



**EAST SUFFOLK**

**PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS  
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

**NOVEMBER 2021**

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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## ABBREVIATIONS

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

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### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

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

The Strategy is capable of:

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

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

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

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

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

### ***Agreed scope***

The PPS covers the following playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities:

- ◀ Athletics tracks/facilities
- ◀ Bowling greens
- ◀ Cricket squares and outfielders
- ◀ Football pitches (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Golf courses
- ◀ Hockey pitches (sand/water based AGPs)
- ◀ Netball courts
- ◀ Pétanque facilities
- ◀ Rugby union pitches (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Tennis courts

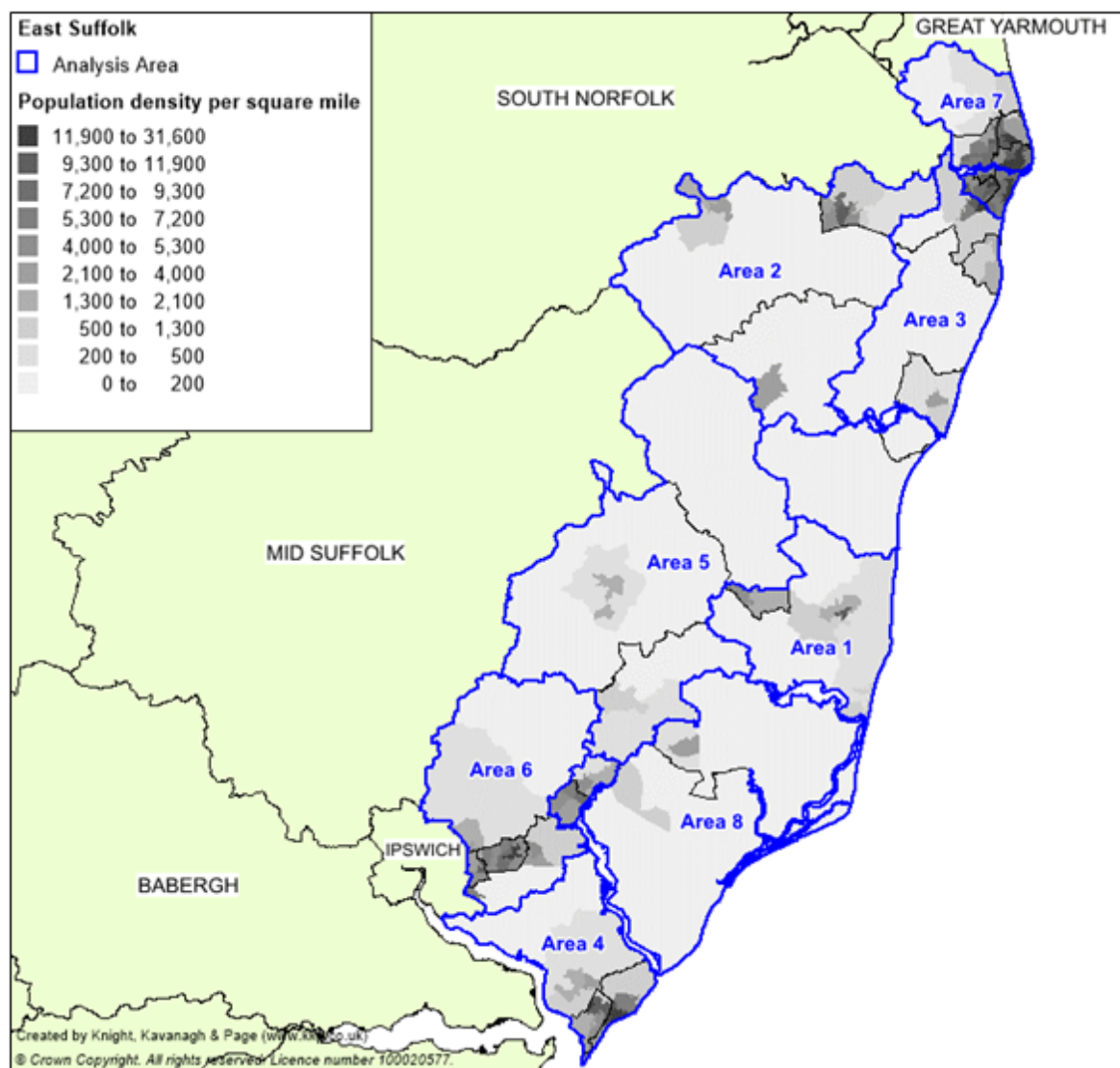
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Rugby league also forms part of the scope of a PPOSS; however, no supply or demand has been identified in the District and it has therefore not been considered as part of the work.

## Study area

The study area is the East Suffolk Council boundary area. Further to this, sub areas or analysis areas are used to allow for a more localised assessment of provision and examination of supply and demand at a local level. For this purpose, the District is split into eight distinct sections, aligned to its Community Partnership areas.

Figure 1.1: Analysis areas



Given the lengthy names of the majority of the areas, for ease of reference, it has been agreed to number them throughout the Strategy, where appropriate, 1-8 (in alphabetical order). Please see the table overleaf for further details.

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Table 1.1: Analysis area breakdown

Analysis area	Community Partnership reference
1	Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham & Villages
2	Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth & Villages
3	Carlton Colville, Kessingland, Southwold & Villages
4	Felixstowe Peninsula
5	Framlingham, Wickham Market & Villages
6	Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew, Martlesham, Carlford & Flynn Valley
7	Lowestoft & Northern Parishes
8	Melton, Woodbridge & Deben Peninsula

## Covid-19

The PPOSS has been undertaken during the Covid-19 global pandemic, which has resulted in England entering into unprecedented restrictions that have fluctuated since March 2020. At various points in time, grassroots sport has been halted, leading to truncated seasons and changes to way leagues have been run and fixtures scheduled. This has had a direct consequence on the supply of and demand for playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities, which, if considered in isolation, would not present an accurate representation of provision.

Given the above, this study presents information based on what supply and demand would have been like had there not been any restrictions in place, although consideration is given to the impact of Covid-19 and the issues clubs, teams and users face as a consequence. It is currently unknown what impact the pandemic and enforced restrictions will have on participation and provision moving forward. Therefore, this should form a key aspect of the Stage E process, with the review of the documents ensuring that any recommendations made remain accurate as the effect of Covid-19 becomes clearer.

As part of Stage E, the PPOSS should be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the Steering Group. A review will help to maintain the momentum and commitment built up during its development. Given current circumstances an annual meeting, which could coincide with the annual NGB affiliation process, would be beneficial to understand what impact, Covid-19 and the lockdowns have had within East Suffolk.

For more information regarding the Stage E process please see Part 8: Deliver the Strategy and keep it robust and up to date, or see: <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport>

## 1.1: Structure

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

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

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

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

### 1.2: Context

The rationale for undertaking this study and updating it is to identify current levels of provision within East Suffolk across the public, education, voluntary and commercial sectors and to compare this with current and future levels of demand. The primary purpose of the PPOSS is therefore to provide a strategic framework that ensures the provision of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities meets the local needs of existing and future residents.

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

- ◀ Protect provision against development pressures on land in, and around, urban areas.
- ◀ Identify 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 ensures that this evidence is sound, robust, and capable of being scrutinised through examination and meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)<sup>1</sup>.

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 discusses assessments and the protection of "existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields". Paragraphs 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.

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/forward-planning/>

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## 1.3: Headline findings

The table below highlights the updated quantitative headline shortfalls for each included sport within East Suffolk from 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 1.1: Quantitative headline findings

Sport	Pitch type	Current supply/demand balance <sup>2</sup>	Future supply/demand balance (2036) <sup>3</sup>
Football (grass pitches)	Adult	Actual spare capacity 14 match session	Actual spare capacity 8 match session
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 7 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 7 match sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Demand is being met
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
3G pitches	Full size	Shortfall of 10 full size pitches	Shortfall of 11 full size pitches
Cricket	Senior (Saturday)	Actual spare capacity of 257 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 209 match sessions
	Senior (Sunday)	Actual spare capacity of 294 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 222 match sessions
	Junior (Sunday)	Actual spare capacity of 316 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 272 match sessions
Rugby union	Senior	Shortfall of 27 match sessions	Shortfall of 37 match sessions
Hockey	Sand-based AGP	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Tennis	Courts	Shortfall for five clubs	Shortfall for six clubs
Netball	Courts	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Bowls	Greens	Shortfall for three clubs	Shortfall for three clubs
Pétanque	Terrains	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Croquet	Lawns	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

<sup>2</sup> Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay and spare capacity only.

<sup>3</sup> Demand that will exist in 2030 if the current demand is not met' also includes identified latent/exported demand.



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Sport	Pitch type	Current supply/demand balance <sup>2</sup>	Future supply/demand balance (2036) <sup>3</sup>
Athletics	Tracks	Provision required (entry level for track and field activity and running clubs/groups e.g. mini tracks and endurance loops).	Provision required (entry level for track and field activity and running clubs/groups e.g. mini tracks and endurance loops).
Golf	Courses	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

## Conclusions

The existing position for all sports is either that demand is being met or that there is a shortfall, whereas the future position shows the exacerbation of current shortfalls and the creation of shortfalls for some sports and in some areas where demand is currently being met. The shortfalls identified are for youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 football pitches, senior rugby union pitches, tennis courts, bowling greens and purpose-built athletics facilities.

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

Where shortfalls are present, for the most part, they can be met by better utilising current provision, such as through improving quality, installing additional floodlighting, improving ancillary facilities and enabling access to existing unused provision, such as at unavailable school sites. Another example of how to develop existing provision to overcome shortfalls is through pitch re-configuration (or re-designation).

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

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## PART 2: VISION

### 2.1: Vision

The vision for the wider East Suffolk Leisure Facility Strategy, which the PPOSS forms part of, is for the Council and its partners to:

*“Maintain sustainable, financially secure leisure and sports facilities which meet community need, increase participation, help tackle social and rural isolation for all residents and provide accessible, inclusive activities to improve health and wellbeing for everyone in East Suffolk”*

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## PART 3: AIMS

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

### AIM 1

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

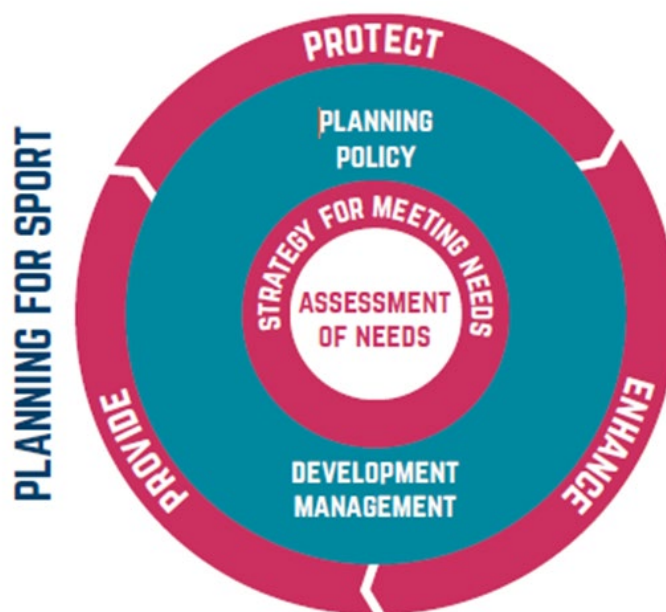
### AIM 2

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

### AIM 3

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

Figure 1: Sport England themes



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

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### PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

#### Football – grass pitches

##### *Supply and demand summary*

- Actual spare capacity totals 32.5 match equivalent sessions per week across football pitches in East Suffolk, with the majority found on adult pitches.
- A total of 21 pitches across 14 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 27 match equivalent sessions per week.
- There is currently sufficient adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 provision to meet demand, although there are areas where shortfalls need to be addressed.
- There is a shortfall in relation to youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 provision.
- After factoring in future demand, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 shortfalls are projected to worsen and a shortfall is set to be created on mini 5v5 pitches.

##### *Supply summary*

- The audit identifies a total of 222 grass football pitches within East Suffolk across 114 sites, with 178 pitches available, at some level, for community use across 83 sites.
- There are significantly more adult pitches available across East Suffolk when compared to the other pitch sizes.
- Six sites are identified as having disused football provision, including the former Deben High School site which is to re-purposed to accommodate cricket.
- Woodbridge Town FC has security of tenure issues with its lease of Notcutts Park due to expire in 2024; discussions are ongoing regarding a relocation.
- The large majority of community available pitches are assessed as standard quality, with 141 rated this way compared to 12 assessed as good quality and 25 assessed as poor quality.
- More clubs report that quality has improved in recent years than those that report poorer quality.
- Quality of ancillary provision is generally perceived to be good or adequate, with 18 sites serviced by good quality facilities, 51 by standard quality facilities and just 14 by poor quality facilities (or no facilities at all).
- Reydon Playing Fields, Dip Farm Playing Fields, Eastward Ho and Millennium Sports Ground are larger sites in need of ancillary facility improvements.

##### *Demand summary*

- Through the audit and assessment, 532 teams from within 71 clubs are identified as playing within East Suffolk, consisting of 134 adult, 242 youth and 156 mini teams.
- There is a general trend of recent growth across East Suffolk with significantly more clubs reporting team increases compared to those reporting decreases.
- There are currently nine teams within the football pyramid, with Leiston FC and Lowestoft Town FC playing at the highest level (Step 3), whilst three teams play within the women's system.
- Lowestoft Town FC is currently exploring a relocation and the development of a new stadium which as a minimum will be of Step 2 standard; it reports that this may be viable as part of wider plans from the Council relating to Oakes Farm.

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- ◀ A total of 19 clubs state that they have latent demand, with 18 clubs citing training facility issues, 10 clubs reporting grass pitch issues and nine clubs suggesting ancillary facility constraints.
- ◀ Based on population growth, an increase of four adult teams is projected (no increases in youth or mini football are identified due to decreases within the relevant age bands).
- ◀ Nine clubs' report aspirations to increase the number of teams that they provide, with this equating to a predicted growth of 28 teams.

## Scenarios

### Improving pitch quality at overplayed sites

In total there are 21 pitches overplayed in East Suffolk across 14 sites by a combined total of 27 match equivalent sessions. Improving quality of such provision (i.e. through increased maintenance or improved drainage) will increase capacity and as a consequence reduce both current and future shortfalls.

To illustrate the above, Table 4.1 highlights that most overplayed pitches could accommodate current usage levels if quality improved.

Table 4.1: Overplay if all pitches were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating <sup>4</sup>	Good quality capacity rating <sup>5</sup>
1	Alan Hutchinson Field	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	1	1
10	Beccles Caxton Club	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	0.5
39	Dip Farm Playing Fields	Adult	2	Standard	2	0
		Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	3	1
		Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	1	1
52	Framlingham Sports Ground	Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	2	0
59	Halesworth Playing Fields (Dairy Hill)	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	0.5
65	Hollesley Village Playing Field	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	2.5
71	Jubilee Park	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	0.5
73	Kesgrave Community Centre	Adult	2	Standard	2	0
74	Kesgrave High School	Adult	2	Standard	3.5	1.5
		Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	3	1
79	Kirkley & Pakefield Sports Club	Adult	1	Good	0.5	0.5
90	Martlesham Heath Green	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	1.5	1.5

<sup>4</sup> Match equivalent sessions

<sup>5</sup> Match equivalent sessions

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Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating <sup>4</sup>	Good quality capacity rating <sup>5</sup>
95	Millennium Sports Ground	Adult	2	Poor	3	1
98	Normanston Park	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	1.5	1.5
153	Walton Recreation Ground	Adult	1	Poor	1	1

As seen, only the pitches at Kesgrave High School as well as the youth 11v11 pitch at Dip Farm Playing Fields and the adult pitch at Kirkley & Pakefield Sports Club would remain overplayed. Some play at these sites should therefore be transferred to sites with actual spare capacity, to an existing or additional 3G pitch, or, if space and other usage allows, pitch re-configuration could be considered.

Carrying out the improvements would not only improve things at the relevant sites, but also in relation to the supply and demand balance for East Suffolk as a whole. In fact, no overall pitch shortfalls would be evident, with current shortfalls for youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 football both overcome.

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

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Current actual spare capacity	Current overplay	Current total	Potential overplay	Potential total
Adult	27.5	13.5	14	2	25.5
Youth 11v11	1.5	4	2.5	1	0.5
Youth 9v9	2.5	9.5	7	1	1.5
Mini 7v7	1	-	1	-	1
Mini 5v5	0	-	0	-	0

In addition, there are currently 6.5 match equivalent sessions per week of spare capacity discounted (aggregated from all pitch types) due to poor quality. Improving pitch quality at these sites would provide and increase overall actual spare capacity, which can be used to accommodate demand from the remaining overplayed sites as well as latent and future demand.

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

### *Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)*

As improving the quality of certain overplayed sites may not be feasible from an investment point of view, an alternative approach is to focus on improving strategic sites. To that end, the Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) identifies 12 key sites for grass pitch improvements across East Suffolk. The table below therefore identifies what the impact would be on the capacity of pitches at these sites if quality improved to good.

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Table 4.3: Impact of LFFP quality improvements

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
27	Bungay Town Football Club	Adult	2	Standard	0.5	1.5
		Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
		Youth (9v9)	2	Standard	2	6
		Mini (7v7)	1	Standard	2	4
		Mini (5v5)	1	Standard	2.5	4.5
39	Dip Farm Playing Fields	Adult	2	Standard	2	0
		Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	3	1
		Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	1	1
42	Eastward Ho	Adult	4	Standard	7.5	11.5
52	Framlingham Sports Ground	Adult	2	Standard	1.5	3.5
		Youth (11v11)	2	Standard	1.5	5.5
		Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	2	0
		Mini (5v5)	1	Standard	2.5	4.5
74	Kesgrave High School	Adult	2	Standard	3.5	1.5
		Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	3	1
79	Kirkley & Pakefield Sports Club	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	0.5
		Youth (11v11)	3	Standard	1	7
		Youth (9v9)	2	Standard	0.5	4.5
81	Kirton & Falkenham Recreation Ground	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	2.5
		Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2.5
		Mini (5v5)	1	Standard	2.5	4.5
82	Langley Avenue	Adult	3	Standard	1	4
83	Waterloo Centre	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	1	3
		Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	3.5
95	Millennium Sports Ground	Adult	2	Poor	3	1
120	Saxmundham Sports Club	Adult	2	Standard	3	5
		Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	1	3
		Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2.5
121	Seaton Road Recreation Ground	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	3	5
		Mini (5v5)	1	Standard	2	4

Improving quality as set out in the table above would create 57.5 match equivalent sessions of additional capacity, whilst creating 13.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity and reducing overplay to just 3.5 match equivalent sessions. As a result, all existing pitch shortfalls in East Suffolk would be overcome.

As the LFFP is a live document to be informed by an up-to-date PPS, it is recommended that the priority list is updated on the back of this study to account for changes in demand since the project was completed. To that end, it is considered that the majority of sites currently included should remain, with discussions required regarding potential additions, such as Kesgrave Community Centre, given current usage levels and overplay.

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### *Providing security of tenure*

Currently, 12 match equivalent sessions per week are played on unsecured pitches throughout East Suffolk. If these pitches were to fall out of use, shortfalls would be exacerbated in youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches, whilst a current shortfall would be created for mini 5v5 pitches in addition to a future shortfall for mini 7v7 pitches.

*Table 4.4: Supply and demand balance without unsecure sites*

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Current total	Unsecure usage	Potential total	Future demand	Potential future total
Adult	14	4	10	6	4
Youth 11v11	2.5	3.5	6	4.5	10.5
Youth 9v9	7	2.5	9.5	2.5	12
Mini 7v7	1	1	0	1	1
Mini 5v5	0	1	1	2	3

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

Away from schools, most of the unsecure use is identified at Notcutts Park (Woodbridge Town Football Club). This emphasises the importance of ensuring that the Club is able to relocate before its lease expires in 2024.

### *Securing access to currently unavailable sites*

There are currently 44 grass pitches unavailable for community use. By securing access to sites accommodating this provision, spare capacity would significantly increase on adult and mini provision, whilst youth pitch shortfalls would markedly decrease. The spare capacity for the other formats could be utilised to fully alleviate the remaining deficits through pitch re-configuration.

*Table 4.5: Supply and demand balance without unsecure sites*

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Current total	Unsecure usage	Potential total	Future demand	Potential future total
Adult	14	9	23	6	17
Youth 11v11	2.5	2	0.5	4.5	5
Youth 9v9	7	3	4	2.5	6.5
Mini 7v7	1	16	17	1	16
Mini 5v5	0	14	14	2	12

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



# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and assessed as poor or standard quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality.
- ◀ Improve strategic sites, using the LFFP as a guide, and consider updating the priority projects within the LFFP following the findings of this study.
- ◀ Transfer play from sites which remain overplayed, including the transfer of demand from grass pitches to existing and new 3G pitches.
- ◀ Explore pitch reconfiguration at suitable, currently under-utilised sites to better cater for playing formats with identified shortfalls.
- ◀ Work with providers to secure access to unsecure sites and sites not currently offering community use via the creation of community use agreements.
- ◀ Work to accommodate future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity or at sites which are not currently available for community use.
- ◀ Where appropriate, develop partnerships and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own sites.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing/sporting offer.
- ◀ Ensure clubs playing within the football pyramid can continue to do so and that they can progress if promotion is achieved (including the relocation of Woodbridge Town FC).
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site football provision, which will usually be the case, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls, where possible, with accompanying clubhouse provision included given that single pitch sites without appropriate ancillary facilities can be unsustainable.

### **3G pitches**

#### **Supply and demand summary**

- ◀ Priority should be placed on the creation of new 3G pitches.
- ◀ In addition, it is important to sustain the current pitch stock to ensure that the existing shortfalls are not exacerbated, particularly at Barnards Soccer Centre given that its pitch has reached the end of its lifespan.

#### **Supply summary**

- ◀ There are five full size 3G pitches in East Suffolk, all of which are floodlit.
- ◀ Four of the full size pitches are available for community use; the pitch at Ipswich Town Football Club's Training Ground is considered to be unavailable as it is reserved entirely for use by a professional club.
- ◀ In addition to the full size pitches, there are also five smaller sized outdoor 3G pitches and two smaller sized indoor 3G pitches in the District.
- ◀ All of the full size pitches are FA approved to host competitive matches.
- ◀ None of the pitches are World Rugby compliant.

# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

- ◀ The four community available full size pitches are readily accessible during peak times across weekdays and at weekends.
- ◀ The pitch at Barnards Soccer Centre is now 12 years old and is showing considerable wear and tear; it has been assessed as poor quality, with resurfacing recommended.
- ◀ The smaller sized pitch at Kirkley & Pakefield Sports Club has also exceeded its recommended lifespan (having been installed in 2008), although this is considered to be less problematic as it has generally received less usage over the years.
- ◀ All remaining pitches are considered to be good or standard quality and they have all been installed or resurfaced within the last 10 years.

