



REDCAR & CLEVELAND

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

MAY 2015

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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GLOSSARY

AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
NGB	National Governing Body
FA	Football Association
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
RFU	Rugby Football Union
S106	Section 106
FIT	Fields in Trust
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
FE	Further Education
HE	Higher Education
TGR	Team Generation Rate
CSP	County Sports Partnership

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council and its partners. Building upon the preceding Assessment Report it provides a strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2015 and 2037, in line with population projections. The PPS covers the following playing pitches and outdoor sports:

- ✦ Football pitches
- ✦ Cricket pitches
- ✦ Rugby pitches
- ✦ Hockey/Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)
- ✦ Tennis
- ✦ Bowls

The Strategy is capable of:

- ✦ Providing a sound evidence base for any future planning decisions around playing pitches.
- ✦ Providing a sound evidence base for and contributing to future planning policy
- ✦ Providing evidence for any internal and external funding, including developer contributions from new development.
- ✦ Managing and enabling decision making around leases for sports clubs.
- ✦ Understanding of potential shortfalls in provision across the defined analysis areas.
- ✦ Supporting external funding bids and maximising support for outdoor sports facilities

1.1: Structure

The Strategy has been developed from research and analysis of playing pitch provision and usage within Redcar & Cleveland to provide:

- ✦ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of playing pitches
- ✦ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch stock.
- ✦ A series of sport by sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision.
- ✦ A prioritised area-by-area action plan to address key issues.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommends a number of priority projects for Redcar & Cleveland, which should be implemented from 2015 to 2037. It is outlined to provide a framework for improvement and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, potential partners and possible sources of external funding will be identified.

The recommendations that come out of this strategy must be translated into local plan policy so there is a policy mechanism to support delivery and secure provision/investment where the opportunity arises.

There is a need to build key partnerships between the Council, National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs), Sport England, schools, further/higher education providers, community clubs and private landowners to maintain and improve playing pitch provision. In these instances, the potential for the Council to take a strategic lead is more limited (except in terms of Section 106 Agreements). This document will provide clarity about the way forward, and allow key organisations to focus on the key issues that they can directly influence and achieve.

1.2 Context

As outlined by the Council in the preparation stages of the study, the key drivers for a new PPS are to:

- ◀ Gather information relating to the supply of pitches through an audit of all playing pitches in the local authority area including those not currently in community use.
- ◀ Gathering and processing information at ward level with subsequent amalgamation into sub area data (see above for sub areas).
- ◀ Analysis of the findings of the study to provide a picture of current and future provision based on need, demand and level of provision
- ◀ Development of policy options which are informed by modelling and interpretation of results.
- ◀ Clear recommendations and action plans broken down by sport and sub area.
- ◀ Explore the role that AGP's could play in facilitating match play within the Borough.

The outcome for the Council is to see the provision of a range of good quality and accessible facilities, services and opportunities that:

- ◀ Reflect the nature of the Borough.
- ◀ Maximise the strengths of the voluntary sports sector.
- ◀ Increase participation in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Contribute to an overall improvement in health and wellbeing.

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1.4 Headline findings

The table below highlights the quantitative headline findings from the Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Assessment Report:

Sport	Analysis Area	Current picture	Future demand (2037)
Football (grass pitches)	Coastal Area	No current shortfalls	No predicted future shortfalls
	East Cleveland	No current shortfalls	Shortfall of 1 match sessions on 9v9 pitches, 0.5 on 7v7 pitches and 1 match session on 5v5 pitches.
	Greater Eston	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions on 9v9 pitches.	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions on youth 11v11 pitches, 2 sessions 9v9, 0.5 on 7v7 and 0.5 on 5v5.
	Guisborough	No current shortfalls	No predicted future shortfalls
Football (3G AGPs)	Coastal Area	Shortfall of 2 3G pitches based on FA model.	Pitch/s will require resurface .
	East Cleveland	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch based on FA model.	Pitch/s will require resurface .
	Greater Eston	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch based on FA model.	Pitch/s will require resurface .
	Guisborough	Current demand is being met.	Pitch/s will require resurface .
Cricket	Coastal Area	Shortfall of 11 match sessions per season.	Likely to increase further due to potential increase in teams.
	East Cleveland	Current demand is being met.	Future demand can be met.
	Greater Eston	Current demand is being met.	Future demand can be met.
	Guisborough	Current demand is being met.	Future demand can be met.
Rugby union	Coastal Area	Redcar training pitch over played by 0.5 sessions	Likely to increase further due to potential increase in teams.
	East Cleveland	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.
	Greater Eston	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.
	Guisborough	Shortfall of 4.5 match sessions per week.	Likely to increase further due to potential increase in teams.
Hockey (Sand AGPs)	Coastal Area	Current demand being met.	Pitch will require resurface .
	East Cleveland	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.
	Greater Eston	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.
	Guisborough	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.

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Scenarios

The following scenarios were tested in order to further understand the impact of particular actions within Redcar & Cleveland:

Football

The alternative to grass pitches is the use of AGPs for competitive matches and this is something that the FA is supporting, particularly for mini football.

How many AGPs would be required if all 5v5 and 7v7 teams were moved to 3G?

In order to test the scenario a programme of play for AGPs has been created based on the current peak time demand for mini/youth pitches in Redcar & Cleveland (Sun am).

Time	AGP 1	Total Games/teams
9.30am – 10.30am	4 x 5v5	4/8
10.30am – 11.30am	2 x 7v7	2/4
11.30am – 12.30pm	2 x 7v7	2/4
12.30pm – 1.30pm	2 x 7v7	2/4

There are currently 29 x 5v5 teams which would require **four** AGPs. There are 29 x 7v7 teams which would require 2.4 (rounded to **three**) pitches, based on the programming above, and separate start times for 5v5 and 7v7. The overall need therefore is **three** AGPs to accommodate all demand, which includes some spare capacity for growth.

How many AGPs would be required if all 9v9 teams were moved to 3G?

In order to test the scenario a programme of play for AGPs has been created based on the current peak time demand for youth 9v9 pitches in Redcar & Cleveland (Sun am).

Time	AGP 1	Total Games/teams
9.30am – 10.30am	2 x 9v9	2/4
10.30am – 11.30am	2 x 9v9	2/4
11.30am – 12.30pm	2 x 9v9	2/4
12.30pm – 1.30pm	2 x 9v9	2/4

There are currently 29 x 9v9 teams which would require **two** AGPs to accommodate all demand.

What is the impact on capacity if access to Redcar Academy is lost?

The School reports that from the 2015-16 seasons the School pitches will not be available for community use. Currently there are 0.5 match equivalents of community use on the Site. This usage is likely to be accommodated elsewhere within the Coastal Analysis Area as there is currently potential spare capacity of seven match equivalent sessions on adult pitches.

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Rugby Union

What is the impact on capacity for Guisborough RFC, if access to Belmont Primary & Laurence Jackson School was lost?

The Club currently has two senior pitches at the home ground and relies on offsite provision at Belmont Primary (one mini pitch) and Laurence Jackson School (two senior pitches). These fields are not considered to have secured community use. Should access be lost the Club would require access to a further **four match equivalent sessions** (in place of Laurence Jackson) and **one match equivalent session** (in place of Belmont Primary) in addition to access at the home ground which is already over played by **3.5 match equivalents** per week.

What is the impact of installing additional floodlighting on the senior pitches at Redcar RUFC?

The table below highlights that the Club has three senior pitches at the home ground. One floodlit pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalents (three of which are training equivalents) and the two non-floodlit pitches have spare capacity of **two** match equivalents. Floodlighting the second/third pitch would mean that training could be spread across the two/three pitches, which would even out the balance of over play and ensure the first team pitch is not over played. Furthermore, the ability to rotate training between pitches means that quality will be sustained.

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating
9907	Redcar RUFC (Mackinlay Park)	Senior	M2/D3 Good	1	Yes	4	3.5	+0.5
9907	Redcar RUFC (Mackinlay Park)	Senior	M2/D1 Good	2	No	4	6	-2
9907	Redcar RUFC (Mackinlay Park)	Mini	M2/D1 Good	1	No	2.5	3	-0.5

PART 2: VISION

2.1 Vision

This study has been developed on the basis of the above strategic drivers in order to ensure that it reflects the Council's wider ambitions. A vision has been set out to provide a clear focus with desired outcomes for the Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Strategy:

"Provide a network of high quality sports pitches conducive to sustaining and increasing participation for all ages, in order to enhance the quality of life and health of residents."

PART 3: KEY ISSUES

As identified in the Assessment Report, below are the key issues summaries on a sport by sport basis:

3.1 Football (Assessment report page 37)

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 141 football pitches in Redcar & Cleveland. Of these, 126 are available, at some level, for community use.
- ◀ Of the pitches available for community use, 40 are assessed as good quality, 77 as standard and nine as poor.
- ◀ 179 teams were identified as playing on pitches within Redcar & Cleveland, consisting of 42 adult teams, 79 youth teams and 58 mini teams.
- ◀ There has been an increase in mini and youth teams over the previous three years, with 33% of clubs reporting an increase in youth teams and 37% reporting an increase in mini teams. A similar increase in adult teams does not take into account numerous adult only clubs that have folded.
- ◀ There is latent demand equating for the need of two adult, 3.5 youth and 1.5 mini pitches and future demand totalling three adult, seven youth and six mini pitches.
- ◀ There is a total of 51 match sessions of actual spare capacity across Redcar & Cleveland, the majority of which (27.5) is on adult pitches.
- ◀ There are no pitches overplayed, although four are played to capacity.
- ◀ There is spare capacity on adult pitches equating to 23.5 match equivalent sessions to accommodate current and future demand. Spare capacity also exists on mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches, whilst youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity. There is a shortfall of one match equivalent session on youth 9v9 pitches.
- ◀ Removing unsecured pitches would result in an undersupply of youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitches, in addition to an increased undersupply of youth 9v9 pitches. It is recommended that the undersupply can be prevented through the reconfiguration of surplus adult pitches.

3.2 Cricket (Assessment report page 51)

- ◀ In total, there are 13 grass cricket pitches identified in Redcar & Cleveland. There are also five standalone non-turf wicket pitches located within schools, however none are used by the community.
- ◀ Pitch ownership and management is generally considered secure. All grass wicket pitches are either owned or have a long term lease agreement in place, with the exception of Corus Sports Club, which is rented.
- ◀ The audit of cricket pitches assessed six as good quality and seven as standard quality. Further to site assessments, four clubs deem the overall quality of their pitch to be good, whilst the remaining nine clubs assess theirs as standard.
- ◀ Four clubs report a demand for additional training facilities, all of which state a need for an artificial turf wicket, practice nets and/or a mobile net.
- ◀ In total, there are 18 clubs generating 39 senior teams and 19 junior teams.
- ◀ Two clubs report a reduction in senior teams over the previous three years, whilst one club reports an increase. In terms of junior participation, four clubs report an increase in the number of teams, whilst only one club reports a decrease.
- ◀ Three clubs have plans to increase the number of senior teams within their club and four clubs have plans to increase the number of junior teams. Where quantified, this expressed demand amounts to four senior teams and five junior teams.

- There are 11 sites which show potential spare capacity on grass wickets, totalling 264 match sessions per season. However, only four pitches have actual spare capacity during peak time for senior cricket (Saturdays).
- There is overplay at two sites, both within Coastal Area Analysis Area, amounting to 11 matches per season.
- There is an overall shortfall of pitches, which can be attributed solely to the Coastal Area Analysis Area.
- Transfer of play from overplayed sites to pitches with spare capacity will enable supply to meet demand. In order to create more capacity, consideration should be given to the transfer of junior cricket to non-turf wickets.

3.3 Rugby union (Assessment report page 63)

- There are two community clubs servicing Redcar & Cleveland, consisting of 22 teams (five senior, seven junior and 11 minis).
- In total, there are 13 senior pitches and two minis. Four senior pitches on school sites are available but unused and two pitches are unavailable for community use.
- Of the senior pitches five are rated as good quality, three as standard and five as poor. One mini pitch is good quality and one is standard quality. Poor quality is a combination of over use, poor weather and inadequate maintenance.
- There is spare capacity of one match session at Belmont Primary and two match sessions at Redcar RFC.
- The entire site at Guisborough RFC is over played by 3.5 matches per week and the floodlit pitch at Redcar RFC is over played by 0.5 matches per week. Laurence Jackson School is overplayed by one match equivalent session.
- Both clubs are expected to increase the number of teams. Future demand can be accommodated at Redcar RFC but not currently at Guisborough RFC.
- Additional (good quality) floodlighting would help to alleviate over play at Redcar RFC as training could be spread across all pitches.
- Additional capacity is required for Guisborough RFC as the home ground is over played and the secondary site does not have any spare capacity. Moving to a new site with additional pitches would help to address this issue.

3.4 Hockey (Assessment report page 67)

- There is one full sized sand based artificial pitch at Rye Hills School. The sand based at Middlesbrough Football Community Centre has been converted to 3G
- It is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately ten years (depending on levels of use); Rye Hills School is 13 years old.
- There is one hockey club in Redcar & Cleveland, Redcar Hockey Club. The Club consists of two men's, one women's and two junior teams.
- The senior teams play at Rye Hills School, whilst the junior teams play outside of Redcar & Cleveland, in Stockton.
- Plans are in place for the creation of two additional senior teams ahead of next season; one men's and one women's. The teams will play at Rye Hills School, depending on quality.
- Based on five senior teams there is a requirement for one full size AGP, of which there is currently one. However, given the quality issues it is possible that no AGPs will be suitable for hockey in the near future.
- Demand can be met for junior hockey, however, junior teams will remain displaced as they cannot play at one facility at the same time, as Rye Hills School only provide one set of goals.

- Improving quality at Rye Hills School and providing additional goals will safeguard the future of hockey within Redcar & Cleveland, as well as ensuring no displaced demand.

3.5 Artificial grass pitches (AGPs) (Assessment report page 73)

- There are currently two full size AGPs within Redcar & Cleveland, both of which are sand dressed.
- The sand based pitch at Middlesbrough Football Community Centre is soon to become a 3G pitch. Similarly, plans are in place at Guisborough Leisure Centre to replace its sand based surface with a 3G carpet, as well as extending the pitch in order to make it full size by September 2015.
- Therefore by September 2015 there will be three full size AGPs within the Borough as follows:
 - Middlesbrough Football Community Centre (Greater Eston) – Full size 3G
 - Guisborough Leisure Centre (Guisborough) – Full size 3G
 - Rye Hills School (Coastal Area) – Full size sand based
- A variety of additional, smaller AGPs are available throughout the Borough, as well as two indoor facilities.
- 46% of football clubs expressed a need for access to more training facilities, with the majority highlighting 3G pitches as a requirement.
- On the basis there are 183 teams playing competitive football in Redcar & Cleveland there is a recommended need for at least four full size 3G pitches. If each team was to stay within their analysis area, there is a potential need for six.
- Moving all mini football to 3G pitches would require four AGPs, whilst moving all youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches would require five.
- The development of 3G pitches at Guisborough Leisure Centre and Middlesbrough Football Community Centre will reduce shortfalls, however demand remains unsatisfied.
- Particular focus should be placed on the Coastal Area and East Cleveland analysis areas, both of which are without a 3G pitch and with no planned developments.

