



DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

JUNE 2019

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third generation turf
AGP	Artificial grass pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide
ASC	All Stars Cricket
BC	Bowls Club
CC	Cricket Club
DBC	Dacorum Borough Council
EG	England Golf
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
HGC	Hemel Garden Communities
HSPAP	Herts Sports & Physical Activity Partnership
IOG	Institute of Groundsmanship
ISFS	Indoor Sports Facility Strategy
JFC	Junior Football Club
JSP	Joint Strategic Plan
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
NGB	National Governing Body of Sport
MES	Match equivalent session
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NTP	Non-turf pitch
NDC	New Development Calculator
NFFS	National Football Facility Strategy
OAN	Objectively Assessed Need
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PIP	Pitch Improvement Programme
PGA	Professional Golfers Association
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
PIP	Pitch Improvement Programme
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
TC	Tennis Club
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) has been jointly commissioned by three of the South West Herts group of local authorities (Dacorum Borough Council, Three Rivers District Council, and Hertsmere Borough Council) to produce an Open Space, Sport & Recreation Study which includes production of a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for each of the local authority areas. The PPS forms one part of the inter-related project that also includes an Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy (ISFS) for each of the local authority areas.

The studies will provide the necessary robustness and direction to inform decisions on future strategic planning and any investment priorities for outdoor and indoor sports facilities across each of the areas in partnership with other bodies, including Sport England, NGB's and local sports forums and clubs. They will also inform the preparation of the individual Local Plans and inform the South West Herts Joint Strategic Plan.

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

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

Partner organisations have a vested interest in ensuring existing playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities can be protected and enhanced. As such, many of the objectives and actions within this document need to be delivered and implemented by sports organisations, education establishments, community sports networks and parish/town councils. In many instances, the Council will not be a key partner in delivering these actions or recommendations, meaning the PPS is not just for the Council to act upon, but for all the stakeholders and partners involved within the project.

Monitoring and updating

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

The PPS should be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the Steering Group. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment built up through developing the PPS. Taking into account the time spent developing the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old before being reviewed.

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Part 8 of this Strategy report contains a suggested process for undertaking the update and monitoring. The Steering Group will need to agree the process prior to the adoption of this Strategy.

Scope

The following types of outdoor sports facilities have been identified by the councils for inclusion in the PPS:

- ◀ Football
- ◀ Rugby union
- ◀ Rugby league
- ◀ Hockey
- ◀ Cricket
- ◀ Bowls
- ◀ Tennis
- ◀ Athletics (including road running)
- ◀ Netball
- ◀ Golf
- ◀ Others as appropriate i.e. water sports facilities, archery, cycling

Playing pitch sports (i.e. football, cricket, rugby union and hockey) were assessed using the guidance set out in Sport England's PPS Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a PPS.

For the remaining sports/facilities, the supply and demand principles of Sport England's methodology: Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities (ANOG) were followed to ensure the process is compliant with the NPPF.

Study area

Dacorum Borough covers 81 square miles (200 square kilometres) of West Hertfordshire extending almost from the outskirts of Watford, northwards to the Chilterns. In 2017 it was home to about 153,000 people, making it the largest district in Hertfordshire (by population). The majority of residents live in the principal town of Hemel Hempstead which will continue to be the focus for development and change within the Borough. In addition to Hemel Hempstead, there are also two market towns (Berkhamsted and Tring) and a number of villages, all with their own distinctive character. All the towns are surrounded by the Metropolitan Green Belt.

The study area is the whole of the Dacorum Borough Council boundary area. Further to this, analysis areas have been created to allow for a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch supply and demand at a local level. These areas are based upon ward boundaries within Dacorum and reflect how people play sport locally.

- ◀ Berkhamsted
- ◀ Eastern Villages
- ◀ Hemel
- ◀ Southern
- ◀ Tring

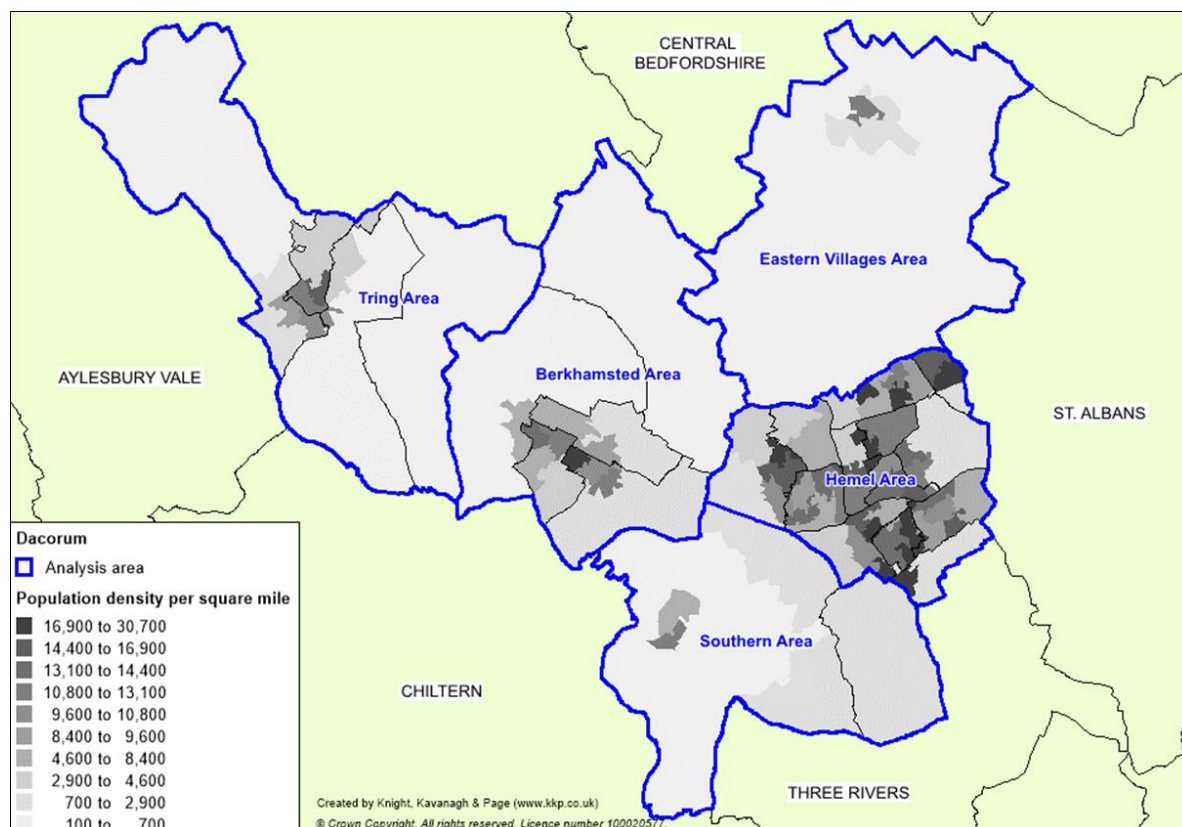
Furthermore, cross-boundary issues will be explored to determine the level of imported and exported demand. This applies to demand that migrates between the local authorities included and also demand that migrates to and from neighbouring local authorities such as Chiltern, Three Rivers and St Albans.

It should be noted that from April 2020 that Buckinghamshire Council will be a new unitary authority replacing Buckinghamshire County Council, Aylesbury Vale, Chiltern, South Bucks and Wycombe district councils.

A map of the analysis areas can be seen overleaf in Figure 1.1.

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Figure 1.1: Analysis area map



1.1: Context

The rationale for undertaking this study is to identify current levels of provision within Dacorum across the public, education, voluntary and commercial sectors and to compare this with current and likely future levels of demand. The primary purpose of the PPS is therefore to provide a strategic framework that ensures the provision of outdoor sports facilities meets the local needs of existing and future residents up until the 2036 Local Plan period.

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

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

This strategy provides an evidence base for planning decisions and funding bids and background evidence to support Local Plan policies in relation to formal recreation. It will ensure that this evidence is sound, robust and capable of being scrutinised through examination, demonstrating that it meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). It also provides a corporate document for decisions and investment in outdoor sports across DBC and in partnership with other national, regional, and local sporting bodies.

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One of the core planning principles of the NPPF is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Section 8 of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities; Paragraph 96 discusses the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Paragraphs 97 and 98 discuss assessments and the protection of “existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields”. A PPS will provide the evidence required to help protect playing fields to ensure sufficient land is available to meet existing and projected future pitch requirements.

Paragraph 99 and 100 promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields.

1.2: Local context

Dacorum Borough Council Corporate Plan 2015-2020

The Corporate Plan is a key element in DBC’s strategic decision-making process. It outlines the Council’s vision and priorities up to 2020 as well as providing a focus for service delivery and performance. The stated vision is: “working in partnership to create a borough which enables the communities of Dacorum to thrive and prosper.” Its priorities and aims are:

- ◀ A clean, safe and enjoyable environment.
- ◀ Building strong and vibrant communities.
- ◀ Ensuring economic growth and prosperity.
- ◀ Providing good quality affordable homes, in particular, for those most in need.
- ◀ Delivering an efficient and modern council.

Within the Building Strong and Vibrant Communities element of the Strategy DBC has launched a three-year community sports activation programme of health and wellbeing activities called ‘Get Set, Go Dacorum’ with £250,000 funding from Sport England, and £45,000 of financial investment and other in-kind support from the Council. It has also worked with Herts County Council on a £100,000 health and wellbeing project for the community. DBC aims to improve the fitness and the health and wellbeing of residents in local communities where it understands there to be relatively low levels of participation in sports and physical activity generally.

South West Hertfordshire Joint Strategic Plan (JSP)

DBC is not working in isolation, rather it is part of a wider partnership approach with regard to house building. Increasingly DBC has been working with other councils in South West Hertfordshire, in particular, Three Rivers, St Albans, Watford and Hertsmere, on planning and infrastructure issues that affect all the authorities. This work will continue and will include preparation of a Joint Strategic Plan for South West Hertfordshire, which will help provide a long-term framework for plan-making and for securing infrastructure and investment across local authority boundaries. To help with this joint working the five councils in South West Hertfordshire have all agreed that each Local Plan will cover the period up to 2036.

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Dacorum Local Plan

DBC is currently preparing a new Local Plan. This will provide a new planning framework for Dacorum up to 2036. It will set out the vision and objectives for the borough. It will reconsider housing and employment need and investigate ways of meeting that need more fully. Further, it will allocate sites for housing, employment and other forms of development and will set out development management policies for the Authority.

House building

The Government's proposed Standard Method for assessing housing need in local authorities across England is predominantly informed by household projections produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). There are three ONS projections year sets for Dacorum which determine alternate housing requirements. These are detailed in table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1: Accumulative housing figures to 2036 based on ONS projections

ONS Projection year	Accumulative housing	Per annum
2016	14,161	833
2014	17,425	1,025
2014 + 15%	20,043	1,179

Hemel Hempstead is likely to have the most significant development with up to 13,050 new dwellings. Hemel Garden Communities (HGC) is a proposal for a major expansion to the east and north of the town, as identified in Figure 1.1. This 55-hectare development would sit equally across both the Dacorum and St Albans administrative areas, taking the best of the New Town heritage into the 21st century, providing over 10,000 homes and 10,000 jobs, with Hertfordshire Enviro-Tech Enterprise Zone at its heart (providing 8,000 out of the 10,000 jobs).

Recognising the exceptional need for growth DBC and St Albans City and District Council together with Hertfordshire County Council are taking a strategic approach to housing and employment expansion in Hemel Hempstead. This is being reflected within the individual local plans, as well as wider overarching county documents. A point to note, any development within Dacorum is subject to being included within the Local Plan, following required assessment and consultation.

The HGC development would involve close partnership work between Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership and local businesses to support the delivery of the Hertfordshire Innovation Quarter (Herts IQ). This aims to create an internationally recognised employment zone focusing on green technology, expanding on the pre-existing Maylands Business Park (already the largest business park in Hertfordshire), as well as the Building Research Establishment and Rothamsted Research, both of which fall within the St Albans District.

The Government has expressed its support for this new employment area, which will help deliver against its clean growth agenda. Furthermore, the proposal would be supported by significant investment in ambitious new infrastructure and community facilities, with the intention of transforming the town as a whole and providing a great legacy. HGC was accepted onto the Garden Communities Programme in March 2019.

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Figure 1.2: Proposed Hemel Garden Communities growth



In summary, the guiding principles for development are:

- ◀ Connective green infrastructure
- ◀ Exemplary design
- ◀ Diverse employment opportunities
- ◀ Vibrant communities
- ◀ Exemplary design
- ◀ Transformative mobility improvements
- ◀ Empowering communities
- ◀ Innovative approaches to delivery
- ◀ Active local stewardship
- ◀ Strong corporate and political public leadership

St Albans Planning

St Albans' Local Plan 2020-2036 should set out the planning policies and proposals for the future development of the City and District of St Albans. It establishes the Council's long-term spatial planning strategy for delivering and managing development and infrastructure, and for environmental protection and enhancement, from 2020 to 2036. St Albans' vision for the District is 'A thriving community, which is a great place to live and work and has a vibrant economy'.

The Council is committed to joint work with other councils under the Duty to Co-operate and specifically to work on a Joint Strategic Plan for South West Hertfordshire (SW Herts). As identified earlier, the SW Herts area covers the administrative areas of Dacorum, Hertsmere, St Albans, Three Rivers and Watford.

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Several proposed developments to the West of St Albans may directly impact on Dacorum as they form part of the wider HGC proposal. Policy S6 identifies the “Broad Locations” for development” to contribute to meeting housing, infrastructure and other development needs over the plan period. Broad Locations and the associated revised Green Belt boundaries are identified in indicative form within the Plan.

All Broad Locations must meet the Policies set out in the Local Plan and as shown on the Policies Map. Planning applications for development at the Broad Locations must materially accord with masterplans approved by the Council following consultation with local communities and key stakeholders.

Hertfordshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2020

This strategy sets high level priorities, to optimise the health and wellbeing of people in the county throughout the course of their lives. This is based on the four life stages of Starting Well, Developing Well, Living and Working Well and Ageing Well. The vision is “with all partners working together we aim to reduce health inequalities and improve the health and wellbeing of the people in Hertfordshire. The Hertfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board agreed six principles which decide on the priorities to focus on up to 2020. They are as follows:

- ◀ Aim to keep people safe and reduce inequalities in health, attainment and wellbeing outcomes.
- ◀ Use public health evidence, other comparison information and Hertfordshire citizen’s views to make sure that we focus on the most significant health and wellbeing needs in Hertfordshire.
- ◀ Centre strategies on people, their families and carers, providing services universally but giving priority to the most vulnerable.
- ◀ Focus on preventative approaches – helping people and communities to support each other and prevent problems from occurring for individuals and families in the future.
- ◀ Always consider what can be done better together - focussing efforts on adding value as partners to maximise the benefits for the public.
- ◀ Encourage opportunities to integrate services to improve outcomes and value for taxpayers.

Herts Sports & Physical Activity Partnership (HSPAP) Strategic Plan 2017-2021

HSPAP is the county sports partnership (CSP) which incorporates Dacorum. Its team provides services to partners involved with the delivery of sport, physical education and active recreation. Its vision is ‘*More people, more active, more often*’.

Its mission is to work strategically to deliver an inclusive, insight led and sustainable sport and physical activity sector in Hertfordshire. Its strategic objectives are to:

- ◀ Increase participation in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Improve health and wellbeing by reducing inactivity.
- ◀ Demonstrate the economic and social value of sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Strengthen the local delivery infrastructure.
- ◀ Make the Partnership fit for the future.

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Dacorum Physical Activity and Sport Strategy 2019-2024

The recently produced Physical Activity and Sport Strategy focuses on a vision for sports and physical activity across Dacorum. It examines the role of Dacorum's sports clubs, the Council and partners and how they can improve provision and opportunity for physical activity and sport for all residents. This has been developed following consultation across the borough. The strategy vision is: "to provide opportunities for Dacorum residents to be more active, helping to shape and promote a positive attitude towards physical activity and sport". To achieve this DBC will:

- ◀ Provide leadership within the community. Working closely with partners from private, public and voluntary sectors to improve and promote access to resources, quality provision, and programmes of activity, with a particular focus on under-represented groups.
- ◀ Ensure there are high quality leisure facilities which meet the current and future needs of the borough.
- ◀ Champion and promote the benefits of physical activity and sport participation in achieving health, community cohesion and community safety outcomes.

The key outcomes of the Strategy are that:

- ◀ Everyone that lives and works in Dacorum will be able to find an activity or sport that meets their needs, which in turn will lead to increased participation and the benefits that come with this. Success will be measured through a series of key outcomes and targets.
- ◀ Setting measurable targets is a key part of being able to evaluate the success of DBC's actions and interventions. In those areas where it can use quantifiable targets it is important that it does so as this will be a valuable measure of progress for the strategy.

The key outcome targets set in the Strategy are:

- ◀ 2,000 more physically active Dacorum residents
- ◀ A 3% increase in membership numbers of local sports clubs and leisure facilities

There are contributing factors in relation to individuals' health and wellbeing, but the Strategy also targets:

- ◀ A reduction in the mortality rate for persons under 75 from cardiovascular diseases and cancer (circa. 20 fewer people)
- ◀ 1,880 fewer adults (aged 18+) carrying excess weight
- ◀ 36 fewer children reported as overweight or obese at year 6.

The Council will prepare an annual action plan in collaboration with partners; internal (e.g. Planning, Community Partnerships, Housing) and external (e.g. HSP, Public Health, DSN, Everyone Active) to deliver this strategy. In this, it will set out a series of more specific actions, which will take place throughout the coming years.

1.3: Structure

As this strategy is specific to Dacorum, it focuses on findings, recommendations and scenarios for outdoor sports facilities within the borough; however, considerations that relate to the whole of the South West Herts area are also included where appropriate.

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This strategy has been developed from research and analysis of outdoor sports provision and usage to provide:

- ◀ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of outdoor sport facilities.
- ◀ Evidence to help protect and enhance outdoor sport provision.
- ◀ The need to inform the development and implementation of planning policy.
- ◀ The need to inform the assessment of planning applications.
- ◀ The need to provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations that provide a strategic framework for improvements to provision.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch stock.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area action plan to address key issues.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommends a list of priority projects for the Dacorum area that should be implemented over the course of its lifespan. It is outlined to provide a framework for improvement, with potential partners and possible sources of external funding also in light of limited Council resources.

It is for the Council to decide what recommendations made in this strategy should be translated into local plan policy so that there is a mechanism to support delivery and secure provision and investment into provision where the opportunity arises.

However, Local Plan policy need not be the only route to take forward recommendations. There is a need to sustain and build key partnerships between the Council, Hertfordshire County Council, Herts Sports Partnership, Community Sport Networks, NGBs, Sport England, education providers, leisure contractors, maintenance contractors, community clubs and private landowners to maintain and improve outdoor sport provision. In these instances, the potential for the Council to take a strategic lead can be limited (except in terms of Section 106 agreements and developer contributions). This document will provide clarity with regard to the way forward and will allow organisations to focus on the key issues and objectives that they can directly influence and achieve.

1.4: Headline findings

The table below highlights the quantitative headline findings identified for all main pitch sports included in the preceding Assessment Report. For qualitative findings and site-specific findings, please see Part 4: Sport Specific Recommendations and Scenarios, and Part 6: Action Plan.

Table 1.2: Quantitative headline findings

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand shortfall	Future demand shortfall (2036 ¹)
Football (grass pitches)	Berkhamsted Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 2 MES on adult pitches ◀ Shortfall of 1.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 0.5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Mini 7v7 pitches at capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 2.5 MES on adult pitches ◀ Shortfall of 5.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 0.5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Mini 7v7 pitches at capacity

¹ Future demand figures are based on both club growth aspirations and TGRs (unless stated otherwise). TGRs are based on 2016 ONS projections.

