



# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

## DRAFT ASSESSMENT REPORT DECEMBER 2017

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
BC	Bowls Club
CC	Cricket Club
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FIT	Fields in Trust
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
LMS	Last Man Stands
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
OAN	Objectively Assessed Need
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
SHMA	Strategic Housing Market Assessment
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under
YFC	Youth Football Club

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## PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

Winchester City Council (WCC) commissioned Knight Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) to deliver a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for the authority. The following report presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch and other outdoor sports facilities in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy.

The guidance, which has been followed to develop a clear picture of the balance between local supply and demand, details a stepped approach to developing a PPS. These steps are separated into five distinct sections:

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

Stages A to C are covered in this report.

### **Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach**

#### ***Why the PPS is being developed***

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

In line with expected population growth, it is anticipated that there will be increased pressure on the sport and leisure infrastructure currently provided across the City. Furthermore, a proposal to build a new Leisure Centre may have implications on current playing pitch provision and therefore the Council is keen to understand the implications of this.

Developing a strategic approach to the analysis of playing pitch supply and demand is necessary to:

- ◀ Protect playing pitches against development pressures on land in, and around, urban areas.
- ◀ Identify pitch (natural grass and artificial) supply and demand issues in relation to predicated population changes.
- ◀ Address 'demand' pressures created as a result of specific sports development pressures e.g. growth of mini soccer and wider use of artificial grass pitches.
- ◀ Improve delivery of playing pitch facilities under WCC ownership and management, thereby helping to support the City Council's strategy.

The PPS will provide an evidence base for planning decisions and funding bids and background evidence to support Local Plan policies in relation to open space. It will ensure that this evidence is sound, robust and capable of being scrutinised through examination and meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

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One of the core planning principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs. Section 8 of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities and paragraph 73 discusses the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Paragraph 73 of the NPPF also requires “planning policies to be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of needs. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.” Paragraph 74 of the NPPF require assessments to be used to inform the protection of “existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields.”

Paragraph 76 and 77 promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields.

## **Context**

Winchester is a City and the County Town of Hampshire, it also covers part of the South Downs National Park (SDNP), which is England’s newest National Park having been fully operational since April 2011. As such, there is a variety of pitch ownership and management across Winchester ranging from WCC to parish councils such as Bishops Waltham Parish Council and private sports and social clubs such as Winchester Rugby Club. The majority of sporting clubs do not own their own facilities and this creates some issues around security of tenure.

The University of Winchester offers a sporting hub within the City. The University opened the Winchester Sports Stadium in 2008 which now provides high quality facilities for both hockey and football. The University also enters numerous teams into various competitions in a variety of sports on a weekly basis.

In general, football is the dominant sport across the City with many senior teams competing in the competitive leagues such as the Winchester & District Football League, whilst youth football is predominately played in the Southampton & District Youth League. Winchester City Football Club competes at the highest level, competing at Step 4 in the football pyramid.

## **Local planning**

The Local Plan for Winchester was adopted in March 2013 and provides a spatial framework for managing change as well as allocations. This includes areas which lie in SDNP, although, in time, SDNP will produce its own Local Plan. The Local Plan projects housing growth of 12,500 dwellings over the plan period (2013-2031).

The Winchester Open Space Strategy (2015) provides a local assessment of open spaces within the City (excluding SDNP). This looked at quantity and accessibility of all open space types including sports grounds against the standard in CP7. It found a mixture of deficits and surpluses across the City, with a significant 11 ha shortfall of sports grounds in Winchester town, but an overall surplus of 13 ha.

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## ***Agreed scope***

The following types of outdoor sports facilities were agreed by the steering group for inclusion in the Assessment Report and Strategy:

- ◀ Football pitches
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches
- ◀ Hockey/artificial grass pitches (AGPs)
- ◀ Third generation turf pitches (3G pitches)
- ◀ Bowling greens

It should be noted that for the non-pitch sports (i.e. bowls) included within the scope of this study the supply and demand principles of Sport England methodology: Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities (ANOG) are followed to ensure the process is compliant with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). This is less prescriptive than the PPS guidance. Thus, where applied, the approach to assessing non-pitch sports is a supply/demand assessment based on more a 'light touch' approach.

## ***Management arrangements***

A project team from the Council has worked with KKP to ensure that all relevant information is readily available and to support the consultants as necessary to ensure that project stages and milestones are delivered on time, within the cost envelope and to the required quality standard to meet Sport England guidance.

Further to this, the Steering Group is and has been responsible for the direction of the PPS from a strategic perspective and for supporting, checking and challenging the work of the project team. The Steering Group is made up of representatives from both Winchester City Council, Sport England and NGBs.

## ***Study area***

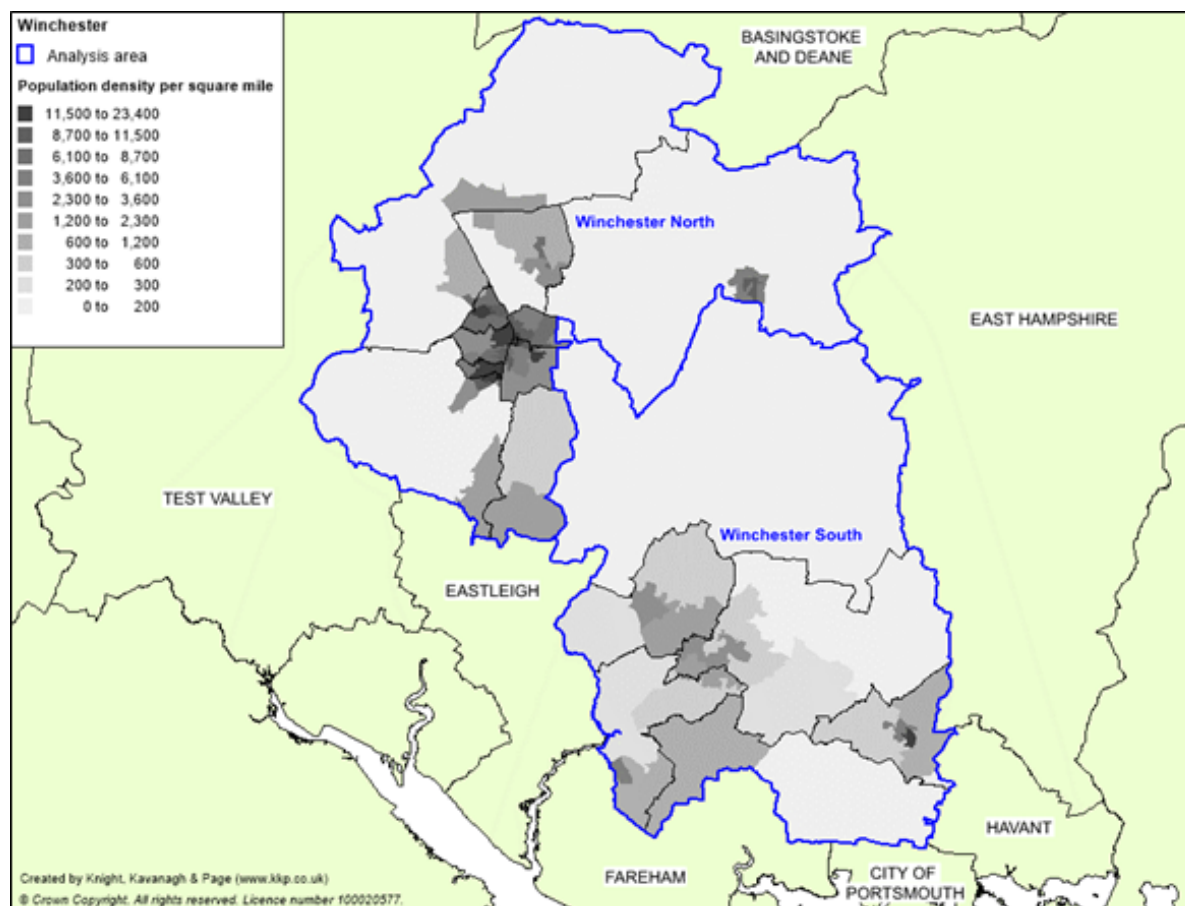
WCC services a population of circa 118,000 people within central Hampshire and the City itself is the main population centre with approximately 40,000 residents. There are no other large settlements, but a number of market towns and villages are spread throughout.

The study area is the Winchester administrative area. Further to this, sub areas or analysis areas have been created to allow a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch supply and demand at a local level. Use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. For this reason, Winchester is divided into the following two analysis areas as follows:

- ◀ Winchester North
- ◀ Winchester South

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Figure 1.1: Analysis area map



## Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision

A clear picture of supply and demand for outdoor sports facilities in Winchester needs to be provided to include an accurate assessment of quantity and quality. This is achieved through consultation with key stakeholders to ensure that they inform the subsequent strategy. It informs current demand, adequacy, usage, future demand and strategies for maintenance and investment for outdoor sports facilities in Winchester.

### ***Gather supply information and views – an audit of outdoor sports facilities***

PPS guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field. These definitions are set out by the Government in the 2015 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order'.<sup>1</sup>

- ◀ ***Playing pitch*** – a delineated area which is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.
- ◀ ***Playing field*** – the whole of a site that encompasses at least one playing pitch.

<sup>1</sup> [www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)>Facilities and Planning> Planning Applications

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Although the statutory definition of a playing field is the whole of a site with at least one pitch of 0.2ha or more, this PPS takes into account smaller sized pitches that contribute to the supply side, for example, 5v5 mini football pitches. This PPS counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply. The definition of a playing pitch also includes artificial grass pitches (AGPs).

As far as possible the assessment report aims to capture all playing fields and bowling greens within Winchester; however, there may be instances, for example, on school sites, where access was not possible and has led to omissions within the report. Where facilities have not been recorded within the report they remain as facilities and for planning purposes continue to be so. Furthermore, exclusion of provision does not necessarily mean that it is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

### *Quantity*

Where known, all outdoor sports facilities are included irrespective of ownership, management and use. Sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web based database. The Council and NGBs supported the process by checking and updating this initial data. This was also verified against club information supplied by local leagues. For each site, the following details were recorded in the project database (which will be supplied as an electronic file):

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location
- ◀ Ownership and management type
- ◀ Security of tenure
- ◀ Total number, type and quality of outdoor sports facilities

### *Accessibility*

Not all outdoor sports facilities offer the same level of access to the community. The ownership and accessibility of playing pitches also influences their actual availability for community use. Each site is assigned a level of community use as follows:

- ◀ **Community use** - provision in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ◀ **Available but unused** - provision that is available for hire but are not currently used by teams which play in community leagues; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire.
- ◀ **No community use** - provision which as a matter of policy or practice is not available for hire or used by teams playing in community leagues. This should include professional club sites along with some semi-professional club sites where play is restricted to the first or second team.
- ◀ **Disused** – provision that is not being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either. Once these sites are disused for five or more years they will then be categorised as 'lapsed sites'.
- ◀ **Lapsed** - last known use was more than five years ago (these fall outside of Sport England's statutory remit but still have to be assessed using the criteria in paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework and Sport England's policy to protect playing fields).



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In addition, there should be a good degree of certainty that the provision will be available to the community for at least the following three years. A judgement is made based on the information gathered and a record of secured or unsecured community use put against each site. This refers to pitches in community use and not lapsed/disused sites.

### *Quality*

The capacity of outdoor sports facilities to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by their quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of provision affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of a sport. In extreme circumstances, it can result in provision being unable to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times.

It is not just the quality of the provision itself which has an effect on its capacity but also the quality, standard and range of ancillary facilities. The quality of both the outdoor sports facility and ancillary facilities will determine whether provision is able to contribute to meeting demand from various groups and for different levels and types of play.

The quality of all outdoor sports facilities identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed regardless of ownership, management or availability. Along with capturing any details specific to the individual facilities and sites, a quality rating is recorded within the audit for each outdoor sports facility. These ratings are used to help estimate the capacity of each facility to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

In addition to undertaking non-technical assessments (using the templates provided within the guidance and as determined by NGBs), users and providers were also consulted on the quality and in some instances the quality rating was adjusted to reflect this.

### ***Gather demand information and views***

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for outdoor sports facilities (i.e. recording how and when pitches are used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment. Demand for provision in Winchester tends to fall within the following categories:

- ◀ Organised competitive play
- ◀ Organised training
- ◀ Informal play

In addition, unmet and displaced demand for provision is also identified on a sport by sport basis. Unmet demand is defined as the number of additional teams that could be fielded if access to a sufficient number of outdoor sport facilities (and ancillary facilities) was available. Displaced demand refers to teams that are generated from residents of Winchester but due to any number of factors do not currently play within the Winchester.

Current and future demand for outdoor sports facilities is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

A variety of consultation methods were used to collate demand information about leagues, clubs, county associations and national/regional governing bodies of sport. Face to face consultation was carried out with key clubs from each sport. This allowed for the

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collection of detailed demand information and an exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed.

For data analysis purposes, an online survey (converted to postal if required) was utilised. This was sent to all clubs not covered by face to face consultation.

Local sports development officers, county associations and regional governing body officers advised which of the clubs to include in the face to face consultation. Sport England was also included within the consultation process prior to the project commencing. Issues identified by clubs returning questionnaires were followed up by telephone or face to face interviews.

### ***Future demand***

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPS to assess whether the future demand for outdoor sports facilities can be met. Using population projections, and proposed housing growth an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for playing pitches.

### ***Population growth***

The resident population in Winchester is recorded as 120,696 (based on ONS 2015 mid-year estimates). By 2031 (in line with the Local Plan), the Borough's population is projected to increase by 13,281 or 11% to 133,977 (ONS 2015-based projections 2016-2031).

Team generation rates are used to provide an indication of how many people it may take to generate a team (by gender and age group), in order to help estimate the change in demand for outdoor sports facilities that may arise from any population change in the study area.

Future demand for provision is calculated by adding the percentage increases to the ONS population increases in each analysis area. This figure is then applied to the TGRs (unless otherwise stated) and is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

Other information sources used to help identify future demand include:

- ◀ Recent trends in the participation in outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ The nature of the current and likely future population and their propensity to participate in pitch sports.
- ◀ Feedback from sports clubs on their plans to develop additional teams.
- ◀ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets (e.g. increase in participation).

### ***Housing growth***

The Local Plan for Winchester was adopted in March 2013 and provides a spatial framework for managing change as well as allocations. This includes areas which lie in SDNP, although, in time, SDNP will produce its own Local Plan. The Local Plan projects housing growth of 12,500 dwellings over the plan period (2013-2031).

Housing growth scenarios will be provided as part of the Strategy.

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## **Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views**

In line with Sport England's Playing Pitch Guidance Stage C, an in-depth understanding of outdoor sports provision has been developed using the supply and demand information and by assessing views from stakeholders in light of local and national information. This stage should:

- ◀ Provide a clear understanding of the provision and management of outdoor sports facilities at individual sites.
- ◀ Develop the current and future picture of provision.
- ◀ Identify the key findings and issues

### ***Understand the situation at individual sites***

Qualitative ratings are linked to a capacity rating derived from NGB guidance and tailored to suit a local area. The quality and use of each playing pitch is assessed against the recommended capacity to indicate how many match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket) can be accommodated. This is compared to the number of matches actually taking place and categorised as follows:

Potential spare capacity: Play is below the level the site could sustain.	
At capacity: Play is at a level the site can sustain.	
Overused: Play exceeds the level the site can sustain.	

For non-pitch sports, capacity is generally not determined by the amount of activity per week (or per season) but rather by membership.

### ***Develop the current picture of provision***

Once capacity is determined on a site by site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated on an area by area basis via further interrogation of temporal demand. Although this may have been identified, it does not necessarily mean that there is surplus provision. For example, spare capacity may not be available when it is needed or the site may be retained in a 'strategic reserve' to enable rotation to reduce wear and tear.

Capacity ratings assist in the identification of sites for improvement/development, rationalisation, decommissioning and disposal.

### ***Develop the future picture of provision - scenario testing***

Modelling scenarios to assess whether existing provision can cater for unmet, displaced and future demand is made after the capacity analysis. This will also include, for example, removing sites with unsecured community use to demonstrate the impact this would have if these sites were to be decommissioned in the future. Scenario testing occurs in the strategy report and therefore does not form part of the assessment report.

### ***Identify the key findings and issues***

By completing Steps 1-5 it is possible to identify several findings and issues relating to the supply, demand and adequacy of outdoor sports provision in Winchester. This report seeks to identify and present the key findings and issues, which should now be checked, challenged and agreed by the Steering Group prior to development of the Strategy (Section D).

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The following sections summarise the local administration of the included outdoor sports facilities in Winchester. Each provides a quantitative summary of provision and a map showing the distribution of facilities. It also provides information about the availability of facilities to/for the local community and the governing body of each sport and regional strategic plan (where they exist). Local league details are provided in order to outline the competitive structure for each sport. The findings of club consultation and key issues for each sport are summarised.

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## PART 2: FOOTBALL

### 2.1: Introduction

The organisation primarily responsible for the development of football in Winchester is Hampshire FA. It is also responsible for the administration, in terms of discipline, rules and regulations, cup competitions and representative matches, development of clubs and facilities, volunteers, referees, coaching and delivering national football schemes.

This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches. Part 3 captures supply and demand for third generation pitches (3G pitches), which are the preferred artificial grass pitch (AGP) surface type for football. In the future, it is anticipated that there will be a growing demand for the use of 3G pitches for competitive football fixtures.

#### **Consultation**

In addition to face-to-face meetings with key football clubs, an electronic survey was sent to all clubs playing in Winchester. Contact details were provided by Hampshire FA and the invitation to complete the survey was distributed via email. In total, consultation was carried out with 37 clubs equating to a club response rate of 53% and a team response rate of 76%.

The key clubs that were met with face-to-face are identified below (as proposed by Hampshire FA):

- ◀ AFC Stoneham
- ◀ Littleton Juniors FC
- ◀ South Wonston Swifts FC
- ◀ Winchester City Flyers FC

The results from such consultation are used to inform key issues within this section of the report.

### 2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a current total of 157 grass football pitches within Winchester across 60 sites. Of the pitches, 118 are available for community use across 47 sites, as presented in the table below.