## **Demand summary**

- ◀ The existing 3G provision is reported to be operating at or close to capacity at peak times, with all current activity being football-based.
- ◀ With 532 football teams currently playing in East Suffolk, there is a calculated need for 14 full size 3G pitches in the District, meaning a shortfall of 10 pitches is identified (discounting the pitch at Ipswich Town Football Club's Training Ground).
- ◀ When accounting for future demand for an additional 32 teams (based on population increases and latent/future demand expressed by clubs), the shortfall increases by one to 11 pitches.
- ◀ When assessing 3G pitch need by analysis area there remains a current shortfall of 10 pitches, which when broken down equates to a shortfall of two pitches in areas 4 and 6 and a shortfall of one pitch in areas 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 8.
- ◀ Taking future demand into consideration, there is an exacerbated shortfall in Area 7, increasing this to two pitches.
- ◀ Whilst the number of 3G pitches needed for matches will never outweigh the number of 3G pitches needed for training, maximising the pitches that are in place and that are proposed should be fully supported.
- ◀ Although no other sports clubs/users are presently identified as accessing the existing stock of 3G pitches, that it is not to say that there is no demand,
- ◀ Given the grass pitch shortfalls identified for rugby union, it is considered that World Rugby compliant provision would be of benefit to the District; this could be achieved in collaboration with reducing shortfalls for football, or exclusively if this was adjudged to be sustainable.

## **Scenarios**

### *Accommodating football training demand*

To satisfy current football training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size 3G pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a need for at least 14 full size 3G pitches in East Suffolk. Discounting the pitch at Ipswich Town Football Club's Training Ground, which is unavailable for community use, there are currently four pitches provided, meaning a shortfall of 10 pitches.

*Table 4.6: Current demand for 3G pitches in East Suffolk (based on 38 teams per pitch)*

<b>Current number of teams</b>	<b>3G requirement</b>	<b>Current number of 3G pitches</b>	<b>Current shortfall</b>
532	14	4	10

When considering future demand (based on population increases and future demand expressed by clubs), there is a demand for 15 full size 3G pitches, meaning a shortfall of 11 pitches.

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.7: Future demand for 3G pitches in East Suffolk (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Future shortfall
564	15	4	11

If every team were to remain training within the respective analysis area in which they play their matches in, the current shortfall equates to two full size 3G pitches in areas 4 and 6 and a shortfall of one in the remaining six areas.

Table 4.8: Current demand for 3G pitches in East Suffolk by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Area 1	40	1	-	1
Area 2	80	2	1	1
Area 3	27	1	-	1
Area 4	65	2	-	2
Area 5	40	1	-	1
Area 6	105	3	1	2
Area 7	132	3	2	1
Area 8	41	1	-	1
<b>East Suffolk</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>

When factoring in future demand, there is a need for an additional pitch in area 7.

Table 4.9: Future demand for 3G pitches in East Suffolk by analysis area

Analysis area	Future number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Area 1	41	1	-	1
Area 2	87	2	1	1
Area 3	31	1	-	1
Area 4	65	2	-	2
Area 5	40	1	-	1
Area 6	111	3	1	2
Area 7	148	4	2	2
Area 8	41	1	-	1
<b>East Suffolk</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>

### Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

The LFFP for East Suffolk identifies 10 new 3G pitch projects, as explained in further detail in the table below.

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.10: LFFP 3G pitch projects

Project	Detail	Analysis area
Felixstowe Leisure Centre	Creation of a full size 3G pitch at Felixstowe Leisure Centre as part of wider developments in relation to the site	Area 4
Framlingham Sports Ground	Creation of a full size 3G pitch	Area 5
Leiston Leisure Centre	Creation of a full size 3G pitch	Area 1
Oakes Farm	Creation of a full size 3G pitch as part of a wider sports and leisure development proposal.	Area 7
Waveney FC	Creation of a full size 3G pitch with multiple site options identified; Benjamin Britten School, Dip Farm Playing Fields and Barnards Soccer Centre	Area 7
Felixstowe & Walton FC	Creation of a full size 3G pitch with multiple site options identified; Town Ground, Eastward Ho or Langley Avenue, although the latter two are no longer considered to be viable.	Area 4
Kesgrave Community Centre or Kesgrave High School	An either/or option for the creation of a full size 3G pitch	Area 6
Woodbridge Area	Creation of a full size 3G pitch in the area, with no preferred site option identified	Area 8
Bungay Town Football Club	Creation of a smaller sized 3G pitch to satisfy localised demand	Area 2
Halesworth Area	Creation of a smaller sized 3G pitch to satisfy localised demand in the area, with no preferred site option identified albeit Halesworth Campus Sports Complex is named as a potential	Area 2

The impact of delivering the above on current shortfalls is identified in the table below. Where smaller sized pitches are proposed, this is considered to contribute 0.5 pitch equivalents (meaning the overall pitch contribution is identified as nine full size pitches).

Table 4.11: LFFP impact on 3G pitch shortfalls

Analysis area	Current number of 3G pitches	Future shortfall	Pitches proposed in LFFP	Shortfall if delivered
Area 1	-	1	1	0
Area 2	1	1	1	-
Area 3	-	1	-	1
Area 4	-	2	2	0
Area 5	-	1	1	0
Area 6	1	2	1	1
Area 7	2	2	2	0
Area 8	-	1	1	0
<b>East Suffolk</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>

As seen, the overall future shortfall would reduce from 11 full size pitches to two full size pitches, with only Area 3 and Area 6 under-provided for. Moreover, no analysis areas would experience an oversupply of pitches, meaning all of the projects in the LFFP are considered to be warranted.

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The next step should be to identify suitable sites in Area 3 and Area 6 for the creation of additional provision in order to fully eradicate the identified shortfalls.

### *Moving football match play demand to 3G pitches*

Moving match play to 3G pitches is supported by the FA and it is relatively popular within East Suffolk already with 64 teams currently playing competitively on 3G surfaces.

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 (including parish and town council pitches) be transferred. In East Suffolk, this amounts to 222 teams.

*Table 4.12: Number of teams currently using council pitches<sup>6</sup>*

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Adult	11v11	Sunday AM	80
Youth	11v11	Sunday AM	60
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	34
Mini	7v7	Sunday AM	19
Mini	5v5	Sunday AM	29
<b>Total</b>			<b>222</b>

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 4.13: Full size 3G pitches required for the transfer of council pitch demand*

Format	No. of teams	No. of matches	3G units required per match <sup>7</sup>	Total 3G units required	3G pitches required
Adult	80	40	32	1,280	20.00
11v11	60	30	32	960	15.00
9v9	34	17	10	170	2.66
7v7	19	9.5	8	76	1.19
5v5	29	14.5	4	58	0.91

Using the above, transferring all matches currently played on council pitches would equate to the need for 20 full size 3G pitches. This is because the need for adult football can be separated from the need for youth and mini football on the basis that peak time is different (Saturday PM instead of Saturday AM).

In practice, creating this number of 3G pitches could be considered unrealistic as, without enough training demand to support such provision, sustainability would be questionable. As such, it may be more appropriate to consider the requirement for specific formats of play, such as mini football or youth 9v9 football.

The table below tests a scenario to enable all mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 football to transfer to 3G pitches based on a programme of play at current peak time (Saturday AM).

<sup>6</sup> Includes town and parish council pitches

<sup>7</sup> Use of a whole pitch equates to 64 units (32 units on a home and away basis)

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.14: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

Time	Playing format	Total matches/teams
9.00 – 10.00	4 x 5v5	4/8
10.00 – 11.00	2 x 7v7	2/4
11.00 – 12.00	2 x 7v7	2/4
12.00 – 13.00	2 x 7v7	2/4

Based on the above programming and separate start times for the formats, the overall need is for 12 full size 3G pitches to accommodate all current mini match play demand. This is calculated based on 71 teams playing mini 5v5 football requiring nine pitches (rounded up from 8.86) and 85 teams playing mini 7v7 football requiring seven pitches (rounded down from 7.08).

The table below tests a similar scenario for youth 9v9 football. This demand could be accommodated on eight full size pitches (exactly) based on 96 teams playing this format within East Suffolk.

Table 4.15: Moving all 9v9 matches to 3G pitches

Time	Playing format	Total matches/teams
10:00-12:00	2 x 9v9	2/4
12:00-14:00	2 x 9v9	2/4
14:00-16:00	2 x 9v9	2/4

It is also worth noting that if all youth 9v9 football was moved to a Sunday and all mini football was retained on a Saturday (or vice versa), it is feasible that all current demand for mini and youth 9v9 football could be accommodated on eight full size 3G pitches, which is only four more than currently provided and below the number required for training demand.

### World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

World Rugby produced the ‘performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby’, more commonly known as ‘Regulation 22’ that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union.

There are currently no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in East Suffolk. However, given the grass pitch shortfalls identified, evidence exists for provision to be provided, with Beccles, Felixstowe, Ipswich, Ipswich YM, Lowestoft & Yarmouth, Southwold and Woodbridge rugby clubs all likely to benefit from access to a suitable 3G surface.

Given the above and given that it is unrealistic to provide each club with their own 3G pitch, a central location (or locations) should be considered that can service multiple clubs. For this, a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch could be developed at a rugby specific site (i.e. a club site) or via a partnership approach with the FA at a multi-sport site.

### Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Develop additional 3G pitches to alleviate identified shortfalls, using the LFFP to guide investment.
- ◀ Identify additional sites in Area 3 and Area 6 to fully alleviate identified 3G shortfalls.

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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- ◀ Support creation of additional 3G pitches above and beyond football training shortfalls if it can satisfy rugby union 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 all existing and new pitches that are on the FA register are re-tested every three years to sustain certification.
- ◀ For World Rugby compliant pitches, seek re-testing every two years to ensure provision remains accredited.
- ◀ Encourage more match play demand to transfer to 3G pitches, where possible.
- ◀ Resurface existing 3G pitches that have exceeded recommended lifespan i.e. at Barnards Soccer Centre.
- ◀ Ensure all 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches with external funding have community use agreements in place and seek to use this to also tie in access to grass pitch and other sporting provision, where relevant.

### **Cricket pitches**

#### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ There are 21 squares that show potential spare capacity on grass wickets although only 11 of these have actual spare capacity for senior demand on Saturday's, whilst 12 have actual spare capacity on Sunday's.
- ◀ A total of 13 squares have actual spare capacity during midweek for junior cricket.
- ◀ Five squares are overplayed, with total overplay equating to 51 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ For senior cricket, significant overall spare capacity is identified, although shortfalls are evident in Area 4 and Area 5.
- ◀ For junior cricket, overall spare capacity exists both currently and in the future; however, a worsening shortfall is identified in Area 5.

#### ***Supply summary***

- ◀ In total, there are 33 grass cricket squares in East Suffolk located across 28 sites, with 28 squares available for community use.
- ◀ There are NTPs accompanying grass wicket squares at 11 sites and there are standalone NTPs at seven sites.
- ◀ Of the clubs with lease arrangements in place, Yoxford CC reports a particular issue in that the agreement for its site, which is acquired from a private landowner, expires in 2023.
- ◀ Blundeston & Somerleyton CC has only nine years remaining on its lease of Somerleyton Playing Field, from Somerleyton Community Association, whereas Felixstowe & Corinthians CC has only 11 years remaining on its lease of the Town Ground, from the Council.
- ◀ The audit of community available grass wicket cricket squares found 16 to be good quality and the remaining 12 to be standard quality; none are assessed as poor.
- ◀ The NTPs servicing the squares at Saxmundham Sports Club, the Town Ground and Yoxford Cricket Club are considered to be poor quality, as is the standalone NTP at Kesgrave High School.
- ◀ Blundeston & Somerleyton, BT Wadringfield and Lowestoft Town cricket clubs are serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.



# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

- Six clubs report a demand for new, improved or additional training facilities (Blundeston & Somerleyton, BT Wadringfield, Melton St Audry's, Nacton, Saxmundham Sports and Yoxford cricket clubs).

## **Demand summary**

- There are 18 clubs in East Suffolk which collectively provide 38 senior men's, eight senior women's and 47 junior teams.
- Five clubs in East Suffolk form part of the All Stars initiative, whilst three clubs are running Dynamo's sessions.
- Six clubs field women's softball teams.
- No future demand is predicted via population growth, although eight indicate aspirations to increase levels of participation, equating to four senior men's, three senior women's and nine junior teams.
- The Suffolk Cricket Board expects three additional senior women's teams to be fielded within the next three years in addition to increases expressed by clubs.
- Three clubs report that senior demand has increased over the previous three years, whilst four report a decrease.
- Four clubs report an increase in junior demand, with only Southwold CC reporting a reduction.

## **Scenarios**

### *Addressing overplay*

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

Improving quality is one way to increase capacity, albeit many of the overplayed sites in East Suffolk are already good quality. The exceptions to this are the squares at Beef Meadow and Worlingworth Cricket Club, with overplay at the former able to be eradicated through improvements and overplay at the latter able to be reduced to two match equivalent sessions.

*Table 4.16: Overplay if square quality improved to good*

Site ID	Site name	No. of squares	No. of wickets	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
13	Beef Meadow	1	11	Standard	10	1
97	Nacton Sports Ground	1	8	Good	4	4
132	St Audrys Sports & Social Club	1	13	Good	25	25
190	Worlingworth Cricket Club	1	8	Standard	10	2
193	Bungay Cricket Club	1	8	Good	2	2

To fully alleviate overplay at Nacton Sports Ground and St Audrys Sports & Social Club, the best solution would be to install a NTP in situ as this would allow for the transfer of junior demand away from the grass wickets. Neither site is currently serviced by such provision.



## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

In relation to St Audrys Sports & Social Club specifically, overplay is particularly high and will also significantly worse if future demand aspirations are realised. As such, plans for a second square to be provided may warrant support, unless existing, unused provision is suitable. An alternative approach could be to utilise squares at Kingston Playing Field and Sudbourne Hall, both of which share the same analysis area (Area 8) and both of which have current spare capacity.

NTPs are already provided at Bungay Cricket Club and Worlingworth Cricket Club; however, the strip at Bungay Cricket Club is only said to be used regularly by two teams for matches, whereas the strip at Worlingworth Cricket Club is unused for competitive play. As such, increasing usage at both sites should be pursued.

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

### *Accommodating future demand*

Future demand is expressed by eight clubs and whilst overall spare capacity of cricket squares in East Suffolk suggests that this could be accommodated, the club-based nature of the sport means that it needs to be explored on a club-by-club basis rather than generally. This is therefore studied in the following table.

*Table 4.17: Accommodating future demand*

Club	Future demand			Comments
	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior	
Beccles Town CC	-	1	-	Site is overplayed but NTP could accommodate demand
Blundeston & Somerleyton CC	1	1	1	Spare capacity exists in the peak period for all formats of play so demand can be accommodated
Bungay CC	-	-	1	Site is overplayed but NTP can could accommodate demand
Melton Achilles Youth CC	-	-	2	Site is overplayed so demand cannot be accommodated
Melton St Audry's CC	1	-	-	Site is overplayed so demand cannot be accommodated
Saxmundham Sports CC	-	-	1	Spare capacity exists midweek so demand can be accommodated
Southwold CC	1	1	2	Spare capacity exists in the peak period for all formats of play so demand can be accommodated
Thorpeness CC	1	1	1	Spare capacity exists in the peak period for all formats of play so demand can be accommodated
Yoxford CC	-	-	1	Site is at capacity but NTP can could accommodate demand

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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Through utilising spare capacity or via the presence of already installed NTPs, future demand expressed by seven of the nine clubs could be accommodated through the clubs using their existing venues. The only clubs this is not the case for are Melton Achilles Youth CC and Melton St Audry's CC, both of which use St Audrys Sports & Social Club, which is already substantially overlapped and without an NTP.

The future demand for two additional junior teams expressed by Melton Achilles Youth CC could potentially be accommodated if an NTP was installed, although with a significant number of junior teams already requiring access, overall capacity may become problematic. For the additional senior team wanted by Melton St Audry's CC, no actual spare capacity is considered to exist on either a Saturday or a Sunday, meaning it could not feasibly be hosted at the site. As such, access to a secondary venue may be required.

### *Unused squares*

Six community available squares are currently identified as being unused. These are located at:

- ◀ Lowestoft & Yarmouth Rugby Club
- ◀ Matlesham Heath Green
- ◀ Middleton-cum-Fordley Recreation Ground
- ◀ Normanston Park (x2)
- ◀ Ringsfield Playing Field

Whilst these sites should not be lost as designated playing field land due to overall playing pitch shortfalls, there is a case that not all of the provision is currently required for cricket given that the majority of demand is currently being adequately provided for. As such, on a case-by-case basis and informed through discussions with the ECB and Suffolk Cricket, consideration could be given to re-purposing some sites if the demand exists (e.g. for football or rugby union). That being said, it is imperative that the cricket partners confirm that the sites are surplus to requirements before any development, and that the land can be brought back into use for cricket if the need arises in the future. This is particularly important as clubs continue to grow women's and girls' demand as well as junior demand.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares.
- ◀ Work with clubs and grounds staff to review quality issues on squares to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Address overplay via quality improvements and the installation of NTPs as well as through greater utilisation of the NTPs already in place.
- ◀ Ensure clubs can realise future growth plans and continue to monitor increases in demand to ensure additional teams can be fielded.
- ◀ Pursue improved security of tenure, particularly for Blundeston & Somerleyton, BT Wadringfield and Yoxford cricket clubs.
- ◀ Improve the ancillary facilities, particularly those servicing Blundeston & Somerleyton, BT Wadringfield and Lowestoft Town cricket clubs given current issues and development plans.
- ◀ Consider options to increase and improve stock of suitable practice facilities, first and foremost focusing on Blundeston & Somerleyton, BT Wadringfield, Melton St Audry's, Nacton, Saxmundham Sports and Yoxford cricket clubs.

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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- ◀ Consider re-purposing some of the unused squares by means of reducing other playing pitch shortfalls, subject to confirmation from the ECB and Suffolk Cricket that they are surplus to requirements, providing the provision can be brought back into use for cricket if the need ever arises.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning (i.e. via a sports needs assessment/feasibility study/assessment of need) on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, ensure that any proposals for new squares will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing cricket sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).

### **Rugby union - grass pitches**

#### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ Overall, there is a current shortfall of 27 match equivalent sessions on rugby union pitches, with only Area 1 and Area 5 having no capacity issues.
- ◀ When considering future demand, the shortfall increases to 37 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ The largest shortfalls are noted in Area 2 and Area 7, both of which have a current deficit of 7.5 match equivalent sessions and a future deficit of 9.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ Actual spare capacity is evident on only four pitches in the District and amounts to four match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There are 13 pitches across seven sites that are overplayed by a total of 31 match equivalent sessions per week.

#### ***Supply summary***

- ◀ There are 48 rugby union pitches in East Suffolk across 27 sites, which broken down equates to 40 senior and eight junior pitches.
- ◀ Of the pitches, 38 are available for community use across 21 sites.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches, 11 are assessed as good quality, 19 are assessed as standard and eight are assessed as poor.
- ◀ Lowestoft & Yarmouth, Aldeburgh, Southwold, Felixstowe, Ipswich and Woodbridge rugby clubs all express a need for their ancillary provision to be improved/enhanced.
- ◀ Lowestoft & Yarmouth RUFC aspires to relocate its demand and is hoping to lodge a planning application in 2022 to enable this, with its existing site allocated for housing.
- ◀ A planning application has been submitted at Halesworth Campus Sports Complex that proposes the loss of a grassed area that is used by Southwold RUFC.
- ◀ With cricket provision that previously shared Coronation Sports Ground relocating to the former Deben High School site, space has been freed up for rugby and will allow the Felixstowe RUFC to re-configure the pitches and provide floodlighting.
- ◀ Woodbridge RUFC has recently secured additional land that it is looking to develop for its mini demand and wheelchair rugby.
- ◀ The only club considered to have unsecure tenure is Southwold RUFC as its lease of Southwold Common has expired, although the Club reports that discussions are ongoing regarding a long-term extension.

# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## Demand summary

- There are eight rugby union clubs based in East Suffolk providing a total of 102 teams, which when broken down equates to 22 senior, 38 junior and 42 mini teams.
- Beccles, Lowestoft & Yarmouth, Woodbridge, Ipswich YM and Ipswich rugby clubs all train on match pitches that are accompanied by floodlighting, whilst Aldeburgh RUFC and Felixstowe RUFC also use pitches via portable lighting.
- Both Aldeburgh RUFC and Felixstowe RUFC are exploring the installation of permanent floodlighting to better accommodate training demand, whereas Ipswich RUFC and Lowestoft & Yarmouth RUFC report that they need additional floodlights due to existing capacity issues.
- No future demand is predicted via population growth, whilst six of the clubs have growth aspirations amounting to a potential increase of six senior and 14 junior teams.

## Scenarios

### Improving pitch quality

Improving pitch quality through maximising maintenance and the type of drainage system installed would alleviate overplay on seven of the 13 pitches that are currently overplayed, as shown in the table below.

Table 4.18: Capacity of overplayed pitches if quality improved to good (M2/D3)

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	Current quality	Current Capacity rating <sup>8</sup>	M2/D3 capacity rating <sup>9</sup>
13	Beef Meadow	Senior	M0/D0	5.5	2.5
		Senior	M0/D0	2	1
34	Coronation Sports Ground	Senior	M1/D1	0.5	1
		Senior	M1/D1	2	0.5
87	Lowestoft & Yarmouth Rugby Club	Senior	M1/D0	5.5	3.5
		Senior	M1/D0	1	1
		Senior	M1/D0	1	1
128	Southwold Common	Senior	M1/D1	1	0.5
		Senior	M1/D1	0.5	1
161	Woodbridge Rugby Club	Senior	M2/D1	4.5	4
167	YM Sports Ground	Senior	M2/D1	0.5	0
		Senior	M2/D1	2	1.5
184	Humber Doucy Lane	Senior	M2/D1	5	4.5

The above would reduce the current overall shortfall of rugby union pitches in East Suffolk from 27 match equivalent sessions to 12.5 match equivalent sessions and the future shortfall from 37 match equivalent sessions to 22.5 match equivalent sessions.

<sup>8</sup> Match equivalent sessions

<sup>9</sup> Match equivalent sessions

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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### *Increasing access to floodlit training provision (grass pitches)*

Of the pitches that would remain overplayed despite quality improvements, six of them are currently floodlit and used for training activity (only the pitch at Coronation Sports Ground would remain overplayed without floodlighting). As such, providing additional floodlighting would help reduce overplay as training demand could be dispersed, although this is dependent on the level of spare capacity provided on the existing non-floodlit provision.

Overplay at Humber Doucy Lane could be fully alleviated through the installation of additional floodlighting. Nine match equivalent sessions of training demand currently take place across two floodlit pitches at the site, with current quality providing three match equivalent sessions of capacity per pitch. This means that establishing floodlighting on one additional pitch could accommodate existing training demand without any overplay being present, although no capacity would exist for the pitches to also host matches (unless quality improvements also took place).

