



**WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL**

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

**DECEMBER 2021**

**FINAL VERSION (AMENDED JULY 2022)**

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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Cert Num: 6543-QMS-001

# **WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

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### ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
BCGBA	Crown Green Bowling Association
BC	Bowls Club
CFA	County Football Association
DALP	Delivery and Allocations Local Plan
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GMA	Grounds Management Association
HC	Hockey Club
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facilities Plan
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NTP	Non turf pitch
PPC	Playing Pitch Calculator
PPOSS	Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy
RDO	Rugby Development Officer
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RFC	Rugby Football Club
TC	Tennis Club
U	Under
WFA	Worcestershire Football Association

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### **COVID-19 Addendum**

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

Given the above, this study presents information based on what supply and demand would have been like had there not been any restrictions in place, although consideration is given to the impact of Covid-19 and the issues clubs, teams and users face as a consequence. The approach taken is further explained throughout the Strategy, where appropriate.

It is currently unknown what impact the pandemic and enforced restrictions will have on participation and provision moving forward. Therefore, this should form a key aspect of the Stage E process, with the review of the documents ensuring that any recommendations made remain accurate as the effect of Covid-19 becomes clearer.

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

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

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### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) for Worcester City. Building upon the preceding Assessment Report, it provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing playing pitch, creation of new provision and accompanying ancillary facilities up to 2041 (in line with the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review).

The Strategy has been developed to provide:

- ◀ A vision for the protection, enhancement and provision of playing pitches and outdoor sports.
- ◀ A number of aims to help deliver the recommendations and actions.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch stock.
- ◀ A series of sport by sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area Action Plan to address key issues on a site-by-site basis.

A PPOSS delivers the evidence required to ensure that sufficient land is available to meet existing and projected future outdoor sport requirements. Its robust evidence base should inform and be implemented into planning policy and other relevant corporate strategies to enable local policies, planning and sport development criteria to work efficiently and effectively.

The Strategy is capable of:

- ◀ Providing a clear framework for all playing pitch providers, including the public, private and third sectors;
- ◀ Clearly addressing the needs of all identified sports within the area, picking up on particular local demand issues;
- ◀ Addressing issues of population growth and major growth/regeneration areas;
- ◀ Addressing issues of cross boundary facility provision;
- ◀ Addressing issues of accessibility, quality and management with regard to facility provision;
- ◀ Standing up to scrutiny at a public inquiry as a robust study;
- ◀ Supporting funding applications;
- ◀ Providing realistic aspirations which are implementable within the local authority's budgetary position and procurement regime.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommends a number of priority projects for Worcester City which should be realised over the strategy period. It provides a framework for improvement and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, potential partners and possible sources of external funding.

Partner organisations have a vested interest in ensuring that existing playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities are protected and enhanced. As such, many of the objectives and actions within this document need to be delivered and implemented by a wide range of bodies such as National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs), sports organisations, education establishments and parish/town councils. In many instances, the Council will not be the agency which delivers these actions or recommendations; the PPOSS is not just for the Council to act upon, it applies to/for all the stakeholders and partners involved.

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### 1.1: Scope

The following are the key outdoor sports (and associated facilities, including artificial surfaces) in Worcester City PPOSS and as such are included within the scope:

- ◀ Football
- ◀ Cricket
- ◀ Rugby union
- ◀ Hockey
- ◀ Tennis
- ◀ Netball
- ◀ Bowls
- ◀ Athletics
- ◀ Other sports such as cycling, American football, baseball/softball, rounders, archery, croquet, lacrosse, Ultimate (frisbee) and rugby league.
- ◀ Multi Use Games Area (MUGAs)

All facilities are included for the relevant sports, regardless of ownership and/or management i.e. whether in the public, private, education, or third sector.

Pitch sports (e.g. football, rugby union, hockey and cricket) are assessed using the guidance set out in Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An Approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy.

Non-pitch sports (e.g. tennis, netball, bowls, athletics and other sports) are assessed using Sport England's Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (2014). This requires a different methodology to assess supply and demand to that used for pitch sports.

### 1.2: Study area

Worcester is a cathedral city that covers an area of 33.28km<sup>2</sup>. It is located approximately 30 miles outh west of Birmingham. There is a substantial student population as a result of the presence of the University of Worcester. Worcester is small in terms of geographical size and population when compared with other many other British cities.

