will:

- ◀ Aid implementation of current planning policy and serve as the evidence base for preparation of the next Local Plan 2036.
- ◀ Provide information to assist with the provision of new outdoor sports provision or improvements to existing spaces. (For example, this may include new types of pitches required or facilities such as changing rooms and pavilion buildings to allow increased use of a site).
- ◀ Provide information to assist with the provision of new built facilities or improvements to existing facilities.
- ◀ Developing a priority list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies; provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work.

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- ◀ Provide information to assist with asset management of the council owned playing fields and associated facilities.
- ◀ Provide an up to date audit of facilities available and quality assessment of facilities available to assist the public and sporting groups to access sporting facilities.
- ◀ Provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding including s106 contributions and CIL funding.
- ◀ Inform sports development, physical activity and public health and wellbeing agendas.

National context

Concern at national government level over the loss of playing fields prompted the development of localised playing pitch assessments and strategies which identify current and future requirements for playing fields. Developing a strategic approach to the analysis of playing pitch supply and demand is necessary to:

- ◀ Protect playing pitches against development pressures in, and around, urban areas.
- ◀ Identify pitch (natural grass and artificial) supply and demand issues in relation to predicated population changes.
- ◀ Address 'demand' pressures created as a result of specific sports development pressures e.g. growth of mini soccer and wider use of artificial grass pitches.
- ◀ Address budget pressures and public-sector cuts.

The Huntingdonshire PPOSS will provide an evidence base for planning decisions and funding bids and will ensure that this evidence is sound, robust and capable of being scrutinised through examination whilst meeting the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

One of the core planning principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs. Section 8 of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities, with paragraph 98 discussing the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Paragraph 99 discusses assessments and the protection of "existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields". Paragraphs 100 and 102 also promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields and outdoor sport facilities.

1.3: Headline findings

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

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

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

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

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

For artificial surfaces, how much play can be accommodated is primarily determined by availability, rather than how much play it can accommodate before its quality is adversely affected as with natural grass pitches. Therefore, hours in the peak period is used as the comparable unit. For the other non-pitch sports (i.e. tennis, bowls etc) capacity is in accordance with Paragraph B13 of the ANOG guidance.

Table 1.1: Quantitative headline findings

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance (2036)
Football – grass pitches			
Huntingdonshire	Adult	Spare capacity of 6 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent session
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
Football – 3G pitches			
Huntingdonshire	Full size	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon and St Neots Analysis Areas.	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon (x2), St Ives and St Neots Analysis Area.
Cricket			
Huntingdonshire	Senior (Saturday)	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions a season
	Senior (Sunday)	Spare capacity of 112 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 62 match equivalent sessions a season
	Junior (midweek)	Spare capacity of 45 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 15 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union			
Huntingdonshire	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match equivalent sessions

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance (2036)
Rugby league			
Huntingdonshire	Senior	<i>No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives.</i>	<i>No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives. Need to offer access to rugby union pitches for rugby league use through summer if/when demand is reinstated.</i>
Hockey			
Huntingdonshire	Full size	Insufficient quantity	Insufficient quantity

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

Table 1.2: Quantitative headline findings (non-pitch sports)

Sport	Current picture	Future picture (2036)
Tennis	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at most tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.
Netball	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.
Bowls	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
MUGAs	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area
Other sports	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>

Conclusions

The existing position for most sports is that there is a mixture of shortfalls, spare capacity and sufficient capacity, the future position shows the exacerbation of current shortfalls and the creation of shortfalls for some sports and in some areas where demand is currently being met. The current shortfalls identified are for youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 football pitches, 3G pitches, senior rugby union pitches, hockey AGPs, netball courts and MUGAs.

Where demand is being met, this does not equate to a surplus of provision, with any spare capacity instead considered a potential solution to overcoming shortfalls. As such, there is a clear need to protect all existing provision until all demand is met, or there is a requirement to replace provision to an equal or better quantity and quality before it is lost, in line with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy. In addition, there remain some area and site specific issues that need resolving despite no overall capacity issues, such as those relating to quality and security of tenure.

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Where shortfalls are present, for the most part, they can be met by better utilising current provision, such as through improving quality, installing additional floodlighting, improving ancillary facilities and enabling access to existing unused provision, such as at unavailable school sites.

Notwithstanding the above, there is a shortfall of 3G pitches and hockey AGPs that can only be met through increased provision. With resources to improve the quality of grass pitches being limited, an increase in 3G provision could also help to reduce grass pitch shortfalls through the transfer of play, which in turn can aid pitch quality improvements.

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PART 2: VISION

2.1: Vision

A vision has been drafted for the PPOSS which reflects the ambition of the Council and its partners in delivering opportunities for its residents to have appropriate access to good quality sport and recreational facilities which meet both the current and future needs of residents.

“To create and maintain high quality, sustainable leisure and sports facilities which meet community need, increase participation, help tackle health and age issues and provide accessible, inclusive activities for Huntingdonshire residents as part of an active lifestyle.”

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PART 3: AIMS

The following overarching aims are based on the three Sport England objectives (see Figure 1.2 below). It is recommended that they are adopted by the Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the PPOSS as well as Sport England's planning objectives. Strategy delivery is the responsibility of, and relies upon, all stakeholders.

AIM 1

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

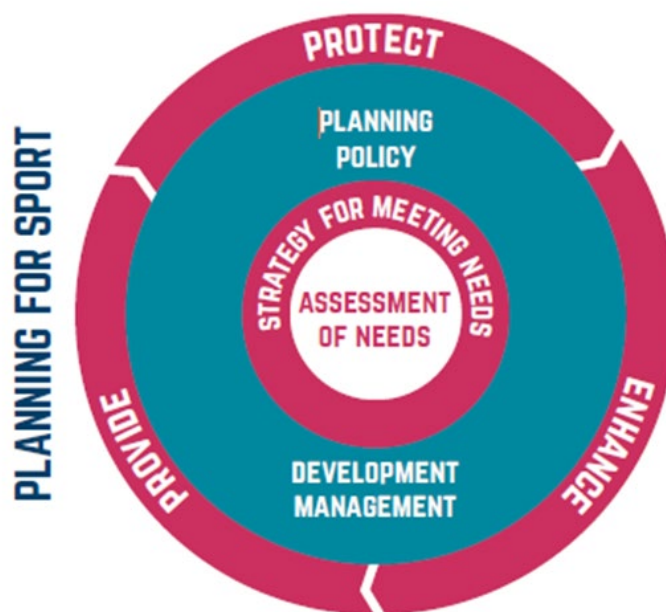
AIM 2

To **enhance** playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities through improving quality and management of sites

AIM 3

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

Figure 1: Sport England objectives



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

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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 each relevant sport. This then informs sport specific recommendations.

Football pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **Capacity of grass football pitches can sufficiently meet current demand for adult, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 football activity, with insufficient capacity to cater for youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 football activity.**
- ◀ **Future demand is expected to put further pressure on the supply of pitches and consequently new shortfalls are expected to emerge on youth 9v9 pitches, whilst Mini 7v7 pitches would be played to capacity.**

Supply

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 164 grass football pitches within Huntingdonshire across 58 sites. Of these, 150 pitches across 50 sites are identified as being available for community use. All 14 unavailable pitches are located at educational or MOD sites.
- ◀ Of the 150 available pitches in the District 39 are in the St Neots Analysis Area (26%), followed by the St Ives Analysis Area (31 pitches, 21%) and the Huntingdon Analysis Area (30 pitches, 20%). The West Analysis Area has the fewest available pitches (eight pitches, 5%).

Quality

- ◀ Of the 150 football pitches available for community use, most (64 pitches – 43%) are rated as poor quality. There are 35 pitches (23%) rated as good quality and 51 pitches (34%) rated as standard quality.
- ◀ Of the 50 sites that are actively used for community football, 10 sites (20%) are serviced by good quality ancillary facilities, 15 sites (30%) by standard quality ancillary facilities and 16 (32%) by poor quality ancillary facilities. The remaining nine sites (18%) are not serviced by onsite clubhouse/changing room provision.

Demand

- ◀ There are 380 teams identified as playing football in the District. This is made up of 81 adult men's, seven adult women's, 156 youth boys', 16 youth girls' and 120 mini soccer teams.
- ◀ There are two teams exporting demand outside of the District. Whilst there are six teams which currently import demand into the District.
- ◀ Future club growth aspirations and participation targets total 34 potential new teams, resulting in additional capacity requirement (in match equivalent sessions per week) of four for adult pitches, 4.5 for youth 11v11 pitches, 2.5 for youth 9v9 pitches, 1.5 for mini 7v7 pitches and 4.5 for mini 5v5 pitches.

Capacity

- ◀ There are 33 pitches across 17 sites identified as having actual spare capacity, totalling 22 match equivalent sessions per week, most (14.5) on adult pitches.
- ◀ In total 21 pitches across 13 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 21 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ At a Districtwide level there currently capacity shortfalls on youth 11v11 and mini 5v5. Increases in future demand would lead to Districtwide capacity shortfalls for youth 9v9 pitches, whilst mini 7v7 pitches would be played to capacity.

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Scenarios

Improving pitch quality at overplayed sites

In total, there are 21 pitches overplayed in Huntingdonshire across 13 sites by a combined amount of 21 match equivalent sessions. Improving quality of such provision will increase capacity across the sites and therefore reduce both current and future shortfalls.

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

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

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Table 4.1: Overplay if all pitches were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating ¹	Good quality capacity rating ²
6	Bluntisham Village Hall & Recreation Ground	St Ives	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
			Mini 7v7	1		1	3
7	Brampton Memorial Playing Field	Huntingdon	Adult	1	Standard	1	0
11	Buckden Recreation Ground	St Neots	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
			Mini 5v5	1		1	3
36	Great Gransden Sports And Recreation Ground	St Neots	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
38	Great Paxton Recreation Ground	St Neots	Adult	1	Poor	1.5	0.5
45	Hinchingbrooke School	Huntingdon	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	2	0
60	Leading Drove	North West	Adult	1	Poor	2	0
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	St Ives	Youth 11v11	2	Standard	4	0
78	Priory Park	St Neots	Youth 9v9	3	Poor	0.5	8.5
99	St Neots Rugby Club	St Neots	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	0.5	2.5
104	Stilton Village Playing Fields	North West	Adult	1	Standard	1.5	0.5
106	The David Wilson Homes Ground	Huntingdon	Adult	1	Poor	1	0
			Mini 7v7	1		0.5	3.5
			Youth 11v11	1	Standard	1	1
			Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	2
139	Coneygear Park	Huntingdon	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	2

¹ Match equivalent sessions

² Match equivalent sessions

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As seen, only the adult pitch at Stilton Village Playing Fields would remain overplayed. In comparison the adult pitch overplayed at Brampton Memorial Playing Field, youth 11v11 pitch at Hinchingsbrooke School, adult pitch at Leading Drove, youth 11v11 pitches at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor and adult pitch at The David Wilson Homes Ground would remove overplay, however, would still be played to capacity.

Carrying out the improvements would not only improve capacity at the relevant sites, but also improve the capacity balance overall across Huntingdonshire. In fact, no overall pitch shortfalls would be evident, with current shortfalls for youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 alleviated.

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

Summary of current supply and demand					
Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	14.5	8.5	6	4	2
Youth 11v11	1	7.5	6.5	4.5	11
Youth 9v9	3	2.5	0.5	2.5	2
Mini 7v7	3	1.5	1.5	1.5	0
Mini 5v5	0.5	1	0.5	4.5	5
Summary of current supply and demand if overplayed provision were to be improved					
Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	16	0.5	15.5	4	11.5
Youth 11v11	1	0	1	4.5	3.5
Youth 9v9	3	0	3	2.5	0.5
Mini 7v7	3	0	3	1.5	1.5
Mini 5v5	0.5	0	0.5	4.5	4

In addition, there are currently 21 match equivalent sessions per week of spare capacity discounted (aggregated from all pitch types) due to poor quality. Improving pitch quality at these sites would provide and increase overall actual spare capacity, which can be used to accommodate demand from the remaining overplayed sites as well as future demand.

Notwithstanding the above, given the costs of improving pitch quality, alternatives also need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The alternative to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches. Not only can this alleviate overplay of grass pitches, but it can also aid quality improvements through the transfer of play and therefore reduced use.

Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

Pitch improvements

As improving the quality of all overplayed sites may not be feasible from an investment point of view, an alternative approach is to focus on improving strategic sites. To that end, the Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) identifies four sites for grass pitch improvements that are considered to be in need of investment and that are key for football across Huntingdonshire. The table overleaf identifies what the impact would be on the supply and demand balance of pitches at these sites if quality was improved to a good quality.

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Table 4.3: Impact of LFFP quality improvements

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
45	Hinchingsbrooke School	Huntingdon	Adult	2	Standard	3.5	5.5
			Youth 11v11	1	Standard	2	0
			Youth 9v9	2	Standard	1.5	5.5
52	Jubilee Park	Huntingdon	Adult	1	Poor	0	2
			Adult	1	Standard	0	1
			Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1.5	5.5
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	St Ives	Adult	3	Standard	5	8
			Mini 7v7	2	Standard	5.5	9.5
			Youth 11v11	2	Standard	4	0
			Youth 9v9	4	Standard	3	11
78	Priory Park	St Neots	Adult	1	Poor	0	2
			Mini 5v5	2	Poor	2.5	10.5
			Mini 7v7	2	Poor	2.5	10.5
			Youth 11v11	2	Poor	0	2
			Youth 9v9	3	Poor	0.5	7.5
88	Sapley Park Playing Fields	Huntingdon	Adult	4	Standard	5	9
			Mini 7v7	1	Standard	4	6
			Youth 9v9	1	Standard	0.5	2.5
106	The David Wilson Homes Ground	Huntingdon	Adult	1	Poor	1	0
			Mini 7v7	1	Poor	0.5	3.5
			Youth 11v11	1	Standard	1	1
			Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	2
Total						24.5	104.5

Improving quality as set out in the table above would create 80 match equivalent sessions of additional potential capacity per week and create 4.5 additional match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity per week. In addition, all those pitches that are currently overplayed would have the overplay alleviated.

The impact the improvements would have on the overall supply and demand balance is shown in the following table.

Table 4.4: Impact on current supply and demand balance if quality improved at LFFP sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Adult	6	10
Youth 11v11	6.5	0.5
Youth 9v9	0.5	2
Mini 7v7	1.5	3
Mini 5v5	0.5	0

Overall shortfalls on all pitches would be alleviated.

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Table 4.5: Impact on future supply and demand if quality improved at LFFP sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Adult	2	6
Youth 11v11	11	4
Youth 9v9	2	0.5
Mini 7v7	0	1.5
Mini 5v5	5	4.5

When factoring in future demand, there will still be levels of overplay on youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitch types.

As the LFFP is a live document to be informed by an up-to-date PPS, it is recommended that the priority list is updated on the back of this study to account for changes in demand since the project was completed. To help guide this process, the table below comments on whether the PPS provides evidence to support the inclusion of the sites currently featured.

Table 4.6: Assessing LFFP priority list (grass pitch improvements)

Site ID	Site name	Comments	LFFP update recommendation
45	Hinchingbrooke School	Key site that is standard quality	Retain for improvement
52	Jubilee Park	Key site that is poor/standard quality	Retain for improvement
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	Key site that is standard quality	Retain for improvement
78	Priory Park	Key site that is poor quality	Retain for improvement
88	Sapley Park Playing Fields	Key site that is standard quality	Retain for improvement
106	The David Wilson Homes Ground (Godmanchester Rovers FC)	Key site that is poor/standard quality. Strategic site planned for 3G development.	Explore the need for pitch improvements on all pitches due to planned development of full size 3G on site.

In addition to the above, additions to the plan should also be sought given the quality issues and shortfalls evidenced across Huntingdonshire. In that regard, the following sites should be considered given the number of pitches supplied and the quality/overplay issues identified:

- ✦ Alconbury Sports and Social Club (four pitches)
- ✦ Bluntisham Village Hall & Recreation Ground (three pitches)
- ✦ Buckden Recreation Ground (four pitches)
- ✦ Fenstanton Football Club (four pitches)
- ✦ Great Gransden Sports and Recreation Ground (five pitches)

Of the sites above, Alconbury Sports and Social Club, Bluntisham Village Hall & Recreation Ground and Buckden Recreation Ground, are all multisport pitch sites, with Cricket pitches currently located onsite.

PitchPower can be used as a further tool to identify the suitability of these sites to be added to the project list and the level of investment required.

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Ancillary provision improvements

As part of the LFFP a priority project list is produced for ancillary provision. The table below looks at poor quality ancillary provision and the current sites on the LFFP ancillary facilities priority list.

Table 4.7: Ancillary provision improvement priority

Site ID	Site name	Ancillary facility quality	No. of teams	No. of pitches on site	Multi-sport?	Comments
2	Abbots Ripton Cricket Club	Poor	1	1	No (Disused cricket pitch)	Not recommended for refurbishment due to lack of teams accessing site.
6	Bluntisham Village Hall & Recreation Ground	Poor	11	3	Yes	Explore the opportunity to develop/refurbish ancillary provision. Look to add to the LFFP priority project list.
11	Buckden Recreation Ground	Poor	15	4	Yes	Explore the opportunity to develop/refurbish ancillary provision. Look to add to the LFFP priority project list.
19	Drovers Close	Poor	0	1	No	Not recommended for refurbishment due to lack of teams accessing site.
20	Earith Recreational Field	Poor	0	1	No	Not recommended for refurbishment due to lack of teams accessing site.
30	Fenstanton Football Club	Poor	9	4	No	Explore the opportunity to develop/refurbish ancillary provision. Retain on the LFFP priority list.
34	Grafham Recreation Ground	Poor	0	1	No	Not recommended for refurbishment due to lack of teams accessing site.
40	Greenfields	Poor	16	6	Yes	Explore the opportunity to develop/refurbish ancillary provision. Retain on the LFFP priority list.
44	Hemingford Pavilion	Poor	4	2	Yes	Not recommended for refurbishment due to lack of teams accessing site.
68	Millennium Sports Pavilion	Poor	5	3	No (Disused cricket pitch)	Not recommended for refurbishment due to lack of teams accessing site.
70	Norwood Playing Field	Poor	0	1	No	Not recommended for refurbishment due to lack of teams accessing site.
79	Queen Elizabeth II Recreation Ground (Little Paxton)	Poor	0	1	Yes	Not recommended for refurbishment due to lack of teams accessing site.

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Site ID	Site name	Ancillary facility quality	No. of teams	No. of pitches on site	Multi-sport?	Comments
114	Warboys Sports Field	Poor	8	4	Yes	Explore the opportunity to develop/refurbish ancillary provision. Facility has potential to require development, if adult team progresses to NLS (due to ground grading requirements). Look to add to the LFFP priority project list.
66	Middletons Road Recreational Ground	Standard	5	2	Yes	Remove from LFFP priority project list due to number of teams accessing site.
78	Priory Park	Good	19	10	No	Project completed.
88	Sapley Park Playing Fields	Standard	9	6	No	Explore the opportunity to develop/refurbish ancillary provision. Retain on the LFFP priority list.
-	Alconbury Weald Development	N/A	-	-	-	Explore the opportunity to develop ancillary provision onsite to support new supply of pitches. Retain on the LFFP priority list.

Providing security of tenure

Currently, four match equivalent sessions per week are played on unsecured pitches throughout Huntingdonshire. If these pitches were to fall out of use, shortfalls would be exacerbated on mini 5v5 pitches, whilst a current shortfall would be created for youth 9v9 pitches.

Table 4.8: Supply and demand balance without unsecure sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Current total	Unsecure usage	Potential total	Future demand	Potential future total
Adult	6	0.5	5.5	4	1.5
Youth 11v11	6.5	-	6.5	4.5	11
Youth 9v9	0.5	1.5	1	2.5	3.5
Mini 7v7	1.5	0.5	1	1.5	0.5
Mini 5v5	0.5	1.5	2	4.5	6.5

A total list of unsecure sites with community use are outlined below for reference:

- ◀ Hinchingsbrooke School
- ◀ Warboys Community Primary School
- ◀ Fenstanton & Hilton Primary School
- ◀ Hemingford Grey Primary School

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All of the unsecured use is located at educational sites. Where there is external investment on school sites e.g. by an NGB or Sport England, there are opportunities to secure use as part of the funding agreement. This also applies to new schools or for existing schools seeking a change to provision as, via planning consent, the Council can seek to establish community use agreement.

Securing access to currently unavailable sites

There are currently 14 grass pitches unavailable for community use at:

- ◀ Bridge Academy
- ◀ Ernulf Academy
- ◀ Kimbolton School
- ◀ Longsands Academy
- ◀ RAF Alconbury
- ◀ RAF Wyton
- ◀ Sawtry Village Academy
- ◀ St Peters School

By securing access to sites accommodating this provision, spare capacity would significantly increase on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. Future demand would see adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches with spare capacity.

Table 4.9: Supply and demand balance including unavailable sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Current total	Unavailable usage	Potential total	Future demand	Potential future total
Adult	6	8	14	4	10
Youth 11v11	6.5	14	7.5	4.5	3
Youth 9v9	0.5	4	4.5	2.5	2
Mini 7v7	1.5	-	1.5	1.5	0
Mini 5v5	0.5	-	0.5	4.5	0.5

As with unsecured sites, most sites not currently offering community use are school sites. As accessing all school sites is considered improbable, initial focus should be on schools offering a large number of pitches, or pitch types that currently have shortfalls.

