

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

JULY 2023

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RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial grass pitch)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide
BAFA	British American Football Association
BC	Bowls Club
CASC	Community Amateur Sports Club
EH	England Hockey
EN	England Netball
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
HC	Hockey Club
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
NGB	National Governing Body
NTP	Non-Turf Pitch
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106 Agreement
TC	Tennis Club

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy (PPOSS) for Rugby Borough Council. Building upon the preceding updated Assessment Report, it provides a clear, strategic framework in relation to the provision of playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities across the local authority. It delivers:

- ◀ A vision for the future protection, improvement and development of provision.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations and scenarios.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area and site-by-site action plan that prioritise and can address key issues.

The Strategy 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 stepped approach, separated into five distinct sections:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach.
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision.
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views.
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the Strategy.
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the Strategy and keep it robust and up to date.

This report represents Stage D of the process, with stages A-C covered in the preceding Assessment Report and Stage E ongoing once the study is complete.

Sport England's 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (ANOG) has a similar staged approach, as follows:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach.
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information on supply and demand.
- ◀ Stage C: Assessment – bringing the information together.
- ◀ Application: Application of an assessment.

Where not already implemented, the recommendations that come out of this strategy should be translated into local planning policy so that there is a mechanism in place to protect existing provision and to secure investment where the opportunity arises. The lifespan of a PPOSS is considered to be three years, although this can be increased if it is regularly kept up to date.

Agreed scope

The following types of outdoor sports facilities are covered by the PPOSS:

- ◀ Football pitches (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Hockey pitches (sand/water based AGPs)
- ◀ Athletics tracks
- ◀ Outdoor bowling greens
- ◀ Outdoor tennis courts
- ◀ Outdoor netball courts

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Other grass pitch sports are also included where a presence has been identified within the Borough (i.e., American football, Gaelic Football, Polo and Rounders). Where no activity has been identified, the sports are not included, although that is not to say that they are not played informally.

Study area

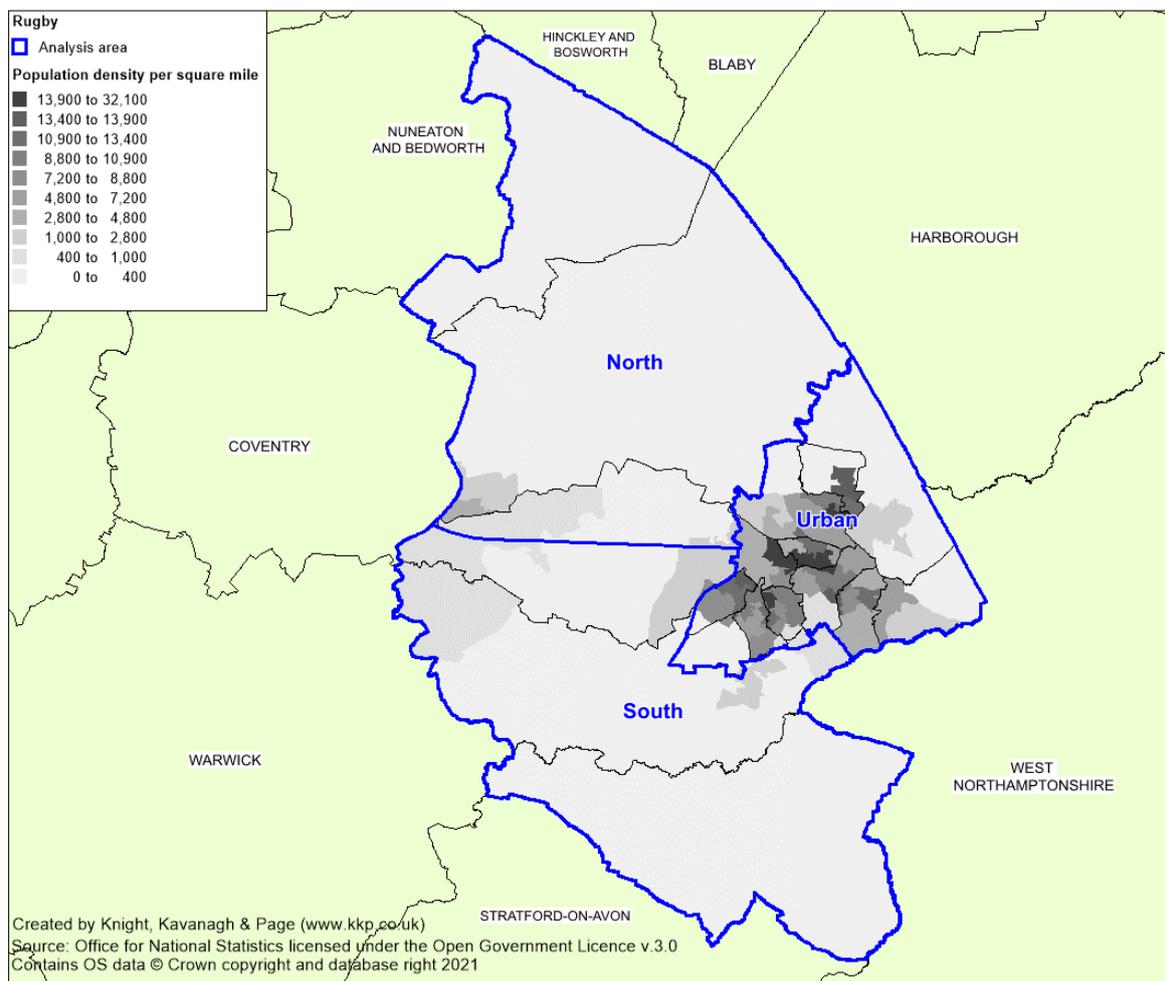
The study area is the entire local authority area, with analysis areas (or sub areas) also used to allow for a more localised analysis in addition to the analysis for Rugby as a whole. For this purpose, three sub-areas have been created, referred to as follows:

- ◀ North
- ◀ South
- ◀ Urban

The Urban Analysis Area, which incorporates the Town of Rugby, has been extended to incorporate the two large development areas of Houlton and South West Rugby as these are considered to be urban extensions. The boundaries for the areas, as well as the Borough as a whole, can be seen in the figure below.

For a map showing the analysis areas is shown below.

Figure 1.1 Map of Rugby and its analysis areas



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1.1: Headline findings

The table below highlights the quantitative shortfalls for each included pitch sport within the PPOSS, as identified in the preceding Assessment Report. For qualitative findings and site-specific findings, please see Part 3: Sport Specific Recommendations and Scenarios, and Part 5: Action Plan.

Table 1.1: Quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Future supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
Football – grass pitches			
North	Adult	0	0.5
	Youth 11v11	2	2.5
	Youth 9v9	2	1.5
	Mini 7v7	0.5	0
	Mini 5v5	0	0.5
South	Adult	1	0.5
	Youth 11v11	0	2
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	1.5	2
	Mini 5v5	0	1
Urban	Adult	1.5	0.5
	Youth 11v11	0	2
	Youth 9v9	2	0
	Mini 7v7	0	2
	Mini 5v5	0	1
Rugby	Adult	2.5	1
	Youth 11v11	2	5.5
	Youth 9v9	0	2.5
	Mini 7v7	2	2
	Mini 5v5	0	2
Football – 3G pitches			
North	Full size	1	1
South	Full size	0.75	0.75
Urban	Full size	0.5	1.5
Rugby	Full size	2.25	3.25
Rugby union			
North	Senior	0	2
South	Senior	0	1.5
Urban	Senior	26.25	30
Rugby	Senior	26.25	33.5
Hockey			
North	Full size	0	0
South	Full size	0	0
Urban	Full size	0	0
Rugby	Full size	0	0
Cricket (Saturday)			
North	Senior	22	22
South	Senior	24	0
Urban	Senior	43	79
Rugby	Senior	41	101

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For non-pitch sports, quantitative shortfalls can be more difficult to determine, with capacity guidance differing and with focus often also incorporating formal 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	Headline findings
Bowls	Two greens are currently operating above recommended capacity limits, whilst none are operating below the threshold considered necessary to make provision sustainable. Whilst there are clearly some pressures on the greens, no clubs report any capacity issues, suggesting that supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, although it is also clear that each green requires protection.
Tennis	Club demand is being adequately met; however, there is a requirement to focus on informal activity at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites and schools).
Netball	There is high demand for netball in Rugby, as represented by nine clubs being based in the Borough. However, not all activity is being adequately met, leading to levels of unmet, latent and exported demand. It is clear that the existing facility stock is not sufficient to meet demand, predominately due to quality and accessibility issues (rather than quantity).
Athletics	There is substantial demand for athletics in Rugby and the wider area; however, this is currently being adequately met. Away from the formal track and field facilities, emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other activities taking place in Rugby, although this does not require dedicated provision.
Other Sports	American Football - Supply is sufficient to meet American football demand; however, its presence at The Rugby Football Club alongside rugby union demand needs to be well managed. Gaelic Football - Supply is sufficient to meet Gaelic football demand, although it needs to be managed alongside rugby union activity at Newbold-on-Avon Rugby Club. Polo - The current level of supply is sufficient enough to meet community demand for polo in Rugby, with Onley Grounds Farm able to adequately cater for this. Rounders - The current level of supply is sufficient enough to meet the degree of demand, with Rugby School (Springhill Pitches) able to adequately service the Rugby Rounders league.

Conclusions

The existing position for all sports is either that demand is being met or that there is a shortfall, whereas the future position shows the exacerbation of current shortfalls and the creation of additional shortfalls for some pitch/facility types and in some areas where demand is currently being met. Where demand is being met, this does not equate to a surplus of provision, with any spare capacity instead considered to be a solution to overcoming shortfalls. As such, there is a clear need to protect all existing playing pitch and outdoor sport 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 national planning policy.

Notwithstanding the above, the shortfalls identified can in most instances be met by better utilising current provision, such as through improving quality, pitch re-configuration, installing additional sports lighting, improving ancillary facilities and enabling access to existing unused sites, such as unavailable schools. However, there is also a requirement for new provision in relation to 3G pitches as well as for some rugby union clubs and potentially some cricket, football and tennis clubs.

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PART 2: VISION AND AIMS

The vision for the PPOSS provides a clear focus with desired outcomes for the study. It seeks to support the Council and its partners to provide:

“An accessible, high quality and sustainable network of playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities that adequately provides for all current and future residents of the Borough and helps promote healthy living”.

The following overarching aims are based on the three Sport England themes (see figure 2.1 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 and Sport England planning objectives. Strategy delivery is the responsibility of, and relies upon, all relevant stakeholders.

AIM 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities where it is needed for meeting current and future needs.

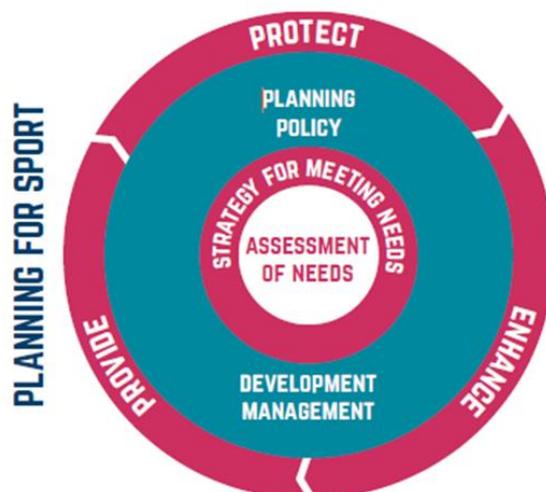
AIM 2

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

AIM 3

To **provide** new outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities where there is current or future demand to do so.

Figure 2.1: Sport England themes



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

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PART 3: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this section, in order to help develop recommendations and actions for each sport, and to understand their potential impact, a number of relevant scenario questions are tested against the key issues identified in the preceding Assessment Report for each sport. This then informs the sport specific recommendations.

For site-specific and more localised recommendations, please refer to the Action Plan in Part 5 of the report.

Football – grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ In total, 16 pitches display some level of actual spare capacity across 11 sites, equating to 13.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ Eight pitches are overplayed across seven sites by a total of 11 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There is currently a shortfall of youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions and overall spare capacity on adult and mini 7v7 pitches, whilst youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 match equivalent sessions are currently at capacity.
- ◀ After factoring in exported and future demand, a capacity shortfall is created on adult, youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches and worsens on youth 11v11 pitches.

Supply summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 122 football pitches across 38 sites in Rugby, with 83 pitches available at some level for community use across 27 sites.
- ◀ Disused pitches are identified at Addison Road, Avon Mill Recreation Ground, Frobisher Recreation Ground, Hilmorton Recreation Ground, Freemantle Recreation Ground and GEC St Modwen's.
- ◀ Planning permission has been approved for a development in Clifton Upon Dunsmore, situated in the Urban Analysis Area, involving the creation for three football pitches.
- ◀ In total, 31 community available pitches assessed as good quality, 35 as standard quality and 17 as poor quality.
- ◀ A total of five sites are identified as being serviced by poor quality ancillary provision, whilst seven have no changing facilities.

Demand summary

- ◀ A total of 230 teams across 39 clubs are identified within Rugby, consisting of 42 senior men's, six senior women's, 78 youth boys', 21 youth girls' and 83 mini soccer teams.
- ◀ Demand has seemingly grown in recent years, with more clubs reporting participation increases compared to those reporting a reduction.
- ◀ Coventry City Girls FC exports some of its match and training demand outside of the Borough to Bablake Playing Fields and President Kennedy School, both in Coventry.
- ◀ 33% of clubs report latent demand in that they could field more teams if more or better facilities were available to them.
- ◀ Team generation rates predict an increase amounting to six adult, seven youth 11v11 teams, five youth 9v9 teams, five mini 7v7 teams and five mini 5v5 teams, whilst five clubs have aspirations to grow by a total of 48 teams.

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Scenarios

Impact of improving pitch quality

In Rugby, eight pitches across seven sites are overplayed by a combined total of 11 match equivalent sessions per week. Improving quality of such provision will increase capacity across the sites and as a consequence reduce both current and future shortfalls in the Borough.

To illustrate the above, Table 3.1 highlights that the large majority of existing overplay would be alleviated if quality improved to good at each site. As a reminder, the capacity rating for each type and quality rating is:

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

Table 3.1: Overplay if all pitches were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating ¹
9	Barr Lane Playing Field	North	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1.5
13	Binley Woods Primary School	North	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1.5
31	Harris Church of England Academy	Urban	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1.5
48	Rugby Borough Sports Trust	Urban	Youth (11v11)	1	Good	1.5	1.5
62	Whinfield Recreation Ground	Urban	Youth (11v11)	1	Good	2	2
64	Wolston Leisure & Community Centre	South	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
65	Wolvey Church of England Primary School	North	Mini (7v7)	1	Poor	0.5	3.5
			Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	2	1

As seen, only two overplayed pitches could accommodate demand if quality was improved. The exceptions to this are the pitches at Rugby Sports Borough Trust and Whinfield Recreation Ground, due to already being good quality, as well as at Binley Woods Primary School, Harris Church of England Academy and Wolvey Church of England Primary School.

¹ White cells are where overall spare capacity would be provided; however, this cannot be considered actual spare capacity due to unsecure tenure.

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Some play at these sites should therefore be transferred to sites with spare capacity, to an existing or additional 3G pitch, or, if space and other usage allows, pitch re-configuration could be considered.

Reducing overplay through quality improvements will eradicate pitch shortfalls across Rugby when looking at the authority as a whole, with overall spare capacity created for each pitch type other than mini 5v5 pitches, which would be at capacity. Furthermore, all localised shortfalls would also be alleviated, as shown in the table below.

Table 3.2: Overall supply and demand if quality improved to good

Analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North	Adult	0	0
	Youth 11v11	2	2.5
	Youth 9v9	2	0
	Mini 7v7	0.5	1
	Mini 5v5	0	0
South	Adult	1	1
	Youth 11v11	0	2
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	1.5	1.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0
Urban	Adult	1.5	1.5
	Youth 11v11	0	1.5
	Youth 9v9	2	2
	Mini 7v7	0	0
	Mini 5v5	0	0
Rugby	Adult	2.5	2.5
	Youth 11v11	2	6
	Youth 9v9	0	2
	Mini 7v7	2	2.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0

In addition, on a Borough-wide level, future shortfalls would be alleviated and actual spare capacity will be produced on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. In addition, future shortfalls be alleviated on mini 7v7 pitches and would reduce on adult pitches. There would, however, be no change in the future capacity of mini 5v5 pitches.

Table 3.3: Impact on future supply and demand if quality improved to good (Borough-wide)

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential future supply/ demand balance
Rugby	Adult	1	0.5
	Youth 11v11	5.5	2.5
	Youth 9v9	2.5	19.5
	Mini 7v7	1.5	0
	Mini 5v5	2.5	2.5

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Providing security of tenure

Currently, 24.5 match equivalent sessions per week are played on unsecured pitches across Rugby. If these pitches were to fall out of use, on a Borough-wide level, shortfalls would exacerbate on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches, whilst spare capacity is lost on mini 7v7 pitches and spare capacity remains on adult pitches, as shown in the following table.

