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Waveney District Council

***Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports
Facilities Assessment***

July 2014

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The objectives of the assessment

- 1) The objectives of the assessment are to:
 - To identify the existing quantity and quality of pitches and outdoor sports facilities in Waveney district.
 - To identify areas with a deficiency or surplus of provision.
 - To review existing local standards of provision and accessibility.
 - To identify the potential for shared use of facilities.
 - To make recommendations for the provision, protection and improvement for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities across the district.
 - To recommend sport facilities that should be provided at Oakes Farm.

What the assessment covers

- 2) The assessment covers the following pitches and facilities in Waveney district:
 - Football (mini, youth, adult).
 - Cricket.
 - Rugby Union (mini, junior, adult).
 - Hockey (Artificial Turf Pitches).
 - Athletics tracks.
 - Bowling greens.
 - Netball courts.
 - Tennis courts.

About Waveney

- 3) **Population** - The current population of Waveney is 115,300. The relatively aged population structure is likely to reduce relative demand in the district for the sports that use playing pitches. However, demand for sports like bowls with a relatively elderly participation profile, are likely to be inflated.
- 4) **Ethnicity** - The ethnicity of 97.7% of the population is classified as 'White'. Black and minority ethnic groups traditionally have lower rates of involvement in physical activity, so demand levels in a predominantly White population should normally generate above average demand.
- 5) **Growth** - Population growth of 6,100 people (a 5.3% increase) by 2021 will inflate demand for pitches and outdoor sports facilities. Existing playing fields may come under threat of development to accommodate new housing. However, developer contributions will provide an opportunity to fund provision that will demonstrably meet the needs of the new residents.
- 6) **Income** - The relatively low wage local economy will limit the amount of disposable income available for discretionary spending on activities such as sport and should therefore decrease demand levels.

- 7) **Health** - Poor health indices locally underline the importance of ensuring access to sports facilities, as part of a wider strategy to get the local population more physically active.
- 8) **Deprivation** - Although the deprivation indices for Waveney as a whole are around the national average, there are significant variations at a more local level. Since deprivation is associated with lower rates for participation in sport and physical activity, patterns of demand are likely to vary within the district as a whole.

Sport in Waveney

- 9) **Participation rates** - Based on the 'Active People' survey, overall adult weekly participation rates in all sports in Waveney have increased since 2005/6 but at 33.3% remain well below the regional (36.0%) and national (36.0%) averages, suggesting that local demand for pitches and sports facilities will be commensurately lower.
- 10) **Club membership** - Sports club membership rates for all sport are comparatively high (26.4% compared with the regional (23.7%) and national (22.8%) figures, which underlines the important role played by voluntary sector sports clubs in delivering local opportunities.
- 11) **Market Segmentation** - The local data suggests that based upon the local demography, the relatively large proportion of Waveney residents from market segments which traditionally plays bowls will inflate demand for this sport.

Meeting local priorities

- 12) **Corporate Plan** - The Council's Corporate Plan includes a commitment to promote active and healthy lifestyles and playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities are an integral means of facilitating this priority.
- 13) **Core Strategy** - The Waveney Core Strategy contains positive policies on the provision and retention of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities, although the reference to deficiencies identified in the 2002 pitch and non-pitch assessment will need to be updated to reflect the findings of this study.
- 14) **Site-specific Allocations** - The Site-specific Allocations Document identifies a number of sites either involving the loss and reprovision of pitches, or new sites such as Oakes Farm. These will provide opportunities for meeting additional needs identified through the strategy.
- 15) **The 2002 pitch and non-pitch assessment** - The document, which was partially updated in 2006, provides a snapshot of local provision as a baseline for the current study. However, the methodology it used has since been superseded as the recommended basis for assessing facilities needs and the current study will therefore provide a more robust and defensible basis for analysing current and future requirements.

Meeting wider priorities

- 16) **Central Government** - National planning policy is supportive of undertaking local assessments of need and the protection of playing fields and outdoor sports facilities, which provides helpful context for local planning policies in Waveney.

- 17) **Sport England** - The target to increase participation rates will drive up demand for pitches and outdoor sports facilities if it is achieved. The emphasis on developing and funding school-community club links will increase the scope for improving the dual use of education pitches and facilities.
- 18) **Governing bodies of sport** - All the governing bodies of sport have similar facilities objectives, to improve the quality of pitches/facilities and changing provision and many are introducing new, more accessible formats of their sports some of which, such as 'Last Man Standing' in cricket, have additional and specific pitch requirements.

Local demand

- 19) **Adult football** - There are 89 adult male and 4 adult female teams in Waveney. The proportion of the adult population that plays football locally (7.1%) is above the regional (6.6%) and national (5.2%) averages.
- 20) **Youth football** - There are 81 youth male and 10 youth female teams in Waveney. The proportion of the population aged 10 to 17 that plays football locally (19.3% male and 1.9% Female) is below the regional (24.8% and 2.3%) and national (20.5% and 2.0%) averages.
- 21) **Mini-soccer** - There are 54 mini-soccer teams in Waveney. The proportion of the population aged 6 to 9 that plays football locally (12.3%) is above the regional (11.5%) and national (9.6%) averages.
- 22) **Cricket** - There are 38 adult male, one adult female, 20 junior male and no junior female cricket teams in Waveney.
- 23) **Rugby** - There are five adult male, two adult female, 19 junior male, four junior female and 15 mixed mini-rugby teams in Waveney.
- 24) **Hockey** - There are three adult male, five adult female, no junior male and one junior female hockey teams in Waveney.
- 25) **Athletics** - There are three athletics clubs in Waveney, with a collective membership of around 580, but according to the 'Active People' survey, only 3.4% of the adult population participates in running, which is well below the regional (6.3%) and national (6.9%) averages.
- 26) **Bowls** - There are 20 bowls clubs in Waveney, but the membership of most is either static or declining.
- 27) **Tennis** - There are seven tennis clubs in Waveney and membership is generally either static or increasing slightly.
- 28) **Netball** - There are 12 netball teams in Waveney and membership is essentially static.

Local supply

- 29) **Adult football pitches** - There are 40 community-accessible adult football pitches in Waveney, 86% of which have secured public access. The use of five pitches was recently discontinued and 14 pitches are on school sites with no community access. Per capita levels of provision are worse than all the neighbouring local authorities but are relatively even across the district apart from Lowestoft South, which has poorer per capita rates. The quality of 41% of pitches is rated as 'good' and a further 51% are of 'standard' quality. No parts of Waveney are beyond a 15 minute drivetime of the nearest pitch, whilst 90% of the population are within a 15 minute cycle catchment and 70% within a 15 minute walking catchment. People without access to a car and living outside the walking and cycling time catchments are likely to find difficulty in accessing their nearest pitch, although local consultation did not identify any specific pockets of latent demand.
- 30) **Youth football pitches** - There are 23 community-accessible youth football pitches in Waveney, 78% of which have secured public access. The use of five pitches was recently discontinued and 11 pitches on school sites have no community access. Per capita levels of provision are below the average for all the neighbouring local authorities but are relatively even across the district apart from Lowestoft South, which has poorer per capita rates. The quality of 67% of pitches is rated as 'good' and a further 25% are of 'standard' quality. Only two very small sparsely populated rural parts of the district are beyond a 15 minute drivetime of the nearest pitch, whilst 75% of the population are within a 15 minute cycle catchment and 60% within a 15 minute walking catchment. People without access to a car and living outside the walking and cycling time catchments are likely to find difficulty in accessing their nearest pitch, although local consultation did not identify any specific areas of latent demand.
- 31) **Mini-soccer pitches** - There are 19 community-accessible mini-soccer pitches in Waveney, 79% of which have secured public access. The use of one pitch was recently discontinued and there are 35 further pitches on school sites with no community access. The per capita levels of provision are around the average for all the neighbouring local authorities and are relatively even across the district apart from Lowestoft South and Beccles, which have poorer per capita rates. The quality of 95% of pitches is rated as 'good' and the remaining 5% are of 'standard' quality. Only two very small sparsely populated rural parts of the district are beyond a 15 minute drivetime of the nearest pitch, whilst 70% of the population are within a 15 minute cycle catchment and 60% within a 15 minute walking catchment. People without access to a car and living outside the walking and cycling time catchments are likely to find difficulty in accessing their nearest pitch, although local consultation did not identify any specific pockets of latent demand.
- 32) **Cricket pitches** - There are 11 community-accessible cricket pitches in Waveney, collectively comprising 75 grass and nine artificial turf wickets, all of which have secured public access. The use of a further four pitches was recently discontinued and there are also four pitches on school sites with no community access. The per capita levels of provision are below the average for all the neighbouring local authorities and are relatively even across the district apart from Lowestoft South, which has poorer per capita rates. The quality of 73% of pitches is rated as 'good' and the remaining 27% are of 'standard' quality. No parts of Waveney are beyond 15 minutes drivetime of the nearest pitch, whilst 75% of the population are within a 15 minute cycle catchment and 60% within a 15 minute walking catchment. People without access to a car and living outside the walking and cycling time catchments are likely to find difficulty in accessing their nearest pitch, although local consultation did not identify any specific pockets of latent demand.

- 33) **Rugby pitches** - There are nine community-accessible rugby pitches in Waveney all of which have secured public access. The use of one further pitch was recently discontinued and there are also three pitches on school sites with no community access. The per capita levels of provision are below the average for all the neighbouring local authorities and are relatively even across the district apart from Lowestoft South, which has poorer per capita rates and Bungay and Halesworth which have no provision at all. The quality of seven pitches is rated as 'good', but the drainage at College Meadow, Beccles renders the quality of the two pitches at that site as 'poor'. One small sparsely populated rural area in the south-west of the district is beyond 20 minutes drivetime of the nearest pitch, whilst 60% of the population are within a 15 minute cycle catchment and 50% within a 15 minute walking catchment. People without access to a car and living outside the walking and cycling time catchments are likely to find difficulty in accessing their nearest pitch, although local consultation did not identify any specific pockets of latent demand.
- 34) **Synthetic turf pitches** - There are two community-accessible full-sized STPs in Waveney (Barnards Centre Point and East Point Academy) both of which have secured public access. A further full-sized pitch is planned at Kirkley and Pakefield CSSC. These are supplemented by three small-sided synthetic turf pitches, capable of accommodating youth/mini matches and training for all age groups. Only one full-sized synthetic turf pitch is sand-filled and therefore suitable for accommodating competitive hockey play. The per capita levels of provision are below the average for all the neighbouring local authorities. The quality of all pitches is rated as 'standard'. One small sparsely populated rural area in the south of the district is beyond 20 minutes drivetime of the nearest pitch, whilst 60% of the population are within a 15 minute cycle catchment and 50% within a 15 minute walking catchment. People without access to a car and living outside the walking and cycling time catchments are likely to find difficulty in accessing their nearest pitch. Local consultation identified latent demand in Beccles and Halesworth.
- 35) **Athletics tracks** - There is no synthetic athletics track in Waveney. None of the other three neighbouring local authorities has a track. An estimated 91% of the district population is within UK Athletics recommended drive time of 45 minutes from the track in Great Yarmouth, although 43% of the population (50,000 people) live beyond the 20 minute drivetime recommended by UK Athletics for urban residents. People without access to a car will find difficulty in accessing the Great Yarmouth track and local consultation identified significant latent demand for more athletics facilities of some form.
- 36) **Bowling greens** - There are 21 community-accessible bowls greens in Waveney. Per capita rates are above average for the comparator authorities. The quality of greens and changing facilities is generally above 'average', but there are some disabled access issues at some sites. Accessibility to bowls greens is good throughout the district with almost total drive time coverage, 80% population coverage for cycling and 60% coverage for walking. People without access to a car and living outside the walking and cycling time catchments are likely to find difficulty in accessing their nearest green, although local consultation did not identify any specific pockets of latent demand.

37) **Tennis courts** - There are 44 community-accessible tennis courts in Waveney. Per capita rates are around the norm for the neighbouring local authorities and provision is relatively even across the six sub-areas in Waveney. The quality of court surfaces and fencing is in most cases above ‘average’, but there is a lack of changing facilities at some sites and some disabled access issues. Accessibility to tennis courts is good throughout the district with almost total drive time coverage, 80% population coverage for cycling and 60% coverage for walking. People without access to a car and living outside the walking and cycling time catchments are likely to find difficulty in accessing their nearest court, although local consultation did not identify any specific pockets of latent demand.

38) **Netball courts** - There are 11 community-accessible netball courts in Waveney. All courts in the district are on school sites and all are of above ‘average’ quality. Accessibility to netball courts is good throughout the district with almost total drive time coverage, 70% population coverage for cycling and 50% coverage for walking. People without access to a car and living outside the walking and cycling time catchments are likely to find difficulty in accessing their nearest court, although local consultation did not identify any specific pockets of latent demand.

The current balance between supply and demand for pitches

39) **Methodology** - The current balance between supply and demand was assessed using Sport England’s new site-specific playing pitch methodology.

40) **Current needs** - The results of the assessment were as follows:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Adult football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spare districtwide capacity of 2.5 pitches. • A local deficit in Lowestoft North. 	<p>Quality improvements needed to pitches at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blundeston Pl. Field • Shadingfield Sp. Grd. <p>Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeld Wen Playing Field • Normanston Park • Old Reydon High Sch. • Wrentham Pl. Field 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Youth football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A districtwide deficit of 5.5 pitches. • Local deficits in Lowestoft North and South, Beccles and Bungay. 	<p>Quality improvements needed to pitches at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basley Playing Field • Frostenden Recn. Grd. <p>Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeld Wen Playing Field • Old Reydon HS 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Mini-soccer pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A districtwide of 0.5 pitches. • Local deficits in Lowestoft South and Halesworth. 	Quality improvements needed to pitches at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeld Wen Playing Field • Old Reydon HS 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Cricket pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A districtwide seasonal deficit of 135.0 match equivalents. • Local deficits in Lowestoft North and South, Bungay and Southwold and Reydon. 	Quality improvements needed to pitches at Ringsfield Playing Field. Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at Normanston Park	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Rugby pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A weekly deficit of 8.5 match equivalents. • Local deficits in Lowestoft North, Beccles and Southwold and Reydon. 	Quality improvements needed to drainage at College Meadow. Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at Gunton Park.	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A weekly surplus of 35 hours of pitch time. • Based on the FA calculation, there is a case for an additional full-sized '3G' pitch in Lowestoft South and small-sided '3G' pitches in Lowestoft North, Beccles, Bungay and Halesworth. • Demand from Beccles Ladies HC is insufficient to sustain a local pitch on its own, but combined with local football needs, a sand-filled pitch could be sustained. 	No quality improvements needed.	No substantive accessibility deficiency.

The current balance between supply and demand for outdoor sports facilities

41) **Methodology** - For outdoor sports facilities, a locally-derived, evidence-based standard of provision was developed for each facility, to assess current and future deficiencies.

42) **Current needs** - The results of the assessment were as follows:

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Athletics tracks	No need for a 400m track but an athletics training facility is needed.	No quality improvements needed.	50,000 people in the urban parts of Lowestoft South are more than 20 minutes drive time from Great Yarmouth and accessibility by other means of transport is problematic.

Facility type	Quantity	Quality	Accessibility
Bowling greens	No additional facilities needed.	<p>Disabled access improvements needed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beccles Caxton BC • Beccles Town BC • Brampton & Dist. BC • Blundeston BC • Bungay Town BC • Lound BC • Waveney BC <p>General access improvements needed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beccles Caxton BC • Beccles Institute BC • Beccles Town BC • Corton BC • Lound BC • Waveney BC • Wrentham BC 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A shortfall of 2 courts. • No floodlit courts in Lowestoft North or South. 	<p>Improvements needed to court surface at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blundeston courts • Kensington Gardens • Ringsfield courts. <p>Improvements needed to fencing at Ringsfield.</p> <p>Changing facilities improvements needed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blundeston courts • Halesworth TC • Kensington Gardens • Mutford courts • Nicholas Everitt Park • Normanston Park • Ringsfield courts • Southwold Common courts <p>Disabled/general access improvements needed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beccles TC • Normanston Park • Ringsfield courts • Southwold & Dist. TC • Southwold Common courts • Wrentham TC 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Netball courts	No additional courts needed, but developing access to schools courts would create extra capacity for development programmes.	No quality improvements needed.	No accessibility deficiency.

The future balance between supply and demand for pitches

43) **Methodology** - The future balance between supply and demand was assessed by evaluating the factors below and then modelling Team Generation Rates to project the position in 2021:

- Projected population change in the study area.
- How participation aims, current trends and predicted changes in the way that pitch sports are played and pitches used may affect the demand for provision.
- Any particular sports clubs or sites where demand is likely to increase in the future.
- Any forthcoming changes in the supply of provision and how will this affect the adequacy of provision to meet demand.

44) **Future pitch needs** - The results of the assessment were as follows:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Population 2013</i>	<i>Teams 2013</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2021</i>	<i>Teams 2021</i>	<i>Change in teams</i>
Adult male football	17-45	18,200	89	1:204	18,000	88	-1
Adult female football	17-45	18,100	4	1:4,525	17,300	4	No change
Boys youth football	10-16	4,450	81	1:55	4,600	84	+3
Girls youth football	10-16	4,350	10	1:435	4,450	10	No change
Mini-soccer (mixed)	6-9	4,700	54	1:87	5,300	61	+7
Adult male cricket	16-55	26,500	38	1:697	26,000	37	-1
Adult female cricket	16-55	26,800	1	1:26,800	25,700	1	No change
Boys junior cricket	10-15	3,750	20	1:188	3,950	21	+1
Girls junior cricket	10-15	3,600	0	-	3,850	0	No change
Adult male rugby	19-45	16,800	5	1:3,360	16,800	5	No change
Adult female rugby	19-45	16,750	2	1:8,375	16,000	2	No change
Boys junior rugby	13-18	4,150	19	1:218	3,800	17	-2
Girls junior rugby	13-18	3,900	4	1:975	3,700	4	No change
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	7,200	15	1:480	7,900	16	+1
Adult male hockey	18-45	17,500	3	1:5,833	17,400	3	No change
Adult female hockey	18-45	17,400	5	1:3,480	16,700	5	No change
Boys junior hockey	8-17	6,400	0	-	6,550	0	No change
Girls junior hockey	8-17	6,200	2	1:3,100	6,400	2	No change

The future balance between supply and demand for outdoor sports facilities

45) **Methodology** - The locally-derived, evidence-based standards of provision were applied for each facility to assess future deficiencies.

46) **Future needs** - The results of the assessment were as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Population 2013</i>	<i>Facilities 2013</i>	<i>Population 2021</i>	<i>Facility needs 2021</i>	<i>Change in facilities</i>
Athletics tracks	1:250,000	116,400	0	121,400	0	No change
Bowling greens	1:5,500	116,400	21	121,400	22	+1
Tennis courts	1:2,500	116,400	44	121,400	48	+4
Netball courts	1:10,000	116,400	11	121,400	12	+1

Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville

47) **Context** - Oakes Farm is a 32.3ha site on the south side of Lowestoft, which has been formally allocated for additional playing pitch and outdoor sports facility provision. The site was assessed in relation to:

- **The planning context** - what is it appropriate to accommodate on site.
- **The physical context** - what it is possible to accommodate based upon the size and configuration of the site.
- **The demand context** - the response of clubs and local organisations to the prospect of being based at, or using facilities at, the site.
- **The need context** - the current and future facility shortfalls identified by this document that could appropriately be met on the site.

48) **Findings** - The provision recommended for inclusion on the site is as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Number of facilities</i>	<i>Unit space requirement</i>	<i>Total space requirement</i>
Youth football pitches	9	0.75ha	6.75ha
Mini-soccer pitches	9	0.5ha	4.5ha
200m Athletics training facility	1	1.2ha	1.2ha
Bowling green	1	0.2ha	0.2ha
Floodlit tennis courts	4	0.1ha	0.4ha
3km road cycling circuit	1	3.0ha	3.0ha
Clubhouse/changing	1	0.2ha	0.2ha
Access road (200m)	1	0.2ha	0.2ha
Car parking (150 spaces)	1	1.0ha	1.0ha
Cycle path (site access)	1	0.5ha	0.5ha
Land for the Carlton Colville/ Barnby by-pass	-	2.8ha	2.8ha
TOTAL	-	-	20.75ha

Planning considerations

49) **Context** - The strategy will influence local planning policy and the following considerations will be taken into account.

50) **Local assessment of need** - The findings of the Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy will inform assessments of need.

- 51) **Protecting existing provision** - Existing pitches and outdoor sports facilities will be protected unless a needs assessment can demonstrate that they are surplus to current and future requirements, or that replacement provision of at least the same quantity, quality and accessibility is made.
- 52) **'Surplus' provision** - 'Surpluses' in one type of pitch or facility will be assessed in the context of other sports and open space needs that they might serve.
- 53) **New developments** - There is provision through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for developers in the district to contribute financially towards the cost of facilities required to meet the additional needs of new residents.
- 54) **Reviews** - Local supply and demand issues will be reviewed regularly, to ensure that the assessment of needs reflects changes over time.

Dealing with deficiencies

- 55) **New provision** - New pitches and facilities can be provided on sites identified in the *Waveney Site Allocations Document*, with funding from developer contributions and other external funding sources.
- 56) **Upgrading and refurbishment** - Improving the quality of facilities will increase their capacity for use, for example through pitch drainage improvements, provision of floodlighting or expanded changing facilities.
- 57) **Enhanced access** - Enhanced access to facilities on school sites with limited or no existing community use is a cost effective option for increasing the effective supply of provision.
- 58) **Reinstating former facilities** - Facilities where use has recently been discontinued can be reinstated in response to changes in demand.

Delivery partners

- 59) **Waveney District Council:** The council is likely to play the lead role in co-ordinating the development of the larger, more strategic pitch and sports facility sites, in conjunction with other partners where appropriate.
- 60) **Parish councils:** Parish councils will continue to play a valuable role in providing and maintaining pitches and outdoor sports facilities in the rural parts of the district.
- 61) **Schools:** Many schools in Waveney already provide pitches and outdoor sports facilities from which local communities benefit and there will be further opportunities to extend and formalise community access to a range of provision on school sites.
- 62) **Sports clubs:** Local sports clubs are significant providers of pitches and outdoor sports facilities and will continue to do so. Some clubs may wish to take on delegated management responsibilities for pitch and changing facilities maintenance from the local authority.

63) **Developers:** Since August 1st 2013, the Council has been charging developers the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), based upon its published 'Regulation 123 List' (May 2013), which details the types of infrastructure for which CIL contributions will be levied and this includes 'leisure and community facilities'. The Council can therefore seek funding that could assist with the provision of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities that will meet the needs of the inhabitants of new developments in the district.

64) **Partnership arrangements:** Partnership arrangements involving combinations of any of the above providers will help to share the costs of provision, management and maintenance of additional provision.

Action plan

65) **Meeting current needs:** The action plan to meet current needs is as follows. It is organised by sub-area, to assist local implementation:

- **Lowestoft North**

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A local deficit of 1.5 pitches. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure new community access to adult football pitches on school sites in Lowestoft North. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Blundeston Playing Fields. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Normanston Park. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deficit of 3.0 pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure community access to youth football pitches at Dell Primary School and Harbour School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 8 wickets. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate reinstating pitches at Corton Playing Field.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 2.5 pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Lowestoft and Yarmouth RUFC to relocate to a larger site in the Lowestoft North sub-area.

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.67 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a small-sided '3G' pitch at a school site in Lowestoft North.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Disabled access needs improving at three sites. • Parking/general access needs improving at three sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support clubs with funding applications for disabled access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blundeston Bowls Club - Lound Bowls Club - Waveney Bowls Club • Support owners with funding applications for parking/general access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corton BC - Lound BC - Waveney BC.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Court surfaces need improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at two sites. • Access improvements needed at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support facility owners with external funding applications for court surface improvements at Blundeston tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blundeston tennis courts - Normanston Park tennis courts • Support facility owners with external funding applications for improved access at Normanston Park.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No local deficit, but limited spare capacity for development programmes. • No qualitative deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the development of school-club links at school with courts with no community use at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ormiston Denes Academy -Lowestoft College

- **Lowestoft South**

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Pontins, Pakefield. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Pontins, Pakefield. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.

Pitch/facility	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deficit of 3.0 pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure community access to youth football pitches on school sites at Pakefield School and Carlton Colville Primary School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 1.0 pitch. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure new community access to mini-soccer pitch on school site at Carlton Colville School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate reinstating pitches at Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC to meet wider than sub-area needs.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.93 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC with funding applications to provide a full-sized '3G' pitch.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • 50,000 people outside the drivetime catchment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a 200m 'J' track athletics training facility at Oakes Farm, capable of being extended to 400m in the future subject to demand.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sub-area deficit of 2 courts. • Court surfaces need improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at two sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 2 floodlit courts as part of the Oakes Farm development. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for court surface improvements at Kensington Gardens. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kensington Gardens tennis courts. - Nicholas Everitt Park tennis courts.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No local deficit, but limited spare capacity for development programmes. • No qualitative deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the development of school-club links at school with courts with no community use at Pakefield School.

- **Beccles**

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Shadingfield Sports Ground. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deficit of 0.5 pitches. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure community access to youth football pitch at Worlingham Primary School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 7 wickets. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate reinstating pitch at Beccles Sports Centre. • Support owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Ringsfield Playing Field.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 0.5 pitches. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Beccles RUFC with improving pitch quality at College Meadow to address capacity issues.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 1 sand-filled pitch. • No quality deficiency. • Accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a full-sized sand-filled pitch in Beccles to meet football and hockey needs.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 1 sand-filled pitch. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a full-sized sand-filled pitch in Beccles to meet football and hockey needs.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Disabled access needs improving at three sites. • Parking/general access needs improving at three sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support clubs with funding applications for disabled access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beccles Caxton Bowls Club - Beccles Town Bowls Club - Brampton & District Bowls Club • Support owners with funding applications for parking/general access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beccles Caxton Bowls Club - Beccles Institute Bowls Club - Beccles Town Bowls Club
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Court surfaces need improving at one site. • Fencing needs improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • Access improvements needed at two sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support facility owners with external funding applications for court surface improvements at Ringsfield tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for fencing improvements at Ringsfield tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Ringsfield tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beccles Tennis Club - Ringsfield tennis courts.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

- **Bungay**

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 8 wickets. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate access to pitches at Bungay High School. • Develop Community Use Agreement with Bungay High School.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.41 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a small-sided '3G' pitch at the Bungay & District Sports Assoc.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • Limited access to indoor facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Bungay Black Dog RC to secure additional access to indoor facilities at Bungay Sports Centre.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Disabled access needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support club with funding applications for disabled access improvements at Bungay Town Bowls Club.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

- **Halesworth**

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.

Pitch/facility	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. • Support Halesworth Campus with external funding applications to reinstate former pitches. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Basley Playing Field. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 1.0 pitch. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. • Create mini-soccer pitch at the Halesworth Campus. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 8 wickets. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. • Investigate any local latent demand for a cricket pitch at the Halesworth Campus.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Halesworth Campus with external funding applications to create rugby pitches for Southwold RUFC.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.30 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a small-sided '3G' pitch at the Halesworth Campus, with a surface suitable for rugby usage (by Southwold RFC's Colts/Youth teams) as well as football
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Halesworth Tennis Club.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

- **Southwold and Reydon**

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Changing facilities need improving at two sites. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Old Reydon High School - Wrentham Playing Field. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Frostenden Recreation Ground. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Old Reydon High School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Old Reydon High School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 2 wickets. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the existing square on Southwold Common by 2 wickets.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 2.5 pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Halesworth Campus with external funding applications to create pitches for Southwold RUFC. • Reinstate pitch at Reydon Recreation Ground.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.16 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a small-sided '3G' pitch at the Halesworth Campus, with a surface suitable for rugby usage (by Southwold RFC's Colts/Youth teams) as well as football.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Parking/general access needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support club with funding applications for disabled access improvements at Wrentham Bowls Club.

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Changing facilities improvements needed at one site. • Access improvements needed at three sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Southwold Common tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Southwold & District Tennis Club - Southwold Common tennis courts - Wrentham Tennis Club
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

66) **Meeting future needs:** The action plan to meet future needs is as follows:

<i>Pitch</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional pitches required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Youth football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 additional pitches and related changing facilities once the existing deficiency has been met. • All aspects of quality above average. • Within 15 minutes drive of new developments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 2 additional youth pitches and related changing facilities, within 15 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the pitches as part of the Oakes Farm development.
Mini-soccer pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 additional pitches and related changing facilities once the existing deficiency has been met. • All aspects of quality above average. • Within 15 minutes drive of new developments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 7 additional mini-soccer pitches and related changing facilities, within 15 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the pitches as part of the Oakes Farm development.
Cricket pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional pitches required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Rugby pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 additional pitch once the existing deficiency has been met. • All aspects of quality above average. • Within 15 minutes drive of new developments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 1 additional rugby pitch, within 15 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the pitches as part of the replacement facilities for Gunton Park.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional facilities required once the existing deficit is met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Athletics tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional facilities required once the existing deficit is met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Bowling greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 additional bowling green and related changing facility required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 1 additional bowling green and related changing facility, within 15 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the green as part of the Oakes Farm development.
Tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 additional tennis courts and related changing facilities required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 2 additional tennis courts and related changing facilities, within 15 minutes drive of new developments in Lowestoft South. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities.
Netball courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 additional netball court and related changing facility required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 1 additional netball court and related changing facility, within 20 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the court on a school site in Lowestoft, with secured community use, to maximize use.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Ploszajski Lynch Consulting Ltd. (PLC) was appointed by Waveney District Council (WDC) to produce a Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy for the district.

1.2 Background

Access to quality sport, recreation and leisure facilities is an important part of ensuring communities are vibrant and healthy places to live. Playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities are key elements in this provision. WDC's most recent Pitch Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment was completed in 2002 and partially updated as part of an Open Space Needs Assessment in 2006, so the Council is therefore seeking to produce a new document to reflect changes in the district and improve the understanding of where sport provision is required and which type of facility is most appropriate.

In addition to assessing the districtwide position, WDC also wishes to assess the potential of an adopted site-specific allocation at part of Oakes Farm in Carlton Colville, south of Lowestoft, to meet a range of any identified shortfalls in pitches or outdoor sports facilities. The aspiration is to provide a facility that can support a variety of sporting activities that are not available or are difficult for the public to access. The Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy will identify the appropriate types of sport facility provision that is required at Oakes Farm.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) emphasises the need for Local Planning Authorities to have a robust and up to date assessment of the needs for sports and recreational facilities and the opportunities for new provision. The NPPF states that assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of sports and recreational facilities in the local area. This is consistent with the approach set out in the now superseded PPG17 'Open Space, Sport and Recreation' and the still current 'PPG17 Companion Guide', which guided previous work undertaken by the Council.

1.3 The study objectives

The objectives of the Strategy are as follows:

1.3.1 The Districtwide Study

- To identify existing quantitative and qualitative provision of pitches and outdoor sports facilities.
- To identify areas with a deficiency or surplus of pitch and outdoor sports facilities provision.
- To review existing local standards of both provision and accessibility and recommend amendments or continued use of existing standards.
- To review the quantity and quality of changing rooms and ancillary support facilities, including those for disabled people.

- To identify current shared use community facilities and opportunities for potential shared use (e.g. school pitches and private facilities). This should consider any ownership issues as part of the assessment.
- To identify and make recommendations for solutions and priorities for the provision, protection and improvement for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities across the District.

1.3.2 Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville

- To identify deficiencies of sport facility provision in the Lowestoft area, including those that have a more strategic role.
- To recommend sport facilities that should be provided at Oakes Farm.

1.4 The scope of the study

1.4.1 Playing pitches

The pitches covered in the study are all those of the following types:

- Football (mini, youth, adult).
- Cricket.
- Rugby Union (mini, junior, adult).
- Artificial Turf Pitches (sand-filled surfaces for hockey and football and ‘Third Generation’ (or ‘3G’ pitches for football).

1.4.2 Outdoor sports facilities

The outdoor sports facilities covered in the study are all those of the following types:

- Athletics tracks.
- Bowling greens.
- Netball courts.
- Tennis courts.

1.4.3 Geographical scope

Because a number of key settlements in Waveney district are close to the border with adjoining areas, the study includes an assessment of pitches and outdoor sports facilities that are in neighbouring local authorities, where they are used by individuals and clubs from within Waveney.

1.4.4 Sub-area analysis

To enable analysis also to be undertaken at a local level, six sub-areas of Waveney are identified in WDC’s ‘*Site Specific Allocations*’ document (2011). The details of the sub-areas are set out below, along with the wards and parishes incorporated in each.

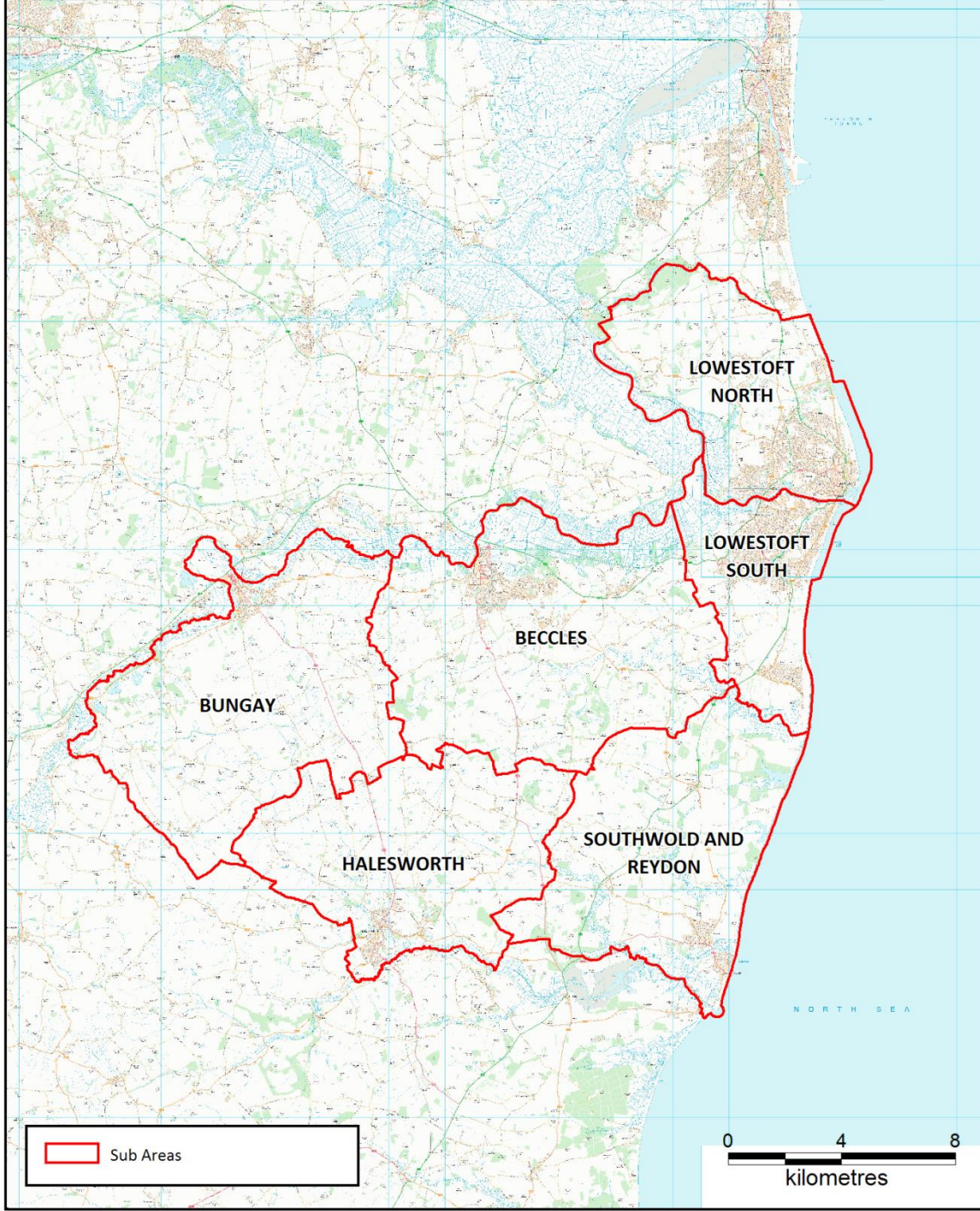
<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Wards/Parishes</i>	
Lowestoft North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gunton and Corton • Harbour • Lothingland • Normanston 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oulton • Oulton Broad • St. Margaret's
Lowestoft South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carlton • Carlton Colville • Kessingland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirkley • Pakefield • Whitton
Beccles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barnby • Barsham • Beccles • Ellough • Henstead • Mutford • North Cove • Redisham 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ringfield • Rushmere • Shadingfield • Sotterley • Weston • Willingham • Worlingham
Bungay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Saints S. Elmham • Bungay • Flixton • Homersfield • Ilketshall St. Andrew • Ilketshall St. Lawrence • Ilketshall St. John • Ilketshall St. Margaret 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mettingham • St. Cross S. Elmham • St. James S. Elmham • St. Margaret S. Elmham • St. Michael S. Elmham • St. Nicholas S. Elmham • St. Peter S. Elmham • Shipmeadow
Halesworth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blyford • Brampton & Stoven • Halesworth • Holton • Rumburgh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sotherton • Spexhall • Westhall • Wissett
Southwold and Reydon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benacre • Covehithe • Frostenden • Henham • Reydon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Cove • Southwold • Uggeshall • Wangford • Wrentham

A map showing the sub-areas and their boundaries is set out overleaf:



Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy

Sub Areas



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1.4.5 Timescale

The strategy will cover the period from 2014 to 2021.