*Table 2.1: Summary of grass football pitches available to the community*

Analysis area	Available for community use					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
North	36	10	4	15	4	69
South	26	10	6	7	-	49
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>118</b>

As seen, the majority of community available pitches are located in the North Analysis Area (69 pitches), although the South Analysis Area is comparably well represented (49 pitches).

There are significantly more adult pitches (62) than any other pitch type, whilst there are relatively few mini 5v5 pitches (four). This reflects adult football being the most common format in Winchester and 5v5 football being the least.

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It should be noted that nationally many youth 11v11 teams are playing on adult pitches, which may in part be due to a general lack of dedicated youth 11v11 pitches rather than through preference. In accordance with the FA Youth Review, u17s and u18s can play on adult pitches, with the recommended pitch size for such provision noted as 100x64 metres. The recommended size of a youth pitch is 91x55 metres for u16s and u15s, 82x50 metres for u14s and u13s and 73x46 metres for u12s and u11s. The recommended size for 7v7 pitches (u10s and u9s) is 55x37 metres and for 5v5 pitches (u8s and u7s) it is 37x27 metres.<sup>2</sup>

Although youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches does occur in Winchester, it is less of an issue when compared to the majority of other local authorities as there are a number of community available youth 11v11 pitches (20) provided. Across all the clubs, 20 youth 11v11 teams (u13-u16) currently use adult pitches, with the following sites accessed for such activity:

- ◀ Alrebury Park
- ◀ HCC Sports & Social
- ◀ Meadowside Leisure Centre
- ◀ Peter Symonds College
- ◀ South Wonston Recreation Ground
- ◀ Garrison Ground
- ◀ King George V Playing Field
- ◀ MOD Southwick
- ◀ Stratten Bates

Of the above, Peter Symonds College and Stratten Bates are used solely by youth 11v11 teams. These sites can therefore provide a starting point to increase youth 11v11 provision as no adult teams would be adversely affected by a pitch re-configuration, although there may be a need to retain adult pitches should shortfalls be identified.

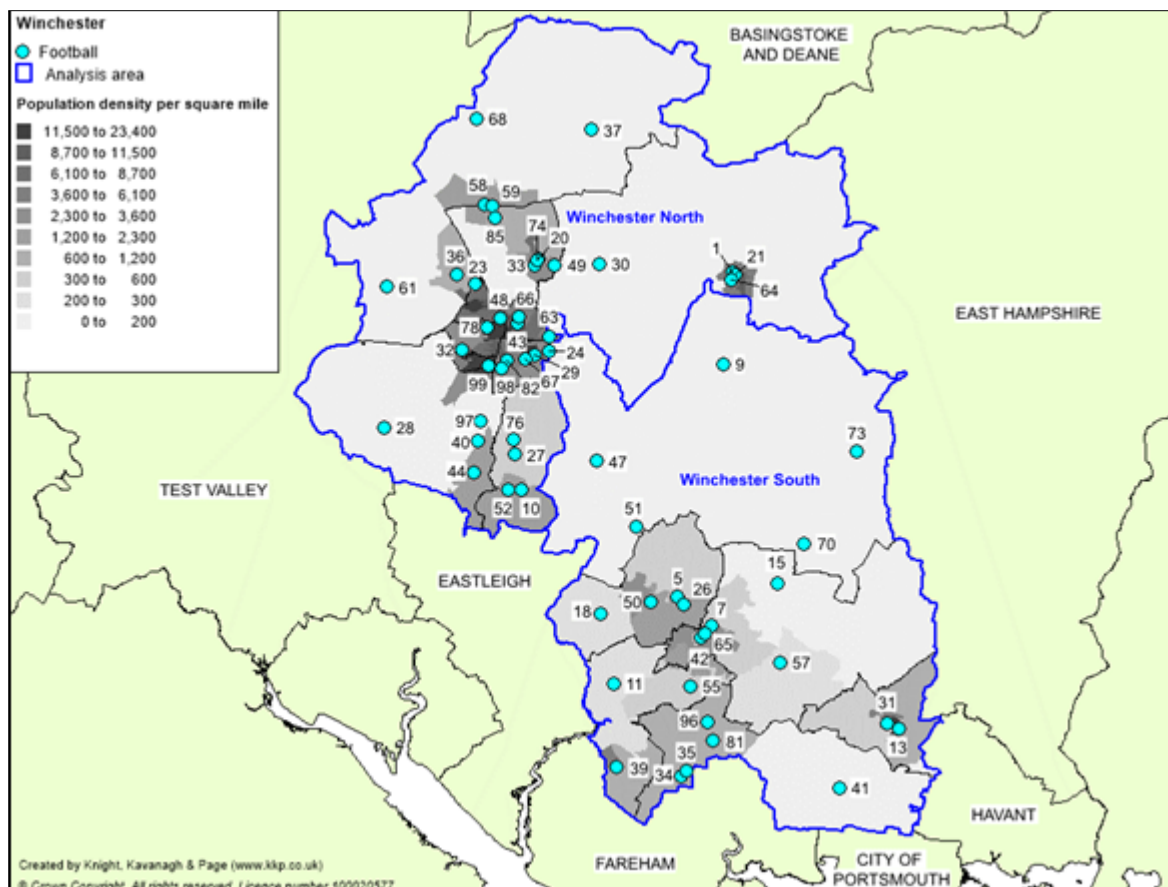
Figure 2.1 overleaf identifies all grass football pitches currently servicing Winchester, regardless of community use aspects. For a key to the map, see Table 2.10.

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<sup>2</sup><http://www.thefa.com/my-football/football-volunteers/runningaclub/yourfacilities/technicalstandards.aspx>

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Figure 2.1: Location of all football pitches in Winchester



## Future supply

Expansion plans delivered by the Council outline a proposal to create a new leisure facility which will be built on playing field land at the Garrison Ground. The site currently contains three adult and seven mini football pitches that are used extensively during weekends, primarily as a central venue for the Winchester Youth Girls District League. In total, 23 teams regularly play home matches at the site.

## Pitch quality

The quality of football pitches in Winchester has been assessed via site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA) to reach and apply a 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 as well as NGB and Council information.

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Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain levels of use. It is likely that pitches which receive little to no on-going repair or post-season remedial work will be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games able to take place each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality. Conversely, well maintained pitches that are tended to regularly are likely to be of a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

All sites in Winchester managed by the City Council generally receive a good level of maintenance with the clubs that utilise such provision not highlighting any specific negative feedback about quality. Similarly, consultation with parish councils generally highlights that pitches are well maintained through respective maintenance programmes, with again no negative feedback reported by club users.

Maintenance of pitches at club and private sites varies. Some hire dedicated ground staff such as Winchester City FC (the City Ground), whilst others depend on remedial work by volunteers that is often limited by cost and a lack of specialised equipment, i.e. HCC Sports and Social Club.

For education sites, maintenance also varies, with providers such as Winchester College reporting no issues in contrast to providers such as Peter Symonds College stating that it undergoes a very basic regime that it is looking to improve. In most cases, the maintenance programme is sub-contracted to an external company.

The table below summarises the quality of pitches that are available for community use in Winchester. In total, 15 pitches are identified as being good quality (13%), 91 pitches are assessed as standard quality (77%) and just 12 pitches are rated as poor quality (10%). The good quality pitches are located at Arlebury Park, Durley Recreation Ground, Littleton and Harstock Playing Fields, Priory Park and the City Ground are assessed as good quality, with no quality issues discovered.

*Table 2.2: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)*

Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
7	48	7	4	20	5	3	23	-

Pitches with poor quality scores were identified at the following sites:

- ◀ Eversley Park
- ◀ Meadowside Leisure Centre
- ◀ Oakwood Park Recreation Ground

For Eversley Park and Oakwood Park Recreation Ground, the evenness and grass coverage of the pitches are identified as problematic, with the open access nature of the sites exacerbating quality issues due to unofficial usage. This generally leads to further damage from casual demand as well as issues such as littering and dog fouling.

In relation to Meadowside Leisure Centre, each club that accesses the site reports that drainage is a major issue, with numerous games being called off each season due to waterlogging.



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### *FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)*

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation in football, the FA has made it a priority to work towards improving quality of grass pitches across the country. This has resulted in the creation of the FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP). As part of this, grass pitches identified as having quality issues undergo a pitch inspection from a member of the Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG).

### **Over marked pitches**

Over marking of pitches can cause notable damage to the surface quality and lead to overuse beyond recommended capacity. In some cases, mini pitches may be marked onto senior pitches or mini matches may be played widthways across adult or youth pitches. This can lead to targeted areas of surface damage due to a large amount of play focused on high traffic areas, particularly the middle third of the pitch.

Over marking of pitches not only influences available capacity, it may also cause logistical issues regarding kick off times; for example, when two teams of differing age formats are due to play at the same site at the same time. The following sites contain overmarked football pitches:

- ◀ The Gratton
- ◀ The Garrison Ground
- ◀ The Kings School
- ◀ HCC Sports and Social Club

In addition, there is a youth 11v11 pitch at Curdridge Cricket Club that is over marked onto a cricket outfield as is the case for pitches at Colden Common Park and Worthy Down. This creates availability issues as the cricket season begins in April when the football season is still ongoing and the football season begins in August as cricket fixtures are still being played. Generally, cricket is given priorities at such sites, meaning football teams either finish their season early or have to relocate to another site.

### **Ancillary facilities**

The non-technical assessment also identifies the ancillary facilities servicing pitches. This includes the condition of clubhouses, changing accommodation, toilets, showers, car parking and boundary fencing, amongst other things.

Using both non-technical assessments and club feedback, five grounds are highlighted as having ancillary facility issues. These are as follows:

- ◀ Durley Recreation Ground
- ◀ Eversley Park
- ◀ HCC Sports and Social Club
- ◀ King George V Recreation Ground
- ◀ Owlesbury Recreation Ground

HCC Sports and Social Club is highlighted as being of a particularly poor standard due to the age of the clubhouse building. Winchester Castle FC agrees with this, stating that it requires high levels of investment to bring it to an overall adequate quality and that it has not had any investment for over 30 years.

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Similarly, Durley FC reports that the clubhouse facility at Durley Recreation Ground is dated and requires investment. Furthermore, no car parking is available to teams that use the site, causing logistical issues on weekend mornings with cars parking in nearby streets. This is also an issue in relation to King George V Recreation Ground, with Whalesmead Thistle FC citing numerous complaints from local residents regarding congestion.

Worthy Youth FC states that it has access to two changing rooms at Eversley Park which are managed by Worthies Sport and Social Club. The Club reports that this is not an adequate number for its growing membership base and it has no formal usage agreement, meaning access could be denied in the future. To negate this, the Club has aspirations to develop its own ancillary provision which would include changing facilities for its teams in addition to a social space for children and parents.

Lastly, Owlesbury FC states that provision at Owlesbury Recreation Ground is of an overall poor quality in part to there being no shower facilities or dedicated officials room. The Club also highlights recent evidence of vandalism.

### ***Security of tenure***

In general, no clubs report major issues with security of tenure in Winchester and access is generally secure i.e. through a long-term lease or a guarantee that the pitch will continue to be provided over the next three years, with most sites ensuring community use is available. An exception to this, however, is found at schools and academies that decide their own community use policies.

Some education establishments in Winchester that do provide community availability do so without providing security of tenure such as Denmead Junior School and South Wonston Primary School, meaning they can stop the external use at any point devoid of any warning. Others do not offer community use at all, including Twyford School and Winchester College, despite both entities hosting numerous pitches, whereas the King's School offers community use of some of its pitches but not of others.

Similarly, sites owned and operated by the MOD are unlikely to offer any form of tenure and therefore can ask teams and clubs to vacate at any point. Currently, five teams are identified as using provision at either MOD Southwick or Worthy Down.

### ***Asset transfer***

Hampshire County FA acknowledges the opportunity to grow and improve the playing experience through asset transfer arrangements, although it is keen to ensure that all options are considered in order to protect the existence and development of sites and clubs. Where possible, partnerships and/or lease arrangements should be explored with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own sites due to the assistance this can be provide in a site realising its potential.

Whilst no Winchester based clubs express a current need to explore an asset transfer arrangement, Eastleigh based AFC Stoneham is exploring potential land availability. The Club has only eight years remaining on its current lease arrangement and has been asked to vacate its site due to a housing allocation. It has been offered the opportunity to become a partner clubs within an FA Parklife development in Southampton, but is unsure about accepting the offer as it will not have management responsibilities. Relocating to Winchester is therefore considered to be a possibility should the right opportunity present itself.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## ***Football pyramid demand***

The football pyramid is a series of interconnected leagues for adult men's football clubs in England. It begins below the football league (the National League) and comprises of seven steps, with various leagues at each level and more leagues lower down the pyramid than at the top. The system has a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

Clubs within the step system must adhere to ground requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football being played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league above if the ground requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Ground grading assesses grounds from A to H, with 'A' being the requirements for Step 1 clubs.

In Winchester, there are six clubs that play in the football pyramid, which is a relatively high amount for the number of affiliated teams identified.

*Table 2.3: Summary of teams playing within the football pyramid structure*

<b>Team</b>	<b>League</b>	<b>Level</b>
Winchester City FC	Evo-Stik South – South & West Division	Step 4
Alresford Town FC	Wessex Football League Premier League	Step 5
Colden Common FC	Hampshire Premier Senior League	Step 7
Infinity FC	Hampshire Premier Senior League	Step 7
Winchester Castle FC	Hampshire Premier Senior League	Step 7

All clubs are currently able to meet their league requirements, although improvements may be needed in some instances for clubs to progress. For instance, Colden Common FC cannot gain promotion to Step 6 (ground grading G) using its existing site (Colden Common Park) due to a lack of floodlighting, dugouts and spectator toilets.

The general principle for clubs on the football pyramid is that they have to achieve the appropriate grade by March 31<sup>st</sup> of their first season after promotion, which therefore allows a short grace period for facilities to be brought up to standard. This, however, does not apply to clubs being promoted to Step 7 as they must meet requirements immediately.

Durley FC, which plays at Durley Recreation Ground, does not currently play in the football pyramid but does have aspirations to join in the near future. For this to be enabled, a perimeter fence will have to be erected around its home pitch and changing rooms measuring at least 18-square metres will have to be provided, exclusive of shower and toilet areas.

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## 2.3: Demand

Through the audit and assessment, a total of 211 teams were identified as playing within Winchester across 70 clubs. This consists of 71 men's teams, five women's teams, 82 youth boys' teams, 20 youth girls' teams and 33 mini football teams.

Table 2.4: Summary of competitive teams in Winchester

Analysis area	No. of competitive teams					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
North	40	38	18	8	5	109
South	36	29	17	15	5	102
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>211</b>

As can be seen in the table above, there is a relatively even spread of teams across Winchester, with 109 teams playing in the North Analysis Area and 102 teams playing in the South Analysis Area. Adult football is the most prominent; mini 5v5 football the least prominent.

### Participation trends

Clubs were asked whether there had been a change in the number of teams over the previous three years. The response rates for those which answered those relevant questions can be seen in the table below.

Table 2.5: Change in the number of teams over the previous three years

Team type	Clubs response		
	Increased	Decreased	Stayed the same
Adult	6%	10%	84%
Youth	9%	3%	88%
Mini	10%	-	90%

Demand has seemingly remained relatively static over recent years, with 84% reporting no change in adult demand, 88% reporting no change in youth demand and 90% reporting no change in mini demand. That being said, it is notable that more clubs have experienced an increase in mini and youth demand than those that have experienced a reduction, whereas more clubs have experienced a reduction in adult demand when compared to those that have experienced an increase.

Nationally, there has been a trend of 11 aside adult men's teams decreasing due to many players opting to play small sided versions of the game instead. The way in which people, especially adult men, want to play football is changing. People want to be able to fit it in to their busy lifestyle and the small sided formats and shorter games allow players to do this. Such a trend is likely to increase demand for more access to AGP provision.

### Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is already training but is unable to access a match

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

pitch, or when a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision, which in turn is hindering growth.

No clubs report this as being the case in Winchester; however, many do report unmet demand for access to training facilities. A total of 12 clubs express demand for additional training provision with nearly all citing a need to access a floodlit 3G pitch (see Part 3).

### **Latent demand**

During the consultation process a number of clubs identify that if more pitches were available, at their home ground or in the local area, they could develop more teams in the future.

*Table 2.6: latent demand summary*

Club	Analysis area	Latent demand	Pitch type	Match equivalent sessions <sup>3</sup>
Alresford Town Junior FC	North	3 x youth (girls')	11v11	0.5
			9v9	1
Durley FC	South	1 x youth (boys)	11v11	0.5
Infinity FC	South	1 x youth (boys)	11v11	0.5
Winchester Youth FC	South	2 x youth (girls')	11v11	0.5
			9v9	0.5

In total, four clubs express latent demand equating to seven teams. All of these require access to either youth 11v11 or youth 9v9 pitches, with the demand totalling two and 1.5 match equivalent sessions respectively.

Furthermore, the following five clubs indicate that other factors influence the ability to field more teams. Three of these cite a lack of training provision whilst the remaining two state that there is a lack of available coaches.

- ◀ Alresford Town FC
- ◀ AFC Corinthians
- ◀ Worthys Youth FC
- ◀ Winchester Youth FC
- ◀ Infinity FC

### **Exported demand**

Exported demand refers to teams that are currently accessing pitches for their home fixtures outside of the area in which they are registered, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met.

The only Winchester based club identified as fielding a team in a different local authority is Winchester City Flyers FC. The Club fields its ladies team in Eastleigh due to the lack of a suitable venue elsewhere. Certain requirements are needed for female football to be accommodated such as appropriate, designated changing facilities.

<sup>3</sup> Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

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## ***Imported demand***

Imported demand refers to teams that currently access pitches for home fixtures in Winchester despite being based in a different local authority. This does not currently apply to any club, but AFC Stoneham is exploring opportunities for it to become the case, as previously mentioned.

## ***Future demand***

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts.

### *Population increases*

Team generation rates are used to calculate the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2031) based on population growth. The tool predicts an increase of three senior men's teams, 11 junior boys' teams, and one junior girls team in Winchester.