Table 3.4: Current supply and demand balance without unsecure sites

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North	Adult	0	0
	Youth 11v11	2	6.5
	Youth 9v9	2	4
	Mini 7v7	0.5	1
	Mini 5v5	0	0
South	Adult	1	1
	Youth 11v11	0	0
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	1.5	1.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0
Urban	Adult	1.5	1.5
	Youth 11v11	0	1.5
	Youth 9v9	2	0
	Mini 7v7	0	2
	Mini 5v5	0	0
Rugby	Adult	2.5	2.5
	Youth 11v11	2	8
	Youth 9v9	0	4
	Mini 7v7	2	1.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0

Most of the unsecured sites are education sites with limited use, such as Binley Woods Primary School and Harris Church of England Academy for example.

When accounting for future demand, on a Borough-wide level, shortfalls would be evident across all pitch types and would be most significant on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches.

Table 3.5: Impact on future supply and demand without unsecure sites (Borough-wide)

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential future supply/ demand balance
Rugby	Adult	1	1
	Youth 11v11	5.5	11.5
	Youth 9v9	2.5	6.5
	Mini 7v7	1.5	5
	Mini 5v5	2.5	2.5

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Whilst not always possible, creating community use agreements between providers and users would ensure that users continue to be provided for in the longer-term. Where there is external investment on sites e.g., by an NGB or Sport England, there are potential opportunities to secure community use as part of the funding or approval agreement. This also applies to new schools or for existing schools seeking changes to provision that requires planning permission as, via planning consent, the Council can mandate the implementation of a community use agreement as part of the planning stipulations.

In addition to unsecure sites that are used, there are 12 match equivalent sessions of potential spare capacity discounted due to no security of tenure. This is identified at Bilton School, Cawston Grange Primary School and Princethorpe College. Gaining secured access to these would alleviate overplay on youth 11v11 pitches and create spare capacity on youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitches; it would also increase existing spare capacity on adult and mini 7v7 pitches. Youth 9v9 pitches would remain at capacity, as shown in the following table.

Table 3.6: Impact on current supply/demand through securing access to unsecure sites

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North	Adult	0	0
	Youth 11v11	2	2
	Youth 9v9	2	2
	Mini 7v7	0.5	0.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0
South	Adult	1	3
	Youth 11v11	0	0
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	1.5	1.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0
Urban	Adult	1.5	1.5
	Youth 11v11	0	6
	Youth 9v9	2	4
	Mini 7v7	0	1
	Mini 5v5	0	4
Rugby	Adult	2.5	4.5
	Youth 11v11	2	4
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	2	3
	Mini 5v5	0	4

Gaining secured access to these sites would alleviate future shortfalls and create future spare capacity for adult, youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitches, whilst shortfalls would remain despite being reduced on mini 7v7 pitches. This can be seen in the table below.

Table 3.7: Impact on future supply/demand through securing access to unsecure sites

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential future supply/ demand balance
Rugby	Adult	1	1
	Youth 11v11	5.5	0.5
	Youth 9v9	2.5	2.5
	Mini 7v7	1.5	0.5
	Mini 5v5	2.5	1.5

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As it is not deemed possible to gain secured access to all provision, sites that provide a large quantity of pitches or that are already used heavily by the community should be prioritised, such as Bilton School.

Bringing disused pitches back into provision

There are 11 disused football pitches identified across five sites in Rugby, breaking down as four disused youth 11v11 pitches, three youth 9v9 pitches, one mini 7v7 pitch and three mini 5v5 pitches. If these pitches were brought back into use, shortfalls would eradicate on youth 11v11 pitches and actual spare capacity would be present on all pitch types, as shown in the table below.

Table 3.8: Impact of bringing disused pitches brought back into use (current demand)

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North	Adult	0	0
	Youth 11v11	2	2
	Youth 9v9	2	2
	Mini 7v7	0.5	0.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0
South	Adult	1	1
	Youth 11v11	0	0
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	1.5	1.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0
Urban	Adult	1.5	1.5
	Youth 11v11	0	3
	Youth 9v9	2	5
	Mini 7v7	0	1
	Mini 5v5	0	3
Rugby	Adult	2.5	2.5
	Youth 11v11	2	2
	Youth 9v9	0	3
	Mini 7v7	2	3
	Mini 5v5	0	3

When factoring in future demand, future shortfalls would reduce on a Borough-wide basis across all pitch types, barring adult pitches, whilst spare capacity would be produced on youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches.

Table 3.9: Impact of bringing disused pitches brought back into use (future demand)

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential future supply/ demand balance
Rugby	Adult	1	1
	Youth 11v11	5.5	1.5
	Youth 9v9	2.5	0.5
	Mini 7v7	1.5	0.5
	Mini 5v5	2.5	0.5

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Impact of improving quality, securing tenure and bringing disused pitches back into use

If pitch quality was improved and tenure was secure across all sites in Rugby, in combination and as set out above, it is considered that all current shortfalls could be eradicated across Rugby.

Table 3.10: Impact on current supply and demand through actioning all scenarios

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North	Adult	0	0
	Youth 11v11	2	2.5
	Youth 9v9	2	0
	Mini 7v7	0.5	1
	Mini 5v5	0	0
South	Adult	1	3
	Youth 11v11	0	2
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	1.5	1.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0
Urban	Adult	1.5	1.5
	Youth 11v11	0	10.5
	Youth 9v9	2	7
	Mini 7v7	0	2
	Mini 5v5	0	7
Rugby	Adult	2.5	4.5
	Youth 11v11	2	15
	Youth 9v9	0	7
	Mini 7v7	2	4.5
	Mini 5v5	0	7

When factoring in future demand, all future shortfalls would be eradicated and spare capacity would be evident on all pitch types, on a Borough-wide basis.

Table 3.11: Impact on future supply and demand through actioning all scenarios

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential future supply/ demand balance
Rugby	Adult	1	1
	Youth 11v11	5.5	11.5
	Youth 9v9	2.5	4.5
	Mini 7v7	1.5	1
	Mini 5v5	2.5	4.5

Accounting for club future demand aspirations

During consultation, five clubs report aspirations to increase its number of teams that they provide, equating to a predicted growth of 48 teams. If such future demand is realised, spare capacity would diminish on adult pitches, whilst shortfalls would worsen on youth 11v11 and be produced on youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches (as no mini 7v7 future demand is expressed through club aspirations, current spare capacity would remain).

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Table 3.12: Supply and demand with club future demand aspirations accounted for

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North	Adult	0	0.5
	Youth 11v11	2	6
	Youth 9v9	2	3
	Mini 7v7	0.5	0.5
	Mini 5v5	0	1
South	Adult	1	1
	Youth 11v11	0	0
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	1.5	1.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0
Urban	Adult	1.5	0
	Youth 11v11	0	5
	Youth 9v9	2	2.5
	Mini 7v7	0	0
	Mini 5v5	0	6.5
Rugby	Adult	2.5	0.5
	Youth 11v11	2	11
	Youth 9v9	0	5.5
	Mini 7v7	2	2
	Mini 5v5	0	7.5

Whilst the above shows significant shortfalls, the majority of the demand could still be accommodated on the existing supply and configuration of pitches if the other scenarios set out are actioned (e.g., improving pitch quality, securing tenure and bringing disused sites back into use). This is evidence below, with only minimal deficits identified and with none of these existing Borough-wide.

Table 3.13: Impact of future demand aspirations against actioning all scenarios

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Potential supply/ demand balance	Potential future supply/ demand balance
North	Adult	0	0.5
	Youth 11v11	2.5	1.5
	Youth 9v9	0	1
	Mini 7v7	1	1
	Mini 5v5	0	1
South	Adult	3	3
	Youth 11v11	2	2
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	1.5	1.5
	Mini 5v5	0	0
Urban	Adult	1.5	0
	Youth 11v11	10.5	5.5
	Youth 9v9	7	2.5
	Mini 7v7	2	2
	Mini 5v5	7	0.5
Rugby	Adult	4.5	2.5
	Youth 11v11	15	6
	Youth 9v9	7	1.5

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Potential supply/ demand balance	Potential future supply/ demand balance
	Mini 7v7	4.5	4.5
	Mini 5v5	7	0.5

Where shortfalls remain (mini 5v5 pitches) these could be offset via pitch re-configuration. In addition, increased usage of existing or new 3G pitches could be sought to enable the transfer of demand away from overused grass pitches. As such, carrying out the above scenarios would result in there being no requirement for new pitches to be established (other than those that may be needed to, for example, support housing growth).

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided in line with national planning policy).
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and/or assessed as poor or standard quality prioritise investment to improve quality.
- ◀ Update the LFFP following this study and use it to secure investment into appropriate sites.
- ◀ Utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to identify pitch conditions and recommendations to maintain or enhance pitch quality and enable future grant funding from the Football Foundation.
- ◀ Transfer play from sites which remain overplayed to alternative sites with spare capacity (or 3G provision).
- ◀ Provide security of tenure for clubs using unsecure sites through community use agreements and support negotiation with schools to secure appropriate access (e.g., via a community use agreement).
- ◀ Seek to gain access to sites not currently available for community use, particularly where a large quantity of pitches are provided.
- ◀ Consider bringing disused sites back into use.
- ◀ Work to accommodate exported, latent and future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity or at sites which are not currently available for community use.
- ◀ 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.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Third generation turf (3G) pitches

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ The priority in regard to 3G pitches for football should be placed on the creation of new provision in areas where it is required (each analysis area).
- ◀ In addition, it is important to sustain the current pitch stock to ensure that the existing shortfalls are not exacerbated.
- ◀ Given the grass pitch shortfalls identified, scope also exists for further rugby union provision to be created in the future, particularly at sites that can service clubs with overplayed pitches and with no other realistic alternative for alleviation.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are three full size 3G pitches in Rugby (two at Rugby Borough Sports Trust and one at Rugby Town Football Club), all of which are available and sports lit.
- ◀ In addition, there are five smaller size 3G pitches across four sites.
- ◀ The full size 3G pitches are all FA approved and can therefore be used to host competitive matches (none of the smaller sized pitches are).
- ◀ None of the pitches are World Rugby compliant.
- ◀ The smaller size pitches at Rugby Borough Sports Trust and Wolston Leisure & Community Centre have exceeded their recommended lifespans.

Demand summary

- ◀ For football, 43% of clubs that responded to consultation report that they require additional access to 3G provision, which represents a high proportion of unmet demand.
- ◀ With 230 football teams currently affiliated to Rugby there is a potential shortfall of 2.25 full size 3G pitches to meet training demand.
- ◀ When accounting for future demand, the potential shortfall increased to at least 3.25 pitches.
- ◀ When accounting for spare capacity within the peak period, the two full size pitches at Rugby Borough Sports Trust offer four hours of midweek spare capacity each (eight in total) and two hours of spare capacity at the weekend.
- ◀ The full size pitch at Rugby Town Football Club offer one hour of peak time spare capacity during the week and eight hours at the weekend.
- ◀ For football, there is clear shortfall of provision and the priority regarding 3G should therefore be placed on the creation of new provision in areas where it is required.

Scenarios

Accommodating football training demand

If all teams were to utilise 3G pitches to accommodate their training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a need for six full size 3G pitch equivalents in Rugby (rounded down from 6.05). This means a current shortfall of 2.25 full size 3G pitch equivalents based on the current supply.

Table 3.14: Current demand for 3G pitches in Rugby (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	3G requirement ²	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall
230	6	3.75	2.25

² Rounded to the nearest 0.25

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

If every team was to remain training within the analysis area in which they play their matches in, the current shortfall equates to one full size pitch in the North Analysis Area, 0.75 full size pitches in the South Analysis Area and 0.5 full size pitches in the Urban Analysis Area.

Table 3.15: Current demand for 3G pitches in Rugby by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement ³	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall
North	32	1	-	1
South	28	1	0.25	0.75
Urban	170	4	3.5	0.5
Rugby	230	6	3.75	2.25

When considering future demand, via population increases, there is a demand for seven full size 3G pitches, meaning an overall shortfall of 3.25 pitches.

Table 3.16: Future demand for 3G pitches in Rugby (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Analysis Area	Future demand (number of teams)	3G full size pitch requirement	Current number of full size 3G pitches	Future shortfall
North	37	1	-	1
South	33	1	0.25	0.75
Urban	188	5	3.5	1.5
Rugby	258	7	3.75	3.25

Moving football match play demand to 3G pitches

In Rugby, currently only 31 affiliated teams are registered as using the provision for regular match play, which is a relatively small number. To increase such demand, the FA is particularly keen to work with local authorities to understand the potential demand for full size 3G pitches should all competitive matches that are currently played on council pitches be transferred. At peak time for each format of play, this applies to 51 teams in Rugby.

Table 3.17: Number of teams currently using council pitches

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Adult	11v11	Sunday AM	9
Youth	11v11	Sunday AM	13
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	7
Mini	7v7	Saturday AM	11
Mini	5v5	Saturday AM	11
Total			51

The FA suggests an approach for estimating the number of full size 3G pitches required to accommodate the above demand for competitive matches, as seen in the table below.

³ Rounded to the nearest 0.25

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 3.18: Full size 3G pitches required for the transfer of council pitch demand

Format	No. of teams at peak time	No. of matches at peak time	3G units required per match ⁴	Total 3G units required	3G pitches required ⁵
Adult	9	4.5	32	144	2.25
11v11	13	6.5	32	208	3.25
9v9	7	3.5	10	35	0.5
7v7	11	5.5	8	44	0.75
5v5	11	5.5	4	22	0.5

In total, six 3G pitches would be required to accommodate all matches played on council pitches (given that adult and youth demand has a different peak time than mini demand). As such, as this is the same number of pitches required to meet training demand, it is feasible for all council-based match demand to be accommodated through meeting the need for training.

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

Table 3.19: 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 4.5 full size 3G pitches to accommodate all current mini match play demand. This is calculated based on 36 teams playing 5v5 football and 47 teams playing 7v7 football. As this is fewer than the number of pitches required for training demand, it is feasible for all mini-based match demand to be accommodated through meeting the need for training.

Meeting 3G pitch shortfalls

Based on the above, there is a minimum need to provide 2.25 additional 3G pitches to meet current demand, which equates to an overall deficit of one pitch in the North Analysis Area, 0.75 pitches in South Analysis Area and 0.5 pitches in the Urban Analysis Area. However, there is also future demand for one additional pitch on a Borough-wide basis, and given the profile of Rugby, it is likely that most of this will arise in the Urban Analysis Area, thus increasing its requirements.

⁴ Based on pitches are split on a full size 3G pitch

⁵ Rounded to the nearest 0.25.

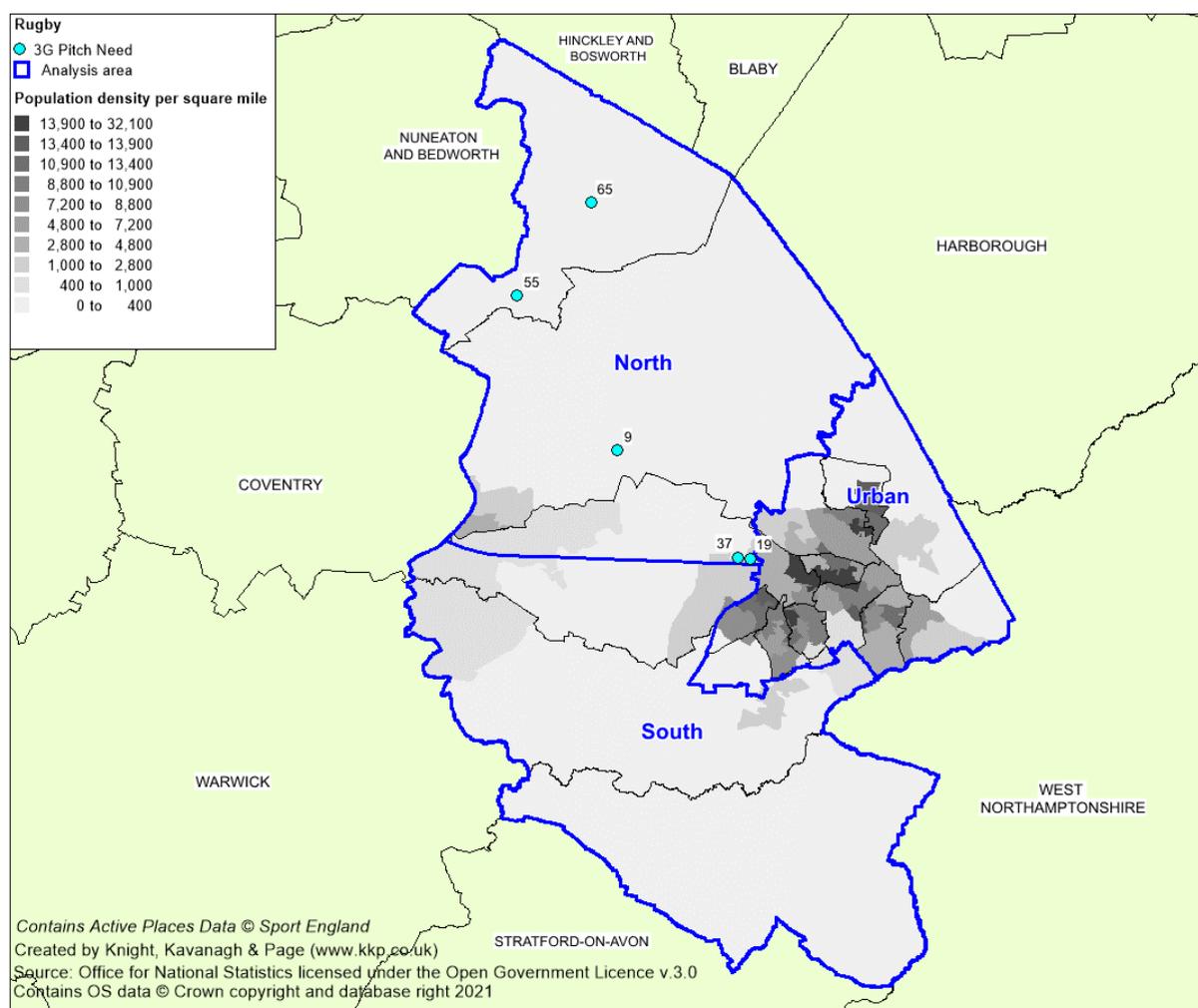
RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

In order to alleviate the shortfall in the Urban Analysis Area, one option is to support aspirations at Rugby Borough Sports Trust, which wants to develop a third full size 3G pitch on site. However, it could be problematic to continue centring all the 3G provision from one location, with some clubs as part of the PPOSS expressing issues with this. An alternative option could therefore be to convert one of the hockey suitable AGPs that are currently unused for hockey, with this relating to pitches at both Bilton School and Warwickshire College. Both pitches are predominantly used for football at present and therefore have an existing user base, although given the localised shortfall of 0.5 pitches in the Urban Analysis Area, there is only a requirement for one of the two AGPs to be converted to 3G.