1.5 The study methodology

The methodology for the study follows the new ‘Step-by-Step’ approach to playing pitch strategies, developed by Sport England as follows:

- **Preparing and tailoring the approach** - We convened a Project Steering Group (PSG) involving representatives of WDC, Waveney Norse (WDC’s grounds maintenance contractor) Sport England, the Football Association, the England and Wales Cricket Board, the Rugby Football Union and England Hockey.
- **Gathering supply data** - Qualitative and quantitative information on pitch and outdoor sports facilities provision was compiled from a range of sources and the data was checked and challenged by the PSG and other local users and providers.
- **Gathering demand data** - Pitch and outdoor sports facilities demand information was compiled from consultation with sports clubs, facility providers including town and parish councils, local league secretaries and the governing bodies of sport.
- **Understanding the situation at individual sites** - We developed a site overview at all pitch and outdoor sports facilities sites by comparing the current carrying capacity of each site with its current use, identifying the peak demand periods and establishing the key issues impacting upon the usage of each site.
- **Developing the picture of current and future provision** - We established an overview of current provision by developing a picture of the position regarding all sites, establishing the extent of displaced and latent demand, identifying the views and key issues and determining the situation at priority sites (in particular Oakes Farm).
- **Identifying the key findings and issues** - We assessed the findings to establish whether there is enough accessible and secured provision to meet current demand, whether the quality is adequate and the basis on which future needs might be met.
- **Developing the recommendations and action plan** - With the PSG, we developed recommendations for addressing surpluses and deficiencies in provision and devised an action plan to identify how the strategy will be delivered, by whom, where and when.
- **Writing and adopting the strategy** - We drafted a strategy document using the foregoing information and analysis and presented it to PSG and then WDC for formal adoption.

The methodology differs from that adopted in the previous assessment of playing pitches and outdoor facilities in the district, *‘The Waveney Pitch and Non-Pitch Assessment’* (2002), which was based upon the National Playing Fields Association (now Fields in Trust) standard of 1.6ha of pitches per 1,000 people. Whilst this provides a useful preliminary assessment of need, one particular weakness is that it provides an assessment only of the spatial requirement for playing *fields* rather than identifying the specific number and type of the playing *pitches* and outdoor sports facilities needed by the local community.

Sport England has therefore moved away from advocating this generic standards approach, towards the more detailed supply and demand analysis enshrined in its new methodology.

1.6 Strategy format

The structure of the strategy is as follows:

- The local context.
- Sport and physical activity in Waveney.
- Local strategic influences.
- Wider strategic influences.
- Assessments of need.
- Playing pitch and outdoor sports facility supply in Waveney.
- Playing pitch and outdoor sports facility demand in Waveney.
- The current balance between supply and demand.
- The future balance between supply and demand.
- The Oakes Farm development.
- Planning considerations.
- Action plan.



Cricket pitch in Normanston Park, Lowestoft

2 THE WAVENEY CONTEXT

2.1 Introduction

This section identifies the context within which playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities provision is made in Waveney. It covers the following:

- Background.
- Population.
- The local economy.
- Deprivation indices.
- Health indices.
- Sports participation data.
- Implications for playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities provision.

2.2 Background

Waveney is located in north-east Suffolk and is the most easterly district in Britain. It covers 37,041 hectares (143 sq miles) with a coastline of 26km and has a diverse natural landscape with the southern Broads area in the north and the Heritage Coast and Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area Outstanding Natural Beauty designations running along the coastal strip south of Kessingland.

It is a mixed urban and rural district. Lowestoft is the largest town in Waveney, with just over half the total population of the district and the second-largest in Suffolk. The rural parts of Waveney have four historic market towns - Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Southwold, which form an outer square to the district. Outside these towns, the countryside is characterised by small villages, hamlets and scattered communities.

2.3 Population

Based on the 2011 Census, Waveney has a population of 115,300 (ONS, 2012). This represents growth of 2.6% (around 3,000 people) since the previous census in 2001.

2.3.1 Age structure

The age structure is set out below, with comparator figures for the East and for England as a whole. The figures show that the area has a relatively elderly age structure, with more than half the population aged over 45, compared with a national figure of just under 42%.

<i>Age</i>	<i>Waveney</i>	<i>Waveney %</i>	<i>East %</i>	<i>England %</i>
0-14	18,500	16.0%	17.7%	17.6%
15-24	12,800	11.0%	12.1%	13.3%
25-44	25,400	22.0%	26.4%	27.2%
45-64	31,100	27.0%	26.2%	25.4%
65+	27,500	24.0%	17.5%	16.5%
Total	115,300	100%	100%	100%

Source: 2011 Census (ONS, 2012)

2.3.2 Ethnicity

Waveney has a predominantly white population with 97.7% classing themselves as white, which is a higher proportion when compared with both the East of England (90.9%) and England as a whole (85.5%).

Group	Number	%
White	112,650	97.7
Mixed	1,270	1.1
Asian	920	0.8
Black	350	0.3
Other ethnic	110	0.1

Source: 2011 Census (ONS, 2012)

2.3.3 Sub-areas

The sub-areas were constructed as per the geographical groupings in section 1.4.4 above and their respective populations are as follows:

Sub-area	Population
Lowestoft North	38,050
Lowestoft South	39,470
Beccles	17,180
Bungay	7,080
Halesworth	7,620
Southwold and Reydon	5,900

Source: 2011 Census (ONS, 2012)

2.3.4 Population growth

The Office of National Statistics has published population projections to mid-2021, which are trend-based projections applying observed levels over the past five years. The ONS projections for Waveney forecast that the population of the district will be 121,400 by 2021, an increase of 6,100 people, or 5.3% growth.

2.4 The local economy

Given the coastal and rural components of its geography, employment in Waveney district has a higher than average component of agriculture and tourism. However, such work is highly seasonal and often low wage and this is reflected in the average earnings for full-time employees in the district, which in 2012 was £23,853, compared with £28,065 for Suffolk as whole and the national average figure of £32,864.

Maintaining low levels of unemployment is a key challenge for Waveney with the percentage of working age population claiming unemployment benefit (jobseekers allowance) remaining at least 2% higher than the county and regional averages. However this figure can be prone to fluctuations depending on the time of year due to the seasonal structure of the employment base.

In 2011 Waveney compared poorly with the UK, East of England and Suffolk averages in terms of qualifications, educational attainment and pass rates. 12.8% of its working population holds no qualifications compared to 9% regionally and 10.6% nationally. 19.1% of its working population holds NVQ level 4 and above compared to a regional average of 26.1% and a national average of 32.9%.

2.5 Health indices

The Department of Health's *'Health Profile for Waveney'* (2012) contains the following details on local health indices:

- The health of people in Waveney is mixed compared with the England average. Deprivation is lower than average, however about 4,500 children (22.7%) live in poverty. Life expectancy for both men (79.5 years and women (83.6 years) is higher than the respective national averages (78.6 years and 82.6 years).
- Life expectancy is 5.9 years lower for men and 5.3 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Waveney than in the least deprived areas.
- Over the last 10 years, all cause mortality rates have fallen. Early death rates from cancer and from heart disease and stroke have fallen.
- About 21.0% of Year 6 children are classified as obese compared with 19.0% nationally.
- The estimated level of adult obesity is 27.0%, which is worse than the England average of 24.2%.
- Priorities in Waveney include narrowing health inequalities and reducing early deaths, ensuring children get the best start in life and supporting older people to remain independent and active.

2.6 Deprivation indices

According to the Government's Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2010, Waveney was ranked at 112 out of 354 local authorities in England, where 1 was the most deprived area and 354 the least deprived. However, this masks significant variations across the district.

16.1% of the population of the district (18,563 people) lives in areas classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived in the country. Five 'Lower Super Output Areas' are amongst the 10% most deprived in the country, located in Kirkley, Harbour, Normanston, St. Margaret's and Whitton wards, all of which are in Lowestoft.

2.7 Summary of the local context

The implications for pitch and outdoor sports facility provision in Waveney are as follows:

- The relatively aged population structure is likely to reduce relative demand in the district for the sports that use playing pitches. However, demand for sports like bowls with a relatively elderly participation profile, are likely to be inflated.
- The ethnicity of 97.7% of the local population is 'White' and since sports participation in a predominantly White population are generally higher than for Black and minority ethnic groups, the demography of Waveney should generate above average demand.
- Population growth of 6,100 people (a 5.3% increase) by 2021 will inflate demand for pitches and outdoor sports facilities. Existing playing fields may come under threat of development to accommodate new housing. However, developer contributions will provide an opportunity to fund provision that will demonstrably meet the needs of the new residents.
- The relatively low wage local economy will limit the amount of disposable income available for discretionary spending on activities such as sport and should therefore decrease demand levels.
- Poor health indices locally underline the importance of ensuring access to sports facilities including pitches, as part of a wider strategy to get the local population more physically active.
- Although the deprivation indices for Waveney as a whole are around the national average, there are significant variations at a more local level. Since deprivation is associated with lower rates for participation in sport and physical activity, patterns of demand are likely to vary within the district as a whole.



Sole Bay Bowls Club

3 SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN WAVENEY

3.1 Introduction

This section examines participation in sport and physical activity in Waveney, to better understand the likely patterns of background demand for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities in the study area. The data is drawn from a number of sources, principally Sport England surveys and research. The sources examined are as follows:

- The ‘Active People’ surveys.
- Market Segmentation data.

To place the local results in context, the data has been assessed against the national and regional (East) averages provide a wider geographical perspective against which to track local trends.

3.2 The ‘Active People’ survey

The ‘Active People’ survey was first commissioned by Sport England in 2005 and has been carried out annually ever since. The survey is the largest study of patterns of adult (people aged over 16) involvement in sport and physical activity ever undertaken and involved telephone interviews with a representative sample of between 500 and 1,000 residents of each local authority district in the country. Five surveys have been undertaken to date, which has enabled trends to be tracked over a seven year period. The following Key Performance Indicators (KPI’s) are measured and the results for each are tabulated below:

- **Overall participation** - This is defined as ‘taking part on at least one day a week in moderate intensity sport and active recreation (at least four days in the last four weeks) for at least 30 minutes continuously in any one session’.
- **Volunteering** - This is defined as ‘volunteering to support sport for at least one hour a week’.
- **Club membership** - This is defined as ‘being a member of a club particularly so that you can participate in sport or recreational activity in the last four weeks’.
- **Receiving tuition** - This is defined as ‘receiving tuition from an instructor or coach to improve your performance in any sport or recreational activity in the last twelve months’.
- **Organised Competition** - This is defined as ‘having taken part in any organised competition in any sport or recreational activity in the last twelve months’.
- **Satisfaction** - This is defined as ‘the percentage of adults who are very or fairly satisfied with sports provision in their local area’.

- **Organised sport** - This is defined as ‘the percentage of adults who have done at least one of receiving tuition in the last twelve months and/or taken part in organised competition in the last twelve months and/or been a member of a club to play sport’.
- **Participation in individual sports:** This is defined as ‘the percentage of adults who have participated at least once in a sport in the preceding four weeks’.

3.2.1 Overall participation

Overall rates of regular adult participation in sport and physical activity (at least one session of 30 minutes of moderate intensity exercise per week) show that whilst there has been an increase in participation rates in Waveney over the survey period as a whole, the rates remain well below the regional and national figures.

<i>Area</i>	<i>2005/6</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>
Waveney	30.2%	28.5%	35.0%	32.6%	27.2%	33.3%
East	34.8%	36.5%	35.6%	34.9%	34.7%	36.0%
England	34.2%	35.8%	35.7%	35.3%	34.8%	36.0%

3.2.2 Volunteering

Rates of volunteer support for sport in Waveney have increased during the survey period, but remain just below the regional and national averages:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>
Waveney	5.8%	5.5%	8.0%	7.0%
East	4.7%	4.8%	8.0%	7.4%
England	4.7%	4.5%	7.2%	7.6%

3.2.3 Sports club membership

Rates of sports club membership in Waveney have increased during the survey period and are consistently above the regional and national averages:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>
Waveney	25.8%	24.8%	22.5%	26.4%
East	25.5%	24.3%	23.6%	23.7%
England	24.1%	23.9%	23.3%	22.8%

3.2.4 Sports coaching/tuition

The proportion of adults in Waveney who received sports coaching or tuition in the previous 12 months have increased during the survey period and currently stand well above the regional and national averages:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>
Waveney	16.7%	17.0%	12.7%	18.2%
East	18.3%	18.3%	16.8%	17.4%
England	17.5%	17.5%	16.2%	16.8%

3.2.5 Organised competition

The proportion of adults in Waveney who took part in organised sports competitions in the previous 12 months have increased during the survey period, but remain below the regional average:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>
Waveney	12.0%	14.3%	13.7%	14.2%
East	14.7%	15.3%	14.5%	15.1%
England	14.4%	14.4%	14.3%	13.3%

3.2.6 Satisfaction with local sports provision

The proportion of adults in Waveney who are satisfied with local sports provision decreased during the survey periods when this element was included and remains below the regional and national averages:

<i>Area</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>
Waveney	68.0%	67.8%
East	69.7%	70.2%
England	68.4%	68.0%

3.2.7 Participation in individual sports

The top five sports in which survey respondents from Waveney participated in the four weeks prior to the survey are listed below, along with the respective regional and national figures:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Waveney</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>England</i>
Swimming	14.8%	11.5%	11.6%
Cycling	8.0%	8.9%	8.3%
Health and fitness	5.7%	9.8%	10.6%
Football	4.0%	6.8%	7.2%
Running	3.4%	6.3%	6.9%

3.3 Market Segmentation

Sport England has identified 19 adult sporting market segments, to better understand specific motivations and barriers to doing sport and physical activity. The data provides a useful way of anticipating demand for activities, based upon the extent to which segments are represented in the local population.

3.3.1 Market segments

The key characteristics of each market segment and the type of activity that appeals to them are:

<i>Segment name</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Sports that appeal</i>
Competitive male urbanites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 18-25 • Single • Owner-occupied • Employed full-time • No children • Social class ABC1 • 40% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 19% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rugby • Cricket • Squash • Climbing • Windsurfing • Gym • Tennis • Football
Sports team drinkers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 18-35 • Single • Private/council rented • Employed full-time/student • No children • Social class C2DE • 32% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 30% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football • Basketball • Martial arts • Weight training • Boxing • Badminton
Fitness class friends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 18-35 • Single • Owner-occupied • Employed full-time • No children • Social class ABC1 • 28% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 34% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Body combat • Netball • Swimming • Pilates • Gym • Running • Tennis • Aqua aerobics
Supportive singles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 18-25 • Single • Private/council rented • Employed full-time/student • No children • Social class C2DE • 23% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 44% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming • Gym • Aerobics • Ice skating • Dance • Body pump • Utility walking
Career focused females	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 26-45 • Single • Owner-occupied • Employed full-time • No children • Social class ABC1 • 33% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 33% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gym • Skiing • Road running • Tai chi • Dance exercise • Body pump • Horse riding • Yoga

<i>Segment name</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Sports that appeal</i>
Settling down males	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 26-45 • Married • Owner-occupied • Employed full-time • 50% have children • Social class ABC1 • 32% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 27% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canoeing • Skiing • Cricket • Golf • Cycling • Squash • Football
Stay at home mums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 26-45 • Married • Owner-occupied • Employed part-time/at home • Children • Social class ABC1 • 25% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 33% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming • Tennis • Badminton • Cycling • Aerobics • Horse riding • Pilates • Exercise bike
Middle England mums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 26-45 • Married • Owner-occupied • Employed part-time/at home • Children • Social class C1C2D • 21% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 48% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming • Walking • Dance exercise • Aqua aerobics • Body pump • Ice skating
Pub league team mates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 26-45 • Married • Private/council rented • Employed full-time • Children • Social class DE • 19% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 51% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football • Karate • Weight training • Boxing • Fishing • Tenpin bowling • Cricket • Snooker/pool
Stretched single mums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 26-45 • Single • Council rented • Employed part-time/at home • Children • Social class DE • 16% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 61% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming • Aerobics • Utility walking • Skating

<i>Segment name</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Sports that appeal</i>
Comfortable mid-life males	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 36-65 • Married • Owner-occupied • Employed full-time • 50% have children • Social class ABC1 • 26% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 39% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sailing • Gym • Football • Jogging • Badminton • Golf • Cycling • Cricket
Empty nest career ladies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 46-55 • Married • Owner-occupied • Employed full-time • No dependent children • Social class ABC1 • 25% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 44% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming • Yoga • Walking • Horse riding • Aqua aerobics • Pilates • Step machine • Gym
Early retirement couples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 56-65 • Married • Owner-occupied • Retired/employed full-time • No dependent children • Social class ABC1 • 19% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 54% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming • Sailing • Walking • Golf • Aqua aerobics • Shooting • Bowls • Fishing
Older working women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 46-55 • Married • Council rented • Employed full-time • No dependent children • Social class C2DE • 14% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 65% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming • Aerobics • Utility walking • Step machine • Dance exercise • Keep fit
Local 'old boys'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 46-65 • Married • Council rented • Employed full-time/economically inactive • No dependent children • Social class DE • 12% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 68% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing • Darts • Snooker • Shooting • Pool • Utility cycling • Utility walking

<i>Segment name</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Sports that appeal</i>
Later life ladies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 56-65 • Single • Council rented • Economically inactive • No dependent children • Social class DE • 9% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 78% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Keep fit • Swimming • Aqua aerobics
Comfortable retired couples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 65+ • Married • Owner occupied • Retired • No dependent children • Social class ABC1 • 14% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 70% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowls • Snooker • Golf • Walking • Tennis • Fishing • Table tennis • Swimming
Twilight years gents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 65+ • Married • Owner occupied • Retired • No dependent children • Social class C1C2D • 9% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 78% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowls • Snooker • Golf • Walking • Darts • Fishing • Pool • Swimming
Retirement home singles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 65+ • Single • Owner occupied and council • Retired • No dependent children • DE • 5% do 3x30 minutes exercise per week • 86% do no exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Bowls • Dancing • Gentle exercise

3.3.2 Waveney market segments

The proportion of the Waveney population in each market segment is tabulated below, with the East and national figures for comparison:

<i>Segment</i>	<i>Waveney</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>England</i>
Competitive male urbanites	3.5%	5.3%	4.9%
Sports team drinkers	4.8%	4.0%	5.4%
Fitness class friends	2.6%	5.3%	4.7%
Supportive singles	3.5%	3.2%	4.3%

<i>Segment</i>	<i>Waveney</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>England</i>
Career focused females	3.3%	5.0%	4.5%
Settling down males	5.7%	10.5%	8.8%
Stay at home mums	2.9%	5.4%	4.4%
Middle England mums	5.3%	4.8%	4.9%
Pub league team mates	5.2%	4.1%	5.9%
Stretched single mums	3.0%	2.9%	3.7%
Comfortable mid-life males	8.1%	9.6%	8.6%
Empty nest career ladies	5.7%	6.8%	6.1%
Early retirement couples	9.0%	8.2%	6.8%
Older working women	4.8%	3.2%	4.9%
Local 'old boys'	4.2%	2.9%	3.7%
Later life ladies	2.4%	1.6%	2.1%
Comfortable retired couples	3.0%	5.1%	4.2%
Twilight years gents	6.3%	4.3%	4.0%
Retirement home singles	11.1%	7.9%	8.0%

3.3.3 Dominant segments

Sport England classifies the 'dominant' market segments as those with more than 7% of the local population. In Waveney these comprise comfortable mid-life males, early retirement couples and retirement home singles. Based upon the activities likely to appeal to these groups, demand for the pitch sports is likely to be lower than the national average, whilst the relatively large proportion of residents from market segments which traditionally bowls will inflate demand for this sport.

3.4 Summary of local sports participation patterns

The implications for playing pitch and outdoor sports facility provision in Waveney are as follows:

- Overall sports participation rates in Waveney have increased since 2005/6 but at 33.3% remain well below the regional (36.0%) and national (36.0%) averages, suggesting that local demand for pitches and sports facilities will be commensurately lower.
- Sports club membership rates in the district are comparatively high (26.4% compared with the regional (23.7%) and national (22.8%) figures, which underlines the important role played by voluntary sector sports clubs in delivering local opportunities.
- The Market Segmentation data suggests that the relatively large proportion of Waveney residents from market segments which traditionally bowls will inflate demand for this sport.

4 LOCAL STRATEGIC INFLUENCES

4.1 Introduction

This section examines the influence of local strategic policies and priorities on playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities provision in Waveney, including the impact of neighbouring areas.

4.2 The Waveney Business Plan

The *Waveney District Business Plan 2012 - 2022* (2012), describes in detail the approach and actions that the Council will be taking in the medium term, in leading and contributing towards an improved vision for the area.

4.2.1 Vision and strategic direction

The vision is ‘making Waveney a great place for anyone to grow up, live, work and visit’. It is underpinned by four key themes:

- A prosperous and vibrant economy.
- Learning and skills for the future.
- Safe, healthy and inclusive communities.
- The greenest county.

4.2.2 Sport and physical activity

Under the ‘safe, healthy and inclusive communities’ theme, the Plan states that ‘we will tackle the areas of relative deprivation in the district, reducing existing inequalities in health, income, skills attainment and housing, to significantly improve health and well-being through a major cultural uplift in Lowestoft. This will be facilitated through the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles through both public and private provision, and through voluntary action to increase the provision of and participation in sports and leisure across the district’.

4.3 The Waveney Core Strategy

The Council’s Core Strategy *The Approach to Future Development in Waveney 2021* (2009) sets out in strategic terms, the Council’s overall approach to future development, where it should take place and the key factors that will be taken into account when considering proposals for development.

4.3.1 Spatial Vision

Part of the Spatial Vision in the Core Strategy states that ‘the population will be comparatively healthy, with people taking more habitual physical activity and utilising the range of high quality sports and recreation facilities’.

4.3.2 Pitches and outdoor sports facilities

The Core Strategy notes that:

- ‘The Waveney Playing Pitch Assessment (2002) identified qualitative deficiencies in playing pitches across the District including Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth, Southwold and Reydon, and particularly in the Lowestoft area (including Kessingland).
- The assessment identified the need for an artificial turf pitch for hockey in the District (with particular reference to Halesworth), and a need for more cricket provision in Lowestoft and Bungay. It also identified a predicted shortfall of about 12 to 14 junior soccer pitches across the District, in response to national growth in demand. It may be possible to accommodate at least some of these on existing land, for example the outfield of cricket pitches.
- A lack of segregated changing facilities may restrict participation in some sports in Waveney, for example girl’s and women’s football.
- Whilst there is a need for higher quality tennis playing surfaces, no additional courts are needed.
- The Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth Rugby Club has identified a need for improved rugby provision in the Lowestoft area.
- There is a shortfall in athletics facilities and better quality provision for football is needed.
- The opportunities for addressing these needs, including through shared site provision, will be explored in the Site Specific Allocations Document’.

4.3.3 Planning policy

Policy CS14 - Culture, states that:

- ‘In accordance with the Waveney Cultural Strategy, the District Council and its partners will protect and promote cultural facilities, activity and opportunity for leisure, including sport and leisure and open spaces, to improve the lives of all sectors of the community and encourage visitors’.
- ‘Developers will be expected to make provision for adequate open space in association with new development and contribute towards addressing local deficiencies in open space provision including playing fields, particularly in Halesworth, Southwold/Reydon and Kessingland’.

4.4 Development Management Policies DPD

WDC has adopted the ‘Development Management Policies’ document (2011) which sets out the policies that will guide decisions on planning applications.

4.4.1 Policy DM25 - Existing and Proposed Open Space

The policy states that ‘proposals for residential development of one or more dwellings will only be permitted where provision is made for an appropriate level of open space to serve the development. The appropriate amount to be provided will be dependent on the proposed density. Where on-site provision is inappropriate or impractical, then developers will be expected to provide off-site facilities or contribute to improving existing open space based on the need of the locality’. Where possible the type of open space provided should reflect local deficiencies. Developers are not required to provide open space to address existing deficiencies. Provision of new open space will need to ensure adequate public access and meet local quality standards.

Proposals for the development of open areas or buildings with recreational, educational, biodiversity or amenity value or with the potential to fulfil a recreational wildlife or amenity will only be permitted where:

- The proposal is ancillary to the open nature of the area.
- Circumstances indicate it will enhance the character of the local area, increase local amenity and be of greater community benefit.
- An assessment demonstrates that the site is surplus to requirements.

4.4.2 Policy DM26 - Re-use of vacant school buildings and playing fields

The policy states that ‘where a school playing field becomes available it shall be retained for sports or recreational use, unless an assessment demonstrates that the site is surplus to requirements. Development will be permitted where it is ancillary to the use of the site as a playing field.

Where school buildings become vacant or redundant as a result of the School Organisation Review, planning permission for change of use or redevelopment to residential or commercial use will not be granted unless the Council is satisfied that the buildings or site of the buildings cannot address a local need for a community use, such as community centres, sports facilities, other educational facilities, health facilities, allotments’.

4.5 Site Specific Allocations

The adopted ‘*Site Specific Allocations*’ (2011) document identifies sites in the district that are suitable for future development such as housing, employment or community uses. The following sites have been allocated for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities.

4.5.1 Policy LOW7 - Land at Gunton Park, Lowestoft

The site covers 4.0ha and has been allocated for 60 dwellings, but will involve the loss of rugby pitches which are the home base of Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club. The document states that ‘this site is only being progressed as an allocation for housing on the strict condition that an open space, of a greater size and quality is provided in the form of playing pitches for Rugby in another, at least equally accessible, location.



Gunton Park, Lowestoft

In terms of assessing the quality of replacement provision, regard will be had to the number of pitches provided and the range of facilities provided. Profits from the sale of the land for housing should contribute towards funding this improved facility, but housing development should not take place on the site until an alternative location for playing pitches has been agreed and delivered. The allocation for sport and leisure development (LOW11) at Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville provides an opportunity for the Rugby Club to relocate, should they decide that moving to the south of the town is an acceptable option’.

4.5.2 Policy LOW10 - Land at Laurel Farm, Kessingland

This site is a flat, open area of 2.76ha of farmland on the northern boundary of Kessingland. The site is bordered by existing playing fields to the east and housing to the west and south which are managed by Kessingland Sports & Social Centre. It can therefore act as an extension to the existing site with shared access and use of built facilities.

4.5.3 Policy LOW11 - Land at Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville

The Core Strategy (Policy CS14) identifies the main sports facility deficiencies in the Lowestoft area. These include; football, cricket, athletics, tennis and rugby. 32.3ha of Oakes Farm, in Carlton Colville has been allocated to meet these needs on one site and provide a community sporting centre of excellence. The deficiency in Rugby facilities relates to the needs identified by the Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club and this site may provide an opportunity for the Club to relocate through enabling housing development on part of its existing site (LOW7).

4.5.4 Policy HAL3 - Dairy Hill Playing Fields, Halesworth

This site comprises the playing pitches (2.1 hectares) that form part of a larger sport and recreation site in the heart of Halesworth and is allocated for 50 dwellings plus allotments.

There has been a long standing need to enhance sports provision in Halesworth and the playing fields at Dairy Hill cannot meet the needs of local sports teams. Playing field provision at Dairy Hill comprises one adult football pitch and one junior football pitch. The Halesworth Playing Fields Association (HPFA) and Town and District Councils have been seeking to identify an appropriate alternative site for many years. Halesworth Campus, in partnership with HPFA is currently seeking to deliver a new site of approximately 10.5 hectares, which will include football, rugby and other pitch-based sports.

The development of these playing fields needs to be balanced against the benefits of developing increased and improved facilities. This site is only being progressed as an allocation for housing on the strict condition that a greater area of open space is provided in the form of playing pitches in another accessible location. Profits from the sale of the land for housing should contribute towards funding this improved facility, but housing development should not take place on site HAL3 until an alternative location for playing pitches has been agreed and delivered.

4.5.5 Policy SOU3 - Land at Wangford Road, Reydon

The site covers 2.78 hectares to the west and south of the existing playing fields at the former Reydon High School Site. The Provision of additional playing fields in this location will assist in meeting the improved sports provision, particularly for football.

4.6 The Waveney Pitch and Non-Pitch Assessment

'The Waveney Pitch and Non-Pitch Assessment' (2002) is the most recent assessment of playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities in the district, prior to the current study and was intended to cover the period 2002 - 2007. It was partially updated as part of an Open Space Needs Assessment in 2006.

4.6.1 Overall assessed deficiencies

The assessment used the National Playing Fields Association's (NPFA) standard of 1.6ha of pitch and non-pitch facilities per 1,000 people, to identify shortfalls. On the basis of 123.6ha of provision in the district, a shortfall of 54ha was identified. By this measure, small surpluses in the Bungay (2.78ha), Beccles (1.7ha) and Halesworth (1.25ha) sub-areas, were offset by deficiencies of 59.3ha in Lowestoft and 0.43ha in Southwold and Reydon.

4.6.2 Standard of provision

An overall standard of provision of 1.1ha of sports pitches per 1,000 people was set for the entire District, although other standards were set within sub areas to address more localised issues.

4.6.3 Football needs

A shortfall of three adult football pitches was identified in the Lowestoft area, with districtwide shortfalls of 8-9 junior football and 12-14 mini-soccer pitches.

4.6.4 Cricket needs

Current and future needs for cricket could be met by existing supply.

4.6.5 Rugby needs

Current and future needs for rugby could be met by existing supply.

4.6.6 Hockey needs

Current and future demand for an artificial turf pitch in the district was 'not clear cut', although a facility in Halesworth was suggested.

4.6.7 Tennis needs

Current and future needs for tennis could be met by existing supply.



Southwold and District Tennis Club

4.6.8 Bowls needs

Current and future needs for bowls could be met by existing supply.

4.7 Neighbouring local authorities

Given the proximity of four neighbouring local authorities to Waveney and the movement of individuals and teams across the administrative boundaries to play sport, assessments of pitch and outdoor facilities provision in the surrounding areas provide important context for the study:

4.7.1 Suffolk Coastal

Suffolk Coastal District Council has assessed the current adequacy of pitch and outdoor sports facilities needs in '*Supplementary Planning Guidance 15: Outdoor Playing Space*' (2001). The Council has adopted a standard of 1.7ha of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities per 1,000 people.

In 2012, the Council assessed the adequacy of provision on a parish-by-parish. In the areas immediately adjacent to Waveney district, this identified that there is surplus provision in Walberswick and Wenhaston, partly offset by a small shortfall in Blythburgh.

4.7.2 Mid-Suffolk

Mid-Suffolk District Council has adopted '*A Supplementary Planning Document for Social Infrastructure including Open Space, Sports and Recreation*' (2007). The SPD includes an adopted standard of 1.76ha of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities per 1,000 people.

The application of the standard identified some deficiencies in playing pitch provision, although locationally none of these are in the north-east corner of the district adjacent to Waveney.

4.7.3 South Norfolk

South Norfolk District Council has no current assessment of playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities needs, although the Greater Norwich Development Partnership (a consortium of local authorities including Norfolk County Council, Norwich City Council, Broadland District Council and South Norfolk District Council) is currently undertaking a playing pitch strategy).

4.7.4 Great Yarmouth

Great Yarmouth Borough Council is currently undertaking an assessment of playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities needs, as part of a wider open space needs analysis.

4.8 Summary of local strategic influences

The Council's Business Plan includes a commitment to promote active and healthy lifestyles and playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities are an integral means of facilitating this priority.

The Waveney Core Strategy contains positive policies on the provision and retention of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities, although the reference to deficiencies identified in the 2002 pitch and non-pitch assessment will need to be updated to reflect the findings of the current study.

The Site-specific Allocations Document identifies a number of sites either involving the loss and re-provision of pitches, or new sites such as Oakes Farm. These will provide opportunities for meeting additional needs identified through the strategy.

The 2002 pitch and non-pitch assessment, which was partially updated in 2006, provides a snapshot of local provision as a baseline for the current study. However, the methodology it used has since been superseded as the recommended basis for assessing facilities needs and the current study will therefore provide a more robust and defensible basis for analysing current and future requirements.

Playing pitch assessments in the two neighbouring local authorities who have undertaken such studies, show that there are no identified shortfalls in adjoining areas that might cause demand to migrate to Waveney to meet pitch and outdoor sports facilities needs.

5 WIDER STRATEGIC INFLUENCES

5.1 Introduction

This section examines the influence of national strategic policies and priorities on playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities provision in Waveney.

5.2 Central Government

In March 2012, the Government published the *'National Planning Policy Framework'* (2012), setting out its economic, environmental and social planning policies for England. Taken together, these policies articulate the Government's vision of sustainable development, which should be interpreted and applied locally to meet local aspirations. The policies of greatest relevance to pitch provision and retention are as follows:

- **Sustainable development** - 'The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. Sustainable development means development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'.
- **Health and well-being** - 'Local planning authorities should work with public health leads and health organisations to understand and take account of the health status and needs of the local population, including expected future changes, and any information about relevant barriers to improving health and well-being'.
- **Open space, sports and recreational facilities** - 'Access to good quality opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. The planning system has a role in helping to create an environment where activities are made easier and public health can be improved. Planning policies should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of sports and recreational facilities in the local area. The information gained from this assessment of needs and opportunities should be used to set locally derived standards for the provision of sports and recreational facilities'.
- '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 need for and benefits of the development clearly outweigh the loss'.

5.3 Sport England

5.3.1 Overall policy

The *'Sport England Strategy 2012 - 2017'* (2012) sets out national sports policy objectives for the next five years.

- **Overall aims** - In 2017, five years after the Olympic Games, sport in England will be transformed, so that sport becomes a habit for life for more people and a regular choice for the majority. The strategy will:
 - See more people taking on and keeping a sporting habit for life.
 - Create more opportunities for young people.
 - Nurture and develop talent.
 - Provide the right facilities in the right places.
 - Support local authorities and unlock local funding.
 - Ensure real opportunities for communities.
- Sport England is seeking a year-on-year increase in the proportion of people who play sport once a week for at least 30 minutes. In particular it hopes to raise the percentage of 14-25 year olds playing sport once a week and reduce the proportion dropping out of sport.
- **Anticipated outcomes** - The outcomes with the greatest potential impact on playing pitch use and provision will be as follows:
 - Every one of the 4,000 secondary schools in England will be offered a community sport club on its site with a direct link to one or more governing body of sport, depending on the local clubs in its area.
 - County sports partnerships will be given new resources to create effective links locally between schools and sport in the community.
 - All secondary schools who wish to do so will be supported to open up, or keep open, their sports facilities for local community use and at least a third of these will receive additional funding to make this happen.
 - Building on the early success of Places People Play, a further £100m will be invested in facilities for the most popular sports.

5.3.2 Playing pitch policy

Sport England's national policies in relation to playing pitches are contained in *'A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England'* (2002). It contains a policy of resisting the loss of pitches unless one or more of the following five conditions are met:

- A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Sport England that there is an excess of facility provision in the catchment and that the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.
- The proposed development is ancillary to the principal use of the site as a playing field or outdoor sports facility and does not affect the quantity or quality of facilities or adversely affect their use.
- The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming a playing pitch or outdoor sports facility and does not result in:
 - The loss, or loss of use of, any facility (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins).
 - A reduction in the size of the playing area of any facility.
 - The loss of any other sports/ancillary facilities on site.
- The playing field or outdoor sports facility which would be lost as a result of the proposed development would be replaced by facilities of an equivalent or better quality, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of the development.
- The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of playing field or current outdoor facility.

5.4 The Football Association

5.4.1 National Game Strategy

The Football Association's *'National Game Strategy 2011- 2015'* (2011) sets out the priorities for the development of football over the period.

Football development objectives - These are as follows:

- **Challenges:** The strategy identifies the following:
 - Halting the decline in adult male 11-a-side football.
 - Providing local and flexible formats of football to suit changing consumer lifestyles.
 - Addressing the drop off at ages 14-19.
 - Supporting the transition from mini-soccer to youth and youth to adult.
 - Widening affiliation and integrating teams from diverse communities.
 - Affiliating and developing football in the commercial small-sided sector.

- Working effectively with changing school sport.
- **Priorities** - The priorities for 2015 are as follows:
 - Focus resources on retaining and developing the existing affiliated teams.
 - Halt the decline in adult male 11-a-side and retain female 11-a-side teams by improving the access and quality of pitches, providing a referee for every game, supporting volunteers, using technology and increasing participation through FA 'Just Play' Centres and the 'Get into Football' programmes.
 - Develop the FA's children and young people offer to sustain participation and address drop-out at key phases mini-soccer to youth, 14-16 and 16-19.
 - Continue to support existing and diverse communities to participate in affiliated football.
 - Develop different affiliation and benefits packages for groups not traditionally affiliated.
 - Embed flexible formats of football such as 60 minute matches, shorter competition programmes and turn-up-and-play and develop playing opportunities to meet changing player lifestyles.

5.4.2 National Facilities Strategy

The FA National Facilities Strategy 2013 - 2015 - The National facilities Strategy sets out the FA's long-term vision for facilities to support the development of the 'National Game' (all non-professional football). The priorities for 2013 to 2015 are as follows:

- **Natural grass pitch improvements and maintenance** - Grants will be made to support the development of new and improved natural grass pitches. There are an estimated 33,500 such pitches in England which carry the vast majority of grassroots football. Additional support will be made available to clubs wishing to develop their own skills in the future maintenance of natural grass, through relevant training and advice.
- **Development of new Artificial Grass Pitches** - There are currently 491 full-size Artificial Grass Pitches in England. The latest Artificial Grass Pitches are capable of delivering a high quality football experience and in addition are capable of carrying much greater activity than natural grass. An increasing number of leagues are allowing games to be played on these surfaces and many grassroots clubs compete to access them for training purposes. The FA estimates that a typical full-sized floodlit AGP can accommodate the training needs of up to 60 teams in any given week let alone wider use for matches and informal participation. Recent consultation with clubs and leagues has further reinforced to the FA that investment in these facilities is a priority. AGPs are also the preferred facility type for grassroots pan-disability football. The FA will continue to work with Leagues and Competitions to encourage appropriate use of AGPs.

- **Refurbishment of old Artificial Grass Pitches** - There are over 1,500 existing sand-based or water-based artificial pitches in England some of which are at the end of their useful lives. The FA will work closely with other relevant National Governing Bodies and map out priority sites where existing old-style pitches might be replaced to reflect local need / demand. This will offer a value for money approach to sustaining and growing participation and at the same time create a financially sustainable network of AGP sites in England.
- **Provision of suitable changing accommodation and toilet facilities** - The FA will seek to ensure that suitable proposals for improvements to changing rooms and associated facilities are properly assessed against need and value for money and that standards are put in place that are consistent with the needs of clubs at all levels. New construction methods will be assessed and implemented where these meet with local needs and are cost effective.
- **Small Grants Programme for modest facility improvements** - Since the opening of the Football Foundation's 'Build the Game' programme, The FA has recognised the popularity of this programme with a steady increase in volume of applications. This programme will continue and will aim to address the often very basic facility requirements of clubs. The FA and Football Foundation will set down some broad guidelines for access to this funding although the intention will be to minimise red-tape and keep access as open as possible.
- **New/replacement goalposts** - In support of the implementation of 9v9 football and other flexible formats of the game, a dedicated fund for new/replacement goalposts will be established through the Football Foundation. The FA will also ensure that awareness regarding goalpost safety is refreshed and publicised. Funding to replace unsafe goalposts will continue.