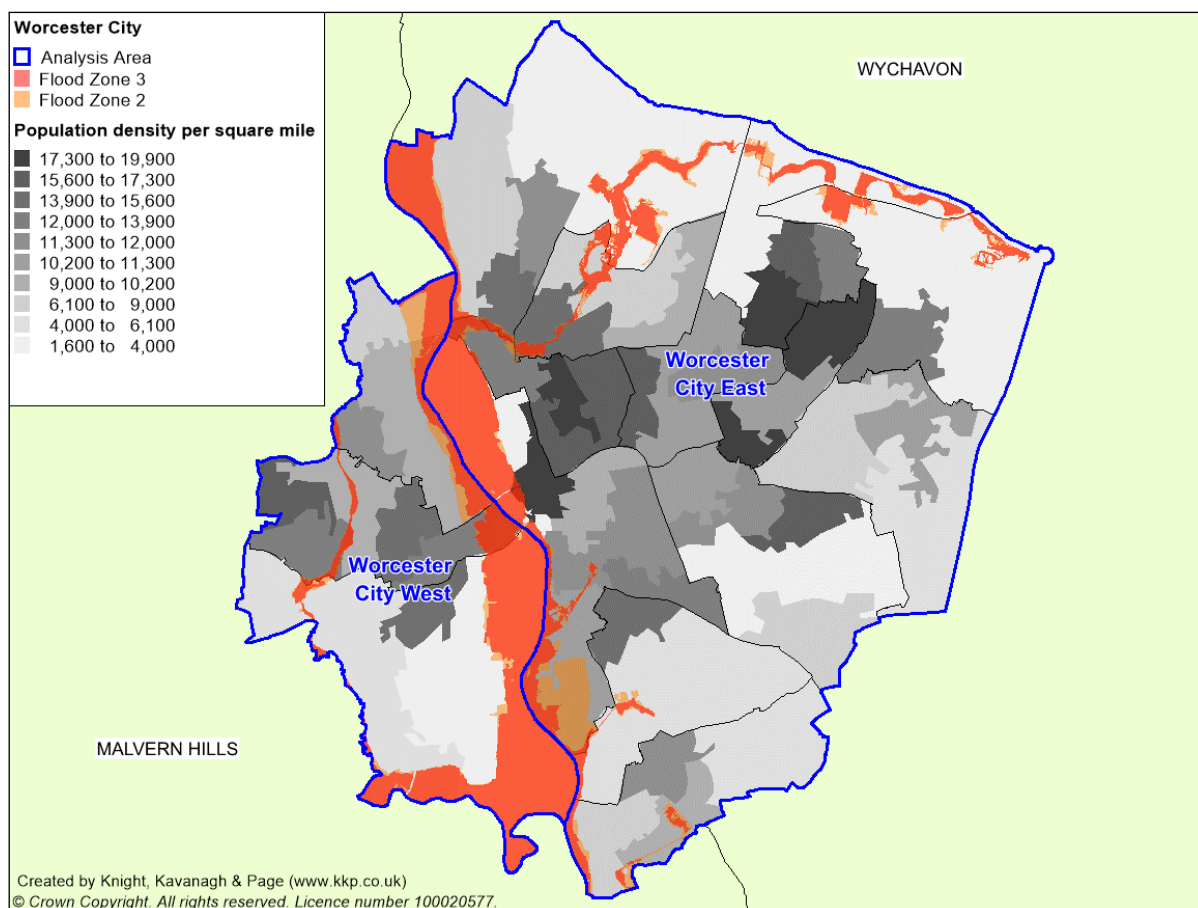
The study area will comprise the whole of the Authority administrative area. However, it is also broken into two smaller subsections known as analysis areas to allow for a more localised assessment of provision and examination of supply and demand at a local level, East and West as shown overleaf.

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that sports catchment areas do not necessarily naturally fall within the administrative analysis areas and can either be larger or cross over. As such, the analysis areas used are solely for reporting purposes and should not be used to compare supply/demand between areas.

Cross boundary and cross authority issues are also explored to determine the level of imported and exported demand, recognising, for example, that people travel to and make use of strategic facilities irrespective of administrative boundaries.

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Figure 1: Map of Study Area



## 1.3: Context

### **National context**

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

- ◀ Protect provision against development pressures in, and around, urban areas.
- ◀ Identify 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.
- ◀ Address budget pressures and public-sector cuts.