In the North and South analysis areas, where a need for one pitch and 0.75 pitches is recognised, respectively, no means to alleviate the shortfall has been identified as of yet. As such, further work is required to determine suitable options.

To assist with the above process, the figure below identifies where all clubs with five teams or more currently based within the North Analysis Area as these would likely be key users of any provision.

Figure 3.1: Location of larger clubs in the North Analysis Area



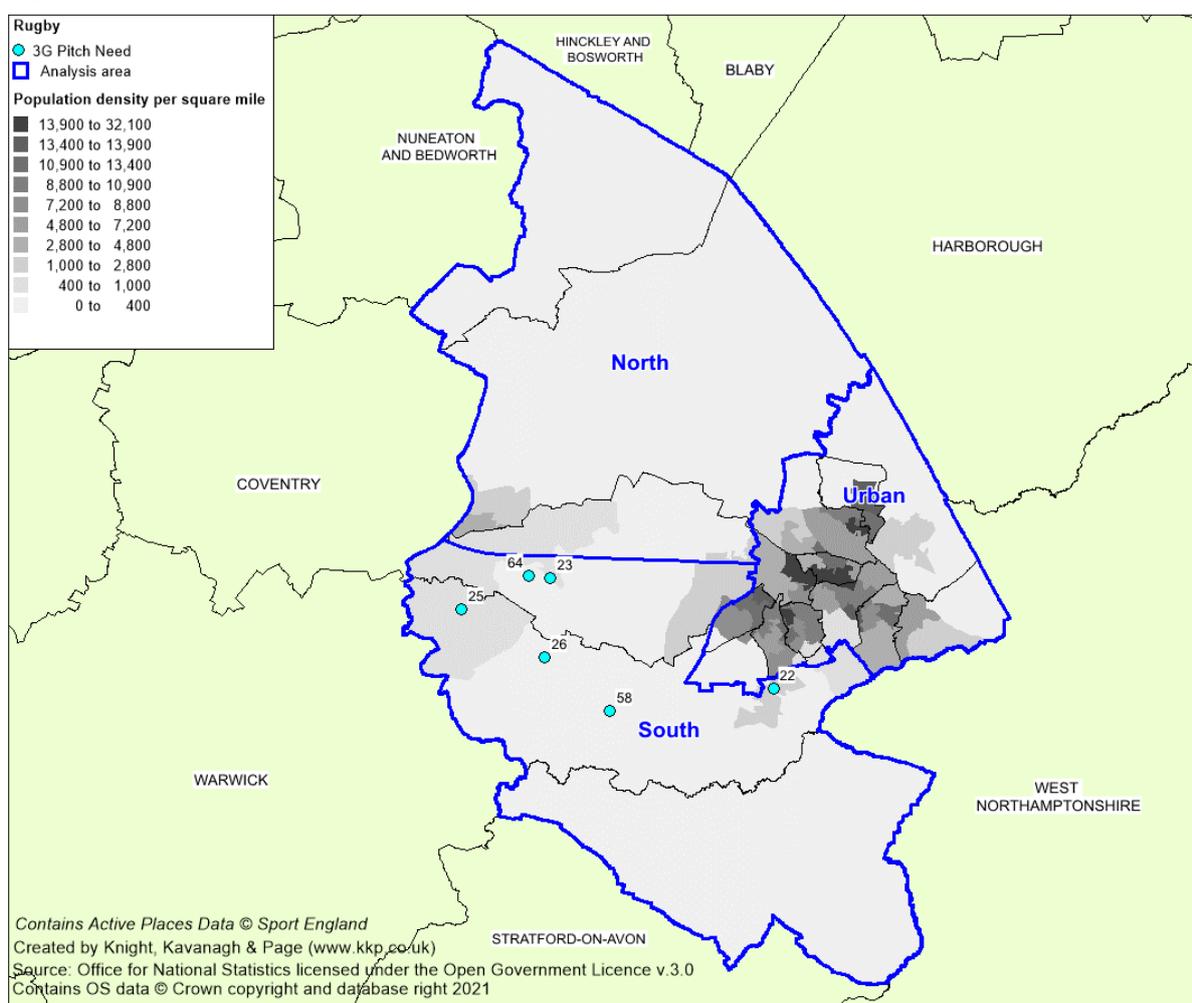
RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sites 55 and 65, Shilton Playing Field and Wolvey Church of England Primary School are situated in upper region of the North Analysis Area and collectively cater for ten teams in total, whilst sites 19 and 37, Cherwell Way and King George’s Field (Long Lawford), are located in the lower region of the North Analysis Area and collectively cater for 11 teams in total. The outstanding site (site 9), Barr Lane Playing Field is positioned relatively central in the North Analysis Area, providing for five teams in total.

As seen, these sites are relatively well spread out, suggesting that a central location (in the North Analysis Area) could be best placed.

Similarly, the figure below shows the location of all clubs currently playing within the South Analysis Area. As highlighted, all sites used are within the northern and central sections of the area. Therefore, any new pitch provision to be constructed, should look to be provided in these regions. A site in southern areas of the North Analysis Area or in south west areas of the Urban Analysis Area could also be suitable.

Figure 3.2: Location of demand within the South Analysis Area



RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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 are currently no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in Rugby, meaning no clubs are utilising the provision for training (or matches).

Providing that quality improvements at overplayed sites are adopted, additional sports lighting is equipped, and current disused provision is brought back into use, most current rugby union grass pitch shortfalls would be alleviated. However, additional pitch stock is also required, especially for Old Laurentians RUFC and Newbold-on-Avon RUFC. As such, the potential for a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch could be explored to service these clubs.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Develop additional 3G provision in the Urban Analysis Area to alleviate identified shortfalls, with potential options including Rugby Borough Sports Trust, Warwickshire College and Bilton School.
- ◀ Identify potential site options in or that can service the North and South analysis areas to meet 3G pitch demand, ensuring they are well located for potential users.
- ◀ Support creation of additional 3G pitches above and beyond football training shortfalls if it can also satisfy rugby union demand and reduce rugby union shortfalls, or explore creation of 3G pitches that are both football and rugby appropriate when alleviating 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.
- ◀ Encourage more match play demand to transfer to 3G pitches, where possible, particularly from council sites and 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.

Rugby union – grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Of the 21 pitches identified as having potential spare capacity, none are considered to have actual spare capacity at peak time for an increase demand due to quality and/or security of tenure issues.
- ◀ There are nine senior pitches across five sites that are overplayed by a total of 26.25 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ There is a current overall shortfall of 26.25 match equivalent sessions per week, with future demand exacerbating this shortfall to 33.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are 40 rugby union pitches identified across 15 sites, of which 32 pitches are available for community use across 11 sites.
- ◀ Of pitches which are available for community use, there are seven good quality pitches, seven standard quality pitches and 18 poor quality pitches.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

- ◀ Rugby Welsh RUFC has plans to develop an additional pitch at its home venue, Alwyn Road Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Old Laurentians RUFC has plans to relocate in order to resolve pitch capacity issues and to offer a modern clubhouse with diverse amenities. As of yet, the Club has not secured funding for the relocation; however, the Club are working in conjunction with the Slatter Group to proceed with its plans.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are seven rugby clubs considered to be based in Rugby providing a total of 72 teams.
- ◀ A total of five clubs are known to currently use match pitches to accommodate training demand.
- ◀ Rugby Welsh RUFC utilises the 3G pitch at Rugby Town Football Club for training despite it not being World Rugby compliant.
- ◀ Team generation rates predict a growth of two senior men's teams, three age grade boys' and three age grade mixed teams, whilst Broadstreet RUFC and Rugby Welsh RUFC quantify aspirations to increase their current team numbers by a total of five teams.

Scenarios

Impact of improving pitch quality

Improving pitch quality through enhanced maintenance and the installation of drainage systems would alleviate overplay on four of the eight overplayed pitches across Rugby. This is shown in the following table.

Table 3.20: Capacity of overplayed pitches if quality improved to good (M2/D3)

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality rating
3	Alwyn Road Recreation Ground	Senior	1	Poor	1	2
5	Ashlawn Road Recreation Ground	Senior	2	Poor	2.5	1.5
				Poor	3.5	1.5
24	Fenley Field	Senior	1	Standard	4.25	2.5
		Senior	2	Poor	3	1
42	Newbold-on-Avon Rugby Club	Junior	1	Poor	8	5
59	The Rugby Football Club	Senior	1	Standard	4	2.5

Overall, this would reduce existing shortfalls from 26.25 match equivalent sessions to seven match equivalent sessions per week across the Borough as a whole.

Table 3.21: Supply and demand balance with quality improvements

Capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)	
Current total	Potential total
26.25	7

Four pitches located at Ashlawn Road Recreation Ground, Fenley Field, Newbold-on-Avon Rugby Club and The Rugby Football Club would remain overplayed even if quality was maximised, although at reduced levels. This is predominately due to high levels of training demand on the provision.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Impact of increasing access to training provision (grass pitches)

Of the pitches that would remain overplayed despite quality improvements, all are serviced by sports lighting and receive all training demand from club users. As such, providing additional sports lighting would help reduce overplay as training demand could be dispersed, although this is dependent on the level of spare capacity provided on the existing non-lit provision.

The impact of installing additional sports lighting and maximising pitch quality at each of the four sites is shown in the following table.

Table 3.22: Capacity of pitches with additional sports lighting (and quality improvements)

Site ID	Site name	Current capacity rating ⁶	Potential capacity rating ⁷
5	Ashlawn Road Recreation Ground	3.5	0
24	Fenley Field	4.25	1.5
42	Newbold-on-Avon Rugby Club	8	3
59	The Rugby Football Club	4	2.5

At Ashlawn Road Recreation Ground, overplay could be eradicated with additional sports lighting. This would entail sports lighting on one additional pitch and maximising the quality across the site. With quality maximised and the addition of sports lighting on one additional pitch, the site can accommodate 12 match equivalent sessions of demand and it currently caters for 11.5 match equivalent sessions.

At Fenley Field, overplay could be reduced to 1.5 match equivalent sessions with additional sports lighting; however, it would not be eradicated entirely. This would entail sports lighting two additional pitches and maximising the quality of all three pitches.

At Newbold-on-Avon Rugby Club, overplay could be reduced by transferring training demand from the junior sports lit pitch to the senior sports lit pitch, providing that each pitches' quality is maximised. However, overplay would not be eradicated entirely due to the high degree of match demand currently catered for on the junior pitch. The shortfall would still equate to three match equivalent sessions.

Finally, at The Rugby Football Club there is only one senior pitch which is already serviced with sports lighting, meaning no additional lighting can be provided and no further reduction in overplay can take place.

The impact the above would have on overall shortfalls is shown in the table below.

Table 3.23: Supply/demand balance with additional sports lighting and quality improvements

Capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)	
Current total	Potential total
26.25	1

⁶ Match equivalent sessions

⁷ Match equivalent sessions

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Impact of increasing pitch stock

To fully alleviate shortfalls for Rugby Lions RUFC, in addition to maximising pitch quality and sports lighting, one additional pitch would need to be made available. As it stands, one disused junior pitch is identified at its site and the Club is currently in discussions with the Council to bring it back into use. If the pitch was re-provided and serviced by sports lighting, the Club would be able to field all of its demand without any overplay, providing it was at a quality whereby it could accommodate 2.5 match equivalent sessions of demand.

For Old Laurentians RUFC, it has plans to relocate all its demand away from Fenley Field to a new venue due to existing capacity issues; even if quality and sports lighting was maximised at the site, a shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions would remain. Therefore, it is deemed appropriate to support this aspiration providing that four pitches of maximum quality are supplied and that at least two are serviced by sports lighting. In doing so, all of the Club's demand could be accommodated.

For Newbold-on-Avon RUFC to fully eradicate its overplay, access to an additional pitch of good quality is required, although no clear solution for this is currently identified. A pitch at a secondary venue could be made available (e.g., via a school or council site), but it is likely that the Club would be reluctant to access this as most rugby union clubs prefer to be located entirely from one venue.

The need for World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

Based on the shortfalls that exist currently and the shortfalls that would remain even if quality was improved and additional sports lighting was supplied, evidence exists to warrant the creation of World Rugby compliant 3G provision in Rugby. For the impact of this to be maximised, access for Old Laurentians RUFC and/or Newbold-on-Avon RUFC should be prioritised. However, for the latter, it would likely be unfeasible to provide such provision at the Club's site due to being located within a floodzone.

Based on the above, if Old Laurentians RUFC is to relocate, the provision of a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at its new location could be pursued. This would also reduce its requirement for grass pitches, with four currently needed.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches.
- ◀ 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.
- ◀ Increase or provide sports lighting at club sites where pitches are overplayed due to high levels of training demand.
- ◀ Support Old Laurentians RUFC with its relocation proposals providing a sufficient number of pitches are supplied in order to ensure its demand can be appropriately met.
- ◀ Bring disused provision back into use at The Rugby Football Club to fully alleviate overplay of its existing pitch.
- ◀ Further explore solutions in regards to Newbold-on-Avon RUFC in order to supply the Club with sufficient provision.
- ◀ Consider establishment of World Rugby compliant 3G provision, specifically if it can meet the needs of Old Laurentians RUFC and/or Newbold-on-Avon RUFC.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where required.
- ◀ Support better inclusivity and ensure facilities offer sustainability for current and future provision.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

- ◀ 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 suitable artificial grass pitches (AGPs)

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Current supply is sufficient to accommodate demand given the large number of pitches provided, although it is also clear that Rugby & East Warwickshire HC could be better provided for.
- ◀ Overall, whilst being sufficient to accommodate current demand, spare capacity of pitches within Rugby is minimal due to restricted access at Rugby School Sports Centre, a high degree of football usage at Bilton School and Warwickshire College, and quality issues at Hartfield Sports Ground and Princethorpe College. This is despite some pitches currently being unused for hockey.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are eight full size, sports lit AGPs suitable for competitive hockey in Rugby located across six sites.
- ◀ In addition, there is one smaller-sized AGP located at Bilton School; however, this is not suitable for purposeful hockey demand.
- ◀ The pitch at Bilton Grange School and two of the three pitches at Rugby School Sports Centre are three of the few water-based pitches supplied nationally.
- ◀ All of the pitches are provided at education sites (or dual use sites) and are serviced by sports lighting. One of the pitches is unavailable for community use, located at Bilton Grange School.
- ◀ Limited security of tenure is provided, with no long term usage agreement in place.
- ◀ Based on the guidance of a ten-year carpet life, the pitch at Bilton School and Hartfield Sports Ground are in need of refurbishment and are assessed as poor quality, whereas all remaining pitches are considered to be good or standard quality.
- ◀ Ancillary provision is poor at Hartfield Sports Ground.