3.6 Tennis (Assessment report page 80)

- There are a total of 55 tennis courts provided in Redcar & Cleveland, 23 of which are available for community use across six sites.
- All courts unavailable to the community are located within secondary schools; all courts within secondary schools are unavailable to the community.
- There are 13 community available courts within clubs and 10 within parks.
- Of community available provision, five courts (22%) are assessed as good quality whilst 15 courts (65%) are assessed as standard quality. The remaining three courts (13%), located at Marske Sports and Recreation Ground, are deemed poor quality.
- All park courts are assessed as standard quality.
- There are three clubs in Redcar & Cleveland, collectively providing 108 senior members and 57 junior members.
- Declining membership is evident at Guisborough Tennis Club and Marske Tennis Club, however Saltburn Tennis Club reports an increase in both senior and junior membership.
- All clubs allow for casual use of courts, although pay and play is difficult to manage.
- All clubs report spare capacity on their courts and the current level of provision can accommodate both current and future demand.

3.7 Bowls (Assessment report page 86)

- ◀ There are 15 flat green bowling greens in Redcar & Cleveland, servicing 14 clubs across 12 sites. Of the sites, four are provided by the council containing six greens.
- ◀ Of the bowling greens, 10 are assessed as good quality and the remaining five are assessed as standard quality. Of clubs responding to consultation, five deem their green to be good quality whilst the remaining two assess it as standard.
- ◀ Three clubs report that the quality of their home green has got 'much better' since the previous season, whilst the remaining clubs report 'no difference'.
- ◀ Despite a national trend of declining membership, no clubs responding to consultation report a decrease in senior membership over the previous three years. In fact, Locke Park Bowls Club indicate an increase in membership.
- ◀ Both Redcar Borough Park Bowling Club and Skelton Bowls Club report that junior membership has decreased over the previous three years and no clubs report an increase.
- ◀ Four clubs are operating below the average club/green membership and have capacity to increase usage.
- ◀ It is likely that Marske-by-Sea Bowls Club are operating at capacity although the Club does not report enough demand for additional outdoor greens to be provided. Therefore, it would appear that there are enough greens to accommodate both the current and future demand.

PART 4: OBJECTIVES

The Redcar & Cleveland PPS is a strategy not just for the local authority, but holistically for sport across the Borough as a whole.

Delivery of the Strategy is the responsibility of and relies on, *all* stakeholders.

The following overarching objectives are based on the three Sport England themes (see figure 1 below). It is recommended that the following are adopted by the Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the Strategy and Sport England planning objectives. Objective specifics and timescales are included within the action plan (Part 7).

OBJECTIVE 1

Seek to **protect** playing pitches & facilities from loss as a result of redevelopment.

OBJECTIVE 2

To **enhance** existing playing pitches & facilities through improving their quality, accessibility and management

OBJECTIVE 3

To **provide** new playing pitches & facilities that are fit for purpose to meet demands for participation, now and in the future.

Figure 1: Sport England themes



Source: Sport England 2015

PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations for the Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis which culminated in the production of an assessment report, as well as key drivers identified for the Strategy.

Implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to also meet planning considerations.

OBJECTIVE 1

Seek to **protect** playing pitches & facilities from loss as a result of redevelopment

Recommendations:

- a. Ensure, through the use of the Playing Pitch Strategy, that playing pitches are protected through the implementation of policy.
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. Maximise community use of outdoor sports facilities where there is a need to do so.
- d. Protect sites that provide informal outdoor sports provision, particularly in areas that currently have a lack of open space.

Recommendation (a) – Ensure, through the use of the Playing Pitch Strategy, that playing pitches are protected through the implementation of policy.

Based on the outcomes of the playing pitch strategy enhance local planning policy and emphasise the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF paragraph 73) and highlight Sport England's statutory consultee role on planning applications that affect playing field land.

NPPF paragraph 74 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

Protect the existing supply of sports facilities where it is needed for meeting current or future needs. Local plan policies should protect facilities and the scope to legally safeguard long term use of strategically important sites to the community such as the strategic sites and key centres should be considered. For example, through the Fields in Trust programme (www.fieldsintrust.org).

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The following criteria should be established as the basis for negotiations to mitigate the loss of playing field provision:

- ◀ Ensure that where playing field sites are used for alternative development or other open space purposes, that the type of provision of the same or improved standard is provided to meet demand identified.
- ◀ Where pitches are lost due to redevelopment of the site, including for housing, compensatory re-provision or an equivalent or better contribution for re-investment into new pitches will be sought as appropriate in an alternative accessible location.
- ◀ Where opportunities exist to additionally increase pitch quality (and therefore pitch capacity to accommodate more matches) this should be a priority (please refer to the action plan to identify quality deficiencies in the appropriate area).
- ◀ All negotiations and mitigation packages should be raised and discussed in partnership with the relevant NGB and Sport England through the Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group.

For further information please refer to Sport England's Playing Fields Policy - 'A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England' Policy Exceptions E4 and E5 which can be found at:

<http://www.sportengland.org/media/123579/policy-exception-4.pdf>

<http://www.sportengland.org/media/123588/policy-exception-5.pdf>

In terms of mitigation it is important, where possible and appropriate for a particular sport, that this takes place in an area that is accessible to the playing field that is lost to avoid a scenario where a redundant playing field is lost in an area of the Borough which has deficiencies and is replaced on the other side of the Borough.

Furthermore, any potential school sites which become redundant over the lifetime of the Strategy may offer potential for meeting community needs on a localised basis. Where schools are closed their playing fields may be dedicated to community use to help address any unmet community needs. Closed school playing fields should be considered in the first instance for becoming community playing fields to meet the needs identified in the Strategy, before being considered for other uses.

The following should be considered when assessing the suitability of conversion of former school playing fields for community use:

- ◀ Location and willingness of the Council or a club (or other party) to take on ownership/lease/maintenance
- ◀ Size
- ◀ Quality
- ◀ Physical accessibility
- ◀ History of community access
- ◀ Availability of ancillary facilities

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There are a number of dormant sites within Redcar & Cleveland. Although the majority of demand is currently being met there are shortfalls in some parts of the Borough. It is important therefore to protect these sites in the short term until such a point when there is no evidence of unmet demand. It would therefore not be recommended that any sites are disposed without mitigation.

There are a number of dormant sites within Redcar & Cleveland. Recommendations for these sites can be seen in the table below:

Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Sport	No of pitches	Recommendations
Carlin How Working Mens Club	East Cleveland	Adult	Football	1	Consider remarking pitch to cater for shortfall in youth and mini pitches
Holly Bush	East Cleveland	Adult	Football	1	Consider remarking pitch to cater for shortfall in youth and mini pitches
Moorsholm Cricket Club	East Cleveland	Adult	Football	1	Marked on cricket outfield, consider use as youth or mini pitch
North Road - Loftus	East Cleveland	Adult	Football	1	Consider remarking pitch to cater for shortfall in youth and mini pitches
Mackinlay Park (Redcar RFC)	Coastal Area	Mini 7v7	Football	1	Consider using the pitch for rugby as football demand is accommodated in the Area.
Eston Recreation Ground	Greater Eston	Adult	Football	3	Pitch quality improvements in the analysis area should accommodate any shortfalls, therefore recommend holding these pitches as strategic reserve.
		Mini 7v7	Football	2	

There are some sites that have not been marked entirely, i.e. could accommodate additional pitches. These pitches should not be considered as surpluses as they can be used as strategic reserve, in order to allow pitches to be rested and rotated. Furthermore sites such as Lodge Farm Road are only maintained as Open Space but provide pitches for the Community.

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

Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council, NGBs or the County Sports Partnership (CSP) to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership working. For example, support club development and encourage clubs to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate an income through their facilities. All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)¹. Clubs should also be encouraged to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies or linking with local businesses.

¹ <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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As well as improving the quality of well-used, local authority sites, there are a number of sites which have poor quality (or no) ancillary facilities. **It is recommended that security of tenure should be granted to the clubs playing on these sites (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs) so the clubs are in a position to apply for external funding to improve the ancillary facilities.**

There are a number of sites in Redcar & Cleveland where security of tenure for the club/user needs to be secured, including on education sites where formal community use agreements are not in place. NGBs can often help to negotiate and engage with schools, particularly academies where the local authority may not have direct influence. For further information on this, please refer to Recommendation (c) of Objective 1.

There is one example of a club that has previously had a long term lease agreement in place but which has expired and currently not renewed, meaning use of the sites for sport is not currently secured for the long term. Southbank AFC currently has no lease at the home ground at Harcourt Road. It should be made a priority to negotiate secured use for all clubs. Sites that have leases of less than 21 years are not eligible for external funding and there are potential issues around sustainability. Redcar Athletic FC has seven years left on a 25 year lease.

- Redcar Athletic FC (Green Lane– KKP I.D. 20)
- Southbank AFC (Harcourt Road, South Bank – KKP I.D. 27)

Name of Club	Name of ground	Leased from	Duration (years)	Expires
Redcar Athletic FC	Green Lane	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	25	2022
Southbank AFC	Harcourt Road	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	-	-

Refer to the Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Assessment Report for site location map.

There is potential in the future for more sites in Redcar & Cleveland to be leased to sports clubs. Each club should be required to meet service and/or strategic objectives. However, an additional set of criteria should be considered, which takes into account the quality of the club, aligned to its long term development objectives and sustainability.

In the context of the Comprehensive Spending Review, which announced public spending cuts, it is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations in order that they may be able to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities. To facilitate this, the Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds to allow this.

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

Club	Site
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Clubs should have Clubmark/FA Charter Standard accreditation award.Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links.Clubs are sustainable, both in a financial sense and via their internal management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sites should be those identified as 'Club Sites' (see section 7.2) for new clubs (i.e. not those with a Borough wide significance) but which offer development potential. For established clubs which have proven success in terms of self-management 'Key Centres' (see section 7.2) are also

Club	Site
<p>structures in relation to recruitment and retention policy for both players and volunteers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideally, clubs should have themselves already identified (and received an agreement in principle) any match funding required for initial capital investment identified. Clubs have processes in place to ensure capacity to maintain sites to the existing, or better, standards. 	<p>appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If required, sites should acquire capital investment via external funding and partnerships to improve quality. Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site. An NGB/Council representative should sit on a management committee for each site leased to a club.

The Council can further recognise the value of Clubmark/Charter Standard by adopting a policy of prioritising the clubs that are to have access to these better quality facilities. This may be achieved by inviting clubs to apply for season long leases on a particular site as an initial trial.

Where clubs are unable to meet the required outcomes of the agreement the Council will consider the continued support and use of the site and an intervention may be required.

Club outcomes for lease agreements

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

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

In addition, clubs should be made fully aware of the associated responsibilities/liabilities when considering leases of public playing fields.

Community Asset Transfer Policy

Redcar & Cleveland Council already has a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) policy which supports community management of assets, to include local clubs, community groups and trusts. The policy presents sports clubs and national governing bodies with opportunities to take greater responsibility for their own facilities. The Council encourages the better and wider use of assets.

For any asset transfer that involves changing facilities and/or buildings, but not pitches, it is imperative that community use of the pitches continues; not only for the organisations taking on the asset transfer, but for other clubs as well.

The Council Community Asset Transfer (CAT) policy can be accessed via the following website link:

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[http://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/rcbcweb.nsf/06745d5848fcc1c780257a33003a3793/\\$file/community%20asset%20transfer%20policy%20-%20july%2012.pdf](http://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/rcbcweb.nsf/06745d5848fcc1c780257a33003a3793/$file/community%20asset%20transfer%20policy%20-%20july%2012.pdf)

The Sport England Community Sport Asset Transfer Toolkit is a generic, interactive web based tool that provides a step by step guide through each stage of the asset transfer process: www.sportengland.org/support_advice/asset_transfer.aspx to be used by clubs as an information point for any club considering an asset transfer request. The Council policy and procedures set out the specific requirements for a Redcar & Cleveland Community Asset Transfer.

Recommendation (c) Maximise community use of outdoor sports facilities

Education sites

In order to maximise community use of educational facilities it is recommended to establish a more coherent, structured relationship with schools, regardless of ownership, i.e. academies, independent schools, etc. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play, but especially to train. In Redcar & Cleveland, pricing policies at facilities can be a barrier to access at some of the education sites but physical access and resistance from schools, especially academies, to open up provision is also an issue for a number of reasons.

A large number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the school/college and the local clubs. The Council and other key partners must work with schools and colleges to develop an understanding of the issues that restrict or affect community access. Support should be provided, where appropriate, to address underlying problems and concerns that schools may have.

It is not uncommon for school pitch stock not to be fully maximised for community use. Even on established community use sites, access to outdoor sports facilities to the community is limited. Consultation identified several issues relating to the use of school facilities:

- ◀ Cost and insurance is the overarching problem for most schools.
- ◀ Many schools report that pitches cannot be accessed by the community due to being unable to staff the opening/closing of facilities both during and outside of the school day.
- ◀ Health and safety regulations/ child protection present barriers for opening schools out of hours.
- ◀ Community use is limited and often based on informal agreements between individual schools and clubs.
- ◀ There is no strategic guidance as to which clubs are allocated the use of playing pitch facilities (i.e. in accordance with a strategic need).
- ◀ There are management issues inherent in developing, implementing and managing community use agreements. Advice and guidance can be obtained from Sport England's Schools toolkit and Sports organisations toolkit.
(www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning)

Where appropriate, it will be important for schools to negotiate and sign formal and long-term agreements that secure community use. This needs to be examined against the following:

- ◀ The analysis provides a clear indication of the future pitch requirements and provides a basis for partners to negotiate.

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- Community use should not impact on the needs of schools to deliver curricular and extracurricular activities and;
- Community use must not impact on the School's educational budget.
- Community use should not impact on safeguarding during the school day.
- Consideration of "wear and tear" on school premises versus budget available for repairs and maintenance.
- The need for agreement by Governing Bodies responsible for the safe management of school premises.