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Sport	Analysis area	Current demand shortfall	Future demand shortfall (2036 ¹)
	Eastern Villages Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Adult pitches at capacity ◀ Youth 11v11 pitches at capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Adult pitches at capacity ◀ Youth 11v11 pitch at capacity
	Hemel Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 2.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 1 MES on youth 9v9 pitches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 4.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 2.5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Mini 7v7 pitches at capacity
	Southern Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 3.5 MES on adult pitches ◀ Youth 11v11 pitches at capacity ◀ Mini 5v5 pitches at capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 4 MES on adult pitches ◀ Shortfall of 2.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 0.5 MES on mini 7v7 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 0.5 MES on mini 5v5 pitches
	Tring Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 1 MES on adult pitches ◀ Shortfall of 3.5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 6 MES on mini 7v7 pitches ◀ Mini 5v5 pitches at capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 2 MES on adult pitches ◀ Youth 11v11 pitches at capacity ◀ Shortfall of 5.5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 8 MES on mini 7v7 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 2 MES on mini 5v5 pitches
	Dacorum Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 2.5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 2.5 MES on mini 7v7 pitches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 14.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 6.5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 7.5 MES on mini 7v7 pitches
Football (3G AGPs) ²	Berkhamsted Area	◀ Shortfall of 1 full size floodlit pitch.	◀ Shortfall of 1 full size floodlit pitch.
	Eastern Villages Area	◀ No shortfall	◀ No shortfall
	Hemel Area	◀ Shortfall of 1 full size floodlit pitch.	◀ Shortfall of 1 full size floodlit pitch.
	Southern Area	◀ Shortfall of 1 full size floodlit pitch.	◀ Shortfall of 1 full size floodlit pitch.
	Tring Area	◀ Shortfall of 1 full size floodlit pitch.	◀ Shortfall of 1 full size floodlit pitch.
	Dacorum Borough	◀ Shortfall of four full size floodlit 3G pitches	◀ Shortfall of four full size floodlit 3G pitches
Cricket	Berkhamsted Area	◀ No shortfall	◀ No shortfall
	Eastern Villages Area	◀ No shortfall	◀ No shortfall
	Hemel Area	◀ No shortfall	◀ No shortfall

² Based on accommodating 38 teams on one full size pitch

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Sport	Analysis area	Current demand shortfall	Future demand shortfall (2036 ¹)
	Southern Area	◀ Shortfall of 6 adult MES per season	◀ Shortfall of 23 adult MES per season
	Tring Area	◀ No shortfall	◀ Shortfall of 10 adult MES per season
	Dacorum Borough	◀ No overall shortfall	◀ No overall shortfall
Rugby union	Berkhamsted Area	◀ Pitches at capacity	◀ Pitches at capacity
	Eastern Villages Area	◀ No shortfall	◀ No shortfall
	Hemel Area	◀ Shortfall of 6 MES on senior pitches	◀ Shortfall of 7.75 MES on senior pitches
	Southern Area	◀ Pitches at capacity	◀ Pitches at capacity
	Tring Area	◀ Shortfall of 6 MES on senior pitches	◀ Shortfall of 7.75 MES on senior pitches
	Dacorum Borough	◀ Shortfall of 12 MES on senior pitches	◀ Shortfall of 15.5 MES on senior pitches
Hockey (Sand AGPs)	Dacorum Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 1 AGP in Tring Area ◀ Need to resurface Tring Sport Centre AGP in the next two to three years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 1 AGP in Tring Area ◀ Potential closure of RAF Halton in 2022 (Aylesbury), which is accessed by both Tring and Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead hockey clubs.
Golf	Dacorum Borough	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Sufficient supply to meet future demand
Bowls	Dacorum Borough	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Sufficient supply to meet future demand
Tennis	Dacorum Borough	◀ Sufficient supply of courts to meet current demand (overplay at Chipperfield TC & Little Gaddesden)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Sufficient supply of courts to meet current demand ◀ Overplay at Chipperfield TC, Little Gaddesden and Langley TC
Netball	Dacorum Borough	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Sufficient supply to meet future demand
Athletics	Dacorum Borough	◀ Jarman Park is operating at capacity and requires quality improvements	◀ Shortfall of a compact athletics facility
Rugby league	Dacorum Borough	◀ Shortfall of 2.25 MES on adult pitches	◀ Shortfall of 2.25 MES on adult pitches

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Conclusions

The existing position for all pitch sports is either; demand is currently being met, or there is a shortfall. There are current shortfalls on grass pitches for football, rugby union, rugby league and cricket.

For grass football pitches, current shortfalls are identified in all analysis areas, except for Eastern Villages. It is anticipated that these shortfalls will be exacerbated in the future, with new shortfalls also appearing on some pitch types. In the main, these shortfalls are attributed to high concentrations of demand on specific sites throughout Dacorum which are aligned to key community football clubs in the Borough.

For grass rugby union pitches, current and future shortfalls can be attributed to specific club sites; Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) RUFC and Tring RUFC. Likewise, shortfalls for rugby league pitches are directly attributed to overplay at Hemel Stags RLFC.

For netball, there are sufficient courts but improving court quality at strategic netball venues to better facilitate current demand is needed. For tennis, there is an overall sufficient supply of courts to accommodate demand, despite overplay at Chipperfield TC and Little Gaddesden TC. Identified overplay for specific tennis sites does not translate into the need to provide additional courts, but there may be a need to provide floodlighting at sites to increase capacity.

In terms of athletics, quality clearly need to be addressed at Jarman Park to protect the usage of the track and current club membership, a compact athletics facility could be an option to explore to supplement the existing track and to meet unmet demand expressed for juniors in the longer term.

For golf and bowls, the current stock of facilities is meeting demand and is expected to do so in the future. For bowls there is a requirement to increase quality at specific sites which accommodate the highest levels of demand.

Notwithstanding the above, there are clear shortfalls identified for 3G pitches which cannot be alleviated unless new provision is created. Given this, there is a need to explore the feasibility of future provision at strategic sites in Berkhamsted, Hemel, Southern and Tring analysis areas as these contain the highest level of football demand. An increase in 3G provision could also help reduce grass pitch shortfalls through the transfer of play, thus reducing overplay, which in turn can aid pitch quality improvements.

Likewise, to 3G, there is a shortfall identified for a hockey AGP within the Tring Analysis Area to support demand from Tring HC and Hemel & Berkhamsted HC.

As there are identified shortfalls on grass pitches, there is a need to protect both playing pitch provision currently in use and pitches that are no longer in use due to the potential that they may offer for meeting current and future needs.

PART 2: VISION

2.1: Vision

Below is Dacorum's vision for its sport and leisure provision for the period 2019 - 2036.

To support and sustain accessible, high quality sport and leisure facilities, which offer inclusive services for all; enabling the inactive to become active, increasing participation, particularly in target groups and improving the health and well-being of all our residents.

To achieve this vision, the strategy seeks to deliver the following objectives:

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

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

PART 3: AIMS

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

AIM 1

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

AIM 2

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

AIM 3

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

Figure 2.1: Sport England themes



Source Sport England (2015)

PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Football

Summary

- ◀ **Using the supply and demand analysis tables, it is considered that there is overall insufficient supply of football pitches across all pitch types with the exception of adult and mini 5v5.**
- ◀ **When accounting for future growth, current shortfalls are exacerbated and spare capacity on adult and mini 5v5 pitches is reduced.**
- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 234 grass football pitches within Dacorum across 84 sites. Of the pitches, 191 are available, at some level, for community use across 65 sites.
- ◀ Both Berkhamsted Raiders CFC and Tring Tornadoes are identified as playing across several sites and each club has aspirations for a large, dedicated home venue.
- ◀ There are four disused football pitches located at Coronation Fields. This is due to the pitches have a significant slope and being considered unsuitable for competitive football matches.
- ◀ Of pitches available for community use, seven are good quality, 143 standard and 41 are poor.
- ◀ Tring Sports Forum has a proposal for land at Dunsley Farm for it to be turned into a sporting hub linked to its promotion through the Local Plan for residential, community and employment purposes.
- ◀ Berkhamsted School is promoting residential development of Haslam Fields through the Local Plan with mitigation proposed south of the A41.
- ◀ Kings Langley FC does not meet FA ground grading requirements to compete at Step 2 due to its changing rooms not meeting minimum regulations.
- ◀ There are 328 football clubs in Dacorum from within 63 clubs.
- ◀ Consultation with clubs identifies growth aspirations totalling 48 teams
- ◀ 21 pitches across eight sites are overplayed by a combined total of 28.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Scenarios

Alleviating overplay/improving pitch quality

In total, 21 pitches across eight sites are overplayed by a combined total of 28.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Improving quality of the remaining pitches (i.e. through increased maintenance or improved drainage) will therefore increase capacity and consequently reduce current and future shortfalls.

To illustrate the above, Table 4.2 highlights that current levels of overplay would be alleviated on 12 out of 13 overplayed pitches if quality improved to good at each site.

The capacity rating for each type and quality rating are outlined in the table overleaf.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 4.1: Football capacity guidelines

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

If the quality of the 21 overplayed pitches in Dacorum were to be improved to good quality, five would remain overplayed. This is a result of quality already considered to be good on four pitches (Gaywood Park and Berkhamsted Football Club Ltd). Overplay on the remaining pitch, situated at Tring Sport Centre would be heavily reduced.

To alleviate this, play should be encouraged to transfer to alternative provision with actual spare capacity or to a 3G pitch facility.

Table 4.2: Levels of overplay if quality improved to good

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Capacity rating (match sessions)	Good quality capacity rating ³
3	Ashlyn's School	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	1.5	1.5
		Adult	3	Poor	3	3
8	Berkhamsted Sports and Social Club	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	1	1
10	Berkhamsted Football Club Ltd	Adult	1	Good	0.5	0.5
39	Gaywood Park	Adult	3	Good	5	5
74	Mortimer Park	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	1	1
87	Tring Sports Centre	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
		Youth 9v9	1	Poor	3.5	0.5
		Mini 7v7	4	Poor	6	10
91	The Adeyfield School	Youth 11v11	2	Poor	2.5	3.5
		Youth 9v9	2	Poor	3	3
101	Warners End Playing Field	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	1

Notwithstanding the above, given the costs of improving pitch quality, alternatives also need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The alternative to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches this help alleviate overplay on grass pitches, and aid their quality by reducing use

New provision

There will be a 9v9 and youth 11v11 pitch provided at Durrants Lane, Berkhamsted ready for the 2019/2020 football season. This will be a home venue for Berkhamsted Raiders FC. On the basis that pitches are provided to a good quality, each of the two pitches will offer four MES of potential capacity and one MES, during the peak period.

³ Match equivalent sessions

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Further to this, Tring Sports Forum has created a proposal for land at Dunsley Farm for the development of a sporting hub linked to a potential development of land for residential and employment purposes. The indicative plan has been provided to DBC as a starting point for discussion on how infrastructure requirements (for sport and leisure) could be integrated into its Local Plan development to meet the needs of sporting clubs in Tring.

If this proposal is given consideration by DBC and HCC, it needs to account for demand for pitch sports created by housing growth within Tring, throughout the Local Plan Period. This should be calculated by utilisation of the Sport England New Development Playing Pitch Calculator (NDC).

The NDC will identify the need for new playing pitch provision (or evidence the need to secure developer contributions to enhance existing provision) as a result of additional demand created through housing growth. The NDC will forecast the consequent pitch requirement to accommodate local growth and identify associated capital and lifecycle costings.

In addition, any consequent provision should also take into account the current and future shortfalls for pitch sports identified within Tring. There are current shortfalls for football, rugby union, a full size hockey AGP and a full size 3G pitch as identified in table 4.3.

Table 4.3: Tring pitch shortfalls

Pitch type	Pitch format	Current shortfalls (MES)	Future shortfalls (MES)
Football	Youth 11v11	1	2
	Youth 9v9	3.5	5.5
	Mini 7v7	6	8
	Mini 5v5	-	2
Rugby union	Senior	2.5	4.25
3G	Full size	1 pitch	1 pitch
Hockey	Full size	1 pitch	1 pitch

Providing security of tenure

Currently, 60 football match equivalent sessions take place at sites considered as unsecure. If these sites were to fall out of use, shortfalls would be significantly exacerbated as the demand would have to relocate to alternate sites.

Of the 60 football match equivalent sessions played on unsecured pitches, 44 match equivalent sessions are played at peak time, suggesting that 44 pitches would be required to accommodate the demand. As providing this number of pitches is wholly unrealistic, it reinforces the need to work with pitch providers to secure long term access to football clubs.

Table 4.4: Summary of supply and demand without unsecure sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)		
	Current total	Play at unsecured sites	Future total without unsecured sites
Adult	2.5	2.5	-
Youth 11v11	14.5	10.5	25
Youth 9v9	6.5	10.5	17
Mini 7v7	7.5	18	25.5
Mini 5v5	3.5	18.5	15

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

All unsecure usage takes place at education sites. Whilst not always possible, creating community use agreements between providers and users would ensure that such demand continues to be provided for in the long-term. When there is external investment on school sites, there are opportunities to secure community use as part of the funding or approval agreement. For such agreements, it is important to ensure that provision is accessible at peak time and affordable.

Football recommendations

- ◀ Protect both football pitches currently in use and pitches that are no longer in use due to the potential that they may offer for meeting current and future needs (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and/or assessed as poor quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality.
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and assessed as good quality, pursue transfer of demand to sites with actual spare capacity.
- ◀ Assess need to mark out additional football pitches at sites identified as having the potential to accommodate further provision.
- ◀ Work to accommodate future demand as well as expressed, unmet and latent demand at sites which are not operating at capacity or at sites not currently available for community use that could be moving forward, including sites which could be brought back into operation for football.
- ◀ Provide security of tenure for clubs using educational sites through community use agreements.
- ◀ Ensure all teams are playing on the correct pitch sizes and explore reconfiguration of adult pitches to accommodate youth 11v11 teams where possible.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer.
- ◀ Utilise CIL and/or s106 funding to deliver additional and improved pitches and facilities.
- ◀ Secure and monitor additional community use agreements within education sector where possible.

3G pitches

Summary

- ◀ **When considering demand on an analysis area level, it is considered there is a need for four full size 3G pitches both now and in the future, with a need in the Berkhamsted, Hemel, Southern and Tring analysis areas.**
- ◀ There are three full size 3G pitches in Dacorum, all of which are floodlit and available to the community.
- ◀ In addition, there are eight smaller size 3G pitches located across five sites.
- ◀ Pitches at Ashlyns School and Hemel Hempstead School are on the FA register and can accommodate competitive football. The pitch at Cavendish School is not certified for competitive play.
- ◀ There are no World Rugby Compliant 3G pitches within Dacorum. Given access to World Rugby 3G pitches on the fringes of Dacorum, it is not considered that there is a need to create dedicated World Rugby Compliant pitches.
- ◀ Of the three full size pitches, one is identified as being poor quality; located at Cavendish School.
- ◀ All full size 3G provision is accompanied by ancillary facilities that are considered adequate.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- With 328 teams currently affiliated to Dacorum there is a need for eight full size 3G pitches identified (Borough wide) a current shortfall of five. When accounting for future growth, the shortfall increases to six full size pitches.

Scenarios

Accommodating football training demand

As evidenced in the preceding Assessment Report, in order to satisfy current football training demand for the 328 teams playing in Dacorum (based on the FA's model of one full size 3G pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a need for an additional five full size 3G pitches to meet both current and identified future demand (a total of eight full size floodlit pitches).

Table 4.5: Demand for full size 3G pitches in Dacorum

Current number of teams	Current 3G requirement ⁴	Future number of teams	Future 3G requirement ⁵
328	8	376	9

Alternatively, the table below considers the number of full size 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the analysis area in which they play. Note that demand identified in Eastern Villages Analysis Area is not considered to be substantial enough to warrant providing full size 3G pitch provision and demand would likely be better catered for through a small sided offering.

As can be seen, once applied by analysis area, the shortfall reduces to an overall need for four full size pitches, with shortfalls identified in each analysis area (except for Eastern Villages).

Table 4.6: Demand by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement ⁶	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Berkhamsted Area	100	2	1	1
Eastern Villages Area	10	-	-	-
Hemel Area	121	3	2	1
Southern Area	53	1	-	1
Tring Area	44	1	-	1
Total	328	7	3	4

When accounting for future demand of 48 teams (a total demand of 376 teams) the overall need across Dacorum increases to nine full size 3G pitches, a shortfall of six pitches. However, when accounting for future demand by analysis area the overall shortfall remains at four and does not exacerbate the current shortfalls.

⁴ Rounded to the nearest whole number

⁵ Rounded to the nearest whole number

⁶ 3G requirement rounded down where applicable.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Moving football match play demand to 3G pitches

Moving match play to 3G pitches is supported by the FA. To further the use of 3G pitches for matches, the FA is particularly keen to work with local authorities to understand the potential demand for full size floodlit 3G pitches should all competitive matches that are currently played on council pitches be transferred. The following table therefore calculates the number of teams currently using council facilities in Dacorum for each pitch type at peak time.

Table 4.7: Number of teams currently using council pitches (peak time)

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Adult	11v11	Sunday AM	20
Youth	11v11	Sunday AM	8
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	10
Mini	7v7	Sunday AM	9
Mini	5v5	Sunday AM	6
Total			53

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

Table 4.8: Full size 3G pitches required for the transfer of council pitch demand

Format	No teams per time (x)	No matches at PEAK TIME (y) = x/2	3G units per match (z)	Total units required formats (A)=(y)*(z)	3G pitches required B= (A)/64
Adult	20	14.5	32	464	5
11v11	8	4	32	128	2
9v9	10	7.5	10	75	0.78
7v7	9	2	8	16	0.56
5v5	6	1	4	4	0.18

Given that peak time is the same for each pitch type, the number of 3G pitches required is calculated by adding the needs of each format together. This equates to the demand for nine full size 3G pitches (rounded up from 8.52). This number is higher than the 3G pitch requirement for midweek training and as a result is considered to be unrealistic to deliver. That being said, providing additional 3G pitch provision will provide further opportunities for match play which is likely to reduce the grass pitch shortfalls identified.

An alternative approach is to transfer all mini demand (not just that played on council pitches) to 3G pitches; the FA has an ambition to transfer 50% of mini play on to 3G pitches nationally. Thus, a programme of play has been created to determine how many 3G pitches would be required to accommodate this, given that peak time for both mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 football is Sunday AM.

Table 4.9: Full size 3G pitches required for transfer of all mini demand

Time	Pitch markings	Total games/teams
9.00 – 10.00	4 x 5v5	4/8
10.00 – 11.00	4 x 5v5	4/8
11.00 – 12.00	2 x 7v7	2/4
12.00 – 13.00	2 x 7v7	2/4

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Based on the above programming and separate start times for mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 matches, the overall need is for nine full size 3G pitches (rounded up from 8.875). This is calculated based on 71 mini 5v5 teams and 61 mini 7v7 teams currently playing within Dacorum.

As the number of 3G pitches required to accommodate all mini demand is higher than the midweek training need, it is likely to be unrealistic to provide this quantity of 3G provision. That being said, providing additional pitches to meet midweek training demand will provide future opportunities for mini teams to play matches on a 3G surface.