Demand summary

- ◀ Rugby & East Warwickshire HC is the only hockey club currently playing in Rugby; the Club consist of 22 teams, equating to seven men's teams, five women's teams and ten junior teams.
- ◀ Demand has grown in recent years, with the Club increasing its number of teams as well as its membership, with unmet/latent demand now reported due to a lack of capacity at venues used.
- ◀ The Club uses the pitches at Rugby School Sports Centre, Hartfield Sports Ground and very occasionally Princethorpe College.
- ◀ It also reports that it aspires to field one additional senior men's team, one additional senior women's team and one additional junior girls' team in the future.
- ◀ Most of the hockey suitable provision is also commonly used for other activities, most notably in terms of football, whether that be through formal training or via informal social use.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Scenarios

Impact of accommodating all demand

With eight pitches currently provided, there is clearly sufficient provision to cater for demand; however, Rugby & East Warwickshire HC could be better catered for across the five pitches and three venues currently used (Hartfield Sports Ground, Princethorpe College and Rugby School Sports Centre).

For example, to better meet the Club's demand, improved security of tenure should be sought at Rugby School Sports Centre, Hartfield Sports Ground and Princethorpe College and quality improvements are needed at the latter two venues. It also clear that all pitches across the three sites require protection for continued hockey use unless increased access can be gained at Rugby School Sports Centre (in which case less access would be required at Hartfield Sports Ground and Princethorpe College).

When accounting for future demand, Rugby & East Warwickshire aspires to field two additional senior teams and one junior girls' team. Such future demand can be adequately catered for across the three sites it currently accesses, providing that quality improvements are made at Hartfield Sports Ground and Princethorpe College and that security of tenure is provided at these sites as well as at Rugby School Sports Centre.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect the five full size pitches currently used by Rugby & East Warwickshire HC for continued hockey access (Hartfield Sports Ground, Princethorpe College and Rugby School Sports Centre).
- ◀ Improve security of tenure at Rugby School Sports Centre, Hartfield Sports Ground and Princethorpe College to ensure long-term hockey access.
- ◀ Resurface pitches at Hartfield Sports Ground and Princethorpe College to better accommodate demand.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have sinking funds in place at all sites to ensure long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Seek increased access for Rugby & East Warwickshire HC at Rugby School Sports Centre to lessen the requirement for access to secondary venues that are of worse quality.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facility quality at Hartfield Sport Ground.
- ◀ 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 hockey provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site hockey provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Cricket pitches

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Actual spare capacity is identified on two squares for Saturday cricket, three squares on Sundays and five squares during midweek.
- ◀ Overplay is evident on four squares and amounts to 65 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There is a shortfall of grass wicket squares for Saturday and Sunday cricket, whilst overall spare capacity during midweek despite localised shortfalls in the Urban Analysis Area.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Supply summary

- ◀ In total, there are 21 grass wicket cricket squares provided across 15 sites, with 15 squares available for community use across 13 sites.
- ◀ There are non-turf pitches (NTPs) accompanying seven grass wickets squares in addition to there being seven standalone NTPs currently provided.
- ◀ Lapsed cricket provision is identified at Easenhall Cricket Ground and Hilmorton Recreation Ground, whilst disused provision is found at Marton Village Cricket Club.
- ◀ Most clubs are considered to have security of tenure of their primary venues, although the agreements for Marton Village CC, Merchants CC and Stretton-on-Dunsmore CC are of concern as they only rent their provision.
- ◀ The audit of community available grass wicket cricket squares in Rugby found five to be good quality and the remaining 10 to be standard quality (none are assessed as poor quality).
- ◀ Dunchurch & Bilton, Newbold-on-Avon, Oakfield & Rowland United, Rugby and Willoughby cricket clubs all have aspirations to improve their ancillary provision.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are 12 affiliated cricket clubs which collectively provide 43 cricket teams, equating to 31 senior men's, five senior women's and seven junior teams.
- ◀ Four clubs are signed up to All Stars and two up to Dynamos, whilst Rugby CC also fields women's softball demand.
- ◀ Both Rugby CC and Willoughby CC express latent demand in that both state that they could increase their number of teams if they had an additional square available to them.
- ◀ Exported demand is evidenced by Oakfield & Rowland United CC, which uses a secondary venue in Harborough known as Lutterworth Road, although it reports no issues with this.
- ◀ Future demand predicted from population growth equates to five senior men's, one senior women's and one junior team, whilst Newbold-on-Avon, Rugby and Willoughby cricket clubs all have growth plans.

Scenarios

Impact of addressing overplay

Although a regular, sufficient maintenance regime can sustain sites with minimal levels of overplay (e.g., at Oakfield & Rowland Cricket Club), a reduction in play is recommended to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality over time. Nevertheless, attempts should be made to reduce identified overplay, although many clubs do not necessarily believe that there is an issue and are able to accommodate such demand.

Improving quality is one way to increase capacity, albeit some of the overplayed sites in Rugby are already good quality. The impact of improving all overplayed squares to good quality is shown in the table below.

Table 3.24: Overplay if all overplayed squares were good quality

Site ID	Site name	No. of squares	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
41	Newbold-on-Avon Cricket Club	1	Standard	14	1
43	Oakfield & Rowland Cricket Club	1	Good	8	8
49	Rugby Cricket Club	1	Good	29	29

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Site ID	Site name	No. of squares	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
77	Willoughby Cricket Ground	1	Standard	14	2

As seen, overplay would be minimised on the squares at both Newbold-on-Avon Cricket Club and Willoughby Cricket Ground. However, as the squares at Oakfield & Rowland Cricket Club and Rugby Cricket Club are already good quality, identified overplay at these sites does not change.

In total, 25 match equivalent sessions of overplay would be alleviated. This would reduce current shortfalls for Saturday cricket, create overall spare capacity for Sunday cricket and increase overall spare capacity for midweek cricket.

Table 3.25: Supply and demand balance if overplayed squares improved to good quality

Playing format	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Saturday	41	16
Sunday	5	20
Midweek	85	110

To further alleviate shortfalls at overplayed sites, the installation of NTPs is normally recommended as this can transfer demand from grass wickets. However, each overplayed square in Rugby already has an NTP installed. Greater utilisation of such provision should therefore be encouraged, if this is possible.

Impact of accommodating future demand

In total, three cricket clubs in Rugby express future demand, which if realised will exacerbate existing shortfalls for Saturday and Sunday cricket and reduce spare capacity for midweek cricket. The table below therefore studies the future demand on a club-by-club basis to better understand what can and cannot be accommodated.

Table 3.26: Accommodating future demand

Club	Future demand			Comments
	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior	
Newbold-on-Avon CC	1	-	1	Site is already overplayed so demand cannot be accommodated.
Rugby CC	1	1	2	Site is already overplayed so demand cannot be accommodated.

As seen, neither of the clubs can accommodate their future demand at the sites that they currently use. For senior women's and junior demand, existing NTPs could be utilised but this does not provide a solution for senior men's demand, which all three clubs express growth aspirations for.

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Given the future demand evidenced, particularly for Saturday cricket, there is likely to be a need for access to additional cricket provision. The table below identifies the analysis areas for which future demand is expressed. Any additional squares should be located within the analysis areas as if they are provided elsewhere clubs may not be able to utilise the provision due to the travel involved.

Table 3.27: Summary of future demand by analysis area

Analysis area	Future demand (number of teams)
North	-
South	-
Urban	2
Rugby	2

As shown, there is demand for two Saturday teams in the Urban Analysis Area via Newbold-on-Avon CC and Rugby CC. There is no demand for additional teams in the North or South analysis areas.

In the Urban Analysis Area, there are no existing squares with actual spare capacity, meaning that there could be a requirement for new provision. As two Saturday teams can use one square (based on playing home and away fixtures on an alternative basis), this would equate to one new square being needed. However, an alternative could be to secure access to Rugby School (Springhill Pitches).

Furthermore, another appropriate solution to alleviate future overplay would be to explore the options of bringing back into use the two disused squares in the area, identified at Easenhall Cricket Ground and Marton Village Cricket Club.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares.
- ◀ Improve quality at sites assessed as standard and ensure quality is sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Reduce overplay via quality improvements, the transfer of play to sites with actual spare capacity or through an increased usage of NTPs accompanying grass wickets.
- ◀ Seek to secure access to squares not currently available for community use given identified shortfalls, prioritising Rugby School (Springhill Pitches).
- ◀ Consider bringing disused squares back into use to accommodate current demand from overplayed sites and future demand.
- ◀ Pursue improved security of tenure for clubs without ownership or a long-term lease arrangement in place, e.g., Marton Village CC and Stretton-on-Dunsmore CC.
- ◀ Improve the changing facilities where there is a need to do so i.e., at Newbold on Avon Cricket Club and Oakfield & Rowland United Cricket Club.
- ◀ Ensure that any clubhouse extension at Dunchurch & Bilton Cricket Club does not encroach onto the site's square and affect playing provision.
- ◀ Continue to support ECB initiatives such as All Stars and Dynamos and ensure unaffiliated demand and recreational cricket is provided for.
- ◀ 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 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.

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- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing or new cricket sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g., through ball-strike issues).

Other grass pitch sports

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Supply is sufficient to meet American football demand; however, its presence at The Rugby Football Club alongside rugby union demand needs to be well managed.
- ◀ Similarly, supply is sufficient to meet Gaelic football demand, although it needs to be managed alongside rugby union activity at Newbold-on-Avon Rugby Club.
- ◀ The current level of supply is sufficient enough to meet community demand for polo in Rugby, with Onley Grounds Farm able to adequately cater for this.
- ◀ The current level of supply is sufficient enough to meet the degree of demand for rounders in Rugby, with Rugby School (Springhill Pitches) able to adequately service the Rugby Rounders league.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are no dedicated American football pitches within Rugby, with a rugby union pitch at The Rugby Football Club instead accessed.
- ◀ There are no dedicated Gaelic football pitches within Rugby, with a rugby union pitch at Newbold-on-Avon Rugby Club instead accessed.
- ◀ There are three dedicated polo arenas in Rugby, all of which are found at Onley Grounds Farm.
- ◀ There are currently three sites providing diamonds in Rugby, with these being Rugby School (Springhill Pitches), Rugby School for Girls and Bilton School.

Demand summary

- ◀ Rugby Rhinos fields four teams consisting of one U11s team and one U14s team that play flag football and one U16s team and one U19s team that play the full contact version of American football.
- ◀ Rugby Gaels operates one senior team which plays in Group 1 of the Warwickshire GAA league system.
- ◀ There is one polo club situated within the Borough, Rugby Polo Club. The Club consists of 50 members, offering 20 different revolving teams with varying age ranges.
- ◀ The Rugby Rounders League consists of nine teams and comprises of 170 members.

Scenarios

No significant shortfalls for other grass pitch sports are identified, meaning no scenarios are required.

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure continued use of rugby union provision for American football and Gaelic football activity for as long as it is required and ensure pitches are sufficiently managed and maintained to sustain such usage.
- ◀ Support the Rugby Rounders League and The Rugby Polo Club to ensure their needs continue to be met.

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Bowling greens

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Two greens are currently operating above recommended capacity limits, whilst none are operating below the threshold considered necessary to make provision sustainable.
- ◀ When accounting for future demand, no additional greens are considered likely to experience any capacity issues, although the issues at Bilton Bowling Club and Wolvey Village Hall are projected to worsen.
- ◀ Whilst there are clearly some pressures on the greens, no clubs report any capacity issues, suggesting that supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, although it is also clear that each green requires protection.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are nine flat green bowling greens provided across the same number of sites.
- ◀ Each green is in use by at least one club (Oakfield Bowling Club is used by two).
- ◀ Tenure for clubs is generally secure, although the lease arrangements in place for both Oakfield BC and Thornfield BC are nearing expiry.
- ◀ Six greens are assessed as good quality, two as standard quality and one as poor quality.
- ◀ Three greens are serviced by good quality ancillary provision, whilst the remaining six greens are serviced by standard quality provision.
- ◀ No greens are serviced by sports lighting.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are 10 clubs using bowling greens.
- ◀ Of the seven clubs that have responded to consultation requests, there are a total of 366 members, equating to 229 senior men, 136 senior women and one junior.
- ◀ The average membership across the clubs is 52, which is comparatively high.
- ◀ Two clubs report that demand has increased in recent years, with these being Bilton BC and Thornfield BC, whereas only Wolvey BC reports a decrease in membership.
- ◀ Only one club reports that its green is available for pay and play (Caldecott Park BC).
- ◀ Four clubs (Bilton, Caldecott Park, Thornfield and Wolvey bowls clubs) express some level of future demand, with this equating to for 45 senior members but no increase in junior members.
- ◀ All clubs report that current and future membership levels can be accommodated on the current supply available to them.

Scenarios

Impact of 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 over 60 may need additional resource to ensure that it is meeting its required level of demand.

In Rugby, where membership is known, two greens are currently operating above the membership threshold, located at Bilton Bowling Club and Wolvey Village Hall. Collectively, the greens are currently oversubscribed by 34 members, which could equate to the need for just one additional green. When accounting for future demand, this increases to 68 members.

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Notwithstanding the above, none of the clubs express any capacity issues and none report any latent or unmet demand. As such, despite high levels of demand, there is no identified requirement for additional green space, although support is required to ensure that this remains the case.

Achieving club sustainability

Bowls England suggests that clubs operating with a membership of below 20 could be unsustainable. No clubs in Rugby have less than this, which means that all existing, in-use greens should be protected. For some authorities, an amalgamation of clubs can often be a solution when numerous clubs are struggling for membership within a locality; however, this is clearly not required in Rugby.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect all existing greens.
- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as poor and standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Improve security of tenure for Oakfield BC, Caldecott Park BC and Rugby Thornfield BC.
- ◀ Support clubs operating with a high membership to ensure demand continues to be met on their existing provision.
- ◀ Support ancillary facility improvement where required, particularly where current provision is assessed as standard (rather than good).

Tennis courts

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ For club-based tennis, whilst there are clearly some pressures, no clubs report any capacity issues, suggesting that supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, although this can be further aided with quality improvements and through increasing the level of sports lighting.
- ◀ Away from clubs, whilst no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, it cannot be said that supply is sufficient to meet demand as there is instead a clear need to improve the supply in ways that can attract and better accommodate more users.

Supply summary

- ◀ There is a total of 61 tennis courts identified in Rugby across 19 sites, with 36 courts for community use at 12 sites.
- ◀ There is one lapsed tennis court identified in Frankton, along Bourton Road.
- ◀ The operators of Rugby Railway Club report that plans are in place to replace the court at its site with a smaller sized 3G pitch.
- ◀ A new David Lloyd Centre is to be opened near Crick Road which will feature three indoor tennis courts.
- ◀ Most existing tennis courts have a macadam surface, with 53 being of this type (the remainder have an artificial surface).
- ◀ In total, 16 of the 61 tennis courts are serviced by sports lighting, representing just 26% of the provision.
- ◀ Of the courts, 13 are assessed as good quality, 35 as standard quality and 13 as poor quality, with six of the good quality courts are available for community use, compared to 25 of the standard quality courts and five of the poor quality courts.
- ◀ Clifton-upon-Dunsmore TC is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities at Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Playing Field, whilst such provision is also generally problematic at non-club sites.

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Demand summary

- ✦ There are five tennis clubs in Rugby.
- ✦ Across the three responding clubs (Clifton-upon-Dunsmore TC, Grange TC and Rugby Lawn TC) there is an overall membership of 552.
- ✦ All three clubs report that membership has increased in recent years.
- ✦ Rugby Lawn TC hosts a Big Tennis Weekend, whilst LTA Youth Start is in operation at Rugby Lawn Tennis Club and Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Playing Field via the onsite clubs.
- ✦ Away from club courts, no providers report high levels of community access.
- ✦ Latent/unmet demand for tennis is generally high, both nationally and locally, although the majority of this is seemingly for non-club activity given that no clubs report any capacity issues.
- ✦ Rugby Lawn TC has an aspiration to grow by 40 members and Clifton-upon-Dunsmore TC has an aspiration to grow by 20 members.
- ✦ In addition, the LTA also expects future growth via its insight tools, with much of this demand likely to include participation outside of the club-environment.

Scenarios

Accommodating current and future demand

The LTA suggests that a court without sports lighting can accommodate a maximum of 40 members, whereas a court with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members. Based on this, two clubs could have current capacity issues, with these being Clifton-Upon-Dunsmore TC (at Clifton-Upon-Dunsmore Playing Filed) and The Grange TC (at The Grange Bowling Club).

Of the two clubs operating above the capacity guidance, both are without sports lighting. As such, providing sports lighting at these sites would reduce the shortfalls. This is shown in the following table.

Table 3.28: Impact of providing sports lighting at sites with capacity issues

Site ID	Site name	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Current Capacity rating (members)	Capacity rating with sports-lit courts (members)
20	Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Playing Field	2	No	128	88
69	The Grange Bowling Club	1	No	27	7

The overall shortfall across the sites reduces from 155 members to 95 members and although not fully eradicated at either site, the deficits are lowered to much more manageable levels.

The only way to fully alleviate capacity issues would be to provide the clubs with access to additional provision. To that end, the following table explores the number of courts that could be required for each club.