*Table 2.7: Team generation rates (2031)*

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams <sup>4</sup>	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men's (16-45)	20,916	76	1:275	21,904	79.6	3
Senior Women (16-45)	22,425	6	1:3738	23,083	6.2	-
Youth Boys (12-15)	2,972	54	1:55	3,497	63.5	9
Youth Girls (12-15)	2,604	8	1:326	3,066	9.4	1
Youth Boys (10-11)	1,434	23	1:62	1,597	25.6	2
Youth Girls (10-11)	1,334	9	1:148	1,517	10.2	1
Mini-Soccer Mixed (8-9)	2,944	23	1:147	3,083	20.9	-
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-7)	2,890	10	1:289	2,973	10.2	-

When broken down into the separate analysis areas, the growth amounts to one adult, six youth boys' and one youth girls team in the North and one senior men's and five junior boys' teams in the South.

### *Participation increases*

A number of clubs' report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide. Of the clubs which quantify their *potential* increase, there is a predicted growth of 39 teams amounting to three adult, 16 youth 11v11, ten youth 9v9, six mini 7v7 and four mini 5v5 teams.

<sup>4</sup> Age group team numbers differ from Table 2.6 as forecasts are based on age rather than playing format. U17 and U18 teams affiliate as juniors, however generally play on adult pitches and are considered by age boundaries to be in the adult age group

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 2.7: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Future demand	Pitch type	Match equivalent sessions <sup>5</sup>
Alresford Town Youth FC	North	2 x youth (boys')	11v11	0.5
			9v9	0.5
		2 x mini (mixed)	7v7	1
Infinity FC	South	1 x adult (men's)	Adult	0.5
		1 x youth (boys')	11v11	0.5
Whitley Wanderers FC	South	6 x youth (boys')	11v11	1.5
			9v9	1.5
		1 x mini (mixed)	7v7	0.5
Winchester Youth FC	South	4 x youth (boys')	11v11	1
			9v9	1
		4 x mini (mixed)	7v7	1
			5v5	1
Worthys Youth FC	North	1 x adult (men's)	Adult	0.5
		7 x youth (boys')	11v11	2.5
			9v9	1
2 x mini (mixed)	North	1 x adult (men's)	Adult	0.5
			4 x youth (boys')	11v11
		9v9	1	
South Wonston FC	North	2 x youth (boys')	11v11	1
		1 x mini (mixed)	7v7	0.5

The total future demand expressed amounts to 19.5 match equivalent sessions, the majority of which is identified in the North Analysis Area. In relation to the pitch types, most future demand is expressed for youth 11v11 football, with the least expressed for adult football.

Table 2.8: Future demand by analysis area

Analysis area	Future demand (match equivalent sessions)					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
North	1	5	2.5	1.5	1	<b>12</b>
South	0.5	3	2.5	1.5	1	<b>8.5</b>
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19.5</b>

### 2.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing football. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times. Pitch quality is often influenced by weather conditions and drainage.

<sup>5</sup> Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

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As a guide, the FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its current quality (pitch capacity). Taking into consideration guidelines on capacity, the following ratings were used in Winchester:

Table 2.9: Pitch ratings against actual levels of weekly play

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

Table 2.10 applies the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

<b>Potential capacity</b>	Play is below the level the site could sustain
<b>At capacity</b>	Play matches the level the site can sustain
<b>Overused</b>	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis. A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of the game.

Pitches that are of a poor quality are not deemed to have actual spare capacity due to the already low carrying capacity of the pitches. Any identified spare capacity should be retained to relieve the pitches of use, which in turn will aid the improvement of pitch quality and attract increased demand. Similarly, any sites with unsecure tenure are not considered to have actual spare capacity as future usage cannot be guaranteed.

### **Informal use**

Where information is known, informal and unofficial use of pitches has been factored into current play. This is especially the case at high-traffic open access sites such as King George V Playing Field and South Wonston Recreation Ground, both of which are used for training activity as well as match play. It must be noted, however, that informal use of these sites is not recorded and it is therefore difficult to quantify on a site-by-site basis. Instead, it is recommended that open access sites be protected through an improved maintenance regime and through retaining some spare capacity to protect quality.

### **Education sites**

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that the carrying capacity at such sites will need to be adjusted. This adjustment is generally dependent on the amount of play carried out and also the number of pitches on site. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is community use, although this is not the case for any sites in Winchester. As such, pitch capacity at primary schools, secondary schools, academies, colleges, universities and



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independent schools has been adjusted by one match equivalent session per pitch to account for curriculum use.

### ***Peak time***

Spare capacity can only be considered as actual spare capacity if pitches are available at peak time. In Winchester, peak time for adult football is Sunday mornings, whilst for all other formats of play peak time is Saturday mornings. This is because the majority of teams for each format play at these times.

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Table 2.10: Football pitch capacity analysis (Community available)

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure <sup>6</sup>	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity <sup>7</sup> (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
1	Arlebury Park	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Good	1	2.5	3	0.5	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
5	Bishops Waltham Junior School	No	Unsecure	Education	South	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	-	No community use.
7	Broad Lane Recreation Ground	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
9	Cheriton Recreation Ground	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
10	Colden Common Park	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	2	3	4	1	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(11v11)	Standard	2	3	4	1	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
11	Curdridge Cricket Club	Yes-unused	Secure	Sports Club	South	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to overmarking cricket outfield.
13	Denmead Junior School	Yes	Secure	Education	South	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	2	4	2	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
15	Droxford Junior School	No	Unsecure	Education	South	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
18	Durley Recreation Ground	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Good	1	1.5	3	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
20	Eversley Park	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Poor	2	5.5	2	3.5	0	Pitches are overplayed.
20	Eversley Park	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	1	2.5	1	1.5	0	Pitches are overplayed.
21	Perins Community School	No	Unsecure	Education	North	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
23	Harestock Field	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
24	HCC Sports and Social Club	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	South	Adult		Standard	3	6	6	-	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	2	2	-	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
26	Hoe Road Recreation Ground	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
						Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
27	Hunter Park	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	-	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
28	IBM Hursley Club	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
29	King George V Playing Field	Yes	Secure	Council	North	Adult		Standard	6	5	12	7	4	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
30	King George V Recreation Ground	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
31	Ashling Park, Denmead	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	2	3	4	1	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(11v11)	Standard	2	1.5	4	2.5	2	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
32	Kings School Sports Centre	No	Unsecure	Education	North	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
						Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	-	2	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
						Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
34	Knowle Community Centre	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(9v9)	Standard	2	-	4	4	2	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
35	Knowle Village Green	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(9v9)	Standard	2	-	4	4	2	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
36	Littleton and Harestock Playing Fields	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Good	1	2	3	1	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(11v11)	Good	1	2	4	2	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(9v9)	Good	1	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.

<sup>6</sup> Unless local information suggests otherwise it can be assumed that the availability of all pitches in Council, town and parish council and sports club ownership will be secure.

<sup>7</sup> Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

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Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure <sup>6</sup>	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity <sup>7</sup> (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
37	Lord Rank Playing Field	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
39	Meadowside Leisure Centre	Yes	Secure	Commercial	South	Adult		Poor	3	6.5	3	3.5	0	Pitches are overplayed.
						Youth	(11v11)	Poor	4	4.5	4	0.5	0	Pitches are overplayed.
40	Memorial Playing Field	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	2	1.5	4	2.5	2	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
41	MOD Southwick Park	Yes	<b>Unsecure</b>	MOD	South	Adult		Standard	2	2	4	2	0	No peak time capacity.
42	New Road Playing Field	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	South	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
						Mini	(7v7)	Standard	2	-	8	8	2	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
43	North Walls Recreation Ground	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	North	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	2	-	4	4	2	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
						Mini	(7v7)	Standard	5	3	20	17	5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
44	Oakwood Park Recreation Ground	Yes-unused	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Poor	2	-	2	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
47	Owslebury Recreation Ground	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
48	Peter Symonds College	Yes	<b>Unsecure</b>	Education	North	Adult		Standard	2	0.5	4	3.5	1.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
49	Princes Mead School	Yes	<b>Unsecure</b>	Education	North	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	2	2	8	6	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Mini	(5v5)	Standard	2	2	8	6	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
50	Priory Park	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Good	3	2	9	7	3	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(11v11)	Good	2	2.5	8	5.5	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Mini	(7v7)	Good	3	1.5	18	16.5	1.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
51	Rays Farm Playing Field	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	1	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
52	Recreation Ground	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
55	Shedfield Recreation Ground	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	3	2.5	6	3.5	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
59	South Wonston Recreation Ground	Yes	<b>Unsecure</b>	Education	North	Adult		Standard	2	2.5	4	1.5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to training on grass pitches.
						Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	2	4	2	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
						Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	2	4	2	0	Played to capacity at peak time.
61	Sparsholt College Hampshire	No	<b>Unsecure</b>	Education	North	Adult		Standard	3	1	6	5	-	Unavailable for community use.
63	St Swithuns School	No	<b>Unsecure</b>	Education	North	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
64	Stratten Bates	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	2	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
65	Swanmore College	No	<b>Unsecure</b>	Education	South	Adult		Poor	1	1	1	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
66	The City Ground	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Good	1	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.5	Further capacity discounted to protect pitch quality for football pyramid activity.
67	The Garrison Ground	Yes	Secure	Council	North	Adult		Standard	3	6	6		0	Played to capacity.
						Mini	(7v7)	Standard	6	12	10		0	Played to capacity.
68	The Gratton	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	North	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	1	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
						Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
70	The Meon Hall	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
73	The Recreation Ground	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
76	Twyford School	No	<b>Unsecure</b>	Education	North	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
						Youth	(9v9)	Good	3	1	12	11	-	Unavailable for community use.
						Mini	(7v7)	Standard	6	1	24	23	-	Unavailable for community use.
						Mini	(5v5)	Standard	3	2	9	7	-	Unavailable for community use.
78	Westgate Secondary School	No	<b>Unsecure</b>	Education	North	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
						Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.

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Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure <sup>6</sup>	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity <sup>7</sup> (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
81	Wickham Recreation Ground	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	South	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
82	Winchester College (Ridding Meads Playing Fields)	No	Unsecure	Education	North	Adult		Good	4	1	12	11	-	Unavailable for community use.
						Youth	(11v11)	Good	5	1	20	19	-	Unavailable for community use.
						Youth	(9v9)	Good	3	1	12	11	-	Unavailable for community use.
85	Worthy Down	Yes	Unsecure	MOD	North	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
96	Wickham Primary School	No	Unsecure	Education	South	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
						Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
97	Compton All Saints Primary	No	Unsecure	Education	North	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
98	St Faiths Primary School	No	Unsecure	Education	North	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
99	Stanmore Primary School	No	Unsecure	Education	North	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## *Actual spare capacity*

The table below highlights the pitches that are available at peak time and that are considered to have actual spare capacity in Winchester. Note that this does not include pitches that have had spare capacity discounted.

*Table 2.11: Summary of actual spare capacity*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period
7	Broad Lane Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	1
9	Cheriton Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	1
18	Durley Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	0.5
23	Harestock Field	North	Adult	1	1
26	Hoe Road Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	1
			7v7	1	0.5
27	Hunter Park	North	7v7	1	1
28	IBM Hursley Club	North	Adult	1	1
29	King George V Playing Field	North	Adult	6	4
30	King George V Recreation Ground	North	Adult	1	1
			11v11	1	1
31	Ashling Park	South	11v11	2	2
34	Knowle Community Centre	South	9v9	2	2
35	Knowle Village Green	South	Adult	1	1
			9v9	2	2
36	Littleton and Harestock Playing Fields	North	9v9	1	0.5
37	Lord Rank Playing Field	North	Adult	1	1
40	Memorial Playing Field	North	Adult	2	2
42	New Road Playing Field	South	7v7	2	2
			11v11	1	1
43	North Walls Recreation Ground	North	7v7	5	5
			11v11	2	2
50	Priory Park	South	Adult	3	3
			7v7	3	1.5
51	Rays Farm Playing Field	South	Adult	1	1
52	Recreation Ground	North	Adult	1	0.5
			11v11	1	0.5
55	Shedfield Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	0.5
57	Soberton Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	0.5
64	Stratten Bates	North	Adult	2	0.5
68	The Gratton	North	Adult	1	1
			11v11	1	1
70	The Meon Hall	South	Adult	1	0.5
73	The Rec	South	Adult	1	0.5
81	Wickham Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	0.5

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

In total, 45 match equivalent sessions per week of actual spare capacity exists across Winchester, with 21.5 identified in the North Analysis Area and 23.5 identified in the South Analysis Area. Most of the capacity exists on adult pitches whereas no capacity exists on mini 5v5 pitches.

Table 2.12: Actual spare capacity summary

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match sessions per week)				
	Adult	Youth (11v11)	Youth (9v9)	Mini (7v7)	Mini (5v5)
North	10.5	4.5	0.5	6	-
South	11.5	6	2	4	-
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>

### Overplay

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it is able to sustain (which can often be due to the low carrying capacity of the pitches). In Winchester, ten pitches are overplayed across two sites by a total of nine match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 2.13: Overplay on pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating
20	Eversley Park	North	Adult	2	3.5
			Youth 11v11	1	1.5
39	Meadowside Leisure Centre	South	Adult	3	3.5
			Youth 11v11	4	0.5

All of these pitches are assessed as poor quality, meaning an improvement in quality would reduce the overplay. In fact, if the pitches were improved to good quality, all current demand could be accommodated.

## 2.6: Conclusions

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify current demand (i.e. spare capacity taking away overplay and any latent and imported demand) in each of the analysis areas for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand is based on club aspirational growth and analysis area TGRs.

Table 2.14: Spare capacity/ overplay of adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>8</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/exported demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
North	10.5	3.5	-	7	1.5	5.5
South	11.5	3.5	-	8	1	7
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>

<sup>8</sup> In match equivalent sessions

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

There is current spare capacity on adult pitches amounting to 15 match equivalent sessions, despite overplay existing on some pitches. When accounting for future demand, the spare capacity reduces to 12.5 match equivalent sessions but remains more than sufficient in both analysis areas.

Table 2.15: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>9</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/exported demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
North	4.5	1.5	0.5	2.5	8	6.5
South	6	0.5	1.5	4	6	2
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8.5</b>

There is currently a sufficient supply of youth 11v11 provision to accommodate current demand with spare capacity existing in both analysis areas and overall spare capacity totalling five match equivalent sessions. When accounting for future demand, however, there is a shortfall in both analysis areas equalling 6.5 and two match equivalent sessions respectively.

Table 2.16: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>10</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/exported demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
North	0.5	-	1	0.5	3.5	3
South	2	-	0.5	1.5	3	1
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>4</b>

There is an overall adequate amount of youth 9v9 pitches to currently accommodate demand; however, a minimal shortfall is evident in the North Analysis Area. When accounting for future demand, this shortfall worsens and a shortfall is also created in the South Analysis Area.

Table 2.17: Spare capacity/ overplay of mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>11</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/exported demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
North	6	-	-	6	1.5	4.5
South	4	-	-	4	1.5	2.5
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>

<sup>9</sup> In match equivalent sessions

<sup>10</sup> In match equivalent sessions

<sup>11</sup> In match equivalent sessions

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

There is a sufficient supply of mini 7v7 pitches to accommodate both current and future demand with ten match equivalent sessions existing presently and seven match equivalent sessions existing in the future.

Table 2.18: Spare capacity/ overplay of mini 5v5 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>12</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/exported demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
North	-	-	-		1	1
South	-	-	-		1	1
<b>Winchester</b>	-	-	-		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

The current picture shows that 5v5 pitches are currently at capacity, with future demand resulting in a shortfall of one match equivalent session in both analysis areas.

### Football – grass pitch summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a current total of 157 grass football pitches in Winchester across 60 sites. Of these, 118 pitches are available for community use across 47 sites.
- ◀ There are plans to develop a leisure centre at the Garrison Ground on existing football pitches.
- ◀ In total, 15 community available pitches are assessed as good quality, 91 as standard quality and 12 as poor quality.
- ◀ Poor quality pitches are located at Eversley Park, Meadowside Leisure Centre and Oakwood Park Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Ancillary facilities issues are identified at Durley Recreation Ground, Eversley Park, HCC Sports and Social Club, King George V Recreation Ground and Owlesbury Recreation Ground.
- ◀ There are five clubs in Winchester which play in the football pyramid, with Winchester City FC playing at the highest level (Step 4).
- ◀ A total of 211 teams were identified as playing within Winchester consisting of 71 men's, five women's, 82 youth boys', 20 youth girls' and 33 mini teams.
- ◀ There is latent demand identified by four clubs equating to three match equivalent sessions on youth pitches.
- ◀ Team generation rates predict a future increase of three senior men's teams, 11 junior boys' teams, and one junior girls team.
- ◀ Of the clubs which quantify their *potential* future demand, there is a predicted growth of 39 teams amounting to three adult, 26 youth and ten mini teams.
- ◀ In total, 45 match equivalent sessions per week of actual spare capacity exists across Winchester.
- ◀ There are ten pitches overplayed across two sites by a total of nine match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There are no current shortfalls of any pitch type; however, future demand predicts a shortfall of youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches.

<sup>12</sup> In match equivalent sessions



# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (AGPS)

### 3.1 Introduction

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces that have been FIFA or International Matchball Standard (IMS) tested and approved by the FA for inclusion on the FA pitch register. As such, a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play, providing that the performance standard meets FIFA quality (previously FIFA One Star), as well as for training purposes. Football training can take place on sand and water based surfaces but is not the preferred option.

World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the standard, meaning full contact activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts, can take place. For rugby league, the equivalent is known as RFL Community Standard.

England Hockey's (EH) Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy (June 2016) advises that 3G pitches should not be used for hockey matches or training and that they can only be used for lower level hockey (introductory level) as a last resort when no sand-based or water-based AGPs are available.

*Table 3.1: 3G type and sport suitability*

Surface	Category	Comments
Rubber crumb	Long Pile 3G (60mm with shock pad)	Rugby surface – must comply with World Rugby regulation 22 and/or RFL Community Standard, requires a minimum of 60mm pile.
Rubber crumb	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	Preferred football surface. Suitable for non-contact rugby union/league practice or play.
Rubber crumb	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	Acceptable surface for some competitive football, able to be used for low level curricular hockey.