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

World Rugby has produced a 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby, more commonly known as 'Regulation 22'. There are no 3G surfaces located in Dacorum which meet this specification, although there is a pitch in Aylesbury (located at Aylesbury RUFC) which does meet the specification and adequately accommodates midweek training demand from Tring RUFC. Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) RUFC can accommodate its midweek training sessions on site, and therefore, there is no specific need to create dedicated World Rugby Compliant 3G pitch provision in Dacorum.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Explore options of providing new 3G pitches first and foremost to meet football training shortfalls, focusing on the Berkhamsted, Hemel, Southern and Tring analysis areas.
- ◀ Explore opportunities to create multi 3G pitch sites and linked to this, carry out a feasibility study for additional 3G provision to service the South West Herts sub-region as a whole.
- ◀ Support the creation of additional 3G pitches above and beyond football training shortfalls if it can satisfy rugby demand as well as football demand; 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 that any new 3G pitches have community use agreements in place.
- ◀ Ensure all providers put in place a sinking fund to ensure long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Encourage more match play demand to transfer to 3G pitches, where possible, and ensure that pitches remain suitable to accommodate such demand through appropriate certification when it is required.

Cricket pitches

Summary

- ◀ **There are sufficient levels of natural turf cricket provision across each analysis area in Dacorum, despite identified club specific overplay and an overall current shortfall in the Southern Analysis Area.**
- ◀ **When accounting for future demand, shortfalls are exacerbated, and a new shortfall is apparent in the Tring Analysis Area.**
- ◀ There are 36 grass wicket squares in Dacorum located across 24 sites. Of these, 23 squares are available, at some level, for community use across 19 sites. All provision which is unavailable for community use is located at educational sites.
- ◀ In Dacorum, there are two NTPs that accompany a grass wicket square in addition to six standalone NTPs. The NTP located at Hemel Hempstead Town Cricket Club is assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ Most clubs in the Borough are considered to have secure tenure at their primary venue. However, Bourne End CC has a one year rolling rental arrangement with a private land owner and has previously been threatened with eviction.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ The non-technical assessment of community available grass wicket squares, carried out in August 2018, found five to be good quality and 18 to be standard quality.
- ◀ The audit of ancillary facilities determines that all sites currently accessed for affiliated cricket in Dacorum are accompanied by some form of ancillary provision. Non-technical assessments revealed 13 to be good quality, two to be standard quality and four of poor quality. Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted, Boxmoor, Bovington, Flamstead, Long Marston, Tring Park, Little Gaddesden, Bourne End and Chipperfield Clarendon cricket clubs have all been victims of crime in recent years.
- ◀ Seven community available sites in Dacorum are not serviced by fixed bay practice nets. London Colney CC indicates aspirations for training facilities through consultation whilst Hemel Hempstead Town CC and Chipperfield Clarendon CC have demand for refurbished or additional practice nets.
- ◀ There are 16 clubs competing in Dacorum, generating 137 teams. As a breakdown, this equates to 51 senior men's, two senior women's, 81 junior boys' teams and three junior girls' team.
- ◀ In total in Dacorum there is total future growth, through team generation rates and club ambitions, of five senior men's teams, two senior women's teams, and 21 junior teams.
- ◀ There are five sites in Dacorum considered to be overplayed by a total of 45 match equivalent sessions per season.
- ◀ The Indoor Sports Facility Assessment did not highlight any key issues relating to indoor cricket provision.

Scenarios

Addressing overplay

The capacity of a cricket square to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. For good quality squares, capacity is set at five matches per wicket per season, whilst for a standard quality square, capacity is four matches per wicket per season. For poor quality squares, no capacity is considered to exist as provision is not safe for play.

The table below looks to identify if qualitative improvements to existing cricket squares would alleviate identified overplay. Of the five sites with overplay, four would have overplay alleviated in its entirety with potential spare capacity generated on each site. The Pavilion (Flamstead CC) would have overplay reduced to six MES remaining per season.

Table 4.10: Addressing overplay via quality improvements

Site ID	Site name	Current quality	Number of squares	Current capacity rating ⁷	Good quality capacity rating ⁸
8	Berkhamsted Sports and Social Club	Standard	2	-11	13
18	Boxmoor Cricket Club	Standard	1	-7	5
30	Chipperfield Clarendon Cricket Club	Standard	1	-6	6
75	Northchurch Sports Ground	Standard	1	-7	8
94	The Pavilion	Standard	1	-14	-6

Despite overplay still remaining at Flamstead CC following square improvements, greater utilisation of the onsite NTP by the clubs U10, U11 and U12 teams would remove 12 MES of demand off the cricket square and in turn, create six MES of potential spare capacity.

⁷ Match equivalent sessions

⁸ Match equivalent sessions

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Accommodating future demand

Through delivery of its new strategy, Inspiring Generations, the ECB Plan aims to connect communities and improve lives by inspiring people to discover and share their passion for cricket.

All Stars Cricket, the ECB national programme for 5-8 year olds, is engaging large numbers of children and has already been delivered over the past 3-4 years, with increasing numbers of participants year on year, alongside Chance to Shine cricket delivery in primary schools. Increasing numbers of those children are continuing to play cricket as they get older so junior numbers are increasing within clubs.

Shorter formats of cricket, and additional formats including softball cricket, are also driving up demand for pitches. Pitches that are already identified as being at capacity will not be able to accommodate additional playing demand generated and it is predicted there will be demand for additional cricket playing facilities.

Future demand is calculated using the average number of matches played per season. This equates to ten matches for senior men's teams, seven matches for senior women's teams and four matches for junior teams.

The table below looks to identify if the current level of cricket provision can accommodate future demand expressed by clubs based on the current capacity of existing squares. As can be seen, five clubs would be overplayed, or have overplay exacerbated and three clubs could accommodate future growth aspirations.

Table 4.11: Accommodating future demand

Site ID	Site name	Club	Future demand			Capacity if future demand is accommodated ⁹
			Senior men	Senior women	Junior	
8	Berkhamsted Sports and Social Club	Berkhamsted CC	-	-	2	-19
15	Bovingdon Cricket Club	Bovingdon CC	-	-	1	14
30	Chipperfield Clarendon Cricket Club	Chipperfield Clarendon CC	1	1	1	-28
94	The Pavilion	Flamstead CC	1	-	1	-28
41	Great Gaddesden Cricket Club	Great Gaddesden CC	1	-	-	31
48	Hemel Hempstead Cricket Club	Hemel Hempstead Town CC	1	-	-	-
75	Northchurch Sports Ground	Northchurch CC	-	-	2	-15
56	Home Field	Potten End CC	-	-	2	25
97	Tring Park Cricket Club	Tring Park CC	1	-	2	8

Future demand expressed by Berkhamsted CC and Northchurch CC can be accommodated via improvements to the existing quality of each club's cricket square(s).

⁹ Based on current square quality scoring

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Future demand identified by Chipperfield Clarendon CC for both a senior men's and ladies' team cannot be accommodated on its current site, based on peak time playing periods alone. Junior demand can be accommodated via quality improvements to its cricket square or via accommodating play on its on-site NTP.

To accommodate future demand for a senior men's and senior ladies' team, the Club will need to transfer demand off site. Growth aspirations for senior teams can be accommodated at Bovingdon CC if quality improvements are made at the site. Alternatively, the Club could look to transfer a proportion of its demand to High Street Green Playing Fields which is currently unused for cricket and identified through audit as being of a standard quality.

Future demand expressed by Flamstead CC for a senior men's team cannot be accommodated on site due to peak time playing periods. This demand could, however, be accommodated at Markyate Recreation Ground which has spare capacity within the peak period, is of a standard quality, and is located within a seven-minute drive time. Junior demand can be accommodated on site through greater utilisation of the onsite NTP.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect both cricket pitch provision currently in use and pitches that are no longer in use due to the potential that they may offer for meeting current and future needs (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Also ensure protection from development that may prejudice the use of a cricket square such as residential development in close proximity to a cricket outfield (ball strike issues).
- ◀ Improve quality of the cricket square at sites with identified overplay, club sites with high future demand aspirations and squares identified as being poor quality.
- ◀ Work with clubs and grounds staff to review quality issues on squares to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as poor or standard and sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Ensure security of tenure for all clubs with lease arrangements in place by ensuring agreements have over 25 years remaining.
- ◀ For clubs without lease arrangements, explore opportunities for long-term asset transfer or as a minimum ensure community use agreements are entered into to enable long-term access.
- ◀ Ensure expressed future demand can be accommodated on existing supply of squares.
- ◀ Seek to work with clubs which have expressed an interest in additional training facilities.
- ◀ Work to accommodate targeted growth for women's and girls' cricket through the ECB Inspiring Generations Strategy.
- ◀ Seek to improve ancillary provision at Boxmoor CC, Potten End CC, Flamstead CC.
- ◀ In line with the Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy, support investment at sites where sports halls are being refurbished or new sports halls are being developed to ensure cricket is catered for and that facilities comply with ECB technical standards, regularly evaluate programming at sports halls to ensure there is capacity to support cricket and develop relationships between schools and clubs to ensure good access to indoor provision.

Rugby union

Summary

- ◀ **Having considered supply and demand, an overall shortfall is evident to service senior demand in Dacorum.**
- ◀ **When accounting for future growth generated through TGRs and aspirations from Tring RUFC shortfalls are exacerbated to a total of 10.5 match equivalent sessions per week.**

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ There is a total of 15 senior, eight junior and 18 mini pitches in Dacorum, provided across 12 sites. Of these, 14 senior pitches, one junior and 16 mini pitches are available for community use.
- ◀ Of the senior pitches available for community use, three are good quality, two are standard and nine are poor.
- ◀ There are three clubs operating within Dacorum; Berkhamsted RUFC, Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) RUFC and Tring RUFC.
- ◀ Berkhamsted RUFC has unsecure tenure at Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead Hockey Club. The Club has a one year agreement to use pitches at the site.
- ◀ Ancillary provision at Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) is of poor quality and in need of modernisation.
- ◀ Tring RUFC aspires to redevelop its home ground which will include the rotation of its 1st xv pitch which will enable a two story clubhouse to be developed in addition to reconstruction of its current changing facilities.
- ◀ Tring Sports Forum has a proposal for land at Dunsley Farm for it to be turned into a sporting hub linked to its promotion through the Local Plan for residential, community and employment purposes.
- ◀ There is a total shortfall of seven match equivalent sessions per week identified as a result of demand generated by Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) RUFC and Tring RUFC.

Scenarios

Accommodating current and future demand

Tring RUFC

Tring RUFC has three senior which are cumulatively overplayed by six match equivalent sessions per week. The site is shared with Tring Tornadoes Sports Club which has three junior football pitches which are regularly used to accommodate its junior football demand (although no football demand takes place on rugby union pitches).

If in the future Tring Tornadoes Sports Club was able to relocate to an alternate site (to better facilitate its demand elsewhere) it would allow Tring RUFC to mark additional pitches which in turn, would help accommodate its current demand. To that end, having access to an additional senior pitch of an M2/D1 quality (the same quality as its current senior pitches) would reduce overplay to three match equivalent sessions per week.

If a junior pitch can be further provided (to at least M2/D1 quality) current demand on the site would be satisfied. Future shortfalls on the site could be accommodated through qualitative pitch improvements.

Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) RUFC

Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) RUFC has three senior pitches which are cumulatively overplayed by six MES per week. Pitches at the site are poor quality (M1/D0). If pitches were improved up to a M2/D3 standard through qualitative improvements to the current maintenance regime and through drainage improvements, 0.5 MES per week of overplay would remain.

Given the site will remain overplayed with quality improvements (coupled with future growth aspirations from the Club) there would be a requirement to further access pitch provision at Chaulden Lane Playing Fields (adjacent to its home ground) to satisfy demand.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Floodlighting

There is one floodlit pitch at Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) RUFC which accommodates high levels of midweek training demand and competitive match play on weekends. Providing floodlighting on a secondary pitch will provide opportunities for a spread of midweek training demand and allow further opportunities for return to rugby programmes.

Tring RUFC accommodates a proportion of its rugby off site onto a World Rugby Compliant 3G pitch. Despite this, pitches at the site are still heavily used for midweek training and no pitches have permanent floodlighting erected. Installing permanent floodlighting on the site would allow for enhanced training structures and create opportunities for midweek rugby participation programmes.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect both rugby pitches currently in use and pitches that are no longer in use due to the potential that they may offer for meeting current and future needs (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision at Tring RUFC and Hemel Hempstead (Camelot RUFC)
- ◀ Look to provide additional floodlighting at Tring RUFC and Hemel Hempstead (Camelot RUFC)
- ◀ Seek to improve pitch quality at Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) RUFC.
- ◀ Retain supply of rugby pitches at school sites for curricular and extra-curricular purposes and encourage secure community availability should demand exist in the future.
- ◀ If Tring Tornadoes FC are to relocate to an alternate site in the future to accommodate its football demand, ensure that playing pitch provision on the current site is retained for the benefit of Tring RUFC.

Hockey pitches (sand/water-based AGPs)

Summary

- ◀ **There is an insufficient supply of hockey pitches within Dacorum to accommodate current and future demand for both training and fixtures.**
- ◀ There is one full size hockey AGP in Dacorum, located at Tring Sports Centre.
- ◀ There are five small sided hockey AGPs across the Borough of which one is available for community use, located at Hemel Hempstead Leisure Centre.
- ◀ The full size AGP at Tring Sport Centre is standard quality, but it is acknowledged it is nearer its end of life expectancy and will require resurfacing in the next few years.
- ◀ Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead HC has aspirations to deliver a full size hockey AGP at its home site; Cow Roast.
- ◀ It has been announced by the MoD that RAF Halton will close in 2022 and there has been no formal decision made of what will happen to existing provision on site. If the site is to close, further demand will need to be accommodated in the Tring Analysis Area.
- ◀ There are two community clubs in Dacorum; Tring HC and Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead HC. Both clubs are based within the Tring Analysis Area.
- ◀ Affiliated demand for hockey totals 444 players. This does not account for people playing in informal formats of hockey.
- ◀ Tenure on AGPs for each community club is unsecure with no community user agreements identified.
- ◀ There are high levels of displaced demand outside of Dacorum to accommodate both matches and training.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Scenarios

Accommodating current demand

The current supply of hockey suitable AGPs is considered insufficient to accommodate the current levels of hockey demand both at peak time for matches and for midweek training requirements.

There is a need for two full size hockey suitable AGPs within the Tring Analysis Area to accommodate demand generated from Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead HC and Tring HC. There is one suitable pitch located at Tring Sports Centre which will require resurfacing within the next three years to ensure it can continue to accommodate competitive match play resulting in an overall shortfall of one pitch within the Analysis Area.

Recommendations

- ◀ Seek to resurface Tring Sports Centre within the next 2 – 3 years to ensure that it remains suitable as a hockey suitable facility.
- ◀ Explore opportunities to deliver a secondary full size hockey suitable AGP within the Tring Analysis Area (or alternate areas considered suitable) to service demand generated by Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead HC & Tring HC.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Look to secure community use through formal agreement, especially through linked external funding at Tring Sports Centre.
- ◀ Look to increase participation in local hockey driven through community clubs and schools.

Golf

Summary

- ◀ **It is considered that the current supply of facilities in Dacorum can meet current and future demand, with emphasis placed on ensuring sites are able to retain current members and users as well as assisting them in capitalising on any untapped demand and future demand.**
- ◀ There are four golf courses within Dacorum.
- ◀ In addition, there is a standalone driving range (Berkhamsted Golf Range) and one dedicated FootGolf course (Little Hay Golf Complex).
- ◀ All of the clubs provide 18-hole courses. Little Hay Golf Complex also offers a six hole pitch and putt course.
- ◀ Quality is considered to be good at all courses in the Borough.
- ◀ All of the clubs within the Borough provide clubhouse provision with an array of facilities.
- ◀ In Dacorum, only Ashridge and Berkhamsted golf clubs have a larger than average membership base. All of the other golf clubs in the area are significantly below the national average.
- ◀ In total, an average of 60,041 people are identified as current or potential users of golf courses within Dacorum.
- ◀ Demand is likely to be highest for Shendish Manor Golf Club, with 92,271 potential users and lowest for Berkhamsted Golf Club, which has 43,288 potential users.
- ◀ Emphasis should be placed on capitalising on untapped demand in Dacorum to increase membership numbers of the smaller golf clubs.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Scenarios

It is considered that the current supply of facilities can meet current and future demand. However, only two of the five golf clubs in Dacorum have higher than the national average membership bases. Therefore, emphasis should be placed on capitalising on untapped demand in Dacorum.

Currently, provision would appear to cater for segments such as “older traditionalists” which is the smallest demand segment in Dacorum. Whilst non-traditional facilities also exist such as driving ranges, a pitch and putt course and a FootGolf course, these facilities may be insufficient to fully engage the ‘Casual fun’ segment which is the most prominent segment within the borough.

Further analysis at club or facility level, along with some additional England Golf tools, could be used to better understand the existing members and visitors of each venue. This may help to establish a clearer picture of the overall facility landscape and how well it caters for the local demographic.

If any golf courses are identified for development in the future, there is a need to carry out a full Needs Assessment to further establish the need and extent to which golf provision should be maintained or mitigated. For example, there may be a good supply of 18 hole courses but there could be a shortage of driving ranges which may justify mitigation of a driving range.

Recommendations

- ◀ The creation of entry level, informal golf facilities such as FootGolf courses or shorter pitch and putt courses should be considered to capitalise on the ‘Casual fun’ segment in the Borough.
- ◀ Sustain course quality across all active sites to facilitate current and future growth.
- ◀ Support clubs in membership retention and potential growth.
- ◀ Encourage clubs and providers to work more collaboratively in terms of creating pathways for existing and new players.

Bowls

Summary

- ◀ **All current and future demand can be accommodated on existing provision in Dacorum so long as greens are maintained regularly, and quality improvements are undertaken at sites accommodating the highest levels or demand and/or are identified as being poor quality.**
- ◀ There are nine flat greens located across eight sites in Dacorum, none of which, are fully floodlit.
- ◀ There are four greens located in the Berkhamsted Area and two greens in each Hemel and Southern areas and a single flat green in the Tring Area. There is no bowls provision in the Eastern Villages Area.
- ◀ Five greens are assessed as good quality, one as standard and three as poor
- ◀ Poor quality greens are located at Berkhamsted Sports & Social Club (Kitchener’s Field) and Hemel Hempstead BC.
- ◀ Bovingdon BC cites a bank surrounding its green at Bovingdon Memorial Hall is subsiding, causing green quality to deteriorate. The Club also notes it has demand for an additional two rinks on the green to accommodate six rink fixtures.
- ◀ There are eight bowls clubs playing in Dacorum. Berkhamsted BC is the largest club with 101 members, whilst Little Gaddesden BC is the smallest with 36 members.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ All the responding bowls clubs report ambitions of increasing their current membership base by a cumulative total of 104 members.
- ◀ Taking the above into account, there is no requirement for additional flat green bowls provision to be provided in Dacorum to service current or future demand.
- ◀ The Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy did not identify any demand for indoor bowls.

Scenarios

There is a sufficient supply of bowling greens in Dacorum to accommodate current levels of club demand. Despite several clubs having high memberships, none state a need for further provision to be provided. Where high club membership is evidenced, there is a need to ensure green quality is of a high level to sustain high levels of use.

Recommendations

- ◀ Retain existing quantity of greens utilised by clubs and seek to improve overall quality through good maintenance and effective partnership working with club volunteers.
- ◀ Sustain good quality greens and look to improve the quality of greens identified as either standard or poor including, Berkhamsted Sports and Social Club and Hemel Hempstead BC.
- ◀ Seek to support Hemel Hempstead BC with identified issues with its bowling green.
- ◀ Utilise CIL and/or s106 funding to improve existing bowls infrastructure in relation to green quality and site-specific infrastructure.
- ◀ Look to provide facilities which are suitably able to provide current/future members with a physical disability access to bowling provision.