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Table 3.29: Additional provision required to satisfy current demand

Club name	Current capacity rating (members)	Capacity rating with sports-lit courts (members)	No. of additional courts required
Clifton-upon-Dunsmore TC	128	88	Three additional courts with sports lighting, or two courts with sports lighting if existing provision is serviced. If sports lighting is not possible, four additional courts are needed.
The Grange TC	27	7	One additional court which can be non-lit, regardless of whether sports lighting is provided to service existing provision.

When accounting for future demand expressed by the clubs, the capacity issues are projected to worsen for Clifton-Upon-Dunsmore TC (by 20 members), whereas the Grange TC forecasts no future demand and thus its capacity would not change. However, as the demand expressed by Clifton-Upon-Dunsmore TC is relatively minimal, its court requirements would be unaltered.

Where additional courts are required, this does not necessarily mean that new sites need to be established. Instead, enabling access to existing provision at local authority sites or at school sites could be explored, or installing additional courts at the sites already accessed using unmarked land could be pursued. Furthermore, some clubs are able to manage their provision in such a way that they do not deem there to be capacity issues, despite high levels of demand.

Improving the recreational tennis offer

Increasing recreational tennis demand is currently a priority for the LTA, with twice as many people playing casually rather than at clubs. To enable this, it has secured a £22 million investment fund to be put into public tennis courts across Britain, together with an £8.5 million investment from the LTA. This will see thousands of public park tennis courts that are in poor or unplayable condition improved for the benefit of the local communities.

No local authority courts in Rugby have received any recent investment from the LTA. However, Caldecott Park has been identified as being a potential site for improvement, with the PPOSS findings reinforcing this need.

No other local authority sites in Rugby provide more than one court, with the exception of Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Playing Field which is primarily used for club activity rather than recreationally. As such, no other existing sites are seemingly suitable for investment, but an alternative approach could be to establish new courts at other well used park sites. This would ensure that recreational tennis demand can be better provided for across the Borough.

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 (or could be) well used for recreational demand.

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- ◀ Linked to the above, improve park courts as a priority to create a year-round recreational tennis option to meet local demand and given lack of current options, consider creation of new courts at well used parks that do not currently provide provision.
- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via utilisation of technology provided by the LTA (e.g., Clubspark) 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.
- ◀ Explore installation of additional sports lighting at club-based venues, particularly at sites operating above the capacity guidance.
- ◀ Provide additional court space for clubs operating above the capacity guidance, where it is required, potentially via better utilisation of existing provision or through installing additional courts at existing venues.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision servicing Clifton-Upon-Dunsmore TC.

Netball courts

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is high demand for netball in Rugby, as represented by nine clubs being based in the Borough; however, not all activity is being adequately met, leading to levels of unmet, latent and exported demand.
- ◀ It is clear that the existing facility stock is not sufficient to meet demand, predominately due to quality and accessibility issues (rather than quantity).

Supply summary

- ◀ There are 63 netball courts identified across 27 sites, although only 20 courts at six sites are considered to be available for community use.
- ◀ All but three outdoor netball courts are operated by schools (95%).
- ◀ All courts have a macadam surface.
- ◀ A total of 35 of the courts are over marked by other provision, most commonly tennis courts.
- ◀ Only six of the courts are serviced by sports lighting, representing a significantly low amount.
- ◀ Of the courts, eight are assessed as good quality, 40 as standard quality and 14 as poor quality, with three of the good quality courts are available for community use, compared to eight of the standard quality courts and one of the poor quality courts.
- ◀ The operator of Rugby Railway Club reports that plans are in place to replace the court at its site with a smaller sized 3G pitch.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are nine netball clubs with a presence in Rugby.
- ◀ LMR Rugby NC is the only club in the Borough to play in the Coventry & Warwickshire Netball League, whilst the remaining clubs in Rugby play in the Rugby Netball League (otherwise known as RANA).
- ◀ Across the clubs, there are currently 622 members, representing significant demand.
- ◀ Most of the clubs utilise Rugby School Sports Centre for training, with some activity also identified at Rugby Railway Club despite its development proposals.
- ◀ The Rugby Netball League also utilises Rugby School Sports Centre as a central venue for its fixtures.
- ◀ No England Netball initiatives have a current presence in the Borough (e.g., Back to Netball, Bee Netball, Netball Now and Walking Netball).
- ◀ Five unaffiliated leagues, ran by three different commercial providers are operating in Rugby, with Bilton School, Houlton School and Rugby School Sports Centre accessed.

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- ◀ Due to the presence of the Rugby Netball League and its use of a central venue system, there is relatively high levels of imported demand into the Borough, whereas LMR Rugby NC exports some training demand due to a lack of suitable provision.
- ◀ Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool identifies high levels of latent demand, whilst some is also expressed by both LMR Rugby NC and LMR Rugby Juniors NC.
- ◀ Both LMR Rugby NC and LMR Rugby Juniors NC report demand to grow in the future, as does the Rugby Netball League.

Scenarios

No suitable scenarios for netball have been identified. Instead, it is considered that actioning the below recommendations will ensure that the sport can be adequately accommodated, regardless of current and future issues.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Ensure continued access to sites currently in use for community netball, with priority placed on Rugby School Sports Centre given that it accessed as a central venue.
- ◀ Explore gaining community access to sites currently unavailable for use, especially where a large number of courts are provided e.g., at Bilton Grange School.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good in order to appropriately meet current and future demand within Rugby.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision servicing sports, where it is required.
- ◀ Consider establishing additional sports lighting at venues in use for netball or at venues that could attract netball demand following installation.

Athletics tracks

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is substantial demand for athletics in Rugby and the wider area; however, this is currently being adequately met.
- ◀ Away from the formal track and field facilities, emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other activities taking place in Rugby, although this does not require dedicated provision.

Supply summary

- ◀ There is one purpose-built outdoor athletics facility provided at Queen's Diamond Jubilee Centre, with a 400-metre, eight lane track with a synthetic surface provided.
- ◀ The site is operated by the Council and rented by Rugby & Northampton Athletics Club and Rugby Triathlon Club.
- ◀ The track is assessed as good quality and is TrackMark accredited.
- ◀ It is serviced by good quality ancillary provision.

Demand summary

- ◀ Two clubs have been identified in Rugby that have a focus on athletics and/or running activity.
- ◀ Rugby & Northampton Athletics Club is a large club with over 1,100 members and splits its demand across Queen's Diamond Jubilee Centre and Moulton College (in West Northamptonshire).
- ◀ The Club also has a road running arm with circa 400 members.

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- ◀ Rugby Triathlon Club has 150 members and utilises the track at Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Centre for some of its running sessions as well as the local road network.
- ◀ A Park Run event is held weekly in Rugby at Whinfield Recreation Ground, whilst a junior Park Run event is held at GEC Recreation Ground.
- ◀ There are several running events held annually, including the Rugby Half Marathon, a six-mile road race and a 5km race known as “Ready Steady Fun Run”.
- ◀ Sport England’s Segmentation Tool forecasts a latent demand of 1,961 people, although with no clubs report any latent or unmet demand, it is suggested that other barriers are preventing participation.
- ◀ Both Rugby & Northampton Athletics Club and Rugby Triathlon Club report an aspiration to grow membership, although neither quantify a potential increase, stating that no interest will be turned away.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect the athletics track at Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Centre for continued activity and ensure good quality is sustained.
- ◀ Continue to support and promote clubs, running groups, events and England Athletics initiatives such as Park Run and pursue increased participation, where possible.
- ◀ Ensure all clubs/groups continue to have home bases to operate from and pursue improved security of tenure where it is required.
- ◀ Ensure that any large developments within the Borough consider the potential of providing an active athletics track.

PART 4: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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

OBJECTIVE 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities where it is needed for meeting current and future needs

Recommendations:

- ◀ Ensure, through the use of the PPOSS, that playing pitches and outdoor sport facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.
- ◀ Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- ◀ 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 shows that all existing playing field and outdoor sport sites cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. As such, all provision requires protection or replacement until all identified shortfalls have been overcome. This includes disused, underused and poor quality sites as there is a requirement for such provision to help meet and alleviate the identified shortfalls.

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 needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

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

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Development Management

The PPOSS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new playing fields, outdoor sport facilities and ancillary facilities. All applications should be 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 sports facilities and will use the PPOSS to help assess that planning application against its Playing Fields Policy. It will object to proposals relating to developments impacting on playing field provision (and accompanying ancillary provision) unless at least one of its five policy exceptions is met. The exceptions are:

- ◀ **Exception 1:** Excess of provision – a robust and up-to-date assessment has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of Sport England, that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, which will remain the case should the development be permitted, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.
- ◀ **Exception 2:** Ancillary development – the proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field and does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.
- ◀ **Exception 3:** Land incapable of forming part of a pitch – the proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:
 - ◀ reduce the size of any playing pitch;
 - ◀ result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas);
 - ◀ reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain their quality;
 - ◀ result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site; or
 - ◀ prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site.
- ◀ **Exception 4:** Replacement provision of equivalent or better quality and quantity – the area of playing field to be lost as a result of the proposed development will be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new area of playing field:
 - ◀ of equivalent or better quality, and
 - ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity, and
 - ◀ in a suitable location, and
 - ◀ subject to equivalent or better accessibility and management arrangements.
- ◀ **Exception 5:** New sports provision benefit outweighs the loss of the playing field – the proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice to the use, of the area of playing field.

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

A number of school sites are being used in Rugby for competitive play, predominantly for football. In some cases, use of such facilities has been classified as secure; however, it is not necessarily formalised and 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, such as at Bilton School and Rugby School.

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

Given current budgetary pressures, 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 for the acquisition and development of sites, providing that this is to the benefit of sport.

The Council should also further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted via lease agreements (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs) so that clubs are in a position manage assets and to apply for external funding for site improvements. This is particularly the case at poor quality local authority sites, possibly with inadequate or no ancillary facilities, so that quality can be enhanced and sites developed.

Local sports clubs that could be able to manage their own assets should be supported by partners including the Council and NGBs to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership work. For example, club development should be supported and clubs should be encouraged to develop business and sports development plans to show how facilities can be sustainable and to maximise income generation.

Relevant clubs could also be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)⁸. They should also be signposted to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies or local businesses.

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

Club	Site
<p>Clubs should have Clubmark/NGBs accreditation award.</p> <p>Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links.</p> <p>Clubs are sustainable, both in a financial sense and via their internal management structures in relation to recruitment and retention policy for both players and volunteers. Strong business plans could also be created by the clubs to illustrate this.</p> <p>Ideally, clubs should have already identified any match funding required for initial capital investment identified.</p>	<p>Sites should be those identified as 'Local Sites' (recommendation E) for new clubs (i.e., not those with a City-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 (which can be attributed to the presence of an accreditation award).</p> <p>Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards the improvement of the site.</p>

⁸ <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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

- ◀ Increasing participation, particularly in target areas such as women's and girls' activity.
- ◀ 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 sites remain available for other purposes and for other users.

For clubs with lease arrangements already in place, these should be reviewed when fewer than 25 years remain so that extensions can be secured, thus improving security of tenure and helping them attract funding for site development. 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).

Recommendation I – Maximise community use of education facilities where needed

To maximise community use, a more coherent, structured relationship with schools and higher/further education establishments 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 Rugby, pricing policies at facilities can be a barrier to access at some education sites but physical access, poor quality and resistance from providers to open up provision is also an issue, especially at 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 venues and local clubs, as well helping to reduce identified shortfalls. It is, however, common for 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 education sites offering several pitches. 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 providers 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.

As detailed earlier, NGBs and Sport England can often help to negotiate and engage with providers 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 investment in the future as community access can be a condition of the funding agreement.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Where new schools are provided, 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 impact of the provision. An example of this is ensuring the provision of youth 11v11 grass football pitches, given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students, or multi-use provision such as courts that can accommodate both tennis and netball activity.

OBJECTIVE 2

To enhance outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites

Recommendations:

- ◀ Improve quality
- ◀ Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) to the management and improvement of sites.
- ◀ Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding.
- ◀ Secure developer contributions through Section 106.

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to improve quality, including, for example, addressing overplay and improving maintenance. Given the number of councils' face reducing budgets, it is currently advisable to look at improving key sites as a priority (e.g., the largest, well used sites that are overplayed and/or poor quality). The Action Plan within this document provides a starting point for this, identifying key sites, poor quality sites and/or sites that are overplayed which should be prioritised for improvement.

With pressures on budgets, any wide-ranging direct investment into quality is unlikely and other options for improvements should be considered. This could be via clubs leasing/managing sites as highlighted in Objective 1, with clubs taking on maintenance, whilst other options may include the use of equipment banks and the pooling of resources for maintenance.

Addressing quality issues

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

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

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

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

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

For football, The FA has a Pitch Improvement Programme aimed at improving the standard of grass pitches across the Country. For provision included in the programme, clubs can utilise the services of the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to carry out a free on-site assessment of their pitches. This then provides the Grounds Management Association (GMA) with the detail needed to create a personalised, informative report to advise on how improvements can be made. Clubs then receive bespoke advice and support to help with any future actions, funding applications and equipment, with clubs getting access to discounted rates for machinery and consumables through local partnerships.

The tool is available across mobile apps and desktop and is open to access by all providers, including clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches. Applicants are required to submit a PitchPower assessment for each of their pitches as a condition of a grant funding application for Football Foundation grass pitch investment, such as the Grass Pitch Maintenance fund.

For rugby union and cricket, the RFU and the ECB are now also utilising PitchPower, with reports to be produced similar to those for football.

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

Specifically for tennis, the LTA has secured a £22 million investment fund to be put into public tennis courts across Britain, together with an £8.5 million investment from the LTA. This will see thousands of public park tennis courts that are in poor or unplayable condition improved for the benefit of the local communities.

Addressing overplay

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

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The FA, RFU, ECB and EH all recommend a maximum number of matches that 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
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
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). For bowls, a green is considered at capacity if it has over 60 members, whilst a membership of under 20 could be unsustainable.

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. In isolated cases, new provision may be required.

For cricket, an increase in NTPs is often 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. Where NTPs are already installed, increased usage should be encouraged.

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

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

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Recommendation I – 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 outdoor sport sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 6: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

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

Partners, in collaboration with the Council, should ensure that appropriate funding is secured for improved sports provision and directed to areas of need. This should be underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in outdoor sport provision and accompanying ancillary facilities, with the PPOSS able to be used as an evidence base for attracting investment.

To attract investment, the Council should stay informed in relation to relevant and appropriate funding pots, both in regard to what it can directly attract as well as to what clubs could attract independently (with the Council able to assist with this process). This can also be helped through the wider Steering Group signposting partners to what could be available.

In order to address the needs of the community, as well as to target priority areas and to reduce duplication of provision, there should be a co-ordinated approach to the strategic investment. In delivering this recommendation, the Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners as well as 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. This includes delivery from education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector.

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 developments.

For playing pitches, it is recommended the Council uses 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 the basis of the Council working with Sport England to develop a process and guidance for obtaining developer contributions and should aid the negotiation process with developers.

The calculator uses the current number of teams by sport and by pitch type and calculates the percentage within each age group that play that sport and on that provision. That percentage is then applied to the population growth and the additional teams likely to be generated are then converted into match equivalent sessions. This then provides the associated pitch requirements in the peak period, with the associated costs (both for providing the pitch/facility and for its life cycle) provided. 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.

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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 contributions to put towards improvements to increase the capacity of existing provision, or if new provision is required (or a combination of both). 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).

Where offsite contributions are necessary, the PPS should be as a guide to determine suitable sites in the locality and what the investment should achieve in relation to wider shortfalls in the area. Sport England and relevant NGBs should also be consulted to determine their needs and to ensure that there will be no duplication of investment.

For housing developments that warrant the creation of new outdoor sports facilities, especially if existing sites in the locality do not have the capacity to absorb any growth in demand, the PPS should assist in identifying the facility mix required. The preference from Sport England and the NGBs is for multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by appropriate ancillary facilities which consider the potential for further development in the future. This is because standalone facilities are more likely to become under-used (or unused), unviable and unsustainable.

More generally, 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.
- ◀ Where it is determined that new provision is required to accompany a development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that also contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality. To determine what supply of provision is provided, it is imperative that the PPS findings are taken into consideration and that 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.

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 PPS Steering Group meetings.

For further information, please see Part 6 of this report.

OBJECTIVE 3

To provide new outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities where there is current or future demand to do so

Recommendations:

- ◀ Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current facility stock.
- ◀ Identify opportunities to increase to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand.

Recommendation (h) – Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current stock

The Council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the preceding Assessment Report and the sport-by-sport specific recommendations (Part 3) as well as the following Action Plan (Part 5). Maximising use of existing provision 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 pitch (or pitch type) for one sport to instead cater for another sport (or another pitch type).
- ◀ Securing community use at education sites including those currently unavailable.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage and secure tenure.
- ◀ Exploring lease/management arrangements with appropriate clubs/organisations.
- ◀ Establishing additional sports lighting.
- ◀ Installing artificial surfaces (e.g., NTPs).