The South Worcestershire PPOSS will provide an evidence base for planning decisions and funding bids and will ensure that this evidence is sound, robust and capable of being scrutinised through examination whilst meeting the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

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, with paragraph 98 discussing 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.

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Paragraph 99 discusses assessments and the protection of “existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields”. Paragraphs 101 and 102 also promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields and outdoor sport facilities.

### **Local context**

The Council is committed to ensure that the Authority, residents and stakeholders pull together to create a successful, vibrant and sustainable Worcester. To achieve this, five overlapping interconnected themes which the Council hopes will be achieved by 2021 are outlined.

### **Worcester City’s Strategic Plan: 2016-2021**

The vision in this plan is to ensure that the Authority, residents and stakeholders pull together to create a successful, vibrant and sustainable Worcester. To achieve this, five overlapping interconnected themes which the Council hopes will be achieved by 2021 are outlined:

- ◀ *Stronger and connected communities*: to ensure all residents have positive relationships with each other, where they feel safe and where they are able to succeed to the best of their abilities.
- ◀ *A prosperous city*: to create sustainable growth so residents and communities can benefit. The City Council wishes to attract good employers, support existing businesses and ensure everyone has the chance to get the opportunities, training and jobs that they need.
- ◀ *A healthy and active city*: to support the City’s residents to have a good start in life, enjoying healthy and fulfilling lives, through to a dignified end.
- ◀ *A heritage city for the 21st Century*: to sustain the unique history and heritage of the City whilst embracing the best aspects of the fast-paced 21st Century to create a diverse and cosmopolitan city that is attractive for people to live, work and visit.
- ◀ *Sustaining and improving our assets*: to protect, sustain and improve the environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

It should be noted that the Strategic Plan for 2021-2026 is set to be approved in February 2022.

### **South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) 2016**

The SWDP replaced the existing local plans of the three partner councils when it was adopted in February 2016. It considers the long-term vision and objectives for the area covered by the three authorities (South Worcestershire) up to the year 2030, as well as containing the policies for delivering these objectives in a planned and cohesive manner. The objectives, as mentioned above, of the SWDP are to:

- ◀ Create economic success that is shared by all.
- ◀ Develop stronger communities.
- ◀ Better environment for today and tomorrow.
- ◀ Improving Health and Well-being.
- ◀ Ensure communities are safe and feel safe.

To improve the health and well-being of residents, the SWDP will ensure that any new development sets out high quality formal/informal recreational opportunities and contributes to enhanced sporting facilities in order to encourage healthy lifestyles. SWDP 37 is clear and unambiguous in stating that:



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*The provision of new community facilities or the enhancement of existing facilities will be permitted, particularly where the proposals have resulted from neighbourhood planning, subject to satisfying the sequential test in the Framework where applicable. Applicants will be required to consider whether the combining or rationalisation of existing facilities would be more appropriate than the provision of a new facility.*

*Also, any proposal that would result in the loss of a site or building currently or last used as a community facility will only be permitted if specific criteria are met including, for example:*

- ◀ *An alternative community facility which meets local needs to at least the same extent is, or will be, provided in an equally or more accessible location.*
- ◀ *It has been demonstrated that there is an excess of similar provision in the appropriate catchment area for that particular facility and the site or building is not needed for any other community facility.*

### **South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (SWDPR) (2021-2041)**

In line with NPPF (2021) requirements for local plans to be reviewed to assess whether they need updating at least once every five years, with reviews to be completed no later than five years from the adoption date of the plan, the SWDP is currently being updated to cover the plan period 2021-2041.

The SWDP review will set out where the new growth in south Worcestershire should be located (including strategic development proposals for new and expanded settlements) and update the plan's policies in order to ensure that they remain in general conformity with national planning policy and respond to the updated evidence base. The Indoor and Built Sports Facilities studies, alongside the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy will help to ensure that relevant policies in the plan are updated accordingly to demonstrate the soundness of the plan at Examination.

It should be noted that the SWDP is anticipated to include a dedicated playing field protection policy which should be aided by the completion of the South Worcestershire PPOSS.

In accordance with the latest Local Development Scheme (October 2021), the SWDPR Review is currently scheduled for adoption in October 2023.