At YM Sports Ground, all demand could feasibly be accommodated if all three pitches were M2/D3 and floodlit, with 10.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity able to be created to accommodate 10.5 match equivalent sessions of current demand. However, this would leave no room for growth, despite future demand being expressed. Based on current quality (M2/D1), a shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions would be evident.

At Beef Meadow, both pitches are currently overplayed and whilst the non-floodlit pitch would not have overplay if quality was maximised, the level of spare capacity is not sufficient to accommodate enough demand from the existing floodlit pitch without a shortfall remaining. Both pitches combined could provide seven match equivalent sessions of capacity, with 8.5 match equivalent sessions of demand currently taking place.

Similarly, overplay would remain at Lowestoft & Yarmouth Rugby Club, even if all three pitches were floodlit. Maximising quality would provide 10.5 match equivalent sessions of capacity, with 12.5 match equivalent sessions of demand existing. The same also applies at Woodbridge Rugby Club, with its three pitches needing to accommodate 13 match equivalent sessions of demand.

### *World Rugby compliant 3G pitches*

Given the substantial shortfalls identified for grass rugby union pitches and given that significant overplay would remain even if quality was maximised and additional floodlighting was established, evidence exists to support the creation of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches.

Given that it is unrealistic to provide each club with their own 3G pitch, a central location (or locations) should be considered that can service multiple clubs. For this, a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch could be developed at a rugby specific site (i.e. a club site) or via a partnership approach with the FA at multi-sport sites.

### *Increasing pitch stock*

If the creation of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches is not feasible or not able to cater for all clubs with shortfalls, additional pitches may be required. This is particularly the case for those that would still have overplayed pitches even if quality enhancements took place and additional floodlighting was installed.

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Options for this include creating new provision, re-purposing provision that currently provides for an alternative sport but that is not needed, or securing access to school sites with significant pitch stock.

### *Lowestoft & Yarmouth RUFC*

Lowestoft & Yarmouth RUFC aspires to relocate its demand and is hoping to submit a planning application in 2022 to enable this, with its existing site allocated for housing. To ensure that any potential move adequately provides for the Club, it is imperative that its current and future demand is taken into account, as explored in the following table.

*Table 4.19: Lowestoft & Yarmouth RUFC's demand (match equivalent sessions)*

Current match play demand	Current training demand	Future match play demand	Future training demand	Overall
6	6	2	2	16

To provide for this level of demand without any resultant shortfalls, five good quality pitches are required at a minimum quality of M2/D2 (16.5 match equivalent sessions). In addition, to accommodate training demand, at least three of these will need to be floodlit.

Alternatively, a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch could be provided. With this able to accommodate all training demand in addition to some match play demand, it will reduce the number of grass pitches required to three and will lessen the quality requirements (three pitches at M2/D1 or M1/D3 could accommodate the identified match play demand).

In addition to its pitch requirements, it is imperative that the Club is provided with adequate ancillary facilities as part of any relocation, with particular consideration given to its women's and girls' demand and its aspirations for increased income generation.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches and areas used for rugby union activity.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at all sites used by clubs through improved maintenance and/or the installation of drainage systems, particularly at sites containing overplayed pitches.
- ◀ Explore the installation of additional floodlighting at sites that are overplayed as a result of training demand on grass pitches.
- ◀ Explore the installation of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches as a resolution for clubs that would still have grass pitch shortfalls even if quality and floodlighting was maximised.
- ◀ Explore options to increase the pitch stock available to clubs with significant pitch shortfalls.
- ◀ Ensure Lowestoft & Yarmouth RUFC is adequately provided for if its relocation goes ahead, with at least five grass pitches (three floodlit) or a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch and three grass pitches required.
- ◀ Ensure Southwold RUFC's training needs continue to be adequately accommodated in light of proposals at Halesworth Campus Sports Complex.
- ◀ Pursue improved security of tenure for Southwold RUFC via an extension to its lease from Southwold Common Trust.
- ◀ Support all clubs with their aspirations to improve their ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.



## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

### **Hockey pitches (sand/water-based AGPs)**

#### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ As seven community available full size pitches are currently in use by hockey clubs, these require protection (or replacement) as each is serving a specific purpose.
- ◀ Quality should be sustained or improved across the sites to ensure that they remain useable for the long-term future, whilst security of tenure issues also need to be addressed in relation to East Coast HC and Framlingham HC.
- ◀ There may also be a requirement to find a solution to the exported demand expressed by Beccles HC given its aspiration to relocate to East Suffolk.

#### ***Supply summary***

- ◀ The audit identifies 10 full size hockey suitable AGPs in East Suffolk, nine of which are available for community use (the pitch at Rock Barracks is not).
- ◀ Eight of the pitches are floodlit (one of the pitches at Ipswich School Sports Centre is not).
- ◀ There are also four smaller sized pitches provided; three of these are available to the community and two are floodlit.
- ◀ East Coast HC is without security of tenure at East Point Academy, as is Framlingham HC at Framlingham College.
- ◀ Of the full size pitches, four are assessed as good quality, three pitches are standard quality and two as poor quality (access could not be gained to Rock Barracks).
- ◀ The pitch at Felixstowe School and the older pitch at Framlingham College are assessed as poor as both are beyond their recommended lifespan and signs of wear and tear on the surface are prevalent.
- ◀ Floodlighting is also of concern at Felixstowe School, with the current provision considered to be unsafe.
- ◀ Whilst the pitch at East Point Academy is assessed as standard quality, it too has exceeded its recommended lifespan.
- ◀ Felixstowe HC has issues in relation to the ancillary facilities at Felixstowe School, where access has recently been denied.

#### ***Demand summary***

- ◀ The four hockey clubs in East Suffolk consist of 30 teams, which as a breakdown consists of ten senior men's, 12 senior women's and 14 junior teams as well as six other team varieties.
- ◀ East Coast HC has an aspiration to develop its own facility and has built up a small fund to contribute towards this; it is aware of wider plans around Oakes Farm and is interested in potentially being part of the development.
- ◀ Beccles HC was previously based in Beccles until 2006 but had to relocate when league stipulations meant that an AGP had to be accessed; it now plays at Langley School in South Norfolk but states that this was detrimental to its demand.
- ◀ All five hockey clubs have plans to increase their membership, with growth across the clubs equating to three senior men's and six senior women's teams.
- ◀ No EH initiatives are currently identified as taking place in East Suffolk, although Ipswich East Suffolk HC reports an intention to develop its informal programme moving forward.

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### **Scenarios**

#### *Protecting sand-based AGPs*

All seven AGPs currently in use for hockey should be protected as hockey suitable unless replacement provision is provided within the locality and agreed with England Hockey. This is because it is considered unfeasible for demand to be amalgamated onto fewer pitches given the nature of East Suffolk and long drive-time distances between provision. For clarity, this means that the pitches at the following sites require protection:

- ◀ East Point Academy
- ◀ Felixstowe School
- ◀ Framlingham College (x2)
- ◀ Ipswich School Sports Centre (x3)

In addition, the pitch at Woodbridge School should also be protected due to the good quality surface and its age, as well as due to interest in access from Ipswich East Suffolk HC.

Pitches at Orwell Park School and Rock Barracks could potentially be considered for 3G conversion; however, neither of these are currently identified as being of interest to football. Furthermore, the pitch at Rock Barracks is not suitable due to a lack of community use.

#### *Accommodating future demand*

All four hockey clubs currently playing in East Suffolk express plans to increase their membership. East Coast, Framlingham and Ipswich East Suffolk hockey clubs all identify that these increases could be accommodated at sites currently in use, with only Felixstowe HC suggesting that it may be problematic. It has ambitions to field a fourth senior women's team but notes that this will not be possible at Felixstowe School unless the League arranges fixtures to account for overall demand.

Ipswich East Suffolk HC reports that it may look to utilise the pitch at Woodbridge School in the future, particularly as part of its involvement in EH initiatives. Given the recent re-surfacing that has taken place and the resultant quality of the pitch, this should be encouraged as it provides a high level hockey offer.

#### *Exported demand*

Currently, Beccles HC fields a solitary senior women's team playing outside of East Suffolk, at Langley School in South Norfolk. As the Club states that it has a preference to return to the District, potential options should be explored, not only in relation to existing demand but also accounting for aspirations for a second team to be established.

The majority of the Club's membership base is located in Area 2; however, no pitches are provided in the locality. The closest pitch is East Point Academy (circa 10 miles away), which is noted as having sufficient spare capacity for matches but not for training. This is considered to be the only feasible option (unless a new pitch is provided), with all remaining venues considerably further away.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ As a minimum, protect the seven pitches currently in use by hockey clubs as well as the pitch at Woodbridge School.



## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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- ◀ Ensure future demand can be accommodated at venues currently in use, particularly at Felixstowe School given current capacity concerns.
- ◀ Explore options to accommodate exported demand expressed by Beccles HC.
- ◀ Encourage hockey use at Woodbridge School given the quality of the pitch and look to establish a long-term partnership between a club (or clubs) and the School.
- ◀ Resurface the AGPs as hockey suitable at East Point Academy, Felixstowe School and Framlingham College given age, quality issues and hockey usage levels.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have sinking funds in place at all sites to ensure long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Seek a resolution to the ancillary facility issues at Felixstowe School.
- ◀ Pursue long-term security of tenure at all venues used by clubs through community use agreements.
- ◀ Ensure that no 3G pitch conversions take place that are detrimental to hockey and revisit hockey demand if and when a conversion is proposed to ensure that the pitch in question is not required.
- ◀ Ensure any new 3G pitch developments do not make sand-based provision in the locality unsustainable following the transfer of football activity.

### **Tennis courts**

#### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ Precedence should be placed on improving quality to an adequate standard for informal play, particularly at publicly available sites hosting multiple courts.
- ◀ Five clubs have current capacity issues, with these being Woodbridge, Grundisburgh, Snape, Ufford and Southwold & District tennis clubs.
- ◀ When accounting for future demand, a shortfall could also be created at Saxmundham Sports Club based on the growth aspirations of Saxmundham TC.
- ◀ All remaining clubs have spare capacity at the sites that they use, suggesting that there is an overall sufficient number of courts in the District, albeit solutions are required to better accommodate the clubs with capacity issues.

#### ***Supply summary***

- ◀ There is a total of 230 tennis courts identified in East Suffolk across 70 sites, with 163 courts categorised as being available for community use at 51 sites.
- ◀ The majority of courts are operated by schools, although only 36% of these are available for community use.
- ◀ The large majority of courts have a macadam surface, with 177 being of this type, 42 having an artificial surface and the remaining 11 have a grass surface.
- ◀ In total, 108 of the 230 tennis courts are serviced by floodlights, representing 48% of the provision, which is a relatively high amount when compared to other local authorities.
- ◀ Of the courts, 49 are assessed as good quality, 120 as standard quality and 61 as poor quality.
- ◀ Of particular concern are the poor quality courts at Charsfield Recreation Ground, Denes Oval, Grundisburgh Playing Field and Wenhaston Recreation Ground as these are all in regular use by clubs.
- ◀ A number of clubs rate the quality of their clubhouse and/or changing rooms as being poor quality, with this applying to Aldeburgh, Saxmundham, Southwold & District, Ufford, Wenhaston, Wickham Market and Wrentham tennis clubs.

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## Demand summary

- ◀ There are 25 tennis clubs in East Suffolk; at the 16 clubs where membership is known, there are 1,928 members (1,307 senior and 681 junior) and the average membership is 120.5.
- ◀ Seven clubs report that senior membership has increased over recent years whilst eight report that junior membership has increased; only four clubs report decreases.
- ◀ A total of 11 clubs report future growth aspirations, with total future demand amounting to 380 potential additional members (200 senior and 180 junior).
- ◀ In addition, Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 4,399 people within East Suffolk.
- ◀ Away from clubs, it is considered that all local authority courts available for community use in East Suffolk have spare capacity for a growth in demand, although this is difficult to quantify as use is not recorded due to the open access nature of many sites.
- ◀ The LTA has developed a package of support for local authorities and clubs to grow the use of tennis courts, in turn making them more sustainable and financially viable.
- ◀ Out of the education providers, only Ipswich School Sports Centre reports any regular demand from the community for tennis.

## Scenarios

### Accommodating current and future demand

The LTA suggests that a non-floodlit court can accommodate a maximum of 40 members, whereas a floodlit court can accommodate 60 members. Based on this, five clubs could have current capacity issues, with these being Woodbridge TC at Kingston Playing Field, Grundisburgh TC at Grundisburgh Playing Fields, Snape TC at Snape Sports Field, Ufford TC at Ufford Recreation Ground and Southwold & District TC at the Club's own site. That being said, the capacity figures are just provided as a guide and in reality, many clubs operating above the limits will not see it as an issue and will still be able to function without a problem.

Of the clubs operating above the capacity guidance, two are without floodlighting; Grundisburgh TC and Snape TC. As such, providing floodlighting at Grundisburgh Playing Field and Snape Sports Field would reduce shortfalls and would in fact fully eradicate it at Snape Sports Field.

Table 4.20: Impact of providing floodlighting at sites with capacity issues

Site ID	Site name	No. of courts	Floodlit?	Current Capacity rating (members)	Capacity rating with floodlit courts (members)
56	Grundisburgh Playing Field	3	No	75	15
78	Kingston Playing Field	6	Yes	191	191
126	Snape Sports Field	1	No	13	7
150	Ufford Recreation Ground	1	Yes	6	6
179	Southwold & District Tennis Club	3	Yes	12	12

For the clubs with remaining shortfalls, the only way to alleviate capacity issues is to provide them with access to additional provision. To that end, the following table explores the number of courts that could be required for each club.

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Table 4.21: Additional provision required to satisfy current demand

Club name	Current capacity rating (members)	No. of additional courts required
Grundisburgh TC	75	One additional court if existing provision is floodlit or, if this is not possible, two courts, with or without floodlighting
Woodbridge TC	191	Five non-floodlit courts or four courts with at least two floodlit
Snape TC	13	No additional provision required if existing provision is floodlit or, if this is not possible, one additional court, with or without floodlighting
Ufford TC	6	One additional court, with or without floodlights
Southwold & District TC	12	One additional court, with or without floodlights

When accounting for future demand expressed by the clubs, the capacity issues are projected to worsen at Grundisburgh Playing Fields, Snape Sports Field and Southwold & District Tennis Club. Furthermore, a deficit could be created at Saxmundham Sports Club based on the growth aspirations of Saxmundham TC.

Table 4.22: Additional provision required to satisfy future demand

Club name	Future capacity rating (members)	No. of additional courts required
Grundisburgh TC	100	One additional court if existing provision is floodlit or, if this is not possible, three non-floodlit courts or two courts with at least one floodlit
Woodbridge TC	191	Five non-floodlit courts or four courts with at least two floodlit
Snape TC	33	One additional court, with or without floodlighting
Ufford TC	6	One additional court, with or without floodlights
Southwold & District TC	82	Three non-floodlit courts or two courts with at least one floodlit
Saxmundham TC	43	Two non-floodlit courts or one floodlit court

Where additional courts are required, this does not necessarily mean that new courts need to be established. Instead, enabling access to existing provision at local authority sites or at school sites could be explored.

### *Improving the recreational tennis offer*

Increasing recreational tennis demand is currently a priority for the LTA, with twice as many people playing casually rather than at clubs. To that end, a significant number of sites in East Suffolk currently implement the LTA's Clubspark programme, allowing for users to book courts as part of a streamlined process and enabling usage to be monitored. These are as follows:

- ◀ Alan Hutchinson Field
- ◀ Bungay Town Football Club
- ◀ Framlingham Sports Ground
- ◀ Bawdsey Recreation Ground
- ◀ Denes Oval
- ◀ Felixstowe Lawn Tennis Club

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- ◀ Halesworth Playing Fields
- ◀ Kesgrave Community Centre
- ◀ Saxmundham Sports Club
- ◀ Southwold & District Tennis Club
- ◀ Grundisburgh Playing Field
- ◀ Kingston Playing Field
- ◀ Simon's Cross Playing Field

The LTA suggest that numerous additional sites are likely to be more sustainable if they were part of the programme, especially where existing recreational demand exists. Based on this, the following sites could be considered in the future:

- ◀ Blundeston Village Hall
- ◀ Charsfield Recreation Ground
- ◀ East Point Academy
- ◀ Ipswich School Sports Centre
- ◀ Kensington Gardens
- ◀ Mutford Playing Field
- ◀ Normanston Park
- ◀ Ringsfield Playing Field
- ◀ Somerleyton Playing Field
- ◀ Wenhaston Recreation Ground
- ◀ Brandeston Village Hall
- ◀ Dennington Village Hall
- ◀ Farlingaye High School
- ◀ Kesgrave High School
- ◀ Melton Recreation Ground
- ◀ Nicholas Everitt Park
- ◀ Orford Recreation Ground
- ◀ Snape Sports Field
- ◀ Ufford Recreation Ground
- ◀ Yoxford Village Hall

Focus should particularly be on popular park and recreation sites where investment could improve the tennis offer and help to increase demand. If capital budgets cannot enable this, income generation opportunities linked to utilising the technology provided by the LTA could be pursued, with, for example, grants available to install a Gate Access system.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs or that are well used for recreational demand.
- ◀ Linked to the above, improve park courts as a priority to create year-round recreational tennis options to meet local demand.
- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via utilisation of technology provided by the LTA to support the customer journey and through investment into facilities and accompanying ancillary provision.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Install additional floodlighting at club-based venues, particularly at sites operating above the capacity guidance.
- ◀ Provide additional court space for clubs operating above the capacity guidance, where it is required, potentially via better utilisation of existing provision.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision at club sites, where it is required.
- ◀ Support the development of indoor tennis provision in strategic areas and where aspirations exist e.g. in Lowestoft and Felixstowe.

### **Netball courts**

#### **Supply and demand summary**

- ◀ With eight clubs and numerous leagues servicing the East Suffolk area, there is relatively high demand for netball in East Suffolk and particularly for access to outdoor courts.
- ◀ The quantity of courts does not seem to be a problem, with many unused, but rather the quality of them in addition to accessibility issues.

## EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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- ◀ Priority should therefore be placed on improving the existing stock of courts, with a focus on sites that are already in use for netball or where netball demand would exist if there was a better offer (such as in Lowestoft).
- ◀ Focus should also be placed on supporting the various initiatives that are championed by England Netball and ensuring such programmes have suitable provision from which to be ran from.

### **Supply summary**

- ◀ There is a large supply of outdoor netball courts across East Suffolk, with 101 identified across 47 sites; however, only 46 courts at 19 sites are available for community use.
- ◀ Most outdoor netball courts in East Suffolk are operated by schools, with 86 of the 101 courts falling under this management type.
- ◀ The large majority of outdoor netball courts in East Suffolk have a macadam surface, with 82 being of this type; the remaining 19 courts all have an artificial surface.
- ◀ All but 18 of the courts are over marked by tennis provision.
- ◀ Only 39 of the courts are serviced by floodlighting, with 32 of these being available for community use.
- ◀ Of the courts, 10 are assessed as good quality, 68 as standard quality and 23 as poor quality.

### **Demand summary**

- ◀ Eight netball clubs have been identified as being based in East Suffolk.
- ◀ All eight clubs use outdoor courts for some form of activity, with provision at Ipswich School Sports Centre, Brackenbury Sports Centre, Framlingham College, Framlingham College Prep School and Kesgrave High School accessed.
- ◀ Both Ipswich Ladies Netball Club and Atlas Netball Club export some demand outside of East due to a lack of suitable provision within the District, whilst the Lowestoft Netball League is also exported as it uses a site in Great Yarmouth as a central venue.
- ◀ Beccles Bluebirds Netball Club reports latent demand in that it suggests that it would be able to accommodate more members if it had access to an increased number of better quality courts.
- ◀ Ipswich Ladies, Beccles Bluebirds and Teachers Pets netball clubs all report aspirations to grow their number of members and teams, whereas remaining clubs report that priority is on retaining participation levels.
- ◀ Back to Netball and Walking Netball have been ran in East Suffolk, with additional sessions likely to be held in the future.
- ◀ Netball Now sessions are held at Inspire Suffolk Colville House.

### **Scenarios**

#### *Accommodating current and future demand*

The Lowestoft Netball League currently exports all demand to Lynn Grove Academy, in Great Yarmouth, despite up to 95% of its demand coming from East Suffolk. As such, the League expresses a need return to the District and to enable this reports that it is in discussions with Lowestoft & Yarmouth RUFC in regards to being included within its relocation plans.

With two start times currently utilised and with 14 teams being catered for (seven matches per week), four courts would be required, with floodlighting also imperative to allow for all-year round usage. This would leave some capacity for growth (equating to two teams), although extra start times could be implemented if future demand exceeds this.

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Both Ipswich Ladies Netball Club and Atlas Netball Club also export some demand outside of East Suffolk. For Ipswich Ladies Netball Club, this is in order to meet league requirements and is therefore not considered to be an issue, whilst for Atlas Netball Club it is due to no suitable outdoor courts being available in closer proximity. A solution to this could be to over mark netball courts on the tennis courts at Adastral Park, given that the Club already utilises the site for indoor activity.

All other demand is currently being provided for within East Suffolk, although quality improvements are necessary at some key sites to better cater for activity.

### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs and for England Netball initiatives.
- ◀ Consider establishing additional floodlighting at club-based venues or at venues that could attract netball demand following installation.
- ◀ Explore options to return exported demand expressed by the Lowestoft Netball League and Atlas Netball Club.

### **Bowling greens**

#### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ Three clubs are currently operating above the recommended capacity threshold for a bowling green (Felixstowe BC, Framlingham Castle BC and Woodbridge BC).
- ◀ Five clubs (Leiston Town BC, Mettingham BC, Red Triangle BC, Saxmundham BC and Sutton BC) are operating below the level of membership required to ensure that the greens that they use are sustainable.
- ◀ All remaining clubs are considered to be adequately catered for and sustainable; with no greens being unused (with the exception of disused provision), this means that no provision can be deemed surplus to requirements at this stage.

#### ***Supply summary***

- ◀ There are 48 flat green bowling greens in East Suffolk provided across the same number of sites.
- ◀ In addition, there are disused greens at St Audry's Bowling Club, Corton Bowling Club and Lound Bowling Club.
- ◀ A planning application has been submitted that proposes the loss of the playing field, including the bowling green, at Suffolk Constabulary Ground to enable the creation of a 300-dwelling housing development.
- ◀ Security of tenure concerns exist for Bealings, Easton, Sweffling and Wrentham bowls clubs given the private nature of their sites, whereas Felixstowe & Walton BC also has unsecure tenure as the future of its green is very much down to Felixstowe Conservative Club.
- ◀ Overall, 32 greens are assessed as good quality and 16 are assessed as standard; none are poor quality.
- ◀ Nine clubs report that quality has improved over the last year, whilst only four clubs report worsening quality.
- ◀ Otley BC and Sweffling BC are serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities, whereas Bredfield, Brampton & District, Martlesham, Red Triangle and Saxmundham bowls clubs all report an intention to improve their provision.