The PPOSS identifies priority sites that should be focused upon, including those that are presently overplayed and/or poor quality as well as unused and unsecure sites that are particularly large. It also advises how issues can be overcome, typically through pitch quality improvements to increase the carrying capacity of pitches, securing community use agreements for sites that do not provide security of tenure to ensure spare capacity can be fully utilised, and gaining access to unavailable sites to increase the pitch stock available to the community.

The Steering Group should use and regularly update the Action Plan within this Strategy. The Action Plan lists recommendations for each site, focused upon both qualitative and quantitative improvements, which if delivered will lessen the need for new provision.

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

Linked to the above and as evidenced in Part 3, although there are identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions, most current and future demand is currently being met and most shortfalls can be addressed via quality improvements and/or improved access to sites that presently used minimally or that are currently unavailable. Adding to the current stock, particularly in the short term, is therefore not recommended as a priority, except for 3G pitches and for rugby union, cricket and tennis, the shortfall for which cannot easily be reduced without new stock.

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For rugby union, it is imperative that any new provision that is established will be accessed by the relevant clubs. Typically, rugby union demand can be very club-orientated, which can make the use of secondary venues unlikely, meaning that failure to provide pitches in the right location could lead to the provision becoming unused and unsustainable. Focus should be placed on Rugby Lions RUFC, whereby a disused pitch at its site can be brought back into use, and Old Laurentians RUFC, whereby relocation proposals should be supported.

For cricket, access to existing sites could alleviate all shortfalls. However, if this is not possible or preferred, new squares may be required. This relates specifically to Newbold-on-Avon CC and Rugby CC.

Similarly, new tennis courts may be needed for Clifton-upon-Dunsmore TC and The Grange TC. Additional tennis courts at park sites should also be sought to increase the recreational tennis offer.

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

For housing developments, as outlined in Recommendation (g), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can be used as a guide to inform requirements. See Part 6 for further information.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 5: 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 I, 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 a Borough-wide context. As such, this, for example, takes into account the level of demand accommodated and the potential impact the recommended actions will have on addressing the identified shortfalls/issues. The proposed site-hierarchy is summarised in the following table.

Table 5.1: Proposed tiered site criteria

Criteria	Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Site location	Strategically located in the Borough. 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 more at a basic level.
Management	Management control allows for wide community use, i.e., through the local authority, a leisure operator or a school/college/university 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 Borough-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. Actions at these sites are likely to have a greater impact on addressing the issues identified in the PPOSS.

Key centres are more community focused, although some are still likely to service a wider analysis area. 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.

For local authority 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-operated venues).

Priority

Although hub sites are most likely to have a **high** priority actions, as they have wider 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 on occasion 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 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:
<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/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.**

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary – pitch sports

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
North	Adult	0	0.5
	Youth 11v11	2	2.5
	Youth 9v9	2	1.5
	Mini 7v7	0.5	0
	Mini 5v5	0	0.5
Rugby	Adult	2.5	1
	Youth 11v11	2	5.5
	Youth 9v9	0	2.5
	Mini 7v7	2	2
	Mini 5v5	0	2
Football – 3G pitches			
North	Full size	1	1
Rugby	Full size	2.25	3.25
Rugby Union			
North	Senior	0	2
Rugby	Senior	26.25	33.5
Hockey			
North	Full size	0	0
Rugby	Full size	0	0
Cricket			
North	Senior	22	22
Rugby	Senior	41	101

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	The North Analysis Area is currently operating above capacity; when accounting for future demand, such shortfall exacerbates.
Tennis	Club demand is being adequately met; however, there is a requirement to focus on informal activity at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites and schools).
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore options to bring provision back into use where it has in recent years been lost, e.g., Antsy Playing Field. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Barr Lane Playing Field. ◀ Enable use of currently unavailable sites, e.g., Long Lawford Primary School. ◀ Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites to reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls, e.g., Cherwell Way.

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Sport	Headline findings
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Consider installation of one additional full size 3G pitch to alleviate football training shortfalls.
Rugby Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Sustain pitch quality at key sites to ensure overplay does not occur, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Broadstreet Rugby Club. ◀ Improve changing and ancillary facilities where required, e.g., Broadstreet Rugby Club.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ No action required.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Sustain quality of squares through dedicated maintenance regimes.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision and sustain quality to adequately meet demand.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality where needed to better accommodate demand, e.g., Barr Lane Playing Field.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality where needed to better accommodate demand, e.g., Wolvey Playing Fields. ◀ Explore options to enable community use at sites where it is currently without, e.g., Binley Woods Recreation Ground.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ No action required.

**RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
9	Barr Lane Playing Field	CV23 0LU	Football	Brinklow Village Parish Council	One youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of which are poor quality. Both are available for community use and the mini 7v7 pitch is overplayed. The site offers no ancillary facilities.	Improve the quality of both pitches to eradicate overplay and provide ancillary facilities on site.	FA FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		One poor quality macadam court which is available for community use but unlit.	Improve court quality to better accommodate recreational demand and explore whether establishing sports lighting would increase activity.	LTA		L	S	L	
13	Binley Woods Primary School	CV3 2QU	Football	School	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch which is available for community use and is overplayed.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and look to provide security of tenure, enabling actual spare capacity for clubs.	School FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One poor quality macadam court which is neither community available nor sports lit.	Improve court quality to better accommodate for demand.	School EN		L	S	L	
14	Binley Woods Recreation Ground	CV3 2JJ	Football	Binley Woods Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch which has spare capacity discounted due to its poor quality. The site offers no car parking provision.	Improve quality to provide actual spare capacity.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
16	Broadstreet Rugby Club	CV3 2AY	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Seven good quality pitches. Two are sports lit and all pitches are played to capacity during peak time. Broadstreet RUFC has plans to service its third pitch with sports lighting and expand the footprint of its clubhouse facilities.	Sustain and improve quality to ensure overplay does not occur and support the Club in its plans to install sports lighting on its third pitch. Improve ancillary provision; making the facilities more inclusive, fit for purpose and sustainable for future growth of the women's game.	Club RFU	Key Centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
19	Cherwell Way	CV23 9SU	Football	Long Lawford Parish Council	Two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of which are standard quality. The two mini 7v7 pitches display actual spare capacity. The site offers no changing rooms.	Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand and as a minimum provide toilets on site.	FA FF	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
28	Gamecock Barracks	CV11 6QN	Football	MOD	Two youth 11v11 pitches and one mini 7v7 pitch, all of which are standard quality but unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality for MOD usage.	MOD FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		One standard quality smaller size 3G pitch which is unavailable for community use despite being sports lit.	Sustain quality for MOD usage.	MOD FA FF		L	L	L	
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Improve quality for MOD usage.	MOD RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		One poor macadam quality court which is neither available nor sports lit.	Improve quality for MOD usage.	MOD LTA		L	L	L	

**RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
35	HMPS College Newbold Revel	CV23 0TH	Football	Government	Two adult and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are standard quality but are unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality for internal use.	Government FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Cricket		One standard quality square.	Sustain quality for internal use.	Government ECB		L	L	L	
			Tennis		One standard quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor is it sports lit.	Sustain quality for internal use.	Government LTA		L	L	L	
37	King Georges Field (Long Lawford)	CV23 9DE	Football	Long Lawford Parish Council	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch, both of which are standard quality and used to capacity during peak time. The site is serviced by inadequate car parking provision.	Explore options to improve pitch quality to increase carrying capacity and to avoid future overplay and seek resolution to car parking issues.	FA FF	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
38	Long Lawford Primary School	CV23 9AL	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch which is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One poor quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor is it sports lit.	Improve quality for curricular use.	School EN		S	S	L	
55	Shilton Playing Field	CV7 9JQ	Football	Shilton & Barnacle Parish Council	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches, both of which are available for community use. Both pitches display actual spare capacity. Pitches are serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand and improve quality of changing rooms.	FA FF	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
65	Wolvey Church of England Primary School	LE10 3LA	Football	School	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of which are poor quality. Available for community use and overplayed.	Improve the quality of both pitches to eradicate overplay.	School FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
66	Wolvey Playing Fields	LE10 3LA	Cricket	Community Organisation	One good quality square which is leased by Wolvey CC and offers spare capacity for additional usage on Sundays and midweek.	Sustain square quality.	Community Organisation ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		One poor quality macadam court which is available for community use and sports lit.	Improve court quality and explore options to provide additional courts to better accommodate recreational demand.	Community Organisation LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		One poor quality macadam court which is available for community use and sports lit.	Improve court quality.	Community Organisation EN		M	S	M	
76	Easenhall Cricket Ground (Disused)	CV23 0JD	Cricket	Easenhall Parish Council	The square has been taken out of use. It last catered for cricket in 2008.	Retain the site as strategic reserve or as there is no current requirement to bring it back into use for cricket, repurpose to meet other sports' shortfalls.	ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide

**RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
89	Wolvey Village Hall	LE10 3LJ	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green which is currently operating above its recommended capacity limit. The green is used by Wolvey BC and is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain quality to ensure that demand can continue to be accommodated and improve ancillary provision.	Club Bowls England	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
91	Church Lawford Football Pitch	CV23 9EE	Football	Church Lawford Parish Council	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch which is available for community use but has spare capacity discounted due to its poor quality and unsecure tenure.	Improve pitch quality and look to provide security of tenure, to create actual spare capacity for clubs.	FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

SOUTH ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary – pitch sports

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
South	Adult	1	0
	Youth 11v11	0	1
	Youth 9v9	0	0
	Mini 7v7	1.5	0
	Mini 5v5	0	0.5
Rugby	Adult	2.5	1
	Youth 11v11	2	5.5
	Youth 9v9	0	2.5
	Mini 7v7	2	2
	Mini 5v5	0	2
Football – 3G pitches			
South	Full size	0.75	0.75
Rugby	Full size	2.25	3.25
Rugby union			
South	Senior	0	1.5
Rugby	Senior	26.25	33.5
Hockey			
South	Full size	0	0
Rugby	Full size	0	0
Cricket			
South	Senior	24	0
Rugby	Senior	41	101

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	Supply is sufficient to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is being adequately met; however, there is a requirement to focus on informal activity at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites and schools).
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⬇ Protect provision. ⬇ Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Wolston Leisure & Community Centre. ⬇ Ensure clubs have security of tenure at their home venues. ⬇ Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites to reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls, e.g., The Field (Bourton).
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⬇ Protect provision. ⬇ Consider installation of one additional full size 3G pitch to alleviate football training shortfalls.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
Rugby Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality and look to provide security of tenure where it is needed to provide community use agreements where tenure is unsecure, e.g., at Princethorpe College.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore options to enable community access, e.g., Bilton Grange School. ◀ Resurface pitch at Princethorpe College to improve quality, look to provide security of tenure for Rugby & East Warwickshire HC and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to reduce overplay. ◀ Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites to reduce future shortfalls, e.g., at Dunchurch & Bilton Cricket Club. ◀ Explore options to bring provision back into use where it has in recent years been lost, e.g., Marton Village Cricket Club. ◀ Improve changing and ancillary facilities where required, e.g., Oakfield & Rowland Cricket Club.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to better cater for demand, e.g., at Leamington Hastings Parish Hall.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore options to better accommodate recreational tennis demand.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore options to enable increased community access, e.g., at Bilton Grange School. ◀ Explore options to provide courts with sports lighting where it is currently without to better cater for demand, e.g., at Princethorpe College.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ No action required.

**RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
11	Bilton Grange School	CV22 6QU	Hockey	School	One good quality full size water-based AGP which is unavailable for community use despite being sports lit.	Explore options to enable community access to provide a better community hockey venue than some of those that are used.	School EH	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		Two grass wicket squares and one NTP square all of which are standard quality. Available to the community but unused.	Explore transfer of demand from overplayed sites or utilise the squares for future demand providing that security of tenure can be provided.	School ECB		M	S	L	
			Tennis		Eight standard quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Explore options to enable community access given quantity of courts and consider providing sports lighting to attract demand and provide increased capacity.	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Six standard quality macadam courts which are neither unavailable for community use nor sports lit.	Explore options to enable community access given quantity of courts and consider providing sports lighting to attract demand and provide increased capacity.	School EN		M	S	M	
21	Coventry City Football Club (Sky Blue Lodge)	CV8 3FL	Football	Sports Club	Two good quality adult pitches which are unavailable for community use. The site is used by Coventry City FC, a professional football club.	Sustain quality for continue professional use.	Club FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
22	Dunchurch & Bilton Cricket Club	CV22 6PN	Football	Community Organisation	One standard quality adult pitch which is played to capacity.	Sustain pitch quality to avoid future overplay.	Community Organisation FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Cricket		One good quality grass square that is accompanied by an NTP. The square is leased by Dunchurch & Bilton CC and also rented by Marton Village CC. It has spare capacity for additional cricket midweek.	Sustain quality.	Community Organisation ECB		L	L	L	
23	Dyers Lane Playing Field	CV8 3HE	Football	Wolston Parish Council	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of which are poor quality. Both pitches have actual spare capacity discounted due to quality issues. The site offers no changing rooms.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and seek as a minimum to provide changing rooms on site.	FA FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
25	Fetherston Crescent Recreation Ground	CV8 3FD	Football	Ryton-on-Dunsmore Parish Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch which is played to capacity. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision and offers no car parking.	Sustain pitch quality to avoid future overplay and improve ancillary provision.	FA FF	Local	L	M	M	Protect Enhance
26	Fosse Way Park	CV23 9NP	Football	Frankton Parish Council	One youth 11v11 pitch which has spare capacity discounted due to its poor quality. Pitch is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities and an inadequate car park.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and improve ancillary provision.	FA FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
39	Marton Village Cricket Club (Disused)	CV23 9RP	Cricket	Marton Parish Council	The square has been taken out of use.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use as a means to reducing overplay and accommodating future demand expressed elsewhere.	ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide

**RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
43	Oakfield & Rowland Cricket Club (Coventry Road)	CV23 9DT	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality grass square accompanied by an NTP wicket which is overplayed. Oakfield & Rowland CC own freehold of the site and the Club has plans to extend the footprint of its clubhouse and improve the condition of its training nets.	Explore options to transfer a proportion of demand to sites with actual spare capacity to alleviate overplay and support Club with its plans for changing room refurbishment and training net improvement.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
46	Princethorpe College	CV23 9PX	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches which are available for community use but have actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Explore options to provide users with security of tenure to provide actual spare capacity.	School FA FF	Hub	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		Three senior pitches and two junior pitches, all of which are poor quality. available for community use but with spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.	Improve and sustain pitch quality for curricular demand and retain as community available should club demand exist in the future.	School RFU		M	S	L	
			Hockey		A poor quality full size sand-based AGP which is available for community use and sports lit. Used by Rugby & East Warwickshire HC.	Resurface pitch as hockey suitable to improve quality and look to secure tenure for the Club via a community use agreement.	School EH		H	S	M	
			Cricket		Two standard quality squares, one of which is accompanied by an NTP. Each square is unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality and explore options to enable community access given local shortfalls.	School ECB		M	S	L	
			Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use but are unlit.	Sustain quality and explore options for potential sports lighting to attract increased recreational demand.	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts, both of which are available for community use but are unlit.	Sustain quality and explore options for potential sports lighting to better accommodate demand and to provide increased capacity	School EN		M	S	M	
58	The Field (Bourton)	CV23 9RE	Football	Bourton & Draycott Parish Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch which has actual spare capacity. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision and offers no car parking provision	Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites and improve ancillary provision.	FA FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		A good quality square which has spare capacity for additional cricket across the playing formats.	Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	ECB		M	S	L	

**RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
64	Wolston Leisure & Community Centre	CV8 3GT	Football	Trust	One adult, one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch all of which are good quality. An additional youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitch are also available for community use but are assessed as standard quality. The mini 7v7 pitch offers actual spare capacity, whilst one of the youth 11v11 pitches is overplayed. The remaining pitches are played to capacity.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and to increase actual spare capacity.	Trust FA FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		One poor quality smaller size 3G pitch which is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch has exceeded its ten-year recommended lifespan and requires resurfacing.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	Trust FA FF		M	S	M	
77	Willoughby Cricket Ground	CV23 8BZ	Cricket	Sports Club	A standard quality square accompanied by an NTP wicket. The square itself is available for community use and is overplayed. Willoughby CC owns freehold of the square and has plans to refurbish the changing rooms.	Improve quality to reduce overplay and explore options to transfer a proportion of current and future demand to sites with spare capacity to fully eradicate it. Also support Club with its plans for changing rooms refurbishment.	Club ECB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
78	Leamington Hastings Parish Hall	CV23 8DX	Bowls	Leamington Hastings Parish Council	A poor quality flat bowling green which is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Bowls England	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		One poor quality macadam court which is without sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	LTA		M	S	L	
80	Frankton Tennis Court	CV23 9NX	Tennis	Frankton Parish Council	The court has been taken out of use.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use if sufficient recreational demand exists, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	LTA	Local	L	M	M	Protect Provide
81	Flecknoe Cricket Club	CV23 8AY	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality square which has spare capacity for additional cricket across the playing formats.	Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

URBAN ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary – pitch sports

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Urban	Adult	1.5	0.5
	Youth 11v11	0	2
	Youth 9v9	2	0
	Mini 7v7	0	2
	Mini 5v5	0	1
Rugby	Adult	2.5	1
	Youth 11v11	2	5.5
	Youth 9v9	0	2.5
	Mini 7v7	2	2
	Mini 5v5	0	2
Football – 3G pitches			
Urban	Full size	0.5	1.5
Rugby	Full size	2.25	3.25
Rugby Union			
Urban	Senior	26.25	30
Rugby	Senior	26.25	33.5
Hockey			
Urban	Full size	0	0
Rugby	Full size	0	0
Cricket			
Urban	Senior (Saturday)	43	79
Rugby	Senior (Saturday)	41	101

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	The green at Bilton Bowling Club is the only green which is currently operating above capacity, although the Club reports no issues.
Tennis	The courts at Rugby Lawn Tennis Club are the only courts which are currently operating above capacity.
Netball	Club demand is not being adequately met due to the shortage of good quality courts serviced with sports lighting.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Whinfield Recreation Ground. ◀ Improve security of tenure at key sites such as Bilton School to create additional spare capacity for clubs. ◀ Enable use of currently unavailable sites to increase available pitch stock for clubs, e.g., at Avon Valley School. ◀ Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites to reduce future shortfalls, e.g., at Alwyn Road Recreation Ground.