### **Worcestershire Health and Well-being Strategy 2016-2021**

This presents Worcestershire Health and Well-being Board's priorities for the five-year period noted. Its vision is to ensure that Worcestershire's residents are healthier, live longer and have a better quality of life especially for those communities and groups with the poorest health outcomes. This vision will be achieved by focusing on the following objectives:

- ◀ Creating good mental health and well-being throughout life, with a focus on building resilience across all age groups. People who are more resilient do better in life, are happier, more able to cope with adversity and less at risk of developing mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression.
- ◀ Increasing everyday physical activity across all age groups, particularly focusing on; under 5's and their parents, older people and populations with poorer health outcomes.
- ◀ Reducing consumption of alcohol across all ages, along with a focus on reducing risky behaviour associated with drinking too much.

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### ***Active Herefordshire and Worcestershire (Active Partnership)***

The stated aim of the Active Partnership is to reduce inactivity and create a more active and healthier Herefordshire and Worcestershire. Its blueprint for tackling inactivity is identified in its five strategic objectives, which are to:

- ◀ *Target new opportunities for growth:* To raise the profile across new sectors which will influence large scale interventions throughout Herefordshire and Worcestershire.
- ◀ *Partner and influence:* To facilitate and broker relationships across and within a diverse range of sectors at both operational and strategic levels allowing the Active Partnership to disseminate insight to influence decisions locally.
- ◀ *Empower all:* To ensure that individuals, groups and communities are equipped, confident and have the knowledge to understand local need and the mechanisms for change.
- ◀ *Develop a workforce that inspires:* Through the delivery of high-quality coach education teaching to ensure there is a physical activity workforce that is reflective of local need.
- ◀ *Increase the visibility and accessibility of opportunities:* Deliver a range of campaign messaging to create positive opportunities throughout the community through the use of strong communication pathways.

### ***Freedom Leisure***

Freedom Leisure is the local leisure operator in the Authority. It manages:

- ◀ Perdiswell Leisure Centre
- ◀ St John's Sports Centre
- ◀ Nunnery Wood Sports Complex

It also delivers Active Communities Worcester. This works with a wide range of local groups and national partners to get people of all ages and abilities more active across a range of programmes delivered in local communities and leisure facilities. These include disability sport sessions, holiday and active aging activities.

### **1.4: Headline findings**

The table below highlights the quantitative headline findings identified for all main pitch sports included in the preceding Assessment Report. MES stands for Match Equivalent Sessions and has been used as the comparable unit for natural grass pitches. Converting both the amount of play a site can accommodate (its carrying capacity) and how much play takes place there (its current use) into the same unit of demand enables a comparison to be undertaken.

Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions.

Based on how they tend to be played, this unit for football, rugby league and rugby union pitches relates to a typical week within the season for each sport. For cricket pitches it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season. How much play a cricket pitch can accommodate is primarily determined by the number and quality of wickets on a pitch. Only one match is generally played per pitch per day. However, play is rotated across the wickets to reduce wear and allow for repair. Each wicket is able to accommodate a certain amount of play per season as opposed to a week.

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The PPOSS guidance does not advocate the conversion of MES to pitches as there is not always a case for providing pitches to meet the demand/shortfalls expressed. For example, improving the quality of pitches can also increase the capacity of existing pitches to accommodate such demand. For qualitative findings and site-specific findings, please see Part 4: Sport Specific Recommendations and Scenarios, and Part 6: Action Plan.

For artificial surfaces (AGPs and 3G pitches), how much play can be accommodated is primarily determined by availability, rather than how much play it can accommodate before its quality is adversely affected as with natural grass pitches. Therefore, whole pitches are used as the comparable unit. Similarly, for the other non-pitch sports (i.e. tennis etc) where it is not as easy to determine carry capacity, whole facilities are used as the comparable unit.

Table 1.1: Quantitative headline findings

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Worcester City East	Adult	At capacity	Shortfall of 0.5
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 4
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 1.5	Shortfall of 3
		Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1	Shortfall of 3.5
	Worcester City West	Adult	At capacity	At capacity
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 0.5
		Youth 9v9	At capacity	At capacity
		Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity	Shortfall of 1
Football (3G pitches) <sup>[2]</sup>	Worcester City East	Full size	Shortfall of 3	Shortfall of 3
	Worcester City West		At capacity	At capacity
Cricket	Worcester City East	Saturday	At capacity	At capacity
		Sunday	At capacity	At capacity
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 12	Spare capacity of 8
	Worcester City West	Saturday	At capacity	Shortfall of 10
		Sunday	At capacity	Shortfall of 8
		Midweek	At capacity	Shortfall of 8
Rugby union	Worcester City East	Senior	Sufficient	Sufficient
	Worcester City West	Senior	Sufficient	Sufficient
Hockey (sand AGPs)	Worcester City	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient	Sufficient but a requirement in the short term to monitor capacity
Tennis	Worcester City	Courts	Sufficient	Sufficient
Netball	Worcester City	Courts	Sufficient	Sufficient