It should be noted that the FA refers to 3G pitches as 3G football turf pitches, though this term is not adopted in this PPS as 3G pitches can be and are used for other sports including rugby union, rugby league, lacrosse and American football, amongst others.

### 3.2: Current provision

A full size 3G pitch is considered by the FA to measure at least 100x64 metres (106x70 metres including run offs); however, for the purposes of this report, all pitches measuring over 100x60 metres (inclusive of run offs) are considered to be full size due to the amount of demand they can accommodate.

There are two pitches in Winchester that comply with this specification; Swanmore College and Perins Community School. The former measures 110x70 metres whereas the latter measures 100x60 metres. Both are floodlit and available for community use, as shown in the table below.

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*Table 3.2: Full size 3G pitches in Winchester*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Floodlit?	Size (metres)
21	Perins Community School	North	Yes	Yes	100 x 60
65	Swanmore College	South	Yes	Yes	105 x 69

In addition, there are six smaller sized pitches servicing Winchester. Such pitches are generally not suitable for adult match play but can be used to accommodate youth and mini matches provided they are FA approved and of an adequate size. The FA's recommended pitch size is 100x64 metres for adult football, between 91x55 metres and 82x50 metres for youth football and between 54x37 metres and 37x27 metres for mini football (plus a three-metre safety run-off area).

*Table 3.3: Additional supply of 3G pitches*

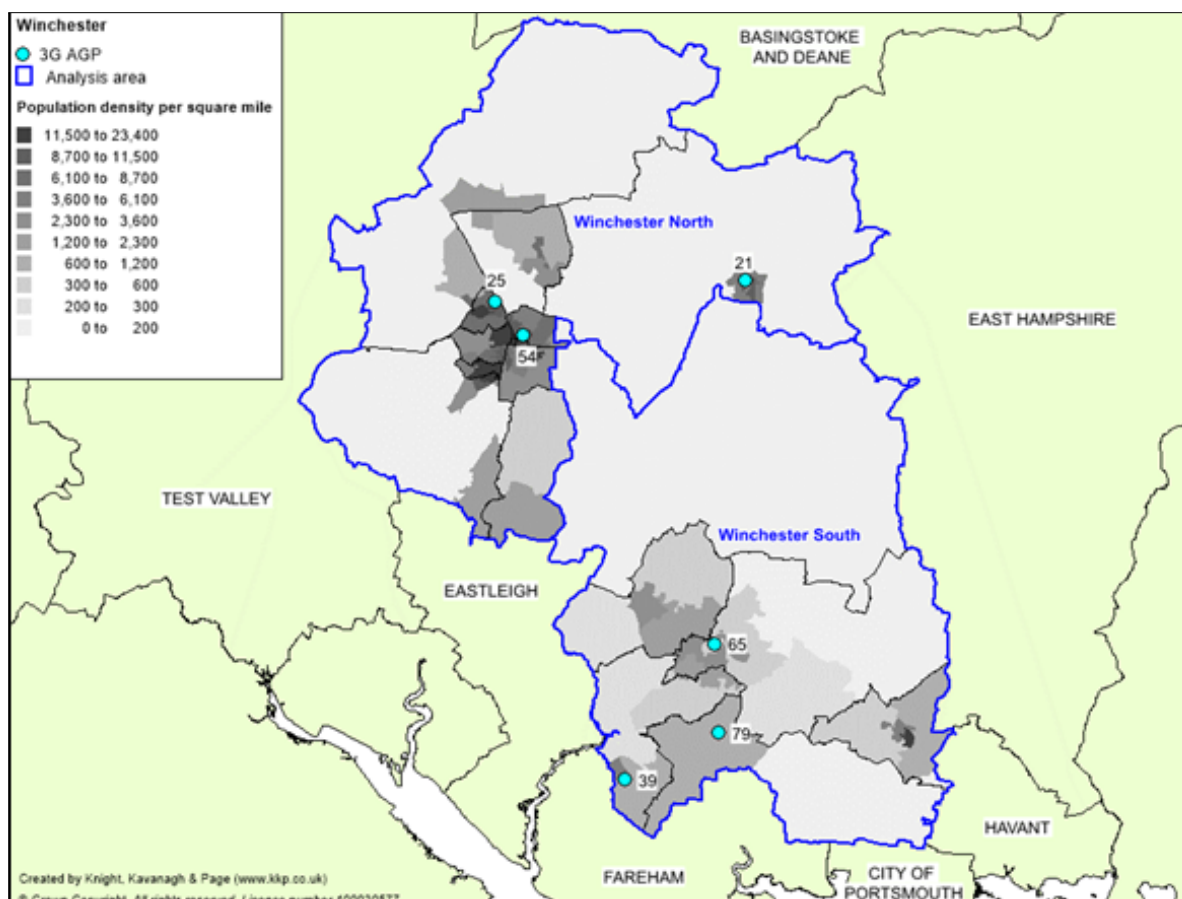
Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Floodlit?	Size (metres)
2	Army Regiment Centre	North	No	No	48x36
21	Perrins School	North	Yes	Yes	100x60
25	Henry Beaufort School	North	Yes	Yes	90x46
39	Meadow Leisure Centre	South	Yes	Yes	35x18
54	River Park Leisure Centre	North	Yes	Yes	60x35
79	Wickham Community Centre	South	Yes	Yes	38x40

Five of the smaller sided 3G pitches are available for community use and floodlit, with only the pitch located at the Army Regiment Centre unavailable and without floodlighting.

Figure 3.1 overleaf shows the location of all 3G pitches within Winchester, regardless of size.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 3.1: Location of 3G AGPs in Winchester



## **FA/FIFA approved pitches**

In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches, the pitch should be FIFA or IMS tested and approved and added to the FA pitch register, which can be found at: <http://3g.thefa.me.uk/>.

Pitches undergo FIFA testing to become a FIFA Quality pitch (previously FIFA One Star) or a FIFA Quality Pro pitch (previously FIFA Two Star), with pitches commonly constructed, installed and tested in situ to achieve either accreditation. This comes after FIFA announced changes to 3G performance in October 2015 following consultation with member associations and licenced laboratories. The changes are part of FIFA's continued ambition to drive up performance standard in the industry and the implications are that all 3G pitches built through the FA framework will be constructed to meet the new criteria.

The changes from FIFA One Star to FIFA Quality will have minimal impact on the current hours of use guidelines, which suggests that One Star pitches place more emphasis on the product's ability to sustain acceptable performance and can typically be used for 60-85 hours per week with a lifespan of 20,000 cycles. In contrast, pitches built to FIFA Quality Pro performance standards are unlikely to provide the hours of use that some FIFA Two Star products have guaranteed in the past (previously 30-40 hours per week with a lifespan of 5,000 cycles). Typically, a FIFA Quality Pro pitch will be able to accommodate only 20-30 hours per week with appropriate maintenance due to strict performance measurements.

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Clubs playing in the football pyramid on 3G pitches meeting FIFA One Star or Two Star guidelines will still be expected to certify pitches annually, however, if any pitch replacement takes place the Club will need to meet the new FIFA performance criteria of FIFA Quality/Quality Pro. Pitches below the national league pyramid require FA testing every three years.

In Winchester, the full size 3G pitch at Swanmore College is FA approved and can therefore be used to host competitive matches; however, Perrins Community School is without FA approval. That is not to say that it cannot achieve accreditation in the future, although it is likely that quality will need to improve for that to become the case.

Of the six smaller sized 3G pitches, Henry Beaufort School is on the FA register, although the pitch does not accommodate any regular competitive fixtures. For pitches that are approved, re-testing is required every three years to ensure that this remains the case. Should quality drop below a certain level, the pitches will not pass accreditation.

### **World Rugby compliant pitches**

To enable 3G pitches to host competitive rugby union matches, World Rugby has developed the Rugby Turf Performance Specification. This is to ensure that the surfaces replicate the playing qualities of good quality grass pitches, provide a playing environment that will not increase the risk of injury and are of an adequate durability. The specification includes a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G pitch used for any form of competitive rugby must comply with this specification and must be re-tested every two years to maintain compliance.

No 3G pitches in Winchester are World Rugby compliant and it is not considered to be a target area for one to be supplied in the future. That being said, Winchester Rugby Club was previously considered to be a strategic site by the RFU as part of its 365 scheme.

Many test contractors are able to offer reduced rates through efficiency savings to carry out multiple performance tests in the same session, therefore providers seeking 3G pitch compliancy for a number of sports would be recommended to consider this opportunity.

### **Availability**

The availability of the full size 3G pitches at Perins Community School and Swanmore College is substantial and relatively similar, with the former available for 41 hours a week and the latter available for 43 hours a week.

*Table 3.4: Summary of full size 3G pitch availability*

Site ID	Site	Availability
21	Perins Community School	Reserved for school use until 17:00 during the week then available to the community from 17:00 until 22:00 Monday to Friday and from 08:30 until 17:30 Saturday to Sunday.
65	Swanmore College	Reserved for school use until 17:00 during the week then available to the community from 17:00 until 22:00 Monday to Friday and from 08:00 until 18:00 Saturday to Sunday.

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The smaller sized 3G pitches are available for similar amounts of time during the week, with access then limited at some of the sites during weekends either due to staffing issues or due to a lack of demand. That being said, this is not the case at Henry Beaufort School as it is fully available at weekends, which is pertinent given that it is FA approved.

### **Quality**

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately ten years and it is the age of the surface combined with maintenance levels which most commonly affects quality. It is recommended that sinking funds be put into place by providers to enable long-term sustainability, ongoing repairs and future refurbishment beyond this period.

Given the above, the pitch at Perins Community School is considered to be poor quality as it has not been resurfaced since 2004, meaning it is three years over its estimated lifespan. The School does not have a sinking fund in place and it is therefore likely that quality will continue to deteriorate.

In contrast, the pitch at Swanmore College is considered to be good quality having been installed in 2016. No issues were identified during assessment or consultation.

*Table 3.4: Summary of 3G pitch quality*

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Year installed/ resurfaced	Quality
21	Perins Community School	North	2004	Poor
65	Swanmore College	South	2016	Good

All of the smaller sized 3G pitches are assessed as standard quality with all six identified as being between five and ten years old. Considering this, precedence should be placed on sustaining quality at Henry Beaufort School to ensure that it can remain on the FA register beyond the current three year period. The pitch was installed in 2009.

### **Ancillary facilities**

All 3G pitches are serviced by changing facilities and other adequate ancillary provision, with no issues highlighted.

### **3.3: Demand**

#### **Football**

The FA considers high quality 3G pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development. The pitches can support intensive use and as such are great assets for football use. Primarily such facilities have been installed for social use and training, however, they are increasingly used for competition, which the FA wholly supports.

# WINCHESTER

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### *Training demand*

Getting access to good quality, affordable training facilities is a problem for many clubs throughout the country, especially during winter months as midweek training is only possible at floodlit facilities. The FA's long-term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G surface, together with priority access for every Charter Standard Community Club through a partnership agreement.

Both full size 3G pitches servicing Winchester are reported as operating at or close to capacity at desirable times from Monday to Friday and the same also applies to Henry Beaufort School, which services training demand from numerous clubs. This has contributed to 12 clubs reporting that they require access or additional access to 3G pitch provision. Many clubs currently access sand-based AGPs or indoor sports halls, whilst others do access 3G pitches but do so at undesirable times or do so outside of Winchester.

In order to calculate the number of football teams a 3G pitch can service for training, peak time access is considered to be from 18:00 until 22:00 Tuesday-Thursday resulting in an overall peak period of 12 hours per week. Mondays and Fridays are not included within this calculation as it is considered that most teams do not want to train in such close proximity to a weekend match.

Full size 3G pitches are divided into thirds or into quarters for training purposes meaning they can accommodate either three or four teams per hour and either 36 or 48 teams per week (during the peak training period). Based on an average of these numbers it is therefore estimated that 42 teams can be accommodated on one full size 3G pitch.

As there are 211 teams currently playing in Winchester this means there is a demand for five full size 3G pitches (rounded down from 5.02). As such, there is a current shortfall of three pitches, although it should be noted that the smaller sized pitches can contribute towards servicing training demand if programmed correctly, especially in the case of Henry Beaufort School. Given the rural characteristics of some parts of Winchester, providing full size 3G pitches may not be appropriate in the more isolated towns/villages.

When considering future demand for 53 teams (calculated using population increases and consultation with clubs), demand for 3G pitches increases by one, with six full size pitches (rounded down from 6.3) required, meaning a shortfall of four 3G pitches.

### *Match play demand*

Improving grass pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites but given the cost of doing such work and the continued maintenance required (and associated costs), alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The substitute to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches, providing that the pitch is FA approved, floodlit and available for community use during the peak period.

In Winchester, Swanmore College is currently accessed by 20 clubs for regular home matches, which is a relatively high number for one pitch. This activity derives from FOSPS Youth FC and Waltham Youth FC.

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Despite being on the FA register, Henry Beaufort School is not currently used by any clubs for competitive matches. It is likely that this is because clubs are unaware that is appropriate for such activity given its size.

In the Strategy document that follows this report, scenarios will be run to determine how many full size 3G pitches are required to satisfy all or certain levels of match play demand.

### ***Rugby***

As there are no World Rugby complaint 3G pitches within Winchester, no competitive rugby activity takes place on the current stock. That being said, the pitch at Perins Community School is utilised by Alresford RFC for training demand due to it having no floodlit provision of its own. No contact activity is permitted given that the pitch is without a suitable shock pad.

### **3.4: Supply and demand analysis**

The FA model suggests that to meet training demand there is a current and future need for at least three additional full size 3G pitches. As such, there is a clear need for more provision to be developed, with shortfalls existing in both the North and the South analysis areas.

Additionally, the current pitch stock requires sustaining. To that end, providers are encouraged to put sinking funds in place to ensure future refurbishment can take place and it is recommended that all new and existing pitches undergo FA testing every three years to remain or become FA approved to host competitive matches.

### ***Conversion from hockey suitable AGP surface types***

As later detailed in Part 5, the current stock of hockey suitable AGPs require protecting for hockey demand, meaning conversion to 3G is not a viable option unless replacement provision is provided.

Since the introduction of 3G pitches and given their popularity for football, providers have seen this as a way to replace a worn sand or water based carpet and generate increased revenue from hiring out a 3G pitch to football and rugby clubs and commercial football providers. This has often come at the expense of hockey, with players now travelling further distances to gain access to a suitable pitch and many teams consequently displaced from their preferred local authority.

Due to its impact on hockey, it is appropriate to ensure that sufficient sand based AGPs are retained for the playing development of hockey. To that end, a change of surface will require a planning application and the applicants will need to show that there is sufficient provision available for hockey in the locality. Advice from Sport England and England Hockey should also be sought prior to any planning application being submitted.

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## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### 3G summary

- ◀ There are two full size 3G pitch in Winchester; Swanmore College and Perins Community School.
- ◀ In addition, there are six small sized 3G pitches, five of which are floodlit and available for community use.
- ◀ The full size pitch at Swanmore College and the smaller sized pitch at Henry Beaufort School are on the FA register to host competitive matches.
- ◀ No pitches are World Rugby compliant and Winchester is not a target area at this time.
- ◀ Perins Community School is assessed as poor quality due to its age, whereas Swanmore College is assessed as good quality having been installed in 2016.
- ◀ Both full size 3G pitches are nearing midweek capacity, whilst Swanmore College is also close to capacity at weekends due to match play demand.
- ◀ In order to satisfy current training demand, there is a need for five full size 3G pitches meaning a current shortfall of three.
- ◀ Taking into account future demand, the shortfall of full size 3G pitches increases to four.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on the creation of new full size 3G pitches in order to reduce shortfalls.



# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## PART 4: CRICKET

### 4.1: Introduction

Hampshire Cricket Board serves as the governing and representative body for cricket within Winchester. Its aim is to promote the game at all levels through partnerships with professional and recreational cricketing clubs, and other appropriate agencies.

Senior cricket in Winchester is mostly played on Saturdays, however; there is also some play on Sundays and midweek where teams typically play in short format competitions. There are a number of cricket leagues which service teams in Winchester including:

- ◀ Southern Premier League
- ◀ Hampshire Cricket League
- ◀ Winchester Evening League

The youth league structure in Winchester also tends to be club based matches which are played midweek or on Sunday mornings dependant on age group. There is little conflict for access to squares and any midweek matches are played on various nights to spread demand, whilst Sunday morning matches tend to be played before senior matches in the afternoon.

### Consultation

There are 23 affiliated cricket clubs playing in Winchester. Using contact information supplied by the Hampshire Cricket Board, consultation took place through completion of an online survey. A response rate of 91% was achieved, with only Littleton & West Hill CC and Martyr Worthy CC unresponsive.

### 4.2: Supply

In total, there are 37 grass wicket squares identified in Winchester, 31 of which are available for community use. Those not available are located at Winchester College, Southern Water and Twyford School.

*Table 4.1: Summary of grass wicket squares available for community use*

Analysis area	Number available for community use
North	17
South	14
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>31</b>

As seen in the table above, 17 of the community available squares are located in the North Analysis Area and 14 are located in the South Analysis Area, leading to a relatively even distribution.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## ***Non-turf pitches (NTPs)***

There are NTPs accompanying 15 community available grass wicket squares in Winchester. These are located at the following sites:

- ◀ Bishop Waltham Cricket Club
- ◀ Colden Common Park
- ◀ David Roth Memorial Cricket Ground
- ◀ Green Jackets Ground
- ◀ IMB Hursley Club
- ◀ Littleton and Harestock Playing Field
- ◀ Memorial Playing Field
- ◀ The Recreation Ground
- ◀ Ridge Meadow
- ◀ Sparsholt Field
- ◀ The Holt Cricket Ground
- ◀ The Quarters (x2)
- ◀ Tichborne Park
- ◀ New Place Hotel

In addition, there are six standalone NTPs across the following sites:

- ◀ Broad Lane Recreation Ground
- ◀ Henry Beaufort School
- ◀ Shedfield Recreation Ground
- ◀ South Wonston Recreation Ground
- ◀ Swanmore College

Consultation with clubs that use such provision identify that the NTPs are generally used to accommodate junior demand both in relation to competitive matches and for training activity in order to reduce the impact of such play has on grass wickets.