5.5 *The England and Wales Cricket Board*

The ECB's *National Club Strategy* (2012) sets out the priorities for developing cricket at club level over the next few years.

- **Current issues** - These have been identified as follows:
 - Many clubs are unable to make long-term plans for a sustainable future.
 - It is difficult to recruit and retain adult players, members and volunteers.
 - Growth is compromised by poor access, to and the quality of, club facilities.
 - Many clubs have poor security of tenure.
 - Club income streams are typically static or falling.
 - Volunteer's time is used ineffectively due to excessive bureaucracy.
 - The time and cost of travelling to and from fixtures is increasing.
 - The effects of climate change have impacted on pitch maintenance.

- **Strategic priorities** - The key priority is to create sustainable clubs by encouraging clubs to create a culture that embraces change, advocates best practice and understands that people are the most important asset of a cricket club. To support this, the ECB will:
 - Support, develop and reward the skills required to grow and sustain participation. Provide easy access to high-quality training and support. Ensure that people are at the heart of maintaining the spirit of cricket and providing a fun, open, fair and accessible game.
 - Develop accessible, high quality and innovative facilities, which inspire the nation to choose cricket. Create a culture of sustainable development that will leave a legacy for generations to come.
 - Develop appropriate, innovative competitions. Improve the experience for existing players in order to help recruit new and lapsed players, as well as to help retain players between the critical ages of 16 - 22 and 25 - 35 years of age.

5.6 The Rugby Football Union

The RFUs *National Facilities Strategy for Rugby Union in England 2013 - 2017* (2013) provides a framework for facility provision.

- **Current issues** - A clubs survey - identified a number of areas of required facility development. These include:
 - Over half of the clubs responding considered that their training facilities are not fit for purpose. Floodlighting was highlighted as a particular issue. Two-thirds of clubs stated that it is either 'very important' or 'important' for them to upgrade their floodlighting over the next four years.
 - 68% of respondents stated that they considered their playing pitches to be fit for purpose. However, over 57 per cent of respondent clubs stated that additional or improved grass pitches are either very important or important for them to develop over the next four years.
 - Almost a third of respondent clubs considered that their changing facilities are not fit for purpose. New or improved changing facilities were stated to be the highest priority for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of clubs (50% of respondents), while 61% stated that it is either very important or important for them to address the state of their changing facilities over the next four years.
- **Facility priorities** - These are as follows:
 - Increase the provision of integrated changing facilities that are child friendly and can sustain concurrent male and female activity at the club.
 - Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches.
 - Increase the number of Artificial Turf Pitches.

- Improve social, community and catering facilities, which can support diversification and the generation of additional revenues.
- Invest in facility upgrades which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs.

5.7 England Hockey

England Hockey's facilities strategy is set out in *'The Right Pitches in the Right Places'* (2011).

- **Participation targets** - England Hockey wishes to attract and retain more people into the sport, in particular by retaining club members, and increasing new membership by 10,000 adults and 32,500 children.
- **Facility provision** - There are approximately 1,000 sand-filled or dressed and 50 water based pitches in England. Most have been installed in the past 10-15 years. Many of the sand-filled or sand-dressed pitches involve provision in partnership with schools or local authorities. A considerable number of these pitches are used for multi-sport activity and in most cases hockey is not the dominant user.
- As of 2011 affiliated hockey clubs are utilising around two thirds of the sand and water artificial turf pitches in England. The clubs are collectively using around 7,000 hours between September and April and reduced hours during the summer months. Outside of this club use, sits the Single System of coaching and development which uses 2,000 hours annually. 32% of pitches are over 10 yrs old, 12% 15 yrs old and 4% over 20 years old.
- England Hockey will be looking into pitch resurfacing cycles, to identify age of pitches and to guide facility providers as to when they need to start to think about replacing their surface. 400 sand filled pitches are over 15 years old and alongside developing new facilities, it will be a priority to ensure that existing facilities receive appropriate maintenance.

5.8 UK Athletics

'Athletics Facilities: Planning and Delivery 2007 - 2012' (2007) is UK Athletics' facilities strategy.

- **Planning standard** - The Strategy proposes a standard of one outdoor synthetic track (6 or 8 lanes) per 250,000 people within 20 minutes drive (45 minutes in rural areas).
- **Eight or six lane tracks** - Each area covered by an English County Athletic Association, London Borough and metropolitan borough should have an eight-lane track with suitable covered spectator provision and floodlighting. Other tracks may be of six or eight lanes (depending on land available and proposed programme of use) with floodlighting.
- **Training facilities** - These should be built in areas where the criteria for a 6 or 8 lane track cannot be met and where communications are difficult. They could be synthetic tracks of smaller dimensions e.g. a 300m oval, a 200m 'J' track or a 110m straight with floodlighting and field event provision. Most usefully these could be located on education sites to maximise use.

5.9 Bowls England

Bowls England does not have a current development plan or facilities strategy to inform the assessment of bowls provision in Waveney.

5.10 Lawn Tennis Association

The LTA's strategy is called 'Places to Play' (2010) and covers the period 2011 to 2015. The LTA aims to get more people to play tennis more frequently. The strategy aims to provide high quality facilities for everyone at a convenient location, by increasing opportunities for people to play tennis on a regular basis at tennis clubs close to their home on safe and well maintained tennis courts.

- **Development objectives** - The key strategic objectives as follows:
 - Access for everyone to well-maintained high quality tennis facilities which are either free or 'pay-as-you-play'.
 - A Clubmark accredited place to play within a 10 minute drive of the whole population. Indoor tennis courts within a 20 minute drive time of the whole population.
 - A mini tennis (10 and under) performance programme within a 20 minute drive of the whole population. (Performance Centres).
 - A performance programme for 11 - 15 year olds within a 45 minute drive time of the whole population (High Performance Centre).
- **Facilities objectives** - The facilities objectives as follows:
 - **Improving facilities at high quality places to play** - Enhancing facility provision at performance venues and Clubmark accredited places to play.

Tennis in community settings - Beacon sites - supporting local authorities to bring back into use existing community tennis facilities and working with them to develop affordable quality tennis programmes.

Sustainability - Advising places to play to ring fence funding to ensure existing facilities can be upgraded or replaced when they get to the end of their life.

5.11 England Netball

England Netball does not have a current development plan or facilities strategy to inform the assessment of netball provision in Waveney.

5.12 Suffolk Sports Facilities Strategy

The Active Suffolk ‘*Suffolk County Sports Facilities Strategy 2009 - 2016*’ (2009) comprises a ‘prioritised and strategic framework for future sports facilities provision across Suffolk’. The strategy focuses on high-level strategic needs, rather than district-level priorities and the key findings of relevance to playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities in Waveney are as follows:

- **Athletics** - There is an identified need for a 400m synthetic track in the north-east of the county.
- **Cricket** - There is a need to provide fine-turf facilities at all ‘Focus Clubs’, including Beccles Town Cricket Club and Lowestoft Cricket Club in Waveney district.
- **Football** - There are no identified needs in Waveney district.
- **Hockey** - Two further artificial turf pitches are required in the county, but no priority locations are specified.
- **Netball** - A 1 or 2 court venue with meeting rooms and a viewing area is required in the county, but no priority location is specified.
- **Rugby** - Southwold Rugby Club is identified as a priority for a new clubhouse with four-team changing facilities and an additional pitch.
- **Tennis** - There are no identified needs in Waveney district.

5.13 Summary of wider strategic influences

Central Government planning policy is supportive of undertaking local assessments of need and the protection of playing fields and outdoor sports facilities, which provides helpful context for local planning policies in Waveney.

Sport England’s target to increase participation rates will drive up demand for pitches and outdoor sports facilities if it is achieved. The emphasis on developing and funding school-community club links will increase the scope for improving the dual use of education pitches and facilities.

All the governing bodies of sport have similar facilities objectives, to improve the quality of pitches/facilities and changing provision and many are introducing new, more accessible formats of their sports some of which, such as ‘Last Man Standing’ in cricket, have additional and specific pitch requirements. The change in pitch sizes for youth football will also require significant changes to the existing stock of pitches.

The Suffolk Facilities Strategy identifies several priority developments in Waveney district, in particular a 400m synthetic athletics track and cricket and rugby projects.

6 PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES DEMAND IN WAVENEY

6.1 Introduction

This section analyses the demand for playing pitches in Waveney. The assessment is based upon:

- Expressed demand, represented by the number of teams and participation levels for each sport.
- Latent demand, represented by evidence of frustrated demand and evidence of team growth potential.

6.2 Demand for football

The data on demand for football in Waveney is detailed below. It was compiled from:

- The Football Association's 'Football Participation Report' for Waveney for 2012/2013.
- Additional information supplied by the FA showing where each team plays its 'home' fixtures.

6.2.1 Football conversion rates

The FA calculated the following Football Conversion Rates, to compare the number of people playing football with the local population in each age group, to produce a percentage of each age group that plays football.

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Waveney (%)</i>	<i>East (%)</i>	<i>England (%)</i>
Adult male (ages 17 - 44)	7.1%	6.6%	5.2%
Adult female (ages 17 - 44)	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%
Youth male (ages 10 - 16)	19.3%	24.8%	20.5%
Youth female (ages 10 - 16)	1.9%	2.3%	2.0%
Mini-soccer (ages 5 - 9)	12.3%	11.5%	9.6%
TOTAL	8.2%	6.2%	5.2%

The Football Conversion Rates show that with the exception of youth football, participation rates in Waveney are all above the respective regional averages.

As a benchmarking exercise, the conversion rates for Waveney have been compared by the FA with those of the 18 most demographically similar local authorities. The results are listed in order of their overall conversion rate in the table below and show that Waveney is ranked third:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Adult male</i>	<i>Adult female</i>	<i>Youth male</i>	<i>Youth female</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Overall</i>
Carlisle	5.6%	0.4%	26.0%	3.8%	18.9%	10.9%
Great Yarmouth	6.9%	0.3%	21.2%	1.9%	11.9%	8.4%
Waveney	7.1%	0.4%	19.3%	1.9%	12.3%	8.2%

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Adult male</i>	<i>Adult female</i>	<i>Youth male</i>	<i>Youth female</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Overall</i>
Blackpool	4.1%	0.2%	19.6%	0.3%	15.6%	8.0%
Dover	6.0%	0.0%	16.8%	0.6%	9.6%	6.6%
Scarborough	7.3%	0.3%	17.0%	1.3%	6.3%	6.5%
Kerrier	7.3%	0.2%	15.1%	2.2%	7.0%	6.4%
Allerdale	6.8%	0.4%	12.0%	2.4%	10.1%	6.3%
Weymouth & Portland	5.0%	0.4%	15.0%	3.6%	7.5%	6.3%
Shepway	4.6%	0.0%	16.8%	1.5%	8.4%	6.3%
Thanet	6.9%	0.1%	15.5%	1.3%	7.5%	6.2%
Restormal	6.4%	0.3%	15.3%	1.0%	7.0%	6.0%
Carrick	5.1%	0.7%	13.5%	1.9%	6.9%	5.6%
Isle of White	6.0%	0.3%	14.2%	0.4%	7.1%	5.6%
Penwith	5.5%	0.4%	9.9%	1.6%	7.0%	4.9%
Torbay	3.8%	0.3%	12.7%	1.9%	3.4%	4.4%

6.2.2 Team growth potential

The FA calculates ‘Team Growth Potential’ for Waveney by targeting the 75th percentile figures of the comparator local authorities to create a target for local development. Growth Potential represents the number of teams for each football type that the local authority would need to develop to reach the conversion target value. For youth (all formats) the growth potential has been calculated on the number of teams required assuming 9v9 format. The figures suggest that there is very limited potential to increase upon what are already comparatively high participation rates and that there is little evidence of any latent demand.

<i>Football type</i>	<i>Conversion target (%)</i>	<i>Current Waveney figure (%)</i>	<i>% Variance</i>	<i>Growth potential (no. extra teams)</i>
Adult male	6.41%	7.1%	+0.69%	0
Adult female	0.37%	0.4%	+0.03%	0
Youth male	17.65%	19.3%	+1.65%	0
Youth female	2.11%	1.9%	-0.21%	1
Mini-soccer	10.24%	12.3%	+2.06%	0

6.2.3 Charter Standard clubs

Of the 75 football clubs in Waveney, 14 (18.7%) have achieved the FA’s quality assured Charter Standard (compared with 24.0% nationally). 98.6% of youth and mini-soccer teams are part of a Charter Standard club, compared with a national average of 78.3% and well above the national target of 75%.

6.2.4 Football clubs and teams in Waveney

The following clubs and teams currently play in Waveney. The clubs have been listed according to the sub-area in which they play. Clubs that have achieved the FA’s quality assured ‘Charter Standard’ accreditation are marked with an asterisk.

- **Lowestoft North**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
AFC Mutford	Normanston Park	2	0	0
AFC Notleys	Dip Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0
Blundeston FC	Dip Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0
Blundeston Magpies FC*	Lothingland Middle School	0	4	3
(The) Carlton FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Carlton Crown FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Carlton Rangers FC	Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	2	0	0
Carlton United FC	Dip Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0
Corton FC*	Corton Playing Fields	1	0	0
Corton Seltic FC	Corton Playing Fields	4	0	0
DK Consultants FC	Barnards Centre Point	2	0	0
Electro Tec FC	Dip Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0
Factory Arms FC	Dip Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0
Fusilier FC	Dip Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0
Gunton United FC	Benjamin Britten HS	1	0	0
Gunton Youth FC*	Benjamin Britten HS	0	0	1
Hearts of Oak FC	Dip Farm Playing Fields	2	0	0
Heils Bakery Crusaders Vets FC	Ormiston Denes Academy	1	0	0
Kessingland Queen's Head FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Lake Lothing FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Lothing FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Lowestoft Albion FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Lowestoft Town FC*	Crown Meadow, Lowestoft	4	1	0
Mariner's Rest FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Morning Star FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
New House FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Notleys FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Notleys 2013 FC	Ormiston Denes Academy	1	0	0
Oulton Athletic FC	Ormiston Denes Academy	1	0	0
Oulton Broad FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Oulton Mariners FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Oulton Mariners Youth FC*	Foxborough Middle School	0	1	0
Oxford Arms FC	Dip Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0
Pakefield Re-United Vets FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Park Rangers FC	Dip Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0
Payton FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Saturday 2000 Youth FC*	Ormiston Denes Academy	0	0	1
Saturn FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Stanford Arms FC	Normanston Park	1	0	0
Telecom Rovers FC	Benjamin Britten HS	1	0	0
Waveney FC	Ormiston Denes Academy	8	0	0
Waveney Gunners 04 FC	Dip Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0
Waveney Hearts FC	Ormiston Denes Academy	1	0	0
Waveney Ladies FC*	Barnards Centre Point	1	5	2

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Waveney Wanderers FC	Ormiston Denes Academy	1	0	0
Waveney Youth FC*	Ormiston Denes Academy Barnards Centre Point Benjamin Britten HS	0	17	17
TOTAL	-	58	28	24

- **Lowestoft South**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Carlton Colville Town FC	Carlton Colville Comm. Centre	2	0	0
Carlton Rangers FC	Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	2	0	0
Carlton Red House FC	Carlton Colville Comm. Centre	1	0	0
Crusaders FC	Kessingland Community Centre	1	0	0
Juggernauts FC	Kessingland Community Centre	1	0	0
Kirkley & Pakefield FC*	Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	7	23	7
Swanton Herons Girls FC*	Jeld Wen Playing Fields	0	2	1
TOTAL	-	14	25	8

- **Beccles**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Barsham FC	College Meadow, Beccles	1	0	0
Beccles Caxton FC	Caxton Meadow, Beccles	4	1	0
Beccles Town FC*	College Meadow, Beccles	2	0	0
St. Benet's Wasps Youth FC*	College Meadow, Beccles	0	15	10
TOTAL	-	7	16	10

- **Bungay**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Bungay Town FC	Maltings Meadow	4	10	6
Bungay Town Ladies FC	Maltings Meadow	1	0	0
TOTAL	-	5	10	6

- **Halesworth**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Halesworth Town FC*	Halesworth Playing Fields Basley Playing Field	3	4	3
Spexhall Huntsman & Hounds FC	Spexall Playing Field	1	0	0
Westhall 07 FC	Westhall Village Hall	1	0	0
TOTAL	-	5	4	3

- **Southwold and Reydon**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Mutford & Wrentham FC*	Wrentham Playing Field	2	0	0
Sole Bay United Veterans FC	Old Reydon High School	1	0	0
Sole Bay United Youth FC*	Old Reydon High School	0	5	2
Southwold Town FC	Southwold Common	1	0	0
TOTAL	-	4	5	2

6.2.5 Football teams by sub-area in Waveney

The number of football teams per capita in each sub-area of Waveney, based upon population figures from the 2011 Census, is as follows:

- **Adult teams**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Teams</i>	<i>Teams per capita</i>
Lowestoft North	38,050	58	1: 656
Lowestoft South	39,470	14	1: 2,819
Beccles	17,180	7	1: 2,454
Bungay	7,080	5	1: 1,416
Halesworth	7,620	5	1: 1,524
Southwold and Reydon	5,900	4	1: 1,475
WAVENEY	115,300	93	1: 1,240

- **Youth teams**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Teams</i>	<i>Teams per capita</i>
Lowestoft North	38,050	28	1: 1,359
Lowestoft South	39,470	25	1: 1,579
Beccles	17,180	16	1: 1,073
Bungay	7,080	10	1: 708
Halesworth	7,620	4	1: 1,905
Southwold and Reydon	5,900	5	1: 1,180
WAVENEY	115,300	87	1: 1,325

- **Mini-soccer teams**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Teams</i>	<i>Teams per capita</i>
Lowestoft North	38,050	24	1: 1,585
Lowestoft South	39,470	8	1: 4,934
Beccles	17,180	10	1: 1,718
Bungay	7,080	6	1: 1,180
Halesworth	7,620	3	1: 2,540
Southwold and Reydon	5,900	2	1: 2,950
WAVENEY	115,300	53	1: 2,175

6.2.6 Football clubs survey findings

The key data on demand from the four clubs and two leagues (collectively representing a total of 119 teams or 50% of all the teams in the district) that responded to the football clubs survey was as follows:

- **Membership trends** - One club in Lowestoft North has experienced an increase in senior membership over the past three years, whilst two stayed the same, whilst two (in Lowestoft South and Beccles) have had increases at youth and mini-soccer levels and one a decrease.
- **Development aspirations** - Three clubs have aspirations to expand the number of teams they field, with the total number of potential additional teams amounting to 3 adult teams 8 youth teams and 6 mini-soccer teams. This suggests that contrary to the 'Team Growth Potential' data, there is some latent demand locally. All the new teams can be accommodated at existing facilities, although some of these will involve the use of additional venues with spare capacity.

6.3 Demand for cricket

6.3.1 Cricket teams in Waveney

Data on demand for cricket was supplied by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). The following ECB-affiliated clubs and teams currently play in Waveney. The clubs have been listed according to the sub-area in which they play. Clubs that have achieved the quality assured 'Club Mark' accreditation are marked with an asterisk:

- **Lowestoft North**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Junior Teams</i>
Blundeston & Somerleyton CC*	Somerleyton Playing Fields	4	4
Kirkley & Lowestoft Railway CC*	Gunton Park, Lowestoft	3	0
Lowestoft Town Cricket Club*	Denes Oval, Lowestoft	6	6
TOTAL	-	13	10

- **Lowestoft South** - None
- **Beccles**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Junior Teams</i>
Beccles Town Cricket Club*	College Meadow, Beccles	3	3
Gillingham Cricket Club	Ringsfield Playing Field	1	0
Ringsfield Cricket Club	Hall Field, Ringsfield	1	1
TOTAL	-	5	4

- **Bungay**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Junior Teams</i>
Bungay Cricket Club	Maltings Meadow, Bungay	2	3
TOTAL	-	2	3

- **Halesworth**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Junior Teams</i>
Rumburgh Cricket Club	Bank's Farm, Rumburgh	1	0
TOTAL	-	1	0

- **Southwold and Reydon**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Junior Teams</i>
Southwold Cricket Club	Southwold Common	2	3
TOTAL	-	2	3

In addition to the affiliated teams, the Lowestoft and District Cricket League involves the following 16 unaffiliated teams, who play on local authority pitches at Denes Oval, Gunton Park and Normanston Park in the Lowestoft North sub-area:

- Belton
- Broadland Holiday Village
- Carlton Colville
- Christ Church
- Essex & Suffolk Water
- EAST
- EEB
- Etceteras
- Heils Bakery
- Lake Lothing
- North Lowestoft
- Oulton Broad
- Royal Mail
- Teachers
- Waveney Gunners
- Waveney Removers

6.3.2 Cricket teams by sub-area in Waveney

The number of affiliated and non-affiliated cricket teams per capita in each sub-area of Waveney, based upon population figures from the 2011 Census, is as follows:

- **Adult teams**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Teams</i>	<i>Teams per capita</i>
Lowestoft North	38,050	17	1: 2,238
Lowestoft South	39,470	8	1: 4,934
Beccles	17,180	5	1: 3,436
Bungay	7,080	2	1: 3,540
Halesworth	7,620	1	1: 7,620
Southwold and Reydon	5,900	2	1: 2,950
WAVENEY	115,300	39	1: 2,956

- **Junior teams**

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Teams</i>	<i>Teams per capita</i>
Lowestoft North	38,050	10	1: 3,805
Lowestoft South	39,470	0	-
Beccles	17,180	4	1: 4,295
Bungay	7,080	3	1: 2,360
Halesworth	7,620	0	-
Southwold and Reydon	5,900	3	1: 1,967
WAVENEY	115,300	20	1: 5,765

6.3.3 Cricket clubs survey findings

The key data on demand from the one club and league (collectively representing a total of 21 teams or 28% of the 75 teams in the district) that responded to the cricket clubs survey was as follows:

- **Membership trends** - All clubs reported that membership levels have remained stable over the past three years.
- **Development aspirations** - One club has aspirations to expand the number of teams it fields, with the total number of potential additional teams amounting to one adult and one junior side. This suggests that there is little latent demand for Cricket locally.

6.4 Demand for rugby union

6.4.1 Rugby teams in Waveney

Data on demand for rugby union in Waveney was supplied by the Rugby Football Union. The following clubs and teams currently play in Waveney. The clubs have been listed according to the sub-area in which they play. Clubs that have achieved the quality assured 'Club Mark' accreditation are marked with an asterisk.

- **Lowestoft North**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Lowestoft and Yarmouth RFC*	Gunton Park, Lowestoft	2	5	6
TOTAL	-	2	5	6

- **Lowestoft South** - None.

- **Beccles**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Beccles Rugby Club*	College Meadow, Beccles	3	1	3
TOTAL	-	3	1	3

- **Bungay** - None.

- **Halesworth** - None
- **Southwold and Reydon**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Youth Teams</i>	<i>Mini Teams</i>
Southwold Rugby Club*	Southwold Common St. Felix School, Southwold	3	4	6
<i>TOTAL</i>	-	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>6</i>

6.4.2 Rugby clubs survey findings

All three clubs responded to the rugby clubs survey. The key findings were as follows:

- **Membership trends** - All clubs reported that membership levels have increased amongst the junior age groups over the past three years, with one reporting an increase in adult players. There has also been an increase in female and veteran rugby players.
- **Development aspirations** - All clubs have aspirations to expand the number of teams they field, with the total number of potential additional teams amounting to one senior men’s team, one senior women’s team, three youth boy’s teams, one youth girl’s team, two colts boy’s teams, one colts girl’s team and two mini/midi teams. This suggests that there is some latent demand for rugby in the district.



Southwold Rugby Club’s pavilion

- **Facilities issues in Beccles** - Beccles Rugby Club has problems with the drainage of its pitches at College Meadow, which limit their usage capacity during the winter months for matches and training. Efforts have been made to improve drainage at the site, but further developments are needed to give the pitches sufficient capacity to sustain the club’s current activity programme and to expand team numbers in due course.

- **Facilities issues in Lowestoft** - Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club is unable to expand its activities at its current site in Gunton Park and has for several years been seeking to identify a new and larger site in the north of Lowestoft. The current pitches are used to capacity at present and the changing facilities and parking provision are inadequate.
- **Facilities issues in Southwold** - Southwold Rugby Club has problems accommodating all the demand for junior and mini-rugby on its current pitches and has to use pitches at St. Felix School for training. The Club is considering relocating its Colts and Youth teams to Halesworth Campus once the site is fully functioning (although it would hope to continue to host at least some of their ‘home’ fixtures in Southwold).

6.5 Demand for hockey

6.5.1 Hockey teams in Waveney

Data on demand for hockey in Waveney is detailed below. It was supplied by England Hockey’s local Relationship Manager and supplemented by data supplied by local clubs. The following clubs and teams currently play in Waveney, either at the only sand-based synthetic turf pitch in the Lowestoft North sub-area or outside the district:

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Men’s Teams</i>	<i>Women’s Teams</i>	<i>Boys Teams</i>	<i>Girls Teams</i>
Beccles Ladies Hockey Club	<i>Hobart High School, Loddon</i>	0	1	0	0
Lowestoft Ladies Hockey Club	East Point Academy	0	2	0	0
Lowestoft Railway Hockey Club	East Point Academy	3	2	0	1
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>

6.5.2 Hockey clubs survey findings

The key data on demand from the three clubs (collectively representing 100% of the teams in the district) that responded to the hockey clubs survey was as follows:

- **Membership trends** - Lowestoft Railway HC has experienced an increase in adult and junior membership over the past three years, Beccles Ladies HC has experienced an increase in adult membership, but Lowestoft Ladies HC has seen a decrease in both age groups.
- **Development aspirations** - The two Lowestoft-based clubs have aspirations to expand the number of teams they field, with the total number of potential additional teams amounting to one senior men’s team and one senior women’s team. However, the lack of a local synthetic turf pitch in Beccles has prevented Beccles Ladies HC from expanding its membership as it would wish, with many members and prospective members unable to commit to the additional travelling time required to reach their nearest pitch in Loddon.

6.6 Demand for Athletics

6.6.1 Athletics clubs in Waveney

There are three athletics clubs in Waveney district, with a collective membership of 510. Waveney Valley Athletics Club operates from facilities in Lowestoft and Beccles, Bungay Black Dog Running Club is based at Bungay Sports Centre and Lowestoft Road Runners in Lowestoft.

6.6.2 Other participation data

The 'Active People' survey revealed that whilst running is the fifth most popular sport and physical activity in Waveney, only 3.4% of the adult population participates, which is well below the regional (6.3%) and national (6.9%) averages.

6.6.3 Consultation with England Athletics

England Athletics works very closely with the clubs in Waveney district:

- **Bungay Black Dog Running Club** - Bungay is an active member of the Suffolk Essex Athletics Network and has three coaches on the Local Coach Development Programme. It was supported through a successful Sport England Small Grants application three years ago. Its junior section has developed significantly over the past four years and England Athletics' Club and Coach Support Officer is currently supporting the club with restructuring its junior section to ensure it aligns with the Athlete Development Model. It is also being supported to provide suitable competition opportunities for their young athletes and is currently in the process of renewing its Clubmark accreditation.
- **Waveney Valley AC** - Waveney Valley AC re-launched its junior section about 18-months ago and is going through a phase of rapid growth. The Club and Coach Support Officer supported it to put relevant policies and procedures in place and to gain a Sport England Small Grants Award. It is currently training more coaches to cope with the increased numbers. It has benefitted from mentoring support from coaches at City of Norwich AC and is due to join the Norfolk Athletics Network in the near future.

6.6.4 Athletics club survey findings

The key data on demand from the survey of local athletics clubs was as follows:

- **Waveney Valley AC** - The club currently has 114 members, including 70 juniors and is growing weekly. The adult membership has remained static over the past five years, but the number of juniors has increased. There is currently a waiting list for under 11's. The club has aspirations to expand its membership further. The club operates from East Point Academy, Beccles Sports Centre and St. Michael's Church, Oulton Broad.
- **Bungay Black Dog Running Club** - The club currently has 356 members, including 112 juniors. Membership has almost doubled in the past four years from 183 in 2010. A total of 5,500 sessions were attended by adult members in 2013 and 2,272 by junior members. The club operates from Bungay Sports Centre and Maltings Meadow.

- **Lowestoft Road Runners** - The club has around 40 members, who compete in road and cross-country running. The club operates sessions from Water Lane Leisure Centre.

In the absence of any specialist athletics facilities in the district, Waveney Valley AC and Bungay Black Dog Running Club both have problems with gaining sufficient access to the indoor facilities that they use as their training bases. Both clubs believe that there is sufficient demand to justify the provision of an athletics track in Waveney, with the facility in Great Yarmouth already extensively used by Great Yarmouth and District Athletics Club and physical accessibility to the track being problematic for many Waveney residents, with poor transport links.

6.7 Demand for Bowls

6.7.1 Bowls clubs in Waveney

Data on demand for bowls in Waveney is detailed below. The following 18 clubs currently play in the district and have been listed according to the sub-area in which they play. Whilst some clubs allow ‘pay-and-play’ access to their greens for casual use by non-members, the vast majority of bowls activity in Waveney is played through the network of clubs:

- **Lowestoft North**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Green</i>
Blundeston Bowls Club	The Plough Inn, Market Lane, Blundeston NR32 5AN
Corton Bowls Club	The Street, Corton NR32 5HW
Lound Bowls Club	Church Lane, Lound NR32 5LL
Somerleyton Bowls Club	The Street, Somerleyton NR32 5PT
Sparrows Nest Bowls Club	Whapload Road, Lowestoft NR32 1XG
Waveney Bowls Club	Tilletts Nurseries, Camps Heath, Oulton Broad. NR32 5DP

- **Lowestoft South**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Green</i>
Kensington Gardens Bowls Club	Kirkley Cliff Road, Lowestoft NR33 0BY
Kessingland United WMC Bowls Club	The Avenue, Kessingland NR33 7QD
Lowestoft Railway Bowls Club	123A, Carlton Road, Lowestoft NR33 0LZ
Oulton Broad Bowls Club	Nicholas Everitt Park, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft NR33 9JR

- **Beccles**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Green</i>
Beccles Caxton Bowls Club	Gaol Lane, Beccles NR34 9SJ
Beccles Conservative Bowls Club	London Road, Beccles NR34 9TZ
Beccles Institute Bowls Club	Fair Close, Beccles NR34 9QT
Beccles Town Bowls Club	London Road, Beccles NR34 9TZ

- **Bungay**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Green</i>
Bungay Town Bowls Club	St. Johns Road, Bungay NR35 1DL
Mettingham Bowls Club	New Road, Mettingham NR35 1TL

- **Halesworth**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Green</i>
Brampton and District Bowls Club	Station Road, Brampton NR34 8EA
Halesworth Angel Bowls Club	Dairy Hill, Halesworth IP19 8JS

- **Southwold and Reydon**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Green</i>
Sole Bay Bowls Club	50, Halesworth Road, Reydon IP18 6NR
Wrentham Bowls Club	Old Mill Lane, Wrentham NR34 7JQ

6.7.2 Consultation with the Suffolk Bowls Association

Consultation with the Suffolk Bowls Association confirmed that there is no development plan for the sport in the county and that none of the clubs has the quality assured ‘Clubmark’ accreditation.

6.7.3 Bowls clubs survey findings

The key data on demand from the four clubs (comprising 22% of the total that play in the district) that responded to the bowls clubs survey was as follows:

- **Membership trends** - One club in the Lowestoft South sub-area has increased its membership, one has experienced static membership and two in the Beccles and Halesworth sub-areas have seen a decrease in members over the past three years. Most clubs have some spare capacity, so there is no evidence of any latent demand for bowls in the district.
- **Development aspirations** - None of the clubs have aspirations to expand memberships.

6.8 Demand for Tennis

6.8.1 Tennis clubs in Waveney

Seven clubs currently play in the district and have been listed according to the sub-area in which they play. The Broadlands Sands Tennis Club, which was formerly based at courts at the Broadlands Sands Holiday Park, recently merged with the Lowestoft Town Club, principally due to problems with the court surfaces at the holiday park site when wet. In addition to club players, there is an unknown volume of casual play on public courts, which supplements demand for facilities:

- **Lowestoft North**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Courts</i>
Lowestoft Town Tennis Club	Whapload Road, Lowestoft NR32 1XG
Waveney Tennis Club	Nicholas Everitt Park, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft NR33 9JR

- **Lowestoft South - None**

- **Beccles**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Courts</i>
Beccles Tennis Club	Kingston Drive, Beccles NR34 9RP

- **Bungay**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Courts</i>
Bungay Tennis Club	Maltings Meadow, Ditchingham, Bungay NR35 2RU

- **Halesworth**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Courts</i>
Halesworth Tennis Club	Dairy Hill, Halesworth IP19 8JS

- **Southwold and Reydon**

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Courts</i>
Southwold and District TC	Hotson Road, Southwold IP18 6BS
Wrentham Tennis Club	Mill Lane, Wrentham NR34 7JQ

6.8.2 Consultation with the Lawn Tennis Association (East)

Consultation with the Lawn Tennis Association (East) confirmed that:

- There is no development plan for the sport in the county.
- None of the clubs in Waveney has been designated as a ‘Beacon Site’.
- None of the clubs has the quality assured ‘Clubmark’ accreditation.

6.8.3 Tennis clubs survey findings

The key data on demand from four clubs (comprising 57% of the total that play in the district) that responded to the tennis clubs survey was as follows:

- **Membership trends** - One club has experienced an increase membership over the past three years and two have remained static.

- **Development aspirations** - All clubs have aspirations to expand their membership. This suggests that there may be some latent demand for tennis in the district.
- **Facilities issues** - Lowestoft LTC identified that there are no dedicated floodlit tennis courts in either the Lowestoft North or South sub areas. This has hampered the club's ability to recruit new members and it is unable to play evening tennis through the autumn, winter and spring months. On a related issue, there are no dedicated indoor courts in the district.



Beccles Tennis Club

6.9 Demand for Netball

6.9.1 Netball clubs in Waveney

12 netball clubs from the district currently play in the Waveney Netball League, most of who are based in Lowestoft using the courts at East Point Academy, with Beccles Bluebirds playing at Beccles Sports Centre and Sole Bay Ladies based at St. Felix School. In addition, Bungay Ladies play at Bungay Sports Hall.

6.9.2 Consultation with the England Netball Association

Consultation with the England Netball Association confirmed that there is no formal development plan for the sport in Suffolk and that none of the clubs in Waveney has the quality assured 'Club Action Planning Scheme' accreditation. However, the further development of the sport is hampered by the capacity of existing facilities to accommodate more usage.

Beccles Bluebirds have approached Sir John Leman High School in Beccles with a view to establishing a junior section/satellite club and this model may be followed by other clubs in the district in the future.

Beccles Bluebirds have approached Sir John Leman High School in Beccles with a view to establishing a junior section/satellite club and this model may be followed by other clubs in the district in the future. Schools netball is currently played on courts with no community access at Lowestoft College, Pakefield School and Ormiston Denes Academy, so developing school-club links would offer the opportunity to access additional facilities.

6.9.3 Netball clubs survey findings

- **Membership trends** - Membership is essentially static, with no significant increases or decreases over the past three years. The League is planning to organise a ‘Back to Netball’ session which it hopes will boost local participation.
- **Facilities issues** - Netball is mostly played outdoors and the only facility with floodlights that can currently cater for league requirements is at East Point Academy. The league would be interested in any new multi-purpose facility created if there are 3 or more courts with floodlights.

6.10 Summary of pitch and outdoor sports facilities demand in Waveney

There is significant expressed demand for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities in Waveney, amounting to 379 teams across the eight sports.

There is some evidence of latent demand for football, rugby, athletics and tennis, based upon local membership and participation trends.

Several clubs have aspirations to expand their membership in the short term, although all the organisations concerned have indicated that they can do this by using spare capacity at their existing facilities.

7 PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES SUPPLY IN WAVENEY

7.1 Introduction

This section analyses the supply of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities in Waveney.

7.2 Definition

7.2.1 Playing pitches

The pitches included in the analysis are defined as natural or artificial turf areas permanently laid out with regulation markings, with the following dimensions for club-level play as specified in Sport England's 'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts' (2011) and the FA's 'Guide to Pitch Dimensions' (2013), have community access and are used for competitive play.

<i>Pitch Type</i>	<i>Pitch length</i>	<i>Pitch width</i>	<i>Size including run-offs</i>
Adult football	100m	64m	106m x 70m
Youth football (U17-U18)	100m	64m	106m x 70m
Youth football (U15-U16)	92m	55m	97m x 60m
Youth football (U13-U14)	82m	51m	88m x 56m
Youth football (9v9)	73 m	46m	79m x 51m
Mini-soccer (7v7)	55m	37m	60m x 42m
Mini-soccer (5v5)	37m	27m	42m x 33m
Adult cricket	20.12m	Max. 36.6m/Min. 3.05m	111.56m x 106.69m
Junior cricket	19.2m	Max. 27.45m/Min. 3.05m	92.36m x 88.41m
Adult rugby	Max. 144m	Max. 70m	Max. 154m x 80m

7.2.2 Outdoor sports facilities

- Athletics track** - A 400m track, with 6 or 8 lanes, an all-weather synthetic surface and provision for field events. In addition, specialist athletics training facilities include synthetic tracks of smaller dimensions e.g. a 300m oval, a 150m or 200m 'J' track, or a 110m straight with floodlighting and field event provision.
- Bowls green** - A flat grass playing area, ideally 40m x 40m, surrounded by a ditch between 200mm and 380mm wide and 50mm and 200mm deep. The width of each individual rink is between 4.3m and 5.8m.
- Tennis court** - A rectangular flat surface, usually of tarmac, grass, clay, concrete or synthetic turf. The court is 23.78m x 10.97m with a net across the middle of the court and regulation line markings. Recommended run-off areas at the sides of the playing area should be 4m, with 7m at each end of the court.
- Netball court** - A rectangular flat surface, usually of tarmac, with the court measuring 30.5m x 15.24 with regulation line markings and a 3.05m run-off area at the sides and ends.