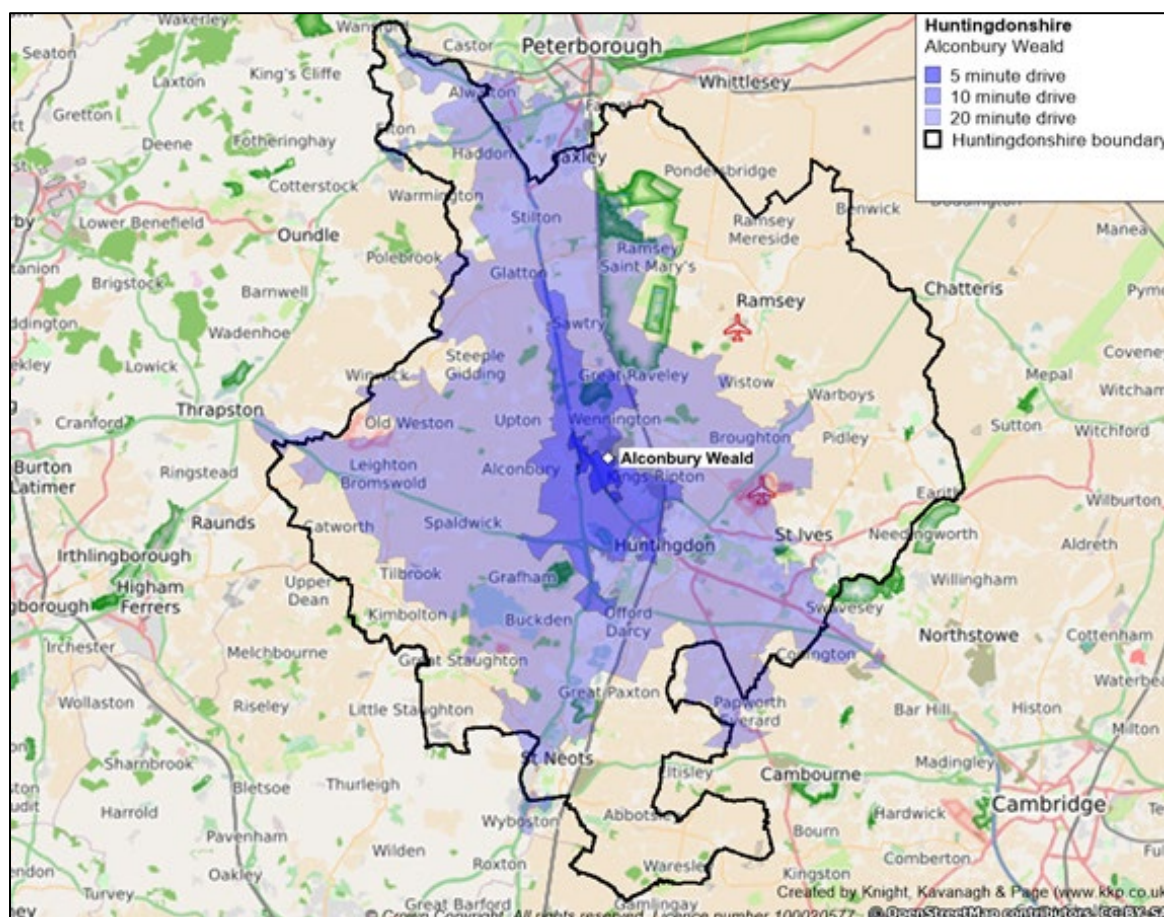
Alconbury Weald Development

As part of the Alconbury Weald Development, a school site will be developed. The facility mix of the site is still yet to be fully determined, but it is expected that there will be an artificial grass pitch and grass pitches provided.

To help identify clubs which may be best fit to access the site as anchor clubs the below map was drawn, the map shows a drive time catchment from the Alconbury Weald Development.

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Figure 4.1: Alconbury Weald drive time catchments



There are ten clubs which fall within the ten minute drive time catchment:

- ◆ Stukeley Meadows Youth (One team)
- ◆ Alconbury (Two teams)
- ◆ Alconbury Colts (Three teams)
- ◆ Brampton (Four teams)
- ◆ Brampton Spartans (11 teams)
- ◆ Sawtry (Two teams)
- ◆ Sawtry Colts (14 teams)
- ◆ Eunice Huntingdon (Five teams)
- ◆ Huntingdon Rangers (Two teams)
- ◆ Huntingdon United (Two teams)

Of these clubs Brampton/Brampton Spartans and Sawtry/Sawtry Colts are the junior and senior sections of the same Clubs and as such are also the largest two clubs having 15 teams and 16 teams respectively. This totals a combined 31 teams.

Both clubs currently operate their own sites at Brampton Memorial Playing Field (Brampton/Brampton Spartans) and Greenfields (Sawtry/Sawtry Colts). These sites have capacity challenges during peak periods. Brampton Memorial Playing Fields has one overplayed adult pitch, whilst its mini 5v5, mini 7v7 and youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity at peak time. Similarly, the adult pitch, mini 7v7, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches at Greenfields are also played to capacity at peak time.

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As the School site at Alconbury Weald would also be used for curricular activity, the pitch sizes best placed on this site would be of youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 sizes (as to meet curricular demand). As both club sites are played to capacity at peak time for these pitch types, the school could have a pitch mix of both youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 sizes.

Of the Brampton/Brampton Spartans and Sawtry/Sawtry Colts 31 teams, 11 (seven youth 11v11 and four youth 9v9) require these pitch sizes. The School could therefore provide either a new home base or secondary option for these clubs. This is in addition to satisfying regular community demand.

In addition, the current position of grass football pitches in Huntingdonshire seen in Table 4.10 identifies that youth 11v11 pitches are currently the only pitch type which is heavily overplayed. As such, an increase in this provision would be beneficial to not only suggested clubs, but potentially others in the District and work to reducing the known shortfall.

Table 4.10: Summary of supply and demand analysis for grass football pitches

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Adult	14.5	8.5	6	4	2
Youth 11v11	1	7.5	6.5	4.5	11
Youth 9v9	3	2.5	0.5	2.5	2
Mini 7v7	3	1.5	1.5	1.5	0
Mini 5v5	0.5	1	0.5	4.5	5

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and assessed as poor or standard quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality.
- ◀ Use the LFFP as a guide to determine suitable sites for grass pitch investment and update the priority projects within it following this study.
- ◀ Utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to assist in the improvement and ongoing maintenance of provision.
- ◀ Work to accommodate exported and future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity, sites previously utilised for football demand or at sites which are not currently available for community use.
- ◀ Provide security of tenure for clubs using unsecure sites through community use agreements and support negotiation with private landowners and schools to secure appropriate access (e.g., via a community use agreement or lease arrangement).
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer.
- ◀ Where appropriate, develop partnerships and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own sites.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site football provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls, with accompanying clubhouse provision included given that single pitch sites without appropriate ancillary facilities can be unsustainable.

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3G pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There is insufficient supply of full size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future demand in Huntingdonshire based on the FA training scenario for football.
- ◀ There is a quantitative shortfall and an additional two full size 3G pitches are required.

Supply

- ◀ There are currently seven full size 3G pitches provided in Huntingdonshire across seven sites, all of which are available for community use.
- ◀ There are also six small sided pitches located within the area, of which two are unavailable for community use.
- ◀ All 3G pitches are FA or FIFA registered and permitted for use for football match play.
- ◀ Of the existing stock of full size 3G pitches which offer community use, all are on the FA Register for match play. However, it should be noted that three of the seven 3G pitches (Leading Drove, St Ives Town Football Club and Hinchingsbrooke School) are nearing the end of their accreditation, with all expiring at the end of May 2023.
- ◀ There is a good level of accessibility within the peak period and no identified restrictions on availability other than capacity.

Quality

- ◀ In Huntingdonshire there are five (71%) full size pitches rated as good quality and two (29%) full sized pitches rated as standard, no full size 3G pitches in the District are rated as poor quality. All six of the small sized 3G pitches are rated as standard quality.

Demand and capacity

- ◀ The FA training ratio estimates that there is a theoretical requirement for at least two additional new 3G pitches with sports lighting for affiliated football to meet current demand, increasing to a potential need for four in future.
- ◀ The demand for additional new 3G pitch provision with sports lighting is split between the Huntingdon and St Neots analysis areas with a requirement for one pitch in each.

Scenarios

Accommodating football training demand

To satisfy current football training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size 3G pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a need for three full size 3G pitches in Huntingdonshire.

Table 4.11: Current demand for 3G pitches in Huntingdonshire (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall
380	10	7	3

When considering future demand for an additional 34 teams (based on future demand expressed by clubs), there is demand for 11 full size pitches, which increases the shortfall of 3G pitches further to four full size 3G pitches.

Table 4.12: Future demand for 3G pitches in Huntingdonshire (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Future shortfall
414	11 (10.89)	7	4

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

Table 4.13: Current demand for 3G pitches in Huntingdonshire by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of available full size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
Huntingdon	86	2 (2.26)	1	1
North East	38	1	1	-
North West	53	1 (1.39)	1	-
St. Ives	93	2 (2.45)	2	-
St. Neots	101	3 (2.66)	2	1
West	9	0 (0.23)	0	-
Total	380	9	7	2

This shows that there is a shortfall within the Huntingdon and the St Neots analysis areas, whereas demand is being met in the North East, North West, St Ives and West analysis areas.

When accounting for future demand, the potential shortfalls are projected to increase in the Huntingdon Analysis Area, whilst a new shortfall becomes evident in the St Ives Analysis Area. Demand remains satisfied in the North East, North West and West analysis areas.

Table 4.14: Future demand for 3G pitches in Huntingdonshire by analysis area

Analysis area	Future number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of available full size 3G pitches	Future shortfall
Huntingdon	98	3 (2.58)	1	2
North East	41	1 (1.07)	1	-
North West	53	1 (1.39)	1	-
St. Ives	101	3 (2.66)	2	1
St. Neots	107	3 (2.82)	2	1
West	14	0 (0.37)	0	-
Total	414	11	7	4

When considering future demand, the overall shortfall increases to a total shortfall of four full size pitch equivalents.

Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

The LFFP for Huntingdonshire identifies the following for potential 3G pitch development:

- ◆ Alconbury Weald (Huntingdon Analysis Area) - New (full size)
- ◆ St Ives Town (St Ives Analysis Area) - New (full size) **now complete**
- ◆ The David Wilson Homes Ground (Huntingdon Analysis Area) - New (full size) **Final plan submission July 2023**
- ◆ One Leisure St Neots (St Neots Analysis Area) - New (small sided 7v7)
- ◆ Huntingdon (Huntingdon Analysis Area) - New (full size)
- ◆ Academy Leisure Sawtry (North West Analysis Area) - New (full size) **Final plan submission April 2023**

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As the LFFP is a live document to be informed by an up-to-date PPOSS, the priority project list should be revisited following this study and updated/amended based on the findings, if necessary. To help further guide this process, the table below identifies what impact delivering the current projects would have on existing shortfalls.

Table 4.15: Impact of delivering current LFFP 3G projects

Analysis area	Current 3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall	No. of proposed pitches	Shortfall if delivered
Huntingdon	2	1	1	3	Surplus (2)
North East	1	1	0	0	0
North West	1	1	0	1	Surplus (1)
St. Ives	2	2	0	0	0
St. Neots	3	2	1	0	1
West	0	0	0	0	0

If the pitches at Alconbury Weald and The David Wilson Homes Ground are established the overall shortfall would reduce from two pitches zero pitches, with the specific shortfall in the Huntingdon Analysis Area alleviated, however there would remain a shortfall in the St Neots Analysis Area.

It should be noted that if future demand is realised it would increase the requirement, however the proposed pitches in the Huntingdon Analysis Area would cater for this. However, there would be a requirement for an additional pitch in the St Ives Analysis Area.

As the LFFP does not identify pitches within either area there is a need to explore additional options for the development of 3G pitches in the St Neots and St Ives analysis areas. Below are a few options to consider:

St Neots:

- ◀ Eynesbury Rovers FC
- ◀ Eaton Sports Ground
- ◀ Longsands Academy
- ◀ Loves Farm East Development

St Ives:

- ◀ One Leisure St Ives Outdoor (2nd 3G onsite)
- ◀ St Ivo Academy

Moving mini football match play demand to 3G pitches

Moving mini football match play to 3G pitches is supported by the FA.

An approach to consider is the transfer of all mini football to 3G provision. As such, the table below tests a scenario to enable all mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 football to transfer to 3G pitches based on a programme of play at current peak time (Sunday AM).

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Table 4.16: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

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

Based on the above programming and separate start times for the formats, the overall need is for eight full size 3G pitches to accommodate all current mini match play demand. This is calculated based on 63 teams playing 5v5 football and 57 teams playing 7v7 football. As such, it is considered that to be able to transfer mini football onto 3G pitches, there is a need for the development of one additional full size 3G, with a current supply of seven pitches.

This approach is dependent on the programming of mini football being coordinated in such a way which allows for a full programme of use on either a Saturday or Sunday morning. Given the makeup of play in the District and the traditional home vs away approach for play, it is unlikely that this approach for full 3G use will ever be in place. However, pitches should be considered for this sort of activity when being provided as it does typically provide a more environment friendly facility for younger children.

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

World Rugby produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. There is currently one World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in Huntingdonshire at One Leisure St Neots, however no clubs currently access the pitch for contact rugby. Currently St Ives RUFC access One Leisure Ramsey 3G (non-WR compliant) for training, it is recommended that the Club and clubs such as Huntingdon & District and St Neots RUFC are encouraged and enabled to by the site to make use of the pitch for contact rugby training.

The pitch should be protected and if clubs start to utilise the pitch it should continue to be tested for WR compliance to ensure availability for use is secured. At present there is no requirement for anymore additional WR compliant 3G pitches in the District.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Develop additional 3G pitches to alleviate identified shortfalls.
- ◀ Explore and identify sites in the St Neots and St Ives analysis areas for 3G pitches to alleviate identified shortfalls.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA/RFU recommended dimensions and quality performance standards to meet performance testing criteria.
- ◀ Ensure all 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are on the FA register are re-tested every three years to sustain certification.
- ◀ Ensure that the existing World Rugby compliant pitch at One Leisure St Neots is re-tested every two years to sustain certification.
- ◀ Encourage more match play demand to transfer to 3G pitches, where possible, particularly from for mini football.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches with external funding have community use agreements in place and seek to use this to also tie in access to grass pitch and other sporting provision, where relevant.

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Cricket

Assessment Report summary

Summary – Cricket

- ◀ Overall, there is currently sufficient capacity of natural turf cricket squares to meet current demand for club cricket at a District wide level.
- ◀ When future demand is accounted for there are shortfalls for both senior Saturday and junior midweek cricket. Whilst there remains sufficient capacity for senior Sunday cricket.

Supply

- ◀ There are 20 grass wicket squares in Huntingdonshire located across 19 sites, of which, 18 are available for community use.
- ◀ In Huntingdonshire, there is six NTPs which accompanies a grass wicket square, as well as 12 standalone NTPs.
- ◀ The majority of clubs in Huntingdonshire are considered to have secure tenure at their home venues through either ownership (four clubs), long-term leasehold (four clubs), annual rent agreements from HDC/Parish Council Sports Field Trusts (four clubs) or Pending asset transfer (one club).
- ◀ Of the 18 squares available for community use, nine grass squares are rated as good quality (50%) and nine are rated as standard quality (50%), there are no poor quality available squares in the District.

Demand

- ◀ Across the 19 clubs there are 105 teams which access pitch provision in Huntingdonshire, made up of 43 senior men's, one senior women's, 60 junior boy's teams and one junior girls' team.
- ◀ In addition to club demand, Huntingdonshire County Cricket Club, Huntingdonshire Cricket Board Age Groups and Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire Overs 60s/70s make use of multiple sites across the District. The sites are namely, Ramsey Cricket Club, Upwood cricket Club, Waresley Cricket Club, Houghton and Wyton Playing Field, Eaton Socon Cricket Club, Buckden Recreation Ground, Godmanchester Town Cricket Club and Alconbury Sports and Social Club.
- ◀ Future demand was taken from club aspirational demand. This equates to four senior men's teams, five senior women's teams, five junior boys' teams and six junior girls' teams. All these clubs have demand for use of grass squares, with a further senior men's team and junior boys' team at Little Paxton CC playing on an NTP at its home site at Queen Elizabeth II Recreation Ground (Little Paxton).

Capacity

- ◀ There is actual spare capacity to accommodate additional match play demand on Saturdays in Huntingdonshire at Alconbury Weald Cricket Pitch, Brampton Memorial Playing Field and Hemingford Pavilion.
- ◀ There is actual spare capacity to accommodate additional match play demand on Sundays in Huntingdonshire at Alconbury Weald Cricket Pitch, Alconbury Sports and Social Club, Brampton Memorial Playing Field, Buckden Recreation Ground, Mill Field, Greenfields, Hemingford Pavilion, King George V Playing Fields (St Peters Road), One Leisure St Ives Outdoor and Warboys Sports Field.
- ◀ There is actual spare capacity at Alconbury Weald Cricket Pitch, Alconbury Sports and Social Club, Brampton Memorial Playing Field, Buckden Recreation Ground, Eaton Socon Cricket Club, Godmanchester Town Cricket Club, Greenfields, Mill Field, Hemingford Pavilion, King George V Playing Fields (St Peters Road), One Leisure St Ives Outdoor and Warboys Sports Field to accommodate additional use during the week for midweek cricket.
- ◀ There are four sites in Huntingdonshire considered to be overplayed by a total of 25 match equivalent sessions per season.

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Scenarios

Addressing overplay

Although a regular, sufficient maintenance regime can sustain good quality sites with minimal levels of overplay (e.g. at Kimbolton Cricket Club, Ramsey Cricket Club and Upwood Cricket Club (junior square)), a reduction in play is recommended to ensure that there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.

Table 4.17: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of squares	Overplay (matches per season)
54	Kimbolton Cricket Club	West	1	3
85	Ramsey Cricket Club	North East	1	9
115	Waresley Cricket Club	St. Neots	1	6
144	Upwood Cricket Club	North East	1 (Junior square)	7
Total			4	25

Improving quality is one way to increase capacity, albeit many of the overplayed sites in Huntingdonshire are already good quality. The exception to this is the square at Waresley Cricket Club which has a standard quality square and is currently overplayed by six match equivalent sessions a season.

Table 4.18: Overplay if square quality was improved to good quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of squares	No. of wickets	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
115	Waresley Cricket Club	St. Neots	1	14	Standard	6	8

As seen in the table above, improving the quality of the square at Waresley Cricket Club would alleviate identified overplay and create a small level of spare capacity, which can be theoretically used to accommodate any increases of demand at the site.

To fully alleviate overplay at Kimbolton Cricket Club and Upwood Cricket Club (junior square), the best solution would be to install a NTP in situ as this would allow for the transfer of junior demand away from the grass wickets. Neither of these sites are currently serviced by such provision. However, the overplayed square at Ramsey Cricket Club is currently serviced by an NTP, the Club should look to alleviate pressure of the square by making use of this for junior fixtures.

As a caveat, whilst the inclusion of NTPs for the management of fixtures would alleviate overplay issues, usage is subject to league rules and minimum pitch specifications. Furthermore, this should not lead to undue pressure being placed on clubs and volunteers using the sites to install self-funded NTPs.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Although not readily available within grassroots cricket, there may be potential in the future to address overplay through the installation of hybrid wicket/s on competitive senior squares. The ECB has been working with SIS Pitches on the installation of hybrid cricket wickets at county cricket clubs (2019) and more recently recreational squares such as Perry Hall Park in Birmingham (2021) and Didsbury Cricket Club in Manchester (2022). Due to already good standing provision at Kimbolton Cricket Club, and Upwood Cricket Club (junior square), along with Ramsey Cricket Club which already has an NTP installed, there is scope to potentially explore the opportunity to install hybrid wickets in the future.

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

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

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

Impact of club aspirational demand on future site by site supply and demand

Future demand reported by club aspirations through participation increases is considered more aspirational, and it is unlikely that it will all be achieved. This scenario explores the impact that the clubs aspirational demand would have if all the future demand was realised.

The total future demand expressed by clubs is broken down club by club in Table 4.19, the future demand from club aspirations amounts to 20 teams (four senior Saturday men's teams, five senior women's teams, five junior boys' teams and six junior girls' teams.).

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.19: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Analysis area	Club	Age group	Aspirational future demand (Number of teams)	Day	Capacity balance ³	Match equivalent sessions required to accommodate future demand	Actual spare capacity at home site
Huntingdon	Huntingdon & District CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	29	10	No
		Senior Women's	1	Sunday		10	Yes
North East	Upwood CC	Senior Women's	1	Sunday	2	10	No
		Junior Girls	1	Midweek	7	5	No
North East	Ramsey CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	9	10	No
		Junior Boys	1	Midweek		5	No
North West	Sawtry CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	18	10	No
		Senior Women's	1	Sunday		10	Yes
		Junior Boys	1	Midweek		5	Yes
St Ives	Houghton & Wyton CC	Senior Women's	1	Sunday	6	10	No
		Junior Girls	1	Midweek		5	Yes
St Neots	Eaton Socon CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	6	10	No
West	Kimbolton CC	Junior Boys	1	Midweek	3	5	No

Huntingdon & District CC has spare capacity on its square; however, it does not have capacity to host an additional senior Saturday men's team. The Club currently has two Saturday men's teams and therefore, in order to cater for an additional senior Saturday men's team, it needs to look at an alternative facility to cater for this team.

Upwood CC has potential spare capacity onsite, however, due to volume of current demand both the main and junior square, the site does not have enough spare capacity to cater for a further senior women's and junior girls' team without the main square becoming overplayed whilst the junior square would have the overplay exacerbated. The square is currently considered good quality, therefore there is a need to explore other options (e.g. NTPs or hybrids wickets) to cater for this future aspirational demand. Similarly, the square at Ramsey CC is currently overplayed, with the square also being a good quality, therefore there is again a need to explore other options to cater for this future demand.

³ Match equivalent sessions per season
December 2022

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sawtry CC currently shares its home ground with Falcons XI CC on Saturdays. As at present the square does not have capacity to cater for an additional senior Saturday men’s team. However, the Club is currently in the process of relocating to the Alconbury Weald Cricket Pitch, this would allow both its current Saturday team and a further Saturday team to be catered for. This would then allow Falcons XI CC to have exclusive use of Greenfields.