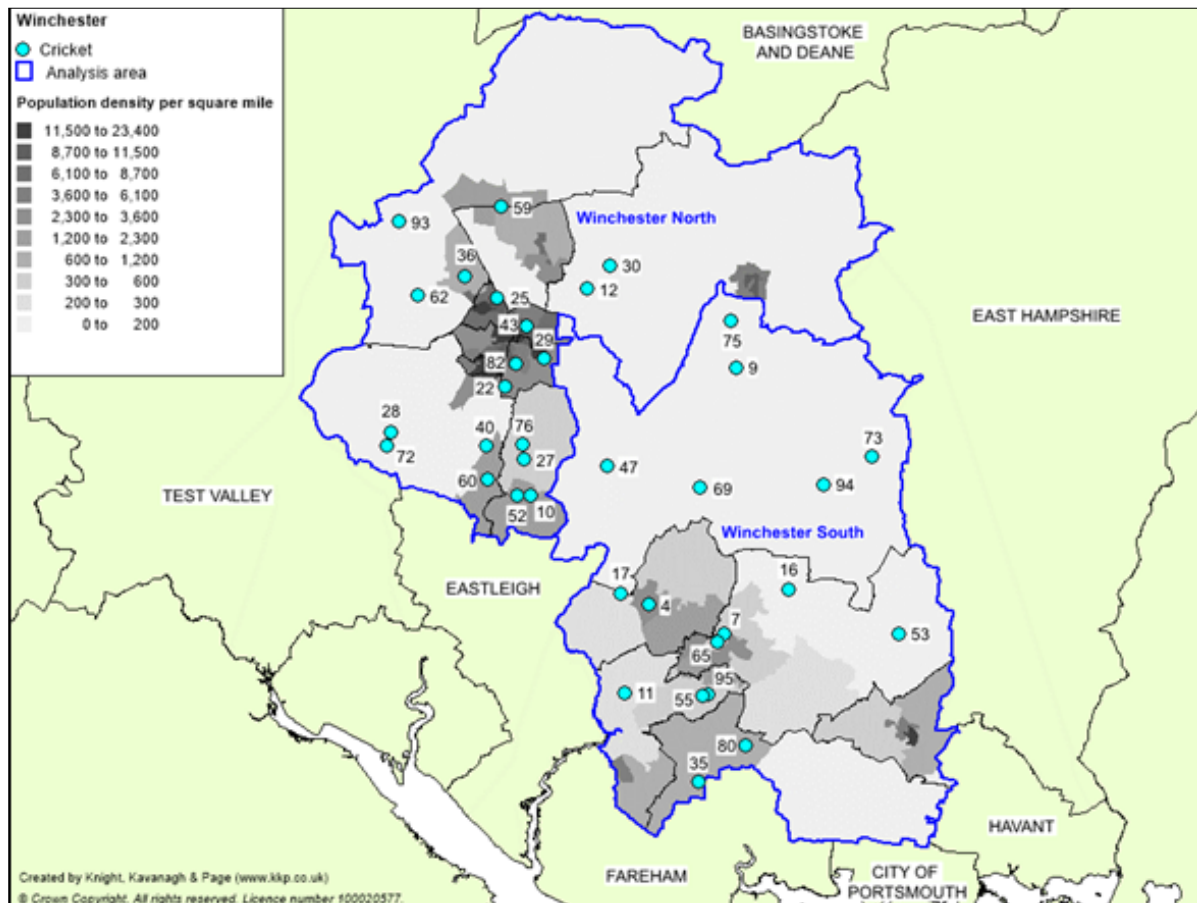
In addition, Swanmore CC also fields a senior team that plays on an NTP. The ECB highlights that NTPs which follow its TS6 guidance on performance standards are suitable for high level senior play and are considered able to take 60 matches per season as well as training sessions through the use of mobile nets.

The ECB's Get the Game On campaign is focused on increasing participation and reducing the number of matches cancelled in order to keep people interested in playing cricket. During 2015, the campaign's inaugural year, there were 6% more games played nationally with 5% less matches cancelled. As such, it is considered that use of NTPs for league cricket may present a way to fulfil more fixtures meaning their use may increase in future.

Figure 4.1 overleaf identifies the location of all cricket provision in Winchester.

*Figure 4.1: Location of cricket pitches in Winchester*

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT



## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 4.2: Summary of grass wicket squares available for community use

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Number of squares	Community use?	Number of wickets	
					Grass	Non-turf
4	Bishops Waltham Cricket Club	South	1	Yes	14	1
7	Broad Lane Recreation Ground	South	1	Yes-unused	-	1
9	Cheriton Recreation Ground	South	1	Yes	7	-
10	Colden Common Park	North	2	Yes	8	1
11	Curdridge Cricket Club	South	1	Yes	8	-
12	David Roth Memorial Cricket Ground	North	1	Yes	6	1
16	Droxford Recreation Ground	South	1	Yes	8	-
17	Durley Cricket Club	South	1	Yes-unused	6	-
22	Green Jackets Ground	North	2	Yes	11	-
					9	1
25	Henry Beaufort School	North	1	Yes-unused	-	1
27	Hunters Park	North	1	Yes	15	-
28	IBM Hursley Club	North	1	Yes	10	1
29	King George V Playing Field	North	2	Yes	6	-
					6	-
31	Ashling Park, Denmead	South	1	Yes	8	-
35	Knowle Village Green	South	1	Yes	5	-
36	Littleton & Harestock Playing Fields	North	1	Yes	9	1
40	Memorial Playing Field	North	1	Yes	10	1
43	North Walls Recreation Ground	North	2	Yes	12	-
					8	-
47	Owslebury Recreation Ground	South	1	Yes-unused	6	-
52	The Recreation Ground	North	1	Yes-unused	-	1
53	Hambledon Cricket Club (Ridge Meadow)	South	1	Yes	13	1
55	Shedfield Recreation Ground	South	1	Yes-unused	-	1
59	South Wonston Recreation Ground	South	1	Yes-unused	-	1
60	Southern Water	North	1	No	9	1

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Number of squares	Community use	Number of wickets	
					Grass	Non-turf
62	Sparsholt Field	North	1	Yes	8	1
65	Swanmore College	South	1	Yes-unused	-	1
69	The Holt Cricket Ground	South	1	Yes	7	1
72	The Quarters	North	2	Yes	14	1
					14	1
73	The Rec	South	1	Yes	5	-
75	Tichborne Park	South	1	Yes	10	1
76	Twyford School	North	2	No	5	-
					-	1
80	Wickham Cricket Club	South	1	Yes	10	-
82	Winchester College (Ridding Meads Playing Fields)	North	7	No	16	-
					13	-
					12	1
					9	-
					-	3
93	Crawley Cricket Ground	North	1	Yes	8	-
94	Hampshire Hogs Cricket Ground	South	1	Yes	14	-
95	New Place Hotel	South	1	Yes	9	1

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### ***Future supply***

There are plans to create a sporting community hub located at Berewood Park in Waterlooville. The site is likely to be managed by Denmead Parish Council and will provide a good quality cricket square for community use. At present there are no identified users of the site.

Bishops Waltham CC has aspirations to purchase land within immediate locality of its ground to create a secondary square to accommodate both training and competitive fixtures.

### ***Square quality***

As recommended within the PPS Guidance, there are three levels to assessing the quality of cricket squares: good, standard and poor. 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.

PPS pitch quality ratings determined by non-technical quality assessments and user consultation found six grass wicket squares to be good quality, 15 to be standard quality and ten to be poor quality squares. The following sites contain squares identified as being poor quality:

- ◀ Cheriton Recreation Ground
- ◀ Durley Cricket Club
- ◀ King George V Playing Field (two squares)
- ◀ Knowle Village Green
- ◀ North Walls Recreation Ground (two squares)
- ◀ Owslebury Recreation Ground
- ◀ The Rec
- ◀ The Holt Cricket Ground

The main issue at the majority of these sites is linked to a limited maintenance regime that generally consists of poor preparatory and remedial work as well as poor after match care. All of the sites are either managed and maintained by the Council or are secondary squares utilised by clubs. As such, the infrastructure to improve quality is restricted, whether that be down to budget issues, a lack of equipment or a shortage of volunteers.

Further to the PPS quality assessment, the ECB also recommends a Performance Quality Standard Assessment (PQS). The PQS looks at a cricket square to ascertain whether the square meets the standards that are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG). The report identifies surface issues and suggests options for remediation together with likely costs.

### ***Over marked pitches***

A number of sites accommodate a mix of sports, a common example being cricket and football where football pitches are marked either onto a section of the outfield area or where a cricket square is located in between football pitches. Nationally, deteriorating pitch quality and wet weather is frequently causing the football season to be extended further into the summer months, which causes clashes with cricket matches. This may be in regards to the actual playing pitches or the supply of changing facilities that may not be enough to serve the sports playing simultaneously.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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The following cricket sites in Winchester also include football or rugby union provision:

- ◀ Cheriton Recreation Ground
- ◀ Colden Common Park
- ◀ Curdridge Cricket Club
- ◀ Hunters Park
- ◀ King George V Playing Field
- ◀ King George V Recreation Ground
- ◀ Knowle Village Green
- ◀ Littleton and Harestock Playing Fields
- ◀ Memorial Playing Field
- ◀ North Walls Recreation Ground
- ◀ Owlesbury Recreation Ground
- ◀ The Quarters
- ◀ The Rec

### ***Ancillary facilities***

North Walls Recreation Ground has been highlighted by several stakeholders as being unfit for purpose. The pavilion accommodates senior men's, senior ladies and other user groups including disability cricket and therefore there is a need for quality improvements to be made.

Tichborne Park CC is actively trying to raise capital in addition to applying for match funding to create a new pavilion on its site. Aside from financial challenges, the Club highlights that it is on a privately owned ground which has restrictions to its lease agreement about the type of building materials which can be used to create permanent structures.

Similarly, St Cross Symondians CC has aspirations to create a new pavilion. The Club operates a significant senior and junior set up with its current facility inadequate in accommodating this level of demand, both in terms of a social space as well as changing facilities.

Hursley Park CC is in the process of undertaking a pavilion extension at its site that will allow a new, larger shower block to be completed, whereas Easton & Martyr Worthy CC is looking to create a new car park on the outskirts of its playing boundary.

### ***Training facilities***

Access to training facilities allows structured training to take place throughout the playing season and as such is a vital part of any cricket club. Through consultation, the following clubs identify demand for improved or additional training facilities:

- ◀ Crawley Crows CC – Non-turf practise nets
- ◀ Droxford CC – Mobile cage
- ◀ The Racqueteers CC - Non-turf practise nets
- ◀ Bishops Waltham CC - Non-turf practise nets
- ◀ Tichborne Park CC - Non-turf practise nets, mobile cage



# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## Security of tenure

The majority of cricket clubs in Winchester are considered to have secured use through either ownership or long-term leasehold. However, there are seven clubs listed below which have annual rent agreements in place and are considered not to have secure tenure as the clubs can in principle be asked to vacate the site once its respective arrangement comes to an end.

- ◀ Droxford CC
- ◀ Racqueteers CC
- ◀ Oakamount CC
- ◀ Ram CC
- ◀ Twyford CC
- ◀ Swanmore CC
- ◀ IBM South Hants CC

Six of the above clubs have annual rent agreements in place with the Council, local parish councils or charitable trusts. Although this may be considered unsecure tenure (as it is not a long-term agreement), it is highly likely that each site will continue to be operated as playing field land for cricket for at least three years if not longer.

In contrast, IBM South Hants CC rents its cricket pitch from a private land owner and consequently is not guaranteed prolonged access.

## 4.3: Demand

In total, there are 25 affiliated cricket clubs in Winchester generating 137 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of 57 men's, eight women's and 72 junior teams.

Table 4.3: Summary of club demand

Club name	No. of competitive teams		
	Senior men's	Senior women's	Juniors
Bishops Waltham CC	6	1	5
Cheriton CC	1	-	-
Compton and Chandler's Ford CC	4	-	6
Crawley Crows CC	1	-	-
Curdrige CC	1	-	-
Denmead CC	3	-	-
Droxford CC	1	-	-
Easton and Martyr Worthy CC	3	-	-
Hambledon CC	3	-	9
Hampshire Hogs CC	2	-	-
Hursley Park CC	4	2	9
IBM Hursley CC	2	1	4
IBM South Hants CC	1	-	-
Knowle Village CC	1	-	-
Littleton and West Hill CC	2	-	-
Oakmount Cricket Club CC	1	-	-
Ram CC	1	-	-
Sparsholt CC	4	1	8
St Cross Symondians CC	5	2	22

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Club name	No. of competitive teams		
	Senior men's	Senior women's	Juniors
Swanmore CC	1	-	1
The Racqueteers CC	1	-	-
Tichborne Park CC	3	-	4
Twyford CC	1	1	4
Wickham CC	3	-	-
Otterbourne CC	2	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>72</b>

As seen in the table above, the clubs vary in size. There are several large clubs providing both senior and junior cricket teams which regularly compete in competitive leagues, whilst there are also numerous clubs that operate with a single men's senior team and without the supporting infrastructure and resources generally considered to be present within established clubs.

Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish more female teams in every local authority over the next five years. Winchester currently has a comparatively high number with eight dedicated senior women's teams and a large number of girls operating within mixed junior teams.

### ***Last man stands (LMS)***

There are currently no Last Man Stands (LMS) leagues in Winchester, however, there is an alternative midweek cricket offering provided by the Winchester Midweek T20 League with two competitive divisions. This is considered to be popular with clubs and, as such, no demand for LMS was identified during consultation.

### ***Unmet demand***

No unmet or latent demand was expressed by the cricket clubs in Winchester. This means that all clubs consider that current demand can be accommodated on the current provision.

### ***Exported demand***

Exported demand refers to Winchester registered teams that are currently accessing pitches outside of the local authority for their home fixtures, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met. This is usually because of pitch supply or in some cases because of quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities.

IBM South Hants displaces its men's first team into Eastleigh because it cannot find its own home ground within Winchester that meets league regulations. The Club accesses provision at the New Place Hotel on Sundays for its other demand but this is not up to the appropriate standard.

### ***Imported demand***

Imported demand refers to teams registered outside of the Winchester area that access pitches within Winchester. No clubs report this as being the case.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## *Future demand*

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and by using population forecasts.

Team generation rates (TGRs) are used as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (projected to 2031) based on population growth. Based on this in Winchester, an increase of seven junior boys' teams is anticipated.

*Table 4.4: Team generation rates based on population growth (2031)*

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate <sup>13</sup>	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men's (18-55)	27,826	51	1:557	27,488	51	0
Senior Women's (18-55)	29,859	8	1:3732	29,715	8	0
Junior Boys (7-17)	9,262	63	1:149	10,339	70	7
Junior Girls (7-17)	8,390	0	0	9,306	0	0

When broken down into the two analysis areas, it is anticipated that six boys' teams (rounded down from 6.2) teams will be created in the North Analysis Area, with no additional demand created in the South analysis area. As such, it is considered that any residual growth will complement within already established teams.

It is important to note that TGRs are based on population figures and cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools as part of the Chance 2 Shine programme.

## *Participation increases*

Four clubs in Winchester have ambitions to increase the number of teams they currently operate:

- ◀ IBM Hursley CC (one senior men's team)
- ◀ Tichborne Park CC (two junior teams)
- ◀ Sparsholt CC (one senior men's team)
- ◀ Twyford CC (one senior men's team)

All of these clubs operate in the North Analysis Area.

## *Future investment in participation*

In June 2017, the ECB announced new five-year media rights deals totalling £1.1 billion for first-class county and international matches played at home, from 2020-2024. The new deals include a continuation of the ECB relationship with Sky Sports, now extending beyond broadcasting as a genuine partnership to secure significant investment and commitment to

<sup>13</sup> Please note TGR figures are rounded down to the nearest whole team.

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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increase participation and drive engagement, shaped by the Sky Ride initiative model Sky Sports previously developed with British Cycling.

The new deals also include a return to free to air television for live cricket, with the BBC to show coverage of international T20 matches, as well as domestic T20 competitions including the women's and new City-based franchise competition proposed for 2020. Together, significant investment in participation and increased free to air media coverage could see future demand increase to levels in excess of those anticipated through the PPS and the impact should be reviewed over coming years.

### ***Peak time demand***

An analysis of match play identifies peak time demand for senior cricket as Saturdays, with 35 teams playing on this day compared to 12 that play on Sundays.

For junior cricket, peak time demand is considered to be midweek, although some teams do play on a Sunday. It should therefore be noted that midweek cricket has the potential to be spread across numerous days (Monday-Friday) and as a result squares have greater capacity to carry junior demand (providing the pitches are not overplayed).

### **4.4: Capacity analysis**

Capacity analysis for cricket is measured on a seasonal rather than a weekly basis due to playability (as only one match is generally played per pitch per day at weekends or weekday evening) and because wickets are rotated throughout the season to reduce wear and tear as well as allowing for repair.

The capacity of a pitch to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. This section of the report presents the current pitch stock available for cricket and illustrates the number of competitive matches per season per square.

To help calculate spare capacity, the ECB suggests that a grass wicket should be able to take five matches per season. Further to this, it has been agreed with Hampshire Cricket Board to reduce this capacity where grass wickets are assessed as either poor quality or under local authority management to three matches per season. This is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

<b>Potential capacity</b>	Play is below the level the site could sustain
<b>At capacity</b>	Play matches the level the site can sustain
<b>Overused</b>	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

The ECB also suggests that an NTP can accommodate 60 matches per season. As no NTPs are recorded as accommodating more than this in Winchester, they are all considered to have spare capacity. This translates to actual spare capacity as they are generally accessed during midweek by junior teams and as a result can be used on a variety of days. For this reason, NTP capacity has been discounted from the table overleaf.