7.3 Security of Access

A key consideration in assessing pitch and facilities supply is the extent to which provision is available for unrestricted community use and subject to formalised access arrangements that cannot easily be rescinded. Sport England has produced a formal classification for access to pitches which is set out below.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Supplementary information</i>
A(i)	Secured community pitches	Pitches in local authority or other public ownership.
A(ii)		Pitches in the voluntary, private or commercial sector which are open to members of the public.*
A(iii)		Pitches on education sites available for use by the public through formal community use agreements.
B	Used by community but not secured	Pitches not included above, that are available for community use without formal user arrangements.
C	Not open for community use	Pitches at establishments which are not, as a matter of policy or practice, available for community use.

* Where there is a charge, this must be reasonable and affordable for the local community

7.4 Playing pitch quantitative analysis

7.4.1 Pitches with community access

Details of all pitches with community access within Waveney district are listed below by sub-area, with the access category recorded for each. ‘STP’ refers to full-sized synthetic turf pitches. Sites with no community access are detailed separately in section 7.4.8. The information was compiled from data supplied by Waveney District Council, the governing bodies of sport, Sport England’s ‘Spogo’ website and the FA’s ‘Pitch Finder’ website. This was verified by visits to all sites:

- **Lowestoft North**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Access category</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>STP</i>
Barnards Centre Point, Lowestoft	A(iii)	-	2	5	-	-	1
Benjamin Britten High School, Lowestoft	B	2	2	2	-	-	-
Blundeston Playing Fields	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-	-
Corton Playing Fields	A(i)	2	-	-	-	-	-
Crown Meadow, Lowestoft	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-	-
Denes Oval, Lowestoft	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-	-
Dip Farm Playing Fields, Lowestoft	A(i)	4	-	-	-	-	-
Foxborough Middle School, Lowestoft	B	1	1	-	-	-	-
Gunton Park, Lowestoft	A(i)	-	-	-	1	3	-
Lothingland Middle School	B	-	2	2	-	-	-
Normanston Park, Lowestoft	A(i)	4	-	-	2	-	-
Ormiston Denes Academy, Lowestoft	A(iii)	2	-	-	1	1	-
Somerleyton Playing Fields	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL	-	17	7	9	6	4	1

- **Lowestoft South**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Access category</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>STP</i>
Carlton Colville Community Centre	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-	-
East Point Academy, Lowestoft	A(iii)	-	-	-	-	-	1
Jeld Wen Playing Fields, Lowestoft	A(ii)	1	2	1	-	-	-
Kessingland Community Centre	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-	-
Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	A(ii)	3	2	2	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	6	4	3	0	0	1

- **Beccles**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Access category</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>STP</i>
Beccles Sports Centre	A(iii)	3	1	-	-	1	-
Caxton Sports & Social Club, Beccles	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-	-
College Meadow, Beccles	A(i)	2	1	1	1	2	-
Mutford Playing Field	A(i)	-	1	-	-	-	-
Ringsfield Playing Field, Beccles	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-	-
Shadingfield Sports Ground, Beccles	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-	-
The Nest, Beccles	A(ii)	1	1	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	8	42		2	3	0

- **Bungay**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Access category</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>STP</i>
Bungay and District Sports Assoc.	A(ii)	3	2	3	1	-	-
TOTAL	-	3	2	3	1	-	-

- **Halesworth**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Access category</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>STP</i>
Banks Farm, Rumburgh	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-	-
Basley Playing Field	A(i)	-	1	-	-	-	-
Halesworth Playing Fields	A(i)	1	1	1	-	-	-
Holton Village Hall	A(i)	-	1	-	-	-	-
Spexhall Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-	-
Westhall Village Hall	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	3	3	1	1	0	0

- Southwold and Reydon

<i>Site</i>	<i>Access category</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>STP</i>
Frostenden Recreation Ground	A(i)	-	1	-	-	-	-
Old Reydon High School	A(i)	1	3	1	-	-	-
St. Felix School, Southwold	B	-	-	-	-	1	-
Southwold Common	A(i)	1	-	-	1	1	-
Wrentham Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	3	4	1	1	2	0

7.4.2 Sub-area analysis

Per capita levels of provision of pitches with community access in each sub-area of Waveney district are listed below, based upon population figures from the 2011 Census:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>STP</i>
Lowestoft North	38,050	1: 2,238	1: 5,436	1: 4,228	1: 6,342	1: 9,513	1: 38,050
Lowestoft South	39,470	1: 6,578	1: 9,868	1: 13,157	1: 39,470	1: 39,470	1: 39,470
Beccles	17,180	1: 2,148	1: 4,295	1: 8,590	1: 8,590	1: 5,727	-
Bungay	7,080	1: 2,360	1: 3,540	1: 2,360	1: 7,080	-	-
Halesworth	7,620	1: 2,540	1: 2,540	1: 7,620	1: 7,620	-	-
Southwold and Reydon	5,900	1: 1,967	1: 1,475	1: 5,900	1: 5,900	1: 2,950	-
WAVENEY	115,300	1: 2,883	1: 5,013	1: 6,068	1: 10,482	1: 11,530	1: 57,650

It shows that levels of provision of most types of pitch are relatively even across the district, with the exception of the Lowestoft South sub-area, where the provision per capita is much poorer than for the district as a whole.

7.4.3 Security of access

Security of access to pitches with community access is tabulated below. It shows that 89% of pitches in Waveney have secured community access. However, 22% of all the community accessible youth football and 21% of all the community-accessible mini-soccer pitches are on school sites, where access could theoretically be rescinded.

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>A(i)</i>		<i>A(ii)</i>		<i>A(iii)</i>		<i>B</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
Adult football	20	50%	12	30%	5	13%	3	7%
Youth football	9	35%	7	30%	3	13%	5	22%
Mini-soccer	3	16%	7	37%	5	26%	4	21%
Cricket	8	73%	2	18%	1	9%	0	0%
Rugby	7	78%	0	0%	3	22%	0	0%
STPs	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%	0	0%
TOTAL	47	44%	28	27%	19	18%	12	11%



Adult football pitch at Corton Sports Ground

7.4.4 Benchmarked provision

To benchmark levels of provision in Waveney, per capita provision in the neighbouring local authorities is as follows. The data is drawn from Sport England's 'Active Places Power'

- **Adult football** - Per capita levels of provision of adult football pitches in Waveney are the poorest for all its neighbouring local authorities.

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Mid-Suffolk	97,100	96	1: 1,011
South Norfolk	124,500	86	1: 1,448
Suffolk Coastal	124,600	86	1: 1,449
Great Yarmouth	92,500	43	1: 2,151
Waveney	115,300	40	1: 2,883

- **Youth football** - Per capita levels of provision of youth football pitches in Waveney are below the average for its neighbouring local authorities.

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Suffolk Coastal	124,600	64	1: 1,947
Mid-Suffolk	97,100	32	1: 3,034
South Norfolk	124,500	33	1: 3,772
Waveney	115,300	23	1: 5,013
Great Yarmouth	92,500	12	1: 7,708

- **Mini-soccer** - Per capita levels of provision of mini-soccer pitches vary widely, but levels in Waveney are around the average for its neighbouring local authorities.

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
South Norfolk	124,500	51	1: 2,441
Great Yarmouth	92,500	26	1: 3,558
Waveney	115,300	19	1: 6,068
Mid-Suffolk	97,100	7	1: 13,871
Suffolk Coastal	124,600	7	1: 17,800

- **Cricket** - Per capita levels of provision of cricket pitches vary widely, but levels in Waveney are below the average for its neighbouring local authorities.

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
South Norfolk	124,500	39	1: 3,192
Suffolk Coastal	124,600	35	1: 3,560
Great Yarmouth	92,500	11	1: 8,409
Waveney	115,300	11	1: 10,482
Mid-Suffolk	97,100	7	1: 13,871

- **Rugby** - Per capita levels of provision of rugby pitches vary widely, but levels in Waveney are below the average for its neighbouring local authorities.

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Suffolk Coastal	124,600	29	1: 4,297
South Norfolk	124,500	23	1: 5,413
Mid-Suffolk	97,100	16	1: 6,068
Waveney	115,300	10	1: 11,530
Great Yarmouth	92,500	7	1: 13,214

- **Synthetic turf pitches** - Per capita levels of provision of full-sized synthetic turf pitches vary widely, but levels in Waveney are below the average for its neighbouring local authorities.

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Pitches per capita</i>
Mid-Suffolk	97,100	4	1: 24,275
Great Yarmouth	92,500	3	1: 30,833
Suffolk Coastal	124,600	4	1: 31,150
Waveney	115,300	2	1: 57,650
South Norfolk	124,500	2	1: 62,250

In the absence of detailed pitch needs assessments in neighbouring local authorities, it is not possible to conclude definitively the extent to which pitch provision in the comparator areas is adequate to meet their respective local needs. However, all the neighbouring districts are demographically similar to Waveney, so assuming relatively consistent levels of demand for pitches, it would appear that Waveney's levels of provision are in most cases below the norm.

7.4.5 Small-sided synthetic turf pitches

In addition to the full-sized synthetic turf pitches, there are also three small-sided pitches which can accommodate junior football and mini-soccer and provide training facilities for other sports:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Surface</i>
Bungay & District Sports Association	35m x 30m	Sand-filled
Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	54m x 34m	'3G'
Ormiston Denes Academy	60m x 40m	'3G'

7.4.6 Additional planned provision

In addition to the existing synthetic turf pitches, a full-sized '3G' pitch is planned by Kirkley and Pakefield CSSC at their Walmer Road site, which will supplement provision in Lowestoft South. Given the pitch surface type, however, it will benefit only football and not address hockey needs.

7.4.7 Disused pitches

In addition to the pitches with community access that are currently actively used for formal play, the use of the following pitches in the district was discontinued in the past three years, but could in all cases be reinstated subject to increases in demand. In most cases, the sites concerned are still used for other pitch sports, although there is no current sports use at Basley Playing Field, Geldeston Playing Field, Oulton Recreation Ground, Reydon Recreation Ground, the former Worlingham Primary School and Uplands Community Centre:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Access category</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>
Beccles Sports Centre	A(iii)	-	-	-	1	-
Corton Playing Field	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-
Former Worlingham Primary School	B	-	-	1	-	-
Frostenden Recreation Ground	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-
Geldeston Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Halesworth Campus	B	-	2	-	-	-
Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Oulton Recreation Ground	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Ringsfield Playing Field, Beccles	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Reydon Recreation Ground	A(i)	-	-	-	-	1
Somerleyton Playing Fields	A(i)	2	-	-	-	-
Uplands Community Centre, Lowestoft	A(ii)	-	2	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	5	4	1	4	1



Disused rugby pitch at Reydon Recreation Ground

7.4.8 Pitches with no community access

In addition to the pitches with community access, the following pitches in the district fall into Sport England's Category 'C' ('pitches at establishments which are not, as a matter of policy or practice, available for community use'). As with the disused pitches above, these facilities may have some potential to meet community needs in the future, subject to demand and to suitable access arrangements being negotiated:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>STP</i>
Albert Pye Primary School, Beccles	-	-	1	-	-	-
Barnby and North Cove Primary School	-	1	-	-	-	-
Brampton Primary School, Beccles	-	-	1	-	-	-
Beccles Free School, Lowestoft	1	-	-	-	1	-
Blundeston Primary School	-	-	1	-	-	-
Bungay High School	2	1	-	2	-	-
Bungay Primary School	-	1	-	-	-	-
Carlton Colville Primary School	1	1	2	-	-	-
Crowfoot Primary School, Beccles	-	-	1	-	-	-
Dell Primary School, Oulton Broad	-	1	1	-	-	-
East Point Academy	1	-	-	1	1	-
Edgar Sewter Primary School, Halesworth	-	-	2	-	-	-
Elm Tree Primary School, Lowestoft	-	-	2	-	-	-
First Base, Lowestoft	2	-	-	-	-	-
Grove Primary School, Carlton Colville	-	-	1	-	-	-

<i>Site</i>	<i>Adult football</i>	<i>Youth football</i>	<i>Mini-soccer</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>STP</i>
Gunton Community Primary School	-	-	2	-	-	-
Harbour School, Lowestoft	1	2	-	1	1	-
Holton St. Peter Primary School	-	-	1	-	-	-
Ilketshall St. Lawrence Primary School	-	-	1	-	-	-
Kessingland Primary School	-	-	1	-	-	-
Meadow Primary School, Lowestoft	-	-	2	-	-	-
Oulton Broad Primary School	-	-	2	-	-	-
Pakefield Primary School	-	-	1	-	-	-
Pakefield School	1	1	4	-	-	-
Pontins, Pakefield	1	-	-	-	-	-
Poplars Primary School, Lowestoft	-	-	1	-	-	-
Reydon Primary School	-	1	-	-	-	-
Ringsfield Primary School, Beccles	-	-	1	-	-	-
Somerleyton Primary School	-	-	1	-	-	-
St. Benet's Catholic Primary, Beccles	-	-	1	-	-	-
St. Felix School, Southwold	2	-	-	-	-	-
St. Mary's Primary School, Lowestoft	-	-	2	-	-	-
Warren School, Lowestoft	2	-	-	-	-	-
Westwood Primary School, Lowestoft	-	1	3	-	-	-
Worlingham Primary School, Beccles	-	1	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	14	11	36	4	3	0

7.5 Playing pitch qualitative analysis

7.5.1 Methodology

The qualitative analysis of pitches in Waveney involved visits to all sites to undertake the sport-specific non-technical visual inspections produced by each of the pitch sport governing bodies for Sport England's new methodology. The criteria assessed and the ratings systems are below:

- **Football** - The assessment generates an overall 'score' for each site by evaluating the condition of the playing surface and ancillary facilities including changing provision and an assessment of the grounds maintenance regime. The percentage scores generated equate to ratings of 'Good' for scores of 100% - 75%, 'Standard' for scores of 74.9% - 50%, 'Poor' for scores of 49.9% - 25% and 'Unsuitable' below 25%.
- **Cricket** - The assessment generates an overall 'score' for each site by evaluating the condition of the wickets, outfield, ancillary facilities and practice nets. The percentage scores generated equate to ratings of 'Good' for scores of 81% or more 'Standard' for scores of 80% - 51% and 'Poor' for scores of 50% or below.
- **Rugby** - The assessment generates an overall 'score' for each site by evaluating the condition of the playing surface, posts and ancillary facilities including changing provision and an assessment of the grounds maintenance regime.

- **Synthetic turf pitches** - The assessment generates an overall ‘score’ for each pitch by evaluating the condition of the playing surface, fencing, floodlighting and including changing provision. The percentage scores generated equate to ratings of ‘Good’ for scores of 80% or more ‘Standard’ for scores of 79% - 51% and ‘Poor’ for scores of 50% or below.



High quality pavilion at College Meadow, Beccles

7.5.2 Scores

The overall scores for each playing pitch site in Waveney district are as follows. Site-specific issues are addressed in section 8 below:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Football</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>Synthetic Turf Pitch</i>
Banks Farm, Rumburgh	-	61%	-	-
Barnards Centre Point, Lowestoft	84%	-	-	78%
Basley Playing Field, Halesworth	42%	-	-	-
Beccles Sports Centre	52%	-	75%	-
Benjamin Britten High School	85%	-	-	-
Blundeston Playing Fields	46%	-	-	-
Bungay and District Sports Assoc.	77%	84%	-	-
Carlton Colville Community Centre	72%	-	-	-
Caxton Sports & Social Club	77%	-	-	-
College Meadow, Beccles	90%	81%	50%	-
Corton Playing Fields	74%	-	-	-
Crown Meadow	95%	-	-	-
Denes Oval	-	90%	-	-
Dip Farm Playing Fields	74%	-	-	-
East Point Academy	-	-	-	73%
Foxborough Middle School	81%	-	-	-
Frostenden Recreation Ground	40%	-	-	-
Gunton Park	-	68%	85%	-
Halesworth Playing Fields	89%	-	-	-
Holton Village Hall	63%	-	-	-
Jeld Wen Playing Fields	64%	-	-	-

<i>Site</i>	<i>Football</i>	<i>Cricket</i>	<i>Rugby</i>	<i>Synthetic Turf Pitch</i>
Kessingland Community Centre	65%	-	-	-
Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	100%	-	-	-
Lothingland Middle School	75%	-	-	-
Mutford Playing Field	71%	-	-	-
Normanston Park	59%	97%	-	-
Old Reydon High School	66%	-	-	-
Ormiston Denes Academy	81%	85%	-	-
Ringsfield Playing Field	-	49%	-	-
St. Felix School	-	-	75%	-
Shadingfield Sports Ground	39%	-	-	-
Somerleyton Playing Fields	-	83%	-	-
Southwold Common	76%	85%	75%	-
Spexhall Playing Field	71%	-	-	-
The Nest, Beccles	82%	-	-	-
Westhall Village Hall	70%	-	-	-
Wrentham Playing Field	55%	-	-	-

The number and percentage of pitches of each type in each quality category are tabulated below. Only 8% of all pitches are rated as 'poor' and therefore in a condition that will compromise their levels of use, or 'pitch carrying capacity'.

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Good</i>		<i>Standard</i>		<i>Poor</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
Adult football	17	41%	21	51%	3	8%
Youth football	16	67%	6	25%	2	8%
Mini-soccer	18	95%	1	5%	0	0%
Cricket	8	73%	2	18%	1	9%
Rugby	7	78%	0	0%	2	22%
Synthetic turf pitch	0	0%	2	100%	0	0%
<i>TOTAL</i>	66	62%	32	30%	8	8%



Shadingfield Sports Ground - a typical rural, single pitch site

7.6 *Playing pitch accessibility analysis*

Playing pitch accessibility has been assessed on the basis of three key criteria:

- **Geographical accessibility** - The extent to which the geographical spread of pitches and facilities is within the ‘effective catchment’ (defined as the time/distance and travel mode that at least 80% of users are prepared to tolerate) of the whole population. This has been individually define for each type of pitch and outdoor sports facility, based upon local usage patterns from the club surveys. In all cases, car borne journeys are the predominant mode of transport and therefore driving time criteria have been assessed. This is not to assume that all journeys to pitches and outdoor sports facilities will be by car, nor to encourage this as a policy preference, however it reflects the prevailing local travel patterns and has therefore been applied to assess geographical accessibility.
- **Community accessibility** - The extent to which pitches and outdoor sports facilities have open and non-exclusive access to the community as a whole. Exceptions include school sites with no external usage, in which case the facilities concerned have been excluded from the accessibility analysis.
- **Physical accessibility** - The extent to which the pitches and facilities can physically be accessed by people with disabilities or impaired mobility, based upon the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act. This assessment is included in the qualitative audit of provision.

The accessibility of playing pitches in Waveney district is illustrated in the maps below. Where appropriate, pitches and facilities outside the district, but with catchments that overlap the Waveney boundaries, have also been mapped. The catchments have been mapped as follows, using travel time software to take account of road conditions and any natural barriers to travel.

- **Driving times** - At present, the clubs surveys showed that most participants travel by car to reach their chosen pitch or facility and the typical maximum duration that they are prepared to travel has been mapped for each type of provision.
- **Cycling times** - Because WDC has a strong policy commitment to encourage cycling as a means of transport, cycling time catchments have also been mapped. In the absence of any local measures, the Transport for London ‘Moderate’ cycling standard has been applied, which equates to 16km per hour, or 4km for a 15 minute travel time catchment (or equivalent for facilities with larger catchments).
- **Walking times** - Because vehicular transport is not available to every household in Waveney, waking time catchments have also been mapped, to illustrate the accessibility of pitches and facilities on foot. A distance criterion of 1,200m walking in 15 minutes (or equivalent for facilities with larger catchments) has been applied.
- **Community accessibility** - This is illustrated for the following categories of community access to pitches, based upon Sport England’s formal classifications:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Supplementary information</i>
A(i)	Secured community pitches	Pitches in local authority or other public ownership.
A(ii)		Pitches in the voluntary, private or commercial sector which are open to members of the public.*
A(iii)		Pitches on education sites available for use by the public through formal community use agreements.
B	Used by community but not secured	Pitches not included above, that are available for community use without formal user arrangements.



Poor quality changing facilities at the former Reydon High School Site

7.6.1 Adult football

The clubs survey showed that 15 minutes travel time is the typical maximum journey for most players. The accessibility analysis shows that:

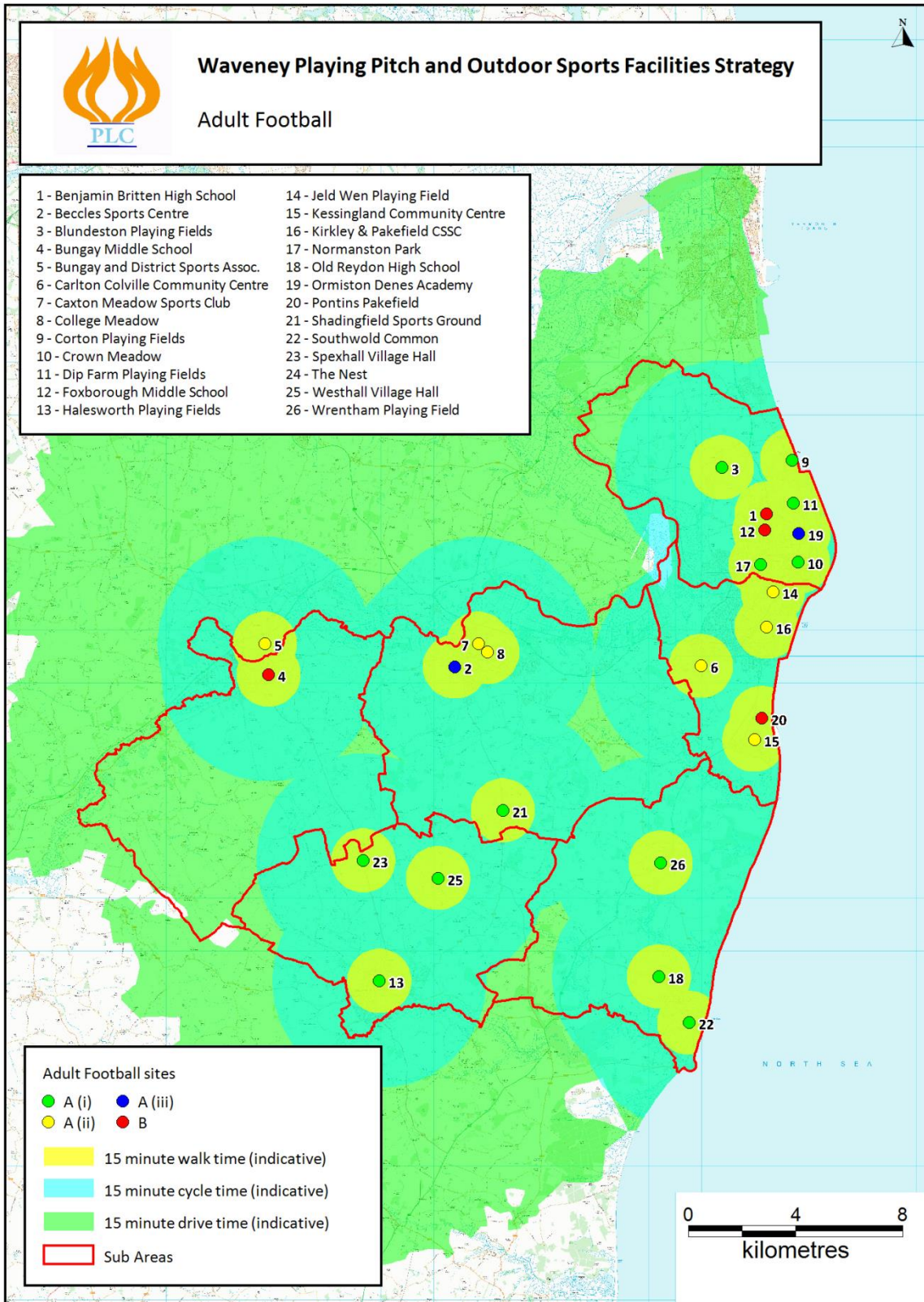
- **Driving times** - The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of the nearest adult football pitch.
- **Cycling times** - An estimated 90% of the population is within 15 minutes cycling time of the nearest adult football pitch. The main settlements in all sub-areas are covered by 15 minute cycling time catchments.
- **Walking times** - An estimated 70% of the population is within 15 minutes walking time of the nearest adult football pitch, including all of the urban population. The main settlements in all sub-areas are covered by 15 minute walking time catchments.
- **Community access** - If access to the three sites without secured community use was withdrawn, there would be an additional walking time accessibility deficiency in the west of the urban part of the Lowestoft North sub-area and in Bungay.



Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy

Adult Football

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 - Benjamin Britten High School | 14 - Jeld Wen Playing Field |
| 2 - Beccles Sports Centre | 15 - Kessingland Community Centre |
| 3 - Blundeston Playing Fields | 16 - Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC |
| 4 - Bungay Middle School | 17 - Normanston Park |
| 5 - Bungay and District Sports Assoc. | 18 - Old Reydon High School |
| 6 - Carlton Colville Community Centre | 19 - Ormiston Denes Academy |
| 7 - Caxton Meadow Sports Club | 20 - Pontins Pakefield |
| 8 - College Meadow | 21 - Shadingfield Sports Ground |
| 9 - Corton Playing Fields | 22 - Southwold Common |
| 10 - Crown Meadow | 23 - Spexhall Village Hall |
| 11 - Dip Farm Playing Fields | 24 - The Nest |
| 12 - Foxborough Middle School | 25 - Westhall Village Hall |
| 13 - Halesworth Playing Fields | 26 - Wrentham Playing Field |



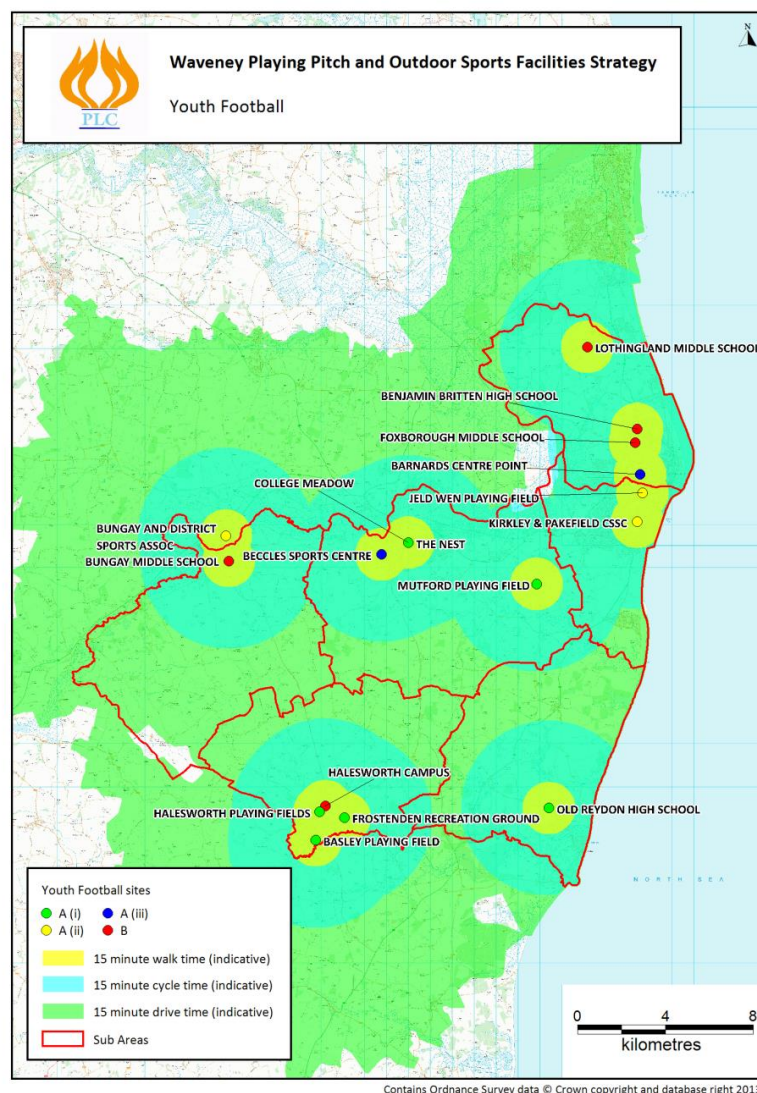
- Adult Football sites**
- A (i) ● A (iii)
 - A (ii) ● B
- 15 minute walk time (indicative)
 15 minute cycle time (indicative)
 15 minute drive time (indicative)
 Sub Areas

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7.6.2 Youth football

The clubs survey showed that 15 minutes travel time is the typical maximum journey for most players. The accessibility analysis shows that:

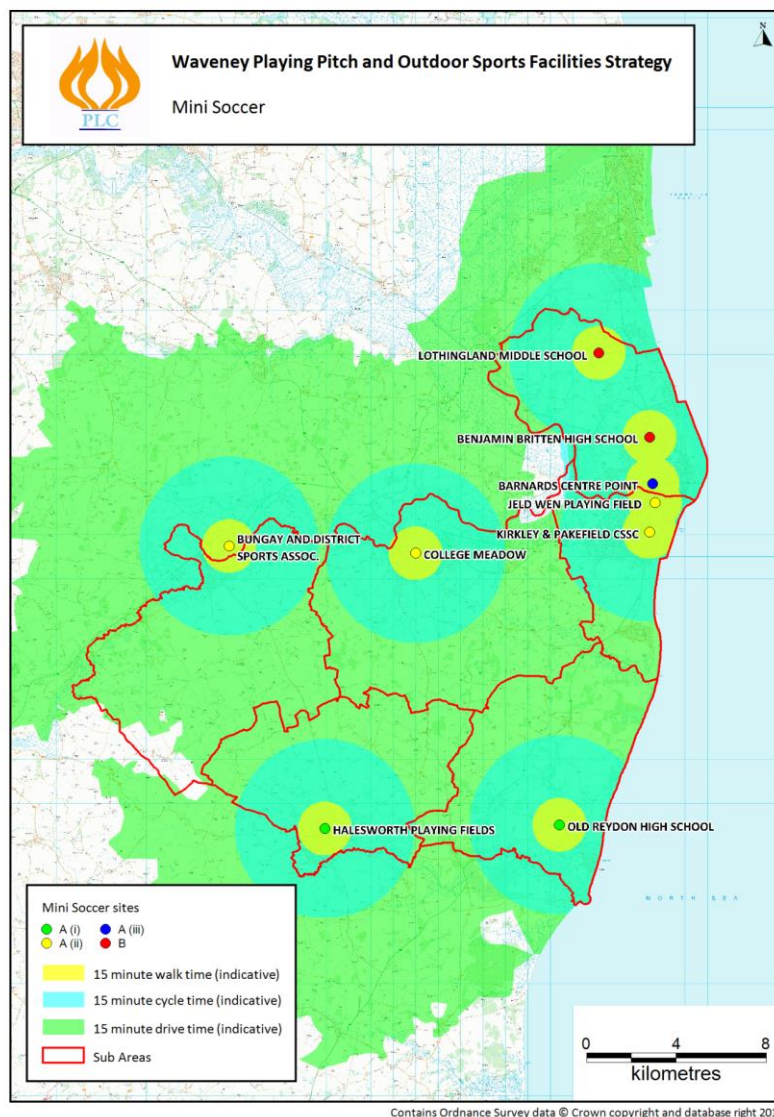
- **Driving** - With the exception of two small rural areas, the whole population is within 15 minutes drive of their nearest youth football pitch.
- **Cycling** - About 75% of the population is within 15 minutes cycle of the nearest pitch. The main settlements in all sub-areas are covered by 15 minute cycling time catchments.
- **Walking** - About 60% of the population is within 15 minutes walk of the nearest pitch. With the exception of Kessingland, the main settlements in all sub-areas are covered by 15 minute walking time catchments.
- **Community access** - If access to the five sites without secured community use was withdrawn, there would be an additional walking time accessibility deficiency in the urban part of the Lowestoft North sub-area and in Bungay.



7.6.3 Mini-soccer

The clubs survey showed that 15 minutes travel time is the typical maximum journey for most players. The accessibility analysis shows that:

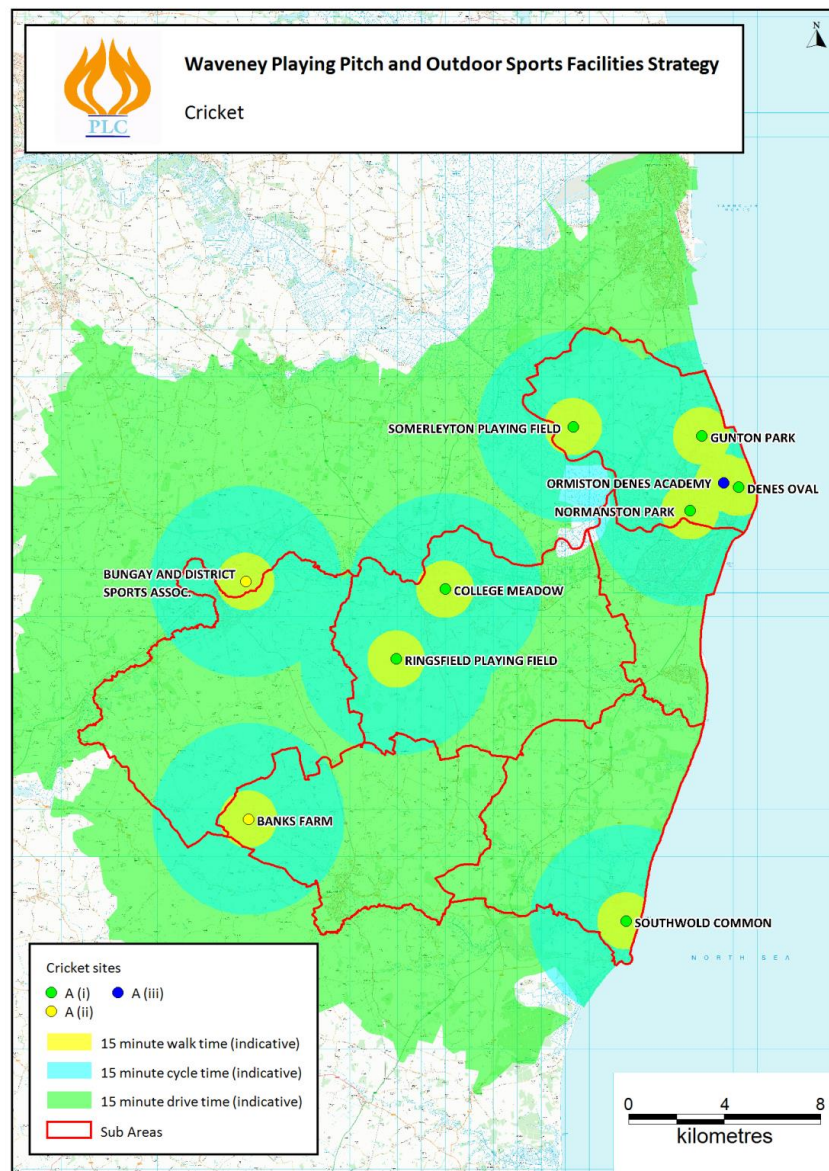
- **Driving** - With the exception of two small rural areas, the whole population is within 15 minutes drive of their nearest mini-soccer pitch.
- **Cycling** - About 70% of the population is within 15 minutes cycle of the nearest pitch. The main settlements in all sub-areas are covered by 15 minute cycling time catchments.
- **Walking** - About 60% of the population is within 15 minutes walk of the nearest pitch. With the exception of Kessingland, the main settlements in all sub-areas are covered by 15 minute walking time catchments.
- **Community access** - If access to the two sites without secured community use was withdrawn, there would be a walking time accessibility deficiency in Lowestoft North.



7.6.4 Cricket

The clubs survey showed that 15 minutes travel time is the typical maximum journey for most players. The accessibility analysis shows that:

- **Driving** - With the exception of one small rural area, the whole population is within 15 minutes drive of their nearest cricket pitch.
- **Cycling** - About 75% of the population is within 15 minutes cycle of the nearest pitch. The main settlements in all sub-areas are covered by 15 minute cycling time catchments.
- **Walking** - About 60% of the population is within 15 minutes walk of the nearest pitch. With the exception of Halesworth and Kessingland, the main settlements in all sub-areas are covered by 15 minute walking time catchments.