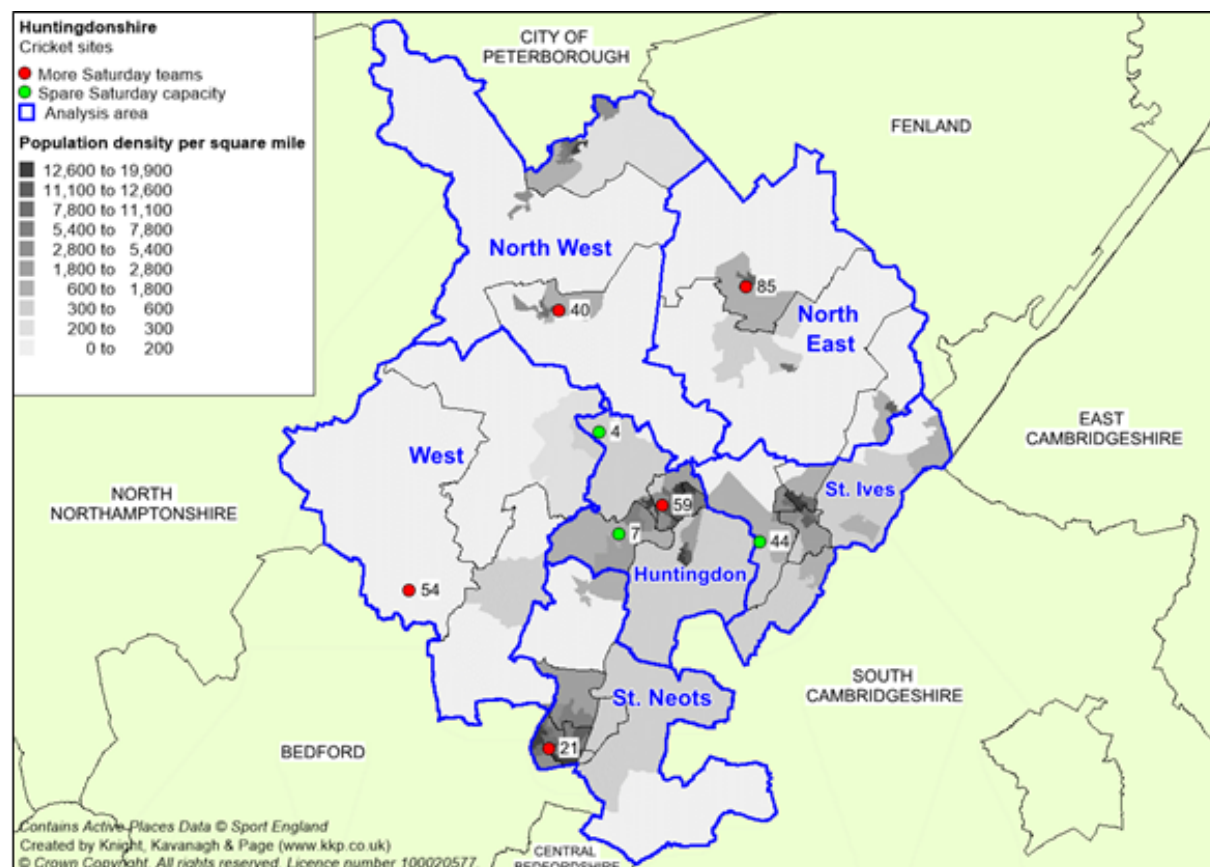
Houghton & Wyton CC has potential spare capacity to accommodate a future senior Saturday men’s team. However, at present the square does not have enough spare capacity to cater for a further senior Saturday men’s team without the square becoming overplayed. As the square is currently of a standard quality there is a scope to increase the quality of the square, increasing the quality would see capacity balance of the square increase from six match equivalent sessions per season to 12. As the required amount of match equivalent sessions per season for a senior Saturday men’s team is ten, an improvement in quality would see the square offer actual spare capacity and be able to cater for the club’s future demand.

Eaton Socon CC does not have capacity on its current square to host an additional senior Saturday men’s team. The Club currently has two Saturday men’s teams and therefore, in order to cater for an additional senior Saturday men’s team, it needs to look at an alternative facility to cater for this team.

Kimbolton CC does not have capacity on its current square to host an additional junior boys’ team. Its square is currently marginally overplayed, whilst it is a good quality and therefore there is no scope for qualitative improvements. In order to have capacity to cater for this future demand there is a need to explore alternative options (e.g NTPs or hybrids wickets) onsite.

The map below identifies the current clubs which aspire to have additional Saturday teams and also identifies those sites which offer spare capacity on Saturdays.

Figure 4.2: Saturday spare capacity for additional teams



HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

As can be seen on the map the sites with actual spare capacity are those within the Huntingdon and St Ives Analysis Area. With Huntingdon & District CC aspiring to have additional teams this map shows that the closest site with actual spare capacity is Brampton Memorial Playing Field.

Like previously mentioned Sawtry CC will be relocating to Alconbury Weald Cricket Pitch (Site Four) for the 2023 season and this therefore will allow Greenfields (Site 40) to offer actual spare capacity rather than the Alconbury Weald Cricket Pitch (Site Four). All other teams aspiring to add additional teams will require extensive travel time to access sites with actual spare capacity. Therefore, there is a need to explore the opportunity to either bring back to use disused sites/provision or develop dedicated pitches for these clubs with future aspirations.

Disused cricket sites / provision

There are number of sites in Huntingdonshire which are solely disused sites (a site which has no active sports pitches onsite) or disused cricket provision, these sites are still active with sports pitches however they used to accommodate a grass cricket square. These are summarised below:

Disused sites

Yelling Cricket Club is currently a disused site. Yelling CC has not competed in the 2022 cricket season, having been active in 2021 playing home matches at Yelling Cricket Club. The site accommodates a six wicket grass square. The Club has not competed in 2022, with players travelling to other nearby clubs to take part in cricket activity. The Club has made no statements around re-instating cricket.

The site agreement is unknown however due to the site ceasing maintenance recently the pitch is likely in a position to be brought back to use relatively easily and quickly. Of the teams currently aspiring for an additional Saturday team, Eaton Socon CC is located within the same analysis area and has no existing space at its home site. From Eaton Socon Cricket Club to Yelling Cricket Club the seven mile journey has a travel time of *circa* 15 minutes. Although this travel time isn't ideal, the Yelling Cricket Club site could offer a second site for Eaton Socon CC to continue its expansion.

Disused provision

- ◆ Abbots Ripton Cricket Club (North West Analysis Area) – PE28 2PF
- ◆ Millennium Sports Pavilion (North East Analysis Area) – PE28 3JS
- ◆ Fenstanton Football Club (St Ives Analysis Area) – PE28 9JH

Although these three sites are currently not used for cricket the sites accommodate football. At present there is no specific need to make efforts to reinstate but they should be acknowledged as having the potential to provide for growth in the future. It is recommended that they are retained as strategic reserve in order to potentially provide additional capacity for future growth or alternatively venues to increase recreational demand.

Of these three sites with disused provision, the Millennium Sports Pavilion has potential to cater for additional demand for Ramsey CC. The site is located in the same analysis area and is a nine mile journey and around a 20 minute travel time from Ramsey CC's home ground. This drive time is further than would be ideal however it is the closest site to Ramsey CC which could offer availability.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

It should be noted that although reinstating cricket facilities and utilising disused sites/provision in principle could be an option to support further growth from clubs. Due to the travel time and distance, along with the time and equipment needed for dedicated maintenance this may not be an option that a club wishes to explore.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares.
- ◀ Work with clubs and grounds staff to review quality issues on squares to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Look to retain strategic reserve sites in order to allow for potential future growth of both community club and recreational cricket.
- ◀ Address overplay via quality improvements and the installation of NTPs/Hybrid wickets as well as through greater utilisation of the NTPs already in place.
- ◀ Ensure clubs can realise future growth plans and continue to monitor increases in demand to ensure additional teams can be fielded.
- ◀ Improve the ancillary facilities, particularly those which have expressed issues and development plans and those of a standard/poor quality.
- ◀ Consider options to increase and improve stock of suitable practice facilities, first and foremost focusing on Houghton and Wyton Playing Field, Kimbolton Cricket Club and King George V Playing Fields (St Peters Road).
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, ensure that any proposals for new squares will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing cricket sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).

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Rugby union

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There is an insufficient supply of provision in Huntingdonshire to accommodate for both current and anticipated future levels of demand for rugby union.
- ◀ The priority for rugby union in Huntingdonshire is to ensure maintenance programmes are enhanced across club settings to improve quality of pitches to alleviate the overplay across senior pitches.

Supply

- ◀ There is a total of 16 rugby union pitches identified in Huntingdonshire. Of these, 13 are available for community use. Which total 9 senior pitches, one junior pitch and three mini pitches. All unavailable pitches are located at education and MOD sites.
- ◀ There is one 3G pitch at One Leisure St Neots which is on the WR compliant register. St Ives RUFC make use of the non-WR compliant 3G pitch at One Leisure Ramsey for non contact training.
- ◀ All sites used by rugby union clubs in the District are managed by the respective rugby union clubs. St Ives RUFC and St Neots RUFC have long-term lease agreements at their respective sites. Whilst Huntingdon & District RFC FC has a rental agreement from Huntingdon Racecourse/Jockey Club on its site, therefore the club is considered to have unsecure tenure.

Quality

- ◀ Most available rugby union pitches (eight of 13 pitches – 62%) are rated as standard quality. Whilst five (38%) are of poor quality. No pitches in the District are rated as good quality.
- ◀ All available pitches are reported to have adequate natural drainage, with no issues with general drainage of pitches.

Demand

- ◀ There are three affiliated rugby union clubs based and playing within the District, identified as fielding a total of 43 affiliated teams.
- ◀ Community club training typically takes place on grass pitch provision with sports lighting, with some use of the non-World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at One Leisure Ramsey.
- ◀ Future demand from club growth aspirations is considered to amount to two teams (one senior men's, one junior girls'), requiring additional match play capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on senior pitches and 0.5 match equivalent session per week on junior/ senior pitches. This increase in demand may also require increased capacity for training on pitches with sports lighting.

Capacity

- ◀ None of the five available pitches are considered to have any actual spare capacity to accommodate additional demand.
- ◀ There are eight pitches overplayed across three sites by a total of eight match equivalent sessions per week.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

Three community club sites in Huntingdonshire are overplayed. This translates to each site accommodating more demand than it should be accommodating, relative to the facility stock on each site. The scenarios below look at the impact of improvements to senior pitches at each of the sites through enhancing the existing maintenance regimes and through the installation of drainage solutions.

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate, set out below.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.20: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

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

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.21: Rugby union supply vs demand balance (sites which are overplayed)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Security of tenure	No. of pitches	Technical score	Quality*	Sports lighting	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating (MES per week)
50	Huntingdon and District RFC	Huntingdon	Yes	Unsecure	1 ⁴	M0/D1	Poor	No (portable lights for training)	1.5	1.5	0
					2				7.5	3	4.5
95	St Ives Rugby Union Football Club	St. Ives	Yes	Secure	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	3	2.5	0.5
					1	M1/D1	Poor	No	3	2	1
					1	M1/D0		2.5	1.5	1	
99	St Neots Rugby Club	St. Neots	Yes	Secure	2	M1/D1	Standard	No	4.5	4	0.5
					1 (Junior)				2.5	2	0.5
					3 (Mini)				3	6	3

⁴ Main 1st team pitch
December 2022

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.22: Improvements to existing maintenance regimes to reduce overplay by one increment

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Technical score	Quality*	Floodlit?	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating (MES per week)	Improved technical maintenance score	Improved quality rating	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
50	Huntingdon and District RFC	1 ⁵	M0/D1	Poor	No (portable sports lights used for training)	1.5	1.5	0	M1/D1	Standard	0.5
		2				7.5	3	4.5			3.5
95	St Ives Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	3	2.5	0.5	M2/D2	Good	0.75
		1	M1/D1	Poor	No	3	2	1	M2/D1	Good	0
		1	M1/D0			2.5	1.5	1	M2/D0	Good	0.5
99	St Neots Rugby Club	2	M1/D1	Standard	No	4.5	4	0.5	M2/D1	Good	1.5
		1 (Junior)				2.5	2	0.5		Good	0.5
		3 (Mini)				3	6	3		Good	6

The table above includes a one increment increase on the maintenance on pitches, undertaking these improvements will have an impact on capacity. The main 1st XV pitch at Huntingdon and District RFC is currently at capacity and will see a small level of spare capacity generated, whilst the remaining two pitches onsite will see overplay shortened from 4.5 MES to 3.5 MES per week.

Of the three senior pitches at St Ives Rugby Union Football Club, two pitches will have overplay alleviated with the sports lit pitch seeing a small generation of spare capacity, whilst the overplay on the third pitch will be shortened from one MES to 0.5 MES per week.

The two senior pitches at St Neots Rugby Club will have their overplayed alleviated, whilst also creating spare capacity. Similarly, the junior pitch will have its overplayed alleviated, with a small amount of spare capacity produced. The three mini pitches which currently offer spare capacity will see the spare capacity significantly increased.

⁵ Main 1st team pitch
December 2022

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.23: Improving on site drainage solutions to a D2 rating

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Technical score	Quality*	Floodlit?	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating (MES per week)	Improved technical drainage score	Improved quality rating	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
50	Huntingdon and District RFC	1 ⁶	M0/D1	Poor	No (portable sports lights used for training)	1.5	1.5	0	M0/D2	Poor	0.25
		2				7.5	3	4.5			4
95	St Ives Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	<i>No improvement required to reach D2</i>						
		1	M1/D1	Poor	No	3	2	1	M1/D2	Standard	0.5
		1	M1/D0			2.5	1.5	1			0
99	St Neots Rugby Club	2	M1/D1	Standard	No	4.5	4	0.5	M1/D2	Standard	0.5
		1 (Junior)				2.5	2	0.5			0
		3 (Mini)				3	6	3			4.5

The table above illustrates that the impact of improving the drainage solutions at all sites to a D2 rating. This would alleviate overplay off one pitches at St Ives Rugby Union Football Club whilst reducing the overplay on another. The remaining pitch already has drainage of D2 quality.

The improvements would have a similar impact as maintenance improvements for Huntingdon and District RFC with the same level of overplay reduction and some level capacity created.

Improving the drainage systems in place on the overplayed pitches at St Ives Rugby Union Football Club would see the junior pitch's overplay alleviated and two senior pitches with additional capacity created of 0.5 MES per week. The Mini pitches onsite would have its spare capacity increased.

⁶ Main 1st team pitch
December 2022

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Table 4.24: Improving maintenance and drainage

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Technical score	Quality*	Floodlit?	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating (MES per week)	Improved technical drainage score	Improved quality rating	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
50	Huntingdon and District RFC	17	M0/D1	Poor	No (portable sports lights used for training)	1.5	1.5	0	M2/D3	Good	2
		2				7.5	3	4.5			0.5
95	St Ives Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	3	2.5	0.5	M2/D3	Good	0.5
		1	M1/D1	Poor	No	3	2	1			0.5
		1	M1/D0		2.5	1.5	1	1			
99	St Neots Rugby Club	2	M1/D1	Standard	No	4.5	4	0.5	M2/D3	Good	2.5
		1 (Junior)				2.5	2	0.5			1
		3 (Mini)				3	6	3			7.5

The above two tables show a slight improvement, to both the maintenance and drainage on rugby pitches. This table examines the improvement of both maintenance and drainage to the maximum M2/D3 rating. Across Huntingdonshire all pitches which are currently overplayed and at capacity would have spare capacity created apart from two senior pitches.

Two senior pitches at Huntingdon & District RFC would remain overplayed this is due to the high volume of training and match demand on the pitches which are mainly utilised for training demand. However, the pitches would see overplay significantly reduced from 4.5 MES to 0.5 MES per week., this level of overplay is considered to be manageable.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Huntingdon and District RFC Alconbury Weald Relocation

Huntingdon & District RFC is exploring opportunities to relocate from its current home site at Huntingdon Racecourse to within the Alconbury Weald development. The Club wishes to relocate for a number of seasons however the two main reasons are that it currently has an annual rental agreement on its current site and as such has no security of tenure. Relocating within the Alconbury Weald Development would give the Club secure tenure, enabling it to develop facilities in line with its growth. Secondly, the Club wishes to develop women's and girls however at present the ancillary provision cannot support this and the Club has no current way of developing these facilities as it has no lease onsite.

The exact facility mix of new provision at Alconbury Weald is still to be determined, however, the Club and RFU are in talks with the developers to look to bring a coordinated approach to the development.

At present, the Club's home site currently has three senior pitches which are of a poor quality. One pitch is the main First XV pitch which is used predominantly for matches and is currently played to capacity. The remaining two pitches are used for junior and senior training along with matches for the juniors and vet's teams. There is a need to improve the quality and install purpose-built drainage on the site. As seen in Table 4.23, this would create spare capacity on the First XV pitch, however, the remaining two pitches would remain overplayed.

The site does not currently have permanent sports lighting with portable sports lighting used for training throughout the winter. It should also be noted that site as a whole the site is located on a flood zone and in recent years has flooded. This caused significant damage to the clubhouse onsite.

With the above being said, due to the unsecure tenure of the site and the fact that the site is located on a flood zone, it is very unlikely that improvements to drainage would be sanctioned. In addition, an improved maintenance regime for the site would require significant investment into machinery and resources, again due to the site location and unsecure tenure, it is unlikely that the Club would be able to obtain this. Furthermore, with its future aspiration/unmet demand and with a view to increasing demand through the investment into women's and girls' rugby (two junior girls teams requiring one MES per week in total), any further demand would see the three pitches at M2/D3 quality become further overplayed.

The site does not currently have permanent sports lighting with portable sports lighting used for training throughout the winter. It should also be noted that site as a whole the site is located on a flood zone and in recent years has flooded. This caused significant damage to the clubhouse onsite.

If an opportunity to relocate to Alconbury Weald was available, it is important to understand what exact facility mix would be required to accommodate existing demand, as well as any potential for additional growth.

To ascertain a facility mix (using the PPOSS as a methodological guideline), it is important to note the Club's own ability to maintain provision within its own capabilities. It is likely that it would be able to maintain provision to an M1 quality whilst purpose built drainage on pitches could be provided to a D3 quality, this M1/D3 mix would offer capacity of three MES per week per pitch.

Therefore, if the same quantity of provision was to be supplied to a M1/D3 quality on a like for like basis as its current site, there would remain an insufficient supply of provision to cater for its needs. This is evidenced below.

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Table 4.25: Potential facility supply vs demand at Alconbury Weald Development

Site name	No. of pitches	Potential technical score	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Potential pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Potential capacity rating
Alconbury Weald Development	1 ⁸	M1/D3 (Standard)	1.5	3	1.5
	2		7.5	6	1.5

As shortfalls would remain with the same amount of provision as provided on a like for like basis, there is a need to explore different options of the facility mix for the Alconbury Weald development.

In order, to cater for both current and future demand see potential facility mixes in table below which would be able to satisfy demand.

Table 4.26: Potential facility mix at Alconbury Weald Development (minimum specification)

Options	Facility mix
Option One	Four senior pitches of M1/D3 quality. Of which two pitches to be fully sports lit to support winter midweek training and junior demand. Two remaining senior pitches do not theoretically require sports lighting.
Option Two	Three senior pitches of M1/D3 quality and one dedicated training area of M1/D3 quality. One senior pitch to be fully sports lit alongside the dedicated training area.

The above two options provide the minimum facility threshold which would enable demand to be accommodated on site, incorporating both existing and any future growth in women's and girls. Where feasible, further options should be considered for pitch space and sports lighting to provide the best club offer possible.

Note for ancillary provision (clubhouse and changing rooms) it is expected that provision would be provided for to the appropriate RFU technical standards with enough self-contained changing rooms which can enable to growth of women's and girls' rugby. Appropriate car parking levels will also need to be established as part of the wider design of the site.

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

World Rugby produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. There is currently one World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in Huntingdonshire at One Leisure St Neots, however no clubs currently access the pitch for contact rugby. Currently St Ives RUFC access One Leisure Ramsey 3G (non-WR compliant) for training, it is recommended that the Club and clubs such as Huntingdon & District and St Neots RUFC are encouraged and enabled to by the site to make use of the pitch for contact rugby training. The pitch should be protected and if clubs start to utilise the pitch it should continue to be tested for WR compliance to ensure availability for use is secured.

At present there is no requirement for anymore additional WR compliant 3G pitches in the District.

⁸ Main 1st team pitch

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches and areas used for rugby union activity.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at all sites used by clubs through improved maintenance and/or the installation of drainage systems, particularly at sites containing overplayed pitches.
- ◀ Explore long term the potential relocation of Huntingdon & District RFC to the Alconbury Weald Development.
- ◀ Support clubs in taking part in the GMA pitch advisory service to explore technical requirements to help pitch improvement.
- ◀ Support all clubs with their aspirations to improve their ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Hockey pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **Supply of hockey suitable AGPs in Huntingdonshire is insufficient to meet, future and exported demand for peak time Saturday hockey.**
- ◀ **Junior hockey can continue to be accommodated and there is likely to be a club specific need from all clubs to gain greater access to AGPs midweek to accommodate existing, and any future demand which is established.**
- ◀ **Due to the insufficient capacity at present to cater for current and future demand for senior hockey all current hockey suitable AGP's should be protected.**

Supply

- ◀ There is a total of five hockey suitable artificial grass pitches in Huntingdonshire located across four sites, only two of which are available for community use. There are also four small sided pitches identified across four sites, similarly to full size pitches only two of the pitches are available for community use.
- ◀ Of the two community available full size hockey suitable AGPs, the pitch at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor is operated via the Council's leisure provider, One Leisure. Whilst the pitch at Longsands Academy is managed internally by the School.

Quality

- ◀ There are five full size AGPs within Huntingdonshire, of which, four are standard quality and one is good quality. One pitch at Kimbolton School is good quality however is not available for community use.
- ◀ The pitch at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor is currently of standard quality, however, due to not being resurfaced in around 16 years is coming to the end of its lifespan and its quality has begun to deteriorate. Huntingdonshire District Council reports that it plans to resurface the pitch in the summer of 2023 in time for the start of the 2023/24 hockey season.

Demand

- ◀ The three clubs classed as being from Huntingdonshire accommodating 40 teams: 12 men's teams, 11 women's teams, 16 dedicated junior team and one mixed team.
- ◀ Huntingdon HC currently exports demand to North Stowe Secondary School (South Cambridgeshire).
- ◀ There is use of both hockey suitable AGPs for other activities, mainly for formal football training or small sided/recreational use for football.