<sup>[1]</sup> MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

<sup>[2]</sup> Based on accommodating 38 teams on one full size pitch

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Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Bowls	Worcester City	Greens	Sufficient	Sufficient
Athletics	Worcester City	-	Sufficient quantity but quality needs improving	Sufficient quantity but quality needs improving
Other sports <sup>1</sup>	Worcester City	Provision	Sufficient	Sufficient

### Conclusion

From a quantitative perspective, the existing position for all sports is that demand is being met, is at capacity or that there is a shortfall, whereas the future position shows the creation of shortfalls for some pitch types and in some areas where demand is currently being met and the exacerbation of existing shortfalls.

For football, it is determined that there are current shortfalls on youth 11v11 pitch types in both analysis areas, in comparison there is spare capacity on youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches in the Worcester City East Analysis Area. All remaining pitch types are played to capacity.

After factoring in future demand from club aspirations, shortfalls on youth 11v11 pitches in the Worcester City East Analysis Area worsen with shortfalls becoming evident on adult pitches (both analysis areas), youth 9v9 pitches (Worcester City East Analysis Area) and mini 5v5 pitches (both analysis areas).

As there is no current or future anticipated demand for rugby league or rugby union there is sufficient pitch provision across the City. However, there are aspirations to establish rugby league provision with South Worcestershire but at this stage it is unknown where this would be located with further feasibility work required to identify a suitable site.

A shortfall of 3G pitches can only be met through increased provision solely in the Worcester City East Analysis Area. With resources to improve the quality of grass pitches being limited, an increase in 3G provision could also help reduce grass pitch shortfalls through the transfer of play, thus reducing overplay, which in turn can aid pitch quality improvements.

Where demand is being met and actual spare capacity is expressed, this does not necessarily equate to a surplus of provision, with any spare capacity instead considered as a solution to overcoming current or future shortfalls of other pitch/facility types. There is a resultant need to protect all existing outdoor sport provision (pitch and non pitch which fall within the Playing Pitch definition) until all demand is met, or there is a requirement to replace provision in accordance with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy exceptions. Further to this provision can also be protected to meet any wider open space needs evidenced in the Councils open space or Green Infrastructure documents.

Recommendations on how to alleviate the expressed shortfalls are identified below in the Part 4: Sport Specific Issues Scenarios and Recommendation and Part 6: Action Plan.

<sup>1</sup> Includes rugby league provision

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### PART 2: VISION

#### Vision

As set out at the beginning of the study, below is a vision for South Worcestershire regarding its outdoor sports provision. It sets out to capture the corporate themes within the authority to provide an all-encompassing vision.

*“To create high quality, sustainable leisure and sports facilities which meet community need, increase participation, help tackle health and aging-related issues and provide accessible, inclusive activities for current and future South Worcestershire residents as part of an active lifestyle.”*

#### Key objectives

To achieve this vision, the Strategy will seek to deliver the following objectives:

- ◀ A carefully quantified and clearly presented assessment of the current demand for playing pitches and ancillary facilities for key sports in the study area.
- ◀ A carefully quantified and clearly presented assessment of the future demand for playing pitches and ancillary facilities for key sports in the study area.
- ◀ A clear and justified series of recommendations and associated actions to ensure the protection and improvement of existing sports pitches and ancillary facilities.
- ◀ A clear and justified series of recommendations and associated actions for the provision of new sports pitches and ancillary facilities.
- ◀ A clear and justified series of recommendations and associated actions for the disposal of any pitches and associated facilities that are surplus to requirements.