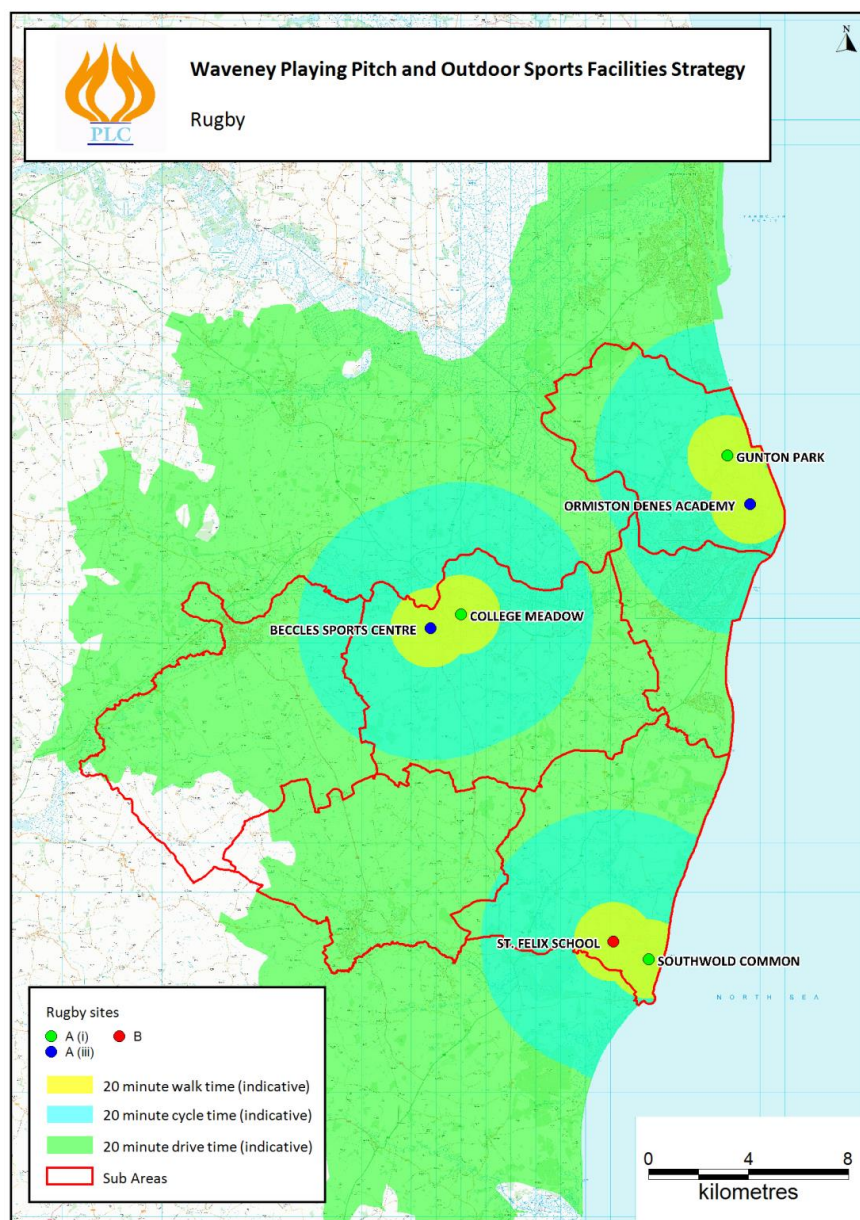


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7.6.5 Rugby

The clubs survey showed that 20 minutes travel time is the typical maximum journey for most players. The accessibility analysis shows that:

- **Driving** - With the exception of one small rural area, the whole population is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest rugby pitch.
- **Cycling** - About 60% of the population is within 20 minutes cycle of the nearest pitch. There is no provision in Lowestoft South, Bungay or Halesworth.
- **Walking** - About 50% of the population is within 20 minutes walk of the nearest pitch. There is no provision in Lowestoft South, Bungay or Halesworth.



7.6.6 Synthetic turf pitches

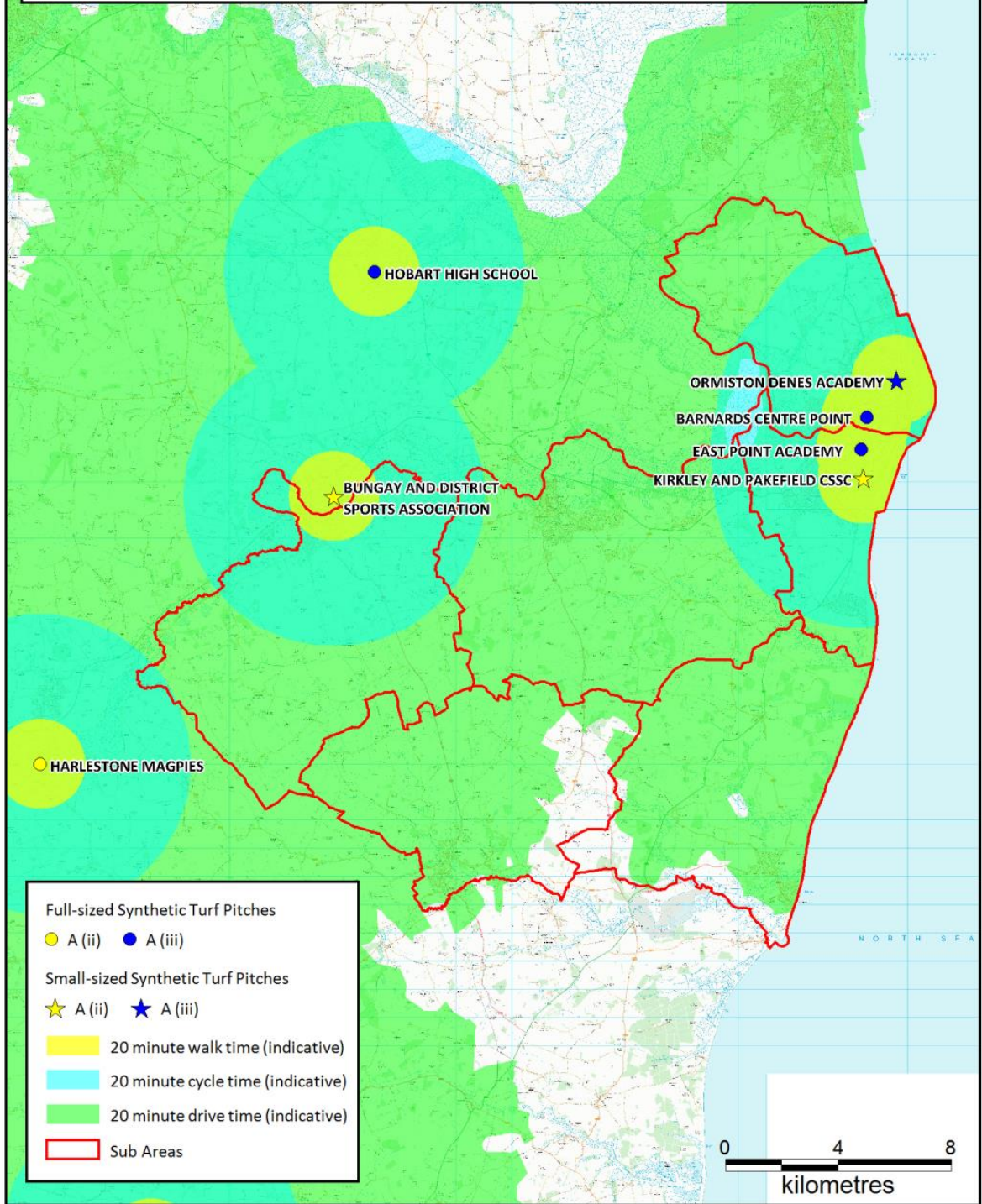
The clubs survey showed that 20 minutes travel time is the typical maximum journey for synthetic turf pitch users. The accessibility analysis shows that including small-sized pitches and facilities outside the district:

- **Driving** - A rural area between Halesworth and Southwold is unserved, but an estimated 90% of the population is within 20 minutes drive of the nearest synthetic turf pitch.
- **Cycling** - About 60% of the population is within 20 minutes cycle of the nearest pitch, however almost all of the Beccles sub-area and all of the Halesworth and Southwold sub-areas are beyond the cycle time catchment.
- **Walking** - About 50% of the population is within 20 minutes walk of the nearest pitch, however almost all of the Beccles sub-area and all of the Halesworth and Southwold sub-areas are beyond the walking time catchment.
- **Full-sized pitches** - Accessibility to full-sized pitches in the district is more limited, with an estimated 60% of the population within 20 minutes drive, 50% within 20 minutes cycle and 30% within 20 minutes walk of their nearest pitch.
- **Hockey usage** - Accessibility to the only full-sized pitch in the district suitable for competitive Hockey play (at East Point Academy) is even more limited, with only 50% of the population within 20 minutes drive of the pitch.
- **Community access** - All the full-sized and small-sided synthetic turf pitches in the district are on sites with secured community access.



Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy

Synthetic Turf Pitches



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7.7 Athletics tracks

7.7.1 Quantitative analysis

There are no synthetic athletics tracks in the district at present. The nearest facility is at the Wellesley Recreation Ground in Great Yarmouth, around 9 miles from central Lowestoft, but 30 miles and an estimated 48 minutes travel time from Halesworth.

To benchmark levels of provision in Waveney, per capita provision in the neighbouring local authorities is as follows and shows that most districts do not have a synthetic track:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Tracks per capita</i>
Great Yarmouth	92,500	1: 92,500
Mid-Suffolk	97,100	-
Waveney	115,300	-
South Norfolk	124,500	-
Suffolk Coastal	124,600	-

The Consultation with England Athletics East Regional office confirmed that the Waveney area has not been identified as an area of priority facility development in the current UK Athletics strategy. Within the England Athletics Facilities Plan, Suffolk is not currently an area where any facility developments are required.

7.7.2 Qualitative analysis

The quality of the Great Yarmouth athletics track was assessed to be 'high quality' for the track surface and 'above average' for the spectator/changing facilities, the disabled access and the parking and general access.

7.7.3 Accessibility analysis

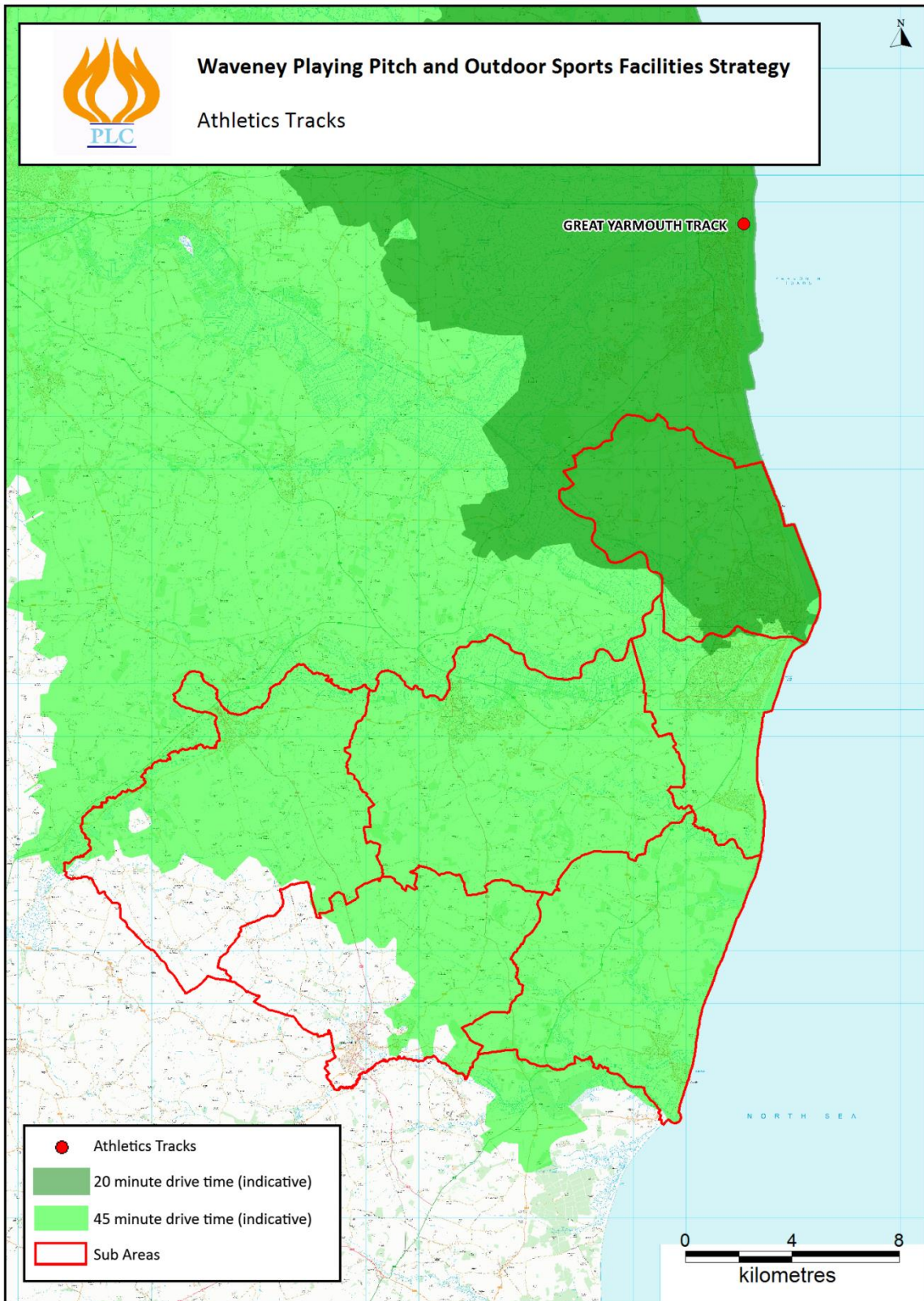
The accessibility of athletics tracks in Waveney district is illustrated in the map overleaf. The appropriate catchment for a track was taken from UK Athletics recommended standard of 20 minutes drive time in urban areas and 45 minutes drive in rural areas. It shows that:

- **Urban drive time catchment** - The 20 minute urban drivetime catchment covers most of the Lowestoft North sub-area, but none of the Lowestoft South sub-area, so an estimated 50,000 people in the urban parts of the district (43% of the total number of residents) live outside the recommended drive time catchment of the Great Yarmouth athletics track.
- **Rural drive time catchment** - With the exception of Halesworth and the rural south-west corner of the district, an estimated 105,000 people, out of the overall district population of 115,300 (or 91% of the total number of residents) are within the rural drive catchment of the Great Yarmouth athletics track.



Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy

Athletics Tracks



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7.8 Bowling greens

7.8.1 Quantitative analysis

Details of the 21 bowling greens in Waveney district are listed below by sub-area:

- **Lowestoft North**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Blundeston Bowls Club	The Plough Inn, Market Lane, Blundeston NR32 5AN
Corton Bowls Club	The Street, Corton NR32 5HW
Lound Bowls Club	Church Lane, Lound NR32 5LL
Somerleyton Bowls Club	The Street, Somerleyton NR32 5PT
Sparrows Nest Bowls Club	Whapload Road, Lowestoft NR32 1XG
Waveney Bowls Club	Tilletts Nurseries, Camps Heath, Oulton Broad. NR32 5DP

- **Lowestoft South**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Kensington Gardens (x2)	Kirkley Cliff Road, Lowestoft NR33 0DF
Kessingland United WMC Bowls Club	The Avenue, Kessingland NR33 7QD
Lowestoft Railway Bowls Club	123A, Carlton Road, Lowestoft NR33 0LZ
Oulton Broad Bowls Club	Nicholas Everitt Park, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft NR33 9JR

- **Beccles**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Beccles Caxton Bowls Club	Gaol Lane, Beccles NR34 9SJ
Beccles Institute Bowls Club	Fair Close, Beccles NR34 9QT
Beccles Conservative Bowls Club	London Road, Beccles NR34 9TZ
Beccles Town Bowls Club	

- **Bungay**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Bungay Town Bowls Club	St. Johns Road, Bungay NR35 1DL
Mettingham Bowls Club	New Road, Mettingham NR35 1TL

- **Halesworth**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Brampton and District Bowls Club	Station Road, Brampton NR34 8EA
Halesworth Angel Bowls Club	Dairy Hill, Halesworth IP19 8JS

- **Southwold and Reydon**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Sole Bay Bowls Club	50, Halesworth Road, Reydon IP18 6NR
Wrentham Bowls Club	Old Mill Lane, Wrentham NR34 7JQ

Per capita levels of provision of bowling greens in each sub-area of Waveney district are listed below. It shows that levels of provision are better in the rural parts of the district:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Greens per capita</i>
Lowestoft North	38,050	1: 6,342
Lowestoft South	39,470	1: 7,894
Beccles	17,180	1: 5,727
Bungay	7,080	1: 3,540
Halesworth	7,620	1: 3,810
Southwold and Reydon	5,900	1: 2,950
WAVENEY	115,300	1: 5,490

With the exception of the greens at Kensington Gardens, Bungay, Sparrows Nest and Oulton Broad, all the facilities are owned and managed by bowls clubs, but some allow casual ‘pay-and-play’ access for the general public.

Per capita levels of bowls provision in the neighbouring local authorities are as follows. They show that levels of provision in Waveney are the highest compared with its neighbours:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Greens</i>	<i>Greens per capita</i>
Waveney	115,300	21	1: 5,490
Great Yarmouth	92,500	16	1: 5,781
Suffolk Coastal	124,600	20	1: 6,230
South Norfolk	124,500	17	1: 7,324
Mid-Suffolk	97,100	13	1: 7,469

7.8.2 Qualitative analysis

The qualitative analysis of bowling greens in Waveney involved visits to all sites to undertake non-technical visual inspections. The criteria assessed were the quality of the playing surface, the changing facilities, disabled access and car parking/general access. The numerical scores equate to ‘High Quality’ for a 5, ‘Above Average’ for a 4, ‘Average’ for a 3, ‘Below Average’ for a 2 and ‘Poor Quality’ for a 1. The definitions for each criterion are contained in an appendix:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>
Beccles Caxton BC	4	3	2	2
Beccles Institute BC	4	3	3	2
Beccles Town Bowls Club	5	3	2	2
Brampton and District BC	3	3	1	3
Blundeston Bowls Club	4	3	2	3
Bungay Town Bowls Club	4	4	3	4
Corton Bowls Club	3	3	3	2
Halesworth Angel BC	5	5	4	3
Kensington Gardens (x2)	5	3	3	3
Kessingland Utd. WMC BC	5	5	4	4
Lound Bowls Club	3	3	2	2
Lowestoft Railway BC	5	4	3	4
Mettingham Bowls Club	4	3	3	3
Oulton Broad Bowls Club	5	5	4	3

<i>Site</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Disabled</i>	<i>Access</i>
Sole Bay Bowls Club	4	4	4	4
Somerleyton Bowls Club	4	3	3	3
Sparrows Nest BC	5	3	3	3
Waveney Bowls Club	4	3	2	2
Wrentham Bowls Club	5	3	3	2



Good quality bowling greens in Kensington Gardens, Lowestoft

The quality assessment can be summarised as follows:

- **Greens** - All greens are rated as at least ‘average quality’, with 45% ‘high quality’, 40% ‘above average’ and 15% ‘average’.
- **Changing** - All changing facilities are rated as at least ‘average quality’, with 15% ‘high quality’, 15% ‘above average’ and 70% ‘average’.
- **Disabled access** - A number of quality issues with disabled access need to be addressed, with six facilities (30%) rated as ‘below average’ or worse.
- **Parking and general access** - Parking and general access issues require attention at seven (35%) sites which are rated as ‘below average’.

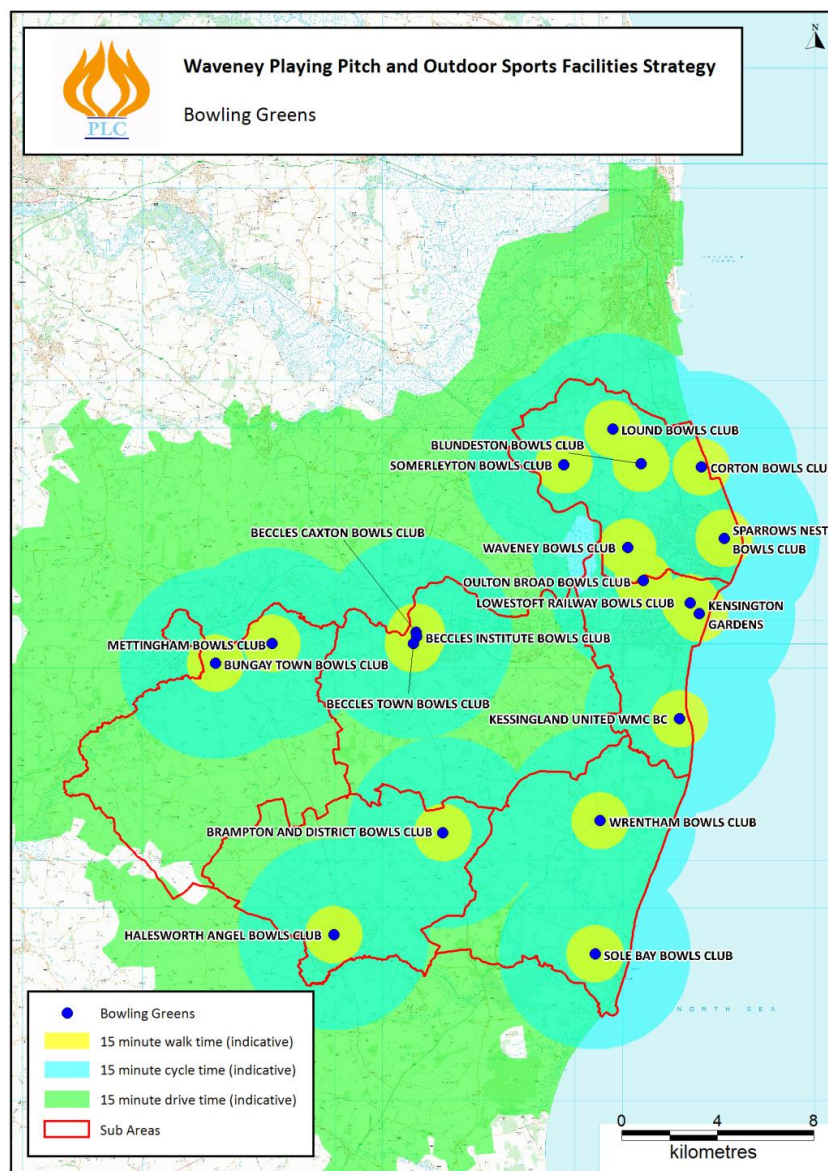


Average quality bowls green at Brampton Bowls Club

7.8.3 Accessibility analysis

The clubs survey showed that 15 minutes travel time is the typical maximum journey for most bowlers. The accessibility analysis shows that:

- **Driving** - With the exception of two very small rural areas in the south-west and north-west of the district, the whole population is within 15 minutes drive of their nearest bowling green. Accessibility is generally better for people living in the larger settlements.
- **Cycling** - About 80% of the population is within 15 minutes cycle of the nearest green.
- **Walking** - About 60% of the population is within 15 minutes walk of the nearest green.



7.9 Tennis courts

7.9.1 Quantitative analysis

Details of the 44 tennis courts in Waveney district are listed below by sub-area:

- **Lowestoft North**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Blundeston Playing Fields	Hall Road, Blundeston, Lowestoft NR32 5BJ	1 tarmac
Denes Oval	The Ravine, Lowestoft NR32 1XG	8 tarmac
Normanston Park	Peto Way, Lowestoft NR32 2ED	6 artificial turf

- **Lowestoft South**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Kensington Gardens	Kirkley Cliff Road, Lowestoft NR33 0DF	4 tarmac
Nicholas Everitt Park	Oulton Broad, Lowestoft NR33 9JR	4 tarmac

- **Beccles**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Beccles Tennis Club	Common Lane, Beccles NR34 2RU	3 tarmac
Mutford Playing Field	Mill Road, Mutford, Lowestoft NR34 7UR	1 tarmac
Ringsfield Tennis Courts	Church Road, Beccles NR34 8NT	2 tarmac

- **Bungay**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Bungay and District Sports Association	Maltings Meadow, Pirnhov Street, Ditchingham, Bungay NR35 2RU	2 synthetic turf

- **Halesworth**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Halesworth Campus	Harrison's Lane, Halesworth IP19 8PY	3 tarmac
Halesworth Tennis Club	Dairy Hill, Halesworth IP19 8JS	2 tarmac

- **Southwold and Reydon**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Southwold and District Tennis Club	Hotson Road, Southwold IP18 6BS	3 tarmac
Southwold Common tennis courts	The Common, Southwold IP18 6TB	3 tarmac
Wrentham Tennis Club	Mill Lane, Wrentham NR34 7JQ	2 tarmac

Per capita levels of provision of tennis courts in each sub-area of Waveney district are listed below. It shows that levels of provision are poorest in Lowestoft South:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Courts per capita</i>
Lowestoft North	38,050	1: 2,537
Lowestoft South	39,470	1: 4,934
Beccles	17,180	1: 2,863
Bungay	7,080	1: 3,540
Halesworth	7,620	1: 1,524
Southwold and Reydon	5,900	1: 738
WAVENEY	115,300	1: 2,620

Security of access to courts is tabulated below. It shows that all courts in the district have secured community access:

<i>Access category</i>	<i>No. courts</i>	<i>% Courts</i>
A(i)	30	68%
A(ii)	14	32%
A(iii)	0	0%
B	0	0%
C	0	0%

To benchmark levels of provision in Waveney, per capita provision in the neighbouring local authorities is as follows. It shows that levels of provision in Waveney are around the mean of its neighbours:

<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. Courts</i>	<i>Courts per capita</i>
South Norfolk	124,500	56	1: 2,223
Suffolk Coastal	124,600	49	1: 2,543
Waveney	115,300	44	1: 2,620
Mid-Suffolk	97,100	37	1: 2,624
Great Yarmouth	92,500	33	1: 2,803

7.9.2 Qualitative analysis

The qualitative analysis of tennis courts in Waveney involved visits to all sites to undertake non-technical visual inspections. The criteria assessed were the quality of the playing surface, the fencing, the changing facilities and disabled/general access. The numerical scores equate to 'High Quality' for a 5, 'Above Average' for a 4, 'Average' for a 3, 'Below Average' for a 2 and 'Poor Quality' for a 1. The definitions for each criterion are contained in an appendix:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Court</i>	<i>Fencing</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Access</i>
Beccles Tennis Club	5	5	3	2
Blundeston Playing Fields	2	4	0	4
Bungay and District Sports Assoc.	4	5	5	5
Denes Oval	3	5	4	4
Halesworth Campus	5	5	3	3
Halesworth Tennis Club	5	4	2	3
Kensington Gardens	2	5	0	3

<i>Site</i>	<i>Court</i>	<i>Fencing</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Access</i>
Mutford Playing Field	4	4	0	3
Nicholas Everitt Park	5	5	0	3
Normanston Park	5	5	0	2
Ringsfield Tennis Courts	2	2	1	2
Southwold and District TC	4	5	3	2
Southwold Common tennis courts	4	3	1	2
Wrentham Tennis Club	5	5	3	2

The quality assessment can be summarised as follows:

- **Courts** - The quality of courts is generally good, with 20 courts (45%) rated as ‘good quality’ and a further nine (20%) rated as ‘above average’. Only seven courts (16%) at Blundeston, Kensington Gardens and Ringsfield are rated as ‘below average’.
- **Fencing** - The quality of fencing is generally good, with 17 sites (94%) rated as at least ‘good quality’. Only one site (6%) at Ringsfield is rated as ‘below average’.
- **Changing** - Five sites (36%) have no on site changing facilities, but of those that do, only one site (7%) has ‘good quality’ changing, one (7%) has ‘above average’ provision four (29%) are rated as average, whilst one (7%) at Halesworth Tennis Club is ‘below’ average and two (14%) at Ringsfield and Southwold Common are ‘poor quality’.
- **Disabled and general access** - Disabled and general access issues require attention at six (43%) sites rated as ‘below average’.

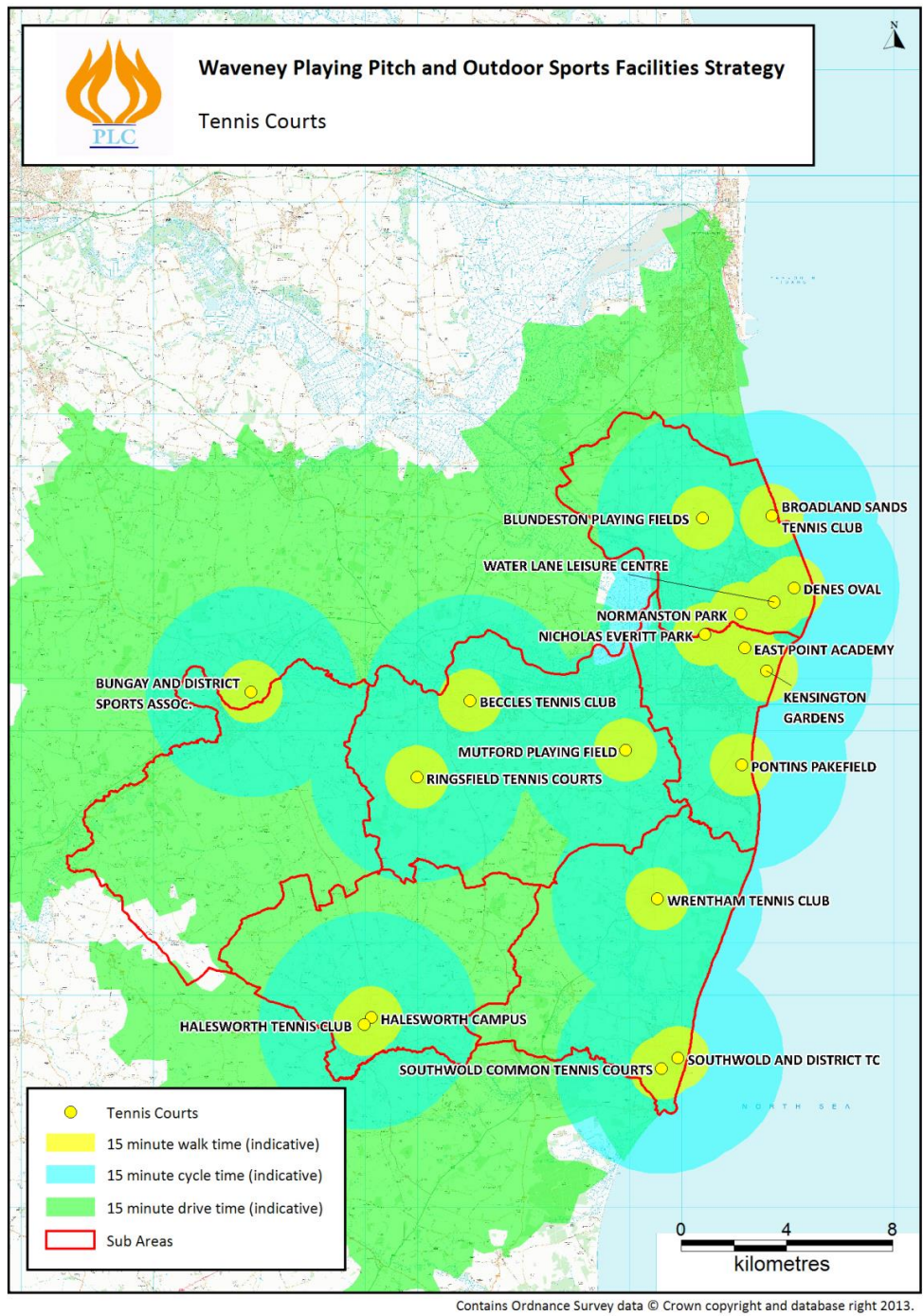


Poor quality tennis courts at Ringsfield

7.9.3 Accessibility analysis

The accessibility of tennis courts in Waveney district is illustrated in the map below. The club survey was used to establish the appropriate catchment for a tennis court of 15 minutes travel time. The accessibility analysis shows that:

- **Driving** - With the exception of two very small rural areas in the south-west and north-west of the district, the whole population is within 15 minutes drive of their nearest tennis court. Accessibility is generally better for people living in the larger settlements.
- **Cycling** - About 80% of the population is within 15 minutes cycle of the nearest court.
- **Walking** - About 60% of the population is within 15 minutes walk of the nearest court.



7.10 Netball courts

7.10.1 Quantitative analysis

Details of the 11 netball courts with community access in Waveney district are listed below by sub-area:

- **Lowestoft North** - None

- **Lowestoft South**

<i>Courts</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>No. courts</i>
East Point Academy	Kirkley Run, Lowestoft NR33 0UQ	5

- **Beccles**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Beccles Sports Centre	Ringsfield Road, Beccles NR34 3PF	2

- **Bungay**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Bungay Sports Hall	Queens Road, Bungay NR35 1RW	2

- **Halesworth** - None

- **Southwold and Reydon**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
St. Felix School	Halesworth Road, Southwold IP18 6SD	2

Per capita levels of provision of netball courts in each sub-area of Waveney district are listed below. It shows that there is no provision in Lowestoft North or Halesworth:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Courts per capita</i>
Lowestoft North	38,050	-
Lowestoft South	39,470	7,894
Beccles	17,180	1: 8,590
Bungay	7,080	1: 3,540
Halesworth	7,620	-
Southwold and Reydon	5,900	1: 2,950
WAVENEY	115,300	1: 10,482

All netball courts are on school sites, three of which (with nine courts) are subject to formal Community Use Agreements and therefore have secured access.

No data was available to benchmark netball court provision with comparable levels in neighbouring areas.



Netball courts at East Point Academy, Lowestoft

7.10.2 Qualitative analysis

The qualitative analysis of netball courts in Waveney involved visits to all sites to undertake non-technical visual inspections. The criteria assessed were the quality of the playing surface, the fencing, the changing facilities and disabled/general access. The numerical scores equate to ‘High Quality’ for a 5, ‘Above Average’ for a 4, ‘Average’ for a 3, ‘Below Average’ for a 2 and ‘Poor Quality’ for a 1. The definitions for each criterion are contained in an appendix:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Court</i>	<i>Fencing</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Access</i>
East Point Academy	5	5	5	4
Beccles Sports Centre	4	4	5	4
Bungay Sports Hall	3	4	5	4
St. Felix School	4	5	5	4

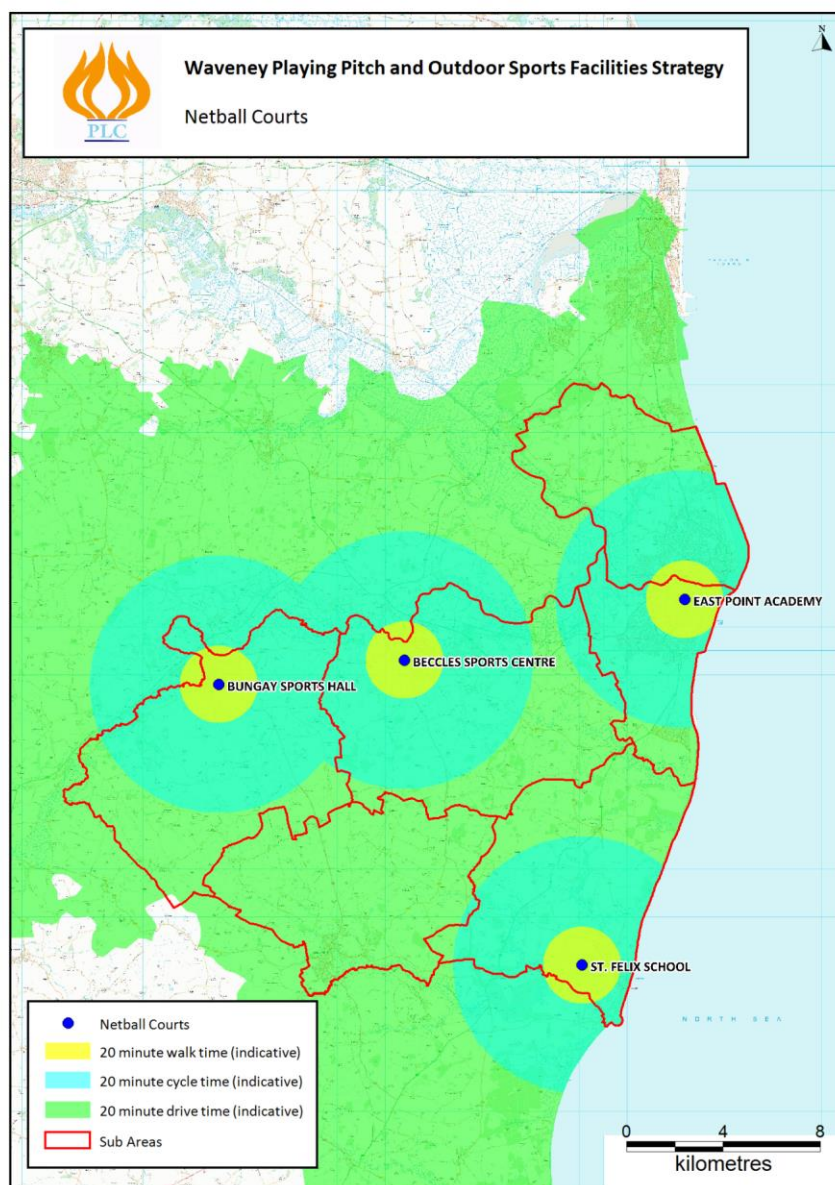
The quality assessment can be summarised as follows:

- **Courts** - The quality of courts is generally good, with all facilities rated as either ‘good quality’ or ‘above average’. Only the East Point Academy courts are floodlit.
- **Fencing** - The quality of fencing is generally good, with all facilities rated as either ‘good quality’ or ‘above average’.
- **Changing** - Changing facilities are all good quality, reflecting the fact that all courts are on school sites with changing that also serves indoor sports facilities.
- **Disabled and general access** - Disabled and general access are all rated as ‘above average’.

7.10.3 Accessibility analysis

The accessibility of netball courts in Waveney district is illustrated in the map below. The club survey was used to establish the appropriate catchment for a court of 20 minutes travel time. The accessibility analysis shows that:

- **Driving** - with the exception of one small area in the south-west of the district, the whole population is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest netball court.
- **Cycling** - About 70% of the population is within 15 minutes cycle of the nearest court. Cycle access in Kessingland is hampered by a single cycle link along the A12 which is in poor condition.
- **Walking** - About 50% of the population is within 15 minutes walk of the nearest court, although walking access to netball facilities is confined to Lowestoft and the market towns except for Halesworth which has no provision.



7.11 Summary of pitch and outdoor sports facilities supply in Waveney

7.11.1 Pitches

Playing pitch supply in Waveney for the most part reflects average per capita levels of provision compared with its neighbouring local authorities. However:

- Rates of adult football pitch provision are the lowest for the comparator areas and youth football, cricket, rugby and synthetic turf pitches are below the average.
- Rates of provision of all types of grass pitch are poor in the Lowestoft South sub-area.

Almost 62% of all pitches in Waveney are rated as ‘good’ quality and are therefore able to accommodate good levels of use. Only 8% of all the pitches in the district are rated as ‘poor’ quality and thereby in a condition that will compromise their levels of use.

Accessibility to all types of pitch is good, with only small sparsely populated rural areas on the periphery of the district being beyond the drive time catchment of at least one facility. Cycling time catchments vary between 90% population coverage for adult football pitches, to 60% coverage for rugby and synthetic turf pitches.

7.11.2 Athletics tracks

There is no synthetic athletics track in Waveney. An estimated 91% of the district population is within UK Athletics recommended drive time of 45 minutes from the track in Great Yarmouth, although 43% of the population (50,000 people) live beyond the 20 minute drivetime recommended by UK Athletics for urban residents. None of the other three neighbouring local authorities has a track.