Sport England has also produced guidance known as 'use our school', online resources and toolkits to help open up and retain school sites for community use and can be found at:

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

It is recommended that a working group, led by a partner from the education sector and supported by a range of other sectors including sport and leisure, is established to implement the strategic direction in relation to the increased/better use of school facilities. Best practice should be established in order to help inform the best way to engage with education establishments. Broadly speaking, the working group's role should be to:

- Better understand current community use, practices and issues by auditing schools.
- Ensure community use agreements are upheld
- Identify and pilot one school/club formal community use agreement with a view to rolling out the model across the area.
- Ensure that funding to improve the quality and maintenance of the facilities is identified and secured.
- As part of any agreement secure a management arrangement for community access, which does not rely on existing school staff structures.
- Ensure that pitch provision at schools is sufficient in quality and quantity to be able to deliver its curriculum. Once this has been achieved provision could contribute to overcoming deficiencies in the area.

Sport England reports that housing growth often leads to an increase in school places. S106 contributions are then secured to pay for these places which usually result in an extension to a school, sometimes on playing field. If applicable, this should be identified early in the process and embraced in policy that any replacement of playing fields i.e. compensatory provision, due to school expansion should be negotiated directly with the relevant developer.

The following schools were highlighted as being **available for community use but currently unused**. It is recommended that these schools are prioritised in terms of further exploring the reason the pitches currently remain unused by the community. A variety of reasons cause school pitches to become unused, even where community use agreements are in place e.g. at Sacred Heart School. This site is prone to flooding and hence has drainage issues which could explain the lack of use. Further consultation with each of the schools will allow for more in depth explanations.

School pitches available for community use but currently unused:

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Sport	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches
48	Nunthorpe Academy	Yes- unused	Greater Eston	Football	Adult		3
48	Nunthorpe Academy	Yes-	Greater Eston	Football	Youth	(9v9)	1

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Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Sport	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches
		unused					
51	Redcar & Cleveland College	Yes-unused	Coastal Area	Football	Adult		2
58	Sacred Heart School	Yes-unused	Coastal Area	Football	Adult		2
58	Sacred Heart School	Yes-unused	Coastal Area	Rugby Union	Senior		1
58	Sacred Heart School	Yes-unused	Coastal Area	Cricket	Senior		1
59	Saint Peters Catholic College of Maths and Computing	Yes-unused	Greater Eston	Football	Adult		3
59	Saint Peters Catholic College of Maths and Computing	Yes-unused	Greater Eston	Football	Youth	(9v9)	1
63	St Peters Primary School	Yes-unused	East Cleveland	Football	Mini	(5v5)	1
63	St Peters Primary School	Yes-unused	East Cleveland	Football	Mini	(7v7)	1
63	St Peters Primary School	Yes-unused	East Cleveland	Football	Youth	(9v9)	1
9926	Ings Farm Primary School	Yes-unused	Coastal Area	Football	Mini	(7v7)	1

In addition to gaining access to pitches on education sites the assessment report also highlighted two sites that have potentially underutilised changing facilities. These sites are De Brus playing fields where there is potential to explore use of the facilities at Skelton Youth Centre and also at Huntcliff School where it is reported that changing facilities are not currently available for community use. These sites should be used as a starting point to explore potential access to additional facilities.

Recommendation (d) - Protect sites that provide informal outdoor sports provision, particularly in areas that currently have a lack of open space.

Sites such as Grew Grass Lane, which provide informal and 'kick about' provision, especially for football, should be protected and continue to be available for public use, especially in such areas where open space is limited.

OBJECTIVE 2

To **enhance** existing playing pitches & facilities through improving their quality, accessibility and management

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation (d) – Improve pitch quality and changing on poor quality sites.

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality, including for example, addressing overplay and improving maintenance. Given that most councils are operating under reducing budgets it is currently advisable to look at improving only poor quality pitches as a priority, and standard quality pitches if budgets allow.

Addressing quality issues

Pitch quality in Redcar & Cleveland is generally good or standard and the majority of sites do not require pitch improvements at this time. The table below highlights that there are currently nine football pitches assessed as poor quality, allow this is three more than the previous study, it is a relatively low number, and furthermore, only two of the nine are currently in use.

Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
16	30	6	12	19	1	12	28	2

Other pitches in the Borough assessed as poor are rugby union pitches, AGPs and tennis courts. For rugby pitches the previous study did not highlight any poor quality pitches. There are two pitches currently used that are assessed as poor, see table below. Improving the pitches would mean that all currently used sites are rated as standard or good.

Currently used sites with poor pitch quality:

Sport	KKP Ref	Site ²	Analysis area	Pitch type	Number of pitches
Football	9909	Lodge Farm Road	Greater Eston	Adult	1
	9923	Kingsley Road Playing Fields	Greater Eston	Adult	1

² For extended detail on the location of sites please refer to R&C Playing Pitch Assessment Report and database.

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Sport	KKP Ref	Site ²	Analysis area	Pitch type	Number of pitches
Rugby union	22	Guisborough Leisure Centre (Laurence Jackson School)	Guisborough	Senior	2
Sand AGP	57	Rye Hills School	Coastal Area	Full	1
Tennis	41	Marske Sports and Recreation	Coastal Area	Tarmac	3

For football, play could be transferred from the poor quality sites as there is a small amount of spare capacity on adult pitches in Greater Eston. Guisborough Leisure Centre is well used for rugby and increasing the quality of the pitches there should be considered. The one sand based AGP is deteriorating and users rate the surface as poor. The pitch is the only hockey facility in the area and requires resurfacing to sustain the sport. Tennis courts at Marske Sports and Recreation Ground are rated as poor and could potentially threaten the future of the Club without investment.

For the purposes of the Quality Assessments, the Strategy will refer to pitches and ancillary facilities separately as Good, Standard or Poor quality. For example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements i.e. changing rooms or a specific pitch.

Good quality refers to pitches that have, for example, good grass cover, an even surface, are free from vandalism, litter etc. In terms of ancillary facilities, good quality refers to access for disabled people, sufficient provision for referees, juniors/women/girls and appropriate provision of showers, toilets and car parking.

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

Poor quality refers to pitches that have, for example, inadequate grass cover, uneven surface and damage. Please refer to the Sport England/NGB quality assessments. Sites played beyond capacity may require remedial action to help reduce this.

In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate size of changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old dated interior. Four sites were highlighted as receiving a poor rating:

Currently used sites with poor changing facilities:

Sport	Site ³	ID	Analysis area
Football	Guisborough Leisure Centre (Laurence Jackson School)	22	Guisborough
	Harcourt Road	27	Greater Eston
	King George V Playing Fields	9901	Guisborough
	Grangetown YCC	18	Greater Eston
Rugby union	Guisborough RFC	24	Guisborough

³ For extended detail on the location of sites please refer to R&C Playing Pitch Assessment Report and database.

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

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

For improvement/replacement of AGPs refer to Sport England and the NGBs 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' document for a guide as to suitable AGP surfaces:

www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/

Addressing overplay

In order to improve the overall quality of the playing pitches stock; it is necessary to ensure that pitches are not overplayed beyond recommended weekly carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing pitch quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a weekly match limit to each. Each NGB recommends a number of matches that a good quality pitch should take:

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week
Rugby union*	Pipe and Slit Drained and a good level of maintenance (D3/M2)	3.5 per week
	Pipe drained and a good level of maintenance (D2/M2)	3.25 per week
	Natural (adequate) drainage and a good level of maintenance (D1/M2)	3 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season

* Please note that the RFU believes that it is most appropriate to base the calculation of pitch capacity upon an assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme afforded to a site.

There are also sites that are poor quality but are not overplayed. These sites should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than other sites but demand could increase if the quality was to increase. Improving pitch quality should not be considered in isolation from maintenance regimes.

Whilst it works both ways, in so much as, poor pitch condition is a symptom of pitches being over played, potential improvements may make sites more attractive and, therefore, more popular; which in the long run can lead again to poor quality pitches if they are not maintained properly.

There is also a need to balance pitch improvements alongside the transfer of play to alternative pitch sites. Therefore, work with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity and encourage play, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues which are not operating at capacity.

Increasing pitch maintenance

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

For example, the FA has introduced a Pitch Advisor Scheme and has been working in partnership with Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG) to develop a Grass Pitch Maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots football clubs with the simple aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide football clubs with advice/practical solutions on a number of areas, with the simple aim of improving the club's playing surface.

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

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

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 7: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

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

Partners, led by the Council, should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision are directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in playing pitch facilities. Priorities should be identified from the NGBs that can also feed into the overall priorities of Redcar & Cleveland.

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

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

Please refer to Appendix Two for further funding information which includes details of the current opportunities, likely funding requirements and indicative project costs. The Tees Valley Sports Partnership is also a source of advice, guidance and 'critical friend' for clubs and organisations seeking funding.

Sport and physical activity can have a profound effect on peoples' lives, and plays a crucial role in improving community cohesion, educational attainment and self-confidence.

However, one of sport's greatest contributions is its positive impact on public health. It is therefore important to lever in investment from other sectors such as health through, for example, the CCG.

Recommendation (g) –Secure developer contributions

It is important that this strategy informs policies and supplementary planning documents by setting out the approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development. As the Council has moved away from CIL, the Playing Pitch Assessment and Strategy should be used as the evidence base for securing and negotiating developer contributions.

The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate playing fields and its subsequent maintenance. Section 106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes of the pitches in order to increase pitch capacity to accommodate more matches. A number of planning policy objectives should be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- ✦ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to specific planning obligations. Where developer contributions are applicable, a Section 106 Agreement or equivalent must be completed specifying the amount which will be linked to Sport England's Building Cost Information Service from the date of the Planning Committee, and timing of the Contribution(s) to be paid.
- ✦ Contributions should also be secured towards the first ten years of maintenance on new pitches. NGBs and Sport England can provide further and up to date information on the associated costs.
- ✦ External funding should be sought/secured to achieve maximum benefit from the investment into appropriate playing pitch facility enhancement and its subsequent maintenance .
- ✦ Where new multiple pitches are provided, appropriate changing rooms and associated car parking should be located on site.
- ✦ All new or improved playing pitches on school sites should be subject to community use agreements. For further guidance please refer to Sport England:
<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/community-use-agreements/>

OBJECTIVE 3

To **provide** new playing pitches & facilities that are fit for purpose to meet demands for participation now and in the future.

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation (h) - Rectify quantitative shortfalls in the current pitch stock

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

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

- ◀ Improving pitch quality in order to improve the capacity of pitches to accommodate more matches.
- ◀ The re-designation of pitches for which there is an oversupply.
- ◀ Securing long term community use at school sites.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.

In total, 30 youth 11v11 teams currently use adult pitches for home matches, which is not ideal for youth players and is not in line with the FA Youth Review. Adult pitches used by youth 11v11 teams are as follows (pitch numbers in brackets):

- ◀ Armitage Road (1)
- ◀ De Brus Centre (1)
- ◀ Guisborough Leisure Centre (2)
- ◀ Hillsideview Academy – Sixth Form (2)
- ◀ Marske Sport and Recreation Association (1)
- ◀ Middlesbrough Football Community Centre (2)
- ◀ North Skelton Playing Field (1)
- ◀ Rye Hills School (2)
- ◀ Saltburn Learning Campus (1)
- ◀ Smith Dock (3)

It is recommended that further modelling work be carried out in order to provide additional youth 11v11 pitches of the correct size. The current supply of youth 11v11 pitches are at capacity and so reconfiguring adult pitch with spare capacity and transferring play is likely to provide one solution.

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

Furthermore, retaining some spare capacity allows some pitches to be rested to protect overall pitch quality in the long term. Therefore, whilst in some instances it may be appropriate to re-designate a senior pitch where there is low demand identified a holistic approach should be taken to re-designation for the reasons cited.

Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends

Sport	Future sports development trend	Strategy impact
Football	Demand for adult football is likely to be sustained with the FA focusing on retention. There is also likely to be some continued movement towards small sided football for adults as well as mid-week 11 aside matches.	Additional need for 3G pitches.
	Demand for mini and youth football is likely to increase based on TGRs	A need for more mini and youth pitches in the Borough.
	An increase in women and girls football following £2.4m investment over the next two years (2014-2016) from Sport England to increase the number of women and girls taking part in football sessions.	A need to provide segregated ancillary facilities and the potential need for more pitches.
Cricket	Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish two girls' and one women's team in every local authority over the next five years.	Support clubs to ensure access to segregated changing and toilet provision and access to good quality cricket pitches to support growth.
Rugby union	The Rugby World Cup (2015) is predicted to see a further increase in the demand for rugby provision. Continuation of strong junior sections and targeted growth.	Clubs are likely to field more teams in the future, and therefore have a demand for more pitches. It is important, therefore, to work with the clubs to maintain the current pitch stock and to support facility development where appropriate.
AGPs	Demand for 3G pitches for football is high and will continue to increase as currently there is a shortfall of full size pitches in the Borough. It is likely that future demand for the use of 3G pitches, especially for training, will increase. Provision of 3G pitches which is World Rugby compliant could help to reduce overplay as a result of training on rugby pitches.	Requirement for new 3G pitches to be provided and a need for community use agreements to be in place for any new pitches as well as sinking funds. Utilise Sport England/NGB guidance on choosing the correct surface: http://www.sportengland.org/media/30651/Selecting-the-right-artificial-surface-Rev2-2010.pdf

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Sport	Future sports development trend	Strategy impact
Hockey	Potential increase of adult and junior teams.	Resurface of current sand based AGP.
Bowls	No expected increase in memberships	Likely that any future increase could be accommodated on existing greens.
Tennis	No clubs in Redcar & Cleveland report latent demand for access to additional courts. Therefore, it is likely that any increase in participation will be accommodated at existing courts in the Borough.	Increases in participation can be achieved through floodlighting courts to provide additional hours and the re-surfacing of courts.

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

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

The biggest shortfall of pitches is for 3G AGPs for football. The table below identifies the analysis areas of current shortfalls based on the FA model:

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Coastal Area	71	1.3 (2)	-	2
East Cleveland	21	0.4 (1)	-	1
Greater Eston	71	1.2 (2)	1	1
Guisborough	20	0.4 (1)	1	0
Redcar & Cleveland	183	6	2	4

Sites should be considered for other AGPs within specific analysis areas and the Borough as a whole, and feasibility studies undertaken for each proposed new pitch. The 3G pitch at Middlesbrough Football Community Centre (Greater Eston) is now open and operational, hence the need for only one additional pitch in the analysis area.

PART 6: SPORT SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Site specific actions from the sport by sport recommendations outlined below are detailed within the action plan.

FOOTBALL OBJECTIVE

Seek to focus future investment in key sites and creation of new 3G AGPs.

Grass pitches

- Where pitches are assessed as poor quality (13 pitches in total), review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality.
- Where pitches are assessed as standard or good quality, ensure that maintenance continues to the current standard.
- Ensure that teams are playing on the correct sized pitches.
- Improve and future proof sites used for clubs playing within the football pyramid.
- Transfer play on sites which are played to capacity or overplayed to alternative venues which are not operating at capacity or are not currently available for community use.
- Seek to improve changing provision where necessary.