Tennis

Summary

- ◀ **There is an adequate supply of courts to meet current club demand. However, if future demand aspirations are realised, Chipperfield Clarendon Cricket Club and Langley Tennis Club will become significantly overplayed.**
- ◀ There are 139 tennis courts identified in Dacorum across 40 sites, with 110 of the courts being available for community use.
- ◀ The Hemel Area has the largest amount of provision, while the Eastern Villages area has no community available provision.
- ◀ All courts unavailable for community use are located at private school sites.
- ◀ Langley Tennis Club mention that their lease agreement with Abbots Hill School expires in six years time.
- ◀ The Leverstock Green TC site has been identified within the Dacorum Site Allocations Development Plan Document for residential purposes with proposed relocation to the Bunkers Park allocation.
- ◀ Except Little Gaddesden Tennis Club, each club is serviced by some level of floodlit provision, with 49 floodlit courts existing across the Borough.
- ◀ There are 58 courts assessed as good quality, 25 courts assessed as standard quality and 27 courts assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ Responding tennis clubs generally consider their ancillary provision to be of good or adequate condition, although Leverstock Green TC note that their changing facilities are of poor quality.
- ◀ Combined membership for tennis clubs in Dacorum equates to a total of 2,504 members, which is derived from 1,526 senior members and 978 junior members.
- ◀ Leverstock Green, Langley, Chipperfield and Berkhamsted tennis clubs all offer pay and play at their respective sites.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ As all remaining, non-club courts are deemed to have spare capacity, focus should be on improving quality to an adequate standard for informal play.
- ◀ The Indoor Sport Facility Assessment identified that Bovingdon and Flaunden Tennis Club aspires to develop an air hall.

Scenarios

Accommodating current and future demand

Chipperfield TC has a total membership of 225. The Club site has two courts (one floodlit) and based on LTA capacity guidelines, has a capacity of 100 members. This equates to the site being played over the recommended capacity by 125 members. The site is landlocked and unable to provide additional courts, so a solution cannot be resolved on site. Providing additional floodlighting on the unfloodlit court would reduce overplay to 105 members and would be beneficial for late evening tennis although to fully satisfy demand a proportion of demand needs to be transferred off site. The Kings Langley School is situated within a two-mile catchment (equating to a five minute drive time) and contains four good quality macadam courts. Accessing these would satisfy all identified overplay.

Little Gaddesden TC has a total membership of 170. The Club has access to three non-floodlit courts which based on LTA capacity guidelines equates to the site being overplayed by 50 members. One option to alleviate this overplay would be to provide floodlighting to all three courts which in turn would create potential spare capacity on site. Alternatively, the Club could consider accessing The Lifestyle Centre which is within a one mile catchment (equating to a four minute drive time) which contains three standard quality macadam courts.

Langley TC has a total membership of 350 and a site capacity of 380 members. Its site consists of two courts within an inflatable dome and three outdoor floodlit courts. While the Club is operating within LTA capacity guidelines, it has growth plans of 150 members which needs to be considered. The Club sits within the grounds of Abbots Hill School which itself contains five standard quality non-floodlit courts which are unavailable for community use. If access to these courts can be achieved, potential future demand would be satisfied. It should be noted that the Club has six years remaining on its lease agreement with the school and is actively looking to negotiate a longer agreement on the site to secure its long term future.

Recommendations

- ◀ Retain and protect the existing stock of tennis club facilities via appropriate maintenance and management support to ensure adequate provision remains for those who seek regular tennis activity, whilst also encouraging club venues to consider how access and use can be improved at clubs to enable more informal play.
- ◀ If Leverstock Green TC is to be relocated in the future as part of the Dacorum Site Allocation DPD, there will be a need to ensure that provision is mitigated for, to an equivalent or better standard. This will need to be undertaken with consultation with both the LTA and Sport England.
- ◀ Look to improve the quality of ancillary provision at Leverstock TC which is identified as being poor quality (unless the site is to be relocated).
- ◀ For non-club venues look to sustain and protect tennis courts that can continue to provide informal access and use. To optimise and target resource, as well as stimulating demand for tennis, it is advised to look at creating non tennis club 'hub sites' which can better attract, grow and support recreational tennis in the area. This would involve working with the LTA on target sites that could improve the customer journey to court.
- ◀ Ensure clubs operating above membership thresholds continue to have a supply that adequately meets needs.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Support Langley TC in gaining a long-term lease agreement on its current site at Abbots Hill School.
- ◀ Improve courts located at education sites to meet curricular and extra-curricular needs which are poor quality.
- ◀ Work in partnership with the LTA in the delivery of future tennis sites/facility developments.
- ◀ In line with the Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy, support Bovingdon and Flaunden Tennis Club with its aspirations to develop an air hall.

Netball

Summary

- ◀ **In summary, there is enough netball provision in Dacorum to meet current demand and therefore priority should be placed on improving court quality at strategic netball venues to better facilitate current and future demand.**
- ◀ In total, there are 84 outdoor netball courts located across 41 sites in Dacorum. However, only 46 courts (55%) are available for community use.
- ◀ Of the total 42 (50%) are assessed as standard quality, 27 are assessed as good quality (32%) and the remaining 15 (18%) courts are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ There are a number of school courts which are available for community use but do not meet EN standards. For example, Cavendish School courts do not currently meet EN standards, however, if improvements were made, this site has potential for community use.
- ◀ There are also a number of courts which are not available for community use which have good quality courts.
- ◀ Generally, schools do not allow their courts to be available for community use. This can be due to variety of reasons, such as a lack of local demand for court usage, lack of floodlighting, high staff costs to enable community usage or a preference to preserve court quality for curricular use.
- ◀ There are nine formal clubs in the Borough. The Hemel Hempstead and District Netball League is based at Longdean Sports Centre. A regular Back to Netball session is held at Longdean Sports Centre on Thursday evenings.
- ◀ The Sport England Market Segmentation Tool identifies a latent demand of 451 people who would like to play netball in Dacorum, but currently do not participate.
- ◀ Dacorum NC exports all its demand outside of Dacorum. However, given this is due to playing in specific leagues, it is not thought that this is due to a lack of court access in Dacorum.
- ◀ Shelly NC has one team playing in Dacorum with two other senior teams and one U14 team exported outside Dacorum, however, this is due to no Sunday leagues operating within Dacorum.
- ◀ The Indoor Sports and Leisure Strategy finds that Berkhamsted Leisure Centre and Hemel Hempstead Leisure Centre sports halls are regularly accessed for both Back to Netball and Walking Netball sessions. However, local clubs are increasingly finding access to indoor facilities a challenge, particularly at school sites.

Scenarios

There is a sufficient supply of outdoor netball provision in Dacorum to meet current and future club/league and recreational demand. However, priority should be placed on maintaining existing levels of provision and improving court quality at strategically important sites throughout the borough. Strategic sites are multi court and provide opportunities for central venue league competition. This is particularly key at sites which have regular use of their outdoor courts or have the potential to accommodate structured programming in the future.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Longdean Sports Centre is a key strategic site for netball in Dacorum, as it operates as a central venue for multiple teams. This, alongside; Ashlyns School, Tring Sports Centre and The Adeyfield School accommodate the highest levels of demand in the Borough and therefore should be considered for future investment to improve long term quality. Further to this, Tring Sport Centre is identified as a new venue to accommodate a new league.

The PPS audit identified poor quality courts at Longdean Sports Centre and the Adeyfield School and therefore these should be prioritised for future investment.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect dedicated netball provision at sites with identified community access.
- ◀ Ensure that future investment into netball courts is targeted at sites accommodating the highest levels of demand, including, Longdean Sports Centre, Ashlyns School, Adeyfield School and Tring Sports Centre.
- ◀ Work to establish community use agreements at Ashlyns School and The Adeyfield School to secure future community access for netball.
- ◀ Seek to work with England Netball to increase participation into the sport throughout the borough.
- ◀ Seek to improve poor quality courts at education sites to provide enhanced curricular and extracurricular opportunities for netball.
- ◀ In line with the Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy, support investment at sites where sports halls are being refurbished or developed to ensure indoor netball is catered for and regularly evaluate sports hall programming to ensure there is capacity to support netball clubs and initiatives.

Athletics

Summary

- ◀ **There is one purpose built athletic facility in Dacorum, located at Jarman Park. This is able to largely satisfy both current and future demand on the basis quality improvements are undertaken. Further to this, a compact athletics facility could be an option to explore to supplement the existing track and to meet unmet demand expressed for juniors in the longer term.**
- ◀ The track at Jarman Park is assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ Dacorum has one formal athletics club; Dacorum and Tring Athletics Club.
- ◀ It is also home to two running clubs as Dacorum and Tring Athletics Club also has a road running section whilst Gade Valley Harriers is also based in the Borough.
- ◀ There are two Parkrun events operating every Saturday, at Tring Park and Gadebridge Park.
- ◀ In addition, there is the annual Hemel 10k run taking place as well as four registered RunBritain events.
- ◀ Dacorum and Tring Athletics Club is currently operating at capacity with 600 members and as such also has a waiting list of 50-100 juniors which cannot be accommodated. The Club has aspirations to own and manage its own facility in the future.
- ◀ Notwithstanding the quality issues which clearly need to be addressed at Jarman Park as a priority in order to protect the usage of the track and current club membership.

Scenarios

The Jarman Park Athletics Track is a key strategic facility for athletics in Dacorum and the wider region. Dacorum and Tring Athletics Club is the main user of the site and operates a membership of circa 600 and has an unmet demand (evidenced through a waiting list) equating to 50 – 100 junior members.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Given the significant demand generated by the Club, there is a need to protect the existing 400m track at Jarman Park and improve its quality to allow for sustained usage for both current and future users. Further to this, given there is an identified unmet demand for athletics, consideration should also be given into the creation of a compact athletics facility to supplement the existing track and to meet both overspill demand from Jarman Park and unmet demand.

England Athletics has adopted UKA's strategic position of concentrating on preserving and improving the existing stock of 400m tracks rather than seeking to build additional ones. However, there are areas in the country where journey time to the nearest full size outdoor track is longer than ideal, and there are places where good coaching has created significant demand despite the lack of a local athletics facility.

The Compact Athletics concept is intended to fill this gap, providing training facilities in places where there is insufficient demand, funding or land to accommodate a full-size track. A Compact Athletics facility can take a number of forms, but essentially provides a strip of synthetic track plus some capacity for jumps and throws, enabling core athletic skills to be taught, enjoyed and developed.

Recommendations

- ◀ There is a need to protect Jarman Park as a dedicated athletics facility. If in the future the site is identified for development there is a requirement to adequately mitigated on a like per like basis in accordance with NPPF.
- ◀ Improve the quality of the athletics facility at Jarman Park through resurfacing of the track and renovation of existing floodlighting (on the basis it will be retained as a dedicated athletics facility).
- ◀ Explore future opportunities to deliver a Compact Athletics Facility to supplement Jarman Park.
- ◀ Support the running events taking place as well as exploring the implementation of initiatives not currently serviced to increase participation in recreational running.
- ◀ Ensure that any new developments consider the need for running and potential opportunities to link with/to existing running routes.

Rugby league

Summary

- ◀ **The current supply of rugby league pitches is sufficient to accommodate both current and future demand on the basis quality improvements are undertaken.**
- ◀ There are two rugby league pitches identified in Dacorum, with both located at Hemel Stags Rugby Club.
- ◀ There is one good quality and one standard quality pitch at Hemel Stags RLFC. This creates a carrying capacity of five match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ Changing facilities at Hemel Stags Rugby Club are poor quality and the Club has ambitions of creating additional changing facilities through the 2021 Rugby League World Cup Legacy Fund.
- ◀ Hemel Stags RLFC has ten years remaining on its lease agreement from DBC and is looking to extend this to a minimum 25 years so it can begin to look for grant funding.
- ◀ Hemel Stags RLFC operate three senior men's teams, four youth teams and three mini teams.
- ◀ Despite Hemel Stags RLFC having two standard quality pitches at Hemel Stags Rugby Club, the site is currently overplayed by a total of 2.25 match equivalent sessions per week.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Due to the upcoming Rugby League World Cup, being hosted in England in 2021, the RFL has announced significant investment to improve rugby league facilities for local clubs and players.

Scenarios

Demand for rugby league within Dacorum (and the wider South Herts region) is satisfied through Hemel Stags RLFC. However, there is identified overplay (equivalent to 2.25 match equivalent sessions per week) on the site. The site has the capacity to mark out an additional senior pitch (which was previously marked out in 2011) which could be utilised for match play and midweek training. If this was to be provided to a good quality, overplay could be alleviated and potential spare capacity created. Providing floodlighting to a secondary pitch on the site would also allow the spread of midweek training, reducing concentrated demand on the main pitch.

In the longer term, the Club aspires to provide a full size 3G pitch with RFL Community Standard Certification in place of its natural turf first team pitch. This would allow for all midweek training to be undertaken on it and alleviate all overplay on site.

Recommendations

- ◀ Explore grant funding opportunities through the RFL 2021 Rugby League World Cup funding programme.
- ◀ Work to increase the length of the current lease agreement for Hemel Stags RLFC at Pennine Way to allow it to secure grant funding to make required improvements.
- ◀ Work with relevant partners to increase rugby league participation within the South Herts region linked to Hemel Stags RLFC.

PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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

OBJECTIVE 1

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

Recommendations:

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

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

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

NPPF paragraph 97 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 outdoor sports facilities be taken out of use for any reason (e.g. council budget restraints), it is imperative that the land is retained so that it can be brought back into use in the future. This means that land containing provision should not be altered (except to improve play) and should remain free from tree cover and permanent built structures, unless the current picture changes to the extent that the site in question is no longer needed, or unless replacement provision is provided to an equal or greater quantity and quality.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Although there are identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions, most demand is currently being met and most shortfalls should look to be addressed through quality improvements. Where shortfalls cannot be alleviated through quality improvements, it is recommended that opportunities to provide additional playing pitch provision is explored. That being said, including the need for additional facilities in the Local Plan is therefore not recommended as a priority, except in the case of 3G and AGPs pitches where there is a discrete need for additional provision, or where there is significant housing growth.

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

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

Policy Exception E1:

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

Where the PPS cannot demonstrate the site, or part of a site, is clearly surplus to requirements the replacement of the site, or part of a site, will be required to comply with Sport England policy exception E4.

Policy Exception E4:

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

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

Any disused/lapsed sites are included within the Action Plan together with a recommendation in relation to the need to bring the site back into use or mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified within the Assessment.

It may be considered appropriate in the future to rationalize some existing outdoor sport sites (that are of low value i.e. one/two pitch sites with no changing provision) to generate investment and focus resources towards creating bigger, better quality sites (hub sites). Such sites could then be re-purposed to meet other recreational needs or, if appropriate and agreed upon, lost for development. However, no suitable sites for this have been identified as part of the PPS, meaning the situation should be re-visited as part of the ongoing monitoring and reviewing of the project.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

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

For the remaining providers, 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 the agreement.

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

The Council 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 clubs are in a position to apply for external funding. This is particularly the case at poor quality local authority sites, possibly with inadequate ancillary facilities, so that quality can be improved and sites developed.

Local sports clubs 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, support club development and encourage clubs to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate income via their facilities. All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)¹⁰. They should also be encouraged to work with partners locally – such as volunteer support agencies or local businesses.

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

Each club interested in leasing a 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.

¹⁰ <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

Club	Site
<p>Clubs should have Clubmark/FA Charter Standard accreditation award.</p> <p>Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links.</p> <p>Clubs are sustainable, both in a financial sense and via their internal management structures in relation to recruitment and retention policy for both players and volunteers.</p> <p>Ideally, clubs should have already identified (and received an agreement in principle) any match funding required for initial capital investment identified.</p> <p>Clubs have processes in place to ensure capacity to maintain sites to the existing, or better, standards.</p>	<p>Sites should be those identified as 'Club Sites' (recommendation d) for new clubs (i.e. not those with a 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 a Clubmark/Charter Standard club).</p> <p>Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site.</p>

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

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

Community asset transfer

The Sport England Community Sport Asset Transfer Toolkit is a bespoke, interactive web based tool that provides a step by step guide through each stage of the asset transfer process: <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/asset-transfer/>

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

In order to maximise community use of education facilities it is recommended to establish a coherent, structured relationship with schools. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train. Pricing policies at facilities can be a barrier to access but also physical access and resistance from schools to open up provision due to staffing, site security or to protect quality of facilities for school use.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

A number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the school/college and the local clubs. Notably, all full sized 3G pitch provision is in operation at education sites and plays a critical role for hockey and football but more significantly as floodlit facilities for midweek team training. The Council and other key partners must work with schools and colleges to develop an understanding of the issues that restrict or affect community access. Support should be provided, where appropriate, to address any underlying problems.

The following schools do not currently provide community access to their outdoor sports provision in Dacorum:

- ◀ Beechwood Park School
- ◀ Bovingdon Primary Academy
- ◀ George Street Primary School
- ◀ Hobletts Manor Junior School
- ◀ Lockers Park
- ◀ Rudolf Steiner School
- ◀ St Marys School
- ◀ Westbrook Hay School
- ◀ Belswains Primary School
- ◀ Chaulden Junior School
- ◀ Egerton Rothesay School
- ◀ Hammond Academy
- ◀ Lime Walk Primary School
- ◀ Maple Grove Primary School
- ◀ St Cuthbert Mayne RC School
- ◀ St Thomas More RC School

Of the schools listed above several have a significant level of sporting provision which could be utilised to accommodate community sport teams, and in turn, reduce identified shortfalls. The schools which are considered the most suitable for targeting are:

- ◀ Beechwood Park School
- ◀ Westbrook Hay Prep

Where appropriate, it will be important for schools to negotiate and sign formal and long-term agreements that secure community use. This is particularly relevant for sites which are already in regular use from sports clubs and as such play a critical role in providing pitch provision in Dacorum. Key sites which should be targeted and are currently utilised by clubs include:

- ◀ Ashlyns School
- ◀ Bridgewater Primary School
- ◀ Chambesbury Primary School
- ◀ Haslam Fields (Berkhamsted School)
- ◀ Kitcheners Field (Berkhamsted School)
- ◀ The Thomas Coram C of E School
- ◀ Astley Cooper School
- ◀ Cavendish School
- ◀ Greenway School
- ◀ Kings Langley Secondary School
- ◀ The Adeyfield School
- ◀ Tring Sports Centre

Of the above sites, Ashlyns School and Astley Cooper School are identified within the Dacorum Indoor Built Facility Strategy as being key sites for their sports hall facilities which further reinforces the need to secure long-term community access.

It is recommended that where there is planned development for new secondary or primary education facilities (including schools proposed as part of large-scale housing development) that an appropriate CUA is formalised to ensure guaranteed access for sports clubs.

New school developments may also provide an opportunity to create sport provision in line with identified shortfalls within the PPS, including the delivery of 3G pitches and grass pitches. Therefore, the PPS should be utilised as a tool to inform the planning and design stages of any future schools to ensure any facility can meet the needs of the local area.

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

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

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

A strategic approach should be taken to identify the priority schools to focus on in regards to both the PPS and the indoor leisure facilities strategies, so that outdoor sport is not considered in isolation to indoor sport (and vice versa).

As a starting point, it is recommended that a working group, led by a partner from the education sector but supported by a range of other sectors and members from the PPS steering group, is established to implement the strategic direction in relation to the increased/better use of school facilities. Broadly speaking, its role should be to:

- ◀ Better understand current community use, practices and issues by 'auditing' schools.
- ◀ Identify specific key issues through engagement with individual schools.
- ◀ Identify strategic solutions that can apply to multiple schools.
- ◀ Ensure community use agreements are upheld.
- ◀ Identify and pilot a school/club formal community use agreement with a view to rolling out the model across the area.
- ◀ Ensure that funding to improve the quality of the facilities is identified and secured.
- ◀ Secure a management arrangement for community access, which does not necessarily rely on existing school staff structures.
- ◀ Ensure that pitch provision at schools is sufficient in quality and quantity to be able to deliver its curriculum; once this has been achieved, provision could contribute to overcoming deficiencies in the area.
- ◀ Ensure that any new schools provide the right facilities and that they are community accessible.
- ◀ Use examples of best practice from other local authorities as a guide.