Capacity

- ◀ Analysis of programming information at One Leisure St Ives and Longsands Academy indicates that there is no spare capacity on Saturday to accommodate additional match play demand within the District.
There is a requirement for three full size AGPs with sports lighting to meet current and future demand for hockey matches and training in the District.

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Scenarios

Protecting sand-based AGPs

The two AGPs currently in use for hockey should be protected as hockey suitable unless replacement provision is provided within the locality and agreed with England Hockey (for reference any replacement provision would need to be built and full community accessible before the feasibility of developing a pitch could be considered). This is because it is considered unfeasible for demand, whether this is community club demand or curricular/extracurricular demand, to be amalgamated onto fewer pitches given the nature of Huntingdonshire and long drive-time distances between provision.

For clarity, this means that the pitches at the following sites require protection:

- ◀ Longsands Academy
- ◀ One Leisure St Ives Outdoor

There is a need to protect the above provision in order to accommodate current levels of demand in addition to provide capacity for future/latent demand.

Quality improvements

Following on from the above, in order to protect the provision, there is a clear need for improvements to be made regarding the quality of pitch and/or ancillary facilities (Clubhouse/changing rooms/floodlights etc) particularly at those sites used for community hockey such as Longsands Academy (St Neots HC) and One Leisure St Ives Outdoor (St Ives HC).

If these enhancements do not take place and the facilities become unusable due to their poor quality both St Neots HC and St Ives HC would need to find alternative provision for their demand. Based on the geographical location of the remaining pitch provision in Huntingdonshire, it is deemed that the aforementioned clubs would not be able to relocate to another facility most likely outside of the District, resulting in a significant chance of them folding.

Potential options to help fund such an endeavour should be explored, including but not limited to, potential monies from planning (Section 106), match funding from grant opportunities (England Hockey / Sport England) and contributions from site owners (One Leisure / Schools / PFI contractors).

Security of tenure / accessibility

Another key issue for hockey in Huntingdonshire is the of security of tenure for St Neots HC. It is considered to have unsecure tenure on the AGP at Longsands Academy due to the pitch being managed inhouse by the School. The lack of secure access means the Club is not guaranteed to be able to use the provision at its preferred time periods. This is due to schools, academies and universities being able to state their own policies and therefore more likely to restrict levels of community use. This may be due to schools wanting to protect pitch quality for curricular or extracurricular activities or not having the resources available to open us their site for community access.

The lack of security and secured accessibility to the pitch in order to host matches is impacting the potential growth of hockey resulting in substantial levels of latent demand.

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As a result, in order to protect current levels of demand, and allow for the growth of the sport, efforts should be made to secure dedicated club usage (training and match play) at the Longsands Academy for St Neots HC.

Huntingdon HC Relocation

Huntingdon HC is currently exporting demand to North Stowe School (South Cambridgeshire) due to being unable to gain access to a suitable AGP in the District. The Club has one senior women's team and aspires to relocate its demand back into the District.

As part of the Alconbury Weald development it is proposed that an artificial grass pitch will be developed as part of the secondary school development. At present it has not been agreed whether this surface will be a hockey suitable AGP or 3G pitch. In addition to the above St Peter's School has also engaged in conversation with EH around the potential of developing a full size sand based AGP onsite. However, EH suggests that at present the school does not have enough funds to support this development.

Huntingdon HC has been involved in both conversations for potential developments of a full size sand based AGP in the District. However, the Alconbury Weald Development is a strategic priority for a 3G pitch development for football activity and it is recommended that it remains as such. One team at Huntingdon HC does not consist of enough demand to support the development of a sand-based surface. Whilst there is likely to be growth at the Club, it is unlikely be sufficient to warrant a sand based AGP being provided.

Although, there is not sufficient demand from Huntingdon HC to support the development of a sand-based AGP, a multi-sport surface could be explored on the School site within Alconbury Weald. This would offer multi-sport opportunities in the locality, whilst being able to offer suitable surface for the hockey club for both matches and training demand.

Recommendations

- ◀ As a minimum, protect the two community available full size hockey suitable pitches in Huntingdonshire.
- ◀ As a priority refurbish the pitches at Longsands Academy and One Leisure St Ives Outdoor exploring options for economies of scale and potential funding partnerships.
- ◀ Explore the opportunity to develop a full size sand based AGP at St Peters School, Alconbury Weald School Development or similar sites identified by England Hockey and/or HDC.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have sinking funds in place at all sites to ensure long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Look to explore options to stop the unsolicited conversion of artificial grass surfaces including, but not limited to, the removal of permitted development rights.
- ◀ Pursue long-term security of tenure for clubs through community use agreements. In conjunction look to develop the management and accessibility of provision to ensure its accessibility based on club requirements in order to allow demand to grow.
- ◀ Ensure that no 3G pitch conversions take place that are detrimental to hockey and revisit hockey demand if and when a conversion is proposed to ensure that the pitch in question is not required.
- ◀ Ensure any new 3G pitch developments do not make sand-based provision in the locality unsustainable following the transfer of football activity.

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Rugby league

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **Although there is no current active teams in the District, the demand levels for activity has not decreased.**

Supply

- ◀ There is currently no dedicated rugby league pitches. Pitches were previously accommodated at St Ives Rugby Union Football Club.

Demand

- ◀ There is one dormant club in the District, St Ives Roosters RLFC, which has paused activity due to issues with referees in the respective league. The Club is looking to re-instate activity for the 2023 season.
- ◀ At present, players which wish to participate in rugby league activity, do so by travelling to the neighbouring borough of Bedford.

Scenarios

Accommodating St Ives Roosters RLFC

The District was previously home to St Ives Roosters RLFC which most recently operated at St Ives Rugby Union Football Club as a dual club with the rugby union club onsite. During consultation it was expressed that the Club was last active in the 2019 season, however, no activity took place in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Club held an online social media presence until March 2021 and planned to continue its engagement in the RFL leagues, however, it states that due to the leagues struggling for referees it made the decision to pause activity. It has not resumed activity for the 2022 season, however, remains hopeful of activity resuming for the 2023 season.

The Club plans to reinstate its activity as of the 2023 season and has signified a desire to return its demand to St Ives Rugby Union Football Club. However, the site is already overplayed across all three of its senior pitches. It is likely that the Club will generate a need for one match equivalent session per week for training and match demand. Therefore, to cater for this demand, there is a need to increase the pitch quality to maximum of M2/D3 which will then create two match equivalent sessions per week across the three pitches as seen in Table 4.27 see overleaf.

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Table 4.27: Rugby union supply vs demand balance at St Ives Rugby Union Football Club

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Technical score	Quality*	Floodlit?	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating	Improved technical drainage score	Improved quality rating	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
95	St Ives Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	3	2.5	0.5	M2/D3	Good	0.5
		1	M1/D1		No	3	2	1			0.5
		1	M1/D0	Poor		2.5	1.5	1			1

It is unlikely that the improvement would be made to pitches to this extent, with all other improvements unable to cater for St Ives Roosters RLFC demand. Therefore, it is recommended that if/when the Club reinstates demand that alternative provision is explored. Although there is a need for a level of improvement, school sites at Hinchingsbrooke School and Longsands Academy could offer the Club access to pitches. Hinchingsbrooke School is currently unused, however, the wider site is available for community use for several different sports. In comparison, Longsands Academy doesn't offer community use for the rugby union pitch, however, the site in general offers community use for its sand based AGP and other sports onsite, therefore, it is possible that the pitch could become available for community use if discussions were held with the School and Club.

Further to the above, One Leisure St Ives Outdoor Centre previously had Rugby league pitches marked onsite. Therefore, in the future if required there could be potential to again reinstate this facility on the site.

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

World Rugby produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. There is currently one World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in Huntingdonshire at One Leisure St Neots, however no clubs currently access the pitch for contact rugby. Currently St Ives RUFC access One Leisure Ramsey 3G (non-WR compliant) for training, it is recommended that the Club and clubs such as Huntingdon & District and St Neots RUFC are encouraged and enabled to by the site to make use of the pitch for contact rugby training. The pitch should be protected and if clubs start to utilise the pitch it should continue to be tested for WR compliance to ensure availability for use is secured.

At present there is no requirement for anymore additional WR compliant 3G pitches in the District.

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Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches and areas used for rugby union activity, with an aim to make use of rugby union provision to support rugby league activity.
- ◀ Support St Ives Roosters RLFC in reinstating demand, through ensuring the Club has access to secure provision.
- ◀ Explore the opportunity to access Hinchingsbrooke School or Longsands Academy for St Ives Roosters RLFC reinstated demand.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Tennis courts

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **In conclusion, capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites.**
- ◀ **Only Needingworth and Hemingfords TC currently have capacity issues. However, Needingworth TC aspires to develop additional sports lighting onsite which remove these issues.**

Supply

- ◀ There is a total of 74 tennis courts identified in Huntingdonshire across 21 sites. Of these courts, 48 are identified as being available for community use, whilst 26 are identified as being unavailable.
- ◀ There is one macadam court which is disused at Warboys Parish Centre. The Court has been disused for a number of years and leaves the site as a whole disused for sport.
- ◀ Most outdoor tennis courts in Huntingdonshire have a macadam surface, with 59 of the 74 courts (80% of all courts) of this type. Of the 48 community available courts, most are macadam surfaces (33 courts, 69%).

Quality

- ◀ Just under half of courts in Huntingdonshire are rated as good quality (35 courts or 47%), 29 are rated as standard quality (39%) and ten are accessed as poor quality (14%). Of the 48 community available courts, 26 are rated as good quality (54%), 12 are rated standard (25%) and ten as poor quality (21%).
- ◀ Community available courts are rated as poor quality at Great Staughton Playing Fields, Leighton Playing Field, Norwood Playing Field, One Leisure St Ives Outdoor, Hinchingsbrooke School.
- ◀ In total, 35 of the 74 tennis courts in Huntingdonshire are serviced by sports lighting, representing 47% of all court provision.
- ◀ Most courts (26 courts, 35% of all courts) are within education ownership. There are 17 courts (23% of all courts) managed by Sports Clubs, eight courts managed by each of HDC, parish councils and community organisations (11% of all courts).

Capacity

- ◀ There is eight LTA affiliated tennis club in Huntingdonshire, the known membership totals 756 members.

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Scenarios

Increasing casual pay and play

In October 2021, the Government and the LTA announced a package of £30 million for investment and improvements for public tennis courts. The Government is to put £22 million whilst the LTA invest £8.4 million into the package. The investment is to be made into public tennis courts which are currently accessed as poor or unplayable quality, the investment will be to bring the courts back to a quality that will benefit the local community.

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

Instead of providing free access, some local authorities are now securing their courts as per a membership scheme that allows members access through the use of a fob system following payment of a small yearly fee. Not only does this deter unofficial use of courts but it also allows official use to be tracked, thus providing data on how well and how often courts are being accessed. In addition, it provides income generation that can go towards ongoing maintenance of the courts.

One Leisure St Ives Outdoor and Ernulf Academy (connected to One Leisure St Neots) are currently sites in Huntingdonshire which should be explored for investment. These sites have been identified as non-club sites, which could be developed through the LTA investment to provide more pay and play facilities in the District. This is due to being located at One Leisure's sites and therefore the infrastructure for maintenance and accessibility is readily available.

The courts at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor are poor quality and in need of improvement whilst installing a Gate Access system and setting up the site on LTA Smart Access would improve its Pay and Play offer. Likewise, Ernulf Academy, would require both Gate Access to be installed and an access system set up for the site, whilst the four courts onsite are currently standard quality, and therefore there is scope to make improvements to these courts to improve them to a good quality. Again, this would upgrade the sites pay and play offer and across Huntingdonshire as a whole.

Accommodating current and future demand

The LTA suggests that a hard court without sports lighting can accommodate 40 members whereas a hard court with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members. For air domed courts, membership of 100 is considered applicable and permanent indoor courts can accommodate 200 members.

It should be noted that the abovementioned figures relate to LTA viability guidelines for clubs and are not the maximum capacity. The figure relates to what most clubs, based on the level of provision, would find sustainable. As grass courts are only available for 12 weeks of the year they are not included in membership numbers.

The table overleaf identifies the capacity balance at all sites currently used by clubs, taking into account both current demand and future demand

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.28: Capacity analysis (club courts)

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Club users	Current demand (members)	Future demand (members)	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Capacity (members)	Current capacity balance (members)	Future capacity balance (members)
11	Buckden Recreation Ground	St. Neots	Buckden Tennis Club	195	20	4	Yes	240	45	25
36	Great Grandsden Sports And Recreation Ground	St. Neots	Gransdens TC	100	-	3	Yes	180	80	80
44	Hemingford Pavilion	St. Ives	Hemingfords LTC	244	-	3	No	120	124	124
49	Houghton and Wyton Playing Field	St. Ives	Houghton and Wyton TC	80	20	2	No	80	0	20
59	King George V Playing Fields (St Peters Road)	Huntingdon	Huntingdon TC	301	100	4	Yes	440	139	39
						3 ⁹	Yes			
126	Needingworth Village Hall	St. Ives	Needingworth TC	180	20	2	Yes	160	20	40
						1	No			
133	St Neots Lawn Tennis Club (& bowls)	St. Neots	St. Neots TC	229	-	4	Yes	240	11	11
168	Ramsey Tennis Club	North East	Ramsey TC	88	-	2	Yes	280	192	192
						4	No			

As evidenced in the table above, where membership is known, Needingworth Village Hall and Hemingford Pavilion are likely to be operating over capacity. It should be noted that Houghton and Wyton Playing Field is operating at capacity and may need further capacity to accommodate any future growth. Both Buckden Recreation Ground and King George V Playing Fields (St Peters Road) have likely spare capacity even accounting for future demand.

With the above being said, Houghton and Wyton Playing Field (x2), Hemingford Pavilion (x3) and Needingworth Village Hall (x1) have courts with no sports lighting. If sports lighting were to be developed at Houghton and Wyton Playing Field, this would create additional capacity for 40 members and would enable Houghton and Wyton TC's future demand aspirations to be catered for. In comparison, if the one court at Needingworth Village Hall had sports lighting installed, overplay would be alleviated and the site would be played to capacity. However, any future demand from the Club's would again leave the courts oversubscribed. If the three courts at Hemingford Pavilion were to have sports lighting installed this would still leave the courts likely oversubscribed by 64 members.

⁹ Indoor air dome courts
December 2022

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It is recommended that assistance is given, where possible, to Houghton and Wyton TC and Needingworth TC to support development of sports lighting, to help cater for both clubs current and future demand.

Housing growth scenarios

It should be noted that later in the report in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, the PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts to 2036 using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator.

This is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as tennis as there is no current guidance established on these sports. However, it is still recommended that tennis is acknowledged as part of this process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population for tennis courts.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs or that are well used for recreational demand.
- ◀ Linked to the above, improve park courts as a priority to create year-round recreational tennis options to meet local demand.
- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via utilisation of technology provided by the LTA to support the customer journey and through investment into facilities and accompanying ancillary provision.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Install additional sports lighting at club-based venues, particularly at sites operating above the capacity guidance.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision at club sites, where it is required.
- ◀ Consider allocating developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of tennis provision on a case-by-case basis.

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Netball courts

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ In conclusion, there is an insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District. This is due to a low supply of available community available courts and a mixed quality offer.
- ◀ When reviewing provision by individual analysis areas, residents in St Ives, North East and West have access to no provision or a poor quality offer, whilst St Neots is catered for by three standard quality courts.

Supply

- ◀ There are 34 outdoor netball courts identified in Huntingdonshire across 15 sites, of which, 12 are available for community use across five sites.
- ◀ Most provision is in the St Neots Analysis Area with a total of 14 (41%) courts identified. This is followed by the St Ives Analysis Area with seven (21%) courts, Huntingdon with six (18%) courts, North West with five (15%) courts and West with just two (6%) courts. The North East Analysis Area has no netball court provision.
- ◀ Although not uncommon across the Country, netball provision within the District is located on current educational sites.

Quality

- ◀ Most courts (13 or 38%) are rated as standard quality, whilst 12 (35%) courts are rated as good quality. The remaining nine courts (26%) are rated as poor quality Burnley Netball League.
- ◀ Of the 12 community available courts, seven (58%) are good quality, three (25%) are standard quality and two (17%) at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor are poor quality.
- ◀ Only six courts are accompanied by sports lighting these are located at the three sites widely available for community use, at the three One Leisure sites.
- ◀ All of the outdoor netball courts in Huntingdonshire have a macadam surface.

Demand

- ◀ England Netball identifies nine clubs within the District.
- ◀ Clubs in the District play within multiple leagues across Cambridgeshire and the surrounding areas. The Club's play within the Bedford & District Netball League, Heritage Netball League, Cambridge & District Netball League, Cambridge County Premier League, Huntingdon & Peterborough Netball League and the Fenland Netball League.
- ◀ Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 527 people who would like to participate in the sport within Huntingdonshire.

Scenarios

Future access to provision of netball courts

Currently, there is an insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District. This is due to a low supply of available community available courts and a mixed quality offer. When reviewing provision by individual analysis areas, residents in St Ives, North East and West have access to no provision or a poor quality offer, whilst St Neots is catered for by three standard quality courts. Consequently, there are no opportunities within these settlements for competitive or recreational netball offers to be established (i.e. back to netball). This position is exacerbated when reviewing provision by ownership and management type where there is a reliance on the education sector to provide the better quality courts in the District which although are available for community use, are less well advertised and known to be accessible.

It is known that most competitive play occurs outside of the District on a central venue basis and as such from a competitive point of view there is a limited need for outdoor courts. However, from a recreational perspective, the supply is inadequate and is likely to be preventative for alternate opportunities to emerge and grow, such as Netball Now.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Therefore it should be explored to further gain access to educational sites within the analysis areas currently not catered for. In addition, the quality of courts across the District is in need of improving. Finally, with no courts either available or unavailable in the North East Analysis Area signifies that there is a potential need to develop a small offer to ensure that have access to facilities.

Housing growth scenarios

It should be noted that later in the report in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, the PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts to 2036 using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator.

This is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as netball as there is no current guidance established on these sports. However, it is still recommended that netball is acknowledged as part of this process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population for netball courts.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs and for England Netball initiatives.
- ◀ Explore the opportunity to gain access to current educational sites which do not offer community use to broaden the community available facilities across Huntingdonshire, specifically in the in St Ives, North East and West analysis areas.
- ◀ Consider establishing additional floodlighting at club-based venues or at venues that could attract netball demand following installation.
- ◀ Consider allocating developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of netball provision on a case-by-case basis.

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Bowling greens

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **There is currently sufficient capacity for flat bowling greens to meet both current and future demand in Huntingdonshire.**

Bowls – supply

- ◀ There are 18 bowling greens in Huntingdonshire located across 18 sites. All sites are single green sites.
- ◀ Of the active greens, seven are owned and managed by user clubs, seven are managed by the either HDC or parish councils and one is owned by a private landlord and managed by their user clubs.
- ◀ Gransden & District BC currently have a lease agreement onsite at Great Gransden Bowls & Tennis Club until 2025. The Club will require an extension on this lease to secure continued use of the green and should be support where possible to ensure this is completed.
- ◀ Most greens (16 or 89%) are rated as good quality, with one green rated as standard quality and one green rated as poor quality.
- ◀ A total of four (22%) of the 18 operational greens in Huntingdonshire are serviced by sports lighting.

Bowls – demand

- ◀ There are 18 bowling clubs playing in Huntingdonshire, with known membership totalling 918 members.
- ◀ Of responding clubs, 13 clubs (87%) highlight aspirations to increase membership.

Bowls – capacity

- ◀ Eaton Socon BC, Hemingfords BC, Holywell-Cum-Needlingworth BC, Ramsey BC, Sawtry and District BC, Somersham Town BC and St Ives BC are operating at or above recommended capacity levels, with usage needing to be monitored to ensure that supply remains adequate.

Scenarios

Accommodating current and future demand

Bowls England does not have any specific guidance on bowling green capacity, stating that it can vary from site-to-site and from club-to-club. However, as a guide, it states that any green operating with a membership of close to or over 60 may need additional resource to ensure that it is meeting its required level of demand. Seven clubs are currently operating above this threshold in Huntingdonshire, as follows:

- ◀ Eaton Socon BC (83 members)
- ◀ Hemingfords BC (80 members)
- ◀ Holywell-Cum-Needlingworth BC (70 members)
- ◀ Ramsey BC (75 members)
- ◀ Sawtry and District BC (71 members)
- ◀ Somersham Town BC (74 members)
- ◀ St Ives BC (96 members)

Of these, no clubs currently reports any capacity issues, with St Ives BC, Holywell-Cum-Needlingworth BC, Sawtry and District BC, Hemingfords BC and Ramsey BC all expressing an aspiration to further increase their memberships. All seven clubs should be closely monitored to ensure that their greens do not become oversubscribed.

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Club sustainability

Bowls England suggests that clubs operating with a membership of below and around 20 could be unsustainable. In Huntingdonshire, there is currently no teams operating around this threshold. Gransden & District BC has the lowest membership of 29 members.

Concerns would be alleviated for Gransden & District BC if their future demand aspirations were fulfilled, with support therefore required to enable such growth.

All clubs should be monitored to ensure they remain sustainable.

Housing growth scenarios

It should be noted that later in the report in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, the PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts to 2036 using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator.

This is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as bowls as there is no current guidance established on these sports. However, it is still recommended that bowls is acknowledged as part of this process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population for bowling greens.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of greens that are in use.
- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Seek to improve ancillary facility quality where it is necessary.
- ◀ Improve security of tenure for Gransden & District BC and Eaton Socon BC
- ◀ Support Eaton Socon BC, Hemingfords BC, Holywell-Cum-Needingworth BC, Ramsey BC, Sawtry and District BC, Somersham Town BC, St Ives BC to ensure demand continues to be met, given high levels of membership.
- ◀ Ensure greens at Gransden & District BC remain sustainable and support club users to increase membership.
- ◀ Mitigate any permanent loss of greens at disused sites through replacement provision or through appropriate enhancements to other facilities.
- ◀ Consider allocating developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of bowling green provision on a case-by-case basis.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Athletics facilities

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ In conclusion, there is sufficient supply of traditional athletics facilities (400m track) in Huntingdonshire to meet current and future demand for athletics.
- ◀ However, there are qualitative issues at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor, with the track coming to the end of its life, if the Club is to continue at the same level of performance output that it currently operates, the loss of a competition venue would be detrimental to the Club's ability to retain its membership.