3G pitches

- Seek to provide new AGPs to reduce shortfalls and ensure that they are fully utilised and available for community use at peak times, including weekends. All new pitches should be FA tested.
- Ensure that sinking funds are in place to maintain any new 3G pitches in the long term.

Scenario testing

The alternative to grass pitches is the use of AGPs for competitive matches and this is something that the FA is supporting, particularly for mini football.

How many AGPs would be required if all 5v5 and 7v7 teams were moved to 3G?

In order to test the scenario a programme of play for AGPs has been created based on the current peak time demand for mini/youth pitches in Redcar & Cleveland (Sun am).

Time	AGP 1	Total Games/teams
9.30am – 10.30am	4 x 5v5	4/8
10.30am – 11.30am	2 x 7v7	2/4
11.30am – 12.30pm	2 x 7v7	2/4
12.30pm – 1.30pm	2 x 7v7	2/4

There are currently 29 x 5v5 teams which would require **four** AGPs. There are 29 x 7v7 teams which would require 2.4 (rounded to **three**) pitches, based on the programming above, and separate start times for 5v5 and 7v7. The overall need therefore is **three** AGPs to accommodate all demand, which includes some spare capacity for growth.

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How many AGPs would be required if all 9v9 teams were moved to 3G?

In order to test the scenario a programme of play for AGPs has been created based on the current peak time demand for youth 9v9 pitches in Redcar & Cleveland (Sun am).

Time	AGP 1	Total Games/teams
9.30am – 10.30am	2 x 9v9	2/4
10.30am – 11.30am	2 x 9v9	2/4
11.30am – 12.30pm	2 x 9v9	2/4
12.30pm – 1.30pm	2 x 9v9	2/4

There are currently 29 x 9v9 teams which would require **two** AGPs to accommodate all demand.

What is the impact on capacity if access to Redcar Academy is lost?

The School reports that from the 2015-16 seasons the School pitches will not be available for community use. Currently there are 0.5 match equivalents of community use on the Site. This usage is likely to be accommodated elsewhere within the Coastal Analysis Area as there is currently potential spare capacity of seven match equivalent sessions on adult pitches.

CRICKET OBJECTIVE

Protect existing provision and look to provide additional training facilities.

- ◆ Protect current levels of provision and improve quality where possible.
- ◆ Reduce over play in the Coastal Analysis Area.
- ◆ Ensure that any facilities developed support opportunities for women's and girl's competitive cricket.
- ◆ Support clubs to develop and improve 'off pitch' practice facilities including indoor provision. Where possible these should be sited at cricket grounds.

RUGBY OBJECTIVE

Reduce over play at club sites and increase the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities.

- ◆ Improve the quality and maintenance of pitches to help address overplay.
- ◆ Ensure all clubs have access to additional training areas.
- ◆ Consider provision of additional pitches as a way to reduce over play.
- ◆ Improve ancillary facilities at club sites where there is a need to do so, in particular to accommodate women and girls rugby.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Scenario testing

What is the impact on capacity for Guisborough RFC, if access to Belmont Primary & Laurence Jackson School was lost?

The Club currently has two senior pitches at the home ground and relies on offsite provision at Belmont Primary (one mini pitch) and Laurence Jackson School (two senior pitches). These fields are not considered to have secured community use. Should access be lost the Club would require access to a further **four match equivalent sessions** (in place of Laurence Jackson) and **one match equivalent session** (in place of Belmont Primary) in addition to access at the home ground which is already over played by **3.5 match equivalents** per week.

What is the impact of installing additional floodlighting on the senior pitches at Redcar RUFC?

The table below highlights that the Club has three senior pitches at the home ground. One floodlit pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalents (three of which are training equivalents) and the two non floodlit pitches have spare capacity of **two** match equivalents. Floodlighting the second/third pitch would mean that training could be spread across the two/three pitches, which would even out the balance of over play and ensure the first team pitch is not over played. Furthermore, the ability to rotate training between pitches means that quality will be sustained.

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating
9907	Redcar RUFC (Mackinlay Park)	Senior	M2/D3 Good	1	Yes	4	3.5	+0.5
9907	Redcar RUFC (Mackinlay Park)	Senior	M2/D1 Good	2	No	4	6	-2
9907	Redcar RUFC (Mackinlay Park)	Mini	M2/D1 Good	1	No	2.5	3	-0.5

HOCKEY OBJECTIVE

Protect and improve quality of existing provision

- Work with England Hockey to ensure hockey sites are protected and quality is sustained/improved.
- Ensure that sinking funds are in place to maintain AGP quality in the long term.

What is the impact if the sand based pitch at Rye Hills School becomes unplayable?

The sand based pitch at Rye Hills School is of poor quality and should this pitch become unplayable there will be no alternative provision in the Borough; forcing the teams currently using the Site to be displaced.

BOWLS OBJECTIVE

To support and encourage bowls development in order to sustain future participation levels in the sport.

- ◆ Protect current provision and consider asset transfer to sustainable, development-minded clubs.
- ◆ Support clubs to improve green quality where there is a need to do so.
- ◆ Ensure bowling greens and pavilions are safe, secure facilities.
- ◆ Encourage clubs to increase membership levels.
- ◆ Support and encourage clubs to provide pay and play opportunities.

TENNIS OBJECTIVE

Protect current provision and improve quality on key sites.

- ◆ Prioritise court improvement on key club sites;
- ◆ Where demand exists, support tennis clubs to improve court quality and/or install floodlighting (in order to increase the capacity) of existing tennis court provision.
- ◆ Continue to support and encourage junior development at key tennis clubs in order to increase participation levels in the sport.

PART 7: ACTION PLAN

7.1 Introduction

The site-by-site action plan seeks to address key issues identified in the accompanying Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement. The action plan is for all stakeholders and is a document that should be delivered in partnership and not by one organisation alone.

It should be reviewed in the light of staff and financial resources in order to prioritise support for strategically significant provision and provision that other providers are less likely to supply. 7.2 below explain the hierarchy of priorities on the list. It is imperative that action plans for priority projects should be developed through the implementation of the strategy.

7.2 Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) to the management and improvement of sites

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities.

Redcar & Cleveland has a number of strategic sites, which are sites that are considered to be the most popular and therefore need to be of a high standard in order that they can accommodate a sufficient number of matches per week. This applies mostly to football pitch hire. However, the Council should extend this provision model to recognise the supply and demand issues identified throughout the Assessment Report (i.e. current levels of overplay) and the investment necessary to improve sites based on current levels of usage. The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in a Borough-wide context (i.e. they accommodate the majority of play). In addition, there are a number of sites which have been identified as accommodating both adult and youth matches, sometimes concurrently. Not only could such sites require a mixture of mini, youth and adult pitches, but they also require split-level ancillary facilities, in order to maximise their usage at all times.

In the context of developing a tiered model approach to the management of sports facilities Redcar & Cleveland has a number of multi-team youth clubs and leagues which place a great demand on the pitch stock. There are a number of sites which are still owned and maintained by the local authority, but are actually booked by the clubs or leagues for the entire season. The sites are then recognised as the 'home ground'. Such sites are fundamentally different from those which can be hired on a regular basis because they are in effect, 'allocated' to a certain club and management responsibility.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Proposed tiered site criteria

Criteria	Strategic Sites	Key Centres	Local Sites	Reserve sites
Site location	Strategically located in the Borough. Priority sites for NGB.	Strategically located within the analysis area.	Serves the local community.	Serves the local community.
Site layout	Accommodates three or more grass pitches and potential inclusion of an AGP.	Accommodates two or more grass pitches.	Accommodates at least one pitch.	Likely to be single-pitch site.
Type of sport	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.	Supports informal demand and/ or training etc.
Management	Management control remains within the local authority/other provider or with an appropriate lease arrangement through a committee or education owned.	Management control remains within the local authority or with an appropriate club on a lease arrangement.	Club either has long-term lease/hires the pitch for the entire season or owns the site. Management control remains within the local authority/other provider or with an appropriate lease arrangement through a committee or education owned.	Management control remains with the Council or existing management body.
Maintenance regime	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime either by the club or in house maintenance contract.	Basic level of maintenance i.e. grass cutting and line marking as required.
Ancillary facilities	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Appropriate access changing to accommodate both senior and junior use concurrently (if required).	No requirement for access changing to accommodation.

Key Centres, such as Smith Dock Park and De Brus Playing Fields, are of Borough wide importance, where users are willing to travel to access the range of facilities offered and are multi-sport/format. These have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment. The financial, social and sporting benefits which can be achieved through development of key centres are significant.

Club/Education Sites, such as King George V Playing Fields, although these sites are more community focused; in some cases they can service a wider area. However, there may be more of a focus on a specific sport i.e. a dedicated site.

From a football perspective, these sites already seek to accommodate the growing emphasis on football venues catering for mini and youth football (especially mini-soccer) matches. The conditions recommended for mini and youth football are becoming more stringent. This should be reflected in the provision of a unique tier of pitches for mini and youth football solely that can ensure player safety, as well as being maintained more efficiently. It is anticipated that both youth and mini-football matches could be played on these sites. Initial investment could be required in the short term and identified in the Action Plan.

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

Education provision within Redcar & Cleveland forms an important part of the pitch stock. Many of the sites such as Laurence Jackson offer multi-sport provision and are used by the Community on a regular basis.

Local sites refer to those sites which are local to a handful of clubs and are hired or leased for a season. Primarily they are sites with more than one pitch. The level of priority attached to them for council-generated investment may be relatively low and consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking a long-term lease on the site (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought.

It is possible that sites could be included in this tier which are not currently hired or leased to a club, but have the potential to be leased to a suitable club. Such sites will require some level of investment, either to the pitches or ancillary facilities, and it is anticipated that one of the conditions of offering a hire/lease is that the club would be in a position to source external funding to improve the facilities.

Reserve sites could be used as overspill for neighbouring sites and/or for summer matches/competitions, training or informal play. They are most likely to be single-pitch sites with no ancillary facilities.

7.3 Management and development

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

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

7.4 Action plan

The action plan is not an exhaustive list of all sites within the assessment audit but is a list of sites requiring action.

Timescales

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

Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

Partners

The column indicating partners refers to the main organisation(s) that Redcar & Cleveland Council will liaise with in helping to deliver the actions. The next stage in the development of the action plan will be to agree a Lead Partner to help deliver the actions.

Cost

The actions have also been ranked as low, medium or high based on cost. The brackets in which these sit are:

(L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above. These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at www.sportengland.org/media/198443/facility-costs-4q13.pdf

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

COASTAL AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ⁴	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand ⁵	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	8	-	1	-7	0.5	-6.5
Youth pitches 11v11	4	-	1	-1	1	0
Youth pitches 9v9	3.5	-	1.5	-2	1	-1
Mini pitches 7v7	3.5	-	0.5	-3	1	-2
Mini pitches 5v5	3.5	-	0.5	-3	1	-2

- ▶ Spare capacity exists on all pitch types both now and in the future, with the exception of youth 11v11 pitches, which are played to capacity due to future demand.
- ▶ There are no levels of overplay on any pitch type.
- ▶ There are six youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches and one adult pitch (Saltburn Learning Campus) is used solely by youth 11v11 teams.

Recommendations

- ▶ Improve pitch quality in order to increase potential capacity and better accommodate current/future demand.
- ▶ Retain small amounts of spare capacity where it can be used to protect/improve quality.
- ▶ Spare capacity on adult pitches to be used to build future capacity on youth 11v11 pitches.

Cricket

- ▶ Corus Sports Club and Saltburn Cricket Tennis & Bowls Club are overplayed by two and nine matches respectively.
- ▶ Actual spare capacity exists at New Marske Cricket Club amounting to 0.5 match equivalent sessions in the peak period. There are 12 matches of spare capacity in total.
- ▶ Both Redcar Cricket Club and Marske Cricket Club have spare capacity totalling four and seven matches respectively, however, this is not available during the peak period.
- ▶ There are two standalone non-turf wicket pitches; Bydales School and Redcar Academy, neither of which is used by the community.
- ▶ Pitch ownership and management across all sites is seen as secure.

Recommendations

- ▶ Improve wicket quality/maintenance in order to help alleviate overplay at Corus Sports Club and installation of a non turf wicket at Saltburn Cricket Tennis & Bowls Club
- ▶ Consider opportunities to maximise use at New Marske Cricket Club including LMS.
- ▶ Retain non peak spare capacity in order to help improve/protect pitch quality.

⁴ In match equivalent sessions

⁵ Adult latent demand expressed by Lakes United FC, Youth by Dormanstown FC, Redcar Newmarket FC and Saltburn Athletic and mini latent demand Dormanstown FC and Saltburn Athletic.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Seek opportunities to create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

Rugby union

- ◀ Redcar RUFC has three senior and one mini pitch, all of a good quality. One senior floodlit pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions due to training.
- ◀ There are pitches at Redcar Academy, Rye Hills School and Sacred Heart Comprehensive, however, none are used by the community, despite being available.

Recommendation

- ◀ Ensure good quality is maintained at Redcar RUFC.
- ◀ Consider additional floodlighting on other senior pitches to alleviate overplay.
- ◀ Improve changing facilities in order to accommodate women and girls teams.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at school sites and explore community use possibilities.

Hockey

- ◀ Overall, demand for hockey can be met.
- ◀ A full size sand based pitch exists at Rye Hills School and is used by Redcar Hockey Club. The surface of the pitch, however, is 13 years old and users deem the quality to be poor.
- ◀ Junior teams within Redcar Hockey Club have to play outside of Redcar & Cleveland due to only one set of goals existing at Ryehills School, meaning teams cannot play side by side at the same time.

Recommendations

- ◀ Resurface the carpet at Ryehills School and ensure it remains suitable for competitive hockey.
- ◀ Seek funding to provide additional goals at Ryehills School.

3G pitches

- ◀ There is a requirement for two full size 3G pitches within the Analysis Area, however, there are currently none.
- ◀ A smaller sized pitch at Saltburn Learning Campus may accommodate some training demand, however very little community use is recorded.

Recommendations

- ◀ Seek suitable potential sites for new 3G AGPs to accommodate shortfall. Review provision and current providers.

Tennis

- ◀ There are enough courts that are available for community use to accommodate both the current and future demand.
- ◀ Marske Tennis Club has only three members, whilst Saltburn Tennis Club has 70 senior and 36 junior members, making it the biggest club within Redcar & Cleveland.
- ◀ All park courts are free to use for the community.
- ◀ No tennis courts within schools are available for community use.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve court quality at Marske Sport and Recreation Association in order to ensure the future of the Club.
- ◀ Seek partnership with Saltburn Tennis Club and Saltburn Leisure Centre in order to allow community use of courts at Saltburn Cricket, Bowls and Tennis Club.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.
- ◀ Markse-by-Sea Bowls Club (with a total of 97 members) is operating well above the Redcar & Cleveland average, however, no demand for an additional green was reported.
- ◀ Redcar Borough Park Bowling Club has a particular high membership due to also accessing an indoor green and, as such, does not report a need for additional outdoor facilities.