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## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 4.5: Cricket square capacity

Site ID	Site name	Teams accommodated	Analysis area	Number of squares	Community use	Quality rating	Number of grass wickets	Capacity (match equivalent sessions per season)	Actual play (match equivalent sessions per season)	Capacity rating (match equivalent sessions per season)
4	Bishops Waltham Cricket Club	Bishops Waltham CC	South	1	Yes	Standard	14	70	56	14
9	Cheriton Recreation Ground	Cheriton CC	South	1	Yes	Poor	7	21	10	11
10	Colden Common Park	Otterbourne CC	North	1	Yes	Standard	8	40	20	20
11	Curdridge Cricket Club	Curdridge CC	South	1	Yes	Standard	8	40	3	37
12	David Roth Memorial Cricket Ground	Easton & Martyr Worthy CC	North	1	Yes	Standard	6	30	34	4
16	Droxford Recreation Ground	Droxford CC	South	1	Yes	Standard	8	40	10	30
17	Durley Cricket Club	-	South	1	Yes-unused	Poor	6	18	-	18
22	Green Jackets Ground	St Cross Symondians CC	North	1	Yes	Good	9	45	45	-
						Standard	11	55	53	2
27	Hunters Park	Twyford CC	North	1	Yes	Standard	15	75	33	42
28	IBM Hursley Club	IBM Hursley CC	North	1	Yes	Good	10	50	40	10
29	King George V Playing Field	Oakamount CC	North	2	Yes	Poor	6	18	6	12
						Poor	6	18	6	12
31	Ashling Park, Denmead	Denmead CC	South	1	Yes	Standard	8	40	34	6
35	Knowle Village Green	Knowle Village CC	South	1	Yes	Poor	5	15	8	7
36	Littleton and Harestock Playing Fields	Littleton and West Hill CC	North	1	Yes	Standard	9	45	18	27
40	Memorial Playing Field	Compton & Chandler Ford CC	North	1	Yes	Standard	10	50	55	5
43	North Walls Recreation Ground	Ram CC Sparsholt CC The Racqueteers CC	North	2	Yes	Poor	12	36	24	12
						Poor	8	24	12	12
47	Owslebury Recreation Ground	-	South	1	Yes-unused	Poor	6	18	-	18
53	Hambledon Cricket Club (Ridge Meadow)	Hambledon CC	South	1	Yes	Standard	13	65	65	-
62	Sparsholt Field	Sparsholt CC	North	1	Yes	Good	8	40	50	10
69	The Holt Cricket Ground	Bishops Waltham CC	South	1	Yes	Poor	7	21	1	1
72	The Quarters	Hursley CC	North	2	Yes	Good	14	70	50	20
						Good	14	70	41	29
73	The Recreation Ground	-	South	1	Yes-unused	Poor	5	15	-	15
75	Tichborne Park	Tichborne Park CC	South	1	Yes	Good	10	50	40	10
80	Wickham Cricket Club	Wickham CC	South	1	Yes	Standard	10	50	34	16
93	Crawley Cricket Ground	Crawley Crows CC	North	1	Yes	Standard	8	40	12	38
94	Hampshire Hogs Cricket Ground	Hampshire Hogs CC	South	1	Yes	Standard	14	70	20	50
95	New Place Hotel	IBM South Hants CC	South	1	Yes	Standard	9	45	6	39

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## 4.5: Supply and demand analysis

### *Spare capacity*

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'spare capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular training sessions, or to protect the quality of the site.

There are 23 sites that show potential spare capacity on grass wickets in Winchester totalling 518 match equivalent sessions per season; however, where there is a significant amount of potential capacity available, this may not represent actual space capacity (i.e. whether a pitch is available at the peak time).

*Table 4.6: Summary of actual spare capacity*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of pitches	Potential spare capacity <sup>14</sup>	Actual spare capacity <sup>15</sup>
4	Bishops Waltham Cricket Club	South	1	14	-
9	Cheriton Recreation Ground	South	1	11	0.5
10	Colden Common Park	North	1	20	-
11	Curdridge Cricket Club	South	1	37	0.5
16	Droxford Recreation Ground	South	1	30	0.5
17	Durley Cricket Club	South	1	18	1
22	Green Jackets Ground	North	2	2	-
27	Hunters Park	North	1	42	0.5
28	IBM Hursley Club	North	1	10	0.5
29	King George V Playing Field	North	2	24	1.5
31	Ashling Park, Denmead	South	1	6	-
35	Knowle Village Green	South	1	17	0.5
36	Littleton and Harestock Playing Fields	North	1	27	-
43	North Walls Playing Field	North	2	24	0.5
47	Owlesbury recreation Ground	South	1	18	1
69	The Holt Cricket Ground	South	1	1	-
72	The Quarters	North	2	49	0.5
73	The Recreation Ground	South	1	15	1
75	Tichborne Park	South	1	10	-
80	Wickham Cricket Club	South	1	16	0.5
93	Crawley Cricket Ground	North	1	38	1
94	Hampshire Hogs Cricket Ground	South	1	50	-
95	New Place Hotel	South	1	39	-

As seen in Table 4.6, only 14 sites evidence actual spare capacity in that they are able to accommodate additional senior cricket matches on a Saturday.

<sup>14</sup> Match equivalent sessions per season

<sup>15</sup> Squares available



## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Bishops Waltham Cricket Club, Colden Common Park, Green Jacket Ground, Littleton and Harestock Playing Fields, the Holt Ground, Tichborne Park and Hampshire Hogs Cricket Ground do not have actual spare capacity on Saturdays and are therefore not able to accommodate additional competitive fixtures at this time. Furthermore, the New Place Hotel does not meet basic league requirements and remaining capacity is therefore discounted.

### Overplay

Three squares are overplayed by a total of 19 match equivalent sessions, all of which are in the North Analysis Area. Although it is possible to sustain minimal levels of overplay providing that a regular, sufficient maintenance regime is in place, a reduction in play is recommended at these sites to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.

Table 4.7: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of squares	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per season)
12	David Roth Memorial Cricket Ground	North	1	4
40	Memorial Playing Field	North	1	5
62	Sparsholt Field	North	1	10
<b>Total</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>

Overplay at both the David Roth Memorial Cricket Ground and Memorial Playing Field Ground is considered minimal; however, it remains a recommendation to reduce play, which first and foremost can be achieved through greater utilisation of accompanying NTPs.

Similarly, overplay at Sparsholt Field, whilst identified as being the most substantial, is likely to be alleviated through greater use of the onsite NTP although if feasible, the creation of an additional grass wicket would also assist.

### 4.6 Conclusions

Consideration must be given to the extent in which current provision can accommodate current and future demand.

The table overleaf looks at available spare capacity on a Saturday for senior cricket considered against overplay and future demand highlighted during consultation. This has been converted into match equivalent sessions based on the average number of home matches a team plays per season (12 matches for senior men and eight matches for senior women).

Table 4.8: Capacity of grass wicket squares (Saturday)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match sessions per season)	Demand (match sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
North	187	19	168	36	132
South	162	-	162	-	162
<b>Total</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>294</b>

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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It is identified that there is sufficient provision to accommodate senior demand, with 330 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity currently and 294 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity when accounting for future demand.

Similarly, as previously mentioned, junior teams can play on non-turf wickets and generally play mid-week on a variety of days; consequently, spare capacity is considered to exist for junior matches both now and in the future. Each grass wicket square that is not overplayed is thought to have spare capacity for an increase in mid-week demand and no NTPs are at capacity or overplayed. That said, there is evidence to suggest that an increase in provision of NTPs would further help satisfy junior demand, as well as providing an increase in capacity for senior matches on grass wickets following the transfer of demand.

Notwithstanding the above, there remains a need to alleviate overplay and also to ensure that future demand can be accommodated at preferred sites. Scenarios relating to this will be evidenced in the strategy document that follows this report.

### **Cricket summary**

- ◀ In total, there are 37 grass cricket squares in Winchester, with 31 available for community use.
- ◀ In addition, there are 15 non-turf pitches accompanying grass wicket squares as well as six standalone NTPs.
- ◀ There are plans to create a new cricket square as part of a larger community sport offering at Berewood Park, whereas Bishops Waltham CC has aspirations to develop a secondary cricket square to use as an overspill for both its senior and junior teams.
- ◀ Of the community available grass wicket squares, six are assessed as good quality, 15 as standard quality and ten as poor quality.
- ◀ Ancillary facilities at North Walls Recreation Ground and Tichborne Cricket Club are identified as being of a particularly poor quality.
- ◀ Five clubs highlight the requirement for improved or additional training facilities.
- ◀ IBM South Hants CC has security of tenure issues in that it rents its square from a private landowner and as such is not guaranteed long-term access.
- ◀ In total, there are 25 affiliated cricket clubs in Winchester generating 137 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of 57 men's, eight women's and 72 junior teams.
- ◀ Team generation rates (2031) predict an increase of seven junior boy's teams.
- ◀ Four clubs have ambitions to increase the number of teams they currently operate.
- ◀ In total, 23 squares have potential spare capacity amounting to 518 match equivalent sessions, with 14 of these having actual spare capacity for increased play on a Saturday.
- ◀ There are three squares overplayed with a total of 19 match equivalent sessions per season.
- ◀ It is identified that there is sufficient provision to accommodate both senior and junior demand currently and when accounting for future demand.

# WINCHESTER

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### PART 5: HOCKEY

#### 5.1: Introduction

Hockey in England is governed by England Hockey (EH) and is administered locally by the Hampshire Hockey Association.

Competitive league hockey matches can only be played on sand filled, sand dressed or water based artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Although competitive, adult and junior club training cannot take place on third generation turf pitches (3G), 40mm pitches may be suitable for introductory level hockey, such as school curriculum low level hockey. England Hockey's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy details suitability of surface type for varying levels of hockey, as shown below.

*Table 5.1: England Hockey guidelines on artificial surface types suitable for hockey*

Category	Surface	Playing Level	Playing Level
England Hockey Category 1	Water surface approved within the FIH Global/National Parameters	<b>Essential</b> International Hockey - Training and matches	<b>Desirable</b> Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of EH Player Pathway Performance Centres and upwards England
England Hockey Category 2	Sand dressed surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	<b>Essential</b> Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of player pathway: Academy Centres and Upwards	<b>Desirable</b> All adult and junior League Hockey Intermediate or advanced School Hockey EH competitions for clubs and schools (excluding domestic national league)
England Hockey Category 3	Sand based surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	<b>Essential</b> All adult and junior club training and league Hockey EH competitions for clubs and schools Intermediate or advanced schools hockey	
England Hockey Category 4	All 3G surfaces	<b>Essential</b> None	<b>Desirable</b> Lower level hockey (Introductory level) when no category 1-3 surface is available.

For senior teams, a full size pitch for competitive matches must measure at least 91.4x55 metres excluding surrounding run off areas, which must be a minimum of two metres at the sides and three metres at the ends. England Hockey preference is for four metre sides and five-metre ends run offs, with a preferred overall area of 101.4 x 63 metres, though a minimum overall area of 97.4 x 59 metres is accepted.

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

A hockey pitch can accommodate a maximum of four matches per day (peak time) provided that it is floodlit. Training is generally midweek and requires access to a pitch and floodlights.

### **Club consultation**

There are two hockey clubs in Winchester. Winchester HC was met with for face to face consultation and West Meon Ladies HC completed an online survey, resulting in a 100% response rate.

### **5.2: Supply**

There are currently four full size, hockey suitable AGPs in Winchester. Of these, two are fully available for community use and are serviced by good quality floodlighting, whereas the other two pitches are managed by the MOD and do not offer community use, although one is floodlit.

*Table 5.2: Summary of full size hockey suitable AGPs in Winchester*

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Floodlit	Community use	Hockey use	Size (metres)
32	Kings School	North	Yes	Yes	Yes	100 x 63
41	MOD Southwick	South	Yes	No	No	98 x 60
84	Winchester Sports Stadium	North	Yes	Yes	Yes	100 x 60
85	Worthy Down	North	No	No	No	96 x 60

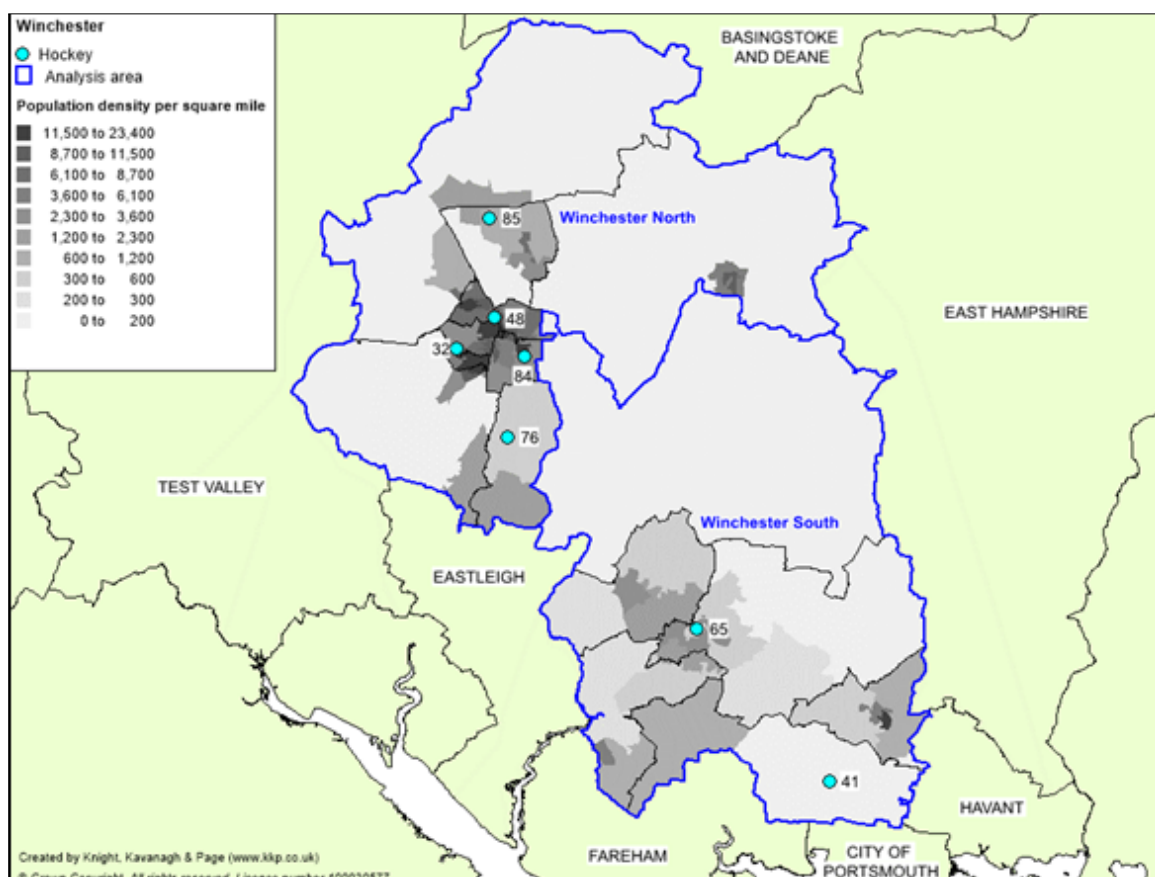
In addition, there are three smaller sized AGPs across Winchester, although these are generally too small to accommodate any form of hockey demand. Two are available for community use and floodlit, two are neither.

*Table 5.3: Summary of small sided hockey suitable AGPs in Winchester*

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Floodlit	Community use	Hockey use	Size (metres)
48	Peter Symonds College	North	Yes	Yes	No	45 x 35
65	Swanmore College	South	Yes	Yes	No	60 x 35
76	Twyford School	North	No	No	No	61 x 48
78	Westgate School	North	No	No	No	35 x 35

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 5.1: Location of hockey suitable AGPs in Winchester



## Availability and usage

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours per week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00).

Both Kings School and Winchester Sports Stadium are considered to be fully available during these times, whereas neither MOD Southwick nor Worthy Down are available for community use.

Both Kings School and Winchester Sports Stadium are currently accessed by seven senior teams each at peak time on a Saturday and depending on how fixtures are organised, both can be running at capacity some weeks. West Meon Ladies HC reports that it continues to struggle to secure access at the beginning of the season for its one senior team due to the increasing number of teams using the pitch from Winchester HC.

## Management

The AGP at Kings School is managed in house by the School, whereas the AGP at Winchester Sports Stadium is managed by Winchester University.

MOD Southwick and Worthy Down are managed by the MOD, as previously mentioned.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## Security of tenure

Winchester HC uses both Kings School and Winchester Sports Stadium but is considered to have unsecure tenure at both sites as it does not have a long-term agreement in place, instead accessing the sites via short term rental arrangements. The Club reports that it has an aspiration to enter into a community use agreement with the providers but states that the relationship is strained.

Similarly, West Meon Ladies HC accesses Winchester Sports Stadium via a weekly rental agreement and is therefore also considered to have unsecure tenure. This is the only venue used by the Club.

## Quality

Dependent upon use, it is considered that an AGP carpet usually lasts for approximately ten years and it is the age of the surface, together with maintenance levels, that most commonly affects quality. An issue for hockey nationally is that many providers did not financially plan to replace the carpet when first installed.

The following table indicates when each full size AGP was installed or last resurfaced within Winchester, together with an agreed quality rating following non-technical assessments and user consultation.

*Table 5.4: Age and quality of full size hockey suitable AGPs*

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Year installed/ resurfaced	Quality
32	Kings School	North	2012	Standard
41	MOD Southwick	South	-	Unknown
84	Winchester Sports Stadium	North	2008	Standard
85	Worthy Down	North	-	Unknown

As can be seen in the table above, the AGP at King School was resurfaced in 2012 and is halfway through its anticipated life expectancy. User feedback from Winchester HC suggests that although the pitch is generally adequate in most areas, it has begun to lift in patches, which can potentially be dangerous in relation to hockey. The School reports that a sinking fund is in place for ongoing refurbishments.

The AGP at Winchester Sports Stadium is nearing its recommended surface lifespan having been installed in 2008. Both the University and Winchester HC acknowledge that the pitch is deteriorating in quality and plans are in place for resurfacing to take place in the next three years so that it can remain playable.

Neither MOD Southwick nor Worthy Down were assessed as access was not granted.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## ***Ancillary provision***

Consultation with Winchester HC suggests that ancillary provision at Kings School is of an overall poor quality. Changing rooms, although adequate in standard, are perceived to be located too far from the pitch. The Club has long standing aspirations to develop its own clubhouse and changing facilities on the site and was close to beginning the project in 2015 before it hit complications. The Club presently utilises a local pub for post match activities but highlights that this is not adequate and heavily impacts on social aspects of its player base.