Examples of best practice from elsewhere include Gloucester, Suffolk and Luton. Following completion of the Gloucester PPS, the Council invited all schools to a workshop to discuss community access and what benefits it can bring to both the community and the schools themselves. This improved the relationship between the schools and the Council and led to an increase in the number of schools offering community available provision and in turn reduced identified shortfalls across the City.

In 2010, Suffolk County Council developed a pilot project with a group of schools to fulfil its health and wellbeing aims. A four stage pilot was planned, working with 12 schools. The four stages involved:

- ◀ Identifying the current state of community use on school sites by carrying out a community use audit and analysis
- ◀ Developing a support strategy and recommendations for improving the community use of school services
- ◀ Implementing improvements through a 'Community Use Support Framework'
- ◀ Dissemination of learning from the pilot area across the whole county and beyond

For more information, see <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/use-our-school/case-studies/suffolk-county-council-swiss-project/>

An action from the above could be the South West Herts councils or Active Herts asking their counterparts in the areas of best practice to visit and provide an overview of the work carried out.

For schools that form part of multi-academy trusts, these should be addressed on a collective basis, with securing community access a co-ordinated approach with other engagement that takes place between the schools and relevant stakeholders e.g. sports development initiatives.

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Consideration should be given to a centralised booking system for community use of such schools to minimise administration and make access easier for the users.

In many instances, grass pitches are unavailable for community use due to poor quality and therefore remedial works and improved maintenance will be required before community use can be established. The low carrying capacity of these pitches 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.

Funding quality improvements or new facilities may enable community access to be secured. NGBs and Sport England, as well as Active Herts, can often help to negotiate and engage with schools where the local authority may have limited direct influence i.e. at academies. This is particularly the case at sites that have received funding from the relevant bodies or are going to receive funding in the future as community access can be a condition of the funding agreement.

OBJECTIVE 2

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

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality and these are explored below. One way to improving quality on football sites is via the FA's pitch improvement programme.

The FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)

The key principles behind the service are to provide football clubs with advice/practical solutions on a number of areas and discounts on machinery and materials to support improving the clubs' playing surface. The programme should be utilised in order to help any clubs that take on the management and maintenance of sites or which are currently managing and maintaining their own pitch site.

As subsidy is removed for pitch maintenance, the PIP is an essential toolkit in supporting self-management/maintenance of sites, particularly on adult sites that have historically been maintained by the Council.

Addressing quality issues

Quality in Dacorum is variable but generally pitches are assessed as standard 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 sites is also essential.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For improvement/replacement of AGPs refer to Sport England and the NGBs 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, and Rugby Union' document for a guide as to suitable AGP surfaces: www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/

Addressing overplay

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

The FA, the RFU, the ECB and EH all recommend a 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.

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Table 5.2: 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		

For all remaining non-pitch sports (e.g. bowls and tennis) there are no capacity recommendations set out by the NGBs. Instead, potential capacity is evaluated on a site-by-site basis following consultation and site assessments.

It is imperative to engage with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity. Play should therefore be encouraged, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity. This may include transferring play to 3G pitches or to sites not currently available for community use but which may be in the future.

A cost-effective way to reduce unofficial use (and therefore overplay), particularly for football, could be to remove goalposts in between match days, principally at open access, high traffic sites that are managed by clubs. This will, however, require adequate, secured storage to be provided.

For cricket, an increase in the usage of NTPs is key to alleviating overplay as this allows for the transfer of junior demand from grass wickets, this should be undertaken in situ of quality improvements to a cricket square to improve the quality which in turn will increase carrying capacity.

For rugby union, additional floodlighting can mitigate some of the overplay as it allows training demand to be spread across a greater number of pitches or unmarked areas. However, this is on the basis that there are enough pitches on a site to make this feasible. Alternatively, access to a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch will help the transfer of midweek training demand and competitive match play which in turn will reduce the pressure on grass pitches.

Increasing maintenance

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

The FA has a Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP) which has been developed in partnership with Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG) to develop a grass pitch maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots clubs with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and therefore the quality of pitches.

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The key principles behind the service are to provide clubs with advice/practical solutions in a range of areas, with the simple aim of improving playing surfaces. The programme is designed to help clubs on sites that they themselves manage and maintain but can also be used to advise council-maintained sites.

In addition, PIP also aims to focus on developing an improved maintenance programmes with local authorities that can be utilised at local authority maintained sites.

For cricket and the ECB, the equivalent is the Grounds and Natural Turf Improvement Programme (GaNTIP), which is jointly funded by the ECB, FA, Football Foundation and the IOG. Its aim is to raise the standards of sports surfaces as well as the understanding of sports turf management practices among grassroots sports clubs across England Wales.

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

The majority of Council maintained pitches in Dacorum are assessed as standard quality, with a regime sophisticated when compared to other local authorities nationally. The programme consists of regular grass cutting, line marking, fertilisation, weed killing and aeration at regular intervals throughout the season. Further to this, there is remedial work undertaken such as divot replacement and chain harrowing.

Improving changing provision

There is a need to address changing provision at some sites in the Borough, particularly at large multi pitch sites.

Sites which predominantly accommodate adult and/or older junior age group sports should be prioritised for improvements, whilst there is a trend for younger junior age groups (particularly for football) not to require use of changing provision, with suitable male and female toilet provision for players and spectators considered to be of greater importance.

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

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 5: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

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

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

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

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

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

Locally, it is important for local authorities to be able to pull together evidence which can be used to influence public health partners to help unlock potential funding for sport. Public Health England's national physical activity framework, Everybody Active, Every Day, identifies 4 areas for local and national action, based on international evidence of what works and co-produced with over 1,000 local and national stakeholders and be found using the following link: [Everybody Active Every Day evidence based approach.pdf](#)

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

Recommendation (g) – Secure developer contributions

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

For playing pitches, the Council should use Sport England's Playing Pitch New Development Calculator as a tool for determining developer contributions linking to sites within the locality. This uses team generation rates (TGRs) from the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth. It then converts this into pitch requirements and gives the associated costs (both for providing the provision and for its life cycle).

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

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

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The Council should look to include priority projects from within the PPS Action Plan for inclusion within its Infrastructure Delivery Plan as a mechanism of ensuring that CIL receipts are identified towards appropriate projects for sport.

To support the implementation of this recommendation, KKP has prepared a developer's contributions guide for playing pitches (provided separately to the Council). The guide should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate playing fields and subsequent maintenance.

A number of planning policy objectives could be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

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

OBJECTIVE 3

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

Recommendations:

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

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

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

Although there are identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions, most current and future demand is currently being met and most shortfalls can be addressed via quality improvements and/or improved access to sites that are presently used minimally or currently unavailable. Adding to the current stock, particularly in the short term, is therefore not recommended as a priority, except in the case of 3G pitches where there is a discrete need, where there is significant housing growth, or where sites fall out of use and require mitigation.

For 3G pitches, there is a shortfall of provision within each South West Herts local authority. As such, a feasibility study should be carried out across the South West Herts region (including St Albans and Watford) to look at opportunities to increase the stock, with emphasis on sites that can accommodate more than one pitch in order to develop football hub sites. It is important that there is a joined-up approach between the relevant authorities to ensure that 3G pitches are developed at the most appropriate sites, such as by selecting sites that can contribute towards accommodating demand from neighbouring authorities. This approach will also ensure there is no duplication of provision that will compete against each other to attract demand.

Where new schools are provided in major new residential developments, they should be designed to facilitate community access, with opportunities for meeting the community's outdoor sports needs explored at the planning stage to maximise potential demand and ensure the correct facility provision. For example, full size 3G pitches are often best suited to secondary school sites, whereas mini football pitches and MUGAs/small sided AGPs on primary school sites.

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

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

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity.
- ◀ The re-designation of facilities.
- ◀ Securing long term community use at school sites including those currently unavailable.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.

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

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

Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends

Sport	Future sports development trend	Strategy impact
Football	Demand for adult football is likely to be sustained with the FA focusing on retention. There is also likely to be some continued movement towards small sided football for adults.	Additional need for 3G pitches. Sustain current pitch stock but give consideration to pitch reconfiguration to accommodate youth 11v11 football. Qualitative improvements.
	Demand for mini and youth football is likely to increase based on TGRs and the FA has a key objective to deliver 50% of mini and youth football on 3G AGPs.	Sustain current stock and consideration given to reconfigure pitches if required. Qualitative improvements. Where possible utilise new or existing 3G pitches to further accommodate this demand and ensure FA testing.
	The FA's strategy for Women's and Girls' football: 2017 – 2020 was released in March 2017. One of the major goals of the new strategy will be to double participation.	Demand for grass pitches and 3G pitches is likely to increase.
3G pitches	Demand for 3G pitches for football is high and will continue to increase as currently there is a shortfall of full size pitches. It is likely that future demand for the use of 3G pitches will increase for both training and match play purposes.	Requirement for new 3G pitches to be provided and a need for community use agreements to be in place for any new pitches as well as sinking funds. Requirement for 3G pitches to be FA/FIFA tested to host competitive matches. Utilise Sport England/NGB guidance on choosing the correct surface.

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Sport	Future sports development trend	Strategy impact
Cricket	<p>Except for grounds identified as poor quality, ECB predicts further growth in cricket demand for pitch use over the next few years.</p>	<p>Pitches that are already identified in the PPS as being at capacity will not be able to accommodate additional playing demand generated and it is predicted there will be demand for additional cricket playing facilities.</p> <p>A need to ensure appropriate access to indoor and outdoor nets.</p>
	<p>All Stars Cricket, the ECB national programme for 5-8 year olds, is engaging large numbers of children and has already been delivered over the past 3-4 years, with increasing numbers of participants year on year, alongside Chance to Shine cricket delivery in primary schools. Increasing numbers of those children are continuing to play cricket as they get older so junior numbers are increasing within clubs.</p>	<p>Greater usage of outfields to accommodate demand from All Stars Cricket.</p> <p>Shorter formats of cricket, and additional formats including softball cricket, are also driving up demand for pitches.</p> <p>An increase stock of NTPs likely to be required to accommodate demand.</p>
	<p>Women's and girls' cricket is a national ECB priority and there is a target to establish more female teams in every local authority.</p>	<p>Increased requirement for peak time access to pitches.</p> <p>Need to ensure access to good quality facilities including, segregated changing and toilet provision.</p>
Rugby union	<p>Locally, the RFU want to ensure access to pitches at Tring RUFC and Camelot RUFC satisfy existing demand and predicted growth. It is also an aim to protect and improve pitch quality, as well as ancillary facilities.</p>	<p>Clubs are likely to field more teams in the future. It is important, therefore, to work with the clubs to maintain the current pitch stock and support facility development. In particular, capital improvements are required to the existing natural turf pitches are improvements to the quality of changing rooms, where appropriate. All clubs should have access to high quality floodlit pitches to support training and match play demand.</p> <p>Need for greater access to current 3G World Rugby Reg 22 pitch given shortfalls identified on grass pitches and level of training demand on grass pitches.</p>
	<p>Hockey</p>	<p>Current playing level is likely to increase with a 15% growth rate predicted by England Hockey.</p>

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Sport	Future sports development trend	Strategy impact
	High profile events (Hockey World Cup 2018 Legacy)	These high profile events aim to raise the profile of the game within England and there will be community events in the build-up within clubs and a promotional programme through clubs and local schools. This will inevitably raise the profile of the game with the aim to increase participation.
	Play Hockey	The launch of Play Hockey and its subsequent website ensures that those wishing to play the game are able to find their local facility and club.
Bowls	No expected net increase in memberships.	Likely that any future increase could be accommodated on existing greens.
Tennis	The LTA has a key priority for the strategic development and growth of tennis at both a club and wider community level such as local parks.	Increases in participation can be accommodated through providing additional courts that are floodlit. An increase in casual play can be encouraged through adopting LTA initiatives such as digital access systems.
Netball	Membership of clubs is expected to increase.	Likely that any future increase could be accommodated on existing courts, however, providing more courts that are floodlit would be beneficial.
Golf	Declining membership expected to 'level off'.	Club are likely to see a rise in membership.
	Non-traditional formats of play are becoming increasingly popular.	Clubs should tailor their offer towards non-traditional formats of play to attract new users.
Athletics	Membership is expected to increase at recreational events i.e. Parkrun.	Need to accommodate recreational demand with toilet facilities.

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PART 6: ACTION PLAN

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

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

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

Table 6.1: 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, including provision of an AGP.	Accommodates two or more grass pitches.	Accommodates one or more pitches.
Type of sport	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.
Management	Management control remains within the local authority/other provider or with an appropriate lease arrangement through a committee or education owned.	Management control remains within the local authority/provider or with an appropriate club on a lease arrangement.	Management control remains within the local authority/provider or with an appropriate club on a lease arrangement.
Maintenance regime	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime either by the club or in house maintenance contract.
Ancillary facilities	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	No changing room access on site or appropriate access to accommodate both senior and junior use concurrently (if required).

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

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

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

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

For local authority sites, consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking on a long-term lease (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought. Such sites will require some level of investment, either to the outdoor sport facilities or ancillary facilities and 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.

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

Management and development

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

- ◀ Financial viability.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ◀ Adequacy of existing finances to maintain existing sites.
- ◀ Business Plan/Masterplan – including financial package for creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ◀ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ◀ The availability of opportunities to lease sites to external organisations.
- ◀ Options to assist community groups to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ◀ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private hub sites.
- ◀ Football investment programme/3G pitch development with the FA and Football Foundation.

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Partners

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

Priority

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

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

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

Costs

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

- ◀ (L) -Low - less than £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. 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 aims of the Strategy; **Enhance, Provide, Protect.**

BERKHAMSTED ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
3	Ashlyns School	Football	Education	Three adult, one youth 11v11, three youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, all of poor quality. The pitches are available for community use, however, the adult and youth 11v11 pitches are currently overplayed by three MES per week and 1.5 MES per week respectively. The youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches on site are currently played to capacity. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities. The site also suffers from an unsecure tenure.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Key	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Football & Rugby		One full-size, floodlit 3G pitch which is available for community use. The pitch is considered to be of standard quality and features on the FA register. The pitch was built in 2010 and therefore, despite being rigorously maintained, resurfacing will be required in the next few years.	Look to resurface the pitch when necessary. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when required.	HFA FF RFU School			S	M-H	
		Rugby union		One senior pitch of poor (M0/D1) quality which is available for community use but is without floodlighting. Spare capacity on this site has been discounted due to poor pitch quality and an unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime for curricular use.	RFU School	L	L	L		
		Tennis		Six good quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime for curricular demand.	LTA School					
		Netball		Four good quality macadam netball courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting. The courts are also reported to be slippery in adverse weather conditions.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime for curricular demand.	EN School					
8	Berkhamsted Sports and Social Club	Football	Sports Club	One youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality and available for community use. The youth 9v9 pitch is currently overplayed by one MES per week whereas the mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity at peak times. The mini 5v5 pitches are currently unused. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of reconfiguring the pitch supply to account for local shortfalls.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		Two grass cricket squares, containing 14 and 10 wickets respectively. Both squares are of standard quality and are serviced by good quality ancillary facilities. The squares are currently overplayed by 11 sessions per season.	Explore the feasibility of installing an NTP or moving Berkhamsted CC's junior demand to an alternate site to remove overplay.	ECB Sports Club					
		Bowls	School	One poor quality flat bowling green which is currently used by Kitcheners BC. The green is currently overplayed by five members, with this likely to be exacerbated when accounting for future demand aspirations.	Improve green quality through a more dedicated maintenance regime.	BE School					

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Tennis		Three poor quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but are without floodlighting.	Improve court quality through resurfacing. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a court access booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA School		L		L-M	
9	Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead Hockey Club	Football	Sports Club	Three adult and one youth 11v11 pitch, all of standard quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is currently played to capacity whereas has one match session of actual spare capacity at peak times. The site is supported by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Ensure that site capacity is fully utilised.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Provide
		Rugby union		Two senior pitches of standard (M1/D1) quality which are available for community use but are without floodlighting. Spare capacity has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	RFU Sports Club					
		Hockey		Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead Hockey Club has freehold of the site and aspires to deliver a full size AGP to accommodate its hockey demand. No formal hockey activity takes place on site. Matches currently played at Tring Sports Centre and RAF Halton	Explore feasibility of providing a full size floodlit AGP to satisfy the local need for hockey.	EH Sports Club		M-H	S-M	H	
10	Berkhamsted Football Club	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult football pitch that is currently overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week. The pitch is supported by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Look to move some of the club's demand to an alternate site to prevent overplay of this pitch.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
11	Berkhamsted Prep School	Netball	Education	Two macadam netball courts, one of good quality and one of standard quality. Neither of the courts are available for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN Education	Local	L	L	L	Protect
12	Berkhamsted School (Castle Campus)	Hockey	Education	One small-size, sand based AGP which is unavailable for community use and without floodlighting.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	EH School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
20	Bridgewater Primary School	Football	Education	Two youth 9v9, three mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality. The pitches are all available for community use and all formats have some level of spare capacity. However, this spare capacity has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Hockey		One small-size, sand based AGP which is unavailable for community use and without floodlighting.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	EH School					
24	Butts Meadow	Football	Council	One adult football pitch of standard quality that is currently played to capacity. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of upgrading the ancillary provision on site.	HFA FF Council	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance
29	Chesham Fields	Football	Education	Three adult, two youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches all of which are of standard quality. The pitches are unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Rugby union		One senior pitch of standard (M1/D1) quality which is without floodlighting. The pitch is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	RFU School					
		Cricket		Four grass cricket squares consisting of one 10 wicket square, two six wicket squares and one four wicket square. All four squares are currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the squares available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	ECB School					
36	Egerton Rothesay School	Football	Education	Two mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality that are currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		Two good quality macadam netball courts that are unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
42	Greenway School	Football	Education	One youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of standard quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is currently played to capacity whereas the two mini pitches are currently unused. However, spare capacity on the mini pitches has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
46	Haslam Fields	Football	Education	One youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and six mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality. All pitch formats currently have some level of spare capacity although this has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site. Berkhamsted School has promoted this site for residential development through the Local Plan.	Ensure playing pitch provision is fully reprovided on the new playing field site. The School proposes to mitigate the loss of any playing field through the development of new playing field provision on land south of the A41.	HFA FF School	Local	M	L	L	Provide Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
56	Home Field	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch of standard quality that has capacity to accommodate an additional team at senior peak time. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Ensure site capacity is fully utilised.	HFA FF Parish Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of 18 wickets. The square is currently played to capacity at peak times. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities and is without training facilities, although no demand was noted for this.	Sustain square quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of improving the ancillary provision on site.	ECB Parish Council		L		L-M	Protect Enhance
60	Kitcheners Field	Football	Education	One youth 11v11, two youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches, all of which are of standard quality. All of the pitches on site are currently unused but have an unsecure tenure and so spare capacity has been discounted.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		Two standard quality grass cricket squares, consisting of eight and three wickets respectively. The squares on site are available for community use but have an unsecure tenure and so spare capacity has been discounted. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities but is without training facilities.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	ECB School					
		Rugby union		Two junior and three mini pitches, all of standard (M1/D1) quality. None of the pitches are floodlit or available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing the current maintenance regime. Make the pitches available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	RFU School					
61	Lagley Meadow	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality that is currently unused. The site is also identified as having poor ancillary provision.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime and ensure site capacity is fully utilised. Explore opportunities to improve ancillary offering.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance
67	Little Gaddesden Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council	One youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and four mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality. The mini 7v7 pitch is currently played to capacity at peak times whereas the youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of reconfiguring the pitch supply to account for local shortfalls.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of 10 wickets. The square is currently used by a single Saturday team, meaning there is capacity for another senior team at peak time. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	ECB Council					