Recommendations

- ◀ Sustain green quality.
- ◀ Support clubs who report an intention to develop and improve green quality.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ⁶	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ⁷	Cost ⁸
5	Borough Park	Tennis	Council	Two standard quality macadam courts available to the community free of charge.	Sustain courts for continued community use.	Council	Local	L	L
		Bowls		Two standard quality greens. Used by Redcar Borough Park Bowling Club, which report an intention to improve quality. The Club has a particularly high membership (due to also accessing an indoor green) but does not identify a need for additional outdoor facilities.	Support Redcar Borough Park Bowling Club to improve the quality of the green.				
6	Corus Sports Club	Football	Club	An adult pitch rated as poor. Deemed as the worst pitch in the Area by the Redcar Sunday League, with quality worsening over the last couple of seasons. Used by two adult teams resulting in the pitch being played to capacity. Plans are in place to refurbish changing facilities.	Improve pitch quality in order to provide actual spare. Ensure changing room refurbishment goes ahead.	FA Club	Key	M	M
		Cricket		Standard quality square consisting of six wickets; rented by Corus Sports Club CC and Dormanstown CC. Pitch is overplayed by two matches, however, only one team using the site plays during peak time. No training facilities are on site.	Seek to improve quality in order to better accommodate overplay. Explore transferring play to squares with actual spare capacity. Seek opportunity for installation of practice nets.	ECB Club		M	M
8	Bydales School	Football	School	Two adult pitches and a youth 9v9 pitch assessed as standard quality. Community use is believed to be unavailable as no use was recorded and no information was gathered from the School.	No current local demand for community use. Retain for school use.	School	Local	S	L
		Cricket		A standalone non-turf wicket pitch assessed as standard. No community use is available and no demand exists.					
20	Green Lane - Redcar	Football	Club	Leased by Redcar Athletic FC until 2022. One adult, two youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches assessed as standard; two mini 5v5 and two mini 7v7 pitches rated as poor due to bad drainage. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 and 1.5 match equivalents exist on the adult and youth 11v11 pitches respectively, whilst spare capacity on the mini pitches is discounted due to the quality.	Develop as a strategic site. Improve pitch quality particularly on the mini pitches. . Increase lease for Redcar Athletic FC to ensure security of tenure and to help funding opportunities. Ensure adult pitch is suitable for step 7 football.	FA Club	Strategic	M	M
21	Grew Grass Lane	Football	Council	A mini 7v7 pitch and a youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality. Pitches are only marked out during the cricket season and used as a secondary venue by New Marske FC. Otherwise the site is used for training purposes only.	Work with New Marske FC to explore possibility of marking out pitches permanently.	FA Club	Reserve	S	L
29	Hob Hill	Football	Club	Lease of the site is soon to be taken on by Saltburn Athletic FC to offset the loss of pitches at Saltburn Primary School. Pitches to be created once the lease is secure.	Ensure site is provided to a high quality, well maintained and fully utilised.	FA Club	Local	S	M
32	Huntcliff School	Tennis	School	Four poor quality tarmac courts unavailable for community use due to a perceived lack of demand. Previously used by Saltburn Tennis Club however this ended due to deterioration in court quality.	No current local demand for community use. Retain and improve for school use.	School	Local	L	M

⁶ Suggested lead partner highlighted in bold.

⁷ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

⁸ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ⁶	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ⁷	Cost ⁸
34	Lakes Playing Field	Football	Council	Two adult pitches assessed as poor quality. Users cite high levels of unofficial use, dog fouling and vandalism, as well as infrequent maintenance. Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalents discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality in order to provide actual spare capacity.	FA Council	Local	S	M
41	Marske Sport And Recreation Association (GER Stadium)	Football	Club	One adult pitch rated as good quality with one match equivalent of actual spare capacity. Pitch adheres to step 5 requirements and is leased by Markse United FC until 2084. The Club would like to acquire a secondary site in order to create more youth teams.	Ensure stadium adheres to requirements should Marske United FC earn promotion to step 4. Help the Club find a secondary location in order to develop the clubs youth section.	FA Club	Key	L	H
		Tennis		Three poor quality (tarmac) courts due to worn line markings, bad drainage and an increasing lack of maintenance. A recent funding application to Sport England was unsuccessful. The courts are leased to Markse Tennis Club which now has just three members and no longer actively seeks new members do the court quality. Changing facilities an inaccessible due to conflict with the owners of an on-site bar (in which the changing rooms are located).	Improve court quality in order to attract new members to the Club. Seek resolution regarding access to changing facilities.	Club LTA		S	M
		Bowls		One good quality green, leased by Marske-by-Sea Bowls Club. The Club has 97 members, which is well above the average (55) for Redcar & Cleveland, although no need for an additional green is reported.	Maintain good quality and ensure green is not overplayed.	Club		L	L
I	New Marske Sports Club	Football	Club	One youth 11v11, two youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch all assessed as good quality. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 and 1.5 match equivalents exist on the youth 11v11 and 9v9 pitches respectively. The pitches overmark the cricket outfield and therefore are not used when the cricket season is being played.	Retain spare capacity and ensure maintenance of the pitches is appropriate for over marking and continual use.	FA Club	Key	S	L
		Cricket		A standard quality eight wicket square leased by New Marske CC until 2099 and rented by Waterloo News CC. Spare capacity of 12 matches exists and 0.5 pitches are available during the peak period. No training facilities are on site.	Maximise use of the site and consider opportunity for LMS. Seek opportunity for installation of practice nets.	ECB Club		M	M
51	Redcar & Cleveland College	Football	College	Two adult pitches assessed as standard quality. No regular community use is recorded despite the pitches being available.	Explore community use options with the College in order to help attract demand.	College	Local	S	L
52	Redcar Academy - A Community School for the Performing and Visual Arts	Football	School	Two adult pitches rated as standard. Currently available to the community and used by Mermaid FC, however no community use will be allowed for the 2015-2016 season due to cost implications.	If financial issues cannot be resolved to ensure secured use seek options for the Club to use Redcar & Cleveland College	School	Local	S	L
		Cricket		A standalone non-turf wicket pitch assessed as standard. No community use is recorded and no availability will be offered for the 2015-2016 season.	Potential site for the transfer of junior cricket from grass wicket pitches.			M	L
		Rugby union		One senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage and average maintenance. No community use is recorded and no availability will be offered for the 2015-2016 season.	No current local demand. Retain for school use.			L	L
54	Redcar Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A good quality square consisting of 15 wickets. Pitch is owned by Redcar CC and also used by O'Grady's CC via a rent agreement. Four matches of spare capacity exists, however there is no capacity during peak time.	Retain spare capacity in order to help protect good quality.	ECB Club	Local	L	L

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ⁶	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ⁷	Cost ⁸
57	Rye Hills School	Football	School	Two adult pitches. One adheres to Step 7 football and is assessed as good, whilst the other is rated is standard. Actual spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalents exist on good quality pitch, whilst the standard pitch is played to capacity. A standard quality youth 9v9 pitch is unused by the community but available. A rolling use agreement is in place with Redcar Newmarket FC.	Explore community use options with the School to fully utilise youth 9v9 pitch. Ensure security of use for Redcar Newmarket FC.	FA School Club	Strategic	S	L
		Rugby union		One senior pitch with poor drainage and average maintenance. Community use is available but no demand exists.	No current local demand. Seek options to improve quality for school use.	School		M	M
		AGP		A standard quality, full size AGP. The sand based surface is 13 years old, with users stating that it is becoming dangerous and has issues relating to worn line markings. Only one set of goals is provided, meaning junior teams cannot play side by side at the same time, causing displaced demand from Redcar HC. Used mostly by football teams during the week for training, although spare capacity does exist, especially on weekends.	Seek to resurface the pitch and ensure it remains suitable for competitive hockey. Provide an additional set of goals in order for displaced demand to return to Redcar & Cleveland.	EHA School		S	M
		Tennis		Three poor quality tarmac courts unused by both the community and the School.	Improve court quality in order to allow for school use.	School		M	M
58	Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Comprehensive School	Football	School	Two adult pitches assessed as standard quality. Community use is available as per community use agreement, however, none is recorded due to drainage issues.	No current local demand. Seek options to improve quality for school use.	FA School	Key	S	M
		Cricket		A standalone non-turf wicket pitch assessed as standard. No community use is available and no demand exists.	Sustain for continued school use.	School		L	L
		Rugby union		A senior pitch with average maintenance and natural (inadequate) drainage. Available to the community however no demand exists.	No current local demand. Seek options to improve quality for school use.	School		S	M
68	Mo Mowlam Memorial Park (Trunk Road Playing Field) - fenced	Football	Club	Two mini 5v5, two mini 7v7, two youth 9v9 and three youth 11v11 pitches assessed as good quality, with actual spare capacity existing on all pitch types. Leased and maintained by Redcar Town FC.	Retain spare capacity to help ensure quality is protected.	FA Club	Key	L	L
9929	Mo Mowlam Memorial Park (Trunk Road Playing Field) - unfenced	Football	Club	Two adult pitches assessed as standard quality. Vulnerable to high levels of unofficial use. One match equivalent of actual spare capacity exists.	Seek options to help protect the pitch from unofficial use and to improve pitch quality.	FA Club Council	Key	L	M
70	Westgarth Primary School	Football	School	Two mini 7v7 pitches assessed as standard quality. No community use.	No current local demand for community use. Retain for school use.	School	Reserve	S	L
71	Wheatlands Primary School	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard. No community use allowed in order to protect the pitch for school use.	No current local demand for community use. Retain for school use.	School	Reserve	S	M
9906	Zetland Park	Tennis	Council	Three standard quality macadam courts available to the community free of charge.	Maintain for continued community use.	Council	Local	L	L
		Bowls		Two standard quality greens well used by community teams.					
9904	Locke Park	Tennis	Council	Two standard quality macadam courts available to the community free of charge.	Maintain for continued community use.	Council	Local	L	L

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ⁶	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ⁷	Cost ⁸
		Bowls		One good quality green used by Locke Park Bowls Club.					
9903	Saltburn Cricket Bowls & Tennis Club	Cricket	Club	A square consisting of 13 grass wickets assessed as good quality; owned by Saltburn CC. Pitch is overplayed by nine matches.	Explore possibility of installing a non-turf wicket on site to cater for junior use and address overplay.	ECB Club	Key	M	M
		Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts, two standard quality macadam courts and two standard quality grass courts. The two good quality courts have recently been refurbished and have floodlighting. Leased by Saltburn Tennis Club, which has 70 senior and 36 junior members. Pay and play is not offered as it cannot be managed on site.	Sustain court quality for increasing club membership. Consider partnership with Saltburn Leisure Centre in order to allow for pay and play use.	Club		L	L
		Bowls		One good quality green.	Sustain quality of the green.	Club		L	L
9907	Mackinlay Park (Redcar RUFC)	Football	Club	Three adult football pitches and one (unused) mini 7v7 pitch assessed as standard. Actual spare capacity of two match equivalents exists on the adult pitch, whilst one match equivalent exists on the mini 7v7 pitch.	Ensure pitch maintenance is appropriate to levels of use and explore options to reconfigure pitches to maximise use of the site.	Club	Key	L	L
		Rugby union		Three senior pitches, one of which has had investment in new drainage and has floodlights. Remaining pitches, as well as two mini pitches, have natural (adequate) drainage. Maintenance is rated as good. Floodlit pitch is used for training and is therefore overplayed by 0.5 match sessions, whilst spare capacity exists on other pitches. Changing facilities are considered small.	Consider additional floodlighting on second pitch in order to spread training demand and alleviate overplay. Improve changing facilities to better accommodate women and girls.	Club		M	M
9908	Saltburn Learning Campus	Football	School	One adult, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitch rated as standard quality. Actual spare capacity is available on the adult pitch, whilst the mini 5v5 is unused by the community despite being available. Sole use of adult pitch is by a youth 11v11 team.	Consider changing adult pitch into a youth 11v11 pitch in order to better suit users.	School	Local	S	L
9917	Marske Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A good quality square containing 15 grass wickets. Leased by Marske CC until 2099 and showing seven matches of spare capacity, although no capacity exists during peak time. Funding opportunities are being explored for clubhouse refurbishment.	Ensure good quality is sustained and that refurbishment of clubhouse goes ahead.	ECB Club	Local	M	M
9920	Armitage Road	Football	Council	One adult, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitch assessed as standard. Used by Dormanstown FC however spare capacity exists on each pitch type. The Club have acquired land nearby which will see the creation of more pitches.	Support Dormanstown FC to ensure new pitch is provided and sustained to a high quality. Ensure community use remains on current pitches.	FA Club	Local	M	M
9921	Dormanstown Academy	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch and one mini 5v5 pitch assessed as standard quality. Both pitches are available to the community and used by Dormanstown FC, with no spare capacity existing during peak period.	Support the School in retaining community use after the increase of pitches at Armitage Road.	School	Local	L	L
9922	Saltburn Primary School (Closed)	Football	Council	One mini 7v7 pitch assessed as poor quality. The pitch is soon to be lost to a housing development and replaced at Hob Hill, which will be leased by Saltburn Athletic FC.	Ensure pitch is re-provided at Hob Hill to a good quality.	FA Club	Local	S	M
9926	Ings Farm Primary School	Football	School	A mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard. Available to the community however unused.	No current local demand for community use. Retain for school use.	School	Reserve	S	L

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

EAST CLEVELAND AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand ¹⁰	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	7	-	-	-7	-	-7
Youth pitches 11v11	2	-	1	-1	1	0
Youth pitches 9v9	1	-	1	0	1	+1
Mini pitches 7v7	0.5	-	-	-0.5	1	+0.5
Mini pitches 5v5	-	-	-	0	1	+1

- There is spare capacity on adult pitches equating to seven match equivalent sessions both now and in the future.
- There is current spare capacity on youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches, however, future demand results in youth 11v11 pitches being played to capacity and mini 7v7 pitches being overplayed by 0.5 match equivalents.
- Youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 are currently played to capacity, with future demand resulting in overplay by one match equivalent on both pitch types.
- There are two youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches. The adult pitch at De Brus Playing Fields is used solely by youth 11v11 teams.

Recommendations:

- Improve pitch quality in order to increase potential capacity and better accommodate current/future demand.
- Change surplus adult pitches to youth 11v11 pitches in order to allow transfer of youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches and to create spare capacity. The most suitable pitches for this are Carlin How WMC, Holly Bush and North Road – Loftus.