Ancillary provision at Winchester Sports Stadium is of an overall standard quality although no specific issues were highlighted during consultation.

## **5.3: Demand**

There are two community clubs in operation in Winchester. These differ in size; Winchester HC is a significantly large club with numerous senior and junior teams for both males and females, whereas West Meon Ladies HC consists of just one team.

*Table 5.5: Summary of teams playing in Winchester*

Name of club	Number of teams			
	Men's	Women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls '
Winchester HC	8	5	6	4
West Meon Ladies HC	-	1	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>

Winchester HC has 129 registered senior playing members and 377 registered junior playing members. This junior membership is substantial and evidences that the Club could field significantly more teams at this level if it had the supporting infrastructure in place. The Club plays and trains across both Kings School and Winchester Sports Stadium but also has adhoc usage of an AGP in Eastleigh, at Thornden School, which is mainly used as an overspill facility. The Club accesses AGP provision six days a week for either training or for competitive matches.

In comparison, West Meon Ladies HC accesses Winchester Sports Stadium for one training session per week and for one competitive match session. The Club has a membership of 30 seniors which has remained static over the last three years and has no plans to increase.

In addition, Winchester University fields two teams, one men's and one women's, that play in BUCS fixtures at Winchester Sports Stadium. Both teams generally access the site for one training session and one competitive match each week.

## ***Participation trends***

Nationally, since 2012, hockey has seen a 65% increase of juniors taking up hockey within the club environment, with Winchester HC experiencing similar growth. This is expected to continue across all age groups in the future, especially given the success of Great Britain's women's team in the 2016 Rio Olympics.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## ***Exported demand***

Exported demand refers to Winchester registered teams that are currently accessing pitches outside of the local authority for home fixtures, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met. This is the case for Winchester HC as it currently exports demand to Thornden School, in Eastleigh, due to capacity issues on Sundays. The Club is unable to accommodate both junior training and competitive junior matches across the AGPs at Kings School and Winchester Sports Stadium.

## ***Unmet demand***

Winchester HC highlights that it had to turn away 40 potential junior members over the previous two playing seasons at they could not be accommodated at any site used by the Club.

## ***Future demand***

Winchester HC has aspirations to develop two senior men's teams and one senior women's team over the next three years. However, in contrast, West Meon Ladies HC does not report any future demand to grow the number of teams it provides.

## ***Peak time demand***

All senior teams within Winchester play matches on a Saturday (with the exception of Winchester University teams which play midweek), whereas all junior teams play on a Sunday.

## **5.4: Supply and demand analysis**

The PPS guidance considers a floodlit pitch as able to accommodate a maximum of four match sessions on one day with teams playing in a home and away format. As such, this equates to one AGP being able to cater for eight "home" teams.

Both Kings School and Winchester Sports Stadium are currently accessed by seven senior teams each (at peak time on a Saturday), meaning spare capacity should exist on both sites for an additional team to be fielded in the future. That being said, depending on how fixtures are organised, both can be running at capacity some weeks. Further to this, West Meon Ladies HC reports that it continues to struggle to secure access at the beginning of the season for just one senior team due to the increasing number of teams using the pitch from Winchester HC.

For junior hockey, there is also a clear capacity issue in that Winchester HC already has to export some of its demand as well as turning potential members away. As such, there is a clear shortfall of AGP provision within Winchester to accommodate the Club, with evidence suggesting that an additional pitch is required.



## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### ***Converting sand-based AGPs to 3G***

Given the capacity issues identified, it is imperative that both Kings School and Winchester Sports Stadium are protected for hockey use, or replaced in the event of a conversion.

Since the introduction of 3G pitches and given their popularity for football, providers have seen this as a way of replacing their tired sand-based carpet and generating money from hiring out a 3G pitch to football clubs and commercial football providers. This has tended to occur at the expense of hockey, with players now travelling further distances to gain access to a suitable pitch and many teams being displaced from their preferred local authority.

Due to its impact, it is appropriate to ensure that sufficient sand-based AGPs are retained for the playing development of hockey. To that end, a change of surface will require a planning application and, as part of this, applicants must show that there is sufficient provision available for hockey in the locality. Advice from Sport England and England Hockey should also be sought prior to any planning application being submitted.

#### **Hockey summary**

- ◀ There are currently four full size hockey suitable AGPs in Winchester, two of which are available for community use (Kings School and Winchester Sports Stadium).
- ◀ In addition, there are four smaller sized hockey suitable surfaces, although none are large enough to accommodate significant hockey demand.
- ◀ Both Kings School and Winchester Sports Stadium are assessed as standard quality, with the latter nearing the end of its estimated lifespan.
- ◀ There are two community clubs in Winchester; Winchester HC is a significantly large club with numerous senior and junior teams for both males and females, whereas West Meon HC consists of just one team.
- ◀ In addition, Winchester University fields two teams.
- ◀ Both Winchester HC and West Meon HC book AGPs on a short term basis and therefore are considered have unsecure tenure.
- ◀ Winchester HC has aspirations to develop a clubhouse and changing rooms to improve its social offering.
- ◀ Winchester HC reports latent demand equating to 40 junior members and exports some of its existing junior demand into Eastleigh due to a lack of pitch capacity. It also expresses future demand amounting to two senior men's teams and one senior women's team.
- ◀ Current senior demand is met through provision at Kings School and Winchester Sport Stadium; however, future demand will result in capacity issues if realised.
- ◀ Junior demand cannot be accommodated on the current supply of AGPs suggesting that there is a need for an additional pitch to be provided.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## PART 6: RUGBY UNION

### 6.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the NGB for rugby union. It is split into six areas across the Country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. A full-time development officer is responsible for Winchester as part of the Hampshire region. This work involves developing club structures, including working towards the RFU accreditation (Clubmark) and the development of school-club structures.

The rugby union playing season operates from September to May.

#### *Club consultation*

There are two rugby union clubs in Winchester. Both Winchester RFC and Alresford RFC were met with for face to face consultations resulting in a 100% response rate.

### 6.2: Supply

Within Winchester there are a total of 13 sites containing 24 rugby union pitches. This is made up of 20 senior pitches and four mini pitches. Of these, 14 senior pitches are available for community use, with none of the mini pitches available. It must therefore be noted that most junior and mini rugby traditionally takes place on over marked senior pitches, which is the case at club sites across Winchester.

As seen in the table below, the majority of rugby union provision in Winchester is located in the North Analysis Area.

*Table 6.1: Summary of grass rugby union pitches available for community use*

Analysis area	No. of senior pitches
North	12
South	2
<b>Winchester</b>	<b>14</b>

The audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches. For rugby union pitch dimension sizes please see below.

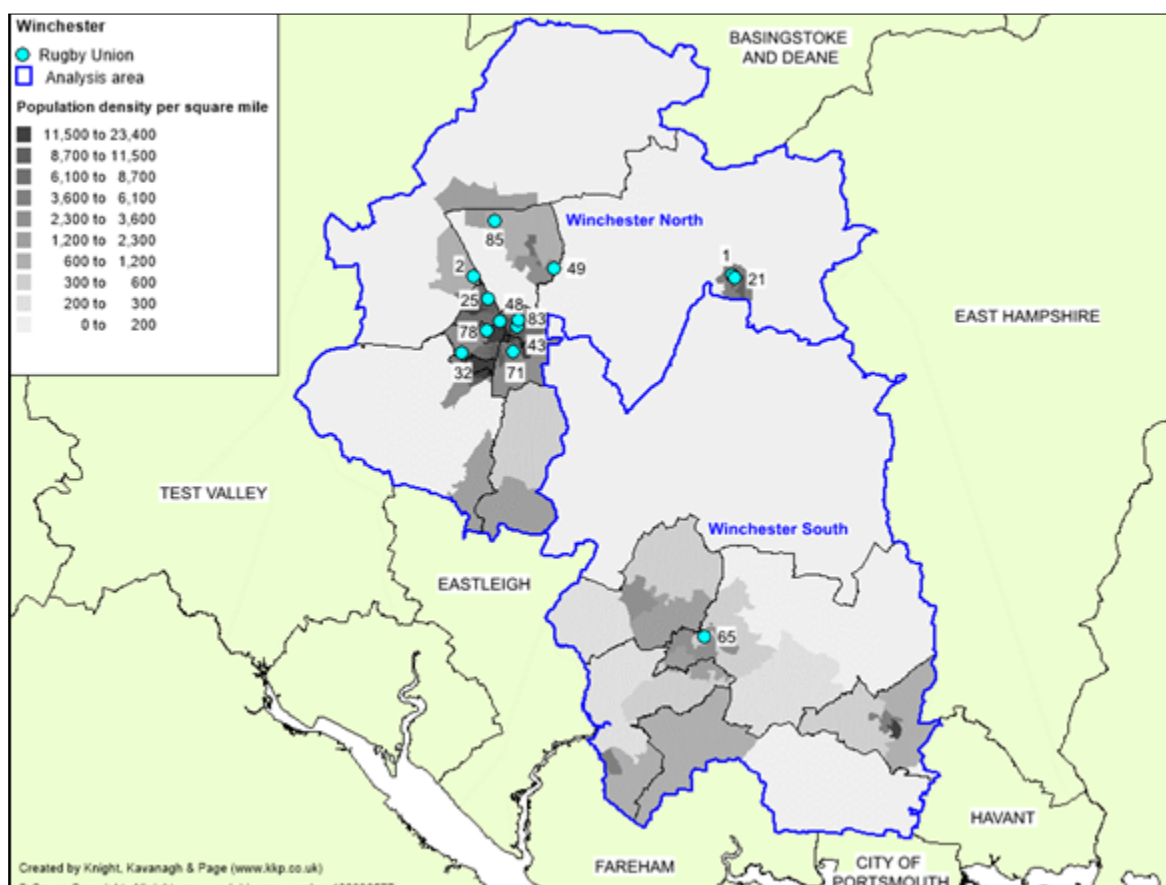
*Table 6.2: Summary of RFU recommended pitch sizes by age group*

Age	Pitch type	Maximum Pitch Dimensions (Metres)
U7	Mini	20 x 12
U8	Mini	45 x 22
U9	Mini	60 x 30
U10	Mini	60 x 35
U11	Mini	60 x 43
U12	Mini	60 x 43
U13	Junior	90 x 60 (60 x 43 for u13 girls)
U14-U18	Senior	100 x 70 (94 x 68 minimum)
Senior	Senior	<i>Recommended run off area 5m each way. Minimum in-goal length 6m.</i>

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 6.1 shows the location of all rugby union pitches servicing Winchester. For a key to the map, see Table 6.6.

*Figure 6.1: Location of rugby union pitches within Winchester*



### **Security of tenure**

Tenure is considered secure for both rugby clubs in Winchester. Winchester RFC has a long-term lease on its site from a private landowner, whilst it also accesses North Walls Recreation Ground as per a rental agreement from the Council.

Alresford RFC has freehold of its pitches although accompanying ancillary provision is owned and managed by Alresford Parish Council.

Note that provision located at education sites is considered unsecure because future access cannot be guaranteed for community use unless a secure community use agreement is in place.

### **Pitch quality**

The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements; the maintenance programme and the level of drainage on each pitch. An overall quality based on both drainage and maintenance can then be generated. The agreed rating for each pitch type also represents actions required to improve pitch quality. A breakdown of actions required based on the ratings can be seen below.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 6.3: Definition of maintenance categories

Category	Definition
M0	Action is significant improvements to maintenance programme
M1	Action is minor improvements to maintenance programme
M2	Action is no improvements to maintenance programme

Table 6.4: Definition of drainage categories

Category	Definition
D0	Action is pipe drainage system is needed on pitch
D1	Action is pipe drainage is needed on pitch
D2	Action is slit drainage is needed on pitch
D3	No action is needed on pitch drainage

Table 6.5: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	Poor	Poor	Standard
	Natural Adequate (D1)	Poor	Standard	Good
	Pipe Drained (D2)	Standard	Standard	Good
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	Standard	Good	Good

The figures are based upon a pipe drained system at 5m centres that has been installed in the last eight years and a slit drained system at 1m centres that has been installed in the last five years.

All pitches at club sites in Winchester are assessed as standard quality, although the capacity rating varies from pitch to pitch as different drainage systems are in place. Both pitches at Arlebury Park and the first team pitch at Winchester RFC have pipe drainage installed (D2) meaning they have a higher capacity than the remaining pitches which have natural drainage albeit adequate (D1).

Of the remaining pitches available for community use, all are identified as poor quality due to a lack of adequate maintenance (M0), which in some cases is exacerbated by natural, inadequate drainage (D0). The majority of these pitches are located at school sites, with the exception of two pitches at North Walls Recreation Ground, which are managed by the Council.

The table overleaf shows the quality ratings for each of the pitches in Winchester based on a combined score taking into account the non-technical site assessments as well as user ratings derived from consultation.

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 6.6: Site quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Security of tenure	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Community use?	Pitch type	Floodlit?	Quality scores	Quality rating
1	Arlebury Park	Secure	North	2	Yes	Senior	No	(M1/D2)	Standard
21	Perins Community School	<b>Unsecure</b>	North	3	Yes – unused	Senior	No	(M0/D0)	Poor
25	Henry Beaufort School	<b>Unsecure</b>	North	1	Yes – unused	Senior	No	(M0/D1)	Poor
43	North Walls Recreation Ground	Secure	North	2	Yes	Senior	No	(M0/D1)	Poor
48	Peter Symonds College	<b>Unsecure</b>	North	1	Yes – unused	Senior	No	(M0/D1)	Poor
65	Swanmore College	<b>Unsecure</b>	South	2	Yes – unused	Senior	No	(M0/D1)	Poor
83	Winchester Rugby Club	Secure	North	1	Yes	Senior	Yes	(M1/D2)	Standard
				2	Yes	Senior	No	(M1/D1)	Standard

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## **Ancillary facilities**

Winchester RFC has access to a total of seven changing rooms at its home site. The first team facility is rated as an adequate standard, whilst the remaining six are considered to be small and dated which results in teams often requiring access to a double set of rooms to cater for large playing squads. Furthermore, there is one set off communal showers to accommodate the majority of demand, which is considered to be insufficient. That being said, the facilities can be separated to provide for women's and girls' rugby, and there is a dedicated separate shower block with four shower heads to house this demand.

Alresford RFC states that its changing provision is dated, but accepts that it is adequate to meet the needs of the Club. Other than this, the Club reports no ancillary facility issues.

## **5.3: Demand**

Demand for rugby pitches in Winchester tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

### **Competitive play**

There are two rugby clubs in Winchester. In total, they host 24 teams, which as a breakdown consists of seven senior men's, two senior women's, three colts, four junior and eight mini teams. The clubs vary in size; Winchester RFC provides numerous teams for each playing format, whereas Alresford RFC provides just two senior and one mini team.

*Table 6.7: Summary of demand*

Club	Analysis area	No. of rugby union teams			
		Senior (19+)	Colts (18-19)	Junior (13-17)	Mini (6-12)
Winchester RFC	North	4	3	4	7
Alresford RFC	North	2	-	-	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>

In addition, Winchester University fields three senior teams that play midweek fixtures in the BUCS league. This activity takes place at Winchester RFC.

### **Training demand**

Throughout the Country, many rugby teams train at their home ground on match pitches. As a result, usage is concentrated which reduces the capacity for match play on these pitches and means they are more likely to be overplayed. A key factor in determining the extent of training on match pitches is the presence of floodlighting.

Winchester RFC has a dedicated floodlit area to accommodate midweek training demand; however, it is reported that this is too small to cater for all demand and that it often becomes unusable during inclement weather spells resulting in the first team pitch being used instead due to it also being floodlit. The site is significantly used for training purposes during the week by both all teams from Winchester RFC and Winchester University, with total midweek usage totalling nine and a half hours. Of this demand, it is estimated by the Club that, on average, five hours of activity takes place on the first team pitch.

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Alresford RFC does not have access to floodlights at its home site and therefore has to go offsite in order to train. As such, the Club presently trains on the 3G pitch at Perrins Community School; however, the pitch is not on the World Rugby register meaning no contact activity is allowed. Access is granted for a two hour timeslot every Wednesday evening, but the Club states that this is not its preferred day as a large number of players have prior commitments. Instead, training would preferably take place on a Tuesday or a Thursday, with the Club reporting that it would utilise both nights if it had its own floodlit provision.

An alternative to training on grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches. World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. The RFU investment strategy into 3G pitches considers sites where grass rugby pitches are over capacity and where an AGP would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local clubs and education sites.

### ***Imported demand***

Locksheath Pumas RFC is exploring the feasibility of relocating to a site within Winchester from its current base in Fareham. The Club is considering utilising land located at Hunts Pond Road to use as a formal playing pitch, although it should be noted that this is in the very early stages of planning.

### ***Latent and unmet demand***

No latent or unmet demand is identified for rugby in Winchester.

### ***Future demand***

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and by using population forecasts.

Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2031) based on population growth. Using this model, it is anticipated that one new junior team will be created, which will be in the North Analysis Area.

*Table 6.8: Team generation rates based on population growth*

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate <sup>16</sup>	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men's (19-45)	18,316	7	1:2617	19,007	7.3	0
Senior Women's (19-45)	20,140	2	1:10,070	20,594	2.0	0
Junior Boys (13-18)	4,857	7	1:694	5,565	8.0	1
Junior Girls (13-18)	4,219	2	1:2110	4,783	2.3	0

<sup>16</sup> Please note TGR figures are rounded down to the nearest whole number.



# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	8,576	7	1:1225	9,300	7.6	0
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## *Participation increases*

Winchester RFC does not have future aspirations to grow its number of teams as it is content with retaining current playing numbers.

Conversely, Alresford RFC has future demand for one junior boys team and one additional mini team. In total, this generates future demand of 0.75 match equivalent sessions per week.

## ***The peak period***

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established for all types of rugby union. For senior teams, it is considered to be Saturday PM as all senior teams play at this time (with the exception of university teams which play on Wednesdays), whereas peak time for junior and mini rugby is Sunday AM.