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches have a sinking fund in place. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches remain on the FA register to host competitive matches. ◀ Consider installation of one additional 3G pitch to alleviate football training shortfalls,
Rugby Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Alwyn Road Recreation Ground. ◀ Support the relocation of Old Laurentians RUFC; providing that four senior pitches of good quality are provided, with two serviced by sports lighting. ◀ Bring the age grade pitch provision at The Rugby Football Club back into use to eradicate shortfalls for Rugby Lions RUFC.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality of AGP at Hartfield Sports Ground by resurfacing the pitch and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. ◀ Sustain quality at Rugby School Sports Centre. ◀ Provide security of tenure for Rugby & East Warwickshire HC across the venues to ensure long-term hockey access.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to eradicate overplay and reduce future shortfalls, e.g., at Newbold-on-Avon Cricket Club. ◀ Explore options to transfer a proportion of demand to sites with spare capacity to alleviate overplay. ◀ Enable use of currently unavailable sites. ◀ Support plans for ancillary provision refurbishment where it is proposed, e.g., at Rugby Cricket Club. ◀ Explore options to bring provision back into use where it has in recent years been lost, e.g., Avon Mill Recreation Ground.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Support plans for ancillary provision refurbishment where it is proposed e.g., at Caldecott Park. ◀ Ensure that a new lease agreement is reached which secures long-term security of tenure for Rugby Thornfield BC at its home ground.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Support plans for improvements at Caldecott Park to better cater for recreational tennis demand. ◀ Explore if other venues could be suitable for improving the recreational tennis offer through improving existing courts or creating new courts at well used park sites.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality of courts and explore opportunities to service an increased number with sports lighting to better cater for demand.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.

**RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – URBAN ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Abbots Farm Junior School	CV21 4AP	Football	School	Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches which are unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and explore options to enable community access given local shortfalls.	School FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		A standard quality macadam court which is unavailable for community use and is unlit.	Retain for curricular use.	School EN		L	L	L	
2	Addison Road	CV22 7QU	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch which has been taken out of use, last provided circa 2021.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
3	Alwyn Road Recreation Ground	CV22 7QU	Football	Council	Two good quality youth 11v11 pitches and one good quality youth 9v9 pitch. Each pitch offers actual spare capacity. Pitches are serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality of ancillary provision and explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch. The pitch suffers from drainage issues and is overplayed. Rugby Welsh RUFC has plans to install sports lighting to service the pitch.	Improve and sustain pitch quality and support plans to deliver sports lighting to better accommodate demand. Improve ancillary provision; making the facilities more inclusive, fit for purpose and sustainable for future growth of the women's game.	RFU		M	S	M	
5	Ashlawn Road Recreation Ground	CV22 5EP	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch and one good quality youth 11v11 pitch. The adult pitch is played to capacity whilst the youth 11v11 pitch offers actual spare capacity.	Improve adult pitch quality to increase carrying capacity and to avoid future overplay.	FA FF	Key centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		Four poor quality senior pitches, one of which is sports lit. Three of the pitches are overplayed through match and training demand from Rugby St Andrews RUFC, whilst one pitch has spare capacity discounted due to its poor quality.	Improve pitch quality and consider installing additional sports lighting to alleviate overplay. Improve ancillary provision; making the facilities more inclusive, fit for purpose and sustainable for future growth of the women's game.	RFU		H	S	M	
6	Ashlawn School	CV22 5ET	Cricket	School	One standard quality standalone NTP which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	School ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		One standard quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor is it sports lit.	Retain for curricular use.	School LTA		L	L	L	
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use nor are they sports lit.	Retain for curricular use.	School EN		L	L	L	
7	Avon Mill Recreation Ground	CV21 1DY	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch which has been taken out of use, last provided circa 2021.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect

**RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – URBAN ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
8	Avon Valley School	CV21 1EH	Football	School	Three youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, all of which are standard quality but unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality and explore options to enable community access given local shortfalls.	School FA FF	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		One senior and one junior pitch, both of which are poor quality and unavailable for community use.	Improve and sustain quality to better accommodate curricular use.	School RFU		L	S	L	
			Cricket		One poor quality NTP square which is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular use.	School ECB		L	S	L	
			Tennis		Four poor quality macadam courts, all of which are unavailable for community use and unlit.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular use and given quantity of courts, explore community use options, especially if sports lighting can be provided.	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Three poor quality macadam courts, all of which are unavailable for community use and unlit.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular use and given quantity of courts, explore community use options, especially if sports lighting can be provided.			M	S	M	
10	Bilton C of E Junior School	CV22 6LB	Football	School	Two poor mini 7v7 pitches, both of which are unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and explore options to enable community access given local shortfalls.	School FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
12	Bilton School	CV22 7JT	Football	School	Four youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and four mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are standard quality and are available for community use. All pitches bar the mini 7v7 pitch have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Explore options to provide security of tenure to users in order to creating actual spare capacity.	School FA FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		Three poor quality pitches, all of which are available for community use. Each pitch has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.	Improve and sustain quality to better accommodate curricular demand and retain as community available should club demand exist in the future.	School RFU		L	S	L	
			Hockey		One poor-quality full-size sand based AGP and one smaller size AGP, both of which are available for community use. The full size pitch is sports lit but has exceeded its ten-year recommended lifespan and requires resurfacing. Currently unused for hockey.	Providing that a sufficient number of hockey pitches remain available and of sufficient quality for Rugby & East Warwickshire HC, consider potential 3G conversion against other opportunities in the area (only one additional 3G pitch is needed).	School EH FA FF		M	S	H	
			Cricket		A standard quality NTP which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	School ECB		L	L	L	
			Rounders		A standard quality diamond which is available for community use.	Sustain quality and retain as community available.			M	L	L	
			Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts, all of which are available for community use but are unlit.	Explore potential of sports lighting to better accommodate recreational demand.	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Four standard quality macadam courts, all of which are available for community use but are unlit.	Explore potential of sports lighting to better accommodate demand.	School EN		M	S	M	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
18	Cawston Grange Primary School	CV22 7GU	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch which is available for community use and has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and explore options to provide security of tenure in order to create actual spare capacity.	School FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Two poor quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use nor are they sports lit.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular demand.	School EN		L	S	L	
20	Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Playing Field	CV23 0BY	Football	Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Parish Council	A poor quality youth 11v11 pitch which is currently played to capacity. The site offers no car parking provision.	Improve quality to increase carrying capacity and to avoid future overplay.	FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts that are not serviced by sports lighting. Currently operating over capacity through use by Clifton-upon-Dunsmore TC, with future demand predicted to slightly worsen this.	Explore options to deliver sports lighting to reduce overuse and install additional courts to fully eradicate shortfall.	LTA		M	S	M	
24	Fenley Field	CV22 7QT	Rugby Union	Trust	One standard quality senior pitch which is serviced by sports lighting and two poor quality senior pitches which are unlit. All pitches are overplayed through match and training demand from Old Laurentians RUFC. The Club has plans to relocate due to the current overplay at the site and its degree of future demand.	Improve and sustain quality and deliver sports lighting to minimise overplay if the Club is to stay on-site. However, to fully eradicate shortfalls, its relocation should be supported, with four good quality pitches required as part of this, including two with sports lighting. Improve ancillary provision; making the facilities more inclusive, fit for purpose and sustainable for future growth of the women's game.	Trust RFU	Key centre	H	M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
			Cricket		One standard quality NTP which is used by Old Laurentians CC. The square has capacity for additional usage midweek.	Ensure the Club remains provided for as part of any relocation of Old Laurentians RUFC via providing a standalone NTP as part of any pitch supply.	Trust ECB		H	M	L	
27	Frobisher Recreation Ground	CV22 7HY	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch which has been taken out of use, last provided circa 2019.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide
29	GEC Recreation Ground	CV22 5ED	Football	Council	Two good quality youth 11v11 pitches, both of which offer actual spare capacity.	Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	FA FF	Local	M	S	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
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is used by A.E.I RUFC for all of its match and training demand. However, the pitch has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve and sustain pitch quality to create actual spare capacity.	RFU		M	S	L	
31	Harris Church of England Academy	CV22 6EA	Football	School	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, both of which are poor quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed whilst the youth 9v9 pitch is currently played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay and look to provide security of tenure for users to provide actual spare capacity.	School FA FF	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is available for community use but unused.	Improve and sustain quality to better cater for curricular demand.	School RFU		L	S	L	
			Cricket		A poor quality NTP which is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality to better cater for curricular demand.	School ECB		L	S	L	
			Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use or sports lit.	Explore community use options, especially if sports lighting can be provided.	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Two good quality macadam courts and three standard quality macadam courts. Neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Explore community use options, especially if sports lighting can be provided.			M	S	M	
32	Hartfield Sports Ground	CV21 3TP	Rugby Union	School	Four poor quality senior pitches which are unavailable for community use.	Improve and sustain quality to better cater for curricular demand.	School RFU	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey		A poor quality full-size sand based AGP which is available for community use and is sports lit. The pitch has exceeded its ten-year recommended lifespan and requires resurfacing. Used by Rugby & East Warwickshire HC. Lawrence Sheriff School, which owns the site, reports plans to sell land to then reinvest in new changing room facilities.	Resurface pitch to improve its quality, ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and improve ancillary facilities. Any sale of existing playing field must meet requirements off local plan/NPPF and Sport England policy.	School EH		H	S	H	
									H	S	M	
			Cricket		A standard quality square accompanied by an NTP which is available for community use and is currently played to capacity.	Improve quality to increase carrying capacity and to avoid future overplay.	School ECB		M	S	L	
33	Henry Hinde Junior School	CV22 7HN	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch and one poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, both of which are unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and explore options to enable community access given local shortfalls.	School FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use nor are they sports lit.	Retain for curricular demand.	School EN		L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
34	Hillmorton Recreation Ground	CV21 4EN	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch, one youth 9v9 pitch, one mini 7v7 pitch and three mini 5v5 pitches which have been taken out of use, last provided circa 2019.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide
36	Houlton School	CV23 0AS	Football	School	Two good quality youth 11v11 pitches, both of which are available for community use and used. However, actual spare capacity is currently discounted due to nature of the site.	Sustain quality.	School FA FF	Key Centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		One standard quality senior pitch which is available for community use but is unused.	Retain for curricular demand.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Netball		Three good quality macadam courts, all of which are available for community use but are without sports lighting. The courts are used on Monday and Thursday evenings to facilitate a Totally Netball league, whilst are also used on Wednesday evenings to facilitate a Play Netball League.	Sustain quality and explore options to deliver potential sports lighting to better accommodate demand.	School EN		M	S	M	
41	Newbold-on-Avon Cricket Club	CV21 1EZ	Cricket	Council	One standard quality square accompanied by an NTP which is currently overplayed.	Improve quality to reduce overplay and transfer demand to an alternative site with actual spare capacity to fully alleviate it. This may require new provision.	ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
42	Newbold-on-Avon Rugby Club	CV21 1EZ	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One standard quality senior pitch, one poor quality senior pitch and one poor quality junior pitch, all of which are available for community use and two of which are sports lit. The standard quality senior pitch has no spare capacity during peak time, the poor quality senior pitch is played to capacity through match demand, and the poor quality junior pitch is overplayed through match and training demand.	Improve and sustain quality and consider installation of additional sports lighting to reduce overplay. To fully alleviate it, increased provision may be required, or access to a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch. Improve ancillary provision; making the facilities more inclusive, fit for purpose and sustainable for future growth of the women's game.	Club RFU	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Gaelic Football		Rugby Gaels uses one of the rugby union pitches for its match and training demand.	Ensure that the Club's demand is adequately catered for at the site and that management and maintenance is sufficient to sustain the additional and multi-sport use.	Club GAA		H	L	L	
45	Paddox Primary School	CV22 5HS	Football	School	Four mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are poor quality and unavailable for community use.	Improve pitch quality and explore options to enable community access given local shortfalls and that quantity of pitches that is supplied.	School FA FF	Local	M	S	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
			Netball		One poor quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor is it sports lit.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular demand.	School EN		L	L	L	
48	Rugby Borough Sports Trust	CV21 4PN	Football	Community Organisation	One youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, nine mini 7v7 and six mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are good quality.	Sustain quality to maintain carrying capacity and to avoid future overplay.	Community Organisation FA, FF	Hub	H	L	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		Two good quality full size 3G pitches, both of which are available for community use, are sports lit and are FA approved. In addition, there are two poor quality smaller size 3G pitches which are also sports lit. The Trust also want to provide a third full size 3G pitch to replace the current youth 11v11 grass pitch.	Sustain full size pitch quality via ensuring a sinking fund is in place and via FA testing every three years and improve smaller size pitches via resurfacing the provision. Consider proposals for a third full size pitch against other opportunities in the area (only one additional pitch is needed locally).	Community Organisation FA FF		H	M	H	
49	Rugby Cricket Club	CV22 7AU	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality square accompanied by an NTP which is overplayed through match demand from Rugby CC. The Club has aspirations to extend the footprint of its clubhouse.	Explore options to transfer a proportion of demand to sites with spare capacity to alleviate overplay and support the Club in its plans to refurbish its clubhouse.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
50	Rugby High School for Girls	CV22 7RE	Football	School	Three good quality youth 9v9 pitches that are unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable access given quantity of pitches provided and local shortfalls.	School FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Four poor quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use nor are they sports lit.	Improve quality and explore options to enable community access, especially is sports lighting can be provided	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Three poor quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use nor are they sports lit.	Improve quality and explore options to enable community access, especially is sports lighting can be provided	School EN		M	S	M	
51	Rugby School (Springhill Pitches)	CV22 5PY	Football	School	Three good quality youth 11v11 pitches, all of which are unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access given quantity of pitches provided and local shortfalls.	School FA FF	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect
			Cricket		Four squares, all of which are standard quality and unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access as a means of accommodating current demand from overplayed sites or future demand from users of such provision (e.g., Newbold-on-Avon CC and Rugby CC).	School ECB		M	S	M	
			Rounders		One good quality diamond which is available for community use and hosts Rugby Rounders League on Thursday evenings.	Sustain quality and ensure long-term community access.	School RE		M	S	M	
52	Rugby School Playing Fields	CV22 5DS	Rugby Union	School	Three standard quality senior pitches, all of which are available for community use but unused.	Retain for curricular use and retain as community available should club demand exist in the future.	School RFU	Local	M	L	L	Protect