7.11.3 Bowls greens

Per capita rates of bowls provision are the highest for the comparator authorities. The quality of greens and changing facilities is generally above ‘average’, but there are disabled and general access issues at some sites. Accessibility to bowling greens is good throughout the district, with almost total drive time coverage, 80% population coverage for cycling and 60% coverage for walking, although it is best for people living in the larger settlements.

7.11.4 Tennis courts

Per capita rates of tennis courts are around the mean for the neighbouring local authorities and provision is relatively even across the six sub-areas in Waveney. The quality of court surfaces and fencing is in most cases above ‘average’, but there is a lack of changing facilities at some sites and almost half the courts have some disabled and/or general access issues. Accessibility to tennis courts is good throughout the district with almost total drive time coverage, 80% population coverage for cycling and 60% coverage for walking, although it is best for people living in the larger settlements.

7.11.5 Netball courts

All courts in the district are on school sites and all are of above average quality. There is almost total drive time coverage of the district, 70% population coverage for cycling (although cycle access in Kessingland is hampered by a single cycle link along the A12 which is in poor condition) and 50% coverage for walking (with access confined to Lowestoft and the market towns except for Halesworth which has no provision).

8 CURRENT BALANCE BETWEEN SUPPLY AND DEMAND

8.1 Introduction

This section analyses the current balance between the supply of and demand for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities in Waveney.

The methodology applied to assess the supply-demand balance for pitches is based upon Sport England's recommended methodology, whilst the other types of outdoor facility are assessed using a locally derived standard of provision. The respective approaches are summarised below:

8.2 Playing pitch methodology

To assess whether the current supply of pitches is adequate to meet existing demand an understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community needs to be developed. This is achieved by providing a brief overview for each site, which comprises:

- A comparison between the carrying capacity of a site with how much demand currently takes place there. The carrying capacity of a site is defined as the amount of play it can regularly accommodate over an appropriate period of time without adversely affecting its quality and use. Demand is defined in terms of the number of 'match equivalent' sessions at each site, in a typical week for football, rugby and synthetic turf pitches and in a typical season for cricket. In general terms, the surplus or deficit of 'match equivalent' sessions equates to the number of pitches required to meet the needs concerned. Where there are capacity issues at peak demand periods, this is noted.
- An indication of the extent to which natural grass pitches are being used during their respective peak periods.
- The key issues with and views on the provision at a site and its use.

The site overviews identify the extent to which pitches are:

- **Being overplayed** - where use exceeds the carrying capacity.
- **Being played to the level the site can sustain** - where use matches the carrying capacity.
- **Potentially able to accommodate some additional play** - where use falls below the carrying capacity.

The situation at individual sites can then be aggregated to identify the position at a sub-area and district level, to identify the potential for excess demand at some sites to be accommodated by excess supply at others in the locality. Other factors can also be assessed such as:

- The extent of any demand being accommodated on sites with unsecured community access.
- The impact of latent or displaced demand.

- The situation at priority sites.

This analysis then enables an assessment to be made of the adequacy of existing pitch provision.

8.3 Outdoor sports facilities methodology

The patterns of usage of other types of outdoor sports facilities differ from playing pitches, in that they typically involve significant elements of frequently ‘unmetered’ casual usage, rather than exclusively organised team play. As a result, generating and applying locally-derived, evidence-based standards of provision is the most appropriate way of assessing the adequacy of current and provision. The standards involve three elements:

8.3.1 Quantity

The quantity of provision is assessed by identifying a per capita standard based upon:

- Establishing existing levels of provision of each type of facility per capita.
- Local consultation to identify views on the extent to which the number of facilities meets existing needs.
- Benchmarking levels of provision with neighbouring local authority areas.
- The views of the respective governing bodies of sport on facility needs, including size and capacity.
- Governing body of sport or Sport England guidance on dimensions and facility specifications.

8.3.2 Quality

The quality of provision is assessed by identifying a quality standard based upon:

- The standardised definitions of the quality of each aspect of each facility type assessed through the site audits.
- Any governing body of sport or Sport England quality thresholds.
- The policy position of the local authority on the quality threshold to which all facilities should conform (e.g. to seek to achieve at least an ‘average’ rating for all sites).

8.3.3 Accessibility

The accessibility standard is identified by:

- Survey data on the time and or distance that at least 80% of facility users are prepared to travel to access facilities in the study area.

- Survey data on the travel mode preferences of facility users to access facilities in the study area (i.e. reflecting current behavioural patterns).
- The policy position of the local authority on whether it wishes to influence future accessibility factors - for example, should accessibility be defined in relation to walking time catchments discourage car usage.

The standards are then applied to establish the extent to which residents are served or under-provided in relation to each type of pitch and outdoor sports facility by applying the respective standards at both a districtwide and sub-area level.

8.4 Adult football pitches

8.4.1 District level assessment

The site specific analysis for adult football pitches in Waveney as a whole is set out below:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Balance (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Beccles Sports Centre	3	3.0*	None	None	+3.0	* Usage capacity reduced by schools use
Benjamin Britten HS	2	2.0*	Gunton United FC Telecom Rovers FC	1.5	+0.5	* Usage capacity reduced by schools use
Blundeston Playing Fields	1	1.0*	None	None	+1.0	* Usage capacity reduced by poor pitch quality
Bungay & Dist. Sp. Ass.	3	6.0	Bungay Town FC	5.0	+1.0	High quality pitches. Some training use of on-site synthetic pitch
Carlton Colville Comm. Ctre	1	2.0	Carlton Colville Town FC Carlton Red House FC	1.5	+0.5	
Caxton Sports & Social Club	1	2.0	Beccles Caxton FC	2.0	Balanced	High quality pitch
College Meadow	2	4.0	Barsham FC Beccles Town FC	5.0	-1.0	High quality pitch
Corton Playing Fields	2	4.0	Corton FC Corton Seltic FC	5.0	-1.0	
Crown Meadow	1	2.0	Lowestoft Town FC	5.0	-3.0	High quality pitch
Dip Farm Playing Fields	4	8.0	AFC Notleys Blundeston FC Carlton United FC Electro Tec FC Factory Arms FC Fusilier FC Hearts of Oak FC Notleys FC Oxford Arms FC Park Rangers FC Waveney Gunners FC	5.5	+2.5	Key site for local league games

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Balance (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Foxborough Middle School	1	1.0*	None	None	+1.0	* Usage capacity reduced by schools use
Halesworth Playing Fields	1	2.0	Halesworth Town FC	3.0	-1.0	High quality pitch
Jeld Wen Playing Fields	1	2.0	None	None	+2.0	Site to be redeveloped but replaced nearby. Poor quality changing facilities
Kessingland Comm. Centre	1	2.0	Crusaders FC Juggernauts FC	2.0	Balanced	
Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	3	6.0	Kirkley & Pakefield FC Carlton Rangers FC	9.0	-3.0	High quality pitches. Some training use of on-site synthetic pitch
Old Reydon High School	1	2.0	Sole Bay Utd. Vets FC	1.0	+1.0	Poor quality changing facilities
Ormiston Denes Academy	2	4.0	Waveney FC Heils Bakery Crusaders Vets FC Notleys 2013 FC Oulton Athletic FC Waveney Hearts FC Waveney Wanderers FC	7.0	-3.0	High quality pitches
Normanston Park	4	8.0	AFC Mutford (The) Carlton FC Carlton Crown FC Kessingland Queen's Head FC Lake Lothing FC Lothing FC Lowestoft Albion FC Mariners Rest FC Morning Star FC New House FC Notleys FC Oulton Broad FC Oulton Mariners FC Pakefield Reunited FC Payton FC Saturn FC Stanford Arms FC WEMP FC	9.0	-1.0	Key site for local league games Poor quality changing facilities
Shadingfield Sports Grd.	1	1.0*	None	None	+1.0	* Usage capacity reduced by poor pitch quality
Southwold Common	1	2.0	Southwold Town FC	2.0	Balanced	High quality pitch
Spexhall Playing Field	1	2.0	Spexhall Huntsman & Hounds FC	2.0	Balanced	
The Nest	1	2.0	None	None	+2.0	High quality pitch

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Balance (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Westhall Village Hall	1	2.0	Westhall 07 FC	1.0	+1.0	
Wrentham Playing Field	1	2.0	Mutford & Wrentham FC	2.0	Balanced	Poor quality changing facilities
TOTALS	40	70.0	-	66.5	+3.5	-

8.4.2 Sub-area analysis

The aggregated analysis for adult football pitches in each sub-area is set out below:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Lowestoft North	17	30.0	33.0	-3.0 matches
Lowestoft South	6	12.0	11.5	+0.5 matches
Beccles	8	12.0	7.0	+5.0 matches
Bungay	3	6.0	5.0	+1.0 matches
Halesworth	3	6.0	7.0	-1.0 matches
Southwold and Reydon	2	4.0	3.0	+1.0 match
WAVENEY TOTAL	40	70.0	66.5	+3.5 matches

8.4.3 Qualitative analysis

The following adult football pitches and the changing facilities that serve them are rated as below 'average' quality on the basis of the site audits. In the case of the pitches, this compromises their carrying capacity and in the case of the changing facilities, the overall quality of the playing experience is adversely affected:

<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Changing facilities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blundeston Playing Fields • Shadingfield Sports Ground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeld Wen Playing Fields • Old Reydon High School • Wrentham Playing Field

8.4.4 Summary

The key findings for adult football pitches are as follows:

- There is a spare capacity of 3.5 match equivalents per week in Waveney as a whole, equivalent to 2.0 pitches at the peak period.
- At sub-area level, there is a deficit of 3.0 match equivalents per week in the Lowestoft North sub-area, equivalent to 1.5 pitches at the peak period.
- The quality of three pitches and four changing facilities is in need of improvement.

8.5 Youth football pitches

8.5.1 District level assessment

The site specific analysis for youth football pitches in Waveney as a whole is set out below:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Balance (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Barnards Centre Point	2	4.0	Waveney Ladies FC Waveney Youth FC	8.5	-4.5	High quality pitches. Some use of on-site synthetic pitch
Basley Playing Field	1	1.0*	Halesworth Town FC	1.0	Balanced	* Usage capacity reduced by poor pitch quality
Beccles Sports Centre	1	1.0*	None	None	+1.0	* Usage capacity reduced by schools use
Benjamin Britten HS	2	2.0*	Gunton Youth FC Waveney Ladies FC Waveney Youth FC	3.5	-1.5	* Usage capacity reduced by schools use
Bungay and Dist. Sp. Assoc.	2	4.0	Bungay Town FC	5.0	- 1.0	High quality pitches. Some training use of on-site synthetic pitch
College Meadow	1	2.0	St. Benet's Wasps YFC	3.5	-1.5	High quality pitch
Foxborough Middle School	1	1.0*	Oulton Mariners YFC	1.0	Balanced	* Usage capacity reduced by schools use
Frostenden Recn. Ground	1	1.0*	None	None	+1.0	* Usage capacity reduced by poor pitch quality
Halesworth Playing Fields	1	1.0*	Halesworth Town FC	1.0	Balanced	High quality pitch * Usage capacity reduced by overmarked mini- soccer pitch
Jeld Wen Playing Fields	2	4.0	Swanton Herons Girls	2.0	+2.0	Site to be redeveloped but replaced nearby. Poor quality changing facilities
Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	2	4.0	Kirkley & Pakefield FC	11.5	-7.5	High quality pitches. Some training use of on-site synthetic pitch
Lothingland Middle School	2	4.0	Blundeston Magpies	4.0	Balanced	High quality pitches
Mutford Playing Field	1	2.0	None	None	+2.0	No recorded usage at present.
Old Reydon High School	3	6.0	Sole Bay United YFC	5.0	+1.0	Poor quality changing facilities
The Nest	1	2.0	St. Benet's Wasps YFC	4.0	-2.0	High quality pitch
TOTALS	23	39.0	-	50.0	-11.0	-

8.5.2 Sub-area analysis

The aggregated analysis for youth football pitches in each sub-area is set out below:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Lowestoft North	7	11.0	17.0	-6.0 matches
Lowestoft South	4	8.0	13.5	-5.5 matches
Beccles	4	7.0	7.5	-0.5 matches
Bungay	2	3.0	5.0	-2.0 matches
Halesworth	2	2.0	2.0	Balanced
Southwold and Reydon	4	7.0	5.0	+2.0 matches
WAVENEY TOTAL	23	39.0	50.0	-11.0 matches

8.5.3 Qualitative analysis

The following youth football pitches and the changing facilities that serve them are rated as below ‘average’ quality on the basis of the site audits. In the case of the pitches, this compromises their carrying capacity and in the case of the changing facilities, the overall quality of the playing experience is adversely affected:

<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Changing facilities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basley Playing Field • Frostenden Recreation Ground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeld Wen Playing Fields • Old Reydon High School

8.5.4 Summary

The key findings for youth football pitches are as follows:

- There is a deficit of 11.0 match equivalents per week in Waveney as a whole, equivalent to 5.5 pitches at the peak period.
- In Lowestoft, there is a significant deficit of 6.0 match equivalents per week in the Lowestoft North sub-area and 5.5 matches in the Lowestoft South sub-area (equating to 3.0 pitches at the peak period respectively) which are mitigated by accommodating matches and training on the synthetic turf pitches in those areas.
- In Beccles there is a small deficit of 0.5 match equivalents per week, equating to 0.5 pitches at the peak period which is managed by playing youth fixtures on adult pitches.
- In Bungay there is a deficit of 2.0 match equivalents, equating to 1.0 pitch in the peak period which is managed by playing youth fixtures on adult pitches.
- In the other two sub-areas, provision is either balanced or there is limited spare capacity of youth pitches.
- The quality of two pitches and two changing facilities is in need of improvement.

8.6 Mini-soccer pitches

8.6.1 District level assessment

The site specific analysis for mini-soccer pitches in Waveney as a whole is set out below:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Balance (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Barnards Centre Point	5	10.0	Waveney Youth FC	10.0	Balanced	High quality pitches. Some use of on-site synthetic pitch
Benjamin Britten HS	2	2.0*	None	None	+2.0	* Usage capacity reduced by schools use
Bungay and Dist. Sp. Assoc.	3	6.0	Bungay Town FC	6.0	Balanced	High quality pitches. Some training use of on-site synthetic pitch
College Meadow	1	2.0	St. Benet's Wasps YFC	2.0	Balanced	High quality pitch
Halesworth Playing Fields	1	1.0*	Halesworth Town FC	3.0	-2.0	High quality pitch * Usage capacity reduced by over-marked youth pitch
Jeld Wen Playing Fields	1	2.0	Swanton Herons Girls	1.0	+1.0	Site to be redeveloped but replaced nearby. Poor changing facilities
Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	2	4.0	Kirkley & Pakefield FC	7.0	-3.0	High quality pitches. Some training use of on-site synthetic pitch
Lothingland Middle School	2	4.0	Blundeston Magpies	3.0	+1.0	High quality pitches
Old Reydon High School	1	2.0	Sole Bay United YFC	2.0	Balanced	Poor quality changing facilities
The Nest	1	2.0	St. Benet's Wasps YFC	2.0	Balanced	High quality pitch
TOTALS	19	35.0	-	36.0	-1.0	-

8.6.2 Qualitative analysis

The changing facilities that serve mini-soccer pitches at Jeld Wen Playing Fields and Old Reydon High School are rated as below 'average' quality on the basis of the site audits.

8.6.3 Sub-area analysis

The aggregated analysis for mini-soccer pitches in each sub-area is set out below:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Lowestoft North	9	16.0	13.0	+3.0 matches
Lowestoft South	3	6.0	8.0	-2.0 matches
Beccles	2	4.0	4.0	Balanced
Bungay	3	6.0	6.0	Balanced
Halesworth	1	1.0	3.0	-2.0 match
Southwold and Reydon	1	2.0	2.0	Balanced
WAVENEY TOTAL	19	36.0	36.0	-1.0

8.6.4 Summary

The key findings for mini-soccer pitches are as follows:

- There is a deficit of 1.0 match equivalent in Waveney as a whole, equating to 0.5 pitches.
- In Lowestoft, there is spare capacity of 3.0 match equivalents per week in the Lowestoft North sub-area.
- In the Lowestoft South and Halesworth sub-areas, there are respective deficits of 2.0 match equivalents per week.
- In the other three sub-areas, supply and demand is precisely balanced.
- Changing facilities at two sites should be improved (although the Jeld Wen site is due to be redeveloped and new changing facilities will be provided at the replacement site).

8.7 Cricket pitches

8.7.1 District level assessment

The site specific analysis for cricket pitches in Waveney as a whole is set out below. As per Sport England guidance, capacity is expressed as match equivalents per **season**, as opposed to per **week** for all other pitch types and in line with ECB guidance, the following assumptions have been applied:

- In line with ECB guidance it has been assumed that a ‘high’ quality wicket will accommodate 5 matches per season, a ‘standard’ quality wicket will accommodate 4 matches per season and a ‘poor’ quality wicket will accommodate 3 matches per season.
- Artificial turf wickets are shown in brackets in the table below and will accommodate 20 matches per season.

<i>Site (pitch numbers in brackets)</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Capacity (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Balance (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Banks Farm (1)	4	16.0	Rumburgh CC	10.0	+6.0	
Bungay and Dist. Sp. Ass. (1)	8(1)	60.0	Bungay CC	100.0	-40.0	High quality wicket
College Meadow (1)	13(1)	85.0	Beccles Town CC	120.0	-35.0	High quality wicket
Denes Oval (1)	15(1)	95.0	Lowestoft Town CC Lowestoft Works Lge.	125.0	-30.0	High quality wicket. Key site for local cricket
Gunton Park (1)	6	24.0	Kirkley & Lowestoft Railway CC Lowestoft Works Lge.	38.0	-14.0	
Normanston Park (2)	11	55.0	Lowestoft Works Lge.	79.0	-24.0	High quality wickets Key site for local cricket

<i>Site</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Capacity (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Balance (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Ormiston Denes Ac. (1)	(1)	20.0	None	None	+20.0	Synthetic turf wicket
Ringsfield Playing Field (1)	4	12.0	Gillingham CC	10.0	+2.0	Poor quality wicket
Somerleyton Playing Fields (1)	6	30.0	Blundeston CC	40.0	-10.0	High quality wicket
Southwold Common (1)	8	40.0	Southwold CC	50.0	-10.0	High quality wicket
TOTALS	75(4)	437.0	-	572.0	-135.0	-

8.7.2 Sub-area analysis

The aggregated analysis for cricket pitches in each sub-area is set out below:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Seasonal balance</i>
Lowestoft North	38(2)	224.0	282.0	-58.0 matches
Lowestoft South	0	0.0	0.0	Balanced
Beccles	17(1)	97.0	130.0	-33.0 matches
Bungay	8(1)	60.0	100.0	-40.0 matches
Halesworth	4	16.0	10.0	+6.0 matches
Southwold and Reydon	8	40.0	50.0	-10.0 matches
WAVENEY TOTAL	79	615.0	572.0	-135.0 matches

8.7.3 Qualitative analysis

The pitch and changing facilities at Ringsfield Playing Field are both rated as below ‘average’ quality on the basis of the site audits.

8.7.4 Summary

The key findings for cricket pitches are as follows:

- There is an overall deficit of 135.0 match equivalents per season in Waveney as a whole, equivalent to 27.0 good quality wickets or around four pitches.
- The use of four cricket pitches has been discontinued in the district in the past three years, which partly reflects reduced demand and partly the relatively high maintenance costs.
- There is seasonal spare capacity in only the Halesworth sub-area, but this relates to the only pitch in the area at Rumburgh. There is no provision in Halesworth itself.
- The facilities at Ringsfield Playing Field should be improved.

8.8 Rugby pitches

8.8.1 District level assessment

The site specific analysis for rugby pitches in Waveney as a whole is set out below:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Balance (match equivalents)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Beccles Sports Centre	1	1.0*	None	None	+1.0	* Capacity reduced by schools use
College Meadow	2	2.0*	Beccles Rugby Club	3.5	-1.5	* Poor quality pitches reduce usage capacity
Gunton Park	3	6.0	Lowestoft & Yarmouth RFC	9.5	-3.5	High quality pitches
Ormiston Denes Academy	1	1.0*	None	None	+1.0	* Capacity reduced by schools use
St. Felix School	1	2.0	Southwold Rugby Club	3.5	-1.5	High quality pitch
Southwold Common	1	2.0	Southwold Rugby Club	3.0	-1.0	High quality pitch
TOTALS	9	14.0	-	19.5	-5.5	-

8.8.2 Sub-area analysis

The aggregated analysis for rugby pitches in each sub-area is set out below:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Lowestoft North	4	7.0	9.5	-2.5 matches
Lowestoft South	0	0.0	0.0	Balanced
Beccles	3	3.0	3.5	-0.5 matches
Bungay	0	0.0	0.0	Balanced
Halesworth	0	0.0	0.0	Balanced
Southwold and Reydon	2	4.0	6.5	-2.5 matches
WAVENEY TOTAL	9	14.0	19.5	-5.5 matches

8.8.3 Qualitative analysis

The quality of all rugby pitches and associated changing facilities in Waveney are rated as above 'average' quality on the basis of the site audits.

8.8.4 Summary

The key findings for rugby pitches are as follows:

- There is an overall deficit of 5.5 match equivalents per week in Waveney as a whole equivalent to 3.0 pitches at the peak period.
- In the three sub-areas in which there is rugby activity, there is a localised shortfall in provision. The shortfalls are managed in large part by training on the pitch surrounds.

- The quality of most rugby pitches in Waveney are rated as above ‘average’ quality, however the pitches at College Meadow, Beccles are ‘poor’ quality and the changing facilities in Gunton Park are rated as below ‘average’.

8.9 Hockey use of synthetic turf pitches

8.9.1 District level assessment

The site specific analysis for hockey usage of synthetic turf pitches in Waveney as a whole is set out below. Only the East Point Academy pitch is suitable for competitive hockey usage:

- Capacity, demand and the resultant balance are expressed as ‘match equivalent’ sessions.
- For Beccles Hockey Club, which plays on a pitch outside the district boundary, the supply (capacity) figure has been matched to the demand figure on the basis that other capacity at the site will be used by teams from outside Waveney and is therefore not directly relevant to this study. The external facility is denoted in italics in the table.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity (hours per week)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (hours per week)</i>	<i>Balance (hours per week)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
East Point Academy	1	30.0	Lowestoft Ladies HC Lowestoft Railway HC	22.0	+8.0	
<i>Hobart High School, Loddon</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>Beccles Ladies HC</i>	4.0	Balanced	
TOTALS	2	34.0	-	26.0	+8.0	-

8.9.2 Sub-area analysis

The only sub-area with a full-sized synthetic turf pitch suitable for hockey usage is Lowestoft South. There is some limited additional capacity for hockey at the site, although this is reduced by some football usage. The only other sub-area with expressed demand for such a facility is Beccles, where the club currently has to travel to Loddon.

8.9.3 Qualitative analysis

The quality of the East Point Academy pitch is rated as above ‘average’ on the basis of the site audits.

8.9.4 Summary

The deficit in synthetic turf pitches for hockey identified in ‘*The Waveney Pitch and Non-Pitch Assessment*’ (2002) has been addressed in part by the provision of a pitch in Loddon, but only the pitch at East Point Academy can accommodate competitive hockey play. The absence of a synthetic turf pitch for hockey in Beccles undermines the viability of the Beccles Ladies Hockey Club and provision of a sand-filled pitch capable of accommodating local football use in addition should be pursued.

8.10 Overall use of synthetic turf pitches

8.10.1 District level assessment

The site specific analysis for all synthetic turf pitches in Waveney as a whole is set out below, including the three small-sized pitches. As noted above, only the East Point Academy pitch is suitable for competitive hockey usage:

- Capacity, demand and the resultant balance are expressed as ‘match equivalent’ sessions.
- For Beccles Hockey Club, which plays on a pitch outside the district boundary, the supply (capacity) figure has been matched to the demand figure on the basis that other capacity at the site will be used by teams from outside Waveney and is therefore not directly relevant to this study. The external facility is denoted in italics in the table.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity (hours per week)</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Demand (hours per week)</i>	<i>Balance (hours per week)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Barnards Centre Point	1	30.0	DK Consultants FC Waveney FC Waveney Ladies FC Waveney Youth FC	28.0	+2.0	‘3G’ surface. Key site for football. Some competitive play as well as training usage
Bungay & Dist. Sp. Assoc.	1 (small sided)	20.0	Bungay Town FC	10.0	+10.0	Sand-filled surface. Shared use with tennis limits usage
East Point Academy	1	30.0	Burnt Hill 95 Youth FC Lowestoft Ladies HC Lowestoft Railway HC	24.0	+6.0	Sand-filled surface Key site for hockey Limited football usage
<i>Hobart High School, Loddon</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4.0</i>	Beccles Ladies HC	4.0	Balanced	Sand-filled surface
Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC	1 (small sided)	40.0	Kirkley & Pakefield FC	40.0	Balanced	‘3G’ surface. Key site for football Some competitive play as well as training usage
Ormiston Denes Academy	1 (small sided)	30.0	Saturday 2000 Youth FC Waveney FC	13.0	+17.0	‘3G’ surface. Some competitive play as well as training usage
TOTALS	6	154.0	-	119.0	+35.0	-

8.10.2 Sub-area analysis

The aggregated analysis for synthetic turf pitches in each sub-area is set out below, including the displaced demand from Beccles Ladies HC who play outside the district in Loddon:

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>
Lowestoft North	3	90.0 hours	65.0 hours	+25 hours
Lowestoft South	1	40.0 hours	40.0 hours	Balanced
Beccles	0	0.0	4.0 hours	Met externally
Bungay	1	20.0 hours	10.0 hours	+10 hours
Halesworth	0	0.0	0.0	Balanced
Southwold and Reydon	0	0.0	0.0	Balanced
WAVENEY TOTAL	5	150.0 hours	118.0 hours	+35.0 hours

8.10.3 Football Association Assessment of '3G' pitch needs

The Football Association has devised an internal mapping exercise to establish an estimated baseline figure for the number of '3G' pitches required to meet football needs in a locality. The calculation involves the following considerations:

- The assessment assumes that every football team in a locality will require one training 'slot' per week on a '3G' pitch, defined as one-third of the area of a full-sized pitch for one hour.
- Based upon Sport England national research on synthetic turf pitch usage, it is assumed that an average of 55 training 'slots' per week will be available at a full-sized '3G' pitch.
- It is assumed that smaller and/or commercially provided '3G' pitches are capable of accommodating 10 training 'slots' per week.

With one full-sized '3G' pitch in Waveney and two smaller pitches, a total of 75 training 'slots' per week are available. With 240 football teams of all age groups in the district, there is a notional shortfall of 165 slots per week, equivalent to 3 full-sized '3G' pitches.

The situation by sub-area is as follows and shows that there is a case for an additional full-sized pitch in Lowestoft South and small-sided pitches in Lowestoft North, Beccles, Bungay and Halesworth.

<i>Sub-area</i>	<i>Teams</i>	<i>'Slots' available</i>	<i>Surplus (+) /deficit (-)</i>	<i>Full-sized '3G' pitch requirements</i>
Lowestoft North	102	65	-37	0.67
Lowestoft South	61	10	-51	0.93
Beccles	33	0	-33	0.65
Bungay	21	0	-21	0.41
Halesworth	16	0	-16	0.30
Southwold and Reydon	8	0	-8	0.16
WAVENEY TOTAL	240	75	-165	3.0

8.10.4 Qualitative analysis

The quality of all synthetic turf pitches and associated changing facilities in Waveney are rated as above 'average' quality on the basis of the site audits.

8.10.5 Summary

The key findings for synthetic turf pitches are as follows:

- There is an overall collective surplus of 35 hours of availability per week at synthetic turf pitches in Waveney as a whole, although this includes the three small-sided pitches which by virtue of their dimensions can only accommodate youth football and mini-soccer training and matches and adult football training.

- The deficit in synthetic turf pitches for hockey identified in *'The Waveney Pitch and Non-Pitch Assessment'* (2002) has been addressed in part by the provision of a pitch in Loddon, but only the pitch at East Point Academy can accommodate competitive hockey play. The absence of a synthetic turf pitch for hockey in Beccles undermines the viability of the Beccles Ladies Hockey Club and provision of a sand-filled pitch capable of accommodating local football use in addition should be pursued.
- The provision of a new full-sized '3G' pitch at Kirkley and Pakefield CSSC's Walmer Road site in Lowestoft South will address the FA's identified shortfall in that sub-area.

8.11 Athletics tracks

8.11.1 Standard of provision

Based upon an examination of local supply and demand issues and consultation with England Athletics, the following standard of provision for 400m synthetic athletics tracks was devised:

<i>Element</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Quantitative	One 400m synthetic track per 250,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Athletics recommends one 6-lane track per 250,000 people. - <i>'Athletics Facilities Strategy for the UK'</i> (2007). • The existing track in Great Yarmouth serves an estimated population of 201,800. - <i>Waveney Quantitative Audit</i> (2014). • Waveney is not been identified as an area of priority facility development in the current UK Athletics strategy. - <i>Consultation with England Athletics East regional office</i> (2013). • Suffolk is not currently an area where any facility developments are required. - <i>England Athletics Facilities Plan</i> (2012). • UK Athletics identifies a requirement for specialist athletics training facilities to supplement full-sized tracks. These should be built 'in areas where the criteria for a 6 or 8 lane track cannot be met and where communications are difficult'. - <i>'Athletics Facilities Strategy for the UK'</i> (2007).
Qualitative	All aspects of a track and its ancillary facilities should rate 'average' or better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All aspects of the quality of all outdoor sports facilities in Waveney should aspire to be of at least 'average' quality. – <i>Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment</i> (2014).
Accessibility	The whole urban population within 20 minutes drive and the whole rural population within 45 minutes drive of the nearest track.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Athletics recommends one 6-lane 400m synthetic athletics track within 45 minutes drive time of the whole population in rural areas and 20 minutes drive time in urban areas. – <i>'Athletics Facilities Strategy for the UK'</i> (2007). • Catchment analysis shows that an estimated 91% of the population of Waveney district is within 45 minutes driving time of the Great Yarmouth athletics track, but 50,000 people in the Lowestoft South sub-area are beyond the 20 minute drivetime. - <i>Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment</i> (2014).

8.11.2 Applying the standard

- **Quantity of provision** - On the basis of applying the standard of provision, there is no compelling case for a 400m synthetic athletics track in Waveney at present, particularly since most local participation involves road running rather than track and field. However, a specialist athletics training facility such as that used by Diss AC in the adjacent district of South Norfolk, would provide for the training needs of all track and field disciplines.
- **Quality of provision** - The quality of the Great Yarmouth athletics track was assessed to be 'high quality' for the track surface and 'above average' for the spectator/changing facilities, the disabled access and the parking and general access, so no qualitative improvements are required.
- **Accessibility of provision** - Whilst 91% of the population of the district is within the 45 minutes rural drive time catchment of the Great Yarmouth track, 50,000 people, principally in Lowestoft south are more than 20 minutes urban drive time and accessibility by other means of transport to Great Yarmouth is problematic. Making some form of provision to meet local athletics needs can therefore be justified in accessibility terms.

8.12 Bowls greens

8.12.1 Standard of provision

Based upon an examination of local supply and demand issues and consultation with local clubs and the Suffolk Bowling Association, the following standard of provision was set:

<i>Element</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Quantitative	One outdoor bowls green per 5,500 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing levels of provision equate to one outdoor bowls green per 5,490 people - <i>Waveney Quantitative Audit</i> (2014). • The number of greens per capita in Waveney is the best for the neighbouring local authorities, which suggests that existing levels of provision are above the average for similar areas. - <i>Waveney Quantitative Audit</i> (2014). • Sport England's Market Segmentation data suggests that the demand for bowls should be above the national average. - <i>Market Segmentation data</i> (2014). • There is no development plan for bowls in Suffolk and local clubs either have static or declining memberships, so there is no evidence of unmet demand in Waveney. A quantitative standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justified. - <i>Waveney Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2014).
Qualitative	All aspects of a green and its ancillary facilities should rate 'average' or better.	All aspects of the quality of all outdoor sports facilities in Waveney should aspire to be of at least 'average' quality. – <i>Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment</i> (2014).

<i>Element</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Accessibility	The whole population within 15 minutes drive of the nearest green.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘The majority of facility users will live locally and travel not more than 15 minutes. 90% of users will travel by car’. - <i>Bowls Design Guidance</i> (2005). • With the exception of two very small areas in the south-west and north-west of the district, the whole population is within 15 minutes drive of their nearest bowling green. - <i>Waveney Accessibility Audit</i> (2014).

8.12.2 Applying the standard

- **Quantity of provision** - There is no shortfall in the number of bowls greens in Waveney at present. There are some sub-area variations, with better levels of provision in the rural parts of the district, but there is no evidence of latent demand in the urban areas.
- **Quality of provision** - The disabled and parking/general access at the following facilities are rated as below ‘average’ quality on the basis of the site audits:

<i>Disabled access</i>	<i>Parking/general access</i>
• Beccles Caxton BC	• Beccles Caxton BC
• Beccles Town BC	• Beccles Institute BC
• Brampton & District BC	• Beccles Town BC
• Blundeston BC	• Corton Bowls Club
• Bungay Town BC	• Lound Bowls Club
• Lound Bowls Club	• Waveney BC
• Waveney BC	• Wrentham BC

- **Accessibility of provision** - There is no significant accessibility shortfall in the district.

8.13 Tennis courts

8.13.1 Standard of provision

Based upon an examination of local supply and demand issues and consultation with local clubs and the Lawn Tennis Association (East), the following standard of provision was set:

<i>Element</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Quantitative	One outdoor tennis court per 2,500 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing levels of provision equate to one outdoor tennis court per 2,620 people - <i>Waveney Quantitative Audit</i> (2014). The number of tennis courts per capita in Waveney is around the norm for the neighbouring local authorities, which suggests that existing levels of provision are fairly typical for similar areas. - <i>Waveney Quantitative Audit</i> (2014). The LTA (East) has not identified the need for any facility development in Waveney. - <i>Consultation with LTA (East)</i> (2014). Lowestoft LTC has been unable to expand its membership due to the absence of any dedicated floodlit courts in the town. - <i>Waveney Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2014).
Qualitative	All aspects of a court and its ancillary facilities should rate 'average' or better.	All aspects of the quality of all outdoor sports facilities in Waveney should aspire to be of at least 'average' quality. – <i>Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment</i> (2014).
Accessibility	The whole population within 15 minutes drive of the nearest court.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research commissioned by the Lawn Tennis Association revealed that outdoor tennis court users typically travel for up to 15 minutes to reach their chosen facility and more than 70% travel by car. - <i>LTA</i> (2002). The whole population is within 15 minutes drive of their nearest tennis court. - <i>Waveney Accessibility Audit</i> (2014).

8.13.2 Applying the standard

- **Quantity of provision** - There is a shortfall of 2 tennis courts in Waveney at present, with the main deficit concentrated in Lowestoft South. There are no dedicated floodlit courts in the Lowestoft North or Lowestoft South sub-areas. Whilst it is beyond the remit of an outdoor facilities assessment, there is some demand in Lowestoft for seasonally covered indoor courts in a structure such as an airdome.
- **Quality of provision** - The aspects of the following facilities that are rated as below 'average' quality on the basis of the site audits are tabulated below:

<i>Court surface</i>	<i>Fencing</i>	<i>Changing</i>	<i>Access</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blundeston courts Kensington Gardens Ringsfield courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ringsfield courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blundeston courts Halesworth TC Kensington Gardens Mutford courts Nicholas Everitt Park Normanston Park Ringsfield courts Southwold Common 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beccles TC Normanston Park Ringsfield courts Southwold & District TC Southwold Common Wrentham TC

- **Accessibility of provision** - There is no significant accessibility shortfall in the district.

8.14 Netball courts

8.14.1 Standard of provision

Based upon an examination of local supply and demand issues and consultation with local clubs and England Netball, the following standard of provision for netball courts was set:

<i>Element</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Quantitative	One netball court per 10,000 people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing levels of provision equate to one outdoor tennis court per 10,482 people - <i>Waveney Quantitative Audit</i> (2014). England Netball has identified the need for some additional access to courts in Waveney, although this might be achieved through developing access to facilities on three school sites in Lowestoft. - <i>Consultation with England Netball</i> (2014). Local clubs have static or memberships, so there is no evidence of unmet demand in Waveney. A quantitative standard equivalent to current levels of provision is justified. - <i>Waveney Sports Clubs Survey</i> (2014).
Qualitative	All aspects of a court and its ancillary facilities should rate 'average' or better.	All aspects of the quality of all outdoor sports facilities in Waveney should aspire to be of at least 'average' quality. – <i>Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment</i> (2014).
Accessibility	The whole population within 20 minutes drive of the nearest court.	The whole population is within 20 minutes drive of their nearest netball court. - <i>Waveney Accessibility Audit</i> (2014).

8.14.2 Applying the standard

- **Quantity of provision** - There is no shortfall in the number of netball courts in Waveney in relation to current needs, although there is limited spare capacity for additional development activity at present.
- **Quality of provision** - All aspects of all facilities are rated as 'average' quality or better on the basis of the site audits.
- **Accessibility of provision** - There is no accessibility shortfall in the district.

8.15 Summary of current needs

On the basis of an analysis of the current balance between supply and demand of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities in Waveney, the following needs have been identified:

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Adult football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spare districtwide capacity of 2.5 pitches. • A local deficit in Lowestoft North. 	<p>Quality improvements needed to pitches at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blundeston Pl. Field • Shadingfield Sp. Grd <p>Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeld Wen Playing Field • Normanston Park • Old Reydon High Sch. • Wrentham Pl. Field 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Youth football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A districtwide deficit of 5.5 pitches. • Local deficits in Lowestoft North and South, Beccles and Bungay. 	<p>Quality improvements needed to pitches at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basley Playing Field • Frostenden Recn. Grd. <p>Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeld Wen Playing Field • Old Reydon HS 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Mini-soccer pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A districtwide deficit of 0.5 pitches. • Local deficits in Lowestoft South and Halesworth. 	<p>Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeld Wen Playing Field • Old Reydon HS 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Cricket pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A districtwide seasonal deficit of 135.0 match equivalents. • Local deficits in Lowestoft North and South, Bungay, Southwold and Reydon. 	<p>Quality improvements needed to pitches at Ringsfield Playing Field.</p> <p>Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at Normanston Park</p>	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Rugby pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A weekly deficit of 5.5 match equivalents. • Local deficits in Lowestoft North, Beccles, Southwold and Reydon. 	<p>Quality improvements needed to drainage at College Meadow, Beccles.</p> <p>Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at Gunton Park.</p>	No substantive accessibility deficiency.