Supply

- ◀ In Huntingdonshire, there are two purpose-built outdoor athletics tracks. Only one of which is available for community use at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor, with the unavailable track being located within RAF Alconbury.
- ◀ There is one 400 metre track which is owned by Huntingdonshire District Council and overseen by One Leisure on its behalf. At present all clubs accessing tracks pay an annual rent.

Quality

- ◀ The one available athletics track in Huntingdonshire at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor is rated as standard quality.

Demand

- ◀ Within the City there is one track and field club which accesses the athletics track at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor. Membership of the Club currently equates to 352 in total.

Scenarios

Track refurbishment (One Leisure St Ives Outdoor)

Given the standard quality and the fact the track is wearing and coming to the end of its life, there is a need to monitor and inspect the track to ensure that it can meet requirements for a competition track. Huntingdonshire AC is currently gaining quotes to have inspection of the track to gain its competition license having been tasked by One Leisure, if the track does not pass, the Club reports there will be a need for a full replacement of the track.

The Club reports that if the track passes it will gain a three-year license. However due to the wearing track it suggests that it is very unlikely that it would pass in three years' time, therefore suggests that a full track replacement will be required in 2025 if the Club was to gain a license in 2022.

Housing growth scenarios

It should be noted that later in the report in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, the PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts to 2036 using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator.

This is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as athletics as there is no current guidance established on these sports. However, it is still recommended that athletics is acknowledged as part of this process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population for athletics provision.

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Recommendations

- ◀ As a priority look to refurbish the athletic tracks at One Leisure St Ives Outdoor and ensure the provision is protected to accommodate current and future athletics demand.
- ◀ Support clubs, running groups, events and England Athletics initiatives such as Park Run and pursue increased participation, where possible.
- ◀ Consider allocating developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of athletics provision on a case-by-case basis.

Other sports

Assessment Report summary

Summary – Other outdoor sports

Supply

- ◀ There are 15 outdoor gyms, with at least one provided in each analysis area.
- ◀ There are 18 multi-use games areas with at least one provided in each analysis area.
- ◀ There are ten trim trails, none are located in the North West Analysis Area.

Demand

- ◀ As demand for all three of the above facility types is typical informal, there is no recorded use of these facilities.

Scenarios

Housing growth scenarios

It should be noted that later in the report in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, the PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts to 2036 using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator.

This is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for other outdoor sports as there are no current guidance established on these sports. However, it is still recommended that other sports are acknowledged as part of this process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population for other sports.

Recommendations

- ◀ Look to improve the quality of MUGAs across the District and work with relevant stakeholders to establishing new provision where appropriate.
- ◀ Provision of MUGAs is recommended within new major housing developments and should be considered within rural communities where formal pitches may not be deliverable.
- ◀ Consider allocating developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of MUGAs on a case-by-case basis.
- ◀ Monitor and improve outdoor gyms and trim trails across the District.
- ◀ Ensure that settlements and analysis areas have sufficient supply of outdoor gyms and trim trails.

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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

OBJECTIVE 1

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

Recommendations:

- a. Ensure, through the use of the PPOSS, that playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. Maximise community use of education facilities where needed.

Recommendation (a) – Ensure, through the use of the PPOSS, that playing pitches and outdoor sport facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.

The PPOSS Assessment shows that all currently used outdoor sports sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because shortfalls would occur both now and, in the future, if they were lost. Consideration should also be given to the protection of underused and poor quality sites from development or replacement as they may offer potential to meet shortfalls, particularly for football and rugby, in the future.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 99 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

Should outdoor sports facilities be taken out of use for any reason (e.g. Council budget restraints), land should ideally be retained so that it can be brought back into use in the future.

Although there are some identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions i.e. for rugby union and football pitches, most demand is currently being met and most shortfalls are likely able to be addressed through quality improvements. However, qualitative improvements should be secured as a sports development initiative and should not be used to mitigate the loss of playing field arising from a non-sport development. It is therefore, not recommended as a priority to identify 'new' sites for provision.

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The PPOSS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new outdoor sports and ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis taking into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing fields and will use the PPOSS to help assess that planning application against its Playing Fields Policy¹⁰.

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

Policy Exception E1:

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

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

Policy Exception E2

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

Policy Exception E3

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

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

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.

¹⁰[Link to Sport England Playing Fields Policy](#)

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Policy Exception E5

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

Disused sites

Disused sites will also be considered in accordance with Sport England's policy exceptions. They provide a potential solution to reducing any identified shortfalls for football and rugby union. A disused site is a site where pitches were once, but are no longer, marked out and remain undeveloped.

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

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

A number of school, commercial and private sites are being used in Huntingdonshire for competitive play, predominantly for football. In some cases, use of pitches has been classified as secure; however, use is not necessarily formalised, meaning relevant organisations should seek to establish appropriate community use agreements, including access to changing provision where required/available. This is especially the case for sites that have unsecured community use despite receiving high levels of use.

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

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

The Council as well as parish and town councils should further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted via long-term lease agreements (a minimum of 25 years is often recommended by Sport England and NGBs) so that clubs are in a position to apply for external funding. This is particularly the case at poor quality, low value local authority sites, possibly with inadequate or no ancillary facilities, so that quality can subsequently be improved and sites developed.

Local sports clubs with or entering into lease agreements should be supported by partners to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership work. For example, such clubs should be encouraged to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate income via their facilities.

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All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)¹¹. They should also be encouraged to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies and local businesses.

For clubs with lease arrangements already in place, these should be reviewed when fewer than 25 years remain on existing agreements to secure extensions, thus improving security of tenure and helping them to attract funding for site developments, if it is required. Any club with less than 25 years remaining on an agreement is unlikely to gain any external funding (unless the agreement has been recently entered into).

Each club interested in leasing a council site should be required to meet service and/or strategic recommendations. An additional set of criteria should also be considered, which takes into account club quality, aligned to its long-term development objectives and sustainability, as seen in the table below.

Table 5.1: Recommended criteria for lease of council sport sites to clubs/organisations

Club	Site
<p>Use of Club Matters, a Sport England self-assessment tool.</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.</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 'Local Sites' (recommendation d) for new clubs (i.e. not those with a Authority-wide significance) but that offer development potential.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site.</p>

The Council could also 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. For examples, 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. It is important in these instances that the site remains available for other purposes or for other users.

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

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Recommendation (c) - Maximise community use of education facilities where needed

To maximise community use a more coherent, structured relationship with schools is recommended. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train. In Huntingdonshire, pricing policies at facilities can be a barrier to access at some education sites but physical access, poor quality and resistance from schools to open up provision is also an issue, especially at some private schools and academies.

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

In some instances, facilities are unavailable for community use due to poor quality and therefore remedial works will be required before it can be established. The low carrying capacity of these facilities sometimes leads to them being played to capacity or overplayed simply due to curricular and extra-curricular use, meaning they cannot accommodate any additional use by the community.

As a priority, community use options should be explored at large schools offering numerous pitches, such as Ernulf Academy. Securing access to such sites will significantly reduce shortfalls throughout the analysis areas that they are based within.

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

Where new schools are provided in major new residential developments, they should be designed to facilitate community access, with opportunities for meeting the community's outdoor sports needs explored at the outset to maximise the potential for facility provision to be made within the developments, if appropriate. An example of this is ensuring the provision of youth 11v11 and/or mini 5v5 grass football pitches, given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students.

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

OBJECTIVE 2

To enhance playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities through improving quality and management of sites

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

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

Ground Maintenance Association (GMA) Pitch Advisory Service

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

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

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

For football, Pitch providers are encouraged to complete a self-assessment of pitches using the Football Foundation PitchPower tool, whilst for other sports a site visit in person may be undertaken by a GMA Pitch Advisor.

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

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Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF)

Eligible clubs and organisations can also utilise the report as an evidence base to acquire potential funding streams, for example, to obtain the required maintenance equipment. If a PitchPower assessment categorises pitches as 'poor' or 'basic' they are then eligible to apply for Grass Pitch Funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund¹², a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help clubs enhance or sustain the quality of their grass pitches. The fund is a key part of the Football Foundation's Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 20,000 quality grass pitches by 2030. Clubs with good or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding.

All applicants must have the required security of tenure and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs, leagues, National League System Clubs at Steps 1-6 and charities (with an annual turnover of under £500,000). Local authorities are not currently eligible applicants, however, clubs, leagues and charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure.

The Council is not presently eligible to access the GPMF as an applicant, however, can undertake technical assessment of pitches using the PitchPower app. Opportunities to access the fund to support presently Council managed sites include establishment of a service level agreement with a resident club for maintenance responsibilities, or transfer of long-term management to the club/organisation through leasehold or CAT, both enabling the club/organisation to apply to the fund.

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

Addressing quality issues

Where facilities are assessed as standard or poor quality and/or overplayed, maintenance regimes should be reviewed and, where possible, improved to ensure that what is being done is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring continuance of existing maintenance of good quality sites is also essential.

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

Based upon an achievable target using existing quality scoring to provide a baseline, a standard should be used to identify deficiencies and investment should be focused on those sites which fail to meet the proposed quality standard (using the site audit database as provided in electronic format). The Strategy approach to outdoor sports facilities achieving these standards should be to enhance quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.

¹² <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/grass-pitch-maintenance-fund>

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For the purposes of quality assessments, the PPOSS refers to outdoor sports facilities and ancillary facilities separately as being of ‘Good’, ‘Standard’ or ‘Poor’ quality. For example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements and vice versa (e.g. a good quality pitch may be serviced by poor quality changing facilities).

Good quality refers to pitches that have, for example, good grass cover, an even surface, are free from vandalism and litter. For rugby union, a good quality pitch is also pipe and/or slit drained. 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.

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

Poor quality refers to provision with, for example, inadequate grass cover, uneven surfaces and poor drainage. For rugby, pitches will have inadequate natural drainage. In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate changing rooms with no showers, no running water and/or old, dated interiors. If a poor quality site receives little or no usage that is not to say that no improvement is needed, it may instead be the case that it receives no demand because of its quality, thus an improvement in said quality will attract demand to the site, potentially from overplayed standard or good quality sites.

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 should be given priority for improvement. Also, key sites without a suitable offer may not be able to establish or grow participation in key sport development areas with specific requirements, such as disability or women and girls’ sport.

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

Addressing overplay

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

The FA, RFU, ECB and EH all recommend a number of matches that their respective pitches should take based on quality, as seen in the table below. For other grass pitch sports, no guidelines are set by the NGBs although it can be assumed that a similar trend should be followed.

Table 5.2: Carrying capacity of pitches

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week

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Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Rugby league	Senior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	0 per season
Hockey	Sand/water based AGP	4 per day	4 per day	N/A

For non-pitch sports, capacity is not linked to the number of matches taking place but rather the number of members (and other users) attracted to a site. For example, for tennis, a hard court is said to have capacity for 60 members if it is serviced by sports lighting, whereas a non-lit has court has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts).

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

For cricket, an increase in NTPs is key to alleviating overplay as this allows for the transfer of junior demand from grass wickets. It also does not require any additional playing pitch space as NTPs can be installed in situ with existing squares.

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

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

Improving changing provision

There is a need to address changing provision at some sites in Huntingdonshire (these are detailed in the Action Plan). As previously mentioned, 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 should be given priority for improvement.

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

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

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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 pitches and outdoor sports facilities as well as accompanying ancillary facilities.

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

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

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

Recommendation (g) –Secure developer contributions

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

For playing pitches, it is recommended the Council use Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator as a tool for helping to determine the additional demand for pitches and to estimate the likely developer contribution required linking to sites within the locality. This should form part of the Council working with Sport England to develop a process and guidance for obtaining developer contributions.

The calculator uses the current number of teams by sports pitch type contained within the Assessment Report and calculates the percentage within each age group that play that sport. That percentage is then applied to the population growth. The additional teams likely to be generated are then converted into match equivalent sessions and associated pitch requirements in the peak period, with the associated costs (both for providing the pitch/facility and for its life cycle) then given. The calculator splits the requirement into peak time demand for natural turf pitches, training demand for artificial grass pitches, and the number of new changing rooms required.

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

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Where it is determined that new provision is required to accompany a development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality. To determine what supply of provision is provided, it is imperative that the PPOSS findings are taken into consideration and that for particularly large developments consultation takes place with the relevant NGBs and Sport England. This is due to the importance of ensuring that the stock of facilities provided is correct to avoid provision becoming unsustainable and unused. The preference is for multi-pitch and potentially multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for future AGP development. This is because single-pitch facilities are more likely to become under-used (or unused), unviable and unsustainable.

It is recognised that consultation cannot take place with NGBs for every development due to resource restrictions. Instead, it is recommended that such discussions take place within PPOSS Steering Group meetings, which should take place regularly following adoption of the study as part of the ongoing monitoring and evaluation process. It is recommended that these take place every 6-12 months and inform the annual review/update (see Part 8 for further information).

The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate provision and subsequent maintenance. S106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and of the pitches in order to increase pitch capacity to accommodate more matches.

Sport England recommends that a number of 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 S106 agreement or equivalent must be completed that should specify, when applied, the amount that will be linked to Sport England's Building Cost Information Service from the date of the permission and timing of the contribution/s to be made.
- ◀ Contributions should also be secured towards the first ten years of maintenance on new pitches (lifecycle costs), the cost of which is indicated by the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator. 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 facility enhancement, alongside other open space provision, and its subsequent maintenance.
- ◀ Where new provision is provided, appropriate changing rooms and associated car parking should be located on site.
- ◀ All new or improved outdoor sports facilities on school sites should be subject to community use agreements.

For further information, please see Part 7 of this report.

OBJECTIVE 3

To provide new playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so

Recommendations:

- h. Identify opportunities to increase add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand.
- i. Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current pitch stock.

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

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

Although there are identified shortfalls, most current and future demand is currently being met and most shortfalls can be addressed via quality improvements and/or improved access to sites that are presently used minimally or currently unavailable. Adding to the current stock, particularly in the short term, is therefore not recommended as a priority, except in the case of 3G pitches, entry level athletics facilities and NTPs where there is a need, where there is significant housing growth, or where new schools are proposed.

For new schools, there is an opportunity to combine the building of a school to the development of a new multi-sport site that will be of a benefit to a school as well as the wider community via a community use agreement.

Any new provision, whether that be at a school or as a result of housing growth, should also consider the Council's wider sporting need. This means that the focus should not solely be on outdoor sports facilities but also provision for wider recreational activity.

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

The Council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the preceding Assessment Report and the sport-by-sport specific recommendations (Part 4) as well as the following Action Plan (Part 6).

It is important that the current levels of provision are protected, maintained and enhanced to secure provision now and in the future. Maximising use of existing facilities through a combination of the following will help to reduce shortfalls and accommodate future demand:

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity.
- ◀ The re-designation of facilities e.g. converting an unused facility (or facility type) for one sport to instead cater for another sport (or another pitch type).
- ◀ Securing long-term access at school sites including those currently unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.

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Unmet demand, changes in sport participation and trends and proposed housing growth should also be recognised and factored into future facility planning. Assuming that an increase in participation and housing growth occurs, it will impact on the future need for certain types of sports provision.

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PART 6: ACTION PLAN

The site-by-site action plan seeks to address key issues identified in the preceding Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement. It is separated by analysis area and includes information pertaining to the sub sections below.

Site hierarchy

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. As stated in Recommendation (e), 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.

The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in an Authority-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 Council area as a whole.

Table 6.1: Tiered site criteria

Criteria	Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Site location	Strategically located in the Authority. Priority sites for NGBs.	Strategically located within the analysis area.	Serves the local community.
Site layout	Accommodates three or more grass pitches, generally including provision of an AGP (or with the potential).	Accommodates two or more grass pitches.	Accommodates one or two pitches.
Type of sport	Multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.	Generally single sport provision but may cater for two.
Management	Management control allows for wide community use, i.e., through the local authority, a leisure operator or a school with a community use agreement.	Management control generally allows for wide community use but may include sites that are owned or leased by clubs/other organisations.	Management control can be via the local authority, schools, clubs and other providers.
Maintenance regime	Maintenance regime aligns or could align with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns or could align with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime or an in-house maintenance contract.
Ancillary facilities	Good quality ancillary facilities on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches; may include wider social/function facilities.	Good quality ancillary facility on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Limited or no changing room access on site.

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Hub sites are of Authority 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 the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

Key centres are more community focused, although 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 may be necessary to improve the facilities at both hub sites and key sites. This could be to improve the provision, create additional provision (e.g., a 3G pitch) or to enhance the ancillary facilities in terms of access, flexibility (i.e., single-sex changing if necessary) and quality as well as ensuring that they meet the rules and regulations of local competitions.

Local sites refer to those sites offering minimal provision or that are of minimal value to the wider community. Primarily they are sites with one pitch/facility or a low number of pitches/facilities that service just one or two sports (e.g., bowling green sites).

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

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

Partners

The column indicating partners refers to the main organisations that the Council would look to work with to support delivery of the actions.

Given the extent of potential actions, it is reasonable to assume that partners will not necessarily be able to support all the actions identified but where the action is a priority and resource is available the partner will endeavour to assist.

As all sites sit within the local authority area, the Council is considered to be a partner for each identified action (as the column indicates partners for the Council) and is therefore not included. However, it is acknowledged that it will take on more of a leading role for some specific sites and some specific actions (e.g., at council venues).

Priority

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

The majority of key centres have **medium** priority actions. These have analysis area importance and are identified on the basis of the impact that they will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment, although not to the same extent as high priority actions.

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The **low** priority actions tend to be for single pitch or single sport sites and often club or education sites with local specific importance but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment for specific users. Whilst low priority, there may be opportunities to action some of the recommendations made against such sites relatively quickly e.g., through S106 funding.

Costs

The strategic actions have also been ranked as low, medium or high based on cost. The brackets 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:
[Link to Sport England Cost Guidance](#)

Timescales

The Action Plan has been created to be delivered over a ten-year period and the information within the Assessment Report, Strategy and Action Plan will require updating as developments occur. The indicative timescales relate to delivery times and are not priority based:

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

Aim

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

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

HUNTINGDON ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Huntingdon	Adult	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 4.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 5v5	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
	Huntingdonshire	Adult	Spare capacity of 6 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent session
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
3G	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon and St Neots Analysis Areas.	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon (x2), St Ives and St Neots Analysis Area.
Cricket	Huntingdon	Saturday	Spare capacity of 20 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 10 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 40 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 30 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 20 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 20 match equivalent sessions a season
	Huntingdonshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 112 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 62 match equivalent sessions a season