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			Cricket		Two squares, both of which are standard quality and available for community use.	Sustain quality and retain as community available.	School ECB		M	L	L	
53	Rugby School Sports Centre	CV22 5DJ	Hockey	School	Two good quality full size water-based AGPs and one standard quality full size sand-based AGP, all are sports lit. Community use is enabled although the opening hours are somewhat limited. All the pitches are used to their capacity at peak times through training and match demand from Rugby School and Rugby & East Warwickshire HC.	Sustain quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Seek to provide security of tenure for Rugby & East Warwickshire HC and explore opportunities to increase its access to the provision so that it relies less on secondary venues	School EH	Hub	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standard quality square which is available for community use and is played to capacity.	Explore options to provide security of tenure to users.	School ECB		M	S	L	
			Tennis		Five macadam and three artificial turf courts, all of which are standard quality, available for community use and sports lit. There are also three additional standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use but are unlit.	Improve quality to better accommodate recreational demand.	School LTA		M	S	L	
			Netball		Eight standard quality macadam courts, with five sports lit. The courts facilitate The Rugby Netball League on Sunday mornings and a Totally Netball league on Tuesday evenings.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and seek to provide security of tenure to users.	School EN		H	S	L	
			Triathlon		Rugby Triathlon Club use the site as a starting point for its Thursday evening run.	Ensure that the Club's demand can continue to be adequately catered for.	School ET		M	L	L	
54	Rugby Town Football Club	CV21 3SD	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch which is available for community use and has actual spare capacity.	Improve quality to better cater for demand.	Club FA FF	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		A standard quality full size 3G pitch and one good quality smaller size 3G pitch, both of which are FA approved, available for community use and sports lit.	Sustain pitch quality via ensuring a sinking fund is in place and via FA testing every three years.	Club FA FF		M	L	L	
57	St Oswalds School	CV22 7DJ	Netball	School	Two standard quality macadam courts, both of which are unavailable for community use and without sports lighting	Retain for curricular demand.	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
59	The Rugby Football Club	CV22 7AU	Rugby Union	Council	One standard quality senior pitch which is sports lit and overplayed by Rugby Lions RUFC. There is also a disused junior pitch which the Club wants to bring back into use.	Improve and sustain pitch quality to reduce overplay and bring the disused pitch back into use to fully alleviate it. Improve ancillary provision; making the facilities more inclusive, fit for purpose and sustainable for future growth of the women's game.	Club RFU	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
			American Football		Rugby Rhinos use the senior pitch for its match and training demand.	Ensure that the Club's demand is adequately catered for at the site and that management and maintenance is sufficient to sustain the use.	Club BAFA		H	L	L	
60	Twickenham Playing Fields	CV22 6EG	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch which is available for community use and has actual spare capacity. The site offers no ancillary changing rooms.	Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand and provide changing rooms.	FA FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
61	Warwickshire College (Rugby Centre)	CV21 1AR	Hockey	School	A standard quality full size sand based AGP which is available for community use and sports lit. The pitch is unused for hockey and instead caters predominantly for football usage.	Providing that a sufficient number of hockey suitable pitches remains available and of sufficient quality for Rugby & East Warwickshire HC, consider potential 3G conversion against other opportunities in the area (only one additional 3G pitch is needed).	School Club EH	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
62	Whinfield Recreation Ground	CV21 3SD	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, both of which are good quality. Two youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9, three mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are standard quality. The good quality youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed and the good quality youth 9v9 has actual spare capacity, whilst the remaining pitches have no spare capacity at peak time. The site offers no ancillary changing rooms.	Explore options to transfer a proportion of demand to sites with spare capacity to alleviate overplay and explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Provide better ancillary facilities.	FA FF	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		The square has been taken out of use.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given shortfalls in the area and future demand that is expressed (e.g., via Rugby CC).	ECB		M	S	M	
			Athletics		A Park Run event is held each Saturday morning at the site.	Continue operating Park Run from the site and seek to maximise usage whilst ensuring it does not impact on pitch quality.	England Athletics		M	L	L	
68	Rugby Bowling Club	CV22 7AS	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green which is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain quality of green and explore opportunities to improve ancillary facilities.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	M	L	Protect

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69	The Grange Bowling Club	CV21 3UE	Bowls	Sports Club	A good quality green which is serviced by good ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts, both of which are available for community use but are unlit. The courts are currently operating above capacity by 27 members.	Sustain quality and explore options to deliver potential sports lighting to minimise overplay.	Club LTA		M	S	M	
70	Oakfield Bowling Club	CV22 7AL	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green which is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision. The green is currently used by Oakfield BC and Rugby Police BC.	Sustain quality of green and explore opportunities to improve ancillary facilities.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	M	L	Protect
71	Bilton Bowling Club	CV22 7QH	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green which is serviced by good quality ancillary provision. Currently operating above capacity by 14 members.	Sustain quality and ensure the Club's demand can continue to be met given its high membership.	Club Bowls England	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		One standard quality artificial court which is available for community use and is sports lit.	Improve quality.	Club LTA		M	S	L	
72	Caldecott Park	CV21 2QP	Bowls	Council	One good quality green which is serviced by good quality ancillary provision. The Club has plans to provide additional disability access and install a canopy across its pavilion.	Sustain quality and support the Club in its ancillary refurbishment plans.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts, both of which are available for community use but are unlit.	Improve quality and explore options to deliver potential sports lighting.	Club LTA		M	S	M	
73	Rugby Thornfield Outdoor Bowls Club	CV22 5LJ	Bowls	Council	One standard quality green which is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision. Rugby Thornfield BC's lease with the Council runs out in 2024, signifying an unsecure tenure	Improve green and ancillary facility quality to good and ensure that a new lease agreement is reached which secures long-term security of tenure for the Club.	Bowls England	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
74	Rugby Railway Club	CV22 5AL	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality flat bowling green which is available for community use and is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision. Rugby Railway BC owns freehold of the green. The green currently has spare capacity for an additional 11 members.	Sustain quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two standard quality macadam courts, both of which are available for community use but are unlit. Rugby Railway Club has plans to remove the courts and replace them with a smaller size 3G pitch.	Providing that steps are taken to ensure the demand of tennis in the area is adequately catered for, consider the replacement of courts against other 3G proposals in the area	Club LTA		M	M	M	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts, both of which are available for community use but are unlit. Rugby Railway Club has plans to remove the courts and replace them with a smaller size 3G pitch.	Providing that steps are taken to ensure the demand of netball in the area is adequately catered for, consider the replacement of courts against other 3G proposals in the area	Club EN		M	M	M	
75	Rugby Lawn Tennis Club	CV22 7AU	Tennis	Council	Two good quality macadam courts and four standard artificial courts, all of which are sports lit. The courts currently have spare capacity for an additional 277 members.	Sustain quality.	LTA	Local	M	L	L	Protect
82	Lawrence Sheriff School	CV21 3AG	Netball	School	Two standard quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Retain for curricular demand.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
83	Oakfield Primary Academy	CV22 6AU	Netball	School	One poor quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Improve quality to better cater for curricular demand.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
84	Rugby Free Secondary School	CV22 5PE	Football	School	Three adult, one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, all of which are standard quality and unavailable for community use.	Support the pursuit of a community use agreement for use of the football pitches.	School FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
			Cricket		One standard quality standalone NTP.	Sustain quality.	School ECB		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Three good quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Explore community options with the School given quantity of courts provided.	School LTA		L	S	L	
			Netball		Three good quality macadam courts which are neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Explore community options with the School given quantity of courts provided.	School EN		L	S	L	
85	Quest Academy	CV22 5PE	Netball	School	One standard quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Retain for curricular demand.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
86	St Andrews Benn C of E School	CV21 3NX	Netball	School	One standard quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor is it sports lit.	Retain for curricular demand.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
87	Riverside Academy	CV21 1EH	Netball	School	One standard quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor is it sports lit.	Retain for curricular demand.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
88	Northlands Primary School	CV21 2SS	Netball	School	One poor quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor is it sports lit.	Improve quality to better cater for curricular demand.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
90	Queen's Diamond Jubilee Centre	CV22 5LJ	Athletics	Council	One good quality 400-metre synthetic track which is fully Trackmark accredited and available for community use. Rugby & Northampton AC uses the track on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings as well as during the day on Saturdays and Sundays.	Sustain quality.	England Athletics	Key Centre	H	L	L	Protect

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92	Freemantle Recreation Ground	CV22 7ST	Football	Council	One youth 9v9 pitch which has been taken out of use, last provided <i>circa</i> 2021	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	FA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide

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PART 6: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2040 (in line with the Local Plan), with this future demand then translated into teams likely to be generated. Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases before converting the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches that may be required to meet the growth. It also gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision. The Calculator splits the total pitch requirement into natural turf pitches to meet peak period demand, artificial grass pitches to meet training demand, and the additional number of changing rooms required to support the new demand.

The scenarios below are provided as a guide to show the additional demand for pitch sports that could be generated from housing growth in Rugby, thus showing how the calculator works and what it can provide. 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 use either a 3G pitch (football demand) or an AGP (hockey demand). Where expressed in match equivalent sessions, it is expected training will take place on sports-lit grass pitches (i.e., for rugby union).

The scenarios are as follows:

- ◀ **Scenario One** – Government Local Housing Need - Additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth of 9,108 dwellings across the Borough.
- ◀ **Scenario Two** - Coventry and Warwickshire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment 2022 – 13,230 dwellings.
- ◀ **Scenario Three** – South West Rugby site – 4,948 dwellings.
- ◀ **Scenario Four** - Land North of Coventry Road, Long Lawford – 149 dwellings.

For reference, the indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.4 per dwelling across the Borough.

Scenario One – Government Local Housing Need

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth of 9,108 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.4 per household, is 21,859 people.

Table 6.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 9,108 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 9,108 dwellings	
	Match demand ⁹	Training demand ¹⁰
Adult football	6.70	64.26
Youth football	13.83	
Mini soccer	11.60	
Rugby union	7.44	8.31
Adult hockey	1.68	5.03
Junior & mixed hockey	1.40	2.14
Cricket	132.96	-

⁹ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

¹⁰ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs.

Table 6.2: 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 ¹¹	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ¹²	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	6.70	£696,889	£147,044	13.41	£2,505,481
Youth football	13.83	£1,163,873	£244,413	16.48	£3,080,344
Mini soccer	11.60	£344,403	£72,325	-	-
Rugby union	7.44	£1,178,193	£252,133	14.88	£2,779,800
Rugby league	-	-	-	-	-
Cricket	3.21	£1,049,463	£211,992	6.42	£1,200,522
Sand based AGPs	0.66	£560,989	£17,391	1.32	£246,248
3G	1.69	£1,799,764	£67,264	3.38	£632,010

In total, it is set out that 45.13 pitches will be required to meet the demand, with the capital cost of providing this estimated at £6,793,575 in addition to lifecycle costs of £1,012,561. In addition, 55.89 changing rooms will be needed at a predicted cost of £10,444,406.

Scenario Two – Coventry and Warwickshire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment 2022

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 13,230 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.4 people per household is 29,352 people.

Table 6.3: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 13,230 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 13,230 dwellings	
	Match demand	Training demand
Adult football	6.86	65.74
Youth football	14.15	
Mini soccer	11.86	
Rugby union	7.61	8.50
Rugby league	-	-
Adult hockey	1.71	5.14
Junior & mixed hockey	1.43	2.19
Cricket	136.02	-

The table overleaf translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with costings.

¹¹ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

¹² Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

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Table 6.4: 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	6.86	£712,899	£150,422	13.72	£2,563,043
Youth football	14.15	£1,190,602	£250,026	16.86	£3,151,086
Mini soccer	11.86	£352,316	£73,986	-	-
Rugby union	7.61	£1,205,260	£257,926	15.22	£2,843,660
Rugby league	-	-	-	-	-
Cricket	3.29	£1,073,572	£216,862	6.57	£1,228,101
Hockey	0.67	£573,875	£17,790	1.35	£251,904
3G	1.73	£1,841,105	£68,809	3.46	£646,527

In total, it is set out that 46.17 pitches will be required to meet the demand, with the capital cost of providing this estimated at £6,949,629 in addition to lifecycle costs of £1,035,821. In addition, 57.18 changing rooms will be needed at a predicted cost of £10,684,323.

Scenario Three – South West Rugby site

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 4,948 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.4 people per household is 11,875 people.

Table 6.5: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 4,948 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 4,948 dwellings	
	Match demand	Training demand
Adult football	2.56	24.59
Youth football	5.29	
Mini soccer	4.44	
Rugby union	2.85	3.18
Rugby league	-	-
Adult hockey	0.64	1.92
Junior & mixed hockey	0.53	0.82
Cricket	50.87	-

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with costings.

Table 6.6: 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	2.56	£266,619	£56,257	5.13	£958,558
Youth football	5.29	£445,284	£93,510	6.31	£1,178,486
Mini soccer	4.44	£131,768	£27,671	-	-
Rugby union	2.85	£450,761	£96,463	5.69	£1,063,515
Rugby league	-	-	-	-	-
Cricket	1.23	£401,507	£81,104	2.46	£459,300
Hockey	0.25	£214,626	£6,653	0.50	£94,211
3G	0.65	£688,573	£25,735	1.29	£241,801

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In total, it is set out that 17.27 pitches will be required to meet the demand, with the capital cost of providing this estimated at £2,599,138 in addition to lifecycle costs of £387,393. In addition, 21.38 changing rooms will be needed at a predicted cost of £3,995,871.

Scenario Four – Land North of Coventry Road, Long Lawford

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 149 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.4 people per household is 358 people.

Table 6.7: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 149 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 149 dwellings	
	Match demand	Training demand
Adult football	0.08	0.74
Youth football	0.16	
Mini soccer	0.13	
Rugby union	0.09	0.10
Rugby league	-	-
Adult hockey	0.02	0.06
Junior & mixed hockey	0.02	0.02
Cricket	1.53	-

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with costings.

Table 6.8: 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	0.08	£8,039	£1,696	0.15	£28,903
Youth football	0.16	£13,439	£2,822	0.19	£35,566
Mini soccer	0.13	£3,971	£834	-	-
Rugby union	0.09	£13,596	£2,910	0.17	£32,079
Rugby league	-	-	-	-	-
Cricket	0.04	£12,106	£2,446	0.07	£13,849
Hockey	0.01	£6,472	£201	0.02	£2,841
3G	0.02	£20,767	£776	0.04	£7,292

In total, it is set out that 0.52 pitches will be required to meet the demand, with the capital cost of providing this estimated at £78,391 in addition to lifecycle costs of £11,684. In addition, 0.65 changing rooms will be needed at a predicted cost of £120,530.

Summary

The above scenarios identify that through overall housing growth, demand will be generated to some extent for all pitch sports, and the level of demand generated for football, 3G, rugby union and cricket is such that new provision will likely be warranted. As demand generated for hockey does not equate to a whole pitch, contributions would be better focused on improving existing sites to increase capacity to an appropriate level. The PPOSS and in particular the Action Plan, as well as future consultation with NGBs, should be used to inform this (e.g., to select suitable sites).

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Notwithstanding the above, when the calculator is used for singular developments, or a group of smaller developments, the demand generated is likely to be insufficient to warrant the creation of new provision. This is evidenced via Scenario Four, where the increased demand from 149 dwellings does not create enough demand for a whole pitch for any of the sports. Where this is the case, contributions would be better focused on improving existing local sites to increase capacity to an appropriate level for all sports.

Experience shows that only significantly large housing sites are likely to generate demand for new provision to be created in their own right. Where this is the case, consideration should be given to providing multi-pitch sites with suitable ancillary provision, including appropriate clubhouse/changing facilities and car parking. Single pitch sites which have been provided traditionally by developers are not considered to provide long term sustainable provision for the relevant sports.

Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, the Action Plan in this document should be consulted to determine whether the additional demand can be accommodated via existing provision (in which case no further action is required). If this is not the case, contributions should be sought to enhance existing provision in the locality to accommodate the increased demand. This can be through, for example, improving quality, or providing new or improved ancillary provision. Consultation with appropriate NGBs should also be used to assist in the selection of suitable sites and suitable enhancements.

PART 7: DELIVER THE STRATEGY AND KEEP IT ROBUST AND UP TO DATE

The section below is a generalised approach on how to deliver a PPOSS whilst also keeping it robust and up to date. However, a more tailored approach should also be considered and designed for Rugby based on the requirements and priorities of the Steering Group.

Delivery

The PPOSS seeks to provide guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across Rugby. 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 the Borough can be satisfied. The Strategy identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and identifies how best to resolve this in the future.

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

The creation of this document should be regarded as part of the planning process. The success of this Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach. Each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPOSS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence.

To help ensure 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 sport provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on the how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved, the Steering Group 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

It is important that there is regular monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. This monitoring should continue be led by the local authority and supported by all members of, and reported back to, the Steering Group. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPOSS has been applied should also form a key component of monitoring its delivery. It is possible that in the interim between reviews the Steering Group could also operate as a 'virtual' group; prepared to comment on suggestions and updates electronically when relevant.

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It is agreed that the Council is responsible for keeping the database and background supply and demand information up to date in order that area-by-area action plans can be updated. This should be carried out in consultation with the NGBs, particularly around affiliation time when information is updated.

As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPOSS being signed off by the steering group, 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, meaning that 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.

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

- ◀ How the delivery of the recommendations and action plan has progressed and any changes required to the priority afforded to each action (e.g., the priority of some may increase following the delivery of others).
- ◀ How the 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.

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

These meetings could be timed to fit with the annual affiliation process undertaken by the NGBs which would help to capture any changes in the number and nature of sports clubs in the area. Other information that is already collected on a regular basis such as pitch booking records for local authority and other sites could be fed into these meetings.

The NGBs are also able to indicate any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area.

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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:

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date	Tick 	
	Yes	Requires Attention
Step 9: Apply & deliver the strategy Are steering group members clear on how the PPS can be applied across a range of relevant areas?		
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?		
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 Has a process been put in place to ensure the PPS is kept robust and up to date?		
Does the process involve an annual update of the PPS?		
Is the steering group to be maintained and is it clear of its on-going role?		
Is regular liaison with the NGBs and other parties planned?		
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?		
Have any changes made to the Active Places Power data been fed back to Sport England?		