Cricket

- There are three pitches; Moorsholm Cricket Club, Loftus Cricket & Athletic Club and Skelton Castle Cricket Club, all of which have spare capacity amounting to 91 matches.
- Moorsholm Cricket Club and Skelton Castle Cricket Club have 0.5 spare capacity available in the peak period.
- There is a standalone non-turf wicket at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College that is available to the community however unused.
- Pitch ownership and management across all sites is seen as secure.

⁹ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁰ Youth latent demand expressed by Lingdale FC and Skelton United.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Retain spare capacity in order to help improve/sustain pitch quality.
- ◀ Explore opportunities for standalone non-turf wicket pitch at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College to accommodate future demand.
- ◀ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

Rugby union

- ◀ There is no current demand for rugby pitches in the Area.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A smaller sized AGP exists at Loftus Cricket & Athletic Club which can accommodate some training demand.

3G pitches

- ◀ There is a requirement for one full size 3G pitch within the Analysis Area, however, there are currently none.

Recommendations

- ◀ Seek suitable potential sites for new 3G AGPs to accommodate shortfall. Review provision and current providers.

Tennis

- ◀ The only courts are located at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College, which are unavailable to the community and poor quality.
- ◀ No local demand exists for additional courts.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve court quality at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College in order to allow for more suitable school use.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Sustain green quality.

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ¹¹	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹²	Cost ¹³
9	Carlin How Working Mens Club	Football	Club	One adult pitch assessed as standard. Available to the community however currently unused.	Work with the Club in order to explore and attract community use. Consider remarking pitch to cater for youth or mini shortfalls.	FA Club	Local	S	L
		Bowls		One standard quality green.	Retain for continued use.	Club		L	L
14	De Brus Playing Fields	Football	Council	One adult, two youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all assessed as standard quality. Adult pitch is used solely by youth 11v11 teams. Changing rooms are located within De Brus Centre however cannot be accessed by community teams. Actual spare capacity exists on adult, youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches. Skelton United FC would like to take over the pitches on a long term lease.	Explore possibility of making changing facilities accessible within De Brus Centre. Consider asset transfer of pitches on a long term lease to sole users Skelton United FC.	Council FA Club	Key	S	L
15	Freebrough Specialist Engineering College	Football	School	Two adult and one 9v9 pitch assessed as good quality. The 9v9 pitch is available to the community however unused, whilst actual spare capacity exists on the adult pitches.	Develop as a strategic site. Develop community use and in the longer term consider as a potential site for a 3G pitch to help reduce shortfall.	FA School	Strategic	M	H
		Cricket		A standalone non-turf wicket pitch assessed as standard. No community use is recorded despite being available.	Retain for school use and potential future demand.	School		L	L
		Tennis		Four tarmac courts unavailable to the community due to poor quality. The courts suffer from high levels of moss and worn line markings. Plans are in place for improvement.	Improve court quality and offer for community use.	School		M	M
26	Handale Primary School	Football	School	Development of the School is due for completion in July 2015. The creation of at least two football pitches will be accessible by the community, although the size of the pitches is not yet clear.	Consider provision of youth or mini pitches to meet identified shortfall. Ensure community use agreement is in place for their use.	School Council FA	Local	S	M
30	Holly Bush	Football	Council	One adult pitch assessed as good quality. Available to the community however no regular demand exists.	Consider remarking to cater for shortfall in youth or mini pitches.	Council FA	Local	S	L
		Bowls		One good quality green, used by Skelton Bowls Club.	Sustain good quality.				
37	Lingdale Recreation Ground	Football	Council	One adult pitch assessed as poor quality and currently played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality in order to increase potential capacity and provide actual spare capacity.	Council	Local	S	M
43	Moorsholm Cricket Club	Football	Club	One adult pitch assessed as good quality. Available to the community however no regular demand is recorded. The pitch overlaps the cricket outfield and cannot be used during the cricket season.	No local demand to continue marking as an adult pitch.	FA Club	Local	S	L

¹¹ Suggested lead partners are highlighted in bold.

¹² Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹³ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ¹¹	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹²	Cost ¹³
		Cricket		Standard quality square containing ten grass wickets; owned by Moorsholm CC. Pitch has 30 matches of spare capacity and 0.5 pitches available during peak period. No training facilities are on site.	Retain spare capacity in order to accommodate future demand and improve quality. Consider installation of practice nets.	ECB Club		M	M
46	North Road - Loftus	Football	Council	One adult pitch assessed as standard quality. The pitch is maintained as open space only and as such, no current use is recorded.	No local demand to continue marking as an adult pitch. Consider provision of youth or mini pitches to meet identified shortfall	Council FA Club	Reserve	S	M
47	North Skelton Playing Field	Football	Council	One adult pitch assessed as poor quality. Users cite uneven playing surface and high levels of vandalism as main concern. The pitch is currently used to capacity.	Improve pitch quality in order to create additional capacity or consider not maintaining the pitch and reinvest saving in development of Freebrough Specialist Engineering College a Strategic Site.	FA Club	Local	S	M
63	St Peters Primary School	Football	School	One youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitch assessed as poor. Pitches are available to the community however now regular use exists, which is believed to be due to a quality issue.	Explore community use options with the School. Improve quality in order to attract demand.	School	Reserve	S	M
990 2	Loftus Cricket & Athletic Club.	Football	Club	One good quality adult pitch which overmarks cricket outfield. Actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session exists.	Support club in sustaining high pitch quality.	FA Club	Local	L	L
		Cricket		An eight wicket square rated as good quality and owned by Loftus CC. There are 14 matches of spare capacity however none exists during peak time.		ECB Club			
991 3	Skelton Castle CC	Cricket	Club	A good quality square containing 13 grass wickets. Leased by Skelton Castle CC until 2035. Spare capacity of 47 matches and 0.5 pitches during peak time. No training facilities are on site.	Retain spare capacity to accommodate any increases in demand and to sustain quality. Consider extension of lease and installation of practice nets.	ECB Club	Local	M	M

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

GREATER ESTON AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁴	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand ¹⁵	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	5.5	-	1	-4.5	1	-3.5
Youth pitches 11v11	1	-	1	0	1.5	+1.5
Youth pitches 9v9	0.5	-	1	+0.5	1.5	+2
Mini pitches 7v7	2	-	0.5	-1.5	1	-0.5
Mini pitches 5v5	1	-	0.5	-0.5	1	+0.5

- There is current spare capacity on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches. Youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity and youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by 0.5 match equivalents.
- In the future, spare capacity remains on adult and mini 7v7 pitches, however, the remaining pitch types are overplayed.
- There are 20 youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches, all of which are across three sites; Hillside Academy (sixth form), Middlesbrough Football Community Centre and Smith Dock.

Recommendations

- Improve pitch quality in order to increase capacity and alleviate overplay.
- Retain small amount of spare capacity to help sustain/improve pitch quality.
- Consider remarking some adult pitches to youth pitches in order to cater for shortfalls. Hillside Academy should be considered for this.
- Improve changing facilities at Grangetown YCC.

Cricket

- There are three pitches, located at Nunthorpe Cricket Club, Normanby Hall Cricket Club and Smith Dock. All three pitches have spare capacity, although none are available during the peak period.
- There is a standalone non-turf wicket at Nunthorpe Academy that is available to the community however unused. The wicket is poor quality.
- Pitch ownership and management across all sites is seen as secure.

Recommendations

- Improve pitch quality.

¹⁴ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁵ Adult latent demand expressed by Middlesbrough Lionesses, youth and mini by Southbank AFC.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Consider transfer of junior teams onto non-turf wickets in order to create spare capacity during peak time.
- ◀ Improve quality of standalone non-turf wicket at Nunthorpe Academy to ensure it can appropriately supply any future demand.
- ◀ Consider creation of new provision in order to accommodate any increase in demand.
- ◀ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

Rugby union

- ◀ There is no current demand for rugby pitches.
- ◀ Two pitches exist within schools. Hillside Academy is not available to the community as per PFI agreement, whilst Nunthorpe Academy is available but unused.

Recommendation

- ◀ Explore community use options with schools to ensure any future demand can be met.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality, especially at Nunthorpe Academy, which is considered poor.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A sand based AGP is in place at Middlesbrough Football Community Centre, however work is ongoing to replace the surface with a 3G carpet.
- ◀ A smaller sized AGP exists at Saint Peter's Catholic College which can accommodate some training demand.

3G pitches

- ◀ There is a requirement for one additional full size 3G pitches in the Analysis Area, currently there is one.

Recommendations

- ◀ Seek suitable potential sites for new 3G AGP to accommodate shortfall. Review provision and current providers.
- ◀ Ensure good quality and high levels of community use at Middlesbrough Football Community Centre.
- ◀ Ensure sinking fund is in place for eventual resurfacing.

Tennis

- ◀ The only courts are located at Nunthorpe Academy and Hillside Academy, which are unavailable to the community.
- ◀ No local demand exists for additional courts.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Support clubs that report an intention to develop and improve green quality.
- ◀ Sustain green quality.

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ¹⁶	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁷	Cost ¹⁸
18	Grangetown YCC	Football	Club	One adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch rated as standard quality. Actual spare capacity exists on the youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches amounting to 0.5 and two match equivalents respectively. Pitches are used solely by Grangetown Boys Club FC, which has an adult team playing one promotion below Step 7. Plans are in place to upgrade poor changing facilities.	Ensure the Club has everything in place to sustain and improve quality as future demand will result in increased usage. Ensure pitch is suitable for Step 7 football. Seek funding for changing room improvement.	FA Club	Key	L	M
27	Harcourt Road - South Bank	Football	Club	Two adult pitches assessed as standard quality. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalents exists. Site suffers from high levels of vandalism, which has caused the ancillary provision to become disused; port-a-cabin changing facilities are now in place. Lease agreement with Southbank AFC is considered unsecure after the site was previously earmarked for a building development.	Explore funding options to improve ancillary provision and seek ways to prevent high levels of vandalism. Revisit and extend lease agreement with Southbank AFC.	FA Club	Key	S	H
42	Middlesbrough Football Community Centre	Football	Club	Two adult, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 pitches all assessed as good quality. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalents exists on the adult pitches. Nine out of the 11 teams using the adult pitches are youth 11v11 teams.	Ensure current quality is sustained. Consider change of adult pitch dimensions to suit youth 11v11 users.	FA Club	Strategic	L	L
		AGP		A full sized AGP that is currently being changed from a sand based surface to 3G.	Ensure sinking fund is put in place and that the pitch is fully utilised. Seek FA testing so the pitch can host competitive matches.			M	M
48	Nunthorpe Academy	Football	School	Three adult pitches and one youth 9v9 pitch assessed as standard quality. Available to the community, however, no regular use is recorded, although Nunthorpe Athletic FC uses the site if its own pitches are unavailable.	Seek to formalise community use. Consider change of adult pitches to youth 11v11 pitches, which will also be more specific for school use.	School	Local	S	L
		Cricket		A standalone non-turf wicket pitch assessed as standard. No community use is recorded despite being available.	Improve pitch quality to a suitable level for school use and potential future community use demand.			L	M
		Rugby union		Two senior pitches with natural (adequate) drainage and poor maintenance. Main issue is that the pitches are not fenced off, resulting in high levels of dog fouling and unofficial use. Available to the community but unused.					

¹⁶ Suggested lead partners are highlighted in bold

¹⁷ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁸ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ¹⁶	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁷	Cost ¹⁸
		Tennis		Five standard quality tarmac courts unavailable to the community due to a perceived lack of demand. Used mostly by the School for netball and hockey.	No local current demand. Retain for school use.			L	L
59	Saint Peters Catholic College of Maths and Computing	Football	School	Three adult pitches and one youth 9v9 pitch all rated as standard. No consistent community use is recorded despite being readily available.	Explore community use options with the School in order to attract increased demand. Consider change of adult pitches to youth 11v11 pitches, which will also be more specific for school use.	School	Local	S	L
60	Smith Dock (Teesdock Park)	Football	Club	Three adult, two youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches assessed as standard. Adult pitches are used solely by youth 11v11 teams. Mini pitches overmark cricket outfield. Main issue is drainage, despite a system being in place. Pitches are leased to South Park Rangers FC until 2034.	Remark adult pitch to youth 11v11 users. Improve pitch quality and ensure maintenance is appropriate. Ensure security of tenure beyond 2034.	FA Club	Key	S	L
		Cricket		A standard quality 16 wicket square leased by Smith Dock CC until 2039 and rented to Lloyds CC and O.N.E CC. There are 36 matches of spare capacity, however none exists during peak time. The Cleveland League states that improvements need to be made as the pitch has been neglected over recent years. No training facilities are on site.	Consider lease extension. Retain spare capacity in order to sustain and improve quality. Improve maintenance regime. Consider installation of practice nets.	ECB Club		M	M
		Bowls		Two good quality greens.	Sustain good quality.	Club		L	L
9905	Nunthorpe Bowling Club	Bowls	Club	One good quality green, managed and used by Nunthorpe Bowls Club. The Club has plans to further improve the quality of the green in the future.	Support the Club to sustain/improve green quality.	Club	Local	L	L
9909	Lodge Farm Road	Football	Council	A poor adult pitch which is maintained as open space only. Used (unofficially) by New Whale Hill Social Club FC for competitive matches.	Seek to formalise community use with New Whale Hill Social Club FC or relocate to an alternative venue. Consider football pitch specific maintenance programme in order to improve quality.	Council	Local	S	M
9910	Hillsview Academy	Football	School	Two adult pitches assessed as good quality. No community use is allowed in order to protect the pitches for school use, as per PFI agreement.	No local current demand. Ensure quality is sustained for school use.	School	Local	L	L
		Rugby union		One senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage and average maintenance. No community use is allowed as per PFI agreement.					
		Tennis		Three good quality tarmac courts. No community use allowed due to agreement with PFI.					