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Bowls		One good quality flat bowling green which is currently used by Little Gaddesden BC. The club currently has sufficient spare capacity to accommodate current and future demand.	Sustain green quality by maintaining the current maintenance regime.	BE Council		L			
		Tennis		Three poor quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting. The site is currently overplayed by Little Gaddesden TC.	Improve court quality through resurfacing. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a court access booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand and alleviate overplay.	LTA Council				L-M	
75	Northchurch Sports Ground	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality adult football pitch that has capacity to accommodate an additional team at peak time although this has been discounted due to poor pitch quality. Despite being recently refurbished, Berkhamsted Tornadoes FC state that the ancillary facilities on site are still of poor quality as there is no running water, showers or electricity.	Explore the feasibility of improving the quality of the pitch and accompanying ancillary facilities on site. Pitch quality should be improved through a more dedicated maintenance regime.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of 15 wickets. The square is currently overplayed by seven match sessions per season. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of installing an NTP or finding an alternate site to accommodate some of Northchurch CC's demand to prevent overplay.	ECB Council					
		Tennis		One poor quality tennis court which is floodlit and available for community use.	Improve court quality through resurfacing. Explore the feasibility of installing a court booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA Council		L			
84	Berkhamsted Leisure Centre	Football	Commercial	One youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality that is currently played to capacity.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime.	Council HFA FF Commercial	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Football & Rugby		Two small-size 3G pitches. Both pitches are available for community use but one is without floodlighting.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	Council HFA FF RFU Commercial				M-H	
89	St Marys School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality that is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
90	St Thomas More RC School	Football	Education	One mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality that is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
95	The Thomas Coram C of E School	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality. The pitches are not currently available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One standalone NTP which is deemed to be of adequate standard.	Sustain quality for curricular use.	ECB School					
100	Velvet Lawn	Football	Council	Two standard quality adult football pitches that have one match session of actual capacity. The site has poor ancillary provision.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Explore opportunities to improve quality of the ancillary provision.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance
111	Potten End Bowls Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality flat bowling green which is currently used by Potten End BC.	Sustain green quality through current maintenance regime.	BE Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
112	Greene Field Road Playing Fields	Tennis	Education	Six poor quality artificial tennis courts that are available for community use but are without floodlighting.	Improve court quality through resurfacing. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a court booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA School	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
114	Ashridge Golf Club	Golf	Private	An 18-hole golf course accompanied by a partially covered driving range, practice putting greens, a short game area and practice net.	Retain course and sustain quality through appropriate maintenance. Explore opportunities to increase membership.	EG Private	Local	L	L	L	Protect
115	Berkhamsted Golf Club	Golf	Private	An 18-hole, heathland golf course with a PGA professional also based on site.	Retain course and sustain quality through appropriate maintenance. Explore opportunities to increase membership.	EG Private	Local	L	L	L	Protect
123	The Lifestyle Centre	Football	Charity	One youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches, all of standard quality. None of the pitches are currently used and so they all have spare capacity although this has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Ensure site capacity is fully utilised. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF Education	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Tennis		Three standard quality tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a remote court access system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA Education					
		Netball		One standard quality netball court that is available for community use but without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	EN Education					

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
124	Berkhamsted Lawn Tennis & Squash Racket Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality flat bowling green which is currently used by Berkhamsted BC. The Club leases the green from DBC.	Sustain green quality through current maintenance regime.	BE Sports Club Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
		Tennis		Six artificial, four clay and one macadam tennis court, all of which are good quality, floodlit and available for community use. There is sufficient capacity to accommodate current and future demand levels, however, after accounting for future demand the site will be operating close to capacity.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of installing a remote booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand. Monitor club growth to ensure that overplay does not occur.	LTA Sports Club					
125	Knox Johnston Sports Centre	Football & Rugby	Education	One small-size 3G pitch which is floodlit and available for community usage.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	HFA FF RFU School	Local	L	L	M-H	Provide Protect
		Tennis		Six good quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but are without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a remote booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA School				L-M	
		Netball		Four good quality netball courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	EN School				L	
-	Durrants Lane	Football	Council	A new youth 9v9 and youth 11v11 pitch provided as part of a S106 agreement. Berkhamsted Raiders FC to utilise the site from the 19/20 football season onwards.	Ensure that pitches are provided to a high standard and that are appropriately maintained to allow long term use for Berkhamsted Raiders FC. Explore options to provide Berkhamsted Raiders FC with long term security of tenure so it can explore grant funding opportunities. Work to delivery appropriate changing facilities on the site to facilitate expected football demand on the site.	Council Sports Club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

EASTERN VILLAGES ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
6	Beechwood Park School	Football	Education	Six mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality that are unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitches available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		Four grass cricket squares, one of which contains eight wickets and the remaining three contain six wickets each. These squares are currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the squares available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	ECB School					
		Hockey		One small-size, sand based AGP which is without floodlighting and unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	EH School					
		Tennis		Six artificial and three macadam courts, all of which are floodlit and of good quality. The courts are currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Make the courts available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	LTA School					
		Netball		Six good quality netball courts that are unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	EN School					
41	Great Gaddesden Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality grass cricket square consisting of 11 wickets. The square is currently used by a single Saturday team, meaning there is capacity for an additional senior team at peak time. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	ECB Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
72	Markyate Recreation Ground	Football	Parish Council	Two standard quality adult pitches that are currently played to capacity at peak time. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime.	HFA FF Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of seven wickets. The square is used by a single Saturday team, meaning there is capacity for another senior team at peak time. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities but is without training facilities. However, no demand was noted for training facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	ECB Parish Council					

**DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
94	The Pavilion	Football	Parish Council	One adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality and available for community use. The adult pitch is currently played to capacity at peak times whereas the remaining pitches all have some level of spare capacity. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Ensure site capacity is fully utilised.	HFA FF Parish Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standard quality cricket square consisting of eight grass wickets and an NTP. The square is currently overplayed by 14 match sessions per season. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities. Flamstead CC also indicate demand for updated training facilities.							
113	Markyate Village School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality that has actual spare capacity although this has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF Education	Local	L	L	L	Protect
128	Gaddesden Row JMI School	Netball	Education	One poor quality macadam netball court which is unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN Education	Local	L	L	L	Protect

HEMEL ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Abbots Hill School	Tennis	Education	Five macadam courts that are without floodlighting and currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	LTA School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		Five macadam courts of good quality that are without floodlighting and unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
5	Astley Cooper School	Football	Education	Two youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, four mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality. Spare capacity at this site has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Tennis		Five macadam tennis courts that are floodlit and available for community use. The courts are of standard quality.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	LTA School					
		Netball		Four standard quality netball courts that are floodlit and available for community use.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	EN School					
7	Belswains Primary School	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality that is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		One standard quality macadam netball court which is unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
18	Boxmoor Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of 12 wickets. The square is currently overplayed by seven match sessions per season. However, Boxmoor CC's third team is due to use Bourne End Cricket Club as it's home venue for the 2019 season. Therefore, overplay of the square should not occur next season. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of improving the ancillary facilities on site.	ECB Sports Club	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance
19	Boxmoor Primary School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality which is currently unused although spare capacity at this site has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
21	Broadfield Academy	Football	Education	One youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		Two standard quality macadam netball courts that are currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					

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PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
23	Brockwood Primary School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality which is currently unused although spare capacity at this site has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
25	Cavendish School	Football	Education	One youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches, all of which are standard quality. The pitches are currently unused although spare capacity has been discounted at this site due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Football & Rugby		One full-size 3G pitch which is floodlit and available for community use. The pitch is in poor quality and was last resurfaced in 2006, three years over its anticipated life expectancy. The pitch is not on the FA register.	Resurface the pitch on site as soon as feasibly possible. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary. Look to gain FA certification to host competitive matches.	HFA FF RFU School		M	S	M-H	
		Tennis		Six standard quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but are without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a remote court booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA School		L	L	L	
		Netball		Four standard quality macadam netball courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
26	Chambersbury Primary School	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality which is currently played to capacity. The tenure at the site is considered to be unsecure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		One standard quality macadam netball court which is available for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
27	Chaulden Junior School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
28	Chaulden Lane Playing Field	Rugby union	Council	One junior and seven mini pitches, all of poor (M0/D1) quality. The pitches are available for community use but are without floodlighting. All of these pitch types have spare capacity although this has been discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	RFU Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
33	Coronation Fields	Tennis	Council	Two macadam tennis courts of poor quality that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Improve court quality through resurfacing. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a court access booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA Council	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
		Football		Four football pitches which were last used for competitive football in the 2016/2017 football season but have since been taken out of use because of each pitch being on a slope, making them unsuitable for match play.	Given identified shortfalls for football, explore opportunities to bring pitches back into use to meet local demand. If pitches are to be developed in the future, ensure provision is adequately mitigated and meets NPPF requirements.	FA FF Council		L	L	L	
34	Cupid Green Sports Field	Football	Council	One adult, three youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, all of standard quality. The mini 7v7 pitch is currently played to capacity whilst the adult pitch has 0.5 MES of actual spare capacity. The youth 9v9 pitches have two MES of actual spare capacity. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Ensure site capacity is fully utilised. Explore the feasibility of improving the ancillary facilities on site.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Tennis		Four poor quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Improve court quality through resurfacing. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a court access booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA Council		L	L-M		
38	Gadebridge Lane	Football	Council	One adult, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are of standard quality and currently unused. The site is leased from West Herts College to DBC.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to find site users to maximise site capacity. Explore the feasibility of providing ancillary facilities and improved parking on site to encourage community usage.	HFA FF Council West Herts College	Local	L-M	L	L-M	Protect Enhance
40	George Street Primary School	Football	Education	One mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		One poor quality macadam netball court which is unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
45	Hammond Academy	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		Two standard quality macadam netball courts that are currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
47	Hemel Hempstead (Camelot) RUFC	Rugby union	Sports Club	Three senior and one mini pitch, all of a poor (M1/D0). One of the three senior pitches is permanently floodlit; although this does illuminate part of a second senior pitch. The floodlit senior pitches are cumulatively overplayed six match equivalent sessions per week. The non-floodlit pitch is at capacity through match play. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Work to improve quality of grass pitches through qualitative improvements to the maintenance regime and through improvements to the onsite drainage issues. Explore options of providing additional floodlighting on the site to allow the spread of midweek training activity and to promote further rugby participation programming, Explore the feasibility of improving the ancillary provision on site.	RFU Sports Club	Local	H	S-M	H	Protect Enhance
48	Hemel Hempstead Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	Two cricket squares, one of which contains 15 grass wickets. The other contains five grass wickets and an NTP. The 15 wicket square is of good quality whilst the smaller square is of standard quality. Both squares are currently played to capacity at peak times. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities but the Club has ambitions for two new practice nets by 2020.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime.	ECB Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
49	Hemel Hempstead Town FC	Football	Sports Club	One adult pitch of good quality which does have spare capacity although this has been discounted due to the site being a stadia pitch which is used for professional matches by Hemel Hempstead Town FC. The site is supported by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality to continue to accommodate professional play unless it is to be converted to 3G. If this is the case, ensure it is suitably maintained and a sinking fund is created to allow long term sustainability.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
				The Club has submitted a planning application for conversion of its grass pitch to 3G. Neither the FF nor HFA have been consulted in advance of the application.	If planning is to be approved for conversion of the grass stadia pitch to 3G, ensure that community access is secured through a formal CUA.						
		Football & Rugby		Two small-size 3G pitches, both of which are floodlit and available for community use.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	HFA FF RFU Sports Club					

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
50	Hemel Stags Rugby Club	Football & Rugby	Sports Club	One small-size 3G pitch which is floodlit and available for community use.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	Sports Club	Local	L	L	M-H	Protect Provide
		Rugby league		Two senior rugby league pitches. The main pitch is floodlit and accompanied by a 400-seater covered stand. This pitch meets RFL Ground Grading regulations for Tier 3 competition and is deemed to be of good quality. The second pitch is standard quality and is the match pitch for the Club's junior teams. The main pitch is currently overplayed by two MES per week whilst the standard pitch is overplayed by 0.25 MES per week. Ancillary facilities on site are deemed to be of poor quality. The Club has ambitions of updating the ancillary facilities on site and installing a full-size, RFL Community Standard 3G pitch by securing 2021 Rugby League World Cup Legacy Funding. Site leased from DBC. To secure this funding, the Club aims to renew its current lease agreement, which expires in 2029, to provide long-term security of tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Work with the Club and Council to extend the current lease agreement. Assist the Club's bid for 2021 Rugby League World Cup Legacy Funding.	RFL Council Sports Club Council	Key	L-M		L	
51	High Street Green Playing Field	Football	Council	Two adult and one youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is currently played to capacity at peak times but the adult pitches have 1.5 MES of actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of eight wickets. The site is currently unused and so has capacity to host two senior teams at peak time. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities but is without training facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	ECB Council					
53	Hobbs Hill School	Football	Education	Two mini 7v7 pitches of standard quality that are available for community use. The pitches have spare capacity although this has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Football & Rugby		Two small-size 3G pitches, both of which are floodlit and available for community use.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	HFA FF RFU School				M-H	
		Netball		One standard quality macadam netball court which is available for community use but without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School				L	
54	Hobletts Manor Junior School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
57	John F Kennedy Roman Catholic School	Football	Education	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality. These pitches are available for community use and have spare capacity, although this has been discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
		Rugby union		Two senior pitches of poor (M0/D1) quality that are currently unused by the community. However, spare capacity has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime for curricular use. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	RFU School					
		Tennis		Five standard quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but are without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a remote court booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA School					
		Netball		Five standard quality macadam netball courts that are available for community use but are without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality for curricular demand.	EN School					
62	Leverstock Green CE Primary School	Football	Education	Two mini 7v7 pitches of standard quality that are available to the community but are currently unused. However, spare capacity at this site has been discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		Two poor quality macadam netball courts that are available for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
63	Leverstock Green Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality grass cricket square consisting of 14 wickets. The site currently has minimal spare capacity. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Monitor future demand to ensure that overplay does not begin to occur.	ECB Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
64	Leverstock Green Football Club	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch that is currently played to capacity. The site is supported by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
66	Lime Walk Primary School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
68	Lockers Park	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of poor quality which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality to continue to accommodate curricular demand. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One standalone NTP which is deemed to be of adequate quality.	Sustain quality for curricular use.	ECB School					
		Tennis		Two macadam tennis courts that are without floodlighting and unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	LTA School					

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
71	Maple Grove Primary School	Football	Education	Two mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality that are currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One standalone NTP which is deemed to be of adequate quality.	Sustain quality for curricular use.	ECB School					
		Netball		One standard quality netball court that is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
73	Micklem Primary School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality that is available for community use. However, spare capacity at this site has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		One standard quality macadam netball court which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
76	Pennine Way	Football	Council	Three adult and one youth 9v9 pitch, all of standard quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is currently played to capacity whereas the adult pitches have two match equivalent sessions of spare capacity at senior peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
77	Pixies Hill Primary School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality which has spare capacity although this has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		One standard quality macadam netball court which is without floodlighting but available for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
		Athletics		A four-lane, grass running track without floodlighting. The track is unavailable for community use.	Sustain track quality for curricular use.	EA School					
79	Reith Fields	Football	Council	One adult pitch of standard quality which has 0.5 MES of actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Tennis		Two poor quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Improve court quality through resurfacing. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlighting and a court access booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA Council					
82	South Hill Primary School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality which is available for community use but is currently unused. However, spare capacity at this site has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		One standard quality macadam netball court which is available for community use but without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
83	Sportspace Athletics Track (Jarman Park)	Football	Commercial (Everyone Active)	One standard quality adult football pitch which has one MES of actual spare capacity at senior peak time. The site is supported by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Council Commercial	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
		Athletics		An eight-lane, floodlit, synthetic 400m track which is available for community use. The track is rented on an annual basis by Dacorum and Tring AC and is deemed to be in poor condition. The track was installed in 1995 and has had limited renovative work since then.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing the track to improve quality. Work with Dacorum and Tring AC and the operator to provide the club with security of tenure. Ensure the track is protected for the long term use for athletics given its important within Dacorum and the wider regional area.	EA Commercial Council	Key	M			
85	Hemel Hempstead Leisure Centre	Hockey	Commercial	One half-sized, floodlit, sand based AGP which is available for community use.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when required.	EH Commercial	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Tennis		Three poor quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Improve court quality through resurfacing.	LTA Commercial Council					
		Netball		Two poor quality macadam netball courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Improve court quality through resurfacing to accommodate recreational demand and potential England Netball schemes.	EN Commercial					
86	Longdean Sports Centre	Football	Commercial	Two adult, one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9, all of standard quality. Both youth pitches are currently played to capacity at peak time although the adult pitches have two MES of actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Commercial Council	Key	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Hockey		One half-size, sand based AGP which is available for community use but without floodlighting.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when required.	EH Commercial Council		L			
		Tennis		Six macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting. Four of the courts on site are of standard quality, with the two remaining courts of poor quality.	Improve the poor quality courts through resurfacing.	LTA Commercial Council		L-M			
		Netball		Five macadam netball courts of which three are standard quality and two are poor quality. The courts are available for community use. The site is key for netball in the area as it is home to the Hemel Hempstead and District Netball League and also hosts Back to Netball sessions.	Explore the feasibility of improving the court surface and installing floodlights on site.	EN Commercial Council					
88	St Cuthbert Mayne RC School	Football	Education	Two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of standard quality. None of the pitches are currently available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
91	The Adeyfield School	Football	Education	Two youth 11v11, two youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches. The mini pitches on site are of standard quality, whilst the youth pitches on site are of poor quality. The youth 11v11 pitches are currently overplayed by 0.5 MES whilst the youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by one MES. The mini 7v7 pitches have spare capacity although this has been discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve pitch quality through a more dedicated maintenance regime to alleviate overplay. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standalone NTP which is deemed to be of adequate quality.	Sustain quality for curricular use.	ECB School		L			
		Tennis		Five poor quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use. Four of the courts are floodlit.	Improve court quality through resurfacing. Explore the feasibility of installing a court access booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA School		L-M			
		Netball		Five poor quality macadam netball courts that are available for community use. Four of the courts are floodlit.	Improve court quality through resurfacing to encourage community usage.	EN School					
93	The Hemel Hempstead School	Football	Education	One youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality which has spare capacity although this has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Football & Rugby		One full-size 3G pitch which is available for community use and floodlit. The pitch was built in 2017 and therefore remains good quality. The pitch also features on the FA register.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	HFA FF RFU School					
99	Two Waters Primary School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality that is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		One standard quality macadam netball court which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
101	Warners End Playing Field	Football	Council	Eight adult, one youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches, all of poor quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is currently overplayed by one MES whilst the mini and adult pitches have spare capacity although this has been discounted due to poor pitch quality. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality through a more dedicated maintenance regime to alleviate overplay. Explore the feasibility of improving the ancillary facilities on site.	HFA FF Council	Key	M	L	L-M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		Cricket		One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of eight wickets. The square is used by a single Saturday team, meaning there is capacity for another senior team at peak time. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities and is without training facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity. Explore the feasibility of improving the ancillary facilities on site.	ECB Council	Local	L			
104	Yew Tree Primary School	Football	Education	One youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of standard quality. All of these pitches are currently unused and so have some level of spare capacity. However, this has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise a community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Netball		One standard quality macadam netball court which is currently available for community use but is without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School					
109	Hemel Hempstead Bowls Club	Bowls	Council	Two poor quality flat bowling greens. One green is on a licence to Hemel Hempstead Bowls Club and the other is a public access green.	Explore options to improve the current quality of both greens on site to allow for continued access for both club and the public.	BE Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
118	Leverstock Green Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Eight macadam and four artificial tennis courts, all of good quality. All of the artificial and two of the macadam courts are floodlit. The site currently has significant spare capacity and is able to comfortably accommodate current and future demand from Leverstock Green LTC. Changing facilities are of poor quality on site.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of improving the changing provision on site.	LTA Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
				The Leverstock Green TC site has been allocated in the Dacorum Site Allocation DPD for residential purposes with relocation proposed to Bunkers Park. The Bunkers Park allocation has been designated as greenbelt land which may create future challenges with deliverability of any subsequent facility mitigation.	If Leverstock Green TC is to be relocated in the future as part of the Dacorum Site Allocation DPD, there will be a need to ensure that provision is mitigated for, to an equivalent or better standard. This will need to be undertaken with consultation with both the LTA and Sport England.						
122	Langley Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Three good quality, floodlit, macadam tennis courts that are available for community. The site currently has sufficient capacity to accommodate Langley TC. However, if future demand aspirations are realised, this site will become significantly overplayed. The Club's lease agreement with Abbots Hill School is also due to expire in six years time. The Club is keen to ensure that this agreement is secured or an alternate site is identified before the current agreement expires.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Work with the Club and the School to renew the current lease agreement. Monitor future demand growth to ensure that overplay does not occur.	LTA Sports Club School	Local	M	L	L	Protect Provide

**DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
126	Aycliffe Drive Primary School	Netball	Education	One poor quality macadam netball court which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
129	Gade Valley JMI School	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam netball court which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
130	Galley Hill Primary School	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam netball court which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
132	Jupiter Community Free School	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam netball court which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
133	Nash Mills C of E Primary School	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam netball court which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
134	Saint Albert the Great Catholic Primary	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam netball court which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
135	Tudor Primary School	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam netball court which is available for community use but without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	Fennycroft Road Playing Field	-	HCC	HCC site which was provided to offer local schools off-site playing field land.	Given identified shortfalls for football and other grass pitch sports, explore opportunities to bring pitches back into formal use to meet local demand. If pitches are to be developed for alternate purposes in the future, ensure provision is adequately mitigated and meets NPPF requirements.	FA FF Council	Local	L	L	L	-

SOUTHERN ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
14	Bourne End Cricket Club	Cricket	Private	One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of four wickets. Bourne End CC have a one-year rolling agreement with a private land owner and the Club have previously been threatened with eviction. Boxmoor CC's third team is also due to use this site as its home ground for the 2019 season if access can be granted. The site currently has minimal spare capacity although this has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure. The site is supported by good quality ancillary facilities but is without training facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Look to secure a long-term lease agreement to provide security of tenure.	ECB Private	Local	H	L	L	Protect
15	Bovingdon Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of 10 wickets. The square is used by a single Saturday team, meaning there is capacity for another senior team at peak time. The site is supported by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	ECB Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
16	Bovingdon Football Club	Football	Sports Club	Two adult, two youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of standard quality except for one of the adult pitches, which is assessed as good quality. The standard quality adult pitch is currently played to capacity. The mini 5v5 pitch has no capacity at peak times and the good quality adult pitch has spare capacity although this has been discounted to preserve pitch quality for professional play. The mini 7v7 pitches have 0.5 MES of actual spare capacity whereas the youth 9v9 pitches have 1.5 MES of actual spare capacity. The site is supported by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
17	Bovingdon Primary Academy	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches that are currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Make the pitches available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
30	Chipperfield Clarendon Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality cricket square consisting of 12 grass wickets and an NTP. The square is currently overplayed by six match sessions per season. The site is supported by good quality ancillary facilities. The Club state demand for refurbished practice facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Look to move some of the Club's play onto the NTP to alleviate overplay of the grass wickets. Explore the feasibility of refurbishing the practice facilities on site.	ECB Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Tennis		Two good quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use. One of the courts is floodlit. The courts are currently significantly overplayed by Chipperfield TC.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of removing overplay from the site, by moving some of the club's demand to a secondary site or through the installation of additional floodlighting.	LTA Sports Club		H	L	L	
31	Chipperfield Corinthians FC	Football	Sports Club	One adult pitch of standard quality which has limited spare capacity although this has been discounted to preserve pitch quality for professional play. The site is supported by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of improving the ancillary provision on site.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Enhance
32	Chipperfield Playing Fields	Football	Council	One youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality which is currently played to capacity at peak times.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime.	HFA FF Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect
37	Flauden Playing Fields	Football	Council	One adult and one mini 7v7 pitch. Both of standard quality. The mini 7v7 pitch is currently played to capacity at peak times whereas the adult pitch has capacity for one additional senior team at peak times. The site is supported by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
39	Gaywood Park	Football	Sports Club	Home venue of Kings Langley FC and Watford FC Ladies. The Club aspires to deliver a 3G FTP on site to cater for its large mini junior section. Three good quality adult pitches that are currently overplayed by five MES per week. The site is supported by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to find a secondary site to move some demand to prevent overplay of this site. Given identified shortfalls of 3G FTP provision locally, look to support any future proposal on the site to meet local demand for 3G provision. If an application comes forward to develop 3G provision, ensure that community access is secured through a formal CUA.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	H	S	L	Protect

**DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
59	Kings Langley Secondary School	Football	Education	One adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch; all of standard quality. The pitches on site are currently unused and so have spare capacity although this has been discounted due to an unsecure tenure on site. The pitches are available for community use and the site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Formalise community usage agreement to provide security of tenure.	HFA FF School	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Provide
		Cricket		One grass cricket square consisting of five wickets. The square is in poor condition and unavailable for community use.	The square will no longer be maintained as a cricket square by the school and so has no spare capacity.	ECB School		L			
		Rugby union		Two senior pitches of poor (M0/D0) quality that are currently played to capacity through curricular use.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime for curricular use.	RFU School					
		Tennis		Four good quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting. However, infrastructure is already in place for these courts to be floodlit if necessary.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlights and a court booking access system such as Clubspark.	LTA School		L-M			
		Netball		Three good quality macadam netball courts that are available for community use but are without floodlighting. However, infrastructure is already in place for these courts to be floodlit if necessary.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of installing floodlights on the courts.	EN School		L			
80	Roman Fields	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch which is available for community use. The site has one MES of actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
81	Rudolf Steiner School	Football	Education	One mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One grass cricket square consisting of five wickets which is unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality for curricular use.	ECB School		L			
92	The Common	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of 12 wickets which is currently unused. The site is supported by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	ECB Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect

**DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
102	Westbrook Hay School	Football	Education	One youth 11v11, five mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches. All the pitches are of standard quality but are unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Make the pitch available for community use provided that this does not adversely affect pitch quality for curricular demand.	HFA FF School	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		One standalone NTP which is deemed to be of adequate quality and three grass cricket squares. One square consists of seven wickets, one consists of six wickets and the final square consists of three wickets. All of the squares are unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality for curricular use.	ECB School		L			
		Netball		Two good quality macadam netball courts that are unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality for curricular use.	EN School					
		Athletics		A six-lane grass running track which is without floodlighting and unavailable for community use.	Sustain track quality for curricular use.	EA School					
107	Bovingdon and Flaunden Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Six good quality macadam courts that are available for community use. Three of the courts are floodlit and the Club has ambitions of installing floodlights on two further courts in the next two years. The site already utilises Clubspark. The site currently has sufficient capacity to accommodate the Club's current and future demand.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	LTA Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
108	Bovingdon Memorial Hall	Bowls	Parish Council	One good quality flat green which is currently used by Bovingdon BC. There is sufficient capacity on site to accommodate the Club's current demand, although if future demand aspirations are realised, the green will be played to capacity.	Sustain green quality through current maintenance regime. Monitor club growth to ensure that overplay does not occur.	BE Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect
110	Kings Langley Bowls Club	Bowls	Council	One good quality flat bowling green which is currently used by Kings Langley BC. The green is currently overplayed by 24 members, with this likely to increase to 39 members after accounting for future demand.	Sustain green quality through current maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of moving some club members to an alternate green to prevent overplay.	BE Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
119	Little Hay Golf Complex	Golf	Commercial	An 18-hole golf course as well as a pitch and putt course, driving range and FootGolf course on site.	Retain course and sustain quality through appropriate maintenance. Explore opportunities to increase membership.	EG Commercial	Local	L	L	L	Protect
120	Shendish Manor Golf Club	Golf	Private	An 18-hole golf course designed to USPGA specifications.	Retain course and sustain quality through appropriate maintenance. Explore opportunities to increase membership.	EG Private	Local	L	L	L	Protect

TRING ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
2	Aldbury Sports Club	Football	Sports Club	One poor quality adult pitch which has minimal spare capacity. However, this has been discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance
35	Dorian Williams Sports Centre (Tring Tornadoes Junior Sports Club)	Football	Sports Club	Three adult pitches and one youth 11v11 pitch; all of standard quality. Both pitch formats are currently played to capacity at peak times. The Club has aspirations to relocate to a larger football site linked to closely related Dunsley Farm which Tring Sports Forum has aspirations to develop.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. If the Dunsley Farm site is developed for sport and recreational purposes, ensure it meets requirements for Tring Tornadoes FC and suitable consultation is undertaken with Tring Sports Forum, Sport England, Hertfordshire County FA & the Football Foundation.	HFA FF Sports Club	Key	L	L	L	Protect
35	Dorian Williams Sports Centre (Tring RUFC)	Rugby union	Sports Club	Three senior pitches of good (M2/D1) quality and eight mini pitches of standard (M1/D1) quality. None of the pitches are permanently floodlit. The senior pitches on site are currently overplayed by six MES per week through training and match demand. Future demand aspirations by the club will exacerbate current overplay. Ancillary facilities are of poor quality. Tring Tornadoes FC utilise the top of the Cow Lane site for its football activity.	Work to improve the quality of the existing grass pitches on site in order to prevent future overplay. Look to provide permanent floodlighting on the site to help spread midweek training and to promote rugby participation programmes. Explore the feasibility of improving the ancillary facilities on site. If Tring Tornadoes FC are to relocate to an alternate site in the future to accommodate its football demand, ensure that playing pitch provision on the current site is retained for the benefit of Tring RUFC.	RFU Sports Club	Key	H	S	H	Protect Provide Enhance
69	Long Marston Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass cricket square consisting of 16 wickets. The square is currently played to capacity at peak times. The site is supported by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime.	ECB Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
		Tennis		Two good quality artificial tennis courts that are floodlit and available for community use. The site is currently used by Long Marston TC.	Improve court quality through resurfacing. Explore the feasibility of installing a court booking system such as Clubspark to actualise latent demand.	LTA Sports Club					
70	Long Marston Recreation Ground	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult football pitch. The site has one MES of actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
74	Mortimer Hill	Football	Charitable Trust	One youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality. The pitch is currently played to capacity at peak times.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime.	HFA FF Charitable Trust Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim	
78	Pound Meadow	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch which has minimal spare capacity. However, this has been discounted due to poor pitch quality. The site is also serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of improving the ancillary provision on site.	HFA FF Council	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect Enhance	
		Tennis		Two poor quality tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Improve court quality through resurfacing.	LTA ECB Council		L				
87	Tring Sports Centre	Football	School	One adult, two youth 9v9 and three mini 7v7 pitches; all of poor quality. However, spare capacity at this site has been discounted due to poor pitch quality and an unsecure tenure on site. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Look to formalise community use agreement in order to provide security of tenure. Ensure changing facilities are updated alongside the redevelopment of the school and sports centre.	HFA FF School	Key	M	L	L	Protect Enhance	
		Cricket		One standalone NTP which is deemed to be of adequate quality.	Sustain quality for curricular use.	ECB School		L				
		Rugby union		Two senior pitches of poor (M0/D1) quality that are available for community use but are without floodlighting. The site also suffers from an unsecure tenure. Pitches are at capacity through curricular use and adhoc matches from Tring RUFC juniors. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to formalise community use agreement in order to provide security of tenure. Ensure changing facilities are updated alongside the redevelopment of the school and sports centre.	RFU School						
		Hockey		One full-size, floodlit AGP of standard quality which is currently played to capacity by Tring HC and Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead HC. The pitch was last resurfaced in 2010 so is likely to require resurfacing in the next few years. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary. The pitch needs to be retained as an AGP which meets England Hockey technical standards and not converted to 3G due to its important to local hockey clubs. Look to secure funding to resurface the AGP within the next three years. Update changing facilities alongside the redevelopment of the school and sports centre.	EH School		H				M-H
		Tennis		Two standard quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	LTA School		L				L
		Netball		Three standard quality macadam netball courts that are available for community use but without floodlighting. It is currently the home site of Tring Tornadoes Netball Club.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	EN School						
96	Tring Corinthians FC	Football	Sports Club	One adult pitch of standard quality which is currently played to capacity.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect	

**DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
97	Tring Park Cricket Club	Football	Sports Club	One youth 9v9 pitch and four mini 5v5 pitches; all of standard quality. The mini 5v5 pitches are currently played to capacity at peak times whilst the youth 9v9 pitch has one MES of spare capacity at peak times.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		Two standard quality grass cricket squares, consisting of 15 and 12 wickets respectively. The squares are currently overplayed by a single match session per season. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities. Tring Park CC has ambitions to develop spare land at the site into an indoor training centre and cricket school.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Monitor club growth to ensure that overplay is not exacerbated.	ECB Sports Club					
		Tennis		Four artificial and two macadam tennis courts, all of standard quality. The artificial courts are floodlit whilst the macadam courts are not. Tring TC is also in discussion regarding a small refurbishment of the clubhouse at Tring Park Cricket Club.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	LTA Sports Club					
98	Tring Town Amateurs FC	Football	Sports Club	One adult pitch of standard quality which has one MES of actual spare capacity. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Look to maximise site capacity.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
103	Wigginton Sports Field	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch of standard quality which is currently played to capacity at peak times. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime.	HFA FF Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect
105	Tring Athletic FC	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch which has minimal spare capacity although this has been discounted to preserve pitch quality for competitive play. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime.	HFA FF Sports Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
106	Tring Bowls Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality flat bowling green which is currently used by Tring BC. The green is currently overplayed by six members, and whilst the club aims to increase this membership, future demand figures were not quantified.	Sustain pitch quality through current maintenance regime. Monitor club growth to ensure that overplay is not exacerbated.	BE Sports Club	Local	L-M	L	L	Protect
117	Champneys at Tring	Tennis	Commercial	Two standard quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but are without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	LTA Commercial	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
121	Pendley Hotel – Manor Leisure Centre	Tennis	Commercial	Two standard quality macadam tennis courts that are available for community use but are without floodlighting.	Sustain court quality through current maintenance regime.	LTA Commercial	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
127	Dundale Primary School	Netball	Education	One poor quality macadam netball court which is unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL
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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
131	Grove Road Primary School	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam netball courts which are currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain court quality for curricular use.	EN School	Local	L	L	L	Protect

PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The PPS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2036 (in line with the emerging Local Plan period). This future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required. The Sport England New Development Playing Pitch Calculator (NDC) adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converts the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required. This is achieved via team generation rates (TGRs) in the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth and gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision.

Experience shows that only housing sites with 600 dwellings or more are likely to generate demand for new provision to be created. For large scale developments, it is likely that demand will be potentially generated for larger sports such as football and/or cricket. Consideration should be given to providing multi-pitch sites with suitable ancillary provision, including appropriate clubhouse/changing facilities and carparking. Single pitch sites which have been provided traditionally by developers are not considered to provide long term sustainable provision for pitch sports.

Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, contributions should be used to enhance existing provision in the locality through, for example, improving quality or providing new or improved ancillary provision. The Action Plan in this document, as well as consultation with appropriate NGBs, should be used to assist in the selection of suitable sites and suitable enhancements.

The scenarios below show the additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth. The demand is shown in match equivalent sessions per week for the majority of sports, with the exception of cricket, where match equivalent sessions are by season. Training demand is expressed in either hours or match equivalent sessions. Where expressed in hours, it is expected that demand will be to either a 3G pitch (to accommodate football demand) or an AGP (to accommodate hockey demand). Where expressed in match equivalent sessions, it is expected training will take place on floodlit grass pitches.

The indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.4 per dwelling and are accumulative housing figures from 2019 to 2036 (17 years) using per annum figures. The indicative figures will be applied to four exclusive scenarios as follows:

- ◀ **Scenario One: Housing requirement of 14,161 forecasted dwellings (2016 ONS projections)**
- ◀ **Scenario Two: Housing requirement of 17,425 forecasted dwellings (2014 ONS projections)**
- ◀ **Scenario Three: Housing requirement of 20,043 forecasted dwellings (2014 ONS projections with a 15% increase)**
- ◀ **Scenario Four: Hemel Garden Communities expansion – 10,000 forecasted dwellings**

Please note that the scenarios can be updated as required over the Local Plan period throughout the lifespan of the PPS to reflect population projections and projections, changes in the housing requirement and change in the average household size.

The number of pitches required in the following tables has been rounded up or down accordingly, however, capital and revenue costs are based on indicative pitch costs, proportionate to the total match equivalent sessions required rather than just whole pitches required.

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Though increases in match sessions for some sports are not sufficient to warrant the creation of new pitches, the associated costs have been incorporated and investment into alternative sites could instead be considered to increase capacity to accommodate this new demand.

Scenario 1: Housing requirement 14,161 forecasted dwellings (2016 ONS projections)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2019-2036 is 33,986 (based on 14,161 dwellings being delivered). This population increase equates to 39.72 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 1.54 match equivalent sessions per week on AGPs for hockey and 260.25 match equivalent sessions per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 72.2 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 5.98 hours per week of use on AGPs. There are also 3.13 match equivalent sessions of training for rugby union on a floodlit grass pitch and 0.93 MES on a grass rugby league pitch.

Table 7.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from housing growth (2019 – 2036)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport (2036)	
	Match demand (MES) per week ¹¹	Training demand ¹²
Adult football	5.82	72.20 hours
Youth football	15.8	
Mini soccer	14.48	
Rugby union	2.77	3.13 MES
Rugby league	0.85	0.93 MES
Adult Hockey	1.54	4.61 hours
Junior & Mixed Hockey	-	1.37 hours
Cricket	260.25	-

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

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision (2019 – 2036)

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ¹³	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ¹⁴
Adult football	6	£559,996	£118,159
Youth football	16	£1,129,917	£118,159
Mini soccer	14	£387,419	£81,358
Rugby union	3	£400,186	£85,640
Rugby league	1	£100,083	£22,118
Cricket	5	£1,670,555	£337,452
Sand Based AGPs	0 (0.38)	£328,719	£10,190
3G	2 (1.9)	£2,002,375	£69,241

¹¹ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

¹² Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

¹³ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2018 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

¹⁴ 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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Further to the above, the NDC estimates that there will be a need to provide 53.05 changing rooms to support new pitch provision which is identified in the table above. The total capital cost to deliver this level of provision is £9,294,683.

Scenario 2: Housing requirement of 17,425 forecasted dwellings (2014 ONS projections)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2019 - 2036 is 41,820 (based on 17,425 dwellings being delivered). This population increase equates to 41.72 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 1.89 match equivalent sessions per week on AGPs for hockey and 320.24 match equivalent sessions per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 88.84 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 7.36 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 3.85 match equivalent sessions of training for rugby union on a floodlit grass pitch and 1.15 MES on a grass rugby league pitch.