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

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 45 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 15 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Huntingdon	Senior	Shortfall of 4.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5.5 match equivalent sessions
	Huntingdonshire	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Huntingdonshire	Provision	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives.	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives. Need to offer access to rugby union pitches for rugby league use through summer if/when demand is reinstated.
Hockey	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient quantity	Insufficient quantity
Tennis	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.
Netball	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.
Bowls	Huntingdonshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
MUGAs	Huntingdonshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area
Other sports	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
4	Alconbury Weald Cricket Pitch	PE28 4LT	Cricket	Council	One standard quality square which consists of 11 grass wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of good quality. Square has spare capacity of 26 MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Saturday, Sunday and Midweek. Sawtry CC is currently working with HDC to complete the Asset Transfer of the site.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to complete asset transfer of the site to Sawtry CC.	Council CE ECB	Local	L-M	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
7	Brampton Memorial Playing Field	PE28 4TB	Football	Council	One adult, one youth 11v11, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Site is currently part of the GPMF. Adult pitch is currently overplayed by one MES per week. Youth 11v11 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity of three MES per week. Mini 5v5 pitch spare capacity of two MES per week. Although the youth 11v11, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches have spare capacity, all are played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Continue to utilise GPMF to ensure improvements to pitches are made through a dedicated and specific maintenance programme.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
7	Brampton Memorial Playing Field	PE28 4TB	Cricket	Council	One standard quality square which consists of seven grass wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of good quality. Square has spare capacity of 21 MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Saturday, Sunday and Midweek.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
7	Brampton Memorial Playing Field	PE28 4TB	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
7	Brampton Memorial Playing Field	PE28 4TB	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
9	Bridge Academy	PE29 2NL	Football	Education	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitches, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
14	Cambridge Regional College, Huntingdon Campus	PE29 1BL	Tennis	Education	Two standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for school use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
24	Ermine Street Church Academy	PE28 4XG	Netball	Education	Two good quality macadam netball courts with no sports lighting available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
33	Godmanchester Town Cricket Club	PE29 2BN	Cricket	Sport Club	One good quality square which consists of 12 grass wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square has spare capacity of six MES per season. With actual spare capacity Midweek to cater for an additional team. Two lane fixed net facility of standard quality.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Monitor net facility to ensure quality is sustained and facilities are developed/replaced when required.	Sports club CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
42	Hartford Junior School	PE29 1UL	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam netball court, with no sports lighting. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
45	Hinchingbrooke School	PE29 3BN	Football	Education	Two adult, one youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches all of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Site is considered to offer unsecure tenure. Adult pitches have spare capacity of 3.5 MES per week. Pitches do have potential actual spare capacity, however this is discounted due to unsecure tenure. Youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed by two MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitches has spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week, however they are played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure through community use agreements.	School HFA FF	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
45	Hinchingbrooke School	PE29 3BN	3G	Education	One standard quality full size (106x85m) 3G pitch with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is on the FA Pitch Register, with the accreditation expiring in 31/05/2023. Pitch has spare capacity of 26% during the week and spare capacity of 87% on the weekends.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Explore the opportunity to make use of weekend spare capacity for competitive match demand.	School HFA FF	Key centre	M	M-L	M-H	Protect Enhance
45	Hinchingbrooke School	PE29 3BN	Cricket	Education	Two standalone standard quality NTP's, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School CE ECB	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
45	Hinchingbrooke School	PE29 3BN	Rugby union	Education	One senior rugby union pitch of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Available for community use, however pitch is currently unused. Site is considered to offer unsecure tenure.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity use pitch for rugby league from St Ives Rooster RLFC if required. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure through community use agreements.	School RFU RFL	Key centre	L-M	M	L	Protect Enhance
45	Hinchingbrooke School	PE29 3BN	Tennis	Education	Three poor quality artificial turf tennis courts, with no sports lighting and available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LTA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
45	Hinchingbrooke School	PE29 3BN	Netball	Education	Four good quality macadam netball courts with no sports lighting and available for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School EN	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
50	Huntingdon and District RFC	PE28 4NL	Rugby union	Sport Club	Three senior rugby union pitches of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Pitches are supported by portable sports lighting. Huntingdon & District RFC has rental agreement onsite, which offers unsecure tenure. Site is located on flood zone. Main 1 st XV pitch is currently played to capacity, whilst remaining two pitches are overplayed to a total of 4.5 MES per week. Ancillary provision has recently undergone internal development due to effects from recent flooding. Ancillary provision does not support women's and girls' demand. The Club is currently exploring the opportunity to relocate to the Alconbury Weald development. However, if this does not go ahead the Club has plans to develop a new clubhouse onsite, to cater for women's and girls' an on stilts away from the flood zone.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/ drainage improvement if the Club does not relocate and it gains security of tenure onsite. If Huntingdon & District RFC do not relocate offsite to the Alconbury Weald development, explore the opportunity to secure tenure onsite and develop new ancillary provision.	Sports club RFU	Local	M-H	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance Provide
51	Hyl - Great Stukeley Field	PE28 4AH	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch of poor quality. Pitch has no support ancillary provision. Adult pitch is unused and currently has spare capacity of one MES per week, however due to poor pitch quality this spare capacity has been discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary provision onsite if required.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
52	Jubilee Park	PE28 2NR	Football	Council	Two adult pitches of good quality (one being a Step pitch), one adult pitch of standard quality and one adult pitch of poor quality. In addition, the site has one youth 9v9 pitch of good quality, one mini 7v7 pitch of poor quality and one mini 5v5 pitch of good quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is a part of the GPMF. Step Adult pitch has spare capacity of two MES per week, with actual spare capacity discounted to protect quality for Step use. Remaining adult pitches are played to capacity, with one MES of potential actual spare capacity. Youth 9v9 pitch has spare capacity of 3.5 MES per week, with 0.5 MES of actual spare capacity at peak time. Mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week, with potential actual spare capacity, which is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Mini 5v5 pitch has spare capacity of 3.5 MES per week, however pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Continue to utilise GPMF to ensure improvements to pitches are made through a dedicated and specific maintenance programme. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time if required. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Council HFA FF	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance
53	Judith's Field Recreation Centre	PE29 2WB	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
59	King George V Playing Fields (St Peters Road)	PE29 7DA	Cricket	Council	One square of standard quality which consists of 14 grass wickets. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Square has spare capacity of 29 MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sunday and Midweek. Huntingdon & District CC reports there is a need for a full update of the clubhouse/pavilion. Two lane fixed net facility of poor quality.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to replace fixed net provision.	Council CE ECB	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
59	King George V Playing Fields (St Peters Road)	PE29 7DA	Bowls	Council	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality. Huntingdon BC identifies that a couple of its rinks are currently out of use due them being worn and compact, this has led to the grass on them not growing properly and leaving them unusable.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure that required work is undertaken on the rinks which are currently compacted to ensure quality is restored.	Council BE	Hub site	M-H	S-M	L-M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
59	King George V Playing Fields (St Peters Road)	PE29 7DA	Tennis	Council	One macadam, three artificial turf and three indoor air dome acrylic courts all of good quality with sports lighting. Huntingdon TC has plans to develop its courts through developing solar panels and through changing sports lighting to LED bulbs, to cut electricity costs.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop solar panels and change sports lighting to LED bulbs.	Council LTA	Hub site	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
71	Offord D'Arcy Football Pitch	PE19 5WA	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch of poor quality. Pitch has no support ancillary provision. Adult pitch is unused and currently has spare capacity of one MES per week, however due to poor pitch quality this spare capacity has been discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary provision onsite if required.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
71	Offord D'Arcy Football Pitch	PE19 5WA	MUGA	Parish Council	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
72	One Leisure Huntingdon	PE29 7DA	3G	Council	Two small sided (37x24m) 3G pitches of standard quality, with sports lighting and available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Explore the opportunity to make use of weekend spare capacity for competitive match demand.	Council HFA FF	Hub site	L	L	M	Protect Enhance
72	One Leisure Huntingdon	PE29 7DA	Netball	Council	One good quality macadam netball court with sports lighting and available for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council EN	Hub site	L	L	L	Protect
72	One Leisure Huntingdon	PE29 7DA	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Hub site	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
81	RAF Alconbury	PE28 4DA	Football	MOD	One adult pitch of standard quality, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for MOD use.	MOD HFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
81	RAF Alconbury	PE28 4DA	Athletics	MOD	One standard quality six lane 400m athletics track with sports lighting.	Look to improve track quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for MOD use.	MOD EA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
81	RAF Alconbury	PE28 4DA	Tennis	MOD	Three good quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for MOD use.	MOD LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
86	Riverside Park (Huntingdon)	PE29 3RP	Football	Council	The site has in the past accommodated formal football pitches. The site has had up to two adult pitches, however pitches have not been marked for a number of years, with most football teams using the site relocating to Sapley Park Playing Fields.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitches.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
88	Sapley Park Playing Fields	PE28 2NT	Football	Council	Four adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch all of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitches have spare capacity of five MES per week, with actual spare capacity at peak time of two MES. The Youth 9v9 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week, however the pitch is played to capacity at peak time. The Mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity of four MES per week, with actual spare capacity of one MES at peak time. Eunice Huntingdon FC aspires to have a storage container on the site, to store its club equipment.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility to place a storage container onsite for Eunice Huntingdon FC to allow the Club space for additional storage for its club equipment onsite.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
102	St Peters School	PE29 7DD	Football	Education	Two youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
102	St Peters School	PE29 7DD	Cricket	Education	One poor quality standalone NTP.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for school use. Explore the opportunity to replace NTP for school use.	School CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
102	St Peters School	PE29 7DD	Hockey AGP	Education	Huntingdon HC currently export demand and aspire to bring demand back into the District. St Peter's School has previously expressed interest in developing a full size sand based AGP onsite, and is identified as a potential solution to accommodate Huntingdon HC.	Explore the feasibility to develop a full size sand AGP onsite. Ensure that any development that takes place has an approach programme of use to ensure sustainability of the pitch from both school and community use. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	School EH	Local	M	L-M	H	Provide
106	The David Wilson Homes Ground	PE29 2LQ	Football	Sports Club	One adult (step pitch), one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch of poor quality and one youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Site is a part of the GPMF. Adult pitch is overplayed by one MES per week. Youth 11v11 is overplayed by one MES per week. Youth 9v9 is overplayed by one MES per week. Mini 7v7 is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Main first team pitch is uneven and drains poorly, Godmanchester Rovers FC plans to resurface this pitch.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Continue to utilise GPMF to ensure improvements to pitches are made through a dedicated and specific maintenance programme. Ensure resurfacing of Step pitch takes place to improve quality and ensure pitch quality is up to a standard capable of catering for NLS football.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
106	The David Wilson Homes Ground	PE29 2LQ	3G	Sports Club	Site has been identified in the LFFP as a priority site for the development of a full size 3G pitch. Initially, the main first team pitch was to be the location of the 3G pitch, however after deliberation it was agreed that the back pitches was a more suitable location, this is likely to lead to the loss of the youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitch onsite. The project and development is currently progressing.	In line with LFFP and PPOSS findings explore the feasibility of creating a full size 3G pitch on the site. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	M-H	S-M	H	Provide
122	Brampton Bowls Club	PE28 4TH	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports Club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
132	Royal Oak	PE29 2JE	Bowls	Private	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Sports Club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
139	Coneygear Park	PE29 1TD	Football	Council	One youth 9v9 pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by one MES per week.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
139	Coneygear Park	PE29 1TD	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
139	Coneygear Park	PE29 1TD	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
150	Sallowbush Road MUGA	PE29 7DL	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
151	Hinchingbrooke Country Park	PE29 6DB	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
151	Hinchingbrooke Country Park	PE29 6DB	Trim trail	Council	One trim trail.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
152	Stukeley Meadows Trim Trail	PE29 6EW	Trim trail	Council	One trim trail.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
152	Stukeley Meadows Trim Trail	PE29 6EW	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
153	Stanton Butt Trim Trail	PE29 6XE	Trim trail	Council	One trim trail.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
167	Godmanchester Queens Walk Play Area	PE29 2BA	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
169	Brampton Park	PE28 4QQ	Football	Council	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch currently being developed. The pitches are currently waiting for sign off, when judged to be at a standard required for formal play.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
169	Brampton Park	PE28 4QQ	Tennis	Council	Two brand new tennis courts developed. Courts not officially open for use, waiting for sign off.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
169	Brampton Park	PE28 4QQ	MUGA	Council	One brand new MUGA developed. Court is not officially open for use, waiting for sign off.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

NORTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	North East	Adult	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
		Youth 11v11	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session
		Mini 7v7	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 5v5	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
	Huntingdonshire	Adult	Spare capacity of 6 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent session
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
3G	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon and St Neots Analysis Areas.	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon (x2), St Ives and St Neots Analysis Area.
Cricket	North East	Saturday	Shortfall of 9 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 19 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 19 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 21 match equivalent sessions a season
	Huntingdonshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions a season

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

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 112 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 62 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 45 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 15 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	North East	Senior	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
	Huntingdonshire	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Huntingdonshire	Provision	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives.	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives. Need to offer access to rugby union pitches for rugby league use through summer if/when demand is reinstated.
Hockey	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient quantity	Insufficient quantity
Tennis	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.
Netball	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.
Bowls	Huntingdonshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
MUGAs	Huntingdonshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area
Other sports	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Abbey College	PE26 1DG	Cricket	Education	One standard quality standalone NTP, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
1	Abbey College	PE26 1DP	Hockey AGP	Council	One standard quality small sided (50x35m) sand based AGP pitch, with sports lighting. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EH	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
19	Drovers Close	PE26 2TX	Football	Community Organisation	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is unused and currently has spare capacity of one MES per week, however due to poor pitch quality this spare capacity has been discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Community Organisation HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
19	Drovers Close	PE26 2TX	Outdoor gym	Community Organisation	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Community Organisation	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
19	Drovers Close	PE26 2TX	Trim trail	Community Organisation	One trim trail.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Community Organisation	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
19	Drovers Close	PE26 2TX	MUGA	Community Organisation	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
68	Millennium Sports Pavilion	PE28 3JS	Football	Parish Council	Two adult and one mini 7v7 pitches of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitches have spare capacity of one MES per week, with actual spare capacity of one MES, however this is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week, however it is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
68	Millennium Sports Pavilion	PE28 3JS	Cricket	Parish Council	Previously accommodated a grass wicket square consisting of nine wickets. The site is still utilised for football but has not been used for cricket since 2017.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitches.	Parish Council CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
70	Norwood Playing Field	PE28 3HE	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is unused and currently has spare capacity of one MES per week, however due to poor pitch quality this spare capacity has been discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
70	Norwood Playing Field	PE28 3HE	Tennis	Parish Council	Two poor quality macadam courts with sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
70	Norwood Playing Field	PE28 3HE	Outdoor gym	Parish Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
73	One Leisure Ramsey	PE26 1DP	3G	Council	One good quality full size (100x60m) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is on the FA Pitch Register. The pitch has 32% spare capacity midweek and 87% spare capacity on weekends.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Explore the opportunity to make use of weekend spare capacity for competitive match demand.	Council HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
85	Ramsey Cricket Club	PE26 1BG	Football	Sport Club	One standard quality adult pitch. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitch has spare capacity of one MES per week, however, pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
85	Ramsey Cricket Club	PE26 1BG	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square which consists of ten grass wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of good quality. Square is overplayed by nine MES per season. Two lane fixed net facility of good quality.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports Club CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
91	Somersham Town Football Club	PE28 3EN	Football	Sport Club	One standard quality adult pitch. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitch has spare capacity of one MES per week, however, pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
110	Tom Jones Memorial Fields	PE26 1EF	Football	Sport Club	One adult, two youth 11v11, two youth 9v9m two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all of good quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Site is part of the GPMF. All pitches are played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Continue to utilise GPMF to ensure improvements to pitches are sustained through a dedicated and specific maintenance programme.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
113	Warboys Community Primary School	PE28 2RX	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of poor quality. No dedicated ancillary provision onsite. Mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week, however this is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary provision onsite if required.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
114	Warboys Sports Field	PE28 2TN	Football	Community Organisation	<p>One adult (with sports lighting) and one youth 9v9 pitch of good quality. One youth 11v11 and one mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality.</p> <p>Youth pitches have minimal actual spare capacity and all others are played to capacity. Warboys Town FC highlights there is a need to upgrade the changing facilities in order to meet regulations if the team is to progress further up the National League System (NLS). This upgrade would include, bigger changing rooms, with a clear access route to the playing surface.</p> <p>The Club highlights that this may require the development of a new permanent structure alongside the social club onsite.</p>	<p>Look to sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of developing required ancillary provision to support Warboys Town FC progress up the NLS.</p>	Community organisation HFA FF	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
114	Warboys Sports Field	PE28 2TN	Cricket	Community Organisation	<p>One good quality square which consists of 11 grass wickets and one NTP.</p> <p>Ancillary provision of poor quality. The football club onsite plans to develop ancillary provision, the facilities would be available for the cricket club onsite.</p> <p>Square has actual spare capacity of 27 MES per season, with actual spare capacity to cater for additional demand on Sundays and midweek. Two lane fixed net facility of standard quality.</p>	<p>Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision.</p>	Community Organisation CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
129	Ramsey Golf & Bowls Club	PE26 1DD	Bowls	Sports Club	<p>One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality.</p> <p>Ramsey BC is currently operating above the recommended membership.</p>	<p>Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Monitor Ramsey BC membership to ensure that the clubs demand can be met.</p>	Sports Club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
131	Somersham Town BC	PE28 3JA	Bowls	Sports Club	<p>One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality.</p> <p>The kitchen facilities onsite are currently outdated and the Club has plans to refurbish the facility. It has received funding for this and plans to complete the project in late 2022.</p>	<p>Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision.</p> <p>Monitor Ramsey BC membership to ensure that the clubs demand can be met.</p>	Sports Club BE	Local	L	M	L-M	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					Somersham Town BC is currently operating above the recommended membership.							
137	The White Hart	PE28 2TA	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of poor quality.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision	Sports Club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
143	Ramsey Outdoor Gym	PE26 1EW	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
144	Upwood Cricket Club	PE26 2QQ	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square which consists of seven grass wickets and one good quality junior square which consist of five grass wickets. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Main square has no actual spare capacity to cater for additional demand. Junior square is overplayed by seven MES per season. Two lane fixed net facility of good quality.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision.	Sports Club CE ECB	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance
149	Adam Lyons Playground	PE28 2RJ	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
163	Farm Close MUGA	PE26 2QB	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
166	Bury Village Hall	PE26 2LH	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
168	Ramsey Tennis Club	PE26 1DP	Tennis	Sports Club	Two macadam courts of good quality with sports lighting. Two artificial turf and two macadam courts of standard quality with no sports lighting.	Look to improve and sustain court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports Club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

NORTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	North West	Adult	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent session
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session
	Huntingdonshire	Adult	Spare capacity of 6 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent session
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
3G	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon and St Neots Analysis Areas.	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon (x2), St Ives and St Neots Analysis Area.
Cricket	North West	Saturday	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 10 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 10 match equivalent sessions a season	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 5 match equivalent sessions a season	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
	Huntingdonshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions a season

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

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 112 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 62 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 45 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 15 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	North West	Senior	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
	Huntingdonshire	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Huntingdonshire	Provision	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives.	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives. Need to offer access to rugby union pitches for rugby league use through summer if/when demand is reinstated.
Hockey	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient quantity	Insufficient quantity
Tennis	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.
Netball	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.
Bowls	Huntingdonshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
MUGAs	Huntingdonshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area
Other sports	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
2	Abbots Ripton Cricket Club	PE28 2PF	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Actual spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
2	Abbots Ripton Cricket Club	PE28 2PF	Cricket	Parish Council	Previously accommodated a seven wicket grass square. Abbots Ripton CC left the site and has now merged with Hemingford Park CC and play at Hemingford Pavilion. The square is still protected onsite, however, there is currently no demand for its use. The site is still actively used for football and therefore the site is not disused.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitches.	Parish Council CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
3	Academy Leisure Sawtry	PE28 5UY	Hockey AGP	Education	One poor quality small sized (48x35m) sand based AGP with sports lighting and available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to resurface pitch.	School EH	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance
3	Academy Leisure Sawtry	PE28 5UY	3G	Education	Site has been identified in the LFFP as a priority site for the development of a full size 3G pitch. At present the development of this pitch is currently progressing.	In line with LFFP and PPOSS findings explore the feasibility of creating a full size 3G pitch on the site. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	M-H	S-M	H	Provide
23	Elton Cricket Club (Closed)	PE8 6RU	Cricket	Sport Club	Previously accommodated a six wicket grass cricket square, satellite evidence suggests that the site ceased maintenance between 2009-2016. The Club is looking to re-establish the facility.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitches. Explore opportunity to reinstate provision onsite, if required.	Parish Council CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
35	Great Gidding Recreation Ground	PE28 5PB	Football	Community Organisation	One adult and one mini 7v7 pitch of poor quality. No dedicated ancillary provision onsite. Both pitches are currently unused and actual spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary provision onsite if required.	Community Organisation HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
40	Greenfields	PE28 5XN	Football	Community Organisation	One adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all of good quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES at peak time. All other pitches played to capacity.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop and improve the ancillary provision onsite supporting the Sawtry Parish Council in its clubhouse project.	Community Organisation HFA FF	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
40	Greenfields	PE28 5XN	Cricket	Community Organisation	One square of standard quality which consists of 11 grass wickets. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Square has spare capacity of 18 MES per season, with actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sunday and Midweek. Sawtry Parish Council is currently overseeing the update of the pavilion and is drafting plans for the development, with views to complete the upgrade in the next two years.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop and improve the ancillary provision onsite supporting the Sawtry Parish Council in its clubhouse project.	Community Organisation CE ECB	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
60	Leading Drove	PE7 3NA	Football	Sport Club	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by two MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch has spare capacity of one MES per week, which is potential actual spare capacity, however this is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time.	Sports Club HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
60	Leading Drove	PE7 3NA	3G	Sports Club	One good quality full size (100x60m) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is on the FA Pitch Register, with the accreditation expiring in the 31/05/2023. Pitch has spare capacity of 13% during the week and spare capacity of 19% on the weekends.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	Sports Club HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
66	Middletons Road Recreational Ground	PE7 3LR	Football	Parish Council	Two adult pitches of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitches have spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week, with actual spare capacity of one MES at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
66	Middletons Road Recreational Ground	PE7 3LR	3G	Parish Council	One standard quality small sided (50x37m) 3G pitch with sports lighting and available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	Parish Council HFA FF		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
66	Middletons Road Recreational Ground	PE7 3LR	Cricket	Parish Council	One standard quality standalone NTP.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Parish Council CE, ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
66	Middletons Road Recreational Ground	PE7 3LR	Outdoor gym	Parish Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Parish Council		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
66	Middletons Road Recreational Ground	PE7 3LR	MUGA	Parish Council	One poor quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Parish Council		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
80	Queens Park (Yaxley)	PE7 3LX	Football	Parish Council	Two adult, two youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches all of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Adult pitches have spare capacity of one MES per week which is actual spare capacity at peak time. Youth 9v9 pitches have spare capacity of four MES per week with two MES of actual spare capacity at peak time. Mini 7v7 pitches have spare capacity of 6.5 MES per week, with actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to make use of actual spare capacity that the site offers if required.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
89	Sawtry Village Academy	PE28 5TQ	Football	Education	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
104	Stilton Village Playing Fields	PE7 3RA	Football	Parish Council	One adult and one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by 1.5 MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitch which is unused and has four MES of spare capacity per week, with one MES of actual spare capacity at peak time. Stilton Colts United FC reports a lack of storage onsite. In recent years its goalposts and nets have been vandalised and the Club believes that additional storage space help to combat this issue.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to make use of actual spare capacity that the site offers if required. Explore the feasibility to place additional storage onsite for Stilton Colts United FC to allow the Club space for additional storage for its club equipment onsite.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
135	The Bell	PE28 5UY	Bowls	Private	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality. Sawtry & District BC is currently operating above the recommended membership.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Monitor Sawtry & District BC membership to ensure that the clubs demand can be met.	Private BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
136	The Farmers	PE7 3NT	Bowls	Private	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Private BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
154	Hadaway Field, Farcet	PE7 3AJ	Outdoor gym	Parish Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
159	Abbots Ripton Primary C of E	PE28 2LT	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam netball court with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
161	Sawtry Junior Academy	PE28 5SH	Netball	Education	Two poor quality macadam netball courts with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
165	Swynford Road	PE28 4XH	MUGA	Council	One good quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

ST IVES ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	St Ives	Spare capacity of 6.5 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 5 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 6.5 match equivalent session
		Shortfall of 4 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 4.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 4 match equivalent sessions
		<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session
		<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
	Huntingdonshire	Adult	Spare capacity of 6 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent session
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
3G	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon and St Neots Analysis Areas.	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon (x2), St Ives and St Neots Analysis Area.
Cricket	St Ives	Saturday	Spare capacity of 10 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 10 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 60 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 50 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 25 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 20 match equivalent sessions a season