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### ***Demand summary***

- ◀ There are 48 clubs using bowling greens in East Suffolk; where membership is known, across 25 clubs, there are 677 senior male, 233 senior female and four junior members.
- ◀ The average membership across the clubs is 37.
- ◀ Only 13 of the 48 clubs are affiliated to Bowls England, with the remaining 25 being unaffiliated.
- ◀ In correlation to a national trend of declining membership, 12 clubs report a reduction in participation over recent years, whereas none report an increase.
- ◀ Due to a predicted increase in persons aged 65 and over (to 2036), demand is likely to increase for greens over the coming years.
- ◀ A total of 23 clubs express future demand, equating to potential growth of 172 senior members and 60 junior members.
- ◀ All clubs report that existing membership can be accommodated on the current level of provision and that no potential members are being turned away; however, Felixstowe BC indicates that it requires an additional green to enable it to increase its demand.

### ***Scenarios***

#### *Accommodating current and future demand*

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

- ◀ Felixstowe BC (at Felixstowe Bowls Club)
- ◀ Framlingham Castle BC (at Framlingham Castle)
- ◀ Woodbridge BC (at Woodbridge Bowls Club)

Of these, only Felixstowe BC reports any capacity issues, with the Club expressing an aspiration for a second green to be established. This may therefore require support as all other provision in the locality is already in use, meaning a transfer of demand is not possible.

#### *Club sustainability*

Bowls England suggests that clubs operating with a membership of below 20 could be unsustainable. In East Suffolk, this relates to the following five clubs:

- ◀ Leiston Town BC (at LTAA Sports Ground)
- ◀ Mettingham BC (at Mettingham Bowls Club)
- ◀ Red Triangle BC (at Red Triangle Bowls Club)
- ◀ Saxmundham BC (at Saxmundham Sports Club)
- ◀ Sutton BC (at Sutton Recreation Ground)

Concerns would be alleviated for Leiston Town, Red Triangle, Saxmundham and Sutton bowls clubs if their future demand aspirations were fulfilled, with support therefore required to enable such growth. Mettingham BC does not report any future demand but also does not report any concerns in relation to its long-term future, suggesting that the Club remains viable despite its low membership base.

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For some authorities, an amalgamation of clubs can often be a solution when numerous clubs are struggling for membership within a locality. However, this is not considered to be a workable solution in East Suffolk given the large size of the District and the rural nature of parts of it. Many of the smaller clubs are servicing small villages, with no alternative existing for users if clubs were to be lost and travel times being too long to support any mergers.

### *Disused provision*

Three disused bowling greens are identified in East Suffolk: Corton Bowling Club, Lound Bowling Club and St Audry's Bowling Club.

No demand has been identified for these to be brought back into use, although the history of the clubs that previously accessed the provision has not been able to be determined. As such, a separate needs assessment may be required if and when any proposals come forward for development. If no demand is identified, any mitigation should be directed towards appropriate enhancements to other facilities, whereas replacement provision will be required if demand does exist.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of greens that are in use.
- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Seek to improve ancillary facility quality where it is necessary.
- ◀ Improve security of tenure for Bealings, Easton, Felixstowe & Walton, Sweffling and Wrentham bowls clubs.
- ◀ Support plans for a second green to be established at Felixstowe Bowls Club given existing capacity issues.
- ◀ Support Framlingham Castle BC and Woodbridge BC to ensure demand continues to be met, given high levels of membership.
- ◀ Ensure greens at LTAA Sports Ground, Mettingham Bowls Club, Red Triangle Bowls Club, Saxmundham Sports Club and Sutton Recreation Ground remain sustainable and support club users to increase membership.
- ◀ Mitigate any permanent loss of greens at disused sites through replacement provision or through appropriate enhancements to other facilities.

### **Pétanque terrains**

#### **Supply and demand summary**

- ◀ The existing supply in East Suffolk is considered sufficient to meet demand.
- ◀ Nevertheless, something that could be explored is the creation of suitable provision at more secure venues, such as at council sites and at sport clubs.

#### **Supply summary**

- ◀ Across East Suffolk, pétanque is identified as being played at 21 different venues.
- ◀ The terrain at Brackenbury Sports Centre is set to be lost as part of wider plans to develop the site for housing and a new Felixstowe Leisure Centre developed.
- ◀ Three new terrains are to be developed along the Felixstowe Sea Front, with the provision set to be in place before the end of 2021.
- ◀ As most of the pétanque terrains are provided at public houses, security of tenure is an issue for many users.



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- ◀ The nature of the sport means that surface quality is not considered overly important when compared to similar sports such as bowls, with balls being thrown towards the jack, rather than rolled.

### ***Demand summary***

- ◀ The Suffolk Coastal Pétanque Alliance runs both a Summer League and a Winter League for pétanque teams as well as an annual Singles League.
- ◀ Of the 29 teams competing in the 2020 Winter League, 23 are based in East Suffolk.
- ◀ Each site is in use by at least one team, whilst seven venues are in use by multiple teams.
- ◀ The Suffolk Coastal Pétanque Alliance does not have a capacity within its league structures, with any future growth just resulting in more divisions being created.

### ***Scenarios***

N/A

### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Protect existing provision.
- ◀ Ensure provision is provided at Felixstowe Sea Front to a good quality and seek to maximise usage.
- ◀ Explore options to provide more secure provision, e.g. at local authority sites rather than there being a reliance on private facilities.

### ***Croquet lawns***

#### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ Thorpeness Croquet Club is adequately provided for via the lawn at Ogilvie Pavilion Sports Ground; however, demand should be monitored, given the infancy of the Club.
- ◀ Supply is also sufficient to meet demand from Ipswich Croquet Club and this is likely to remain the case for the foreseeable future given how established the Club is.
- ◀ Demand should be further explored in other areas of East Suffolk to better understand if there is a need for any additional provision to be established elsewhere.

#### ***Supply summary***

- ◀ Two croquet lawns are provided at Fynn Valley Golf Club (Area 6) for Ipswich Croquet Club, whilst one is provided at Ogilvie Pavilion Sports Ground (Area 1 for Thorpeness Croquet Club).
- ◀ All three lawns are assessed as good quality, with the respective club users reporting that they are well maintained.
- ◀ Both Ipswich Croquet Club and Thorpeness Croquet Club have their own clubhouses, with the latter reporting that improvements are planned.
- ◀ Ipswich Croquet Club is planning to relocate its demand to Trinity Park, where two lawns are also provided following previous bowls use.

#### ***Demand summary***

- ◀ There are two croquet clubs based in East Suffolk; Ipswich Croquet Club and Thorpeness Croquet Club.

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- ◀ Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, Thorpeness Croquet Club catered for 28 playing members before suspending subscriptions when play was no longer allowed, whilst Ipswich Croquet Club has 46 members.
- ◀ Ipswich Croquet Club was previously based in Ipswich and considers itself to be an Ipswich-based club, although it is satisfied in East Suffolk.
- ◀ Neither club report latent or unmet demand; however, given its location and the size of East Suffolk, it is reasonable to assume that some potential demand is not being catered for, particularly in central and northern parts of the District.

### **Scenarios**

N/A

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing provision.
- ◀ Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.
- ◀ Support Thorpeness Croquet Club in its aspirations to improve its clubhouse at Ogilvie Pavilion Sports Ground.
- ◀ Support Ipswich Croquet Club in its plans to relocate to Trinity Park and ensure that the Club remains adequately provided for following this.
- ◀ Further explore croquet demand in other areas of East Suffolk to determine if any additional provision is required.

### **Athletics facilities**

#### **Supply and demand summary**

- ◀ There is high demand for athletics and particularly running in East Suffolk; priority should therefore be placed on continuing to support activity, with a focus on retaining and increasing participation.
- ◀ Opportunities should also be explored to establish purpose-built facilities, linked to England Athletics' current priorities, such as through the development of floodlit mini tracks and/or endurance loops at multi-sport sites.

#### **Supply summary**

- ◀ There are no purpose-built athletics track provided in East Suffolk, with the nearest facilities being located in Ipswich at Northgate Sports Centre and in Great Yarmouth at Wellesley Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Numerous trim trails are provided across the District to support running activity, such as at Ufford Park in Woodbridge, Martlesham Heath in Martlesham and Buregate Road in Felixstowe.

#### **Demand summary**

- ◀ Nine clubs have been identified that have a focus on athletics and/or running activity.
- ◀ The clubs vary in size, with the likes of Waveney Valley Athletics Club and Beccles & Bungay Harriers Athletics Club catering for a high number of members.
- ◀ Many of the clubs also organise annual running events, such as the Framlingham 10km, the Saxon 5-mile and the Coastal 10-mile.
- ◀ Five different Park Run events are held weekly across East Suffolk, with an average of 198.9 runners taking part, whilst an additional event is proposed at Rendlesham Forest.

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- ◀ Whilst no data is available in relation to take up of the Couch to 5k initiative in East Suffolk, anecdotal evidence suggests that it is popular and also growing in popularity.
- ◀ There are currently no Run Together groups in East Suffolk, with Rushmere Community Runners providing the nearest service, in Ipswich.
- ◀ Demand for club-based activity and the various initiatives is likely to increase in the future, although to what extent is difficult to quantify.

### **Scenarios**

N/A

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Explore opportunities to establish purpose-built facilities, linked to England Athletics current priorities, where demand is particularly high.
- ◀ Support clubs, running groups, events and England Athletics initiatives such as Park Run and pursue increased participation, where possible.
- ◀ Ensure all clubs/groups continue to have home bases to operate from and pursue improved security of tenure where it is required.

### **Golf courses**

#### **Supply and demand summary**

- ◀ East Suffolk is currently well provided for in relation to golf provision, with a large quantity and a variety of facilities provided.
- ◀ Aligned with the above, demand for golf provision in East Suffolk is also reasonably high, with membership numbers generally strong against the national average.
- ◀ There is likely to be a need for facilities to be retained as each site will cater for a specific type of demand and market that cannot necessarily be accommodated elsewhere in the locality.

#### **Supply summary**

- ◀ There are currently 20 golf sites in East Suffolk.
- ◀ Two additional golfing venues were also previously provided, known as Dip Farm Golf Course and High Lodge Darsham Golf Course; however, these closed in 2018 and 2021, respectively.
- ◀ All 20 current golf sites provide at least one standard hole course, with a total of 13 18-hole and 12 9-hole courses supplied.
- ◀ The course at Kingfishers at Cretingham has recently been reduced from 18 holes to nine holes following a change in ownership, whilst the course at Waldringfield Golf Club is presently undergoing a major redevelopment.
- ◀ Only two sites provide a Par 3 course, with these found at Fynn Valley Golf Club and Rookery Park Golf Club in addition to their standard hole courses; both encompass nine holes.
- ◀ There are 111 driving range bays provided across seven of the venues, with six of these available for the general public to use on a pay and play basis (the facility at Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club is generally reserved for members and green fee users).
- ◀ There are no municipal courses following the closure of Dip Farm Golf Course, with the remaining sites equally split between members clubs and proprietary facilities.
- ◀ Provision at Framlingham College and Orwell Park School operates significantly differently to the remaining provision, with both being school sites and inaccessible to the wider public.

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- ◀ The average cost of membership is lower than the national average suggesting an overall cheaper price point than the national rate, although costs are higher at Woodbridge, Thorpeness and Ipswich golf clubs as these are high end facilities.
- ◀ Green fees are available at 17 of the sites, with costs ranging significantly from as little as £5 at Beccles Golf Club to up to £125 at Aldeburgh Golf Club.
- ◀ In terms of quality, it is relatively good across the District with no significant issues identified and with nearly all sites having dedicated green keeping staff which provide maintenance regimes that operate all-year round.
- ◀ Ancillary facilities are also for the most part good, with Fynn Valley Golf Club and Kingfishers at Cretingham in particular well provided for having had new clubhouses built in 2018 and 2019, respectively.
- ◀ Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club has planning permission to develop a new clubhouse, with building work expected to start soon.

### ***Demand summary***

- ◀ Overall demand across East Suffolk is seemingly high, with 6,256 members attached to the clubs; however, this means that the average membership (417 members per facility) is actually below the national average (484 members).
- ◀ Membership is above the national average at six sites which are all generally at the higher end of the golfing market within the District.
- ◀ Against a national trend of increasing membership, overall membership in East Suffolk has marginally declined over recent years, with 6,353 members attached to the clubs in 2015 compared to 6,256 currently.
- ◀ Seven clubs have increased their membership since 2015 compared to nine that have seen a reduction.
- ◀ England Golf has an aim to increase membership of clubs nationally by 1.07%, which would represent an increase of 67 members in East Suffolk.
- ◀ England Golf's mapping tool identifies a significant amount of potential demand, with Priory Park Golf Course and Ipswich Golf Club shown to have a particularly high population base.

### ***Scenarios***

N/A

### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Retain all existing golf provision unless separate needs assessments are completed that evidence that a facility can be lost or reduced without it impacting upon demand.
- ◀ Sustain course and ancillary facility quality and seek improvements where necessary.
- ◀ Support clubs in membership retention and potential growth and encourage clubs and providers to work more collaboratively in terms of creating pathways for players.
- ◀ Continue to retain Dip Farm Golf Course as public open space and ensure it can be brought back into use should the need ever arise (unless evidence is provided to support permanent loss).
- ◀ Further explore plans at High Lodge Darsham Golf Course and ensure any proposals are supported by England Golf and Sport England.

## PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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

### OBJECTIVE 1

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

#### Recommendations:

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

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

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.

In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on developments impacting on playing field provision (and accompanying ancillary provision) and it will object to proposals unless at least one of its five policy exceptions is met. The exceptions are:

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

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- ◀ reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain their quality;
- ◀ result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site; or
- ◀ prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site.
- ◀ **Exception 4:** Replacement provision of equivalent or better quality and quantity - the area of playing field to be lost as a result of the proposed development will be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new area of playing field:
  - ◀ of equivalent or better quality, and
  - ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity, and
  - ◀ in a suitable location, and
  - ◀ subject to equivalent or better accessibility and management arrangements.
- ◀ **Exception 5:** New sports provision benefit outweighs the loss of the playing field - the proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice to the use, of the area of playing field.

Based on the above, the PPOSS shows that, due to identified shortfalls, all existing playing field and outdoor sports sites cannot be deemed surplus to requirements and therefore require protection. This includes lapsed, disused, unused and poor quality sites as there is a potential requirement for this provision to meet the evidenced shortfalls.

Should provision be taken out of use for any reason (e.g. council budget restraints), it is imperative that the land is retained so that the facilities can be brought back into use in the future. This means that land containing provision should not be altered (except to improve play) and should remain free from tree cover and permanent built structures, unless the current picture changes to the extent that the site in question is no longer needed (subject to being informed by a review of the PPOSS), or unless replacement provision is provided to an equal or greater quantity and quality (Exception 4).

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

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

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

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



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

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

All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)<sup>10</sup>. They should also be encouraged to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies and local businesses.

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

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

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

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

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



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The Council could also establish a series of core outcomes to derive from clubs taking on a lease arrangement to ensure that the most appropriate clubs are assigned to sites. For examples, outcomes may include:

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

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

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

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

A large number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the schools and local clubs. It is, however, common for school facility stock not to be fully maximised for community use, even on established community use sites. For example, many schools offer their playing fields for lettings but do not allow for use of their tennis/netball courts.

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

As a priority, community use options should be explored at large schools offering substantial sporting provision. Securing access to these sites will significantly reduce shortfalls throughout the analysis areas that they are based within.

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

Where new schools are to be provided, they should be designed to facilitate community access, with opportunities for meeting the community's outdoor sports needs explored at the outset to maximise the impact of the development. An example of this is ensuring the provision of youth 11v11 and/or youth 9v9 grass football pitches, given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students.

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

## **OBJECTIVE 2**

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

### **Recommendations:**

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

### ***Recommendation (d) – Improve quality***

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

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

Where investment is possible, feasibility studies should be undertaken on a site-by-site basis to provide an understanding of what work is required to maximise and sustain quality improvements. This is to avoid investing in improvements that do not markedly improve quality or that do so but in a way that is unsustainable.

### ***Addressing quality issues***

Quality in East Suffolk is variable but generally facilities are assessed as standard quality with the exception of cricket squares and bowling greens, which are mostly assessed as good 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 quality. Ensuring continuance of existing maintenance of good quality provision is also essential.

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

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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 created as part of this study, provided in electronic format).

For the purposes of quality assessments, the Strategy refers to provision 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 facilities with, for example, even surfaces that drain well and are free from vandalism and litter. For rugby, a good pitch is also pipe and/or slit drained. For ancillary facilities, it refers to modern provision with access for disabled people, sufficient provision for referees, juniors/women/girls and appropriate showers, toilets and car parking.

Standard quality refers to pitches that have, for example, an adequate surface and minimal signs of wear and tear. 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. These tend to be dated facilities but facilities that are at least functional.

Poor quality refers to provision with, for example, an inadequate surface that may be uneven and suffer from poor drainage, whilst maintenance is likely to be minimal and basic. In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old, dated interiors. If a poor quality site receives little or no usage, that is not to say that no improvement is needed as 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 provision may be underutilised. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer and therefore key sites should be given priority for improvement. For the majority of sports, no senior league matches can take place without appropriate changing facilities and the same also applies to women's and girls' demand.

To prioritise investment into key sites, it is recommended that the steering group works up a list of criteria, relevant to East Suffolk, to provide a steer on this. It is the responsibility of the whole steering group to agree and to attend regular subsequent update meetings.

### ***Addressing overplay***

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

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

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Table 5.1: Carrying capacity of pitches

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football (grass)	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 <sup>11</sup>	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	0 per season
Hockey	Sand/water based AGP	Four per day	Four per day	N/A

For tennis, capacity is linked to membership, with a floodlit court able to accommodate 60 members and a non-floodlit court able to accommodate 40 members. Similarly, capacity for bowls is said to be around 60 members per green.

For all other non-pitch sports (e.g. golf, netball and athletics) 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. Therefore, where sites are currently identified as being overused, play should 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.

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

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

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

<sup>11</sup> The RFU believes that it is most appropriate to base the calculation of pitch capacity upon an assessment of the drainage system and the maintenance programme afforded to a site.

# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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### ***Increasing maintenance***

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

The FA has a general pitch improvement strategy which has been developed in partnership with the Grounds Management Association (GMA) to develop a grass pitch maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots clubs. The key principles behind the service are to provide clubs with advice and 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 maintain but can also be used to advise on council-maintained sites.

Further to this, the Football Foundation and the FA have recently developed a new pitch maintenance grant fund that allows clubs and sports organisations to apply for funding for maintenance assistance, consumables and/or equipment. Local authorities are currently ineligible applicants through this fund; however, clubs, leagues and or charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure and/or a proforma is in place.

In addition, the FA's Strategy also aims to focus on developing improved maintenance 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 GMA. 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 and 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 GMA.

For tennis and netball, poor quality is often linked to the age of the surface of the courts, with the recommended lifespan generally considered to be 10 years. Sites with surfaces over this age should therefore be prioritised for improvement, especially at club sites or at non-club sites in high demand from the local community. Sinking funds should also be in place to ensure that future resurfacing can take place when required.

3G pitches and AGPs also have a recommended lifespan of 10 years, with the same principles applying.

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

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

## **EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Recommendation (g) –Secure developer contributions**

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

For playing pitches, the Council should use Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator as a tool for determining developer contributions linking to sites within the locality. This uses team generation rates 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). There is an expectation from Sport England that the calculator should be used as a guide by local authorities with a robust PPOSS in place.

The PPOSS should be used to help determine the likely impact of a new development on demand and the capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for improvements to increase capacity of existing provision or if new provision is required.

Where a development is located within access of existing high-quality provision, this does not necessarily mean that there is no need for further provision or improvement to existing provision, as additional demand arising from the development is likely to result in increased usage (which can result in overplay or quality deterioration).

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 this, it is imperative that the PPOSS findings are taken into consideration and that for particularly large developments consultation takes place with the relevant NGBs and Sport England. This is due to the importance of ensuring that the stock of facilities provided is correct to avoid provision becoming unsustainable and underutilised.



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The preference is for multi-pitch and multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities and which consider the potential for AGP development.

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

The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate facilities and subsequent maintenance. Section 106 and/ or Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) contributions could also be used to improve the condition and of provision in order to increase capacity.

Sport England recommends that a number of objectives should be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- ◀ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to specific planning obligations. Where developer contributions are applicable, a Section 106 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, the cost of which is indicated by the Sport England New Development Calculator. NGBs and Sport England can provide further and up to date information on the associated costs.
- ◀ External funding should be sought/secured to achieve maximum benefit from the investment into appropriate playing pitch facility enhancement, alongside other open space provision, 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.

The impact on future demand in relation to housing growth for pitch sports is contained in Part 7 of this Report.

# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

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### OBJECTIVE 3

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

#### Recommendations:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

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

# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## PART 6: ACTION PLAN

The site-by-site action plan seeks to address key issues identified in the preceding Assessment Report and deliver on the sport-by-sport and strategic recommendations outlined above. It provides recommendations for each site based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement. It is separated by analysis area and not only includes existing sites but also proposed sites that may be provided within the lifespan of the PPOSS.

The Council should make it a high priority to work with NGBs and other partners to comprise a priority list of actions based on local priorities, NGB priorities and available funding. As stated in Recommendation (e), to allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of sites and associated facilities.

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

*Table 6.1: Proposed tiered site criteria*

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

# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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

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

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

**Local sites** refer to those sites offering minimal provision or that are of minimal value to the wider community. Primarily they are sites with one pitch or a low number of pitches that service just one or two sports.

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

Alternatively, some local sites may be considered for rationalisation, especially where demand is low and is unlikely to increase. The focus of this rationalisation would be for it to enable the creation of bigger, better quality multi-sport sites, providing Sport England's Playing Field Policy is met as part of this.

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.

### **Management and development**

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

- ◀ Financial viability and sustainability.
- ◀ Security of tenure (funding should not be directed to a site that offers no community use or that does not provide users with a guarantee of long-term access).
- ◀ 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 (e.g. a lease arrangement incorporating multiple clubs and/or multiple sports under an umbrella).
- ◀ 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 strategic sites.
- ◀ Football investment programme/3G pitches development with the Football Foundation and the FA.

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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.

Whilst the Council is considered to be a partner within each action to a lesser or greater extent, it is only referenced where it is considered to be a key stakeholder (e.g. at council operated sites).

### **Priority**

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

The majority of key centres have medium priority actions, whilst low priority actions tend to be attached to single pitch or single sport sites with only local importance but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified for specific users. Whilst low priority, there may be opportunities to action some of the recommendations made against such sites relatively quickly e.g. through S106 or CIL funding.

Many sites will have numerous recommended actions attached to them, especially larger sites catering for multiple sports. It is not unusual for such sites to have a mix of high, medium and low actions as the issues will differ for each sport as will the level of importance attached to them.