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Synthetic turf pitches for hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly spare capacity of 8 hours of pitch time. • Demand from Beccles Ladies HC is insufficient to sustain a local pitch on its own, but combined with local football needs, a sand-filled pitch could be justified. 	No quality improvements needed.	Accessibility deficiency for full-sized hockey pitch in the Beccles sub-area.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly spare capacity of 35 hours of pitch time. • Based on the FA calculation, there is a case for an additional full-sized '3G' pitch in Lowestoft South and small-sided '3G' pitches in Lowestoft North, Beccles, Bungay and Halesworth. • Demand from Beccles Ladies HC is insufficient to sustain a local pitch on its own, but combined with local football needs, a sand-filled pitch could be sustained. 	No quality improvements needed.	Accessibility deficiency for full-sized hockey pitch in the Beccles sub-area.
Athletics tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No requirement for a 400m track. • A need for an athletics training facility. 	No quality improvements needed.	50,000 people in the urban parts of Lowestoft South are more than 20 minutes drive time from Great Yarmouth and accessibility by other means of transport is problematic.

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Bowling greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional facilities needed. 	<p>Disabled access improvements needed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beccles Caxton BC • Beccles Town BC • Brampton & Dist. BC • Blundeston BC • Bungay Town BC • Lound BC • Waveney BC <p>General access improvements needed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beccles Caxton BC • Beccles Institute BC • Beccles Town BC • Corton BC • Lound BC • Waveney BC • Wrentham BC 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.
Tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A shortfall of 2 courts, with the main deficit in Lowestoft South. • No floodlit courts in Lowestoft North or South. 	<p>Improvements needed to court surface at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blundeston courts • Kensington Gardens • Ringsfield courts. <p>Improvements needed to fencing at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ringsfield courts. <p>Changing facilities improvements needed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blundeston courts • Halesworth TC • Kensington Gardens • Mutford courts • Nicholas Everitt Park • Normanston Park • Ringsfield courts • Southwold Common 	No substantive accessibility deficiency.

		Disabled/general access improvements needed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beccles TC • Normanston Park • Ringsfield courts • Southwold & Dist. TC • Southwold Common • Wrentham TC 	
<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Quality</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>
Netball courts	No additional facilities needed, but developing access to schools courts would create additional capacity for netball development programmes.	No quality improvements needed.	No accessibility deficiency.



Ormiston Denes Academy small-sided '3G' synthetic turf pitch

9 FUTURE BALANCE BETWEEN SUPPLY AND DEMAND

9.1 Introduction

This section analyses the future balance between the supply of and demand for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities in Waveney, in the period to 2021.

The methodology applied to assess the supply-demand balance for pitches is based upon Sport England's recommended methodology, whilst the other types of outdoor facility are assessed using the locally derived standard of provision. The respective approaches are summarised below:

9.2 Playing pitch methodology

To identify whether the supply of pitches is adequate to meet future demand, the following assessment is undertaken:

- The extent to which population change in the study area will affect the demand for provision.
- How participation aims, current trends and predicted changes in the way that pitch sports are played and pitches used may affect the demand for provision.
- Any particular sports clubs or sites where demand is likely to increase in the future.
- Any forthcoming changes in the supply of provision and how will this affect the adequacy of provision to meet demand.

Changes in demand are modelled using 'Team Generation Rates', which identify how many people in a specified age group in the study area are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected increases in population to identify the likely number of additional teams and their related facilities needs in the future, taking account of participation aims and trends.

9.3 Outdoor sports facilities methodology

The application of the locally-derived, evidence-based standards of provision is the most appropriate way of assessing the adequacy of future provision of the other forms of outdoor sports facility, again taking account of:

- Projected population change.
- Participation aims and trends.
- Any particular clubs or sites where demand is likely to increase in the future.
- Any forthcoming changes to facility supply.

9.4 Projected population change

Projected population change in Waveney district to 2021 is tabulated below in five year age bands. The figures take into account results from the 2011 Census and are trend-based projections applying observed levels over the past five years:

Age Group	Population 2013	Population 2021	% Change
0-5	7,550	7,450	-1.3%
6-10	6,000	6,600	+10.0%
11-15	6,200	6,500	+4.8%
16-20	6,450	5,600	-13.2%
21-25	6,200	5,800	-6.5%
26-30	5,900	6,550	+11.0%
31-35	5,650	6,600	+16.8%
36-40	6,000	6,150	+2.5%
41-45	7,500	5,900	-21.3%
46-50	8,050	7,000	-13.0%
51-55	7,600	8,250	+8.6%
56-60	7,250	8,600	+18.6%
61-65	8,200	8,050	-1.9%
66-70	8,600	7,650	-11.0%
71-75	6,250	8,750	+40.0%
76-80	5,350	6,400	+20.6%
81-85	4,000	4,700	+17.5%
86-90	2,000	2,550	+27.5%
90+	1,700	2,450	+44.1%
TOTAL	116,400	121,400	+5.3%

Source: Interim 2011-based Sub-national Population Projections for England (ONS, 2011)

The projected population changes for each of the pitch and outdoor sports are as follows:

Sport	Age range	Population 2013	Population 2021	Change	% Change
Adult football	17-45	36,300	35,350	-950	-2.6%
Youth football	10-16	8,800	9,000	+200	+2.3%
Mini-soccer	6-9	4,700	5,300	+600	+12.8%
Adult cricket	16-55	53,250	51,750	-1,500	-2.8%
Junior cricket	10-15	7,400	7,800	+400	+5.4%
Adult rugby	19-45	34,000	32,900	-1,100	-3.2%
Junior rugby	13-18	8,000	7,550	-450	-5.6%
Mini-rugby	7-12	7,200	7,900	+700	+9.7%
Adult hockey	18-45	35,500	34,100	-1,400	-3.9%
Junior hockey	8-17	12,550	12,950	+400	+3.2%
Athletics	10-40	37,550	38,450	+900	+2.4%
Bowls	18-75	80,800	82,300	+1,500	+1.9%
Tennis	10-55	60,750	59,550	-1,200	-2.0%
Netball	11-45	43,900	42,850	-1,050	-2.4%

Source: Interim 2011-based Sub-national Population Projections for England (ONS, 2011)

The implications for the pitch and outdoor sports in Waveney are as follows:

- The number of people in the age groups playing the adult versions of the sports is projected to fall by between 2.6% and 3.9%, with the exception of bowls which by virtue of its older age profile, will experience a 2% increase in its participating age group.
- The number of people in the age groups playing youth, junior and mini versions of the sports is projected to increase by as much as 12.8% for mini-soccer, the only exception being junior rugby, which for reasons that are not entirely obvious, will experience a fall in numbers in the 13 to 18 age group.

9.5 Participation aims and trends

The implications of participation aims, current trends and predicted changes in the way that sports are played and facilities are used is examined below.

9.5.1 Participation aims

The national participation aims and targets for each of the sports covered in the strategy and their implications for Waveney are summarised below:

Sport	Participation aims	Implications for Waveney
Football	<p>National targets to 2015 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halt the decline in the number of adult male teams. • Increase the number of adult female teams from 1,250 to 1,437 • Increase the number boys youth teams from 34,300 to 46,968 • Increase the number of girls youth teams from 4,500 to 6,967 • Increase the number of mini-soccer teams from 21,800 to 25,932 • Increase the number of male disability teams from 270 to 978 • Create 122 new female disability teams <p>Source: <i>'National Game Strategy 2011- 2015'</i> (2011).</p>	<p>Proportionate increases in Waveney would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult male teams static at 94 teams. • Increase in adult female teams from 4 to 5. • Increase in boys youth teams from 79 to 108. • Increase in girls youth teams from 10 to 16. • Increase in mini-soccer teams from 54 to 64. • Increase in male disability teams from 1 to 4. • Create 1 new female disability team. <p>Source: Extrapolated from <i>'National Game Strategy 2011- 2015'</i> (2011).</p>
Cricket	<p>The focus in the ECB's <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013) is to 'retain existing regular players by providing more bespoke playing programmes'.</p> <p>Source: <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013)</p>	<p>Maintain current team numbers of 39 adult teams and 20 junior teams.</p> <p>Source: Extrapolated from <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013)</p>
Rugby	<p>The focus in the RFU's <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013) is to retain more existing players within the game, particularly in the 14-24 age group.</p> <p>Source: <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013)</p>	<p>Maintain current team numbers of 10 adult teams, 22 junior teams and 14 mini-teams.</p> <p>Source: Extrapolated from <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013)</p>

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Participation aims</i>	<i>Implications for Waveney</i>
Hockey	England Hockey wishes to attract and retain more people into the sport, in particular by retaining club members, and increasing new membership by 10,000 adults (from the current 147,000 participants) and 32,500 juniors. Source: <i>'The Right Pitches in the Right Places'</i> (2011).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of adult teams by 6.7%, leaving adult men's teams unchanged at 3 with adult women's increasing from 7 teams to 8. • The implications of the junior target increase are unclear, although current activity levels are very low in Waveney - no junior boy's teams and 2 junior girls' teams.
Athletics	England Athletics has a target to make athletics 'the most popular individual sporting pursuit by 2017, with one million more people doing athletics once a week'. <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013)	The target 35% increase in participation by 2017 would increase the collective membership of the two athletics clubs in Waveney from around 580 to around 783 members.
Bowls	Bowls has no specific participation targets.	No specific bowls targets exist for Waveney.
Tennis	The focus in the LTA's <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013) is to increase regular participation in tennis in geographical target areas. Source: <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013)	The priority geographical target areas for 2013-2015 do not include Waveney. Source: <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013)
Netball	England Netball has a target to increase participation in the game by 10,000 people per annum. <i>'Whole Sport Plan 2013 - 2017'</i> (2013)	The target 19% increase in participation by 2017 would increase the number of netball teams in Waveney from 12 teams to 14 teams.

9.5.2 Participation trends

Adult (16+) national monthly participation rates in each of the sports included in the strategy have been recorded in six of the *'Active People'* surveys to date and the results are tabulated below, together with the percentage change in the period between 2007 and 2013:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>2007/8</i>	<i>2008/9</i>	<i>2009/10</i>	<i>2010/11</i>	<i>2011/12</i>	<i>2012/13</i>	<i>% Change</i>
Football	7.58%	7.44%	7.33%	7.42%	7.16%	6.68%	-0.90%
Cricket	1.01%	1.02%	0.81%	0.95%	0.80%	0.79%	-0.22%
Rugby	0.76%	0.74%	0.66%	0.65%	0.62%	0.53%	-0.23%
Hockey	0.38%	0.37%	0.34%	0.28%	0.39%	0.34%	-0.04%
Athletics	6.07%	6.39%	6.56%	6.45%	6.92%	6.53%	+0.46%
Bowls	1.07%	1.01%	0.91%	0.72%	0.74%	0.75%	-0.32%
Tennis	2.27%	2.36%	1.98%	1.64%	1.82%	1.76%	-0.51%
Netball	0.45%	0.46%	0.48%	0.47%	0.51%	0.49%	+0.04%

9.5.3 Sports development impact

The following sports development initiatives will influence patterns of demand for pitches and outdoor sports facilities in the period until 2021:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Sports development initiative</i>	<i>Impact on demand</i>
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just Play - The programme offers a new, fresh, fun and informal way to play football on a regular basis in an organised environment. Just Play is aimed at participants who want to play football without committing to a club or a more formal football set up, with the focus on casual play and activity. • Football Mash Up clubs - Football Mash Up aims to increase participation for young people that are not currently participating regularly in football supporting to improve their self esteem, social skills, physical and football skills and to impact positively on their lifelong participation in football. • Team 16, 19 and 23 - These programmes are aimed respectively at the 12-16, 16-19 and 19-23 age groups and involve intra-mural football at schools, colleges and universities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The informality of the Just Play and Football Mash Up programmes emphasises casual play, often involving facilities other than grass pitches (including small-sided synthetic turf pitches, multi-use games areas and sports halls). • The programmes based around education institutions will inflate demand for pitches on school, college and university sites, which may limit their availability for external community users.
Cricket	<p>Last Man Stands is a quick, 8-a-side, 20 over version of cricket played on small-sided pitches, often with an artificial wicket. The model is based on franchises sold to committed individuals who will drive leagues locally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist Last Man Stands pitches may be needed, possibly on cricket outfielders although the game is sometimes played under floodlights on synthetic turf pitches.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touch Rugby - A national network of 'Touchbase' sites will provide opportunities for people to play Touch Rugby on a casual pay and play basis, initially on a franchise model. • Players in transition - The aim is to link players from education into club rugby. Clubs will seek to broaden their offer and build stronger channels from schools, colleges and universities into the club network. • Schools - The aim is to increase the number of state secondary schools offering regular competitive rugby for 14-16 year olds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touch Rugby can be played in a variety of settings other than on grass rugby pitches, so it may have no impact on traditional pitch demand. • The emphasis on links with schools may involve schools playing fixtures on club pitches where facilities don't exist within the schools themselves, further pressuring pitch capacity.
Hockey	<p>Back to Hockey - Back to Hockey is a gentle introduction or reintroduction for women to hockey. The emphasis is on fun, fitness and friendship within a sociable team environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional team formation will increase demand for access to synthetic turf pitches.

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Sports development initiative</i>	<i>Impact on demand</i>
Hockey	Rush Hockey - is a five-a-side fun version of the game, aimed at people who love the Rush of a team sport but do not have the time to commit to one. The emphasis of Rush Hockey is on enabling people to play wherever and whenever they wish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional hockey activity will increase demand for access to synthetic turf pitches.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run England 3-2-1 provides a range of marked out running or jogging routes that anyone can have a go at. It's a way of providing a meaningful challenge to help more people to get running when it best suits them. • Sportshall, Quadkids and Super8 are youth competition models aimed at key stage 3 and 4 young people (14+). • Youth Development League is a nationwide competition aimed at young people aged 14-20 to boost participation and retention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run England makes use of informal facilities like paths in parks, therefore will not impact directly on demand for formal athletics tracks. • The programmes for KS3 and 4 involve sports halls or grass pitches rather than formal athletics tracks. • The additional young athlete's competition will increase demand for access to tracks.
Bowls	Bowls has no sports development initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No anticipated impact on demand.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks - maximising the use of park sites to increase regular participation through the development of local authority and partnerships with other providers. This will include helping park sites to promote tennis and ensuring they offer an appealing mix of youth and adult programmes. • Clubs- driving participation in clubs by supporting 'traditional' clubs to keep more people playing tennis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennis activity on parks and club sites will increase, although there is some spare capacity to accommodate such usage.
Netball	Back to Netball - A gentle re-introduction to netball for women aged 16+ over a 10-12 week period. Emphasis is on learning new skills and having fun playing netball with friends. Caters for all abilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be some demand for additional court time for running the programme.

The implications for the pitch and outdoor sports in Waveney are as follows:

- The governing bodies of the sports included in the strategy have some ambitious targets to increase participation, but it is significant that where adult participation is concerned, most are aiming merely to sustain current levels rather than anticipating an increase.
- Examination of national participation data over the period 2006 to 2013 puts the ambition of many of the targets into context, with six of the eight sports experiencing significant declines in adult participation over that period.

- In line with Sport England's national objectives, a number of sports are targeting participation increases amongst 14 - 25 year olds and have specific development plans in Waveney district to address this. It seems likely, therefore, that some additional demand for pitches and outdoor sports facilities will arise from this.
- Many of the sports development initiatives involve innovative ways of promoting the sports concerned, often in non-traditional settings, so demand for formal facilities like grass pitches may be less affected than provision like sports halls and multi-use games areas.

9.6 Site-specific impact on demand

The anticipated impacts on demand of developments at particular sites in Waveney are as follows. In particular, the continued relevance of each of the Site Specific Allocations for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities is evaluated, along with the specific role that each might play in meeting the existing and future needs identified by the current study:

9.6.1 Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville

Policy LOW11 in the adopted '*Site Specific Allocations*' (2011) document relates to Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville, a 32.3ha site that is allocated for playing pitch and outdoor sports facility developments. Potential provision at the site is examined in greater detail in the subsequent chapter, but the creation of a cluster of good quality pitches and outdoor sports facilities will cater for a substantial amount of current and future demand.

9.6.2 Gunton Park, Lowestoft

Policy LOW7 in the '*Site Specific Allocations*' document relates to Gunton Park. The site covers 4.0ha and has been allocated for 60 dwellings, but will require the rugby pitches used by Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club and a cricket pitch used by several local cricket clubs, to be replaced. The document states that 'this site is only being progressed as an allocation for housing on the strict condition that an open space, of a greater size and quality is provided in the form of playing pitches for Rugby in another, at least equally accessible, location. Profits from the sale of the land for housing should contribute towards funding this improved facility, but housing development should not take place on the site until an alternative location for playing pitches has been agreed and delivered'.

It is still appropriate to retain the Site Specific Allocation because the Club is still keen to relocate to a larger site. If the pitches at Gunton Park are lost, the replacement facilities should also make provision to address the existing deficit of 2.5 rugby pitches in the Lowestoft North sub-area.

9.6.3 Laurel Farm, Kessingland

Policy LOW10 in the '*Site Specific Allocations*' document relates to Laurel Farm in Kessingland. The site is a flat, open area of 2.76ha of farmland on the northern boundary of Kessingland, bordered by existing playing fields to the east and housing to the west and south which are managed by Kessingland Sports & Social Centre. It could therefore act as an extension to the existing site, potentially with shared access and use of built facilities. Because of the physical separation of Kessingland from neighbouring areas by the A12 by-pass, additional pitch provision would help to meet the needs of a population of more than 4,000 people.

The existing changing facilities at Kessingland Sports and Social Centre would need to be improved and extended to accommodate the additional use.

Existing playing pitch provision in Kessingland comprises an adult football pitch at the Kessingland Community Centre (with space to accommodate at least one further pitch subject to local demand), the bowls green at the Avenue and a disused tennis court at the Community Centre that it would also be feasible to reinstate to accommodate additional needs.

9.6.4 Dairy Hill Playing Fields, Halesworth

Policy HAL3 in the *'Site Specific Allocations'* document relates to the Halesworth Playing Fields site, that is the home base for Halesworth Football Club. It is a key sports hub in Halesworth, forms part of a larger site which incorporates the tennis and bowls clubs and has been allocated for 50 dwellings plus allotments.

The document notes that 'there has been a long standing need to enhance sports provision in Halesworth and the playing fields at Dairy Hill cannot meet the needs of local sports teams'.

In 2009, Suffolk County Council closed Halesworth Middle School, as part of a move to a two-tier education system. The local community subsequently set up an action group and subsequently a limited company to develop the site as The Halesworth Campus, with a view to establishing it as a community facility including sports pitches. This will eventually provide enhanced facilities to ensure that there is a net gain in provision, compared with the current facilities at Dairy Hill Playing Fields and the former Halesworth Middle School as follows:

Facilities	Existing provision Dairy Hill	Existing provision Halesworth Middle Sch.	Proposed provision Halesworth Campus
Adult football pitch	1 pitch	No provision	Minimum 1 pitch
Youth football pitch	1 pitch	2 pitches	Minimum 2 pitches
Mini-soccer pitch	1 pitch	No provision	Minimum 1 pitch
Cricket pitch	No provision	No provision	1 cricket square with nets
Rugby pitch	No provision	No provision	Minimum 1 adult, 1 mini pitch
Synthetic turf pitch	No provision	No provision	1 floodlit '3G' pitch
Athletics training	No provision	No provision	Athletics training facility
Tennis courts	2 courts	3 courts	3 courts (retained)
Bowling green	1 green	No provision	No provision (retain facility at Dairy Hill)
Grass cycling track	No provision	No provision	Grass cycling track
Ancillary facilities	Changing rooms 3 clubhouses Car parking	Changing rooms Car parking	Changing facilities Clubhouse(s) Car parking

There is no fixed timescale for the development at present, although no provision will be lost at Dairy Hill before the new facilities are available at Halesworth Campus.

Based upon the assessment of needs in this study, the proposed provision might usefully be prioritised as follows:

- **Adult football pitch** - Since this would be a direct replacement for the pitch at Dairy Hill, its provision at the Halesworth Campus would be part of any planning consent for the development of the Dairy Hill site. It would also be reasonable for such provision to be funded by the developer.
- **Youth football pitches** - One pitch would be a direct replacement for the pitch at Dairy Hill and as with the other existing pitches, its provision at the Halesworth Campus would be part of any planning consent for the development of the Dairy Hill site. It would also be reasonable for such provision to be funded by the developer. The second pitch could usefully supplement or replace the poor quality pitch with no changing provision at the Basley Playing Field and would help to meet the additional demand for age group football from Halesworth Football Club.
- **Mini-soccer pitch** - Since this would be a direct replacement for the pitch at Dairy Hill, its provision at the Halesworth Campus would be part of any planning consent for the development of the Dairy Hill site. It would also be reasonable for such provision to be funded by the developer.
- **Cricket pitch with nets** - Although there is no sub-area deficit in cricket provision in Halesworth, the only pitch is in Rumburgh, there is no pitch in the town itself. However, there is also no expressed demand for cricket, so this element can be regarded as a lower priority.
- **Adult and mini-rugby pitches** - Similarly to cricket, there is no expressed demand for rugby in Halesworth at present.
- **Synthetic turf pitch** - Based upon the FA's calculations, there is a case for 0.3 of a '3G' pitch in Halesworth for football use.
- **Athletics training facility** - There is no expressed demand for track and field athletics in Halesworth at present and it is envisaged that the proposed athletics training facility at the Oakes Farm site south of Lowestoft will meet districtwide needs.
- **Tennis courts** - Retaining the three courts at the Halesworth Campus would compensate for the loss of the existing two courts at Dairy Hill, where the changing facilities are also rated as below average quality.
- **Bowls green** - Retaining the Halesworth Angel Bowls Club green at Dairy Hill is sensible because it is rated as 'High Quality'.
- **Grass cycling track** - This would supplement the proposed tarmac track at Oakes Farm, which it is envisaged will meet districtwide needs.
- **Ancillary facilities** - Centralising clubhouse, changing and car parking provision at a single site will enable facilities to be shared and managed more easily.

9.6.5 Land at Wangford Road, Reydon

The site covers 2.78 hectares to the west and south of the existing playing fields at the former Reydon High School Site. The *'Site Specific Allocations'* document notes that 'provision of additional playing fields in this location would assist in meeting additional demand, particularly for football'.

There is no identified shortfall for football pitches in the Southwold and Reydon sub-area at present, although mini-soccer supply and demand is exactly balanced, but the provision of additional pitches will allow Sole Bay United FC to expand its team numbers. The existing poor quality changing facilities at the former Reydon High School Site could be improved and expanded as part of a consolidated site operation.

9.6.6 Jeld Wen Playing Field

The loss of the Jeld Wen playing field in 2014 will lead to the loss of one adult football, two youth football and one mini-soccer pitch, used by youth and mini-soccer teams from Swanton Herons Girls FC. The pitches will be replaced at a site nearby, so there will be no net loss of provision and there will be an opportunity to provide improved changing facilities at the new site.

9.6.7 Lowestoft Town Football Club

Lowestoft Town Football Club has aspirations to relocate from its current ground at Crown Meadow in central Lowestoft, because of the limited potential to expand provision in its current location. However, the Suffolk FA has reservations about any move to an out-of-town site.

9.7 *The effects of changes in supply*

9.7.1 Use of '3G' pitches for competitive football

The Football Association has recently changed the standard code of rules so that local leagues are no longer allowed to refuse the use of '3G' pitches for competitive play, provided they meet the required performance standards. Previously, the decision on whether the use of such surfaces was permissible was delegated to local leagues, which led to a host of inconsistencies. However, all '3G' pitches on the FA Register can now be used for match play for all leagues at 'Level 7' (county leagues) in the national league structure and below, as well as FA cup competitions.

The impact of this change in Waveney may be limited in the immediate term, but it is likely to increase pressure for the provision of further '3G' pitches to supplement the existing full-sized facility at Barnards Centre Point, the proposed full-sized facility at Kirkley and Pakefield CSSC and the small-sided pitches at Kirkley and Pakefield CSSC and Ormiston Denes Academy. The FA applies an informal standard that every football team in a locality should have one hour of access per week to a '3G' pitch, creating a requirement for one '3G' pitch per 55 teams. On that basis, there is a current need for just under three '3G' pitches in the district.

In the longer term, the increased use of '3G' pitches for football will ease the pressure on natural turf pitches, particularly reducing the impact of fixture postponements due to weather-related problems with grass pitches. Given the current distribution of facilities, such provision would best be located in the Beccles, Halesworth and Southwold and Reydon sub-areas.

9.7.2 Maintenance of 'Fine Turf' pitches

The maintenance of 'fine turf' facilities (principally cricket wickets and bowling greens) has been increasingly problematic in recent times, as a result of a variety of factors including the impact of changing weather patterns on grass growth and wear, escalating labour costs and reduced public sector maintenance budgets.

The effect has been for the quality of playing surfaces to suffer and in some instances has contributed to the discontinuation of use of some cricket squares.

Poor quality playing surfaces will both reduce the usage capacity of facilities and have a negative impact on the playing experience which may harm participant recruitment and retention.

9.7.3 School governance

Recent changes in the governance of schools, in particular the creation of Academies and Free Schools which are independent of local authority control, have complicated the picture with regard to community access to school sports facilities. When all schools were administered by Suffolk County Council, it was easier to ensure that a blanket policy in favour of community use could be assumed when approaching schools for access to their facilities. Now that decisions on access are taken by individual school governing bodies, the extent of dual use is much more piecemeal and in some instances less secure than hitherto. Full details of the current community use of schools' facilities are contained in section 7.4 of this document.

9.8 Summary of the evaluation of future supply and demand

Analysis of the factors influencing the future supply and demand of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities in Waveney, leads to the following conclusions in relation to the factors to apply to inform projections to 2021:

- **Population change** - Whilst there will be an overall rise of 5.3% in the district population, demographic change means that increases in the younger and older age groups will be partially offset by a reduction in numbers in the age groups playing adult sports. This implies that in terms of population growth, demand for youth, junior and mini versions of the pitch sports will rise by between 2.3% and 12.9%, whilst the adult age group demand (with the exception of Bowls) will fall by between 2.6% and 3.9% on the same basis.
- **Participation trends** - According to Sport England's 'Active People' survey, participation in six of the eight sports feature in the strategy has fallen in the period since 2006, in some cases by quite significant margins. This means that future increases in adult participation cannot be assumed based upon historic trends, but sports development initiatives targeted at 14 to 25 years olds are likely to inflate demand for pitches and outdoor sports facilities.
- **Sports development initiatives** - Many of the development programmes proposed by the governing bodies of sport include some ambitious participation targets, but in view of the longer term trends, it would be sensible to assume that most gains made through these initiatives will primarily offset the underlying trend of falling participation rates.

- **Changes in supply** - There are several site allocations that could involve gains and losses in playing pitches, a number of which involve key local clubs such as Halesworth FC and Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club. Whilst the loss of any existing facilities will not be permitted unless and until replacement provision has been made, there may be difficulties in identifying suitable alternative sites.

9.9 Projected future needs

Projected future needs are calculated below, based upon the factors analysed above and the respective methodologies for playing pitches and the other forms of outdoor sports facilities.

9.9.1 Future playing pitch needs

Future demand is modelled below using ‘Team Generation Rates’, which identify how many people in a specified age group in the district are needed to generate one team. These are then applied to projected increases in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Population 2013</i>	<i>Teams 2013</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2021</i>	<i>Teams 2021</i>	<i>Change in teams</i>
Adult male football	17-45	18,200	89	1:204	18,000	88	-1
Adult female football	17-45	18,100	4	1:4,525	17,300	4	No change
Boys youth football	10-16	4,450	81	1:55	4,600	84	+3
Girls youth football	10-16	4,350	10	1:435	4,450	10	No change
Mini-soccer (mixed)	6-9	4,700	54	1:87	5,300	61	+7
Adult male cricket	16-55	26,500	38	1:697	26,000	37	-1
Adult female cricket	16-55	26,800	1	1:26,800	25,700	1	No change
Boys junior cricket	10-15	3,750	20	1:188	3,950	21	+1
Girls junior cricket	10-15	3,600	0	-	3,850	0	No change
Adult male rugby	19-45	16,800	5	1:3,360	16,800	5	No change
Adult female rugby	19-45	16,750	2	1:8,375	16,000	2	No change
Boys junior rugby	13-18	4,150	19	1:218	3,800	17	-2
Girls junior rugby	13-18	3,900	4	1:975	3,700	4	No change
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	7,200	15	1:480	7,900	16	+1
Adult male hockey	18-45	17,500	3	1:5,833	17,400	3	No change
Adult female hockey	18-45	17,400	5	1:3,480	16,700	5	No change
Boys junior hockey	8-17	6,400	0	-	6,550	0	No change
Girls junior hockey	8-17	6,200	2	1:3,100	6,400	2	No change

9.9.2 Future outdoor sports facility needs

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Population 2013</i>	<i>Facilities 2013</i>	<i>Population 2021</i>	<i>Facility needs 2021</i>	<i>Change in facilities</i>
Athletics tracks	1:250,000	116,400	0	121,400	0	No change
Bowling greens	1:5,500	116,400	21	121,400	22	+1
Tennis courts	1:2,500	116,400	44	121,400	48	+4
Netball courts	1:10,000	116,400	11	121,400	12	+1

9.10 Summary of future needs

On the basis of an analysis of the future balance between supply and demand of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities in Waveney, the following needs have been identified:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Facilities provided in 2013</i>	<i>Facilities needed in 2013</i>	<i>Extra facilities needed in 2021</i>	<i>Total facilities needed in 2021</i>
Adult football pitches	40	38	0	38
Youth football pitches	23	29	2	31
Mini-soccer pitches	19	20	7	27
Cricket wickets	84	102	0	102
Rugby pitches	9	14	1	15
Synthetic turf pitches	2 (2)*	4 (5)*	0	4 (5)*
Athletics training facility	0	1	0	1
Bowling greens	21	21	1	22
Tennis courts	44	46	2	48
Netball courts	11	11	1	12

* Small-sided pitches in brackets.

10 OAKES FARM

10.1 Introduction

This section examines the identified current and future needs for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities that could be met at the Oakes Farm site in Carlton Colville.

10.2 Planning context

Waveney District Council's Core Strategy *'The Approach to Future Development in Waveney 2021'* (2009) identified the need for a range of additional sports facilities in the district.

The adopted *'Site Specific Allocations'* (2011) document identifies sites in Waveney which are suitable for future development including allocations for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities. Policy LOW11 relates to Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville.

The document notes that:

- 'The Core Strategy (Policy CS14) identifies the main sports facility deficiencies in the Lowestoft area. These include football, cricket, athletics, tennis and rugby'.
- '32.3ha of Oakes Farm, in Carlton Colville has been allocated to meet these needs on one site and provide a community sporting centre of excellence'.
- 'The deficiency in Rugby facilities relates to the needs identified by the Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club and this site may provide an opportunity for the Club to relocate through enabling housing development on part of its existing site (LOW7)'.

10.3 The Oakes Farm site

Oakes Farm is a large area of arable farmland stretching from the western boundary of Carlton Colville along the southern edge of the A146. Mature hedges and trees cut across the site dividing it into large fields. A public footpath runs from Hedley Lane to Wood Lane through the site and there is an area of protected ancient woodland on the site. The main part of the site is relatively flat, although the land begins to undulate very gently towards the western edge. There are a few residential properties located on Hedley Lane and Beccles Road that directly abut the boundaries of the site.

The main settlement of Carlton Colville is situated to the east, allowing good access from the settlement itself and reasonable access from other residential areas of Lowestoft. The site is accessible by a range of modes of transport. Although the designation as a sports hub will involve some new buildings, the *'Site Specific Allocations'* document anticipates that 'the proposed development would mainly consist of sports pitches, and this use would maintain the open nature of the countryside, keeping the impact on the landscape to a minimum'.

10.4 Site constraints

The following factors will constrain the use of the site and need to be taken into account in the scale, content and layout of any sports facilities proposed for Oakes Farm:

10.4.1 Carlton Colville/Barnby Bypass

The protected route of the Carlton Colville/Barnby Bypass runs through the site. It is currently uncertain whether the new road will be constructed due to a lack of funding for transport schemes. However, it will be important to ensure that the Bypass corridor is protected for the longer term preventing new buildings along its route.

10.4.2 Public Right of Way

Development of the site provides the opportunity to create better linkages between existing cycle routes and extend the National Cycle Network west from Castleton Avenue through the site to Wood Lane. This route should follow a direct line across the site, alongside the route of the bypass should this be built. A public right of way runs through the site from Hedley Lane and must be retained.

10.4.3 County Wildlife Site

The site is intensively farmed but there is a small area of Ancient Woodland (Carlton Grove) located on the site, which is a County Wildlife Site designated for its floristic value. Although the habitat is highly fragmented a bat survey at an appropriate time of year will be required if flood lighting is proposed. Field boundaries, ditches and vegetation should be retained to protect wildlife corridors and hedgerow links improved with additional planting where appropriate.

10.4.4 Landscape Character Assessment

The Landscape Character Assessment (2008) recommended that development associated with the growth of settlements such as Lowestoft should be sensitive to the wider rural character of the area, conserve views and avoid over exposed or lit settlement edges by using existing landform and field boundary vegetation to integrate development. The relatively flat nature of most of the site would seem to be well suited to sports pitches. The boundary planting of trees and hedgerows will need to be retained and reinforced to prevent the development being exposed in the landscape. Buildings and lighting should therefore be designed to minimise this impact, with additional landscaping introduced where necessary.

10.4.5 Flood Risk Assessment

Given the size of the site and subject to the extent of buildings and hard standing, a Flood Risk Assessment will be required to provide details of how surface water will be managed.

10.4.6 Archaeological Assessment

The County Archaeologist requires that an archaeological assessment of the site be undertaken, prior to any building works commencing.

10.5 Consultation

Consultation with potential users of the site has indicated the following:

10.5.1 Lowestoft Town Football Club

Lowestoft Town Football Club is keen to relocate from its current ground at Crown Meadow in central Lowestoft, because of the limited potential to expand provision in its current location. The current facilities comprise a single adult pitch within an enclosed ground which includes a 466 seat covered stand and standing areas around the pitch periphery.

The club plays in the Ryman League Premier Division, which is a regional league covering London and South-east England featuring semi-professional and amateur clubs. It is part of the sixth level of the national league system and as such must fulfil the following key minimum facility requirements at its home ground:

- Security of tenure involving the freehold or leasehold of the site.
- A minimum spectator capacity of 1,950, of which at least 500 should be under cover and 250 seated.
- The ground must be fully enclosed by a permanent solid barrier at least 6 feet in height.
- A clubhouse must be provided adjacent to the pitch, including changing facilities for players and match officials and a medical room.
- The pitch must be floodlit to a minimum of 120lux.
- Adequate car parking must be provided.

If the club was to move to Oakes Farm, therefore, it would need to meet these requirements, but it may also have aspirations to play in the leagues above, in which case spectator provision of 3,000 to 4,000 people is a prerequisite.

The club would achieve a capital receipt from the sale of its existing ground and would therefore be in a position to contribute towards the costs of new facilities. However, this will need to be balanced with planning policy relating to the intensity of use of the site and the amount of building in an essentially rural setting.

10.5.2 Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club

Despite the potential need to relocate from its facilities at Gunton Park, (with the site designated for residential development subject to the sports users being appropriately relocated) Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club has expressed reluctance in moving to a site south of the river, given that it draws a significant proportion of its membership from Great Yarmouth, to the north of Lowestoft. This view has been endorsed by the Rugby Football Union, who believe that provision at this site would compete with existing facilities in Beccles and Southwold.

The club currently operates three adult, nine youth and six mini-rugby teams, which means that the three existing pitches are being used to over-capacity. An alternative site will be required but Oakes Farm would be geographically unsuited to the clubs needs.

10.5.3 Cycling

Representatives of the Bungay Cycling School and Sustrans expressed an interest in the following facilities at Oakes Farm:

- A grass track with a minimum circuit of 250m.
- A preferred alternative to the above would be an outdoor banked concrete velodrome, with a minimum circuit of 250m.
- A closed road circuit for cycle racing and training (the site could accommodate a 3km circuit around the boundary of the site) which would also meet the needs of runners.

BMX Racing East Anglia has expressed an interest in developing a BMX course in the woodland in the north part of the site.

10.5.4 Waveney Valley Athletics Club

The Club is keen to secure an athletics track in the district and there would be space either for a 400m track or for a small specialist athletics training facility at Oakes Farm. However, the lack of support from the governing body of athletics for a full-sized track would make it difficult to secure funding for a full-sized track. Given the success of the 150m, four-lane 'J' track with full field events facilities in Diss, provision of a training facility of this nature would provide for the track and field training needs of the club.

10.6 Identified strategic needs

The following current and future deficiencies identified in this strategy could be physically accommodated at the Oakes Farm site:

- **Youth football pitches** - There is a current shortfall of 5.5 youth football pitches in the Lowestoft South sub-area, plus a projected further shortfall of 3.0 pitches in the district as a whole by 2021.
- **Mini-soccer pitches** - There is a current shortfall of 2.0 mini-soccer pitches in the Lowestoft South sub-area, plus a projected further shortfall of 7.0 pitches in the district as a whole by 2021.
- **Athletics training facility** - The provision of a 200m 'J' track specialist athletics training facility would meet current and future needs. It would also have the potential to be extended to a 400m track in the future subject to local demand.
- **Bowling green** - There is a projected shortfall of one bowling green in the district by 2021.
- **Tennis courts** - There is a current shortfall of 2 tennis courts in the district with the deficit concentrated in the Lowestoft South sub-area. There are no dedicated floodlit courts in either Lowestoft North or South. There is a projected shortfall of two further tennis courts in the district by 2021.