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

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
	Huntingdonshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 112 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 62 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 45 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 15 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	St Ives	Senior	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
	Huntingdonshire	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives.</i>	<i>No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives. Need to offer access to rugby union pitches for rugby league use through summer if/when demand is reinstated.</i>
Hockey	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient quantity	Insufficient quantity
Tennis	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.
Netball	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.
Bowls	Huntingdonshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
MUGAs	Huntingdonshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Other sports	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
6	Bluntisham Village Hall & Recreation Ground	PE28 3LR	Football	Parish Council	One adult, one youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 all of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Youth 11v11 pitch is played to capacity. Mini 7v7 pitch is overplayed by one MES per week.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
6	Bluntisham Village Hall & Recreation Ground	PE28 3LR	Cricket	Parish Council	One square of good quality, which consists of 14 grass wickets. Ancillary provision of good quality. Square has spare capacity of 46 MES per season, with actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sunday and Midweek. Two lane fixed net facility of good quality.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Parish Council CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
6	Bluntisham Village Hall & Recreation Ground	PE28 3LR	Trim trail	Parish Council	One trim trail.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
6	Bluntisham Village Hall & Recreation Ground	PE28 3LR	Outdoor gym	Parish Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
18	Daintree Green	PE28 9DZ	Football	Sport Club	One adult pitch of poor quality. No dedicated ancillary provision. Adult pitch is played to capacity.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary provision onsite if required	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance
20	Earith Recreational Field	PE28 3QP	Football	Trust	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is unused it currently has spare capacity of one MES per week which is actual spare capacity however this is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Trust HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
20	Earith Recreational Field	PE28 3QP	MUGA	Trust	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Trust	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
29	Fenstanton & Hilton Primary School	PE28 9JR	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality. Available for community use. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site offers unsecure tenure for Fenstanton FC. Youth 9v9 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week, however pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Look to secure tenure for Fenstanton FC through community use agreement.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
30	Fenstanton Football Club	PE28 9JH	Football	Sport Club	One adult, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of poor quality. One youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Mini 5v5 pitch has actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality. All other pitches are played to capacity. Fenstanton FC/Youth has drawn up plans to develop a new pavilion onsite, the building would include four changing rooms with contained shower and toilets, officials' rooms, storage, public toilets, function room and kitchen.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility to develop new ancillary provision onsite.	Sport Club HFA FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
30	Fenstanton Football Club	PE28 9JH	Cricket	Sports Club	Previously had a six wicket grass square onsite. However, the pitch has not been in use since circa 2008 and is now marked for football and used actively by Fenstanton FC.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitches.	Sports Club CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
43	Hemingford Grey Primary School	PE28 9DU		Education	One mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality. Available for community use. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site offers unsecure tenure for Hemingford Colts FC. Mini 5v5 pitch has spare capacity of 2.5 MES per week, however, pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Look to secure tenure for Hemingford Colts FC through community use agreement.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
44	Hemingford Pavilion	PE28 9DL	Football	Community Organisation	Two adult pitches of standard quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitches have spare capacity of two MES per week, with actual spare capacity at peak time of one MES.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Community Organisation HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
44	Hemingford Pavilion	PE28 9DL	Cricket	Community Organisation	One square of standard quality which consists of nine grass wickets. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Square has spare capacity of 13 MES per season. There is actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Saturday, Sunday and Midweek.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Community Organisation CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
44	Hemingford Pavilion	PE28 9DL	Bowls	Community Organisation	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Community Organisation BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
44	Hemingford Pavilion	PE28 9DL	Tennis	Community Organisation	Three good quality artificial turf courts with no sports lighting and available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
49	Houghton and Wyton Playing Field	PE28 2BJ	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Pitch is played to capacity.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Parish Council HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
49	Houghton and Wyton Playing Field	PE28 2BJ	Cricket	Parish Council	One square of standard quality which consists of six wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square has spare capacity of six MES per season. The square has actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams Midweek. Whilst, it has potential actual spare capacity to accommodate further Saturday and Sunday teams however, due to lack of MES the actual spare capacity is discounted. Two lane fixed net facility of poor quality. A grant application has been submitted for nets groundwork with investment required in the matting due to the quality due to age and holes which are starting to form due to heavy use.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Once square quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Look to improve or resurface fixed net facility.	Parish Council CE ECB	Key centre	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance
49	Houghton and Wyton Playing Field	PE28 2BJ	Bowls	Parish Council	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Parish Council BE	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
49	Houghton and Wyton Playing Field	PE28 2BJ	Tennis	Parish Council	Two standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. Houghton and Wyton TC reports it currently has demand to develop sports lighting on one of its existing courts onsite. With the courts currently at capacity due to club members.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop sports lighting onsite.	Parish Council LTA	Key centre	L	M-L	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
67	Mill Field	PE27 4TF	Football	Parish Council	Four adult and one mini 7v7 pitch all of good quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Adult pitches have actual spare capacity of 3.5 MES at peak time. Mini 7v7 is played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to utilise actual spare capacity on adult pitches if required.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
67	Mill Field	PE27 4TF	Cricket	Parish Council	One square of Standard quality which consist of eight wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of good quality. Square has spare capacity of 15 MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sundays and Midweek. Two lane fixed net facility of standard quality.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Parish Council CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	PE27 6SJ	Football	Council	Three adult, two youth 11v11, four youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches all of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Pitches are a part of the GPMF. Adult pitches have spare capacity of five MES per week, with actual spare capacity of 3.5 MES at peak time. Youth 11v11 pitches are overplayed by four MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitches have spare capacity of three MES per week and mini 7v7 pitches have spare capacity of 5.5 MES per week, both pitch types are plated to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Continue to utilise GPMF to ensure improvements to pitches are made through a dedicated and specific maintenance programme. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Council HFA FF	Hub site	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	PE27 6SJ	3G	Council	One standard quality full size (100x60m) 3G pitch with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is on the FA 3G pitch register. Pitch has spare capacity of 18% during the week and spare capacity of 62% on the weekends. The site has been identified as a potential location for a second 3G pitch, to help cater for shortfalls of 3G pitches in St Ives.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Explore the opportunity to develop a second 3G pitch onsite to cater for future shortfalls in St Ives. Explore the opportunity to make use of weekend spare capacity for competitive match demand.	Sports Club	Hub site	M-H	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance Provide

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	PE27 6SJ	Cricket	Council	One square of good quality which consist of 14 wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square has spare capacity of 39 MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sundays and Midweek. Three lane fixed net facility of standard quality.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Look to improve or resurface fixed net facility when required.	Council CE ECB	Hub site	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	PE27 6SJ	Hockey AGP	Council	One standard quality full size (100x60m) sand based AGP, with sports lighting and available for community use. The pitch has spare capacity of 33%. The pitch is due for resurfacing with it being close to the end of its lifespan and close to becoming poor quality. There are plans to resurface the pitch, however no date has been set.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to resurface the pitch as soon as possible to ensure the surface does not become unplayable.	Council EH	Hub site	H	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	PE27 6SJ	Athletics	Council	One standard quality six lane 400m polymeric athletics track with sports lighting and available for community use. Huntingdonshire AC has been tasked to gain quotes for inspection of the track, field and sports lights. It reports that the track is wearing and is coming to the end of its life. It suggests that if the track does not meet requirements for a three year competition license, then the track will need a full replacement.	Look to improve track quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to resurface the track if/when the track is ready to ensure that the track meets requirements to get a competition license.	Council EA	Hub site	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	PE27 6SJ	Tennis	Council	Two poor quality macadam courts with sports lighting. The courts are due to be resurfaced in January/February 2023.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Ensure courts are resurfaced and maintained to a good quality.	Council LTA	Hub site	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
74	One Leisure St Ives Outdoor	PE27 6SJ	Netball	Council	Two poor quality macadam netball courts with sports lighting. Overmarked on tennis courts. The courts are due to be resurfaced in January/February 2023.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Ensure courts are resurfaced and maintained to a good quality.	Council EN	Hub site	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
83	RAF Wyton	PE28 2EA	Football	MOD	One adult pitch of standard quality. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for MOD use.	MOD HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
83	RAF Wyton	PE28 2EA	Rugby union	MOD	One senior rugby union pitch of M1/D1 (standard) quality. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for MOD use.	MOD RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
83	RAF Wyton	PE28 2EA	Hockey AGP	MOD	One standard quality full size (100x60m) sand based AGP with sports lighting unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for MOD use.	MOD EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
95	St Ives Rugby Union Football Club	PE27 3LY	Rugby union	Sports Club	One senior rugby union pitch of M1/D2 (standard) quality (with sports lighting), one senior pitch of M1/D1 (standard) quality and one senior pitch of M1/D0 (poor) quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. M1/D2 senior pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Whilst both the M1/D1 and M1/D0 pitches are overplayed by one MES per week. The senior pitches onsite previously have been marked in the summer for rugby league.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/ drainage improvement. Explore the opportunity to utilise the senior pitches for rugby league if required in the future.	Sports Club RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
96	St Ives Town Football Club	PE27 6DT	3G	Sport Club	One good quality full size (105x70m) 3G stadia pitch, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is on the FA Pitch Register, with the accreditation expiring in the 31/05/2023. Pitch has spare capacity of 18% during the week and spare capacity of 53% on the weekends.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Explore the opportunity to make use of weekend spare capacity for competitive match demand.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
97	St Ivo Academy	PE27 6RR	Cricket	Education	One poor quality standalone NTP, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued use.	School CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
97	St Ivo Academy	PE27 6RR	Tennis	Education	Six standard quality macadam courts, three with sports lighting three without sports lighting. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
116	Warners Park	PE27 5JR	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch of poor quality. Pitch has no support ancillary provision. Adult pitch is unused and currently has spare capacity of one MES per week, however due to poor pitch quality this spare capacity has been discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary provision onsite if required.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
117	Westfield Junior School	PE27 5RG	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam netball courts, with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
121	Fenstanton BC	PE28 9JG	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Sports Club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
126	Needingworth Village Hall	PE27 4TU	Bowls	Parish Council	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Parish Council BE	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
126	Needingworth Village Hall	PE27 4TU	Tennis	Parish Council	Three good quality macadam courts, two with sports lighting one without sports lighting. Needingworth TC aspires to install sports lights on the third court. Needingworth TC reports that in recent years it has submitted proposals to the Parish Council to develop a new pavilion. However, the Parish Council has not granted permission for the development.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop sports lighting on third court. Explore the feasibility to develop a new clubhouse for Needingworth TC onsite. Working with the Parish Council to gain permission.	Parish Council LTA	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
126	Needingworth Village Hall	PE27 4TU	MUGA	Parish Council	One standard quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Parish Council	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
126	Needingworth Village Hall	PE27 4TU	Outdoor gym	Parish Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Parish Council	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
127	Priory Road Bowling Green	PE27 5GA	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality. St Ives BC reports a need for the electrics and heating systems to be updated in the clubhouse.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to upgrade the electrics and heating systems in the clubhouse.	Parish Council BE	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
148	Wyton on the Hill MUGA	PE28 2EX	MUGA	MOD	One MUGA onsite within the RAF Wyton base.	Improve and sustain court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued MOD use.	MOD	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

ST NEOTS ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	St Neots	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent session
	Huntingdonshire	Adult	Spare capacity of 6 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent session
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
3G	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon and St Neots Analysis Areas.	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon (x2), St Ives and St Neots Analysis Area.
Cricket	St Neots	Saturday	Shortfall of 6 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 16 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 4 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 4 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 4 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent sessions a season
	Huntingdonshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 112 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 62 match equivalent sessions a season

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

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 45 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 15 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	St Neots	Senior	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent sessions
	Huntingdonshire	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Huntingdonshire	Provision	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives.	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives. Need to offer access to rugby union pitches for rugby league use through summer if/when demand is reinstated.
Hockey	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient quantity	Insufficient quantity
Tennis	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.
Netball	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.
Bowls	Huntingdonshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
MUGAs	Huntingdonshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area
Other sports	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
11	Buckden Recreation Ground	PE19 5UY	Football	Trust	One adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Mini 5v5 pitch is overplayed by one MES per week. Both youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches are played to capacity. Buckden JFC aspires to refurbish and improve ancillary provision onsite.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Trust HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
11	Buckden Recreation Ground	PE19 5UY	Cricket	Trust	One square of standard quality which consist of nine wickets. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Square has spare capacity of ten MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sundays and Midweek.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Trust CE ECB	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
11	Buckden Recreation Ground	PE19 5UY	Bowls	Trust	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Trust BE	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
11	Buckden Recreation Ground	PE19 5UY	Tennis	Trust	Four good quality macadam courts with sports lighting available for community use. Buckden TC has had costings for the re-design of the clubhouse as it plans to change and add facilities. The Club wishes to add a larger social room and extension of clubhouse. The Club suggests this is aspirational and needs to secure funding.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to extend and improve ancillary provision onsite.	Trust LTA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
17	Crosshall Junior School	PE19 7GG	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam netball courts with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
21	Eaton Socon Cricket Club	PE19 8HY	Cricket	Sport Club	One square of good quality which consists of 14 grass wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square has spare capacity of six MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams Midweek. Two lane fixed net facility of good quality.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Sports Club CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
22	Eaton Sports Ground	PE19 7AU	Football	Sport Club	One good quality adult pitch. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is a part of the GPMF. Adult pitch has spare capacity of one MES per week, however, is played to capacity at peak time. Eaton Socon FC has plans to update and improve its ancillary provision.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Continue to utilise GPMF to ensure improvements to pitches are sustained through a dedicated and specific maintenance programme. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
25	Ernulf Academy	PE19 2SH	Football	Education	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
25	Ernulf Academy	PE19 2SH	Cricket	Education	One poor quality standalone NTP. Unavailable for community use	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
25	Ernulf Academy	PE19 2SH	Tennis	Council/Education	Six standard quality macadam tennis courts with sports lighting and available for community use. Managed by the One Leisure St Neots team.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council Education LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
25	Ernulf Academy	PE19 2SH	Netball	Council/Education	Three standard quality macadam netball courts with sports lighting and available for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts. Managed by the One Leisure St Neots team.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council Education EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
27	Eynesbury Rovers Football Club	PE19 2SF	Football	Sports Club	One adult (Step pitch), two youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of good quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is a part of the GPMF. Mini 7v7 pitches have actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES at peak time. All other pitches are played to capacity. Eynesbury Rovers FC highlights a need to modernise its clubhouse including a need for specific women's and girls' facilities.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Continue to utilise GPMF to ensure improvements to pitches are sustained through a dedicated and specific maintenance programme. Explore the opportunity to develop ancillary provision onsite, including dedicated women's and girls' facilities.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
36	Great Gransden Sports And Recreation Ground	SG19 3BG	Football	Community Organisation	One adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all of poor quality. No dedicated ancillary provision onsite. Adult pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week, mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week, mini 5v5 pitches have spare capacity of 3.5 MES per week, all these pitches have actual spare capacity, however, are discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary provision onsite.	Community Organisation HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
36	Great Gransden Sports And Recreation Ground	SG19 3BG	Tennis	Community Organisation	Three good quality macadam courts, with sports lighting and available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation LTA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
38	Great Paxton Recreation Ground	PE19 6RF	Football	Community Organisation	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by 1.5 MES per week.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Community Organisation HFA FF		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
62	Little Paxton Hub	PE19 6QY	Football	Community Organisation	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Youth 9v9 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES, which is also actual spare capacity, however this is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time.	Community Organisation HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
63	Little Paxton Primary School	PE19 6NG	Netball	Education	One good quality macadam netball court. Unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
64	Longsands Academy	PE19 1LQ	Football	Education	One standard quality adult pitch. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
64	Longsands Academy	PE19 1LQ	Cricket	Education	One standard quality standalone NTP. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
64	Longsands Academy	PE19 1LQ	Rugby union	Education	Two senior rugby union pitches of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
64	Longsands Academy	PE19 1LQ	Hockey AGP	Education	One standard quality full size (100x60m) sand based AGP with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch has spare capacity of 20%. St Neots HC is considered to have unsecure tenure onsite.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to secure tenure onsite for St Neots HC through community use agreement.	Council EH	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
64	Longsands Academy	PE19 1LQ	Tennis	Education	Four standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
64	Longsands Academy	PE19 1LQ	Netball	Education	Four good quality and three poor quality macadam netball courts, with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
75	One Leisure St Neots	PE19 2SA	3G	Council	One good quality full size (101x65m) 3G pitch with sports lighting and available for community use. The pitch has a shock pad. Pitch is on the FA Pitch Register and is WR compliant. Pitch has spare capacity of 25% during the week and spare capacity of 87% on the weekends.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Explore the opportunity to make use of weekend spare capacity for competitive match demand.	Council HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
75	One Leisure St Neots	PE19 2SA	Hockey AGP	Council	One standard quality small sized (48x35m) sand based AGP, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch has been identified in the LFFP for development to a small sized 3G pitch.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop pitch into 3G surface. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	Council EH HFA FF	Key centre	M	M	M-H	Protect Enhance Provide
78	Priory Park	PE19 1LN	Football	Council	One adult, two youth 11v11, three youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all of poor quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Adult pitch is played to capacity. Youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity. Youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed. Mini pitches have actual spare capacity at peak time discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
79	Queen Elizabeth II Recreation Ground (Little Paxton)	PE19 6EY	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is unused and currently has spare capacity of one MES per week, however due to poor pitch quality this spare capacity has been discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
79	Queen Elizabeth II Recreation Ground (Little Paxton)	PE19 6EY	Cricket	Parish Council	One good quality standalone NTP.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Parish Council CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
79	Queen Elizabeth II Recreation Ground (Little Paxton)	PE19 6EY	Outdoor gym	Parish Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
79	Queen Elizabeth II Recreation Ground (Little Paxton)	PE19 6EY	MUGA	Parish Council	One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
99	St Neots Rugby Club	PE19 1RU	Football	Sport Club	One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 all of poor quality. No dedicated ancillary provision servicing football provision. Pitches are mix of overplayed, played to capacity and minimal spare capacity which is discounted due to poor quality. St Neots Town Youth FC currently accesses the site, however it has plans to move off site to a development within Loves Farm East.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary provision onsite. Support St Neots Town Youth FC in accessing and developing a new site at Loves Farm East.	Sports Club HFA FF	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
99	St Neots Rugby Club	PE19 1RU	Rugby union	Sports Club	Two senior, one junior and three mini rugby union pitches all of M1/D1 (standard) quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Senior and junior pitches are overplayed. Mini pitches are played to capacity at peak time. St Neots RUFC aspires to redevelop the clubhouse improving the kitchen and changing facilities, whilst also updating and improving disabled access. St Neots RUFC aspires to develop additional sports lighting on training pitch to support midweek training demand.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/drainage improvement. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to develop additional sports lighting onsite.	Sports Club RFU	Key centre	L-M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance
101	St Neots Town Football Club	PE19 6SL	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch (Step pitch with sports lighting). Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week, it has potential spare capacity at peak time, however this is discounted to protect step pitch quality. St Neots Town FC reports that its current ancillary facilities does not offer any dedicated women's and girls' facilities.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop ancillary provision onsite, with the redevelopment of the changing block to include women's and girls' changing facilities.	Sports Club HFA FF	Key centre	M	S-M	M	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
101	St Neots Town Football Club	PE19 6SL	3G	Sports Club	One good quality full size (107x69m) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is on the FA 3G pitch register. Pitch has spare capacity of 17% during the week and is played to capacity on weekends.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	Sports Club HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
115	Waresley Cricket Club	SG19 3BS	Cricket	Sports Club	One square of standard quality which consists of 14 wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square is overplayed by six MES per season. Square improvements would create actual spare capacity to accommodate an additional midweek team.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Once square quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity if required.	Sports Club CE ECB	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
123	Great Gransden Bowls & Tennis	SG19 3PF	Bowls	Sports Club	One poor quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Gransden & District BC lease of the site expires in 2025.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Look to secure the future of the site for Gransden & District BC through extension to the lease.	Sports Club BE	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
123	Great Gransden Bowls & Tennis	SG19 3PF	MUGA	Sports Club	One good quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
130	Eynesbury Bowling Club	PE19 2XQ	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Look to secure the future of the site for Gransden & District BC through extension to the lease.	Sports Club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
133	St Neots Lawn Tennis Club (& bowls)	PE19 1AP	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green with sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports Club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		Four good quality macadam court with sports lighting and available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports Club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
140	Sidney Banks Memorial Field	PE19 2GA	Football	Council	Two youth 9v9 pitches of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Youth 9v9 pitches have spare capacity of 1.5 MES, with actual spare capacity at peak time, however this is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
141	Loves Farm MUGA	PE19 6SL	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
142	Eaton Socon Bowls Club	PE19 7SB	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Eaton Socon BC lease of the site expires in 2025.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Look to secure the future of the site for Eaton Socon BC through extension to the lease.	Sports Club BE	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
145	Plummer Park	PE28 0BN	Trim trail	Council	One trim trail.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
156	Southoe MUGA	PE19 5YE	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
157	Yelling Cricket Club	PE19 6SD	Cricket	Sports Club	Previously accommodated a six-wicket grass square. The Club has not competed in 2022, with players travelling to other nearby clubs to take part in cricket activity. The Club has made no statements around re-instating cricket.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitches.	Sports Club CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
160	Barnabas Oley Primary School	SG19 3AE	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam netball court with no sports lighting. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
164	Duck Lane	PE19 2DA	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

WEST ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	West	Adult	Spare capacity of 2.5 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Youth 9v9	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 7v7	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 5v5	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent session
	Huntingdonshire	Adult	Spare capacity of 6 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent session
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
		Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
3G	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon and St Neots Analysis Areas.	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Huntingdon (x2), St Ives and St Neots Analysis Area.
Cricket	West	Saturday	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 2 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season
	Huntingdonshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 112 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 62 match equivalent sessions a season

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

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2036)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 45 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 15 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	West	Senior	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
	Huntingdonshire	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Huntingdonshire	Provision	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives.	No active teams, however, demand exists in St Ives. Need to offer access to rugby union pitches for rugby league use through summer if/when demand is reinstated.
Hockey	Huntingdonshire	Full size, floodlit	Insufficient quantity	Insufficient quantity
Tennis	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only Needingworth TC currently has capacity issues.
Netball	Huntingdonshire	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the District.
Bowls	Huntingdonshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
MUGAs	Huntingdonshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Huntingdon Analysis Area
Other sports	Huntingdonshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity</i>