### **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).

# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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## *Aim*

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



**EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

**AREA 1 (ALDEBURGH, LEISTON, SAXMUNDHAM & VILLAGES)**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
2	Alde Valley Academy	IP16 4BG	Football	School	Three standard quality adult pitches with actual spare capacity at peak time. One mini 5v5 and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of a standard quality that are played to capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand. Consider pitch re-configuration to better accommodate school demand and to reduce youth pitch shortfalls.	School FA	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
						M			S	L		
			Cricket		A standard quality NTP that is unavailable to the community.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use.	School ECB		L	L	L	
			Rugby union		One standard quality senior pitch with spare capacity that has been discounted due to school usage.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use and retain as community available given local shortfalls.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts that are without floodlighting and that are not available for community use.	As a minimum, maintain quality for continued curricular and extra-curricular use. Explore whether floodlighting the courts is possible and if so, explore community use options with the School.	School LTA		L	L	L	
									M	S	L	
			Netball		Two standard quality, overmarked macadam courts without floodlights.	As a minimum, maintain quality for continued curricular and extra-curricular use. Explore whether floodlighting the courts is possible and if so, explore community use options with the School.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
									M	S	L	
14	Benhall & Sternfield Ex-Serviceman's Club	IP17 1HE	Football	Club	One poor quality adult pitch that is played to capacity.	Improve quality to provide actual spare capacity.	Club FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
76	Kings Field Recreation Ground	IP15 5HY	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch; played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby union		One poor quality senior pitch which is played to capacity by Aldeburgh RUFC. The Club has aspirations to develop the clubhouse and extend the changing rooms so that everything is provided on site, with Aldeburgh Community Centre currently used for some provision. Considered to be an at risk club by the RFU due to low membership numbers.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity and to accommodate any growth. Support the Club to increase its membership to ensure long-term sustainability. Support the Club with its aspirations to improve and extend the clubhouse.	Parish RFU		M	S	L	
									M	S	M	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim	
83	Waterloo Centre	IP16 4HF	Football	Town Council	One youth 9v9 and one youth 11v11 pitch, both of which are standard quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is played to capacity at peak time, whilst the youth 11v11 pitch has actual spare capacity. Identified for grass pitch improvements in the LFFP.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand and create further capacity through pitch quality improvements.	Town Council FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect	
85	Leiston St Margaret's Football Club	IP16 4HZ	Football	Club	One standard quality adult pitch that is played to capacity at peak time. The Club is one promotion short of joining the football pyramid.	Ensure the Club can join and progress through the football pyramid.	Council FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect	
89	LTAA Sports Ground	IP16 4DQ	Football	District Council	Two good quality adult pitches that are played at capacity during peak time. Recent drainage work has led to a big improvements in quality.	Ensure quality is sustained through appropriate maintenance.	Council FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect	
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green.	Sustain quality.			Club Bowls England	L	L		L
			Pétanque		One pétanque terrain used by Leiston and Leiston Engineers.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.			Club Pétanque Alliance	L	L		L
94	Middleton-cum-Fordley Recreation Ground	IP17 3NZ	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect	
			Cricket		One standard quality square with six grass wickets. Currently unused.	Through discussions with the ECB and Suffolk Cricket, determine whether cricket provision is surplus to requirements and, if confirmed, consider re-configuration to meet other sporting needs providing that the cricket provision can be re-established should the need arise.			Parish ECB	L	S		L
100	Ogilvie Pavilion Sports Ground	IP16 4FD	Cricket	Private	One standard quality square with six grass wickets. Used by Thorpeness CC but actual spare capacity remains for both senior and junior cricket.	Improve square quality to better accommodate demand.	ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance	
			Croquet		One good quality lawn used by Thorpeness Croquet Club. The ancillary provision has been identified as standard quality, with improvements planned to modernise the provision in the near future.	Retain for continued croquet use and sustain lawn quality through appropriate maintenance. Support plans to improve the ancillary provision.			Croquet Association	M	S		L
								L		S	M		
112	Saxmundham Primary School	IP4 3PZ	Tennis	School	One standard quality macadam court that is not floodlit but is available for community use (although unused).	Retain court and as a minimum seek to sustain current quality.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
119	Saxmundham Free School	IP17 1DZ	Football	School	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch that is played to capacity. Available to the community but currently unused.	Improve quality to provide actual spare capacity for the community, and ensure any future use is secure via the creation of a community use agreement.	School FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby union		One poor quality junior pitch with potential spare capacity that has been discounted due to school usage and poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular needs and retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School RFU		M	S	L	
			Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts. Two courts have floodlighting.	Retain courts community available and as a minimum seek to sustain current quality.	School LTA		M	L	L	
			Netball		Three standard macadam courts. Two courts have floodlighting and all three are available for community use.	Retain courts community available and as a minimum seek to sustain current quality.	School England Netball		M	L	L	
120	Saxmundham Sports Club	IP17 1AT	Football	Club	Two adult, one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, all assessed as standard quality. The adult and youth 9v9 pitches have actual spare capacity at peak time, whilst the youth 11v11 pitch is played to capacity. Identified as a site for improvements in the LFFP.	Improve pitch quality in line with LFFP recommendations. Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Club FA	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Cricket		One good quality square with eight grass wickets and an NTP, although the NTP is poor. Used by Saxmundham CC but actual spare capacity remains for both senior and junior play. The Club wants to improve the practice facilities at the site after recent damage.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance. Replace NTP and replace practice facilities.			Club ECB	M	S	
			Tennis	Three standard quality, floodlit, macadam courts used by Saxmundham TC. The floodlights have been reported as in need of replacement and ancillary provision is poor. Expressed future demand may result in capacity issues.	Seek to improve court quality given high demand.	Club LTA	M			S	M	
					Ensure future demand can be accommodated, potentially via access to more court space.		M		S	L		
					Improve floodlighting and ancillary provision.		M		S	M		
			Bowls	One good quality bowling green. The Club is currently operating at below the membership to ensure that the green is sustainable and reports that its future is under threat. It has an aspiration for a dedicated clubhouse.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club Bowls England	M		L	L		
					Support the Club to ensure that it can continue to operate, primarily via increasing its membership base.		H		S	L		

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
125	Sizewell Sports & Social Club	IP16 4JX	Football	Club	Two standard quality pitches with actual spare capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Club FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts with floodlights.	Improve court quality.	Club LTA	Local	L	S	L	
126	Snape Sports Field	IP17 1QF	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			Tennis		One standard quality macadam court with no floodlights; used by Snape TC. The Club has capacity issues that are projected to worsen due to forecasted future demand.	Seek to improve court quality given high demand.	Parish LTA		M	S	L	
						Ensure future demand can be accommodated through exploring floodlight installation and potentially via enabling access to more court space.			M	S	M	
175	Aldeburgh Tennis & Bowls Club	IP15 5EN	Tennis	Town Council	Four good quality macadam courts, two with floodlights and two without. Ancillary provision on site has been identified as poor quality and in need of improving.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Town Council LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
						Improve ancillary provision.			M	S	L	
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green used by Aldeburgh BC.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club Bowls England		L	L	L	
186	Thorpeness Country Club	IP16 4NU	Tennis	Private	Six good quality macadam courts all without floodlights.	Explore option of floodlighting the courts to allow for increased community use.	LTA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
219	Friston Bowls Club	IP17 1PS	Bowls	Club	One standard quality green used by Friston BC.	Explore opportunities to improve green quality to better cater for demand.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
220	Peasehall & Sibton Bowls Club	IP17 2HR	Bowls	Club	One standard quality bowling green used by Peasehall & Sibton BC.	Explore opportunities to improve green quality to better cater for demand.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
221	Carlton Park	IP17 2NJ	Pétanque	Club	One pétanque terrain used by Saxmundham and Saxmundham II.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
223	The Dolphin Inn	IP16 4FE	Pétanque	Private	One pétanque terrain used by Flukes and Parrot.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
224	Market Cross Place	IP15 5BJ	Pétanque	Private	One pétanque terrain used by Aldeburgh Dr. Strangelove and APC.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
227	The Parrot & Punchbowl	IP16 4PX	Pétanque	Private	One pétanque terrain used by Paraphins.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
228	The Eels Foot Inn	IP16 4SN	Pétanque	Private	One pétanque terrain used by Eels Footboulers and Thebs Plebs.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
231	Aldeburgh Golf Club	IP15 5PE	Golf	Club	An 18-hole members club that is also used Aldeburgh Artisans Golf Club. Significant membership base, with no issues identified.	Retain course given large membership base and ensure appropriate quality is maintained.	Club England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
237	Thorpeness Golf Club	IP16 4NH	Golf	Private	A proprietary golf course with 18 holes. Membership has decreased by 49.72% since 2015.	Explore dwindling membership demand to ensure the site remains sustainable.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
252	The Middleton Bell	IP17 3NN	Pétanque	Private	One pétanque terrain used by Middleton Beaux Belles and Middleton Nouveaux.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
257	Westleton Recreation Ground	IP17 3AS	Pétanque	Parish Council	One pétanque terrain.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Parish Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	Leiston Leisure Centre	IP16 4LS	3G	District Council	Identified in the LFFP as a preferred site for the creation of a full size 3G pitch.	Develop a 3G pitch to reduce local shortfalls.	District Council FA	Key centre	H	S	L	Provide

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**AREA 2 (BECCLES, BUNGAY, HALESWORTH & VILLAGES)**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim	
1	Alan Hutchinson Field	NR34 9RP	Football	District Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch that is overplayed. Improving the ancillary provision has been identified as a priority within the LFFP in order to better service the 3G pitch at the site.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay or seek the transfer of some demand. Improve ancillary provision.	Council FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance	
			3G		A good quality, full size, floodlit pitch. Installed in 2019 and FA approved to host competitive matches.	Sustain quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for eventual refurbishment. Ensure FA testing every three years so that the pitch remains approved for competitive matches and seek to maximise use for this purpose.			M	S	L		
			Tennis		Three good quality macadam courts that are floodlit. Used by Beccles TC.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.			Council LTA	M	L		L
7	Basley Park	IP19 8DE	Football	Community	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance	
10	Beccles Caxton Club	NR34 9SJ	Football	District Council	One standard quality adult pitch that is overplayed.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay or seek the transfer of some demand.	District Council FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance	
			3G		One 60x40 metre pitch that is without floodlighting.	Retain for continued training and recreational usage.			L	L	L		
			Bowls		One good quality green used by Beccles Caxton BC.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.			District Council Bowls England	L	L		L
11	Beccles Free School	NR34 7BQ	Football	School	One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of which are standard quality and unavailable for community use.	Explore community use aspects with the School given local shortfalls.	School FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide	
			Cricket		One square with an NTP. Unavailable for community use.	Retain strip for continued curricular and extra-curricular needs.	School ECB		L	L	L		
			Tennis		Three poor quality macadam courts with floodlights. Available for community use.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	School LTA		L	S	L		
			Netball		Two poor quality macadam courts that are available for community use and have floodlighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	School England Netball		L	S	L		
12	Beccles Primary Academy	NR34 7AB	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch and one mini 5v5 pitch. Both of a standard quality and unavailable for community use.	No local demand for pitch type; retain for school use.	School FA		L	L	L	Protect	
13	Beef Meadow	NR34 9RH	Cricket	District Council	One standard quality square with 11 grass wickets and an NTP. Quality is said to be impacted upon by over marked pitches. Played to capacity at peak time for both senior and junior cricket.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and ensure appropriate maintenance to sustain pitch over markings.	District Council ECB	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide	



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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Rugby union		Two poor quality senior pitches, one of which is floodlit. Both are considerably overplayed due to match and training demand from Beccles RUFC.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay. Consider installation of additional floodlighting so that demand can be more evenly dispersed. Explore options to provide the Club with access to additional pitches or access to a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch.	District Council RFU		H M M	S S S	M M M	
26	Bungay High School	NR35 1RW	Football	School	Three standard quality adult pitches with spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Establish a community use agreement for club users in order to provide actual spare capacity.	School FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One square with an NTP.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use.	School ECB		L	L	L	
			Rugby union		One standard quality senior pitch that is unused. Spare capacity discounted due to school usage.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use and retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Seven standard quality courts; five macadam and two artificial. None of them are floodlit and none are available to the community.	Explore option of floodlighting the courts given the quantity provided and to enable community use.	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts and two standard quality artificial courts. None of them are floodlit and none are available to the community.	Explore option of floodlighting the courts given the quantity provided and to enable community use.	School England Netball		M	S	M	
27	Bungay Town Football Club	NR35 1EJ	Football	Club	Two adult, one youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of which are standard quality and played to capacity at peak time. Identified as a key site for grass pitch improvements in the LFFP due to existing issues, particularly in relation to drainage.	Improve pitch quality in line with LFFP recommendations.	Club FA	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			3G		Identified in the LFFP as a priority project for the creation of a smaller sized 3G pitch.	Establish 3G provision at the site to reduce local shortfalls.			M	M	M	
			Tennis		Two standard quality artificial courts with floodlights that are available for community use. Site used by Bungay TC.	Improve court quality to better accommodate demand.	Club LTA		M	S	M	
36	College Meadow	NR34 9RQ	Football	Club	One good quality adult pitch that is played to capacity at peak time and one standard mini 7v7 pitch with spare capacity. Used by Beccles Town FC, which is one promotion short of the football pyramid.	Sustain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance. Ensure the Club can join and progress through the football pyramid should promotion be achieved.	Club FA	Local	L L	L L	L L	Protect



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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
58	Halesworth Campus Sports Complex	IP19 8PY	3G	Community	A full size 3G pitch proposed as part of wider development plans for the site. Identified for a smaller sized 3G pitch in the LFFP.	Support plans for a full size 3G pitch given local shortfalls and given rugby union demand in addition to football demand.	RFU FA	Key centre	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
					Seek FA and RFU testing so that the pitch can be used for competitive matches and seek to maximise use.	H			S	L		
					Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	H			L	L		
			Rugby union		A grassed area that is currently used for training activity by Southwold RUFC. A planning application has been submitted that proposes the loss of some of the area, with a full size 3G pitch proposed and the retention of a smaller grassed area.	Ensure Southwold RUFC's training needs continue to be met by floodlighting the grassed area that is to be retained and ensuring that it is of sufficient size.	RFU		H	S	M	
					Ensure that the proposed 3G is World Rugby compliant, affordable and accessible to rugby clubs during peak time for training and match play demand.	H			S	H		
			Tennis		Three poor quality courts that are available for community use but do not have floodlights.	Improve court quality.	LTA		M	S	L	
Netball	Two poor quality macadam courts that are available for community use but non-floodlit.	Improve court quality.	England Netball	M	S	L						
59	Halesworth Playing Fields (Dairy Hill)	IP19 8JS	Football	Community	One standard quality adult pitch that is overplayed as well as a mini 7v7 and a mini 5v5 pitch that are both of a standard quality and played to capacity. Serviced by a poor quality clubhouse.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay or seek the transfer of some demand.	FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
					Improve clubhouse.	M			S	M		
			Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts that are available for community use and have floodlights.	Sustain court quality.	LTA		L	L	L	
			Bowls		One standard quality green used by Halesworth Angels BC.	Improve green quality to better accommodate demand.	Bowls England		M	S	L	
66	Holton St Peter County Primary	IP19 8PL	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for continued school use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
116	Ringsfield Playing Field	NR34 8NT	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch. Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	Parish FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		A good quality square with eight wickets. Currently unused by the community.	Through discussions with the ECB and Suffolk Cricket, determine whether cricket provision is surplus to requirements and, if confirmed, consider re-configuration to meet other sporting needs providing that the cricket provision can be re-established should the need arise.	Parish ECB		M	S	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts that are available for community use but that are not floodlit.	Improve court quality and explore floodlighting potential to better accommodate recreation demand.	Parish LTA		M	S	M	
124	Sir John Leman High School	NR34 9PF	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches and one standard quality youth 9v9 pitch, all with actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue a community use agreement with the School and club users to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect
			3G		A 38x19 metre floodlit pitch that is available for community use.	Retain for continued school and recreational demand.			L	L	L	
			Rugby union		A standard quality senior pitch with potential spare capacity that is discounted due to school usage.	Retain as community available should any demand exist in the future.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Four standard quality artificial courts, two with floodlights and two without.	Explore opportunities to increase community use and consider court improvements to better accommodate this.	School LTA		M	S	L	
			Netball		One standard quality artificial court that is used by Beccles Bluebirds Netball Club.	Pursue a community use agreement with the School and the Club to provide security of tenure	School England Netball		M	S	L	
131	Spexhall Playing Field	IP19 0RN	Football	District Council	One standard quality adult pitch that is played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	District Council FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
133	St Benet's Catholic Primary School	NR34 9PQ	Football	School	A standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is Unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for continued school use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
156	Wenhaston Recreation Ground	IP19 9EW	Football	Parish Council	A standard quality youth 9v9 pitch that is played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		One poor quality macadam court used by Wenhaston TC. The ancillary provision has been identified as poor quality.	Improve court and ancillary facility quality to better cater for demand.	Parish LTA		M	S	M	
			Bowls		One standard quality green used by Wenhaston BC.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Parish Bowls England		M	S	L	
157	Westhall Playing Field	IP19 8RQ	Football	Parish Council	A standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
165	Worlingham VC Primary School	NR34 7SB	Netball	School	Two standard quality macadam courts that are not available for community use and that do not have floodlights.	Retain courts for curricular and extra-curricular needs.	School England Netball	Local	L	L	L	Protect
180	Wrentham Tennis Club	NR34 7JQ	Tennis	Club	Two standard quality macadam courts with floodlights. Serviced by ancillary provision that is poor.	Improve court and ancillary facility quality to better cater for demand.	Club LTA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
182	Wangford Community Centre	NR34 8RG	Tennis	Community	One poor quality macadam court without floodlighting.	Improve court quality to better cater for recreational demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One poor quality macadam court without floodlighting.	Improve court quality to better cater for recreational demand.	England Netball		L	S	L	
193	Bungay Cricket Club	NR35 2RU	Cricket	Club	One good quality square with eight grass wickets and an NTP. Played to capacity for all formats of play.	Ensure quality is sustained through appropriate maintenance.	Club ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
203	Beccles Conservative Club	NR34 9TZ	Bowls	Community	A good quality bowling green used by Beccles Town BC.	Ensure quality is sustained through appropriate maintenance.	Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
204	Bungay Town Bowls Club	NR35 1DL	Bowls	Club	One standard quality bowling green used by Bungay Town BC. The Club leases the green from the council in an agreement that expires in 2042. Car parking can be problematic.	Improve green quality to better accommodate demand.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
						Seek resolution to car parking issues.			L	S	L	
						Consider lease extension to provide greater security of tenure and to assist with any future funding bids.			L	S	L	
205	Wrentham Bowls Club	NR34 7JQ	Bowls	Private	One good quality green used by Wrentham BC. The Club rents the facility from a private landowner.	Sustain green quality and explore opportunities to provide the Club with security of tenure.	Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
206	Brampton & District Bowls Club	NR34 8EQ	Bowls	Club	One standard quality green. The Club has a lease agreement in place that is due to expire in 2029. It reports an intention to enhance the interiors of the clubhouse, although states that external funding will likely be required to facilitate this.	Improve green quality to better accommodate demand.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
						Pursue lease extension to provide greater security of tenure and to assist with any future funding bids.			L	S	L	
						Support the Club in its aspirations to improve the clubhouse.			L	S	L	
207	Beccles Institute Bowls Club	NR34 9QT	Bowls	Club	A good quality green.	Sustain green quality.	Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
217	Mettingham Bowls Club	NR35 1TL	Bowls	Private	A good quality green which the Club rents from Mettingham Church. Currently operating below the level of membership required to ensure that the green is sustainable	Support the Club to ensure that it can continue to operate, primarily via increasing its membership base.	Bowls England	Local	M	S	L	Protect
242	Halesworth Golf Club	IP19 9XA	Golf	Private	A proprietary 18-hole course and a 9-hole course. £800 full membership for a year. Club membership has increased by +27.66% since 2015 to 420 members.	Ensure site is retained given large and increasing membership base.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
245	Beccles Golf Club	NR34 9BX	Golf	Club	A 9-hole members course with only 31 members.	Ensure site remains sustainable despite its low membership base, with a emphasis on high levels of pay and play usage.	Club England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
246	Bungay & Waveney Valley Golf Club	NR35 1DS	Golf	Club	An 18-hole member course with 544 members.	Ensure site is retained given large membership base.	Club England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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**AREA 3 (CARLTON COLVILLE, KESSINGLAND, SOUTHWOLD & VILLAGES)**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
19	Bramfield House School	IP19 9AB	Football	School	One mini 5v5 and one mini 7v7 pitch, both standard quality and unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for continued school use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
28	Carlton Colville Centre	NR33 8BT	Football	Parish Council	A standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
29	Carlton Colville Primary School	NR33 8DG	Football	School	A standard quality adult pitch played to capacity. Identified as needing a new clubhouse in the LFFP, based on an aspiration from Carlton Colville Town FC for a dedicated changing block to be provided to support its female and disability demand.	Ensure no additional usage without quality improvements to avoid future overplay.	School FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
						Provide a dedicated changing block for the Club.			M	S	M	
55	Grove Primary School	NR33 8RQ	Football	School	A standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for continued school use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Netball		A standard quality macadam court with no community use or floodlights.	Retained for continued curricular and extra-curricular use.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
61	Heathland Beach Caravan Park	NR33 7PJ	Football	Commercial	a standard quality youth 11v11 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
			Tennis		A poor quality, non-floodlit macadam court that is not available for community use.	Retain for continued commercial use.	LTA		L	S	L	
75	Kessingland Community Centre Playing Field	NR33 7PU	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch and one 7v7 pitch, both standard and with actual spare capacity at peak time. Also, one standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is played to capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
96	Mutford Playing Field	NR34 7UR	Football	Parish Council	Disused football provision.	Explore options to bring supply back into use to relieve local shortfalls and ensure any permanent loss meet Sport England's Playing Field Policy (i.e. Exception 4).	Parish FA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Tennis		One poor quality macadam court with no floodlights that is available for community use.	Improve court quality to better cater for recreational demand.	LTA		L	S	L	
110	Pointons Pakefield Holiday Centre	NR33 7PF	Tennis	Commercial	Two poor quality macadam courts with no community use.	Retain for continued commercial use and pursue improvements.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
115	Reydon Playing Fields	IP18 6PA	Football	Trust	One adult pitch, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of which are standard quality. The adult and youth pitches are played to capacity, whilst the mini pitches are played to capacity at peak time. Ancillary provision on this site has been identified as a priority for improvement within the LFFP.	Ensure no additional usage without quality improvements to avoid future overplay.	FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
						Improve ancillary provision.			M	S	M	
130	Southwold Common	IP18 6AJ	Football	Town Council	One standard quality adult pitch played to capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain current quality through appropriate maintenance.	Town Council FA	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect
			Cricket		One good quality square with eight grass wickets and an NTP. Used by Southwold CC but with actual spare capacity for all formats of play.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Town Council ECB		M	S	L	
			Rugby union		Two standard quality non-floodlit senior pitches. Both are over played due to match demand from Southwold RUFC. The Club reports ancillary facility issues when other sports are accessing the site at the same time.	Alleviate overplay through pitch quality improvements.	Town Council RFU		M	S	L	
						Explore resolution to ancillary facility issues.			M	S	L	
134	St Felix School	IP18 6SD	Football	School	A standard quality adult pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for continued school use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
			Rugby union		Two standard quality pitches, one adult and one junior. Both are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options and potential partnership arrangements with local clubs given shortfalls in the area.	School FA		L	S	L	
			Tennis		Four standard quality, floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community use.	Explore community use options given presence of floodlighting and the quantity of courts provided.	School LTA		L	S	L	
			Netball		Two standard quality, floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community use.	Explore community use options given presence of floodlighting and the quantity of courts provided.	School England Netball		L	S	L	
166	Wrentham Playing Field	NR34 7HJ	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch played to capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain current quality through appropriate maintenance.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
171	Kessington Beach Holiday Park	NR33 7RW	Tennis	Commercial	One poor quality macadam court with no floodlights or community use.	Retain for continued commercial use and pursue improvements.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
179	Southwold & District Tennis Club	IP18 6BS	Tennis	District Council	Three good quality, floodlit macadam courts. The Club has a formal plan to build a new clubhouse within the next 12 months.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	District Council LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
						Support the Club in its aspirations to build a new clubhouse.			M	S	M	
185	Southwold Town Pit Stop	IP18 6AN	Tennis	Town Council	Three non-floodlit, standard quality macadam courts.	Explore floodlighting opportunities to improve the recreational offer.	LTA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
202	Kessingland Bowls Club	NR33 7QD	Bowls	Club	One good quality green used by Kessingland BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
218	Sole Bay Bowls Club	IP18 6NR	Bowls	Club	One standard quality bowling green used by Sole Bay BC.	Improve green quality to better accommodate demand.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
225	The Three Horseshoes	NR34 7PH	Pétanque	Private	One pétanque terrain used by Winter Shoes.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
247	Rookery Park Golf Club	NR33 8HJ	Golf	Members	An 18-hole members course with a 14-bay driving range attached. The site has 538 members.	Ensure site is retained given large membership base.	Club England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
248	Southwold Golf Club	IP18 6TB	Golf	Members	An 18-hole members course with 257 members; a 7.89% decrease from 2015.	Explore dwindling membership demand to ensure the site remains sustainable.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
251	The Walberswick Bell	IP18 6TN	Pétanque	Private	One pétanque terrain used by Walberswick.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect



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**AREA 4 (FELIXSTOWE PENINSULA)**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
24	Bucklesham Playing Field	IP10 0EE	Football	Parish Council	One adult and one mini 5v5 pitch, both considered poor quality and with actual spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	Parish FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
30	Causton Junior School	IP11 9ED	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 5v5 pitches that are unavailable.	No local demand; retain for continued school use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
			Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts without floodlights that are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options with the School, especially if floodlight installation is possible.	School England Netball		L	S	L	
34	Coronation Sports Ground	IP11 2LN	Rugby union	District Council	Two standard quality senior pitches that are used by Felixstowe RUFC. The Club aspires to modernise the clubhouse and create additional changing rooms. To enable this, it has recently submitted plans for an extension to its building. Both pitches are overplayed.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay.	District Council RFU	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
						Explore options to provide the Club with more pitches to fully eradicate overplay or consider providing access to a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch.			M	S	H	
						Support proposals in relation to ancillary facility improvements.			M	S	M	
42	Eastward Ho	IP11 9HD	Football	District Council	Four standard quality adult pitches with actual spare capacity during peak time. The ancillary provision of the site has been identified for improvement in the LFFP.	Utilise actual capacity via demand from overplayed sites.	District Council FA	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
						Improve ancillary provision.			M	S	M	
						Consider pitch re-configuration to reduce youth pitch shortfalls.			M	S	L	
48	Felixstowe School	IP11 9QR	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue security of tenure via the establishment of a community use agreement in order to provide actual spare capacity.	School FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			Rugby union		One standard senior pitch that is available for community use but is not currently being used.	Retain as community available should demand exist in the future.			L	L	L	
			Hockey		A poor quality, full size pitch that is floodlit, although the floodlights are poor. The ancillary facilities on site have recently been closed, meaning Felixstowe HC must now access the main school building.	Improve pitch quality via re-surfacing the carpet.	School EH		H	S	M	
						Improve floodlighting quality.			H	S	L	
						Seek resolution to ancillary facility access issues.			H	S	L	
			Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts that are neither floodlit nor available for community use.	Explore opportunities for floodlighting to enable community use given quantity of courts.	School LTA		M	S	L	
Netball	Four standard quality macadam courts that are neither floodlit nor available for community use.	Explore opportunities for floodlighting to enable community use given quantity of courts.	School England Netball	M	S	L						
49	Felixstowe School (Maidstone)	IP11 9EF	Tennis	School	Three poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community use.	Improve quality and explore opportunities for floodlighting to enable community use.	School England Netball	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
50	Former Deben High School	IP11 7RF	Cricket	District Council	One good quality square with eight natural wickets. The site has no potential spare capacity.	Ensure quality is sustained through appropriate maintenance.	District Council ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect



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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
77	Kingsfleet Primary School	IP11 9LY	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch and one standard quality mini 5v5 pitch; unavailable.	No local demand; retain for school use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
81	Kirton & Falkenham Recreation Ground	IP10 0PR	Football	Parish Council	One adult, one mini 5v5 and one youth 9v9 pitch, all standard quality and played to capacity at peak time. Identified for grass pitch improvements in the LFFP.	Improve quality in line with LFFP recommendations.	Parish FA	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green used by Kirton & Fakenham BC.	Sustain green quality.			Parish Bowls England	L	L	
82	Langley Avenue	IP11 2LY	Football	School	Three standard quality adult pitches played to capacity at peak time. Identified for grass pitch improvements in the LFFP.	Improve quality in line with LFFP recommendations.	Parish FA	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
97	Nacton Sports Ground	IP10 0HD	Cricket	Community	One good quality square with eight wickets, used by Nacton CC. Overplayed by four match equivalent sessions. The Club identifies that it has no catering facilities within its pavilion and it wants additional practice nets.	Sustain quality.	ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
						Install an NTP to eradicate overplay.			M	S	L	
			Support the Club to enhance its ancillary and practice facility offer.			M			S	M		
			Tennis		One standard quality, non-floodlit macadam court.	As a minimum, sustain quality for continued recreational demand.	LTA		L	L	L	
103	Orwell Park School	IP10 0ER	Cricket	School	A good quality square with 10 grass wickets that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options if it is deemed to have the potential to be a secondary venue.	School ECB	Key Centre	L	S	L	Protect Provide
			Rugby union		One standard quality senior pitch and three standard quality junior pitches that are all unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options and a potential partnership with a local club given quantity of pitches provided.	School RFU		L	S	L	
			Hockey		A standard full size pitch that is available for community use but currently unused by clubs.	Explore lack of community demand and review the School's surface requirements whenever refurbishment is required.	School EH		L	S	L	
			Tennis		Six standard courts; three artificial and three macadam. Neither floodlit nor available.	Explore floodlighting and community use options given the quantity of courts provided.	School LTA		L	S	L	
			Netball		Two standard courts without floodlights or community use.	Explore floodlighting and community use options.	School England Netball		L	S	L	
			Golf		A 9-hole golf course.	Retain for continued school use.	School		L	L	L	
121	Seaton Road Recreation Ground	IP11 9BS	Football	District Council	One mini 5v5 and one youth 11v11 pitch, both of a standard quality and that are played to capacity at peak time. Identified for grass pitch improvements in the LFFP.	Improve quality to provide additional capacity, in line with LFFP recommendations.	District Council FA	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
137	Stennetts Playing Field	IP11 0TY	Football	Parish Council	One youth 11v11 pitch and one mini 7v7, both of a standard quality and both played to capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
146	Town Ground	IP11 9HP	Football	District Council	Two adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of which are a good quality. All pitches are played to capacity at peak time. Ancillary provision has been identified as a priority for replacement in the LFFP.	Sustain good quality through an appropriate and sophisticated maintenance regime.	District Council FA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
					Improve ancillary provision in line with LFFP recommendations.				H	L	M	
			3G		Identified as a potential option for a full size pitch in the LFFP.	Explore option of providing a pitch.				H	S	
			Cricket		One good quality square with 16 grass wickets and one NTP. The site has potential spare capacity for midweek junior cricket but is played to capacity for senior play.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	District Council FA		M	L	L	
			Tennis		Two standard quality non-floodlit grass courts that are available for community use.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and retain as grass given rarity of provision.	District Council LTA		M	M	M	
147	Trimley Sports & Social Club	IP11 0RJ	Football	Community	Two standard quality adult pitches with actual spare capacity.	Utilise actual capacity via demand from overplayed sites and consider pitch re-configuration given local youth pitch shortfalls.	FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect
148	Trimley St Martin Primary School	IP11 0QL	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is used to capacity at peak time.	Retain as community available and seek to provide greater security of tenure to users via a community use agreement.	School FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
			Netball		One standard quality, non-floodlit macadam court with no access.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
152	Waldringfield Primary School	IP12 4QL	Netball	School	Two poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community use.	Improve quality for continued curricular and extra-curricular use and then re-examine community use options.	School England Netball	Local	L	L	L	Protect
153	Walton Recreation Ground	IP11 9BA	Football	District Council	One poor adult pitch, overplayed by Felixstowe Falcons FC.	Improve quality to alleviate overplay.	District Council FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
170	Felixstowe Lawn Tennis Club	IP11 7JN	Tennis	Club	Nine good quality grass courts, six good quality macadam courts and three good quality artificial courts.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club LTA	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
						Consider as a strategic site for the creation of indoor provision.			M	M	H	
177	Brackenbury Sports Centre	IP11 9JF	Tennis	District Council	Four standard, floodlit quality macadam courts. To be lost as part of wider plans to develop the site for housing.	Ensure tennis needs in the area remain provided for following the development, with contributions potentially to go towards improving other sites.	District Council LTA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Three standard quality, floodlit macadam courts. To be lost as part of wider plans to develop the site for housing.	Ensure netball needs in the area remain provided for following the development.	District Council England Netball		M	S	L	
			Pétanque		One pétanque terrain that is set to be lost as part of wider plans to develop the site for housing and a new Felixstowe Leisure Centre development.	Ensure pétanque remains provided for in the locality once the terrain is lost.	Pétanque Alliance		M	S	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
182	Orwell Park Prep School	IP10 0ER	Tennis	School	Two standard quality macadam courts with no floodlights or community use.	Retain for continued school use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Netball		Two standard quality non floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community use.	Retain for continued school use.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
184	Old Felixstowe Community Centre	IP11 9NB	Tennis	District Council	Two standard quality, non-floodlit macadam courts.	Consider quality improvements to better accommodate recreational demand and explore the installation of floodlights.	Council LTA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One poor quality court that is available for community use.	Improve quality.	England Netball		L	S	M	
194	Felixstowe & Suffolk Bowls Club	IP12 1BB	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green used by Felixstowe & Suffolk BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
208	Felixstowe Bowls Club	IP11 7PB	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green that is owned by Felixstowe BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
234	Waldringfield Golf Club	IP12 4PT	Golf	Private	An 18-hole proprietary course that is presently undergoing a major redevelopment following a change of ownership, with only a 9-hole layout provided whilst renovation is taking place. It will then be re-established as an 18-hole course.	Ensure course is re-established as an 18-hole offering and is provided to a good, sustainable standard.	England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
238	Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club	IP11 9RY	Golf	Club	A members club with an 18-hole course and a 9-hole course as well as 12 driving range bays. Significant membership base of 730 members.	Ensure site is retained given large and increasing membership base.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
243	Priory Park Golf Course	IP10 0JT	Golf	Private	A 9-hole course that does not offer a membership scheme and that is also not affiliated to England Golf. This site has been identified as the having the largest potential demand across East Suffolk, with 59,012 people falling within a 20-minute drive time.	Explore future affiliation to England Golf in order to safeguard the site and to allow for greater examination of demand.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	Felixstowe Leisure Centre	IP11 2AE	3G	District Council	Identified in the LFFP as a preferred site for the creation of a full size 3G pitch. This will be as part of a wider Local Plan allocation that will see the existing facilities at the current Felixstowe Leisure Centre as well as at Brackenbury Sports Centre demolished and a new facility created.	Develop a 3G pitch to reduce local shortfalls.	District Council FA	Key centre	H	M	H	Provide

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**AREA 5 (FRAMLINGHAM, WICKHAM MARKET & VILLAGES)**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
21	Brandeston Village Hall	IP13 7AD	Tennis	Parish Council	One poor quality, non-floodlit macadam court.	Improve quality and explore potential of installing floodlighting.	Parish LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
38	Dennington Village Hall	IP13 8DD	Football	Club	A standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity at peak time.	Utilise actual capacity via demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Club FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect
			Tennis		One poor quality macadam court without floodlighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate recreational demand and explore potential of installing floodlighting.	Parish LTA		M	S	L	
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green used by Dennington BC. The Club rents the green from Dennington Village Hall.	Sustain green quality.	Parish Bowls England		L	L	L	
	Explore opportunities to provide security of tenure for the Club.	L	S	L								
41	Easton Cricket Club	IP13 0ES	Cricket	Club	One good quality square with nine grass wickets and an NTP. Played to capacity at peak time for all formats of play.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green used by Easton BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club Bowls England		L	L	L	
51	Framlingham College	IP13 9EY	Cricket	School	Two squares, one with 12 wickets and one with eight wickets. Neither are available for community use.	Explore community use options if the site is deemed to have the potential to be a secondary venue for a club with capacity issues.	School ECB	Key Centre	L	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			Rugby union		Three senior pitches all of a standard quality with potential spare capacity that has been discounted due to school usage.	Retain as community available should club demand exist in the future and explore partnership with clubs in the locality given quantity of provision.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Hockey		Two full size pitches; one standard quality and one poor quality. Used by Framlingham HC for training and matches. Availability is limited, especially on Sundays.	Resurface poor quality pitch and ensure sinking funds are in place for future refurbishment of the standard quality pitch.	School EH		H	S	M	
						Attempt to secure usage of the pitches via the creation of a community use agreement.			H	S	L	
						Explore options to extend community opening hours.			M	S	L	
			Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts that are available for community use and floodlit.	Explore options to maximise community use given presence of floodlighting.	School LTA		M	S	L	
			Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts that are available for community use and floodlit.	Explore options to maximise community use given presence of floodlighting.	School England Netball		M	S	L	
Golf	A nine-hole course that is generally inaccessible to the wider public.	Retain for continued school use.	School England Golf	L	L	L						

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim	
52	Framlingham Sports Ground	IP13 9HS	Football	Club	Two adult, two youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all standard quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed. Identified for grass pitch improvements in the LFFP.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay on the youth 9v9 pitch, and consider re-configuring pitches to provide more youth 9v9 provision on site.	Club FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance	
			3G		Identified in the LFFP as a preferred site for the creation of a full size 3G pitch.	Develop a 3G pitch to reduce local shortfalls.			H	S	H		
			Tennis		Three good quality, floodlit macadam courts.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club LTA		M	L	L		
67	Hubbards Hill Recreation Ground	IP17 2JN	Football	District Council	One poor quality adult pitch with spare capacity discounted. Currently unused.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity and to attract usage.	District Council FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance	
72	Kelsale Park	IP17 2NX	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with spare capacity at peak time.	Utilise actual capacity via demand from overplayed sites.	Parish FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect	
123	Simon's Cross Playing Field	IP13 0NE	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch and one standard quality youth 9v9 pitch that are played to capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain quality to ensure demand can continue to be accommodated without overplay being expressed.	Parish FA	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect	
			Tennis		Three good quality courts that are used by Wickham Market TC.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club LTA		M	L	L		
145	Thomas Mills High School	IP13 9HE	Football	School	Four standard quality adult pitches with spare capacity at peak time. Currently unused by the community.	Further explore lack of community demand and attempt to maximise use given capacity provided. Encourage pitch reconfiguration to better accommodate the School's own demand and to reduce youth pitch shortfalls.	School FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect	
			Rugby union		Two standard quality senior pitches with spare capacity that is discounted due to school usage.	Retain as community available should club demand exist in the future.	School RFU		M	S	L		
			Tennis	Four standard quality artificial courts that are available for community use and floodlit.	Explore opportunities to maximise use given quantity of courts and presence of floodlighting.	School LTA	L		L	L			
			Netball	Four standard quality artificial courts that are available for community use and floodlit.	Explore opportunities to maximise use given quantity of courts and presence of floodlighting.	School England Netball	M		S	L			
											M		S
150	Ufford Recreation Ground	IP13 6BF	Football	Parish Council	One standard adult pitch that is played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain quality to ensure demand can be accommodated.	Parish FA	Local site	L	L	L	Protect	
			Tennis		One standard quality, floodlit macadam court that is used by Ufford TC. The Club is currently operating with only six members meaning the future of the Club is uncertain. Ancillary provision has been identified as poor quality.	Seek to improve quality to better accommodate demand. Ensure the Club remains sustainable through increasing its membership. Support aspirations to improve ancillary facility offer.	Parish LTA		M	S	L		Protect Enhance
									M	S	L		
								L	S	M			



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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
159	Wickham Market Primary School	IP13 0RP	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches that are unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts with no floodlights and no community access.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
160	Wickham Market Village Hall Playing Field	IP13 0HE	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch that is played to capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain quality as standard to ensure demand can continue to be accommodate and sustained without overplay being created.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Bowls		One good quality green used by Wickham Market BC.	Sustain green quality.	Parish Bowls England		L	L	L	
168	Yoxford Cricket Club	IP17 3HL	Cricket	Club	One standard quality square with eight grass wickets and one NTP. The site has no spare capacity at peak time for any format of play, whilst the Club also wants practice nets installed.	Improve square quality to better accommodate demand. Provide practice facilities.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		One good quality green owned and used by Yoxford BC.	Sustain green quality.			Club Bowls England	L	L	
172	Framlingham College Prep School	IP13 7AH	Cricket	School	Four squares, two of which are good quality and two of which are standard. Used as a secondary venue by Easton CC.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance. Seek to provide greater security of tenure for Easton CC via a community use agreement.	School ECB	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect Provide
			Tennis		Six floodlit standard quality macadam courts and an additional two, non-floodlit courts. All courts are unavailable for community use.	Explore and community use options given the quantity of courts provided.			School LTA	M	S	
			Netball		Four floodlit standard quality macadam courts and an additional two non-floodlit macadam courts. All of the courts are readily available for community use.	Seek to provide greater security of tenure for users via the establishment of a community use agreement.	School England Netball		M	S	L	
181	Yoxford Village Hall	IP17 3HN	Tennis	Parish Council	Two standard quality, floodlit macadam courts that are used by Yoxford TC.	Seek to improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Parish LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One standard quality, floodlit, court that is available for community use.	Seek to improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Parish England Netball		M	S	L	
188	Bedfield & Monk Soham Tennis Club	IP13 7JE	Tennis	Parish Council	One standard quality, non-floodlit macadam court that is used by Bedfield & Monk Soham TC and is available for community use.	Seek to improve quality to better accommodate demand and explore floodlighting potential.	Parish LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
192	Ash Park	IP13 0QB	Cricket	Club	One good quality square with six grass wickets. The site has potential spare capacity for junior demand but is played to capacity at peak time for senior cricket on both Saturdays and Sundays.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
200	Framlingham Castle	IP13 9BP	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green that is owned by the Club. The site currently has 63 members, meaning the Club is operating above the recommended capacity threshold.	Sustain green quality. Ensure the Club's demand can continue to be accommodated despite high membership.	Club Bowls England	Local	L L	L L	L L	Protect
201	Sweffling Bowls Club	IP17 2BN	Bowls	Private	One standard quality bowling green used by Sweffling BC. The Club leases the green from a private landowner but is unsure as to how long is left on the agreement. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve green quality and ancillary provision to better accommodate demand. Review lease arrangement and pursue extension if less than 25 years remain.	Bowls England	Local	M M	S S	L L	Protect Enhance
212	Red Triangle Bowls Club	IP13 0SA	Bowls	Private	One good quality bowling green used by Red Triangle BC. The Club currently have 19 members which is below the recommended capacity threshold. It has plans to build an extension to its clubhouse in order to provide a kitchen and storage space, with the existing facility considered too small.	Sustain green quality. Ensure club remains sustainable through increasing membership levels. Support the Club in its aspirations to improve the sites clubhouse.	Bowls England	Local	L M L	L L S	L L M	Protect Enhance
213	The White Horse Badingham	IP13 8JR	Bowls	Private	One standard quality bowling green used by Badingham BC.	Improve green quality and to better accommodate demand and pursue improved security of tenure given private nature of the site.	Bowls England	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
240	Kingfishers at Cretingham	IP13 7BA	Golf	Private	A 9-hole proprietary course with ten floodlit driving range bays that are available on a pay to play basis. The Club has 318 members.	Retain course given large membership base and localised importance of the driving range.	England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
249	Gleivering Mill Golf Course	IP13 0EY	Golf	Private	A 9-hole proprietary course. Information regarding membership and usage is unknown.	Further explore demand in relation to the site to better understand its local importance.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
250	Hatcheston Village Hall	IP13 0DW	Pétanque	Community	One Pétanque terrain used by Hatcheston Hi-Jack-Ers.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
253	The Glenham Crown	IP17 2DA	Pétanque	Private	One Pétanque terrain used by Bob's Mob.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
254	The Railway Inn	IP13 9EA	Pétanque	Private	One Pétanque terrain used by Fram Shutters and Fram Loco's.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
258	Framlingham Pageant Field	IP13 9HS	Pétanque	Town Council	One pétanque terrain.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Town Council Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect



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**AREA 6 (KESGRAVE, RUSHMERE ST ANDREW, MARTLESHAM, CARLFORD & FLYNN VALLEY)**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
16	Birchwood Primary School	NR32 4PZ	Netball	School	One standard quality, non-floodlit, court that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School England Netball	Local	L	L	L	Protect
22	Bredfield Village Hall	IP13 6AX	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch with spare capacity at peak time.	Utilise actual capacity via demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts.	Improve quality to better accommodate recreational demand and explore floodlighting opportunities.	Parish LTA		M	S	L	
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green that is used by Bredfield BC. The Club reports an intention to enhance the interior of the clubhouse, although states that external funding will likely be required to facilitate this.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance. Support the Club in its aspirations to improve the clubhouse.	Parish Bowls England		L	L	L	
23	Broke Hall Community Primary School	IP4 5XD	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches that are unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
31	Cedarwood Primary School	IP5 2ES	Football	School	A poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular demand.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		A 30x18 metre non-floodlit pitch that is available for community use.	Explore potential of floodlighting the pitch to better accommodate recreational usage.			L	L	L	
32	Charsfield Recreation Ground	IP13 7PX	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch with spare capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain quality to ensure no future overplay.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are used by Charsfield TC.	Improve quality to better accommodate club demand and explore floodlighting opportunities.	Parish LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		A poor quality, non-floodlit, macadam court.	Improve quality.	Parish England Netball		L	S	M	
33	Civil Service Sports Ground	IP10 0AU	Football	Private	Disused football provision.	Explore options to bring supply back into use to relieve local shortfalls and ensure any permanent loss meet Sport England's Playing Field Policy (i.e. Exception 4).	FA	Local	L	S	M	Provide
56	Grundisburgh Playing Field	IP13 6TJ	Football	Parish Council	A standard quality adult pitch that is played to capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain quality to ensure no future overplay.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			Tennis		Three poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are used by Grundisburgh TC. The Club is operating over the site's recommended capacity.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and explore floodlighting opportunities to lessen capacity issues.	Parish LTA		M	S	M	
						Explore options to provide the Club with increased court space to fully alleviate capacity issues.			M	S	M	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
57	Grundisburgh Primary School	IP13 6XH	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
60	Heath Primary School	IP5 1JG	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch played to capacity at peak time.	No local demand; improve quality for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One standard quality, non-floodlit, macadam court that is not available for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
69	Ipswich School Sports Centre	IP5 1DE	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches that are played to capacity.	Ensure no additional usage without quality improvements to avoid future overplay.	School FA	Hub site	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey		Three good quality full size pitches, with priority access given to Ipswich East Suffolk HC. The Club has plans to develop its clubhouse by means of providing a spectator viewing area.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance. Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability and protect all pitches as hockey suitable. Support the Club in its ancillary facility aspirations.	School EH		H	S	L	
									H	L	L	
									H	S	M	
			Tennis		Six standard quality macadam courts, four of which are floodlit. The site is open to community use.	Seek to improve courts to better accommodate demand and explore opportunities to maximise community use.	School LTA		M	S	L	
Netball	Six macadam courts that are available to community use, four of which are floodlit. The site is used by Ipswich Ladies Netball Club.	Ensure Ipswich Ladies Netball Club is provided with security of tenure via a community use agreement.	School England Netball	M	S	L						
70	Ipswich Town Football Club's Training Ground	IP4 5RG	Football	Club	One good quality adult pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for continued professional club usage.	Club FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			3G		A full size floodlit pitch that is not available for community use.	Retain for continued professional club usage.			L	L	L	
71	Gorseland Primary School	IP12 2GT	Hockey	School	A 36x18 metre floodlit pitch with no community access.	Explore community use options with the School to accommodate any recreational demand that may exist in the area.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
73	Kesgrave Community Centre	IP5 1JF	Football	Community	Two standard quality adult pitches that are overplayed.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay or transfer some demand.	FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		Identified as a potential site for a full size 3G pitch in the LFFP, as an either/or option with Kesgrave High School.	Explore option of providing a pitch against proposal at Kesgrave High School.			H	S	H	
			Cricket		One good quality square with 12 grass wickets and an accompanying NTP. The site has no additional capacity at peak time for any format of play.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	ECB		M	L	L	
			Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts and two non-floodlit artificial courts. The site is used by Kesgrave TC.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	LTA		M	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim				
74	Kesgrave High School	IP5 2PB	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches and one standard quality youth 9v9 pitch, all of which are overplayed. Identified for grass pitch and ancillary facility improvements in the LFFP.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay and seek the transfer of some demand to fully eradicate it. Improve ancillary provision.	School FA	Hub site	H	S	M	Protect Enhance				
			3G		One standard quality full size pitch that is available for community use. FA approved to host competitive matches. Identified as a potential site for another full size 3G pitch in the LFFP, as an either/or option with Kesgrave High School.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Seek FA testing every three years so that the pitch can be used for competitive matches and seek to maximise use for this purpose. Explore option of providing an additional pitch.			H	S	M					
			Cricket		A poor quality standalone NTP.	Replace strip to provide for curricular needs.			School ECB	H	L		L			
			Rugby union		One standard quality senior pitch that is available for community use but is not used.	Retain as community available should demand exist in the future.			School RFU	H	M		L			
			Tennis		Four standard quality, floodlit artificial courts that are available for community use.	Explore options to improve quality to better accommodate usage and explore opportunities to increase community demand.			School LTA	H	S		H			
			Netball		Three standard quality, non-floodlit artificial courts that are available for community use.	Explore options to improve quality to better accommodate usage.			School England Netball	M	S		L			
														M	S	H
															M	S
90	Martlesham Heath Green	IP5 3SH	Football	Parish Council	One youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch. Poor quality; the youth 9v9 pitch overplayed.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay.	Parish FA	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance				
			Cricket		One standard quality square with six grass wickets and an NTP. Currently unused.	Through discussions with the ECB and Suffolk Cricket, determine whether cricket provision is surplus to requirements and, if confirmed, consider re-configuration to meet other sporting needs providing that the cricket provision can be re-established should the need arise.	Parish ECB		M	S	L					
91	Martlesham Primary Academy	IP12 4SS	Football	School	A poor quality 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality to better cater for curricular demand.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance				
			Netball		A standard quality, non-floodlit macadam court that is not available for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School England Netball		L	L	L					
92	Martlesham Recreation Ground	IP12 4RF	Football	Parish Council	A standard quality adult pitch that has spare capacity at peak time.	Utilise actual capacity through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect				
			Bowls		One good quality green that is used by Martlesham BC. A temporary structure is presently used for changing.	Sustain green quality. Support the Club with its plans to improve ancillary provision.	Parish Bowls England		L	L	L					
			Pétanque		One pétanque terrain.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Parish Pétanque Alliance		M	S	M					
									L	L	L					

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
95	Millennium Sports Ground	IP5 2EN	Football	Parish Council	Two poor quality adult pitches that are overplayed. The site has been identified as requiring a new build clubhouse in the LFFP as well as grass pitch improvements.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay. Provide a new clubhouse.	Parish FA	Local	M M	S S	L H	Protect Enhance
104	Kesgrave War Memorial Community Centre	IP6 9NT	Hockey	Community	One 36x32 metre pitch with no floodlights	Retain for continued recreational activity.	EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
122	SEH Sports & Social Club	IP4 3PZ	Football	Club	Two good quality adult pitches that are played to capacity at peak time by Wanderers FC..	Sustain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance.	FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
138	Suffolk Constabulary Ground	IP5 3QY	Football	Private	Two good adult pitches that are unavailable for community use. A planning application has been submitted that proposes the loss of the provision, with no replacement put forward.	Ensure any loss of provision meets Sport England's Playing Field Policy (i.e. Exception 4).	FA LTA England Netball Bowls England	Key centre	H	S	L	Protect
	Tennis	Two standard, non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community access. A planning application has been submitted that proposes the loss of the provision, with no replacement put forward.										
	Netball	Two standard quality, non-floodlit, macadam courts that are not available for community access. A planning application has been submitted that proposes the loss of the provision, with no replacement put forward.										
	Bowls	One standard quality green. A planning application has been submitted that proposes the loss of the provision, with no replacement put forward.										
143	Swilland & Winesham Playing Field	IP6 9EX	Football	Parish Council	One adult, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of which are a standard quality and played to capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain quality to ensure demand can continue to be accommodated without overplay being expressed.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
167	YM Sports Ground	IP5 1DG	Rugby union	Ipswich Borough Council	Three good quality senior pitches that are available for community use. Two are floodlit and overplayed due to match and training demand from Ipswich YM RUFC whilst the remaining pitch has spare capacity.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance and explore opportunities to further enhance quality to reduce overplay. Explore floodlighting of third pitch to allow for training demand to be more evenly spread out. To fully eradicate overplay, provide the Club with access to a greater number of pitches or secure use of a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch.	Ipswich Council Club RFU	Key centre	M M M	S S M	M M M	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
174	Adastral Park	IP5 3RE	Tennis	Club	Three good quality macadam courts, two of which are floodlit. The site is used by Adastral Park TC whose membership figures are currently unknown.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance and consider over marking netball courts given localised demand.	Club LTA England Netball	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide
184	Humber Doucy Lane	IP4 3PZ	Rugby union	Ipswich Borough Council	Five senior pitches all of which are a good quality. Two are floodlit, with one at capacity and the other considerably overplayed. The remaining three pitches have spare capacity.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance and explore opportunities to further enhance quality to reduce overplay.	Council RFU	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
						Explore floodlighting of additional pitches to allow for training demand to be more evenly spread out to fully eradicate overplay.			M	S	M	
198	Bealings Bowls Club	IP13 6LH	Bowls	Private	One standard quality bowling green used by Bealings BC. The Club rents the green from a private landowner on an annual basis.	Improve quality to good to better accommodate demand.	Bowls England	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
						Pursue improve security of tenure for the Club.			M	S	L	
199	Earl Soham Bowls Club	IP13 7SA	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green that is used by Earl Soham BC.	Sustain green quality.	Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
211	Otley Bowls Club	IP6 9NP	Bowls	Club	One standard quality bowling serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve green and ancillary facility quality to better accommodate demand.	Bowls England	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
226	The Chequers Public House	IP15 5PP	Pétanque	Private	One Pétanque terrain used by two clubs; Kettleburgh and Kettleburgh Bells.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
229	The Cretingham Bell	IP13 7BJ	Pétanque	Private	This site features one Pétanque terrain.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
233	Seckford Golf Club	IP13 6NT	Golf	Club	An 18-hole members course with 10 non-floodlit driving range bays that are available on a pay and play basis. The Club has 310 members, which is a 6.89% increase from 2015.	Retain course given large membership base and localised importance of the driving range.	England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
235	Fynn Valley Golf Club	IP6 9JA	Croquet	Private	Two good quality lawns used by Ipswich Croquet Club for its 46 members. The Club as plans to relocate to Trinity Park, where two lawns are provided.	Explore future use options should Ipswich Croquet vacate the site.	Croquet Association	Local	M	S	L	Protect
			Golf	Private	An 18-hole proprietary course with 20 floodlit driving range bays that are available on a pay and play basis. The site has 461 members, which is a 10.55% increase from 2015.	Retain course given large membership base and localised importance of the driving range.	England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
241	Ipswich Golf Club	IP3 8UQ	Golf	Members	One 18-hole members course with an additional 9-hole course also provided. The site currently has 644 members.	Retain course given large membership base and localised importance of the driving range.	England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
255	The Railway Westerfield	IP6 9AA	Pétanque	Private	One Pétanque terrain used by Les Boulistes Deux.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim	
-	The Hollies Sports Centre and Social Club	IP10 0FN	Football	Unknown	A planning application has been submitted for the relocation of AFC Kesgrave to the site in order to consolidate all of the Club's demand to one site. Three youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch are proposed to be marked out, as well as the development of changing facilities.	Support proposals in order to better provide for AFC Kesgrave and to reduce pitch shortfalls in the area. Carry out a detailed assessment of the land to ensure pitches can be provided to an adequate, sustainable quality. Ensure pitch layout best provides for demand and ensure appropriate ancillary facilities are established.	FA Club	Key centre	M	S	H	Protect Provide Enhance	
									M	S	L		
									M	S	L		



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**AREA 7 (LOWESTOFT & NORTHERN PARISHES)**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
6	Barnards Soccer Centre	NR32 2HF	3G	Leisure Trust	A poor quality full size floodlit pitch. FA approved to host competitive matches following recent accreditation. Identified as a potential option for an additional pitch in the LFFP.	Resurface pitch in order to sustain usage and ensure a sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment and long-term sustainability.	Trust FA	Key centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
						Ensure FA testing every three years so that the pitch remains suitable for match play purposes and seek to maximise use for this purpose.			H	M	L	
						Explore option of providing an additional pitch against proposals at Benjamin Britten High School and Dip Farm Playing Fields.			M	M	H	
15	Benjamin Britten High School	NR32 4PZ	Football	School	Four poor quality adult pitches and one poor quality 9v9 pitch that are all played to capacity through school use only.	Improve pitch quality to provide capacity to the community.	School FA	Key centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
			3G		Identified as a potential option for a full size pitch in the LFFP.	Explore option of providing a pitch against proposals at Barnards Soccer Centre and Dip Farm Playing Fields.			M	M	H	
			Rugby union		One poor quality pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to school usage and poor quality.	Improve pitch quality for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School RFU		L	S	L	
			Tennis		Four poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community use.	Improve quality and then explore community use options given quantity of provision provided.	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Four poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community use.	Improve quality and then explore community use options given quantity of provision provided.	School England Netball		M	S	M	
18	Blundeston Village Hall	NR32 5AH	Tennis	Parish Council	One poor quality, non-floodlit macadam court.	Improve quality to better accommodate recreational demand.	Parish LTA  Parish England Netball  Parish Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One poor quality, non-floodlit macadam court.	Improve quality to better accommodate recreational demand.			L	L	L	
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green that is used by Blundeston BC.	Sustain green quality.			L	L	L	
35	Corton Playing Fields	NR32 5JB	Football	Parish Council	One adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, all standard quality. The adult and youth 9v9 pitches are played to capacity, whilst the 11v11 and 7v7 pitches are at capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain quality to ensure no future overplay.	Parish FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect



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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
37	Denes Oval	NR32 IUY	Cricket	Town Council	One good quality square with 15 grass wickets and an NTP. The site has spare capacity on Sundays and during midweek but is played to capacity on Saturdays. It is identified as having basic, dated ancillary provision.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Town Council ECB	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
						Improve ancillary facilities.			M	S	M	
			Tennis		Four standard quality and four poor quality macadam courts used by Lowestoft TC. All eight courts are non-floodlit and available for community use.	Improve court quality to better accommodate demand and explore floodlighting opportunities to increase capacity.	Town Council LTA		M	S	M	
						Consider as a strategic site/area for the creation of indoor provision.			M	S	M	
39	Dip Farm Playing Fields	NR32 4LD	Football	District Council	One adult, one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch all of standard quality. All three are overplayed. Identified for grass pitch and ancillary facility improvements in the LFFP.	Improve pitch quality in line with LFFP recommendations to eradicate overplay.	District Council FA	Key centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
						Improve ancillary provision.			H	S	M	
			3G		Identified as a potential option for a full size pitch in the LFFP.	Explore option of providing a pitch against proposals at Barnards Soccer Centre and Benjamin Britten High School.			M	M	H	
40	East Point Academy	NR33 0UQ	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch with spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Provide security of tenure for club users via a community use agreement to provide actual spare capacity.	School FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect
			Cricket		One standard quality square with an NTP.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School ECB		L	L	L	
			Rugby union		One standard quality senior pitch with potential spare capacity that has been discounted due to school usage.	Retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Hockey		One standard quality, floodlit, full size pitch. The site is used by East Coast HC for training and matches.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for future long-term sustainability.	School EH		H	M	L	
						Pursue greater security of tenure for East Coast HC via the creation of a community use agreement.			H	S	L	
						Explore future use by Beccles HC in order to bring exported demand back into the District.			M	S	L	
			Tennis		Six standard quality, floodlit artificial courts that are available for community use.	Explore options to maximise use given the quantity of courts provided and the presence of floodlighting.	School LTA		M	S	L	
Netball	Four standard quality, floodlit artificial courts that are available for community usage.	Explore options to maximise community use given the quantity of courts provided and the presence of floodlighting.	School England Netball	M	S	L						
44	Elm Tree Primary School	NR33 9HN	Football	School	One adult pitch and one youth 9v9 pitch, both standard quality with spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide club users with security of tenure via the creation of a community use agreement.	School FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
68	Inspire Suffolk Colville House	NR33 9NB	Netball	Trust	One good quality artificial court that is floodlit.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	England Netball	Local	M	L	L	Protect
79	Kirkley & Pakefield Sports Club	NR33 7LE	Football	Club	One good quality adult pitch that is overplayed and three standard quality youth 11v11 and two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches that are played to capacity. Identified for grass pitch improvements in the LFFP.	Improve quality and transfer some demand to a site with actual spare capacity to eradicate overplay (or to the on-site 3G pitch).	Club FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect
			3G		A standard quality full size, floodlit pitch. FA approved to host competitive matches.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment.			M	M	L	
						Ensure FA testing every three years so that the pitch remains suitable for match play purposes and seek to maximise use for this purpose.			M	M	L	
87	Lowestoft & Yarmouth Rugby Club	NR32 5HE	Cricket	Club	One standard square with eight grass wickets. Currently unused. The Club has plans to relocate, with the site allocated for housing.	Through discussions with the ECB and Suffolk Cricket, determine whether cricket is required as part of the proposed relocation given lack of demand.	Club ECB	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			Rugby union		Three poor quality senior pitches, one of which is floodlit. The site has issues with drainage being inadequate meaning that waterlogging is a frequent problem. One pitch is considerably overplayed due to match and training demand, whilst the remaining two pitches are also overplayed due to match demand. The Club has plans to relocate, with the site allocated for housing.	Ensure replacement provision is provided in line with Sport England's Playing Field Policy.			Club RFU England Netball	H	M	
						To alleviate overplay as part of the relocation, provide the Club with five good quality grass pitches, with two floodlit, or a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch and three grass pitches.	H			M	H	
						Ensure appropriate ancillary facilities are provided.	H			M	M	
						Explore partnership with other sports clubs to make the relocation more viable (e.g. netball).	M		M	M		
88	Lowestoft Town Football Club	NR32 2PA	Football	Club	One good quality adult pitch played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance and ensure the Club can progress through the pyramid.	Club FA	Local	M	L	L	Protect
98	Normanston Park	NR32 2QB	Football	Town Council	Two poor quality adult pitches that are overplayed and one poor quality 9v9 pitch with spare capacity discounted.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay and to provide actual spare capacity.	Town Council FA	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		Two good quality squares each with six wickets. Currently unused.	Through discussions with the ECB and Suffolk Cricket, determine whether cricket provision is surplus to requirements and, if confirmed, consider re-configuration to meet other sporting needs providing that the cricket provision can be re-established should the need arise.	Town Council ECB		M	S	L	
			Tennis		Six poor quality, non-floodlit artificial courts that are available for community use.	Improve court quality and explore floodlighting potential to attract increased recreational demand	Town Council LTA		M	S	M	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
99	Northfield St Nicholas Academy	NR32 4HN	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular activity.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
102	Ormiston Denes Academy	NR32 4AH	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches that are played to capacity at peak time and one standard quality youth 9v9 pitch with spare capacity.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	School FA	Key centre	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		A 60x40 metre floodlit pitch that is available for community use.	Retain for recreational demand and explore opportunities for usage for mini football.				L	L	
			Rugby union		One standard quality senior pitch with spare capacity discounted due to school usage.	Retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Six standard quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use aspects and floodlighting opportunities with the School given quantity of courts provided.	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Four standard quality, overmarked non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community use.	Explore community use aspects and floodlighting opportunities with the School given quantity of courts provided.	School England Netball		M	S	M	
105	Oulton Broad Primary School	NR32 3JX	Netball	School	One standard quality, non-floodlit macadam court that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School England Netball	Local	L	L	L	Protect
106	Oulton Recreation Ground	NR32 3AZ	Football	District Council	One poor quality 11v11 pitch with spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	District Council FA	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
107	Pakefield High School	NR33 7AQ	Football	School	Two poor quality adult pitches that are unavailable for community use.	Improve pitch quality and explore community use options with the School.	School FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			Tennis		One good quality, floodlit macadam tennis court that is not available for community access.	Explore community use options with the School given the quality of the provision.	School LTA		M	S	L	
			Netball		One good quality, floodlit macadam court that is not available for community use.	Explore community use options with the School given the quality of the provision.	School England Netball		M	S	L	
109	Pakefield Primary School	NR33 7AQ	Football	School	One standard quality 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Rugby union		One poor quality junior pitch that is not available for community use.	No local demand; retain and explore improvement opportunities for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Netball		One poor quality, macadam court that is unavailable for community use.	Explore opportunities to improve quality for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
111	Poplars Primary School	NR32 4HN	Netball	School	One standard quality, non-floodlit court that is not available for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular use	School England Netball	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
113	Red Oak Primary School	NR33 0RZ	Football	School	A mini 7v7 and a mini 5v5 pitch, both of which are unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
118	Saturn Close Sports Ground	NR32 4PW	Football	Town Council	One standard quality adult pitch that is played to capacity. Ancillary provision has been identified as in need of improvement in the LFFP.	Ensure no additional usage without quality improvements to avoid future overplay.	Town Council School	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
						Improve ancillary provision and increase the number of changing rooms as part of this.			M	S	M	
127	Somerleyton Playing Field	NR32 5QL	Cricket	Parish Council	One standard quality square with eight grass wickets. The site has spare capacity for all formats of play. The ancillary provision on this site has been identified as poor quality and additional practice nets are required.	Seek to improve square quality to better accommodate demand.	Parish ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
						Improve ancillary provision and practice facilities.			M	S	M	
			Tennis		One standard quality macadam court that is without floodlights.	Explore opportunities to improve quality to better accommodate recreational demand, including the potential provision of floodlights.	Parish LTA		L	S	L	
136	St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School	NR33 0DG	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 5v5 pitches that are unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
141	Swanton Herons Football Club	NR33 0TP	Football	Club	Disused football provision.	Explore options to bring supply back into use to relieve local shortfalls and ensure any permanent loss meet Sport England's Playing Field Policy (i.e. Exception 4).	FA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Provide
144	The Ashley School Academy Trust	NR32 4EU	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Rugby union		One standard quality junior pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School RFU		L	L	L	
154	Warren School	NR33 8HT	Football	School	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options with the School given local shortfalls of pitch type.	School FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
155	Waterlane Leisure Centre	NR32 2NH	Hockey	District Council	One 35x18 metre floodlit pitch.	Retain for continued recreational usage.	EH	Council Local	L	L	L	Protect
158	Westwood Primary School	NR33 9RR	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
178	Kensington Gardens	NR33 0HY	Tennis	Town Council	Four poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and explore floodlighting options to attract increased recreational activity.	Town Council LTA	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green used by Kensington Gardens BC.	Sustain quality.	Town Council Bowls England		M	L	L	
183	Nicholas Everitt Park	NR33 9JR	Tennis	Parish Council	Four standard quality, floodlit macadam courts that are available for community use and is used by Waveney TC.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Parish LTA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Bowls		One standard quality bowling green used by Oulton Broad BC. Access to the pavilion has not been allowed following the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and seek resolution to the ancillary facility access issues.	Parish Bowls England		M	S	L	
210	Lowestoft Railway Social Club	NR33 0LZ	Bowls	Private	One good quality bowling green used by Lowestoft Railway BC.	Sustain quality.	Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
214	Sparrows Nest Bowls Club	NR32 1XG	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green used by Sparrows Nest BC.	Sustain quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
215	Waveney Bowls Club	NR32 5DW	Bowls	Club	One standard quality bowling green used by Waveney BC.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Club Bowls England	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
216	Somerleyton Bowls Club	NR32 5DQ	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green used by Somerleyton BC.	Sustain quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	Oakes Farm	-	3G	District Council	Identified in the LFFP as a preferred site for the creation of a full size 3G pitch as part of a particularly large housing allocation.	Develop a 3G pitch, potentially as part of a wider hub site that also accommodates other sports such as athletics.	District Council FA England Athletics	Hub site	H	L	H	Provide
-	Corton Bowling Club	NR32 5AD	Bowls	Parish	A disused bowling green.	Explore local demand and ensure any permanent loss meets Sport England's Playing Field Policy (i.e. Exception 4), potentially via provision for other sports.	Parish Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	Lound Bowling Club	NR32 5II	Bowls	Parish	A disused bowling green.	Explore local demand and ensure any permanent loss meets Sport England's Playing Field Policy (i.e. Exception 4), potentially via provision for other sports.	Parish Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect



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**AREA 8 (MELTON, WOODBRIDGE & DEBEN PENINSULA)**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
3	Alderton Recreation Ground	IP12 3BZ	Football	Parish Council	Disused football provision.	Explore options to bring supply back into use to relieve local shortfalls and ensure any permanent loss meet Sport England's Playing Field Policy (i.e. Exception 4).	Parish FA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Bowls		One standard quality bowling green used by Alderton BC.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Parish Bowls England		M	S	L	
8	Bawdsey Primary School	IP12 3AR	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain and improve for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
9	Bawdsey Recreation Ground	IP12 3AH	Tennis	Parish Council	Two poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts.	Improve quality to better accommodate recreational demand, including the exploration of floodlighting.	Parish LTA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One poor quality, non-floodlit court.	Improve quality.	Parish England Netball		M	S	M	
17	Blaxhall Playing Field	IP12 2DH	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with spare capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect
47	Farlingaye High School	IP12 4JX	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch that is played to capacity and two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches with spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide users with security of tenure via the creation of a community use agreement.	School FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One square with a standalone NTP.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use.	School ECB		L	L	L	
			Rugby union		Two standard quality senior pitches that are available for community use, with spare capacity discounted due to school usage.	Retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Six poor quality, floodlit, artificial courts with no community use.	Improve court quality and then re-examine community use aspects with the School given quantity of courts and presence of floodlighting.	School LTA		M	S	M	
			Netball		Four poor quality, floodlit, artificial courts that are unavailable for community use.	Improve court quality and then re-examine community use aspects with the School given quantity of courts and presence of floodlighting.	School England Netball		M	S	M	
62	HMP Hollesley Bay Colony	IP12 3JW	Football	Private	One standard adult pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for continued private use.	FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		Two standard quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are unavailable to the community.	Retain for continued private use.	LTA		L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
63	HMP Warren Hill	IP12 3BF	Football	Private	One standard quality adult pitch and one standard quality 7v7 pitch that are unavailable for community use.	Retain for continued private use.	FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
65	Hollesey Village Playing Field	IP12 3QR	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch with spare capacity discounted due to poor quality, and one poor quality 9v9 pitch that is overplayed.	Improve quality to alleviate overplay and to provide actual spare capacity	Parish FA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green used by Hollesley BC.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Parish Bowls England		L	L	L	
71	Jubilee Park	IP12 2GT	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch that is overplayed.	Improve quality to alleviate overplay.	Parish FA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
78	Kingston Playing Field	IP12 4BA	Football	Town Council	One youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of which are standard quality and played to capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain quality to ensure no future overplay.	Town Council FA	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Provide
			Cricket		One standard quality square with an NTP.	Sustain quality for recreational demand.	Town Council ECB		M	L	L	
			Tennis		Six good quality, floodlit macadam courts that are used by Woodbridge TC. The site is currently operating over recommended capacity, with 191 members.	Sustain court quality through appropriate maintenance. Explore options to provide Woodbridge TC with access to more court space to relieve capacity issues.	Town Council LTA		M	L	L	
			Pétanque		One pétanque terrain.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Town Council Pétanque Alliance		L	L	L	
93	Melton Recreation Ground	IP12 1NZ	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with spare capacity at peak time and one standard quality 9v9 pitch played to capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey		One 31x16 metre, non-floodlit pitch.	Retain for continue recreational demand.	Parish EH		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Two standard quality, non-floodlit macadam courts.	Seek quality improvements to better accommodate demand explore floodlighting options to increase recreational demand.	Parish LTA		L	S	L	
101	Orford Recreation Ground	IP12 2LX	Football	Parish Council	Two standard quality adult pitches with spare capacity at peak time	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts used by Orford TC.	Seek quality improvements to better accommodate demand explore floodlighting options to increase potential capacity.	Parish LTA		M	S	L	
114	Rendlesham Primary School	IP12 2GF	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	No local demand; retain and for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Netball		One standard quality, non-floodlit macadam court.	retain and for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School LTA		L	L	L	



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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
117	Rock Barracks	IP12 3LU	Football	MOD	One standard adult pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for continued private use.	FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Rugby union		One standard senior pitch that is not available for community use.	Retain for continued private use.	RFU		L	L	L	
			Hockey		A full size pitch that is generally reserved for private use.	Retain for continued private use.	EH		L	L	L	
132	St Audrys Sports & Social Club	IP12 1LX	Football	Club	Two standard quality adult pitches played to capacity at peak time.	As a minimum, sustain quality to ensure no future overplay.	Club FA	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			Cricket		One good quality square with 13 grass wickets. Significantly overplayed through use by Melton Achilles Youth CC and Melton St Audry's CC, with having aspirations for nets to be provided.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club ECB		M	L	L	
						Install an NTP to relieve capacity issues and explore opportunities to provide users with access to a secondary venue.			H	S	L	
						Install practice nets.			M	S	L	
135	St Mary's Primary School	IP12 4JJ	Football	School	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options with the School given local shortfalls.	School FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide
140	Sutton Recreation Ground	IP12 3JQ	Bowls	Community	One standard quality green, leased by Sutton BC. The Club is currently operating below the recommended capacity guidelines.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Bowls England	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
						Ensure the Club remains sustainable despite its low membership base through attracting increased demand.			M	S	L	
149	Tunstall Playing Field	IP12 2JB	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch with spare capacity at peak time.	Seek to utilise actual capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	Parish FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect
			Netball		One standard quality, non-floodlit macadam court.	Ensure appropriate maintenance to, as a minimum, sustain quality.	Parish England Netball	Local	L	L	L	Protect
161	Woodbridge Rugby Club	IP12 2PP	Rugby union	Club	Three good quality senior pitches, two of which are floodlit. One is played to capacity due to match usage and occasional training demand, whilst the other is considerably overplayed. The non-floodlit pitch has minimal spare capacity.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance and explore opportunities to further enhance quality to reduce overplay.	Club RFU	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
						Explore floodlighting of third pitch to allow for training demand to be more evenly spread out.			M	S	M	
						To fully eradicate overplay, provide the Club with access to a greater number of pitches or secure use of a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch.			M	M	M	
162	Woodbridge School	IP12 4JH	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches with spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide club users with security of tenure via the creation of a community use agreement.	School FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Cricket		One good quality square with 11 grass wickets. Unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options with the School and the potential for the site to provide a secondary venue for any clubs in the locality with capacity issues.	School ECB		M	S	L	
			Rugby union		One standard quality, non-floodlit senior pitch with potential spare capacity that is discounted due to school usage.	Retain as community available should demand existing in the future.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Hockey		A full size pitch that was resurfaced in 2021 and is therefore good quality. Currently unused for hockey.	Explore potential future hockey demand via Ipswich East Suffolk HC given the quality of the pitch.	School EH		M	S	L	
						Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.			M	L	L	
			Tennis		Three poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available to community use.	Improve quality and then re-examine community use aspects.	School LTA		M	S	L	
			Netball		Two poor quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available to the community.	Improve quality and then re-examine community use aspects.	School England Netball		M	S	L	
163	Woodbridge School Prep	IP12 1DS	Cricket	School	A good quality square with seven grass wickets but no community access.	Explore community use options with the School and the potential for the site to provide a secondary venue for any clubs in the locality with capacity issues.	School ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect
			Rugby union		One standard quality junior pitch that is not available to the community.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Two good quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community access.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School LTA		L	L	L	
			Netball		Two good quality, non-floodlit macadam courts that are not available for community access.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
164	Notcutts Park (Woodbridge Town Football Club)	IP12 4TT	Football	Private	Two standard quality adult pitches that are played to capacity. Woodbridge Town FC's lease will expire in 2024 with an additional extension not to be granted.	Relocate the Club to an alternative venue that meets all of its requirements and ensure any permanent loss meets Sport England's Playing Fields Policy (i.e. Exception 4).	FA	Key centre	H	S	H	Protect Enhance
			3G		A priority project in the LFFP is to provide Woodbridge Town FC with access to a 3G pitch.	Consider installation of a full size 3G pitch as part of any relocation of the Club.			H	S	H	
189	Sudbourne Hall	IP12 2AJ	Cricket	Private	One good quality square with 10 grass wickets and one NTP. Used by Sudbourne Hall CC although actual spare capacity existing for all formats of play.	Sustain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance.	ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
190	Worlingworth Cricket Club	IP13 7EF	Cricket	Club	A standard quality square with eight grass courts and one NTP. The site is overplayed.	Improve square quality to reduce overplay and transfer additional demand to on site NTP to fully eradicate it.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
191	Fishpond Meadows	IP12 4QX	Cricket	Private	One standard quality square with three grass wickets. The site has no spare capacity at peak time for any format of play and is serviced by poor quality ancillary and practice facilities.	Seek to improve pitch, practice and ancillary facility quality to better accommodate demand.	ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
195	Woodbridge Bowls Club	IP12 1BB	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green used by Woodbridge BC. The Club is currently operating over the recommended capacity guidelines.	Sustain green quality and ensure the Club remains provided for at the site despite its large membership base.	Club Bowls England	Local	M	L	L	Protect
196	Melton Bowls Club	IP12 1PE	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green used by Melton BC.	Sustain green quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
197	Tunstall Bowls Club	IP12 2JE	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green used by Tunstall & District BC.	Sustain green quality through appropriate maintenance.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
232	Woodbridge Golf Club	IP12 2PF	Golf	Club	A members club with an 18-hole course and a 9-hole course. The site has 684 members.	Retain course given large membership base and localised importance of the driving range.	Club England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
239	Ufford Park Golf Club	IP12 1QW	Golf	Private	A proprietary facility with an 18-hole course and a 9-hole golf course as well as a 32-bay floodlit driving range. The site has 241 members which represents a 5.70% increase from 2015.	Retain provision.	England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
244	St Audry's Golf Club	IP12 1SY	Golf	Members	A members 9-hole course with 157 members.	Ensure club remains sustainable given dwindling membership numbers.	England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
256	Bromeswell Village Hall	IP12 2PZ	Pétanque	Community	One pétanque terrain used by Bromeswell.	Retain for continued pétanque use and ensure adequate quality.	Pétanque Alliance	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	St Audry's Bowls Club	IP12 1TA	Bowls	Parish	A disused bowling green.	Explore local demand and ensure any permanent loss meets Sport England's Playing Field Policy (i.e. Exception 4), potentially via provision for other sports.	Parish Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect

# EAST SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

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

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

Currently, the Playing Pitch Calculator is based on the former authorities of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, rather than East Suffolk as a whole. As such, the scenarios below have been run for both areas. The scenarios are as follows:

- ◀ **Scenario 1:** Overall outstanding housing growth during the Local Plan period.
- ◀ **Scenario 2:** Yearly housing growth target
- ◀ **Scenario 3:** A development of 100-dwellings (to show how the Calculator can work for single developments).

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

The indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.4 people per dwelling, which is based on a national average.

### **Scenario 1: Overall outstanding housing growth during the Local Plan period**

The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan identifies a requirement for 9,756 new homes over the Local Plan Period (2018-2036), equating to 542 new homes per year. For the period up to April 2021, completions figures show that a total of 1,761 have been delivered (which is 135 above the yearly target). This means an outstanding amount equating to 7,995 dwellings, resulting in a predicted growth of 19,188 people.

*Table 7.1: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from 7,995 dwellings (Suffolk Coastal)*

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 7,995 dwellings	
	Match equivalent sessions	Training demand
Adult football	5.34 per week	42.04 hours
Youth football	9.55 per week	
Mini soccer	6.13 per week	
Rugby union	2.73 per week	3.15 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.00 per week	0.00 match equivalent sessions

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Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 7,995 dwellings	
	Match equivalent sessions	Training demand
Adult hockey	0.88 per week	2.63 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.48 per week	1.13 hours
Cricket	64.36 per season	N/A

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs (based on Sport England's Facility Cost Guidance). The total capital cost for accommodating the growth in demand equates to £3,455,776 for pitches and £5,570,319 for changing rooms. This is in addition to lifecycle costs of £503,582 per annum.

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	5.34	£517,944	£109,286	10.86	£1,786,905
Youth football	9.55	£741,376	£155,689	11.62	£1,944,840
Mini soccer	6.13	£148,579	£31,202	N/A	N/A
Rugby union	2.73	£370,499	£79,287	5.46	£913,015
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	1.40	£400,536	£80,908	2.80	£468,424
Sand based AGPs	0.26	£209,062	£6,481	0.52	£86,899
3G	1.11	£1,067,781	£40,730	2.21	£370,235

For Waveney, the Local Plan identifies a requirement for 8,223 new homes over the Local Period (2014-2036), equating to 374 new homes per year. For the period up to April 2021, completions figures show that a total of 1,519 have been delivered (which is 1,099 below the yearly target). This means an outstanding amount equating to 6,704 dwellings, resulting in a predicted growth of 16,090 people.

Table 7.3: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from 6,074 dwellings (Waveney)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 6,074 dwellings	
	Match equivalent sessions	Training demand
Adult football	4.05 per week	32.42 hours
Youth football	7.38 per week	
Mini soccer	4.78 per week	
Rugby union	2.19 per week	2.51 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.00 per week	0.00 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.67 per week	2.00 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.36 per week	0.87 hours
Cricket	48.63 per season	N/A

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs. The total capital cost for accommodating the growth in demand equates to £2,659,657 for pitches and £4,269,421 for changing rooms. This is in addition to lifecycle costs of £388,202 per annum.

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Table 7.4: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>12</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>13</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	4.05	£393,159	£82,957	8.11	£1,356,339
Youth football	7.38	£572,611	£120,248	8.83	£1,477,501
Mini soccer	4.78	£115,898	£24,338	N/A	N/A
Rugby union	2.19	£297,700	£63,708	4.38	£733,618
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	1.05	£300,462	£60,693	2.10	£351,387
Sand based AGPs	0.19	£156,330	£4,846	0.39	£63,980
3G	0.85	£823,498	£31,412	1.71	£285,535

Combining the requirements in Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, the total capital cost equals £6,115,433, whilst the changing room cost equals £9,839,740. The lifecycle cost equals £891,784 per annum.

This scenario identifies what the overall requirements may be over the Local Plan period. Whilst the facility requirements and costs are seemingly high, it must be remembered that this covers a long period of time and a large area. In reality, when the Calculator is used for specific developments, the majority will not require new provision in their own right, with contributions instead to be directed to improving existing playing pitch sites.

### Scenario 2: Yearly housing growth target

The yearly housing growth target in Suffolk Coastal is 542 new homes per year, equating to a population growth of 1,301 people.

Table 7.5: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from 542 dwellings (Suffolk Coastal)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 542 dwellings	
	Match equivalent sessions	Training demand
Adult football	0.36 per week	2.85 hours
Youth football	0.65 per week	
Mini soccer	0.42 per week	
Rugby union	0.18 per week	0.25 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.00 per week	0.00 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.06 per week	0.18 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.03 per week	0.08 hours
Cricket	4.36 per season	N/A

The total capital cost for accommodating this growth in demand equates to £234,300 for pitches and £377,661 for changing rooms. This is in addition to lifecycle costs of £34,143 per annum.

<sup>12</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>13</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)



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Table 7.6: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.36	£35,120	£7,410	0.72	£121,163
Youth football	0.65	£50,260	£10,555	0.79	£131,842
Mini soccer	0.42	£10,074	£2,116	N/A	N/A
Rugby union	0.18	£25,119	£5,376	0.37	£61,902
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.09	£27,157	£5,486	0.19	£31,760
Sand based AGPs	0.02	£14,175	£439	0.04	£5,892
3G	0.08	£72,394	£2,761	0.15	£25,102

The yearly housing growth target in Waveney is 374 new homes per year, equating to a population growth of 898 people.

Table 7.7: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from 374 dwellings (Waveney)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 374 dwellings	
	Match equivalent sessions	Training demand
Adult football	0.23 per week	1.81 hours
Youth football	0.41 per week	
Mini soccer	0.27 per week	
Rugby union	0.12 per week	0.14 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.00 per week	0.00 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.04 per week	0.11 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.02 per week	0.05 hours
Cricket	2.71 per season	N/A

The total capital cost for accommodating this growth in demand equates to £148,456 for pitches and £238,327 for changing rooms. This is in addition to lifecycle costs of £21,669 per annum.

Table 7.8: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.23	£21,945	£4,630	0.45	£75,710
Youth football	0.41	£31,964	£6,712	0.49	£82,492
Mini soccer	0.27	£6,469	£1,358	N/A	N/A
Rugby union	0.12	£16,616	£3,556	0.24	£40,947
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.06	£16,770	£3,388	0.12	£19,613
Sand based AGPs	0.01	£8,725	£270	0.02	£2,627
3G	0.05	£45,966	£1,753	0.10	£15,938

Combining the requirements in Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, the total capital cost equals £382,756, whilst the changing room cost equals £615,988. The lifecycle cost equals £55,812 per annum.



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### Scenario 3: A development of 100-dwellings

To show how the Calculator could work for a single development (or group of developments), the population growth from 100 dwellings would equate to 240 people. The impact in Suffolk Coastal is shown below.

Table 7.9: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from 100 dwellings (Suffolk Coastal)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 100 dwellings	
	Match equivalent sessions	Training demand
Adult football	0.07 per week	0.53 hours
Youth football	0.12 per week	
Mini soccer	0.08 per week	
Rugby union	0.03 per week	0.04 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.00 per week	0.00 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.01 per week	0.03 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.01 per week	0.01 hours
Cricket	0.81 per season	N/A

The total capital cost for accommodating this growth in demand equates to £43,224 for pitches and £69,672 for changing rooms. This is in addition to lifecycle costs of £6,298 per annum.

Table 7.10: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.07	£6,477	£1,367	0.13	£22,346
Youth football	0.12	£9,275	£1,948	0.15	£24,335
Mini soccer	0.08	£1,859	£390	N/A	N/A
Rugby union	0.03	£4,632	£991	0.07	£11,414
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.02	£5,010	£1,012	0.04	£5,860
Sand based AGPs	0.01	£2,615	£81	0.01	£1,087
3G	0.01	£13,356	£509	0.03	£4,613

Similarly, the tables below show the impact of a 100-dwelling development in Waveney (again based on population growth of 240 people).

Table 7.11: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from 100 dwellings (Waveney)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 100 dwellings	
	Match equivalent sessions	Training demand
Adult football	0.06 per week	0.48 hours
Youth football	0.11 per week	
Mini soccer	0.07 per week	
Rugby union	0.03 per week	0.04 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.00 per week	0.00 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.01 per week	0.03 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.01 per week	0.01 hours
Cricket	0.73 per season	N/A

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The total capital cost for accommodating this growth in demand equates to £39,661 for pitches and £63,632 for changing rooms. This is in addition to lifecycle costs of £5,788 per annum.

Table 7.12: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.06	£5,860	£1,237	0.12	£20,219
Youth football	0.01	£8,537	£1,793	0.13	£22,009
Mini soccer	0.07	£1,731	£363	N/A	N/A
Rugby union	0.03	£4,438	£950	0.07	£10,937
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.02	£4,480	£905	0.03	£5,240
Sand based AGPs	0.01	£2,332	£72	0.01	£969
3G	0.01	£12,283	£469	0.03	£4,259

Combining the requirements in Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, the total capital cost equals £82,885, whilst the changing room cost equals £133,034. The lifecycle cost equals £12,077 per annum.

When a development does not equate to the need for a whole pitch for any sport, the likely recommendation, as would be the case in the above scenario, is that contributions should be directed to improving existing sites. This is opposed to new provision being created, as such provision is unlikely to receive enough demand to be sustainable. The PPOSS and particularly the Action Plan can be used to determine appropriate sites in the locality of the development.

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

#### ***Delivery***

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

It is important that this document is used in a practical manner, is engaged with partners and encourages partnerships to be developed and maintained to ensure that outdoor sports facilities are regarded as a vital aspect of community life and which contribute to the achievement of Council priorities. The Strategy should therefore be regarded as part of the planning process, with the success of study and the benefits that are gained from it being dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach. Each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPOSS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence.

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

The process of completing the PPOSS will hopefully have already resulted in a number of benefits that will help with its application and delivery. These may include enhanced partnership working across different agendas and organisations, pooling of resources along with strengthening relationships and understanding between different stakeholders and between members of the Steering Group and the sporting community. The drivers behind the PPOSS and the work to develop the recommendations and action plan will have also highlighted, and helped the Steering Group to understand, the key areas to which it can be applied and how it can be delivered.

#### ***Monitoring and updating***

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

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

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Alongside regular steering group meetings, a good way to keep the strategy up to date and maintain relationships is to also hold sport specific meetings with the NGBs and other relevant parties. These should look to update the key supply and demand information, if necessary amend the assessment work, track progress with implementing the recommendations and action plan and highlight any new issues and opportunities.

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

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


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

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

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## Checklist

To help ensure the 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
<b>Step 9: Apply &amp; deliver the strategy</b>		
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?		
<b>Step 10: Keep the strategy robust &amp; up to date</b>		
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 ONE: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

#### National context

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

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

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

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

#### ***Sport England: Uniting the Movement 2021***

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

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

There are three key objectives to the Strategy:

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

### **National Planning Policy Framework (2019)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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### ***The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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### ***The FA: National Game Strategy (2018-2021)***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### ***The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan (2017-2021)***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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The core objectives are as follows:

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

### *Club participation*

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

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

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

### **England Hockey Strategy**

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

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

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

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

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

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

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

### ***LTA Facilities Investment Strategy – Vision for the 2020 and beyond***

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

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

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

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

The key principles of the framework are to:

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

### ***England Netball - Your Game, Your Way 2013-17***

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



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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.

### ***Bowls England: Strategic Plan 2014-2017***

Although the Plan is out of date, it 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### ***England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)***

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

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

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

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

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

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

### APPENDIX TWO: GLOSSARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Overplay** is when a pitch is used over the amount that the carrying capacity will allow, (i.e. more than the site can accommodate). Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected.

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

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