10.7 Recommended provision at Oakes Farm

10.7.1 Selection criteria

The playing pitch and outdoor sports facility provision recommended for the Oakes Farm site, was selected based upon:

- The planning context - what is it appropriate to accommodate on site.
- The physical context - what it is possible to accommodate based upon the size and configuration of the site.
- The demand context - the response of clubs and local organisations to the prospect of being based at, or using facilities at, the site.
- The need context - the current and future facility shortfalls identified by this document that could appropriately be met on the site.

10.7.2 Facilities to be included

The recommended facilities to be accommodated on site are tabulated below, along with their spatial requirements (including recommended 'run-offs' or safety margins):

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Number of facilities</i>	<i>Unit space requirement</i>	<i>Total space requirement</i>
Youth football pitches	9	0.75ha	6.75ha
Mini-soccer pitches	9	0.5ha	4.5ha
200m Athletics training facility	1	1.2ha	1.2ha
Bowling green	1	0.2ha	0.2ha
Floodlit tennis courts	4	0.1ha	0.4ha
3km road cycling circuit	1	3.0ha	3.0ha
Clubhouse/changing	1	0.2ha	0.2ha
Access road (200m)	1	0.2ha	0.2ha
Car parking (150 spaces)	1	1.0ha	1.0ha
Cycle path (site access)	1	0.5ha	0.5ha
Land for the Carlton Colville/Barnby by-pass	-	2.8ha	2.8ha
TOTAL	-	-	20.75ha

Priority developments, which will address existing as well as future needs, are the football pitches the athletics training facility and the tennis courts, with related clubhouse/changing facilities. These should form the first phase of the development.

The total land take for the recommended facilities is only just over 50% of the overall site area, but given the need to locate provision sensitively in relation to the planning constraints of the site, this should offer:

- An appropriate level of detailed design flexibility.
- Space for informal recreational use.

- Potential to accommodate other appropriate facilities on the site as additional needs emerge.

10.7.3 Facilities to be excluded

Meeting the needs of Lowestoft Town FC on the site is not recommended, largely because of the scale of facilities that the club would require to fulfill the ground requirements of a club of its status, particularly were the club to achieve promotion to the next tier in the national league structure. In addition, the ground would need to be secured and not available for community use, whereas the Oakes farm development is intended to provide for community needs.

The location of the site to the south of Lowestoft will not be appropriate for the needs of Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club, with a significant proportion of its membership being drawn from Great Yarmouth to the north of Waveney district.

10.8 Summary

The Oakes Farm site has the potential to meet many of the current and future playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities deficiencies identified in the strategy and is suitably located to address not only the sub-area needs of Lowestoft South, but also districtwide shortfalls such as athletics facilities. The total land take of the facilities proposed will be around 55% of the total site, which will offer some flexibility of layout and also potential for expansion of provision in the future.

11 PLANNING POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

11.1 Introduction

This section examines the considerations that Waveney District Council will take into account in refining playing pitch and outdoor planning policies in the study area.

11.2 Locally-derived standards of provision

The National Planning Policy Framework states that ‘planning policies should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. The information gained from this assessment of needs and opportunities should be used to set locally derived standards for the provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities’. The standards of provision proposed in the Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy are accordingly based upon a detailed assessment of local needs.

11.3 Protection of existing provision

Waveney District Council will resist the loss of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities, unless one of more of the following policy exceptions applies:

- A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated that there is an excess of facility provision in the catchment and that the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.
- The proposed development is ancillary to the principal use of the site as a playing field or outdoor sports facility and does not affect the quantity or quality of facilities or adversely affect their use.
- The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming a playing pitch or outdoor sports facility and does not result in:
 - The loss, or loss of use of, any facility (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins).
 - A reduction in the size of the playing area of any facility.
 - The loss of any other sports/ancillary facilities on site.
- The playing field or outdoor sports facility which would be lost as a result of the proposed development would be replaced by facilities of an equivalent or better quality, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of the development.
- The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of playing field or current outdoor facility.

11.4 'Surplus' provision

In some instances the playing pitch assessment methodology produces an apparent 'surplus' of provision. However, this should not automatically be interpreted as signifying that the 'surplus' can be disposed of because:

- An apparent 'surplus' in one type of pitch (for example adult football pitches) will often be required to compensate for shortfalls in other types of provision locally (for example youth football pitches).
- Playing pitch sites where formal sports use has recently been discontinued offer one option for accommodating additional future demand, by being reinstated.
- The wider open space functions of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities will be taken into account in assessing their overall contribution to the overall stock of local greenspace provision. The multi-function nature of many pitch sites in particular is such that they may be used for their primary function for only 1.5 hours per week but meet several other community needs as amenity greenspace for the remainder of the time.

Where developers do propose the loss of any playing pitches or outdoor sports facilities, this will only be considered if at least one of the following conditions can be met:

- A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the council that there is an excess of facility provision in the catchment and that the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.
- The proposed development must be ancillary to the principal use of the site as a sports ground and must not affect the quantity or quality of facilities or adversely affect their use.
- The proposed development must affect only land incapable of forming a sports pitch, outdoor sports facility and/or ancillary provision.
- The sports provision which would be lost as a result of the proposed development must be replaced by facilities of an equivalent or better quality, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of the development.
- The proposed development must be for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of the sports pitch.

11.5 Provision relating to new developments

In May 2013, Waveney District Council published its policies in relation to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

CIL is a new standard charge which local authorities in England and Wales can charge on most types of new development in their area. CIL charges will be based on the size, type and location of the development proposed. The money raised will be used to pay for infrastructure required to support development in a district. The CIL will largely replace the existing system of Section 106 Planning Obligations for the provision of infrastructure.

CIL will be spent on infrastructure such as open space, school places, cycle and pedestrian routes, strategic transport infrastructure and community facilities that are necessary to support development planned in the Council's Local Plan.

Since August 1st 2013, the Council has been charging developers the CIL, based upon its published 'Regulation 123 List' (May 2013), which details the types of infrastructure for which CIL contributions will be levied and this includes 'leisure and community facilities'. The Council will therefore seek to secure funding for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities that will meet the needs of the inhabitants of new developments in the district.

11.6 Regular review

Because the assessment of the adequacy of playing pitch provision is based upon an aggregation of site-specific supply and demand factors which change from year to year, the strategy will be regularly reviewed to ensure that the information upon which it is based remains current.

11.7 Summary

The planning policy considerations will inform local planning policy on playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities, which will in turn protect existing provision and define the basis for achieving additional facilities to meet identified needs.

12 ACTION PLAN

12.1 Introduction

This section comprises an action plan for meeting the deficiencies identified in this assessment. It examines the options for meeting the shortfalls, the delivery partners and an action plan that specifies what needs to be provided and where and proposes how best this might be achieved.

12.2 Dealing with deficiencies

12.2.1 New provision

Providing entirely new pitches and outdoor sports facilities may be the only means of securing additional provision in the right location. This can be achieved by:

- Identifying entirely new sites for provision in appropriate locations, for example Oakes Farm.
- Extending existing provision where feasible, for example the site allocations at Laurel Farm Kessingland, adjacent to the Kessingland Sports and Social Centre and Wangford Road Reydon, alongside the former Reydon High School site.
- Disposing of existing facilities to reinvest the capital receipt in new provision of at least equivalent quantity, quality and accessibility, as proposed at Dairy Hill, Halesworth.
- Incorporating facilities and open space into new community provision and housing developments.

12.2.2 Upgrading and refurbishing

Upgrading and refurbishing existing pitches and outdoors sport facilities would help to meet some of the qualitative deficiencies identified:

- The provision of floodlights for some pitches and outdoor sports facilities would extend the period in which they can be used.
- Drainage improvements to grass pitches enables them to accommodate more play, with fewer postponed fixtures.
- Changing facilities are poor or absent at some pitch sites in the district and improvements would significantly enhance the experience of users.

12.2.3 Enhanced access

Developing new access to pitches and outdoor sports facilities on education sites and securing community use at sites where access is only informal at present would significantly improve the availability of provision:

- Whilst overall 84% of pitches in Waveney have secured community access, 30% of youth football and 21% of mini-soccer pitches are on school sites, where access could theoretically be rescinded. Securing improved access through the development of formal agreements serves to safeguard community use of school pitches and outdoor sports facilities. In some cases, this may provide sufficient security of tenure to allow external funding applications to be sought, to provide further enhancements.
- 13 adult football, 10 youth football, 35 mini-soccer, four cricket and three rugby pitches in Waveney are on school sites with no external community use at present.

12.2.4 Reinstating former facilities

Reinstating pitches and outdoor sports facilities where usage has, for a variety of reasons, been discontinued in recent times, affords a straightforward response to increased local demand:

- Several closed former school sites in Waveney have had their pitches and reinstated for community use, in particular Lothingland Middle School and Reydon High School.
- The use of five adult football, five youth football, one mini-soccer, four cricket and one rugby pitch in the district has been discontinued in the past three years and all have the potential to be reinstated subject to demand.

12.3 Delivery partners

A wide range of organisations will have a role in implementing the Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy. The type of roles are summarised below.

12.3.1 Waveney District Council

The council is likely to play the lead role in co-ordinating the development of the larger, more strategic pitch and sports facility sites, such as the proposed Oakes Farm development, in conjunction with other partners where appropriate.

12.3.2 Parish Councils

Parish councils will continue to play a valuable role in providing and maintaining pitches and outdoor sports facilities in the rural parts of the district.

12.3.3 Schools and colleges

Many schools in Waveney district already provide pitches and outdoor sports facilities from which local communities benefit and there may be further opportunities to extend and formalise community access to a range of provision on school sites.

12.3.4 Sports clubs

Local sports clubs are significant providers of pitches and outdoor sports facilities and will continue to do so. Some clubs may be interested in taking on delegated management responsibilities for pitch and changing facilities maintenance from the district or parish councils.

12.3.5 Developers

Since August 1st 2013, the Council has been charging developers the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), based upon its published 'Regulation 123 List' (May 2013) and this includes 'leisure and community facilities'. The Council can therefore seek funding for playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities to meet the needs of the inhabitants of new developments in the district.

12.3.6 Partnership arrangements

Partnership arrangements involving combinations of any of the above providers will help to share the costs of provision, management and maintenance of additional provision.

12.4 Action plan for meeting existing needs

The action plan identifies the ways in which current deficiencies might be met and the partners who will have a role in providing, funding and managing new and improved provision. The action plan is organised by sub-area, to assist local implementation:

12.4.1 Lowestoft North

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A local deficit of 1.5 pitches. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure new community access to adult football pitches on school sites in Lowestoft North. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Blundeston Playing Fields. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Normanston Park. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deficit of 3.0 pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure community access to youth football pitches at Dell Primary School and Harbour School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 8 wickets. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate reinstating pitches at Corton Playing Field.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 2.5 pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Lowestoft and Yarmouth RUFC to relocate to a larger site in the Lowestoft North sub-area.

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.67 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a small-sided '3G' pitch at a school site in Lowestoft North.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Disabled access needs improving at three sites. • Parking/general access needs improving at three sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support clubs with funding applications for disabled access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blundeston Bowls Club - Lound Bowls Club - Waveney Bowls Club • Support owners with funding applications for parking/general access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corton BC - Lound BC - Waveney BC.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Court surfaces need improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at two sites. • Access improvements needed at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support facility owners with external funding applications for court surface improvements at Blundeston tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blundeston tennis courts - Normanston Park tennis courts • Support facility owners with external funding applications for improved access at Normanston Park.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No local deficit, but limited spare capacity for development programmes. • No qualitative deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<p>Encourage the development of school-club links at school with courts with no community use at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ormiston Denes Academy • Lowestoft College

12.4.2 Lowestoft South

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Pontins, Pakefield. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Pontins, Pakefield. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.

Pitch/facility	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deficit of 3.0 pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure community access to youth football pitches on school sites at Pakefield School and Carlton Colville Primary School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 1.0 pitch. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure new community access to mini-soccer pitch on school site at Carlton Colville School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate reinstating pitches at Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC to meet wider than sub-area needs.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.93 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Kirkley & Pakefield CSSC with funding applications to provide a full-sized '3G' pitch.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • 50,000 people outside the drivetime catchment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a 200m 'J' track athletics training facility at Oakes Farm, capable of being extended to 400m in the future subject to demand.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sub-area deficit of 2 courts. • Court surfaces need improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at two sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 2 floodlit courts as part of the Oakes Farm development. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for court surface improvements at Kensington Gardens. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kensington Gardens tennis courts. - Nicholas Everitt Park tennis courts.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No local deficit, but limited spare capacity for development programmes. • No qualitative deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the development of school-club links at school with courts with no community use at Pakefield School.

12.4.3 Beccles

Pitch/facility	Current assessed deficiency	Action plan for meeting deficiency
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Shadingfield Sports Ground. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deficit of 0.5 pitches. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure community access to youth football pitch at Worlingham Primary School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 7 wickets. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate reinstating pitch at Beccles Sports Centre. • Support owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Ringsfield Playing Field.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 0.5 pitches. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Beccles RUFC with improving pitch quality at College Meadow to address capacity issues.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 1 sand-filled pitch. • No quality deficiency. • Accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a full-sized sand-filled pitch in Beccles to meet football and hockey needs.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 1 sand-filled pitch. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a full-sized sand-filled pitch in Beccles to meet football and hockey needs.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Disabled access needs improving at three sites. • Parking/general access needs improving at three sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support clubs with funding applications for disabled access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beccles Caxton Bowls Club - Beccles Town Bowls Club - Brampton & District Bowls Club • Support owners with funding applications for parking/general access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beccles Caxton Bowls Club - Beccles Institute Bowls Club - Beccles Town Bowls Club

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Court surfaces need improving at one site. • Fencing needs improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • Access improvements needed at two sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support facility owners with external funding applications for court surface improvements at Ringsfield tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for fencing improvements at Ringsfield tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Ringsfield tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beccles Tennis Club - Ringsfield tennis courts.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

12.4.4 Bungay

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 8 wickets. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate access to pitches at Bungay High School. • Develop Community Use Agreement with Bungay High School.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.41 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a small-sided '3G' pitch at the Bungay & District Sports Assoc.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiency. • Limited access to indoor facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Bungay Black Dog RC to secure additional access to indoor facilities at Bungay Sports Centre.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Disabled access needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support club with funding applications for disabled access improvements at Bungay Town Bowls Club.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

12.4.5 Halesworth

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. • Support Halesworth Campus with external funding applications to reinstate former pitches. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Basley Playing Field. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 1.0 pitch. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. • Create mini-soccer pitch at the Halesworth Campus. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 8 wickets. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. • Investigate any local latent demand for a cricket pitch at the Halesworth Campus.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Halesworth Campus with external funding applications to create rugby pitches for Southwold RUFC.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.30 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a small-sided '3G' pitch at the Halesworth Campus, with a surface suitable for rugby usage (by Southwold RFC's Colts/Youth teams) as well as football
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Halesworth Tennis Club.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

12.4.6 Southwold and Reydon

<i>Pitch/facility</i>	<i>Current assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Changing facilities need improving at two sites. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Old Reydon High School - Wrentham Playing Field. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.

Pitch/facility	• Current assessed deficiency	• Action plan for meeting deficiency
Youth football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Pitch quality needs improving at one site. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but need to secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for pitch improvements at Frostenden Recreation Ground. • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Old Reydon High School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Mini-soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Changing facilities need improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency but secure access to pitches on school sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support pitch owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Old Reydon High School. • Develop Community Use Agreements at all schools with unsecured community use.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 2 wickets. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the existing square on Southwold Common by 2 wickets.
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-area deficit of 2.5 pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Halesworth Campus with external funding applications to create pitches for Southwold RUFC. • Reinstate pitch at Reydon Recreation Ground.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deficit of 0.16 '3G' pitches. • No quality deficiency. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the provision of a small-sided '3G' pitch at the Halesworth Campus, with a surface suitable for rugby usage (by Southwold RFC's Colts/Youth teams) as well as football.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Parking/general access needs improving at one site. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support club with funding applications for disabled access improvements at Wrentham Bowls Club.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • Changing facilities improvements needed at one site. • Access improvements needed at three sites. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support facility owners with external funding applications for changing facilities improvements at Southwold Common tennis courts. • Support facility owners with external funding applications for access improvements at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Southwold & District Tennis Club - Southwold Common tennis courts - Wrentham Tennis Club
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sub-area deficit. • No quality deficiencies. • No accessibility deficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.

12.5 Action plan for meeting future needs

The action plan identifies the ways in which future deficiencies to 2021 might be met and the partners who will have a role in providing, funding and managing new and improved provision.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Adult football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional pitches required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Youth football pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 additional pitches and related changing facilities once the existing deficiency has been met. • All aspects of quality above average. • Within 15 minutes drive of new developments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 2 additional youth pitches and related changing facilities, within 15 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the pitches as part of the Oakes Farm development.
Mini-soccer pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 additional pitches and related changing facilities once the existing deficiency has been met. • All aspects of quality above average. • Within 15 minutes drive of new developments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 7 additional mini-soccer pitches and related changing facilities, within 15 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the pitches as part of the Oakes Farm development.
Cricket pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional pitches required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Rugby pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 additional pitch once the existing deficiency has been met. • All aspects of quality above average. • Within 15 minutes drive of new developments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 1 additional rugby pitch, within 15 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the pitches as part of the replacement facilities for Gunton Park.
Synthetic turf pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional facilities required once the existing deficit is met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Athletics tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional facilities required once the existing deficit is met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action required.
Bowling greens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 additional bowling green and related changing facility required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 1 additional bowling green and related changing facility, within 15 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the green as part of the Oakes Farm development.
Tennis courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 additional tennis courts and related changing facilities required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 2 additional tennis courts and related changing facilities, within 15 minutes drive of new developments in Lowestoft South. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Future assessed deficiency</i>	<i>Action plan for meeting deficiency</i>
Netball courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 additional netball court and related changing facility required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the provision of 1 additional netball court and related changing facility, within 20 minutes drive of new developments. Funds raised through developer contributions could be used to assist with the delivery of new facilities. • Provide the court on a school site in Lowestoft, with secured community use, to maximize use.

12.6 Provision for reviews

Because sport and physical activity is a rapidly changing environment, to ensure that the proposals in the strategy continue to address local needs and strategic priorities, the situation will be reviewed regularly. Assumptions about population growth will be tested regularly and projected requirements refined accordingly. There will therefore be annual reviews of progress towards action plan targets and a three-yearly review of the overall strategic approach.

APPENDIX 1
FACILITIES WITH COMMUNITY USE

1) **Lowestoft North sub-area:**

a) **Pitches:**

Site	Address	Pitches
Barnards Centre Point	Barnards Way, Lowestoft NR32 2HF	2 youth football 5 mini-soccer 1 synthetic turf
Benjamin Britten High School	Blyford Road, Lowestoft NR32 4PZ	2 adult football 2 youth football 2 mini-soccer
Blundeston Playing Fields	Hall Road, Blundeston, Lowestoft NR32 5BJ	1 adult football
Corton Playing Fields	The Street, Corton, Lowestoft NR32 5HW	2 adult football
Crown Meadow	Love Road, Crown Meadow, Lowestoft NR32 2PA	1 adult football
Denes Oval	Whapload Road, Lowestoft NR32 1XG	1 cricket
Dip Farm Playing Fields	Corton Road, Lowestoft NR32 4LD	4 adult football
Foxborough Middle School	Foxborough Road, Lowestoft NR32 4SW	1 adult football 1 youth football
Gunton Park	Corton Long Lane, Lowestoft NR32 5HE	1 cricket 3 rugby
Lothingland Middle School	Church Lane, Lound, Lowestoft NR32 5LL	2 youth football 2 mini-soccer
Normanston Park	Peto Way, Lowestoft NR32 2ED	4 adult football 2 cricket
Ormiston Denes Academy Sports Centre	Yarmouth Road, Lowestoft NR32 4AH	2 adult football 1 cricket 1 rugby 1 small STP
Somerleyton Playing Fields	Station Road, Somerleyton NR32 5QL	1 cricket

b) **Tennis courts:**

Site	Address	Courts
Blundeston Playing Fields	Hall Road, Blundeston, Lowestoft NR32 5BJ	1 tarmac
Denes Oval	The Ravine, Lowestoft NR32 1XG	8 tarmac
Normanston Park	Peto Way, Lowestoft NR32 2ED	6 artificial turf

c) **Bowling greens:**

Site	Address
Blundeston Bowls Club	The Plough Inn, Market Lane, Blundeston NR32 5AN
Corton Bowls Club	The Street, Corton NR32 5HW
Lound Bowls Club	Church Lane, Lound NR32 5LL
Somerleyton Bowls Club	The Street, Somerleyton NR32 5PT
Sparrows Nest Bowls Club	Whapload Road, Lowestoft NR32 1XG
Waveney Bowls Club	Tilletts Nurseries, Camps Heath, Oulton Broad. NR32 5DP

2) **Lowestoft South sub-area:**

a) **Pitches:**

Site	Address	Pitches
Carlton Colville Community Centre	Hall Road, Carlton Colville, Lowestoft NR33 8BT	1 adult football
East Point Academy	Kirkley Run, Lowestoft NR33 0UQ	1 synthetic turf
Jeld Wen Playing Fields	Waveney Drive, Lowestoft NR33 0TP	1 adult football 2 youth football 1 mini-soccer
Kessingland Community Centre	Francis Road, Kessingland, Lowestoft NR33 7PU	1 adult football
Kirkley & Pakefield Community Sports & Social Club	Walmer Road, Lowestoft NR33 7LE	3 adult football 2 youth football 2 mini-soccer

b) **Tennis courts:**

Site	Address	Courts
Kensington Gardens	Kirkley Cliff Road, Lowestoft NR33 0DF	4 tarmac
Nicholas Everitt Park	Oulton Broad, Lowestoft NR33 9JR	4 tarmac

c) **Bowling greens:**

Site	Address
Kensington Gardens (x2)	Kirkley Cliff Road, Lowestoft NR33 0DF
Kessingland United WMC Bowls Club	The Avenue, Kessingland NR33 7QD
Lowestoft Railway Bowls Club	123A, Carlton Road, Lowestoft NR33 0LZ
Oulton Broad Bowls Club	Nicholas Everitt Park, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft NR33 9JR

d) **Netball courts:**

Courts	Address	No. courts
East Point Academy	Kirkley Run, Lowestoft NR33 0UQ	5

3) **Beccles sub-area:**

a) **Playing pitches:**

Site	Address	Pitches
Beccles Sports Centre	Ringsfield Road, Beccles NR34 9PF	3 adult football 1 youth football 1 rugby
Caxton Sports & Social Club	Caxton Meadow, Beccles NR34 9QZ	1 adult football
College Meadow	Common Lane, Beccles NR34 9RQ	2 adult football 1 youth football 1 mini-soccer 1 cricket 2 rugby

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Pitches</i>
Mutford Playing Field	Mill Road, Mutford, Lowestoft NR34 7UR	1 youth football
Ringsfield Playing Field	Church Road, Ringsfield, Beccles NR34 8NT	1 cricket
Shadingfield Sports Ground	London Road, Shadingfield, Beccles NR34 8DE	1 adult football
The Nest	Common Lane, Beccles NR34 9RQ	1 adult football 1 youth football 1 mini-soccer

b) *Tennis courts:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Beccles Tennis Club	Common Lane, Beccles NR34 2RU	3 tarmac
Mutford Playing Field	Mill Road, Mutford, Lowestoft NR34 7UR	1 tarmac
Ringsfield Tennis Courts	Church Road, Beccles NR34 8NT	2 tarmac

c) *Bowling greens:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Beccles Caxton Bowls Club	Gaol Lane, Beccles NR34 9SJ
Beccles Institute Bowls Club	Fair Close, Beccles NR34 9QT
Beccles Town Bowls Club	London Road, Beccles NR34 9TZ

d) *Netball courts:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Beccles Sports Centre	Ringsfield Road, Beccles NR34 3PF	2

4) *Bungay sub-area:*

a) *Playing pitches:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Pitches</i>
Bungay and District Sports Association	Maltings Meadow, Pirnhow Street, Ditchingham, Bungay NR35 2RU	3 adult football 2 youth football 3 mini-soccer 1 cricket

b) *Tennis courts:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Bungay and District Sports Association	Maltings Meadow, Pirnhow Street, Ditchingham, Bungay NR35 2RU	2 synthetic turf

c) **Bowling greens:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Bungay Town Bowls Club	St. Johns Road, Bungay NR35 1DL
Mettingham Bowls Club	New Road, Mettingham NR35 1TL

d) **Netball courts:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Bungay Sports Hall	Queens Road, Bungay NR35 1RW	2

5) **Halesworth sub-area:**

a) **Playing pitches:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Pitches</i>
Banks Farm	Mill Road, Rumburgh IP19 0NH	1 cricket
Basley Playing Field	Bramfield Road, Basley IP19 8DY	1 youth football
Halesworth Playing Fields	Dairy Hill, Halesworth IP19 8JS	1 adult football 1 youth football 1 mini-soccer
Holton Village Hall	Bungay Road, Holton IP19 8PB	1 youth football
Spexhall Playing Field	Stone Street, Spexhall, Halesworth IP19 0RN	1 adult football
Westhall Village Hall	Westhall, Halesworth IP19 8RD	1 adult football

b) **Tennis courts:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Halesworth Campus	Harrison's Lane, Halesworth IP19 8PY	3 tarmac
Halesworth Tennis Club	Dairy Hill, Halesworth IP19 8JS	2 tarmac

c) **Bowling greens:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Brampton and District Bowls Club	Station Road, Brampton NR34 8EA
Halesworth Angel Bowls Club	Dairy Hill, Halesworth IP19 8JS

6) *Southwold and Reydon sub-area:*

a) *Playing pitches:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Pitches</i>
Frostenden Recreation Ground	Gypsy Lane, Frostenden NR34 7HU	1 youth football
Old Reydon High School	Wangford Road, Reydon, Southwold IP18 6PA	1 adult football 3 youth football 1 mini-soccer
St. Felix School	Halesworth Road, Southwold IP18 6SD	1 rugby
Southwold Common	York Road, Southwold IP18 6AN	1 adult football 1 cricket 1 rugby
Wrentham Playing Field	London Road, Wrentham NR34 7HH	1 adult football

b) *Tennis courts:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
Southwold and District Tennis Club	Hotson Road, Southwold IP18 6BS	3 tarmac
Southwold Common tennis courts	The Common, Southwold IP18 6TB	3 tarmac
Wrentham Tennis Club	Mill Lane, Wrentham NR34 7JQ	2 tarmac

c) *Bowling greens:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>
Sole Bay Bowls Club	50, Halesworth Road, Reydon IP18 6NR
Wrentham Bowls Club	Old Mill Lane, Wrentham NR34 7JQ

d) *Netball courts:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Courts</i>
St. Felix School	Halesworth Road, Southwold IP18 6SD	2

APPENDIX 2: QUALITATIVE AUDIT METHODOLOGY

1) FOOTBALL PITCHES

Element	Rating				
Playing surface					
Grass Cover	Good <80%	Adequate 60-80%	Poor >60%		
Does the pitch meet minimum size?					Yes No
Slope of pitch (gradient and cross fall)	Flat	Moderate	Poor		
Length of grass	Good	Too long	Too short		
Evenness of pitch	Good	Adequate	Poor		
Problem Areas: Evidence of dog fouling/glass/litter/vehicle tracks	None	Yes - some	Yes - lots		
Problem Areas: Evidence of unofficial use/ damage to the surface	None	Yes - some	Severe		
Typical weekly usage (match equivalent sessions)	4 or less	5 to 7	8 plus		
Pitch facilities					
Are goalposts safe?					Yes No
Is the site secure or open?		Secure	Open	Boundary fence	
Is the pitch floodlit?					Yes No
Is there a perimeter rail around the pitch?					Yes No
Is there a training area separate to the pitch(es)?					Yes No
Is there a covered stand?					Yes No
Ancillary facilities					
Is there a clubhouse on site?					Yes No
Is there changing accommodation?					Yes No
Total number of changing rooms					
Quality of the changing (exterior)		Good	Adequate	Poor	
Quality of changing (interior)		Good	Adequate	Poor	
Are the showers communal or self contained?			Communal	Self contained	
Is there access to spectator toilets?		More than 5	1 to 4	None	
Are the toilets for players self contained?			Communal	Self contained	
Is there an officials changing room ?					Yes No
Is there a dedicated medical room?					Yes No
Are accessible (DDA compliant) facilities provided?					Yes No
Is appropriate car parking available?					Yes No
Maintenance programme Are any of the items applied to the pitches?					
Sand		Yes	No	Not known	
Seed		Yes	No	Not known	
Feed		Yes	No	Not known	
Weed kill		Yes	No	Not known	
Pitch maintenance How often a year is each carried out?					
Aerated	three or more times	twice	once	never	Not known
Sand dressed	three or more times	twice	once	never	Not known
Fertilised	three or more times	twice	once	never	Not known
Weed killed	three or more times	twice	once	never	Not known
Chain harrowed	three or more times	twice	once	never	Not known
Drainage type	Natural (adequate)	Pipe and slit drained		natural (inadequate)	
Pipe Drained		Unknown			

2) CRICKET PITCHES

Element	Rating			Guidance notes
About the cricket outfield				
Grass coverage	Good	Acceptable	Poor	<80% is below ECB basic standard
Length of grass	Good	Acceptable	Poor	Ideally 12mm - 25mm
Evenness	Even	Uneven	Ball should run without deviation or ramp	
Evidence of Dog fouling/glass/stones/litter?	None	Yes	Immediate action required	
Evidence of Unofficial use?	None	Yes	Immediate action required e.g .informal, casual use.	
Evidence of Damage to surface?	None	Yes	Immediate action required eg from vermin/animals - rabbit, gulls and foxes etc.	
Artificial Wickets				
Is the wicket and surrounds married in	Yes	No	There should be no trip points	
Evenness of wicket	Even	Uneven	There should be no contours in surface levels	
Stump holes	Yes	No	Should be no wider than a standard cricket ball	
Moss or materials in the surface	Yes	No	There should be none	
Rips or surface lifting	Yes	No	If "yes" contact site manager	
Surface worn in high traffic areas - creases	Yes	No	If "yes" contact site manager	
Hardness - does the ball rebound when thrown straight down?	Yes	No		
Grass Wickets				
Presence of line markings	Yes	No		
Evidence of rolling	Yes	No	i.e. is wicket smooth and uniform	
Evidence of straight cut and height	Yes	No	3mm on match wicket/12mm rest of square	
Evidence of repair work on old wickets	Yes	No		
Grass coverage (square and wickets)	Yes	No	Scale: 80%+ = Yes, 80%> = No	
Hardness - does a cricket ball thrown straight down into the surface bounce?	Yes	No		
Changing/ Pavilion				
Umpires provision	Yes	No		
Toilets	Yes	No		
Hot/cold water	Yes	No		
Heating	Yes	No		
Condition of building	Good	Acceptable	Requires attention	
Non Turf Cricket Practice Nets				
Is the wicket and surrounds married in (no trip points)	Yes	No		
Evenness of wicket (no contours in surface levels)	Even	Uneven		
Stump holes (no wider than a standard cricket ball)	Yes	No		
Moss or materials in the surface (should be none)	Yes	No		
No rips or surface lifting	Yes	No		
Surface worn in high traffic areas - crease	Yes	No		
Hardness - does the ball rebound when thrown straight down	Yes	No		
Is the steel frame/ posts upright?	Yes	No		
Are steel cross members detached?	Yes	No		
Are all posts and net fixings in place?	Yes	No		
Can a ball pass through any part of the netting?	Yes	No		
Is appropriate safety/ supervisory signage present?	Yes	No		

3) RUGBY PITCHES:

Qualitative information (gathered on site)				
Grass Coverage	Good	Adequate	Poor	
Size of pitch	Acceptable		Not acceptable	
Length of grass	Too Long	Good	Too short	
Problem Areas: Evidence of glass/litter/vehicle tracks/dog fouling	None	Yes - some	Yes lots	
Are goalposts installed?			Yes	No
Is there any obvious danger on posts?			Yes	No
Are the posts stable in the ground?			Yes	No
Is the crossbar fixed securely?			Yes	No
Is there evidence of rust on the posts?			Yes	No
Is the pitch floodlit?			Yes	No
Is there changing accommodation for the pitch?			Yes	No
Is an appropriate level of car parking available?			Yes	No
Aerated (per year)	three or more times	twice	once	never
Sand dressed (per year)	three or more times	twice	once	never
Fertilised (per year)	three or more times	twice	once	never
Weed killed (per year)	three or more times	twice	once	never
Chain harrowed	every week	fortnightly	monthly	never

4) SYNTHETIC TURF PITCHES:

Element	Rating			
	less than 2 years	2-5 years	5-10 years	over 10 years
Evidence of moss/lichen (all surfaces)		None	Yes - some	Yes - lots
Loose gravel (macadam surface)		None	Yes - some	Yes - lots
Holes or rips in surface		None	Yes - some	Yes - lots
Grip underfoot		Good	Adequate	Poor
Line markings - quality		Good	Adequate	Poor
Problem Areas: Evidence of Glass/ stones/ litter		None	Yes - some	Yes - lots
Problem Areas: Evidence of inappropriate use		None	Yes - some	Yes - lots
Problem Areas: Evidence of damage to surface		None	Yes - some	Yes - lots
Access for disabled players. i.e. width of gates		Good	Adequate	Poor
Condition of posts/ nets/ goals		Good	Adequate	Poor
Surrounding fencing		Good	Adequate	Poor
Adequate safety margins (where appropriate)		Yes - fully	Adequate	Inadequate
Is the AGP floodlit?			Yes	No
Is the AGP left open at all times?			Yes	No
Are there dug outs?			Yes	No
Are there youth shelters/spectator seating around AGP?			Yes	No
Is there changing accommodation for the AGP?			Yes	No

5) **OUTDOOR BOWLING GREENS:**

a) **Playing surface:**

Rating	Definition	Score
High Quality	An entirely flat surface with uniform grass cover and regulation banks and ditches.	5
Above Average	An effectively flat surface with almost uniform grass cover and regulation banks and ditches around the perimeter.	4
Average	An effectively flat surface with wear around the ends of each rink and regulation banks and ditches around the perimeter.	3
Below Average	A slightly uneven surface with some wear and non-regulation banks and ditches.	2
Poor quality	A significantly uneven surface, with non-uniform, worn grass cover and non-regulation banks and ditches.	1

b) **Pavilion/changing facilities:**

Rating	Definition	Score
High Quality	On-site facilities with social area, separate male, female and disabled changing facilities, well maintained and cleaned.	5
Above Average	On-site facilities with social area and male and female changing facilities, well maintained and cleaned.	4
Average	On-site facilities with limited social area and changing facilities, adequately maintained and cleaned.	3
Below Average	Some limited on-site changing facilities, poorly maintained and cleaned.	2
Poor quality	No on-site changing facilities.	1

c) **Disabled access:**

Rating	Definition	Score
High Quality	Full disabled access throughout the site and provision of a ramp to the green, dedicated disabled toilet and changing facilities.	5
Above Average	Disabled access to all key areas of the site, including a ramp to the green dedicated disabled toilet and changing facilities.	4
Average	Disabled access to most of the site, including a ramp to the green, with dedicated disabled toilet and changing facilities.	3
Below Average	Limited disabled access with no dedicated disabled facilities and no ramp to the green.	2
Poor quality	No disabled access with no dedicated disabled facilities.	1

d) **Car parking and general access:** Presence/absence of:

- Dedicated car parking.
- Number of spaces meets Sport England standards.
- Dedicated spaces for mums/toddlers and disabled.
- Good signposting.
- Adequate lighting levels over the whole area.

Rating	Definition	Score
High Quality	Complies with all five of the criteria	5
Above Average	Complies with four of the criteria	4
Average	Complies with three of the criteria	3
Below Average	Complies with two of the criteria	2
Poor quality	Complies with one or none of the criteria	1

6) **OUTDOOR TENNIS COURTS:**

a) **Playing surface:**

Rating	Definition	Score
High Quality	An entirely flat, non-slip surface with accurate line markings for tennis.	5
Above Average	An effectively flat, non-slip surface with accurate line markings for tennis.	4
Average	A reasonably flat surface, non-slip with appropriate footwear with line markings for tennis.	3
Below Average	An uneven surface, with some cracks and slippery when wet, with limited line markings for tennis.	2
Poor quality	A very uneven, frequently slippery surface, with many cracks/holes and with limited line markings for tennis.	1

b) **Fencing of the courts:**

Rating	Definition	Score
High Quality	Playing area fully enclosed by a high surrounding fence in good repair, with lockable gate.	5
Above Average	Playing area fully enclosed by a surrounding fence in reasonable repair.	4
Average	Playing area mostly enclosed by a surrounding fence in reasonable repair.	3
Below Average	Playing area mostly enclosed by a surrounding fence in poor repair.	2
Poor quality	No perimeter fence	1

c) **Disabled access:**

Rating	Definition	Score
High Quality	Full disabled access to the court(s), including adequate width access gates and a level or ramped paved path to any changing facilities.	5
Above Average	Full disabled access to the court(s), including adequate width access gates and a paved path to any changing facilities.	4
Average	Full disabled access to the court(s), including adequate width access gates but no dedicated path to any changing facilities.	3
Below Average	Limited disabled access to the court(s) due to adequate width access gates and no dedicated path to any changing facilities.	2
Poor quality	No disabled access to the court(s) - access gate width is too narrow, steps up to the track and no dedicated path to any changing facilities.	1

d) ***Car parking and general access:*** Presence/absence of:

- Dedicated car parking.
- Number of spaces meets Sport England standards.
- Dedicated spaces for mums/toddlers and disabled.
- Good signposting.
- Adequate lighting levels over the whole area.

<i>Rating</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Score</i>
High Quality	Complies with all five of the criteria	5
Above Average	Complies with four of the criteria	4
Average	Complies with three of the criteria	3
Below Average	Complies with two of the criteria	2
Poor quality	Complies with one or none of the criteria	1