## **5.4: Capacity analysis**

The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing rugby. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times. To enable an accurate supply and demand assessment of rugby pitches, the following assumptions are applied to site by site analysis:

- ◀ All sites that are used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◀ Use of school pitches by schools reduces potential capacity by one match equivalent session.
- ◀ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches (except for where mini pitches are provided).
- ◀ From U13 upwards, teams play 15 v15 and use a full pitch.
- ◀ Mini teams (U6-U12) play on half of a senior pitch i.e. two teams per senior pitch or a dedicated mini pitch.
- ◀ For senior and youth teams the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis (assumes half of matches will be played away).
- ◀ For mini teams playing on a senior pitch, play per week is set at 0.25 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis and playing across half of one senior pitch.
- ◀ Senior rugby generally takes place on Saturday afternoons.
- ◀ Junior and mini rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by the addition of team equivalents.
- ◀ Team equivalents have been calculated on the basis that 30 players (two teams) train on the pitch for 90 minutes (team equivalent of one) per night.

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate:

*Table 6.9: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments*

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	0.5	1.5	2
	Natural Adequate or Pipe Drained (D1)	1.5	2	3
	Pipe Drained (D2)	1.75	2.5	3.25
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	2	3	3.5

Capacity is based upon a basic assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme ascertained through a combination of the quality assessment and consultation. This guide, however, is only a very general measure of potential pitch capacity. It does not account for specific circumstances at time of use and it assumes average rainfall and an appropriate end of season rest and renovation programme.

Please note that only pitches currently in use by clubs are included in the capacity table below. The remaining pitches are considered to be used close to capacity through curricular and extra-curricular activity and any remaining capacity that does exist should be discounted due to poor quality and a lack of secure tenure.

## WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 6.10: Capacity table

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of pitches	Community use?	Pitch type	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
1	Arlebury Park	North	2	Yes	Senior	(M1/D2)	No	1.25	5	3.75	High levels of spare capacity. This is due to no midweek training taking place on the pitches and limited weekend match activity.
43	North Walls Recreation Ground	North	2	Yes	Senior	(M0/D1)	No	3	3	-	Pitches played to capacity due to levels of use from Winchester RFC.
83	Winchester Rugby Club	North	1	Yes	Senior	(M1/D2)	Yes	4.5	2.5	2	Significant overplay due to high levels of midweek training and competitive match use on weekends.
			2	Yes	Senior	(M1/D1)	No	6.75	4	1.75	Substantial overplay due to competitive match play from mini/junior teams as well as midweek use from Winchester University.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## ***Actual spare capacity***

Actual spare capacity is identified at Arlebury Park as the site is considered able to host an additional 3.75 match equivalent sessions per week.

## ***Overplay***

All three pitches at Winchester RFC are considered to be overplayed, with the first team pitch overplayed by two match equivalent sessions and the remaining two pitches overplayed by a combined 1.75 match equivalent sessions. This is a consequence of midweek training demand as well as high levels of use from the Club and Winchester University.

## **5.5: Supply and demand analysis**

Having considered supply and demand, there is a clear shortfall of provision to accommodate Winchester RFC given that the pitches it currently uses are either overplayed or are at capacity. Options to alleviate this shortfall include qualitative improvements, usage of alternative sites, the installation of additional floodlighting or through access to a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch. Such scenarios will be further explored in the Strategy report that follows this document.

In contrast, supply is considered sufficient to meet the needs of Arlesford RFC as sufficient spare capacity exists on its pitches to not only accommodate current demand but also to satisfy future growth aspirations. That being said, consideration should be given to aspirations for the Club to be provided with its own floodlit provision so that its training demand can be better accommodated.

### **Rugby union summary**

- ◀ There are 13 sites containing 24 rugby union pitches in Winchester consisting of 20 senior pitches and four mini pitches, with 14 senior and no mini pitches available for community use.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches, no pitches are assessed as good quality, five are assessed as standard quality and nine are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ There are two rugby clubs in Winchester providing 24 teams, which as a breakdown consists of seven senior men's, two senior women's, three colts, four junior and eight mini teams.
- ◀ Winchester RFC considers six of its changing rooms to be inadequate due to their age and size.
- ◀ Winchester RFC trains at its home site either on a dedicated floodlit area or on its floodlit first team pitch, whereas Arlesford RFC is without its own floodlighting meaning it instead uses a 3G pitch for training demand at Perins Community School.
- ◀ Team generation rates (2031) predict the creation of one junior boys team.
- ◀ Winchester RFC does not have future aspirations to grow its number of teams, whereas Arlesford RFC has future demand for one junior boys team and one additional mini team.
- ◀ Spare capacity for an increase in demand is considered to exist at Arlebury Park totalling 3.75 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There is a total of 3.75 match equivalent sessions of overplay identified at Winchester Rugby Club
- ◀ There is a clear shortfall of provision to accommodate Winchester RFC, whereas supply is considered sufficient to meet the needs of Arlesford RFC.

# WINCHESTER PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## PART 7: BOWLS

### 7.1: Introduction

All bowling greens in Winchester are flat greens. Bowls England is the governing body responsible for ensuring effective governance of outdoor flat green bowls across the Country. Locally, the sport is managed and administered by the Hampshire Bowls Association.

#### **Consultation**

There are nine clubs identified as using bowling greens in Winchester, all of which were either sent a survey or were contacted via telephone. A response rate of 89% was achieved, with only Arlesford BC unresponsive.

### 7.2: Supply

There are nine flat bowling greens in Winchester located across the same number of sites, as seen in the table below.

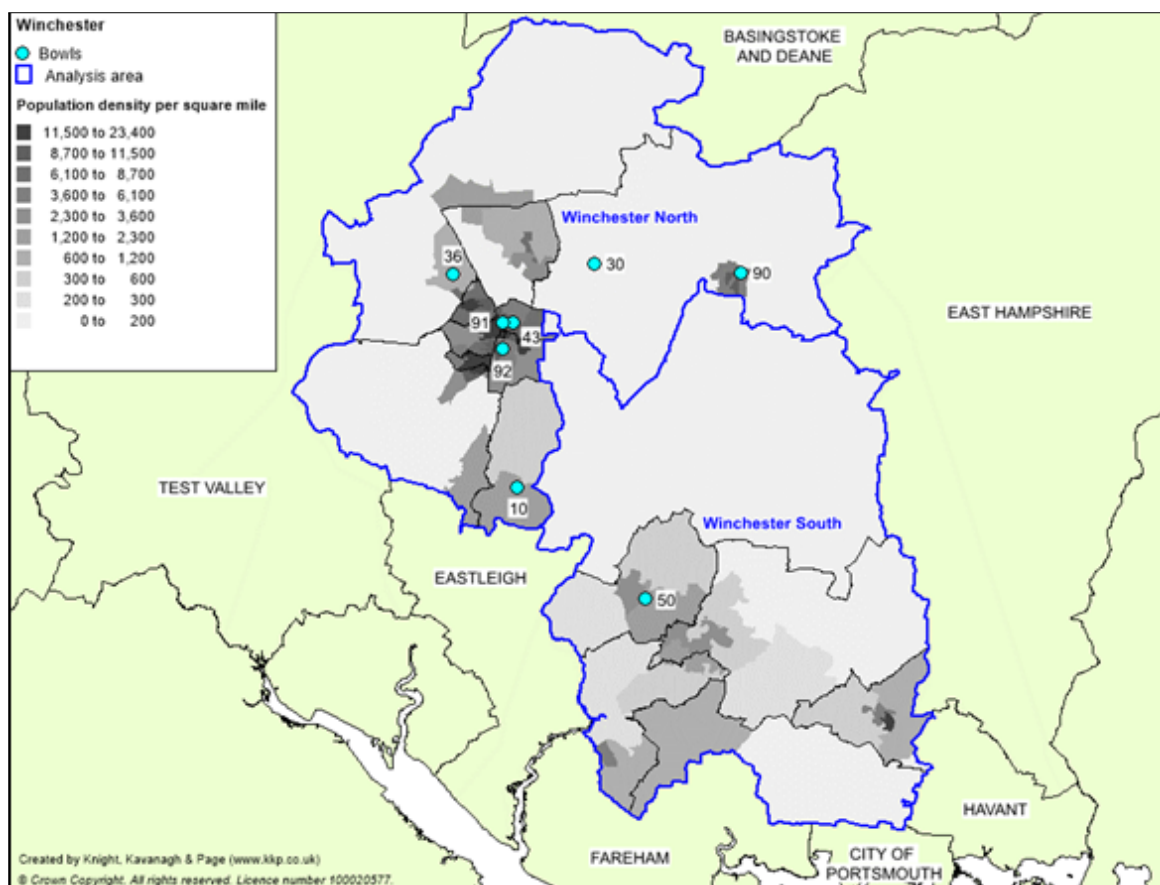
*Table 7.1: Supply of bowling greens in Winchester*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of greens
10	Colden Common Park	North	1
27	Hunters Park	North	1
31	Ashling Park (King George V Playing Field)	North	1
36	Littleton and Harestock Playing Fields	North	1
43	North Walls Recreation Ground	North	1
50	Priory Park	South	1
90	Arlesford Bowling Club	North	1
91	Winchester Club	North	1
92	Friary Bowling Club	North	1

Eight of the bowling greens are located in the North Analysis Area, with only one located in the South Analysis Area. This provides quite an imbalance given that the majority of other sporting facilities are relatively evenly spread.

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Figure 7.1: Distribution of bowling greens across Winchester



## Ownership and management

Most clubs in Winchester either have freehold or a long term lease arrangement for their respective green. The following clubs, however, gain access via an annual rental agreement, making tenure less secure:

- ◀ Colden Common BC
- ◀ Denmead BC
- ◀ Littleton BC

Each club has access to its own green, meaning that all nine greens are in use by one club.

## Quality

Bowling green quality is heavily dependent on the quality of maintenance undertaken but this is often proportionally expensive in relation to the number of participants compared to other sports. It is therefore important to highlight the need for bowling clubs to continue to appropriately budget for on going maintenance of greens to sustain and improve green quality.

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Quality ratings determined through non-technical assessments identify that there are no poor quality bowling greens in Winchester, with four greens assessed as standard quality and five greens assessed as good quality.

The standard quality greens are located at:

- ◀ Colden Common Park
- ◀ King George V Recreation Ground
- ◀ Littleton and Harestock Playing Fields
- ◀ Friary Bowling Club

Consultation with clubs did not flag any particular issues with bowling green quality, although it was noted by several clubs that there is a significant reliance on volunteers to keep green quality to satisfactory standards.

### **Ancillary facilities**

The presence of a clubhouse at sites enables participants to access changing and toilet facilities whilst also providing a social space for clubs to operate and potentially generate income.

The majority of bowling clubs in Winchester rate respective ancillary facilities as standard or good quality and therefore report no major issues. The exception to this is Colden Common BC, which however highlights that the overall quality of its ancillary provision is poor due to the facilities being dated. Although currently fit for purpose, it is perceived that future investment will be required.

Similarly, Twyford BC states that its ancillary provision is dated, specifically highlighting its clubhouse facility as requiring refurbishment.

### **7.3: Demand**

There are nine bowling clubs in Winchester. Of those that responded to consultation requests, combined membership totals 528, all of which are senior members given that no junior members were identified.

*Table 7.2: Summary of club membership*

Club name	Site name	Analysis area	Total membership	
			Senior male	Senior female
Alresford BC	Alresford Park Bowling Club	North	Unknown	
Colden Common BC	Colden Common Park	North	27	9
			36	
Meon Valley BC	Priory Park	South	102	78
			180	
Denmead BC	Ashling Park (King George V Playing Field)	North	55	39
			94	
Winchester City BC	Winchester Club	North	28	14
			42	
Littleton BC	Littleton and Harestock Playing Fields	North	46	20
			66	

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Club name	Site name	Analysis area	Total membership	
			Senior male	Senior female
Hyde Abbey BC	North Walls Recreation Ground	North	27	22
			49	
Twyford BC	Hunters Park	North	18	12
			30	
Friary BC	Friary Park Bowling Club	North	18	13
			31	

Meon Valley BC is substantially the largest club with 180 members, with Denmead BC contributing the second highest membership with a total of 94. It must therefore be noted that these clubs also offer an indoor bowling alternative, known as short mat bowls, so the membership accessing the outdoor greens is likely to be significantly less.

At the other end of the scale, Twyford BC and Friary BC are the smallest clubs with 30 and 31 members respectively.

### **Participation trends**

Generally, clubs and leagues in Winchester report that membership levels have remained static over the last three years and no clubs have a waiting list for new members, although it is noted that West Meon BC has had a recent surge due to joining a competitive women's league.

The sport has experienced an overall decline in participation nationally which may be due to access to facilities in some cases; however, most clubs acknowledge a lack of interest in the sport amongst the local community, with few new bowlers taking up the sport.

### **Future demand**

All clubs that responded to consultation requests report an aspiration to grow, although Colden Common, Denmead, Littleton and Friary bowling clubs could not quantify aspirations. For the remaining clubs, future demand is shown in the table below.

*Table 7.3: Future demand aspirations*

Club name	Analysis area	Seniors	Juniors (U18)
Meon Valley BC	South	20	10
Winchester City BC	North	10	10
Hyde Abbey BC	North	15	-
Twyford BC	North	10	-

Combined, future growth plans amounts to 55 senior members and 20 junior members.

### **Unmet and latent demand**

No clubs express unmet or latent demand. Instead, all clubs consider that current and future demand can be accommodated on the existing stock of greens.



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## 7.4: Supply and demand analysis

Bowls England guidelines suggests that a green accommodating 60 playing members is considered to be at capacity, though consideration needs to be given to the individual requirements of each specific club as many are able to manage adequately above this figure. Based on this guidance and known membership figures from club consultation, greens accessed by Denmead BC (94 members) and Meon Valley BC (180 members) are showing substantial levels of overplay. That being said, neither clubs expresses demand for additional green space and both clubs report that demand is being comfortably accommodated given that an indoor bowling offer is also provided. As such, there is considered to be sufficient green space to accommodate demand across Winchester.

Bowls England also suggests that consideration should be given to the sustainability of greens that operate with a playing membership of less than 20. As this is not the case for any sites within Winchester and with each bowling green currently in use by a club operating above this threshold, protecting all provision is advised.

The above does not apply to Arlesford BC as its membership figures are unknown. As such, further consultation with the Club is required to fully understand its current position and needs.

### **Bowling greens summary**

- ◀ There are nine flat bowling greens in Winchester provided across the same number of sites.
- ◀ Quality ratings identify that there are no poor quality bowling greens in Winchester, with four greens assessed as standard quality and five greens assessed as good quality.
- ◀ Colden Common BC and Twyford BC report issues with ancillary provision.
- ◀ There are nine bowling clubs in Winchester with a combined membership totalling 528, all of which are senior members given that no junior members were identified.
- ◀ Each club has access to its own green, meaning that all nine greens are in use by one club.
- ◀ All clubs that responded to consultation requests report an aspiration to grow with combined growth amounting to 55 senior members and 20 junior members.
- ◀ There is sufficient supply of outdoor bowling greens to accommodate current demand across Winchester.
- ◀ Given that no clubs are operating below a membership of 20, protecting all provision is advised.

## APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

### National context

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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### ***National Planning Policy Framework***

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

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

The 'promoting healthy communities' theme identifies that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area. As a prerequisite the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

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

### ***The FA National Game Strategy (2015 – 2019)***

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:

- ◀ Sustain and Increase Participation.
- ◀ Ensure access to education sites to accommodate the game.
- ◀ Help players to be the best that they can be and provide opportunities for them to progress from grassroots to elite.
- ◀ Recruit, retain and develop a network of qualified referees
- ◀ Support clubs, leagues and other competition providers to develop a safe, inclusive and positive football experience for everyone.
- ◀ Support Clubs and Leagues to become sustainable businesses, understanding and serving the needs of players and customers.
- ◀ Improve grass pitches through the pitch improvement programme to improve existing facilities and changing rooms.
- ◀ Deliver new and improved facilities including new Football Turf Pitches.
- ◀ Work with priority Local Authorities enabling 50% of mini-soccer and youth matched to be played on high quality artificial grass pitches.

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### England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Cricket Unleashed 5 Year Plan

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic five-year plan in 2016 (available at <http://www.cricketunleashed.com>). Its success will be measured by the number of people who play, follow or support the whole game.

The plan sets out five important headline elements and each of their key focuses, these are:

- ◀ **More Play** – make the game more accessible and inspire the next generation of players, coaches, officials and volunteers. Focus on:
  - *Clubs and leagues*
  - *Kids*
  - *Communities*
  - *Casual*
- ◀ **Great Teams** – deliver winning teams who inspire and excite through on-field performance and off-field behaviour. Focus on:
  - *Pathway*
  - *Support*
  - *Elite Teams*
  - *England Teams*
- ◀ **Inspired Fans** – put the fan at the heart of our game to improve and personalise the cricket experience for all. Focus on:
  - *Fan focus*
  - *New audiences*
  - *Global stage*
  - *Broadcast and digital*
- ◀ **Good Governance and Social Responsibility** – make decisions in the best interests of the game and use the power of cricket to make a positive difference. Focus on:
  - *Integrity*
  - *Community programmes*
  - *Our environments*
  - *One plan*
- ◀ **Strong Finance and Operations** – increase the game's revenues, invest our resources wisely and administer responsibly to secure the growth of the game. Focus on:
  - *People*
  - *Revenue and reach*
  - *Insight*
  - *Operations*

### ***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:

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- ◀ 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

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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 maximize playing opportunities.

### ***'The right pitches in the right places'<sup>17</sup>***

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.

### ***England Hockey Strategy***

EH's new Club Strategy will assist hockey clubs to retain more players and recruit new members to ultimately grow their club membership. EH will be focusing on participation growth through this strategy for the next two years. The EH Strategy is based on seven core themes. These are:

- 1 Having great leadership
- 2 Having Appropriate and Sustainable Facilities
- 3 Inspired and Effective People
- 4 Different Ways to Play
- 5 Staying Friendly, Social and Welcoming
- 6 Being Local with Strong Community Connections
- 7 Stretching and developing those who want it

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<sup>17</sup>

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

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

Bowls England will provide strong leadership and work with its stakeholders to support the development of the sport of bowls in England for this and future generations.

The overall vision of Bowls England is to:

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

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

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

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

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