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
5	Alconbury Sports and Social Club	PE28 4EX	Football	Community Organisation	One adult of standard quality. One adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 all of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Actual spare capacity on adult and youth pitches discounted due to poor pitch quality. Mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once pitch quality is improved look to make use of actual spare capacity available at peak time. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Community Organisation HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
5	Alconbury Sports and Social Club	PE28 4EX	3G	Community Organisation	One standard quality small sized (40x20m) 3G pitch with sports lighting and available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
5	Alconbury Sports and Social Club	PE28 4EX	Cricket	Community Organisation	One square of standard quality, which consists of nine wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square has spare capacity of five MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams Midweek.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Community Organisation CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
15	Catworth Playing Field	PE28 0PE	Football	Community Organisation	One adult and one youth 11v11 of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Adult pitch has spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week, with actual spare capacity of one MES at peak time. Youth 11v11 pitch is unused and offers spare capacity of two MES per week, actual spare capacity of one MES at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Look to make use of actual spare capacity if required.	Community Organisation HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
15	Catworth Playing Field	PE28 0PE	MUGA	Community Organisation	One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
34	Grafham Recreation Ground	PE28 0GA	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is unused, with spare capacity of two MES per week, with actual spare capacity of one MES at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Look to make use of actual spare capacity if required.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
34	Grafham Recreation Ground	PE28 0GA	Cricket	Parish Council	Previously accommodated a five wicket squares. However, the site has not been maintained nor used for cricket since 2017.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitches.	Parish Council CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
34	Grafham Recreation Ground	PE28 0GA	MUGA	Parish Council	One good quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect
39	Great Staughton Playing Fields	PE19 5BG	Cricket	Community Organisation	Previously accommodated a five wicket squares. However, the site has not been maintained nor used for cricket since 2017. One lane fixed net facility of poor quality.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitches. Look to improve fixed net facility.	Community Organisation CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
39	Great Staughton Playing Fields	PE19 5BG	Tennis	Community Organisation	Two poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
41	Hail Weston Playing Fields	PE19 5JT	Football	Council	Previously had a formally marked football pitch. In recent years the site has undergone some development, with an informal pitch of mini 7v7 size currently having no markings, however goal posts are installed.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitches. Look to improve fixed net facility.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
41	Hail Weston Playing Fields	PE19 5JT	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
41	Hail Weston Playing Fields	PE19 5JT	MUGA	Council	One standard quality half size MUGA, with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
41	Hail Weston Playing Fields	PE19 5JT	Trim trail	Council	One trim trail.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
46	HMP Littlehey	PE28 0SS	3G	Government	Two standard quality small size (60x40m) 3G pitches with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Government HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
54	Kimbolton Cricket Club	PE28 0HR	Cricket	Sport Club	One square of good quality which consists of 13 wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square is overplayed by three MES per season. Two lane fixed net facility of standard quality. Kimbolton CC aspires to have additional net facility onsite.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to develop additional fixed net facilities onsite.	Sports Club CE EC	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
54	Kimbolton Cricket Club	PE28 0HR	Outdoor gym	Sports Club	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
55	Kimbolton Prep School	PE28 0JJ	Cricket	Education	One square of good quality which consists of eight wickets. Two good quality standalone NTPs. Unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
55	Kimbolton Prep School	PE28 0JJ	Tennis	Education	Three good quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
56	Kimbolton School	PE28 0EA	Football	Education	Two adult and one youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
56	Kimbolton School	PE28 0EA	Cricket	Education	One square of good quality which consists of 11 wickets. One good quality standalone NTPs. Unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School CE ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
56	Kimbolton School	PE28 0EA	Hockey AGP	Education	One good quality full size (97x60m) sand based AGP with sports lighting. One standard quality full size (100x60m) sand based AGP with no sports lighting. One good quality small size (61x32m) sand based AGP with no sports lighting.	Sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					All are unavailable for community use.							
56	Kimbolton School	PE28 0EA	Tennis	Education	Five standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
56	Kimbolton School	PE28 0EA	Netball	Education	Two poor quality macadam netball courts with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
57	Kimbolton Town Colts FC	PE28 0HR	Football	Sport Club	One youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Youth 11v11 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week, however it is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Sports Club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
61	Leighton Playing Field	PE28 5AW	Tennis	Parish Council	One poor quality artificial turf court with no sports lighting, available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Parish Council LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
120	Ellington Recreation Ground	PE28 0AJ	MUGA	Council	One poor quality half size MUGA, with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
146	Kimbolton Village Hall	PE28 0HW	Trim trail	Council	One trim trail.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
147	Molesworth MUGA	PE28 0QD	MUGA	Council	One standard quality half size MUGA, with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
158	Grafham Play Area	PE28 0GD	Outdoor gym	Council	One outdoor gym.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
158	Grafham Play Area	PE28 0GD	Trim trail	Council	One trim trail.	Look to maintain and improve quality where required.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The PPOSS provides an estimate of future demand based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2036 (in line with the local plan for Huntingdonshire). For pitch sports, the Playing Pitch Calculator adds to this, updating the likely demand generated based on housing increases and converting this demand into match equivalent sessions and the potential number of pitches required. This is achieved by taking the current population and team generation rates identified in the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth. It then gives the associated costs that may be required to accommodate the increased demand.

There is an expectation from Sport England that the Calculator should be used as a guide by local authorities with a robust PPOSS in place to determine demand increases and to secure developer contributions. As such, the scenarios below provide examples, based on proposed housing growth in East Suffolk, to better show how the Playing Pitch Calculator works and to help understand the potential additional demand for pitch sports that may be generated from housing growth in the District. This is in addition to potential associated costs.

The scenario below is provided as a guide to show the potential additional demand for pitch sports that could be generated from housing growth in Huntingdonshire over the Local Plan period thus showing how the calculator works and what it provides.

◀ **Scenario 1:** ONS growth forecast over the Local Plan period (8,457 residents)

The demand is shown in match equivalent sessions per week for most sports, except for cricket, where match equivalent sessions are by season. Training demand is expressed in either hours or match equivalent sessions. Where expressed in hours, it is expected that demand will be to either a 3G pitch (to accommodate football demand) or an AGP (to accommodate hockey demand). Where expressed in match equivalent sessions, it is expected training will take place on floodlit grass pitches.

Scenario 1: Population growth over the Local Plan period

Table 7.1: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from population growth (8,457 residents)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport	
	Match equivalent sessions	Training demand
Adult football	1.91 per week	16.51 hours
Youth football	3.74 per week	
Mini soccer	2.61 per week	
Rugby union	0.66 per week	0.76 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.00 per week	0.00 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.50 per week	1.50 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.37 per week	0.35 hours
Cricket	42.50 per season	N/A

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The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifecycle costs (based on Sport England's Facility Cost Guidance). The total capital cost for accommodating the growth in demand equates to £1,452,977 for pitches and £2,250,357 for changing rooms. This is in addition to lifecycle costs of £210,178 per annum.

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	1.91	£191,176	£40,338	3.82	£659,557
Youth football	3.74	£299,118	£62,815	4.96	£854,924
Mini soccer	2.61	£65,131	£13,678	N/A	N/A
Rugby union	0.66	£92,749	£19,848	1.32	£228,561
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.91	£268,748	£54,287	1.82	£314,298
Sand based AGPs	0.12	£103,701	£3,215	0.25	£43,105
3G	0.43	£432,353	£15,997	0.87	£149,911

The findings of this scenario and the PPC need to be adjudged against the findings of the PPOSS to look at utilisation of existing spare capacity and the impact of improving existing provision before further provision is provided.

PART 8: DELIVER THE STRATEGY AND KEEP IT ROBUST AND UP TO DATE

Delivery

The PPOSS seeks to provide guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across Huntingdonshire. 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 Huntingdonshire 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 and maintained to ensure that outdoor sports facilities are regarded as a vital aspect of community life and which contribute to the achievement of Council priorities. The Strategy should therefore be regarded as part of the planning process, with the success of study and the benefits that are gained from it being 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 PPOSS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence.

To help ensure that the PPOSS is well used, it should be regarded as the key document within the study area, guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch and outdoor sports provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on the how current demand is being met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand, as well as when development proposals come forward or when funding bids are made. For this to be achieved, the Steering Group needs to have a clear understanding of how the PPOSS can be applied and therefore delivered.

The process of completing the PPOSS 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 PPOSS 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

Once the PPOSS is complete, it is advised that the Steering Group is kept together, with twice-yearly meetings recommended and often encouraged by Sport England and the NGBs. The purpose of these meetings is to:

- ◀ Act as a focal point for promoting the value and importance of the PPOSS and provision in the area.
- ◀ Monitor, evaluate and review progress with the delivery of the recommendations and action plan.
- ◀ Share lessons learnt from how the PPOSS has been used and how it has been applied to a variety of circumstances.
- ◀ Ensure the PPOSS is used effectively to input into any new opportunities to secure improved provision and influence relevant programmes and initiatives.
- ◀ Maintain links between all relevant parties with an interest provision in the area.
- ◀ Review the need to update the PPOSS along with the supply and demand information and assessment work on which it is based.

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Alongside regular steering group meetings, a good way to keep the strategy up to date and maintain relationships is to also hold sport specific meetings with the NGBs and other relevant parties. These 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.

The 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 also be fed in.

As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPOS being signed off, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider it and the information on which it is based to be out of date. The nature of the supply and in particular the demand for provision is likely to change year-on-year; therefore, without any form of review and update, it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.


A 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 PPOSS 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.

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Checklist

To help ensure the PPOSS 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 & deliver the strategy		
1. Are steering group members clear on how the PPS can be applied across a range of relevant areas?		
2. Is each member of the steering group committed to taking the lead to help ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence?		
3. Has a process been put in place to ensure regular monitoring of how the recommendations and action plan are being delivered and the PPS is being applied?		
Step 10: Keep the strategy robust & up to date		
1. Has a process been put in place to ensure the PPS is kept robust and up to date?		
2. Does the process involve an annual update of the PPS?		
3. Is the steering group to be maintained and is it clear of its on-going role?		
4. Is regular liaison with the 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: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

National context

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

Department of Media Culture and Sport 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: Uniting the Movement 2021

Sport and physical activity has a big role to play in improving the physical and mental health of the nation, supporting the economy, reconnecting communities and rebuilding a stronger society for all. From this notion, Sport England has recently released its new strategy, Uniting the Movement, its 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity.

It seeks to tackle the inequalities long seen in sport and physical activity. Providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity, has never been more important.

There are three key objectives to the Strategy:

- ◀ Advocating for movement, sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Joining forces on five big issues
- ◀ Creating the catalyst for change

In particular, the five big issues are identified where the greatest potential is seen for preventing and tackling inequalities in sport and physical activity. Each one is a building block that, on its own, would make a difference, but together, could change things profoundly:

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Recover and reinvent: Recovering from the biggest crisis in a generation and reinventing as a vibrant, relevant and sustainable network of organisations providing sport and physical activity opportunities that meet the needs of different people.

Connecting communities: Focusing on sport and physical activity's ability to make better places to live and bring people together.

Positive experiences for children and young people: Unrelenting focus on positive experiences for all children and young people as the foundations for a long and healthy life.

Connecting with health and wellbeing: Strengthening the connections between sport, physical activity, health and wellbeing, so more people can feel the benefits of, and advocate for, an active life.

Active environments: Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.

The specific impact of the Strategy will be captured through programmes funded, interventions made, and partnerships forged. For each specific area of action, a set of key performance indicators will be developed. This hybrid approach will help evidence the overall progress being made by all those involved in supporting sport and physical activity.

National Planning Policy Framework (2019)

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 Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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The FA: National Game Strategy (2018-2021)

The FA launched its new National Game Strategy in July 2018 which aims to inspire a life-long journey in football for all. To achieve this, the strategy will focus on five key aspects of the game:

- ◀ A high quality introduction to football
- ◀ Developing clubs and leagues
- ◀ Embrace all formats of football and engage all participants
- ◀ Recruit, develop and support the workforce
- ◀ Develop sustainable facilities

Through these five pillars, The FA's objectives are to:

- ◀ Increase the number of male affiliated and recreational players by 10%.
- ◀ Double the number of female affiliated and recreational players via a growth of 75%.
- ◀ Increase the number of disability affiliated and recreational players by 30%.
- ◀ Ensure affiliated Futsal is available across the country in order to increase the number of Futsal affiliated and recreational players.

The sustainable football facilities should provide support to an agreed portfolio of priority projects that meet National Football Facility Strategy (NFFS) investment priorities.

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

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

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

- ◀ ***Grow and nurture the core***
 - ◀ Create an infrastructure investment fund for First Class County Clubs (FCCs)
 - ◀ Introduce a new Community Investment Funding for FCCs and County Cricket Boards (CCBs)
 - ◀ Invest in club facilities
 - ◀ Develop the role of National Counties Cricket
 - ◀ Further invest in County Competitions
- ◀ ***Inspire through elite teams***
 - ◀ Increase investment in the county talent pathway
 - ◀ Incentivise the counties to develop England Players
 - ◀ Drive the performance system through technology and innovation
 - ◀ Create heroes and connect them with a new generation of fans
- ◀ ***Make cricket accessible***
 - ◀ Broaden crickets appeal through the New Competition
 - ◀ Create a new digital community for cricket
 - ◀ Install non-traditional playing facilities in urban areas
 - ◀ Continue to deliver South Asian Action Plans
 - ◀ Launch a new participation product, linked to the New Competition
- ◀ ***Engage children and young people***
 - ◀ Double cricket participation in primary schools
 - ◀ Deliver a compelling and coordinated recreational playing offer from age five upwards
 - ◀ Develop our safeguarding to promote safe spaces for children and young people

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- ◀ **Transform women's and girls' cricket**
 - ◀ Grow the base through participation and facilities investment
 - ◀ Launch centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure
 - ◀ Invest in girls' county age group cricket
 - ◀ Deliver a girls' secondary school programme
- ◀ **Support our communities**
 - ◀ Double the number of volunteers in the game
 - ◀ Create a game-wide approach to Trust and Foundations through the cricket network
 - ◀ Develop a new wave of officials and community coaches
 - ◀ Increase participation in disability cricket

The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

The RFU has released its new strategic vision for rugby in England. The strategy is based on four main elements which are; Protect, Engage, Grow and Win. It covers all elements of rugby union ranging from elite rugby to grassroots, although the general relevancy to the PPS is centred around growing the game.

The RFU exists to promote and develop rugby union in England and ensure the long-term sustainability of clubs by growing player numbers and retaining them across all age groups. Responding to wider market influences, work will continue on developing new ways to take part in all forms of the game, without comprising the sports traditions. This will ensure a lasting legacy from elite success by attracting new players and encouraging current male and female adult players to play.

The four key aims to ensure long term sustainability are to:

- ◀ Improve player transition from age grade to adult 15-a-side rugby
- ◀ Expand places to play through Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)
- ◀ Engage new communities in rugby
- ◀ Create a community 7's offering

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

The vision is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters'.

We know that delivering success on the international stage stimulates the nation's pride in their hockey team and, with the right events in place, we will attract interest from spectators, sponsors and broadcasters alike. The visibility that comes from our success and our occasions will inspire young people and adults to follow in the footsteps of their heroes and, if the right opportunities are there to meet their needs, they will play hockey and enjoy wonderful experiences.

Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes our sport function. We know the importance of our volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational our people can be, the more progressive we can be and the more befitting our facilities can be, the more we will achieve for our sport. EH will enable this to happen and we are passionate about our role within the sport. We will lead, support, counsel, focus and motivate the Hockey Nation and work tirelessly towards our vision.

As a governing body, we want to have a recognisable presence to participants of the game, be that through club or association website or their communications, or through the work of the many outstanding coaches in our game, so that players understand that their club is part of a wider team working together to a common goal.

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The core objectives are as follows:

- ◀ Grow our Participation
- ◀ Deliver International Success
- ◀ Increase our Visibility
- ◀ Enhance our Infrastructure
- ◀ For EH to be proud and respected custodians of the sport

Club participation

Our club market is well structured and clubs are required to affiliate to EH to play in community leagues. As a result only relatively few occasional teams lie outside our affiliation structure. Schools and Universities are the other two areas where significant hockey is played.

Hockey is clearly benefiting from a double Olympic legacy. After Great Britain's women won bronze in front of a home crowd in London in 2012 the numbers of young girls playing the sport doubled and a historic gold in Rio 2016 saw more than 10,000 players promptly joining clubs. These triumphs have inspired the nation to get active and play hockey. Thanks to the outstanding work of the network of clubs across the country, EH has seen unprecedented growth at both ends of the age range. There has been an 80% increase in the number of boys and girls in clubs, as well as a 54% increase in players over the age of 46.

Hockey clubs have reaped the rewards of the improved profile of the sport, focussing on a link with schools to provide excellent opportunities for young players. Programmes such as Quick sticks – a small-sided version of hockey for 7-11 year olds – in Primary Schools have been hugely successful in allowing new players to take part in the sport from an early age. The growth in the sport since the eve of London 2012 has been seen across the country, examples being a 110% increase in under 16s club participation in London, and a 111% growth in the North West in the same age bracket.

Rugby Football League Strategic Plan 2015 – 2021

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

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

This vision is underpinned by 13 core principles, including:

- ◀ **An integrated whole sport.** Each constituent part of the sport will have a responsibility to ensure the good health of the entire game;
- ◀ **Return on investment.** Investment will be targeted to ensure the sustainability of member clubs, and growth in the number and quality of players thus seeking an effective return for the game;

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- ◀ **Financial parameters.** Financial distributions will be undertaken to ensure the whole of the game will move forward together;
- ◀ **Geographic expansion.** Geographic expansion of the sport should be carried out in a proportionate and sustainable manner.

Rugby League World Cup ‘Inspired by 2022’ Legacy Programme

The Rugby League World Cup 2022 will develop a £10 million legacy programme with funds driven into local clubs and community projects. The government investment, delivered by Sport England, is part of RLWC 2021’s ambitious plan to grow the sport and make it more visible, engaging and welcoming to current and potential participants.

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

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

England Hockey Strategy

EH’s Facilities Strategy can be found [here](#).

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

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

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

- ◀ **PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision**
 - There are currently over 800 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (club, school, universities) across the country. It is important to retain the current provision where appropriate to ensure that hockey is maintained across the country.
- ◀ **IMPROVE: To improve the existing facilities stock (physically and administratively)**
 - The current facilities stock is ageing and there needs to be strategic investment into refurbishing the pitches and ancillary facilities. EH works to provide more support for clubs to obtain better agreements with facilities providers & education around owning an asset.
- ◀ **DEVELOP: To strategically build new hockey facilities where there is an identified need and ability to deliver and maintain. This might include consolidating hockey provision in a local area where appropriate.**

EH has identified key areas across the country where there is a lack of suitable hockey provision and there is a need for additional pitches, suitable for hockey. There is an identified

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demand for multi pitches in the right places to consolidate hockey and allow clubs to have all of their provision catered for at one site.

LTA Facilities Investment Strategy – Vision for the 2020 and beyond

The LTA has developed a programme of action based on seven core strategies. These are:

- ◀ Visibility – Broaden relevance and increase visibility of tennis all year round to build engagement and participation with fans and players.
- ◀ Innovation – Innovate in the delivery of tennis to widen its appeal.
- ◀ Investment – Support community facilities and schools to increase the opportunities to play.
- ◀ Accessibility – Make the customer journey to playing tennis easier and more accessible for anyone.
- ◀ Engagement – Engage and collaborate with everyone involved in delivering tennis in Britain, particularly coaches and volunteers, to attract and maintain more people in the game.
- ◀ Performance – Create a pathway for British champions that nurtures a diverse team of players, people and leaders.
- ◀ Leadership – Create a pathway for British champions that nurtures a diverse team of players, people and leaders.

The LTA Facilities Investment Framework sets out how it intends to deliver the investment to support community accessible tennis facilities. The focus will be on:

- ◀ New and existing indoor tennis centres
- ◀ Park tennis
- ◀ Tennis clubs
- ◀ Schools and other educational establishments

The key principles of the framework are to:

- ◀ Help fund projects through interest free loans.
- ◀ Invest in venues that have a proven record of increasing participation.
- ◀ Invest where there is thorough community engagement.
- ◀ Support venues that encourage participation growth.
- ◀ Targeted investment that is demand-led.
- ◀ Support venues that have successfully sourced partnership funding.

England Netball - Your Game, Your Way 2013-17

Even though this Plan is out of date, England Netball remains committed to its '10-1-1' mission, vision and values that form the fundamentals for its strategic planning for the future for the sport and business.

To facilitate the successful achievement of Netball 10:1:1 and Goal 4, England Netball will:

- ◀ Accelerate the participation growth by extending our market penetration and reach through the activation of a range of existing and new participant-focused products and programmes that access new and targeted markets.
- ◀ Increase the level of long-term participant retention through targeting programmes at known points of attrition and easy transition through the market segments, supported by an infrastructure that reflects the participant needs and improves their netball experience.

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- ◀ Build a sustainable performance pathway and system built on the principles of purposeful practice and appropriate quality athlete coach contact time.
- ◀ Develop sustainable revenue streams through the commercialisation of a portfolio of products and programmes and increasing membership sales. This will also include the creation of cost efficiencies and improved value for money through innovative partnerships and collaborations in all aspects of the business.
- ◀ Establish high standards of leadership and governance that protect the game and its people and facilitates the on-going growth and transformation of the NGB and sport.

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

Bowls England's new Strategy; 'Fit For The Future' frames an exciting course for the sport. The five-year plan has been designed with the ultimate goal of getting more people playing & enjoying bowls. It sets out its vision for the sport, how it plans to achieve its objectives and what success looks like in 2026. The priorities that will get it to the target of 1 million bowls experiences per year by 2026 are:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. To expand the capacity of the sport by supporting and developing its volunteers and other workforce. The target is to achieve a 6% increase every year of licensed leaders, coaches and officials.

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

England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)

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

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

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

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

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APPENDIX TWO: GLOSSARY

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

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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.