Table 7.3: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from housing growth (2019 – 2036)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport (2036)	
	Match demand (MES) per week ¹⁵	Training demand ¹⁶
Adult football	7.16	88.84 hours
Youth football	19.44	
Mini soccer	17.82	
Rugby union	3.41	3.85 MES
Rugby league	1.05	1.15 MES
Adult Hockey	1.89	5.67 hours
Junior & Mixed Hockey	-	1.69 hours
Cricket	320.24	-

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

Table 7.4: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision (2019 – 2036)

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ¹⁷	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ¹⁸
Adult football	7	£689,079	£145,396
Youth football	19	£1,560,180	£327,638
Mini soccer	18	£476,722	£100,112
Rugby union	3	£492,432	£105,380
Rugby league	1	£123,153	£27,217
Cricket	6	£2,055,630	£415,237

¹⁵ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

¹⁶ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

¹⁷ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2018 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

¹⁸ 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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Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ¹⁷	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ¹⁸
Sand Based AGPs	0 (0.47)	£404,491	£12,539
3G	2 (2.34)	£2,463,936	£85,202

Further to the above, the NDC estimates that there will be a need to provide 65.28 changing rooms to support new pitch provision which is identified in the table above. The total capital cost to deliver this level of provision is £11,437,169.

Scenario 3: Housing requirement of 20,043 forecasted dwellings (2014 ONS projections with a 15% increase)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2019 - 2036 is 48,103 (based on 20,043 dwellings being delivered). This population increase equates to 56.21 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 2.17 on AGPs for hockey and 368.36 per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 102.18 hours of use for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 8.46 hours of use on AGPs. There are also 4.43 match equivalent sessions of training for rugby union on a floodlit grass pitch and 1.32 MES on a grass rugby league pitch.

Table 7.5: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from housing growth (2019 – 2036)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport (2036)	
	Match demand (MES) per week ¹⁹	Training demand ²⁰
Adult football	8.23	102.18 hours
Youth football	22.36	
Mini soccer	20.50	
Rugby union	3.92	4.43 MES
Rugby league	1.2	1.32 MES
Adult Hockey	2.17	6.52 hours
Junior & Mixed Hockey	-	1.94 hours
Cricket	368.36	-

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

Table 7.6: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision (2019 – 2036)

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ²¹	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²²
Adult football	8	£792,606	£167,240
Youth football	22	£1,794,580	£376,862
Mini soccer	20	£548,344	£115,152

¹⁹ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

²⁰ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

²¹ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2018 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

²² 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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Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ²¹	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²²
Rugby union	4	£566,414	£121,213
Rugby league	1	£141,655	£31,306
Cricket	7	£2,364,466	£477,622
Sand Based AGPs	0 (0.54)	£465,261	£14,423
3G	3 (2.69)	£2,834,115	£98,002

Further to the above, the NDC estimates that there will be a need to provide 75.08 changing rooms to support new pitch provision which is identified in the table above. The total capital cost to deliver this level of provision is £13,155,479.

Scenario 4: Hemel Garden Communities expansion – 10,000 forecasted dwellings

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth the Hemel Garden Communities expansion is 24,000 (based on 10,000 dwellings being delivered). This population increase equates to 28.06 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 1.08 match equivalent sessions per week on AGPs for hockey and 180.78 match equivalent sessions per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 50.98 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 2.66 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 2.21 match equivalent sessions of training for rugby union on a floodlit grass pitch and 0.66 MES on a grass rugby league pitch.

Table 7.7: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from Hemel Garden Communities development

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport (2036)	
	Match demand (MES) per week ²³	Training demand ²⁴
Adult football	4.11	50.98 hours
Youth football	11.16	
Mini soccer	10.23	
Rugby union	1.96	2.21 MES
Rugby league	0.60	0.66 MES
Adult Hockey	1.08	0.97 hours
Junior & Mixed Hockey	-	1.69 hours
Cricket	180.78	-

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

²³ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

²⁴ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Table 7.8: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision for Hemel Garden Communities development

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ²⁵	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²⁶
Adult football	4	£395,454	£83,441
Youth football	11	£895,369	£188,027
Mini soccer	10	£273,585	£57,453
Rugby union	2	£282,601	£60,477
Rugby league	1	£70,676	£15,619
Cricket	4	£1,179,701	£238,300
Sand Based AGPs	0 (0.27)	£232,133	£7,196
3G	1 (1.34)	£1,414,023	£48,896

Further to the above, the NDC estimates that there will be a need to provide 37.46 changing rooms to support new pitch provision which is identified in the table above. The total capital cost to deliver this level of provision is £6,563,655.

²⁵ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2018 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

²⁶ 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)

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

Delivery

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

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

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

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

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

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

Monitoring and updating

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

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The Steering Group that takes the PPS forward should be a sub-regional group made up of the three local authorities included within the study as well as other partners such as the NGBs, and Herts Sports Partnership. This offers benefits in terms of joint working on strategic and cross-boundary issues and will also be more efficient in terms of administration when compared to each authority having its own individual Steering Group.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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- ◀ Lead a full review and update of the PPS document (including the supply and demand information and assessment details).
- ◀ Consider how provision for sport be made in new development, where on-site provision is required and how developer contributions are used.

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

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

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

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

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

Dacorum Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

The LFFP for Dacorum will aim to deliver a ten-year vision to improve football facilities throughout the authority. The Dacorum PPS will be the key evidence base to identify potential projects for affiliated football and the findings of and any subsequent changes to the PPS should align with the Local Football Facilities Plan (LFFP) for Dacorum (planned for late 2019) which will also serve as a live document requiring concurrent management.


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

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Checklist

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

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

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

APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

National context

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

Department of Media Culture and Sport Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation (2015)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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National Planning Policy Framework

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

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

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

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

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

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

The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

The Football Association's (FA) National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a ten-year period. The Strategy is presently in draft and is due for publication in 2018.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Local Football Facility Plans

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

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

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

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

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The FA: National Game Strategy (2018-2021)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The core objectives are as follows:

1. Grow our Participation
2. Deliver International Success
3. Increase our Visibility
4. Enhance our Infrastructure
5. For England Hockey to be proud and respected custodians of the sport

Club participation

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

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

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

England Hockey Strategy

England Hockey's Facilities Strategy can be found [here](#).

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

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

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

1. PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision

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

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

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

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

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

England Netball - Your Game, Your Way 2013-17

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

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

- ◀ Accelerate the participation growth by extending our market penetration and reach through the activation of a range of existing and new participant-focused products and programmes that access new and targeted markets.
- ◀ Increase the level of long-term participant retention through targeting programmes at known points of attrition and easy transition through the market segments, supported by an infrastructure that reflects the participant needs and improves their netball experience.
- ◀ Build a sustainable performance pathway and system built on the principles of purposeful practice and appropriate quality athlete coach contact time.
- ◀ Develop sustainable revenue streams through the commercialisation of a portfolio of products and programmes and increasing membership sales. This will also include the creation of cost efficiencies and improved value for money through innovative partnerships and collaborations in all aspects of the business.
- ◀ Establish high standards of leadership and governance that protect the game and its people and facilitates the on-going growth and transformation of the NGB and sport.

British Tennis Strategy 2019

The new LTA Strategy includes seven strategies relating to three objectives which are built around the following vision and mission:

Vision: tennis opened up

Mission: to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable

Objectives

- ◀ Increase the number of fans on our database from [623,602] to [1,000,000] by 2023.
- ◀ More people playing more often;
 - ◀ Increase the number of adults playing tennis each year from [7.7% (4,018,600)] of the population to [8.5% (4,420,460)], and the frequency of adults playing tennis twice a month from [1.9% (858,700)] of the population to [2.2% (1,000,000)] by 2023.
 - ◀ The number of children playing tennis from [x] to [y] by 2023 (to be finalised December 2018 on publication of Sport England's new Child Participation Survey).
- ◀ Enable 5 new players to break into the top 100 by 2023 and inspire the tennis audience.

Strategies

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

Bowls England: Strategic Plan 2014-2017

Although the Plan is currently being updated, this version remains the most up to date available. Bowls England will provide strong leadership and work with its stakeholders to support the development of the sport of bowls in England for this and future generations.

The overall vision of Bowls England is to:

- ◀ Promote the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ◀ Recruit new participants to the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ◀ Retain current and future participants within the sport of flat green bowls.

In order to ensure that this vision is achieved, ten key performance targets have been created, which will underpin the work of Bowls England up until 31st March 2017.

- ◀ 115,000 individual affiliated members.
- ◀ 1,500 registered coaches.
- ◀ Increase total National Championship entries by 10%.
- ◀ Increase total national competition entries by 10%.
- ◀ Medal places achieved in 50% of events at the 2016 World Championships.
- ◀ 35 county development plans in place and operational.
- ◀ County development officer appointed by each county association.
- ◀ National membership scheme implemented with 100% uptake by county associations.
- ◀ Secure administrative base for 1st April 2017.
- ◀ Commercial income to increase by 20%.

Despite a recent fall in affiliated members, and a decline in entries into National Championships over the last five years, Bowls England believes that these aims will be attained by following core values. The intention is to:

- ◀ Be progressive.
- ◀ Offer opportunities to participate at national and international level.
- ◀ Work to raise the profile of the sport in support of recruitment and retention.
- ◀ Lead the sport.
- ◀ Support clubs and county associations.

Growing the Game of Golf in England (2017-2021)

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

In 2014, England Golf developed its first national strategy to help golf in England rise to some serious challenges. Membership was declining, many clubs were facing financial and business problems and the perception of the game was proving damaging. As such, it decided to set out recommendations for actions that would help “raise the game”.

The 2014 strategy helped achieve the following:

- ◀ 427,111 people being introduced to golf for the first time.
- ◀ 31,913 new members for England’s golf clubs from national initiatives.
- ◀ Over £25 million generated for golf clubs through new members.
- ◀ Four counties to merge their men’s and women’s unions associations.
- ◀ Support for 15,200 national, regional and county squad players.
- ◀ Over 150 championships and events organised across the country.

Following the above strategy, England Golf is now setting out to “grow the game” of golf through seven strategic objectives. Developed in consultation with the golfing community, six of these are developed from the previous work in 2014, whilst one (being customer focussed) is brand new and intends on boosting the impact of them all.

The objectives are:

- ◀ Being customer focussed
- ◀ Stronger counties and club
- ◀ Excellent governance
- ◀ Improve image
- ◀ More members and players
- ◀ Outstanding championships, competitions and events
- ◀ Winning golfers

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)

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

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

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

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

UK Athletics Facilities Strategy (2014-2019)

Facilities are essential to attracting, retaining and developing athletes of the future. Having the right facilities in the right place will be crucial in meeting growing demand, increasing participation in physical activity and athletics, improving the health of the nation and supporting a new generation of athletes in clubs and schools through to national and world class level.

UKA and the Home Country Athletics Federations (HCAFs) recognise the challenges faced by facility owners and venue operators, and the 5 year Facility Strategy (2014-2019) uses a Track & Field facility model designed to support a sustainable UK network of development, training and competition venues that meet Home Country needs aligned to UKA's Athlete/Participant Development Model. In addition to Track and Field provision, UKA recognises the huge amount of club activity that takes place on roads, paths and trails and the strategy also maps out a plan for future "running" facilities.

The strategy does not seek to identify priority facilities, clubs or geographical areas. Instead, it provides the direction and guidance that will enable the four Home Country Athletics Federations (England Athletics, Athletics Northern Ireland, Scottish Athletics and Welsh Athletics) to establish their own priorities and deliver the principles of the UKA Facilities Strategy within their own national context.

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Key outcomes:

- ◀ Increased participation across all athletics disciplines
- ◀ Increased club membership by providing facilities that support a participation pathway from novice through to club member
- ◀ Increased talent pool
- ◀ Long term improvement in the development of athletes of all ages and abilities
- ◀ Securing the long term future of existing facilities
- ◀ More attractive and inspiring facilities for existing and potential athletes
- ◀ Improving the athletics experience for all participants
- ◀ Improved relationships and interactions between stakeholders, particularly clubs and facility operators

APPENDIX 2: FUNDING PLAN

Funding opportunities²⁷

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

Awarding body	Description
<p>Big Lottery Fund http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/</p>	<p>The Big Lottery Fund distributes over £500m a year to communities across the UK, raised by players of The National Lottery.</p> <p>Awards for All – this fund offers National Lottery grants between £300 and £10,000. Applications can be made by: voluntary or community organisations, registered charities, constituted groups or clubs, not-for-profit companies or community interest companies, social enterprises, schools and statutory bodies (including town, parish and community councils). To receive funding, the applicant must meet at least one of the funding priorities listed for these grants. The funding priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities. ◀ Improving the places and spaces that matter to communities. ◀ Enabling more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage. <p>Empowering Young People – this grants programme is designed to support projects in Northern Ireland that give young people aged 8 to 25 the ability to overcome the challenges they face. Funding between £30,000 and £500,000 is available and is available to projects which meet one or more of the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Equip young people with the skills they need for the future. ◀ Improve young people’s relationships with their support networks and communities. ◀ Improve the health and well-being of young people. <p>Reaching Communities England – this programme provides flexible funding over £10,000 for up to five years to organisations in England who want to act on the issues that matter to people and communities. Grants will be awarded to voluntary and community organisations or social enterprises to fund project activities, operating costs, organisational development and capital costs. Ideas must meet one or more of the following funding priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities. ◀ Improving the places and spaces that matter to communities. ◀ Enabling more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage.

²⁷ Up to date as of January 2019

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Awarding body	Description
<p>Sport England The current funding streams may change throughout 2017/18 so refer to the website for the latest information: https://www.sportengland.org/funding/</p>	<p>Sport England’s vision is that everyone in England feels able to take part in sport or activity, regardless of age, background or ability.</p> <p>Small Grants – this programme offers funding to projects involving adults and young people aged 14 or over which meet one or more of the aims of their ‘Towards an Active Nation’ strategy. These aims are: get inactive people more active, develop lasting sporting habits, engender more positive attitudes among young people, develop more diverse volunteers and to improve progression and inclusion among the most talented. Projects with mixed age groups may still be considered if there is a focus on people aged 14 and over.</p> <p>Community Asset Fund – this programme is dedicated to enhancing the spaces in your local community that give people the opportunity to be active.</p> <p>Major Events Engagement Fund – Sport England’s ‘Towards an Active Nation’ strategy commits them to invest £2m in helping national governing bodies (NGBs) to host major events which evolve their existing business model and derive a greater financial return from their existing customers (players, volunteers or spectators). This funding can also be used to develop programmes that engage with individuals local to the major event, who are currently less likely to take part regularly in sport or physical activity.</p>
<p>Football Foundation http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/funding-schemes/</p>	<p>This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development.</p> <p>Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund – this fund is available to football clubs, schools, councils and local sports associations that improve facilities for football and other sport in local communities, sustain or increase participation amongst children and adults, regardless of background age or ability and to help children and adults to develop their physical, mental, social and moral capacities through regular participation in sport. Grants are available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Grass pitch drainage/improvements, ◀ Pavilions, clubhouses and changing rooms, ◀ 3G Football Turf Pitches (FTPs) and multi-use games areas, ◀ Fixed floodlights for artificial pitches. <p>Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund Small Grants Scheme – this scheme awards grants of up to £10,000 for the provision of capital items, or to refurbish/improve existing facilities. This scheme aims to support the growth of football clubs and activity, prevent a decline in football participation and make improvements to facilities to address any health and safety issues. Grants, which cannot exceed 50% of the total project cost, are awarded to support the costs of the following list of projects and items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Replacement of unsafe goalposts, ◀ Portable floodlights, ◀ Storage containers, ◀ Changing pavilion/clubhouse refurbishment and external works (not including routine maintenance works), ◀ Grounds maintenance equipment,

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Awarding body	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Pitch improvement works (not including routine maintenance works), ◀ Fencing. <p>The scheme is available to local authorities, educational establishments, grassroots football clubs and professional and semi-professional football clubs and their associated community organisations, to support their community outreach programmes.</p> <p>Premier League Primary Stars Kit and Equipment Scheme - this scheme, run in partnership with Nike and delivered by the Football Foundation, gives teachers the opportunity to get their hands on free resources to aid their pupils' learning. Primary school teachers registered at plprimarystars.com can access either a free Nike football strip, or a free equipment pack which can be used across the curriculum.</p>
<p>Rugby Football Foundation (RFF) http://www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14&Itemid=113</p>	<p>The Grant Match Scheme in particular provides easy-to-access grant funding for playing projects that contribute to the recruitment and retention of community rugby players. Grants are available on a 'match funding' 50:50 basis to support a proposed project.</p> <p>Projects eligible for funding include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts, floodlights. 2. Club House Facilities – Changing rooms, shower facilities, washroom/lavatory, and measures to facilitate segregation (e.g. women, juniors). 3. Equipment – Large capital equipment, pitch maintenance capital equipment (e.g. mowers). <p>'Helping Hand Grants' can award funding from £500 to £1,500. The Groundmatch Grant Scheme provides funding from £1,501 to £5,000. RFU Accredited clubs at level 5 and below are eligible to apply.</p> <p>The RFF also offer loan schemes for RFU Accredited clubs at level 3 and below. The first scheme is the Interest Free Loan scheme which can provide up to £100,000 as an interest free loan for capital works. Green Deal Loans up to the value of £20,000 are available to clubs to support them in the installation of facility solutions that reduce utility costs. Repayments are structured to be the equivalent of the projected savings over the agreed 'payback' period.</p>
<p>The England and Wales Cricket Trust https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding</p>	<p>The Interest Free Loan Scheme provides finance to clubs for various capital projects such as buildings, equipment purchase, fine turf, land purchase and non-turf. All ECB affiliated cricket clubs are eligible to apply, as well as other organisations that can evidence achievement/delivery of the EWCT's charitable aims. Clubs with a junior section can apply for funding from £1,000 to £50,000 whereas clubs without a junior section can apply for funding from £1,000 to £20,000. A minimum of 10% partnership funding is required from the applicant.</p> <p>The Small Grant Scheme aims to support the ECB's national programmes – Get the Game On, All Stars Cricket, Women's Cricket and U19 Club T20. Clubs can apply for funding towards the purchase of relevant products or materials, and associated professional labour costs.</p>

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Awarding body	Description
	<p>Project themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Covers – supporting Get the Game On, ◀ Family Friendly Facilities – supporting All Stars Cricket, ◀ Improved Changing Facilities for Females – supporting Women’s Cricket, ◀ Great Events – supporting U19 Club T20.
<p>EU Life Fund http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm</p>	<p>LIFE is the EU’s financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU. LIFE also finances some grants for non-governmental organisations active in the field of the environment because they are key players in the development and implementation of environmental policy.</p>
<p>National Hockey Foundation http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/</p>	<p>The Foundation primarily makes grants to a wide range of organisations that meet one of the areas of focus: young people and hockey, young people and sport in Milton Keynes, enabling the development of hockey at youth or community level and smaller charities. There is no limit on the amount of funding that an organisation can request. However, the Foundation does not generally award grants for less than £10,000 or more than £75,000.</p>
<p>Rugby Football League https://www.rlwc2021.com/facilities</p>	<p>Rugby League World Cup 2021 Capital Facilities Legacy funding. Small Grants Scheme awards grants of up to £15,000 for the provision of capital items, kit and equipment or to refurbish/improve existing facilities. Large capital grants programme of £15,000 plus focused on supporting the development of new or refurbished local rugby league facilities. The programme is split into four themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcoming environments 2. More players 3. Community engagement 4. Innovation fund

Funder’s requirements

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

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

DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Indicative costs

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

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

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