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ¹⁶	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁷	Cost ¹⁸
9911	Hillsview Academy - Sixth Form	Football	School	Two adult, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch assessed as good quality. Mini 7v7 pitches overmark adult pitches. All play on adult pitches is by youth 11v11 teams. Actual spare capacity exists on all pitch types. A rolling community use agreement is in place with Normanby United FC, which has sole use of the pitches outside of school hours.	Ensure quality is sustained. Consider change of adult pitch dimensions to better suit youth 11v11 users. Seek permanent security of tenure for Normanby United FC.	FA Club School	Local	L	L
9914	Nunthorpe Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A square consisting of 12 grass wickets and rated as good quality. Owned and used solely by Nunthorpe CC. There are 18 matches of spare capacity, although none exists during peak time. No training facilities are on site.	Retain spare capacity in order to accommodate future demand and sustain pitch quality. Consider installation of practice nets.	Club	Local	M	M
9915	Normanby Hall Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	Owned by Normanby Hall CC. A standard quality square containing 12 grass wickets, showing 10 matches of spare capacity but none during peak time.	Retain spare capacity in order to sustain and improve pitch quality and to accommodate future demand.	Club	Local	L	L
9923	Kingsley Road Playing Fields	Football	Council	Adult pitch assessed as poor quality. Maintained as public open space only, however regular use is recorded by Grangetown FC.	Seek to formalise community use or relocate to an alternative venue. Consider football pitch specific maintenance programme in order to improve quality.	Council	Local	S	M
9924	Normanby Primary School	Football	School	One youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitch rated standard. One match equivalent of spare capacity exists on youth 11v11 pitch, however this is considered unsecure use as no community use agreement is in place.	Work with the School in order to establish secured community use.	School	Local	S	L
9925	Caedmon Primary School	Football	School	Youth 9v9 pitch deemed poor quality. No community use is allowed due to a lack of access outside of school hours.	Work with the School to resolve access issues and explore community use options. Improve pitch quality.	School	Reserve	S	M
9927	Bankfields Primary School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch assessed as good quality. No community use allowed as the site cannot be staffed out of school hours.	Work with the School to resolve staffing issues and explore future community use options.	School	Reserve	S	L

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

GUISBOROUGH AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	3.5	-	-	-3.5	0.5	-3
Youth pitches 11v11	-	-	-	0	-	0
Youth pitches 9v9	1	-	-	-1	-	-1
Mini pitches 7v7	-	-	-	0	-	0
Mini pitches 5v5	-	-	-	0	-	0

- ◆ Spare capacity exists on adult and youth 9v9 pitches, whilst the remaining pitch types are played to capacity.
- ◆ There are three youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches, located at Guisborough Leisure Centre and King George V Playing Fields.

Recommendations

- ◆ Improve pitch quality in order to increase capacity and alleviate overplay.
- ◆ Retain small amount of spare capacity to help sustain/improve pitch quality.
- ◆ Consider remarking some adult pitches to youth pitches in order to cater for shortfalls.

Cricket

- ◆ Guisborough Cricket Club has 28 matches of spare capacity however the pitch is not available during peak period.
- ◆ Oakley Park has 58 matches of spare capacity and has actual spare capacity during peak period.
- ◆ Pitch ownership and management at both sites is considered secure.
- ◆ A standalone non-turf wicket located at Guisborough Leisure Centre is disused and poor quality.

Recommendations

- ◆ Improve pitch quality.
- ◆ Bring the disused standalone non-turf wicket at Guisborough Leisure Centre back into use in order to create further supply.
- ◆ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

¹⁹ In match equivalent sessions

Rugby union

- ◀ There are three sites containing rugby pitches, all of which are used by Guisborough RUFC.
- ◀ Guisborough RUFC is overplayed due to only having two pitches for a large number of teams and no separate training area.
- ◀ Guisborough Leisure Centre is considered poor due to drainage issues and incorrect line markings. The pitch is overplayed by one match due to a combination of club and school use.
- ◀ Belmont Primary School is used by mini teams within the Club and has one match equivalent of spare capacity.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve dated changing facilities in order to allow for the creation of women and girls teams.
- ◀ Improve quality of Guisborough Leisure Centre in order to alleviate overplay.
- ◀ Seek alternative site for Guisborough RUFC in order to provide more pitches and a separate training area, thus alleviating overplay and accommodating all teams on one site.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A sand based AGP is in place at Guisborough Leisure Centre, however, work is ongoing to replace the surface with a 3G carpet.

3G pitches

- ◀ There is a requirement for one full size 3G pitch in the Analysis Area which will be provided on completion of the new 3G pitch at Guisborough Leisure Centre (September 2015).

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure good quality and high levels of community use at Guisborough Leisure Centre.
- ◀ Ensure sinking fund is in place for eventual resurfacing.

Tennis

- ◀ There are enough courts that are available for community use to accommodate both the current and future demand.
- ◀ Guisborough Tennis Club has 35 senior and 19 junior members, which has decreased over the previous five years.
- ◀ The Club offers pay and play but finds it difficult to manage as there is no one on-site to collect money and open up the courts.
- ◀ Tennis courts at Guisborough Leisure Centre will be lost for the duration of the new AGP build before being re-provided.

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure courts at Guisborough Leisure Centre are re-provided to a good standard.
- ◀ Seek partnership between Guisborough Tennis Club and Guisborough Swimming Pool in order to help manage pay and play.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Support clubs that report an intention to develop and improve green quality.
- ◀ Sustain green quality.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ²⁰	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²¹	Cost ²²
4	Belmont Primary School	Rugby union	School	One mini pitch with natural (adequate) drainage and average maintenance. Used by Guisborough RUFC however spare capacity of one match session remains.	Sustain quality for continued secured community use.	School	Local	L	L
16	Galley Hill Primary School	Football	School	One poor mini 7v7 pitch. No community use allowed due to quality issues.	Work with the School in order to improve pitch quality and explore community use options to cater for potential future demand.	School	Reserve	S	M
22	Guisborough Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A good quality square consisting of 16 grass wickets. Leased by Guisborough CC until 2029. There are 28 matches of spare capacity, however, no pitches are available during peak time.	Retain spare capacity in order to sustain pitch quality and accommodate future demand. Seek to extend lease agreement with Guisborough CC.	ECB Club	Local	L	L
		Bowls		One good quality green.	Sustain good quality.	Club			
23	Guisborough Leisure Centre (Laurence Jackson School)	Football	School	Two adult pitches assessed as standard quality with actual spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalents. One standard 9v9 pitch with one match equivalent of spare capacity. Two of the three teams using the adult pitches are youth 11v11 teams. Changing facilities are rated as poor by users.	Explore option of changing pitch dimensions of one adult pitch in order to suit youth 11v11 users. Seek funding options to improve changing facilities.	School	Strategic	S	M
		Cricket		A disused standalone non-turf wicket pitch.	Seek to bring wicket back into use in order to satisfy demand from Laurence Jackson School.			S	L
		Rugby union		Two senior pitches with natural (inadequate) drainage and average maintenance. Used by Guisborough RUFC for junior matches and training, resulting in over use of one match equivalent session. The Club report incorrect pitch sizes and markings.	Improve drainage of pitches to alleviate overplay. Ensure pitches are sized and marked correctly. Consider moving training demand onto new AGP (if World Rugby compliant).	RFU School		S	M
		AGP		A smaller sized sand based AGP that is being developed into a full size 3G AGP.	Ensure sinking fund is put into place. Seek FA testing so the pitch can host competitive matches. Consider World Rugby compliancy in order to alleviate overuse of grass pitches.	FA RFU School		S	H
		Tennis		Seven tarmac tennis courts assessed as poor quality. The courts will be temporarily lost during re-development of the School before being brought back into use. Community use is not currently available, but will be re-assessed after the development is complete.	Ensure courts are re-provided to a good standard. Explore community use options.	School		M	M

²⁰ Suggested lead partners highlighted in bold

²¹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²² (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners ²⁰	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²¹	Cost ²²
24	Guisborough RUFC	Rugby union	Club	Two well-maintained senior pitches, both of which, however, are overplayed. One pitch recently developed to a high standard after levelling, improving drainage and installing floodlights. Second senior pitch has natural (adequate) drainage. Plans in place to upgrade changing facilities in order to allow introduction of a women's team; part of the funding is secured but there remains a shortfall. Club ideally want a bigger site (containing more pitches) so that all teams can play at one venue.	Support plans to upgrade changing facilities. In the long term, seek land for alternative site in order to accommodate all teams playing at one venue.	RFU Club	Local	S	H
25	KGV Stadium (Guisborough Town FC)	Football	Council	Good quality adult pitch which adheres to Step 5 standard. One match equivalent of spare capacity exists. Guisborough Town FC is looking to take on a long term lease of the site and is currently in talks with the Council.	Retain spare capacity in order to protect quality. Ensure lease arrangement with Guisborough Town FC goes ahead. Ensure stadium adheres to requirements should Guisborough Town FC earn promotion to Step 4.	FA Council	Local	S	L
28	Highcliffe Primary School	Football	School	One poor youth 9v9 pitch. No community use is allowed due to the School being unable to staff the site out of school hours.	No local current demand for community use. Improve quality for school use.	School	Reserve	S	M
69	Wandhill Playing Fields	Football	Council	One adult pitch assessed as good quality. One match equivalent of actual spare capacity exists.	Sustain current level of quality and maximise use from overplayed sites.	Council	Local	S	L
9901	King George V Playing Fields	Football	Council	Two adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches rated as standard quality. Spare capacity exists on all pitch types, however, none exists during peak time. Deemed as the worst pitches used by the Teeside Football League due to high amounts of unofficial use. Changing facilities considered poor.	Explore ways to limit damage caused by unofficial use. Explore options for funding to improve changing facilities.	FA Council	Key	M	M
		Tennis	Club	Three good quality macadam courts and one standard macadam court, leased to Guisborough Tennis Club. Standard quality court suffers from poor drainage due to slope. Pay and play is currently available but poorly managed.	Sustain good quality. Seek partnership between Guisborough Tennis Club and Guisborough Leisure Centre in order to offer pay and play.	Club Council		S	L
		Bowls		One good quality green leased to Guisborough Priory Bowls Club. The club reports an intention to further develop and improve the green in the future.	Sustain good quality. Support Guisborough Priory Bowls Club to improve green quality.	Club		L	L
9919	Oakley Park - Boosbeck Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A standard 14 wicket square leased by Boosbeck CC on a rolling agreement. Pitch quality has worsened recently due to bad drainage. There are 58 matches of spare capacity and 0.5 pitches available during peak period. No training facilities are on site.	Seek a long term lease for the Club to allow it to apply for funding to improve pitch quality. Consider installation of practice nets.	Club ECB	Local	M	M
9928	Prior Pursglove College	Football	College	A poor mini 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Work with the School in order to improve pitch quality and explore community use options to cater for potential future demand.	College	Reserve	S	L

PART 8: KEEP THE STRATEGY ROBUST AND UP TO DATE

Delivery

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

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

The production of this Strategy should be regarded as the beginning of the planning process. The success of this Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach.

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

To help ensure the PPS is well used it should be regarded as the key document within the study area guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved the steering group need to have a clear understanding of how the PPS can be applied and therefore delivered. Key uses for the PPS include evidence for supporting funding bids, guidance to inform planning decisions and planning applications and decision making for capital investment.

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

Monitoring and updating

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

As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the steering group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date. If the PPS is used as a 'live' document, and kept up to date, the time frame can be extended to five years.

Furthermore, the process of refreshing the PPS would be much less resource intensive if changes and updates have been made throughout the five years. If there are no updates to the document within the period the nature of the supply and in particular the demand for playing pitches is likely to have changed. Therefore, without any form of review and update within this time period it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.

Ideally the PPS could be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the steering group. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment that would have been built up when developing the PPS. Taking into account the time to develop the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed.

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

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

Once the PPS is complete the role of the steering group should evolve so that it:

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

Alongside the regular steering group meetings it is recommended that Redcar & Cleveland Council holds annual sport specific meetings with the pitch sport NGBs and other relevant organisations. These meetings should look to update the key supply and demand information, if necessary amend the assessment work, track progress with implementing the recommendations and action plan and highlight any new issues and opportunities. Things to consider include formation of new teams or loss of teams, any new formats of the sports that would impact on facilities, changes in quality or creation of new facilities.

These meetings could be timed to fit with the annual affiliation process undertaken by the NGBs which would help to capture any changes in the number and nature of sports clubs in the area. Other information that is already collected on a regular basis such as pitch booking records for local authority and other sites could be fed into these meetings. The NGBs will also be able to indicate any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area. Discussion with the league secretaries may also indicate annual league meetings which it may be useful to attend to pick up any specific issues and/or enable a review of the relevant club details to be undertaken.

The steering group should regularly review and refresh area by area plans taking account of any improvements in pitch quality (and hence increases in pitch capacity) and also any new negotiations for community use of education or other private sites in the future. Updating the action plans will make the task of updating the PPS much easier.


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

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Checklist

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

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

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

APPENDIX ONE: STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The recommendations within this Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis. They reflect key areas to be addressed over its lifetime. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to also meet planning considerations.

National context

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

Sport England: A Sporting Habit for Life (2012-2017)

In 2017, five years after the Olympic Games, Sport England aspires to transforming sport in England so that it is a habit for life for more people and a regular choice for the majority. Launched in January 2012 the strategy sets out how Sport England will invest over one billion pounds of National Lottery and Exchequer funding during the five year plan period. The investment will be used to create a lasting community sport legacy by growing sports participation at the grassroots level following the 2012 London Olympics. The strategy will:

- ◀ See more people starting 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

The vision is for England to be a world leading sporting nation where many more people choose to play sport. There are five strategic themes including:

- ◀ Maximise value from current NGB investment
- ◀ Places, People, Play
- ◀ Strategic direction and market intelligence
- ◀ Set criteria and support system for NGB 2013-17 investment
- ◀ Market development

The aim by 2017 is to ensure that playing sport is a lifelong habit for more people and a regular choice for the majority. A specific target is to increase the number of 14 to 25 year olds playing sport. To accomplish these aims the strategy sets out a number of outcomes:

- ◀ 4,000 secondary schools in England will be offered a community sport club on its site with a direct link to one or more NGBs, depending on the local clubs in a school's area.
- ◀ County sports partnerships will be given new resources to create effective links locally between schools and sport in the community.
- ◀ All secondary schools that 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.
- ◀ At least 150 further educational colleagues will benefit from a full time sports professional who will act as a College Sport Maker.

- ▶ Three quarters of university students aged 18-24 will get the chance to take up a new sport or continue playing a sport they played at school or college.
- ▶ A thousand of our most disadvantaged local communities will get a Door Step Club.
- ▶ Two thousand young people on the margins of society will be supported by the Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust into sport and to gain new life skills.
- ▶ Building on the success of the Places People Play, a further £100 million will be invested in facilities for the most popular sports.
- ▶ A minimum of 30 sports will have enhanced England Talent Pathways to ensure young people and others fulfil their potential.

National Planning Policy Framework

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

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

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

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

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

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

The FA National Game Strategy (2011 – 2015)

The Football Association's (FA) National Game Strategy provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities, expenditure proposals and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a four year period. The main issues facing grassroots football are identified as:

- ▶ Growth and retention (young and adult players)
- ▶ Raising standards and behaviour
- ▶ Better players
- ▶ Running the game

- ◀ Workforce
- ◀ Facilities

'The National Game Strategy' reinforces the urgent need to provide affordable, new and improved facilities in schools, clubs and on local authority sites. Over 75% of football is played on public sector facilities. The leisure budgets of most local authorities have been reduced over recent years, resulting in decaying facilities that do not serve the community and act as a disincentive to play football. The loss of playing fields has also been well documented and adds to the pressure on the remaining facilities to cope with the demand, especially in inner city and urban areas.

The growth of the commercial sector in developing custom built five-a-side facilities has changed the overall environment. High quality, modern facilities provided by Powerleague, Goals and playfootball.net for example, have added new opportunities to participate and prompted a significant growth in the number of five-a-side teams in recent years.

The FA National Facilities Strategy (2013 – 2015)

The recently launched National Facilities Strategy sets out the FA's long term vision for development of facilities to support the National Game. It aims to address and reflect the facility needs of football within the National Game. The National Game is defined as all non-professional football from Steps 1-7 of the National League System down to recreational football played on open public space. The role of facilities will be crucial in developing the game in England. One of the biggest issues raised from 'the Big Grassroots Football Survey' by that of 84% respondents, was 'poor facilities'.

The FA's vision for the future of facilities in England is to build, protect and enhance sustainable football facilities to improve the experience of the nation's favourite game. It aims to do this by:

- ◀ Building - Provide new facilities and pitches in key locations to FA standards in order to sustain existing participation and support new participation.
- ◀ Protecting - Ensure that playing pitches and facilities are protected for the benefit of current and future participants.
- ◀ Enhancing - Invest in existing facilities and pitches, ensuring that participation in the game is sustained as well as expanded.

The Strategy commits to delivering in excess of £150m (through Football Foundation) into facility improvements across the National Game in line with identified priorities:

- ◀ Natural grass pitches improved – target: 100
- ◀ A network of new AGPs built – target 100
- ◀ A network of refurbished AGPs – target 150
- ◀ On selected sites, new and improved changing facilities and toilets
- ◀ Continue a small grants programme designed to address modest facility needs of clubs
- ◀ Ongoing support with the purchase and replacement of goalposts

It also commits to:

- ◀ Direct other sources of investment into FA facility priorities
- ◀ Communicate priorities for investment across the grassroots game on a regular basis
- ◀ Work closely with Sport England, the Premier League and other partners to ensure that investment is co-ordinated and targeted

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Champion Counties Strategic Plan 2014 – 2017

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic plan in 2013 which seeks to deliver successful England teams at all levels, to produce a vibrant domestic game as well as increasing participation during the period 2014-17. It builds on the 2005 plan, Building Partnerships and the subsequent 2009 initiative, Grounds to Play.

The plan will take advantage of local partnerships developed in earlier plans and support local delivery of priorities through the County network. It targets operational excellence to make maximum use of scarce resources and facilities during a time of economic austerity.

Among the targets set under the four pillars of Effective Governance, Vibrant Domestic Game, Enthusiating Participation and Successful England teams, which are relevant to the playing pitch strategy, are:

- ◀ An increase in participation as measured by Sport England's Active People Survey from 183,400 to 197,500
- ◀ Expand the number of clubs participating in NatWest CricketForce from 2,000 to 2,200
- ◀ Increase the number of cricket's volunteers to 80,000 by 2017
- ◀ Expand the number of participants in women's and disabilities cricket by 10% by 2017
- ◀ To increase the number of TwelfthMan members from 220,000 to 250,000 by 2017
- ◀ Complete an approved Community Engagement programme with all 18 First Class Counties and MCC
- ◀ For each £1 provided in facility grants through the 'Sport England Whole Sport Plan Grant Programme' ensure a multiplier of three with other funding partners
- ◀ Provide a fund of £8.1m of capital investment to enhance floodlights, sightscreens, replay screens, power sub-stations and broadcasting facilities at First Class County venues
- ◀ Provide an interest-free loan fund to community clubs of £10 million
- ◀ Qualify and engage 50 Level 4 coaches to support the development of professional cricketers
- ◀ Expand the number of coaches who have received teacher level 1, 2 or 3 qualifications to 50,000
- ◀ Provide a fund of £2 million for community clubs to combat the impact of climate change
- ◀ Introduce a youth T20 competition engaging 500 teams by 2017

The following actions executed during the duration of Building Partnerships provide a strong base for this plan. Actions include:

- ◀ Streamlining ECB governance
- ◀ Building participation by more than 20% per annum (as measured through ECB focus clubs and County Cricket Boards)
- ◀ Developing women's cricket
- ◀ Attracting volunteers
- ◀ Expanding cricket's spectator base
- ◀ Introducing grants and loans to clubs
- ◀ Developing disabilities cricket

This plan therefore influences 'Grounds to Play' in the areas of facilities and coaches, which is where ECB investment will be focussed. Partnership funding and support will play a key role in the delivery of actions and maintaining the strength of the pillars.

The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017)

The RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners. It identifies that with 1.5 million players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

- ◀ Create a platform for growth in club rugby participation and membership, especially with a view to exploiting the opportunities afforded by RWC 2015.
- ◀ Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of rugby clubs, through supporting not only their playing activity but also their capacity to generate revenue through a diverse range of activities and partnerships.

In summary the priorities for investment which have met the needs of the game for the Previous period remain valid:

- ◀ Increase the provision of changing rooms and clubhouses that can sustain concurrent adult and junior male and female activity at clubs
- ◀ Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches and floodlighting
- ◀ Increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development

It is also a high priority for the RFU to target investment in the following:

- ◀ Upgrade and transform social, community and catering facilities, which can support the generation of additional revenues
- ◀ Facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs
- ◀ Pitch furniture, including rugby posts and pads, pitch side spectator rails and grounds maintenance equipment

England Hockey (EH) - A Nation Where Hockey Matters (2013-2017)

EH have a clear vision, a powerful philosophy and five core objectives that all those who have a role in advancing Hockey can unite behind. With UK Sport and Sport England's investment, and growing commercial revenues, EH are ambitious about how they can take the sport forward in Olympic cycles and beyond.

"The vision is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters'. A nation where hockey is talked about at dinner tables, playgrounds and public houses, up and down the country. A nation where the sport is on the back pages of our newspapers, where children dream of scoring a goal for England's senior hockey team, and where the performance stirs up emotion amongst the many, not the few"

England Hockey aspires to deepen the passion of those who play, deliver and follow sport by providing the best possible environments and the best possible experiences. Whilst reaching out to new audiences by making the sport more visible, available and relevant and through the many advocates of hockey.

Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes the sport function. EH understand the importance of volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational people can be, the more progressive Hockey can be and the more befitting the facilities can be, the more EH will achieve. The core objectives are as follows:

- ◀ Grow our Participation
- ◀ Deliver International Success
- ◀ Increase our Visibility
- ◀ Enhance our Infrastructure
- ◀ Be a strong and respected Governing Body

England Hockey has a Capital Investment Programme (CIP), that is planned to lever £5.6 million investment into hockey facilities over the next four years, underpinned by £2m million from the National Governing Body. With over 500 pitches due for refurbishment in the next 4-8 years, there will be a large focus placed on these projects through this funding stream. The current level of pitches available for hockey is believed to be sufficient for the medium term needs, however in some areas, pitches may not be in the right places in order to maximise playing opportunities

‘The right pitches in the right places’²³

In 2012, EH released its facility guidance which is intended to assist organisations wishing to build or protect hockey pitches for hockey. It identifies that many existing hockey AGPs are nearing the end of their useful life as a result of the installation boom of the 90’s. Significant investment is needed to update the playing stock and protect the sport against inappropriate surfaces for hockey as a result of the rising popularity of AGPs for a number of sports. EH is seeking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers which have a sound understanding of the following:

- ◀ Single System – clubs and providers which have a good understanding of the Single System and its principles and are appropriately places to support the delivery.
- ◀ ClubsFirst accreditation – clubs with the accreditation are recognised as producing a safe effective and child friendly hockey environment
- ◀ Sustainability – hockey providers and clubs will have an approved development plan in place showing their commitment to developing hockey, retaining members and providing an insight into longer term goals. They will also need to have secured appropriate tenure.

²³

<http://englandhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=1143§ionTitle=The+Right+Pitches+in+the+Right+Places>

APPENDIX TWO: FUNDING PLAN

Funding opportunities

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

Awarding body	Description
Big Lottery Fund http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/	Big invests in community groups and to projects that improve health, education and the environment
Sport England : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement Fund Sportsmatch Small Grants Protecting Playing Fields Inspired Facilities Strategic Facilities Fund http://www.sportengland.org/funding.aspx http://www.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/strategic-facilities/	Sport England is keen to marry funding with other organisations that provide financial support to create and strengthen the best sports projects. Applicants are encouraged to maximise the levels of other sources of funding, and projects that secure higher levels of partnership funding are more likely to be successful.
Football Foundation http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/	This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development.
Rugby Football Foundation - The Grant Match Scheme www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org	The Grant Match Scheme provides easy-to-access grant funding for playing projects that contribute to the recruitment and retention of community rugby players. Grants are available on a 'match funding' 50:50 basis to support a proposed project. Projects eligible for funding include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts, floodlights. 2. Club House Facilities – Changing rooms, shower facilities, washroom/lavatory, and measures to facilitate segregation (e.g. women, juniors). 3. Equipment – Large capital equipment, pitch maintenance capital equipment (e.g. mowers).
EU Life Fund http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm	LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU.
EH Capital Investment Programme (CIP)	The CIP fund is for the provision of new pitches and re-surfacing of old AGPs. It forms part of EH's 4 year Whole Sport's Plan.
National Hockey Foundation http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/	The Foundation primarily makes grants to a wide range of organisations that meet one of our chosen areas of focus: Young people and hockey. Enabling the development of hockey at youth or community level.

Protecting Playing Fields

SE launched a funding programme; Protecting Playing Fields (PPF) as part of its Places People Play Olympic legacy mass participation programme and is investing £10 million of National Lottery funding in community sports projects over the next three years (2011-2014).

The programme is being delivered via five funding rounds (with up to £2 million being awarded to projects in each round). Its focus is on protecting and improving playing fields and developing community sport. It will fund capital projects that create, develop and improve playing fields for sporting and community use and offer long term protection of the site for sport. Projects are likely to involve the construction of new pitches or improvement of existing ones that need levelling or drainage works.

Sport England's 'Inspired Facilities' funding programme will be delivered via five funding rounds and is due to launch in Summer 2011 where clubs, community and voluntary sector groups and local authorities can apply for grants of between £25k and £150k where there is a proven local need for a facility to be modernised, extended or modified to open up new sporting opportunities.

The programmes three priorities are:

- ◆ Organisations that haven't previously received a Sport England Lottery grant of over £10k.
- ◆ Projects that are the only public sports facility in the local community.
- ◆ Projects that offer local opportunities to people who do not currently play sport.

Besides this scheme providing an important source of funding for potential voluntary and community sector sites, it may also providing opportunities for Council to access this funding particularly in relation to resurfacing the artificial sports surfaces

Strategic Facilities Fund

Facilities are fundamental in providing more people with the opportunity to play sport. The supply of the right facilities in the right areas is key to getting more people to play sport. Sport England recognises the considerable financial pressures that local authorities are currently under and the need to strategically review and rationalise leisure stock so that cost effective and financially sustainable provision is available in the long-term. Sport England has a key role to play in the sector, from influencing the local strategic planning and review of sports facility provision to investing in major capital projects of strategic importance.

The Strategic Facilities Fund will direct capital investment into a number of key local authority projects that are identified through a strategic needs assessment and that have maximum impact on growing and sustaining community sport participation. These projects will be promoted as best practice in the delivery of quality and affordable facilities, whilst demonstrating long-term operational efficiencies. The fund will support projects that bring together multiple partners, including input from the public and private sectors and national governing bodies of sport (NGBs). The fund is also designed to encourage applicants and their partners to invest further capital and revenue funding to ensure sustainability. Sport England has allocated a budget of circa £30m of Lottery funding to award through this fund (2013-17).

Key features which applications must demonstrate are:

- ✦ A robust needs and evidence base which illustrates the need for the project and the proposed facility mix
- ✦ Strong partnerships which will last beyond the initial development of the project and underpin the long-term sustainability of the facility
- ✦ Multi-sport provision and activity that demonstrates delivery against NGB local priorities
- ✦ A robust project plan from inception to completion with achievable milestones and timescales.

Lottery applications will be invited on a solicited-only basis and grants of between £500,000 and £2,000,000 will be considered.

The Strategic Facilities Fund will prioritise projects that:

- ✦ Are large-scale capital developments identified as part of a local authority sports facility strategic needs assessment/rationalisation programme and that will drive a significant increase in community sports participation
- ✦ Demonstrate consultation/support from two or more NGBs and delivery against their local priorities
- ✦ Are multi-sport facilities providing opportunities to drive high participant numbers
- ✦ Are a mix of facility provision (indoor and/or outdoor) to encourage regular & sustained use by a large number of people
- ✦ Offer an enhancement, through modernisation, to existing provision and/or new build facilities
- ✦ Have a long-term sustainable business plan attracting public and private investment
- ✦ Show quality in design, but are fit for purpose to serve the community need
- ✦ Have effective and efficient operating models, combined with a commitment to development programmes which will increase participation and provide talent pathways.

Projects will need to demonstrate how the grant will deliver against Sport England's strategic priorities. The funding available is for the development of the capital infrastructure, which can contribute to the costs of new build, modernisation or refurbishment and purchasing of major fixed equipment as part of the facility development.

Funder's requirements

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

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

Indicative costs

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

http://www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/design_and_cost_guidance.aspx

The costs are for the development of community sports facilities and are based on providing good quality sports facility for the 2nd Quarter 2011. These rounded costs are based on schemes most recently funded through the Lottery (and therefore based on economies of scale), updated to reflect current forecast price indices for 1st Quarter 2010 provided by the Building Cost Information Service (BCIS), prepared by Technical Team Lead of Sport England.

New work output is forecast to fall a little in 2011 as the cuts in public sector spending start to make their mark, partly mitigated by private sector output starting to recover more strongly. It is anticipated that there will be a return to sluggish growth in 2012, as public sector cuts deepen. The BCIS forecast is for tender prices to rise by 2.8% in the year to 4th quarter 2011, rising by 3.1% over the following year.

APPENDIX THREE: TERMS OF REFERENCE

Pitch quality

The quality of pitches in Redcar & Cleveland has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by the methodology) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (50-80%), Poor (<50%). The final quality ratings assigned to the sites also take into account the user quality ratings gathered from consultation.

Criteria for pitch quality, and examples of non-technical assessment forms, can be accessed on the Sport England website:

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

Unmet demand

See page 21 of the Sport England methodology:

<http://www.sportengland.org/media/217868/pps-guidance-october-2013-updated.pdf>

*“Current **unmet demand** could be in the form of a team that has currently got access to a pitch for its matches but nowhere to train or vice versa. It could also be from an educational establishment that is currently using an indoor facility because of the lack of access to outdoor pitch provision. Along with a lack of pitches of a particular type being available to the community unmet demand may be due to the poor quality and therefore limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement.”*