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## PART 3: AIMS

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

### AIM 1

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

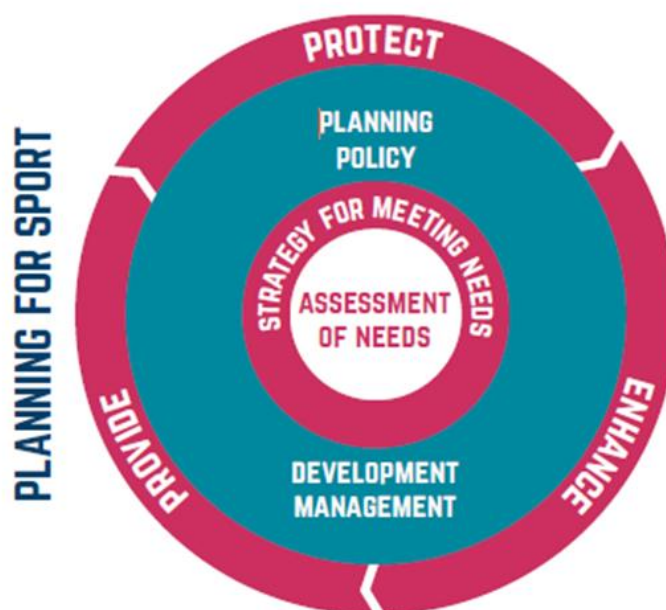
### AIM 2

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

### AIM 3

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

Figure 3.1: Sport England themes



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

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

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

#### Football – grass pitches

##### *Assessment Report summary*

- ◀ **It is determined that there is current spare capacity on mini 5v5 and youth 9v9 pitches whereas mini 7v7 and adult pitches are played to capacity. The only pitch types which have shortfalls are adult and youth 11v11 with 0.5 and one match equivalent session, respectively**
- ◀ **After factoring in future demand from club aspirations there are shortfalls on all pitch types apart from mini 7v7.**
- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 85 grass football pitches within Worcester City across 36 sites. Of these, 72 pitches are available, at some level, for community use across 26 sites.
- ◀ There are unused pitches or room to establish/reinstate pitches at Worcester International Hockey Centre, Pitchcroft and Diglis.
- ◀ There is a disused football pitches at Northside Youth Football Club which previously accommodated one youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 pitch.
- ◀ The University of Worcester has ambitions to refurbish its hockey suitable AGP at St Johns Campus to a 3G surface. It reports that if successful the 3G pitch would create sufficient capacity for it to relinquish its offsite grass pitches at Battenhall Playing Fields.
- ◀ In total, 50 pitches are rated as standard quality and 13 as good quality with just nine pitches rated as poor quality.
- ◀ Cherry Orchard Primary School, Perdiswell Leisure Centre, Diglis, Pitchcroft, The King School Worcester and Christopher Whitehead Secondary are located on flood zones, however, it should be noted that Cherry Orchard Primary School, Perdiswell Leisure Centre do not flood in the same capacity as the remaining sites.
- ◀ In total, 52 teams (35% of all demand) in Worcester City are considered to have unsecure tenure. This primarily affects Nunnery Wood Colts and Perdiswell Colts FC.
- ◀ Nearly half (12 site or 46%) of all community accessible sites actively used for football in Worcester are serviced by poor quality ancillary provision or no provision at all.
- ◀ There are ancillary provisions improvement aspirations at University of Worcester (St Marys), Bilford Road Corner, Little Perdiswell, King George V Playing Field, Perdiswell Leisure Centre and Pitchcroft.
- ◀ Through the audit and assessment, 148 teams are identified as playing within Worcester City. This consists of 45 adult men's, four adult women's, 34 youth 11v11 boys', five youth 11v11 girls', 19 youth 9v9 boys', four youth 9v9 girls' and 37 mini teams.
- ◀ In Worcester City, there are two clubs which compete in the NLS.
- ◀ Nunnery Wood Colts FC, Warndon Village Youth FC, Worcester City FC, Worcester City Youth FC and University of Worcester Ladies FC all have women and/or girls' teams.
- ◀ There is imported demand from Leigh & Bransford Badgers FC and Lower Teme & Martley FC totalling three teams.
- ◀ There are a total of two teams from two clubs that export demand this are Oldbury Park Tigers (One U14s team) and Worcester City Youth FC (One U8s). The former team exports its demand into Malvern Hills whereas the latter is into a central venue in Wolverhampton.
- ◀ Nine clubs' report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide. Through the clubs that quantified potential increase, there is a predicted growth of 28 teams.
- ◀ When this future growth is dissipated to individual analysis areas rather than as a whole City the potential future growth is still anticipated to be one senior men's team in the Worcester City East Analysis Area.

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- ◀ When aggregated from the table above, actual spare capacity totals six match equivalent sessions per week across 15 pitches.
- ◀ In Worcester City six pitches across seven sites are overplayed by a combined total of 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

### *Improving pitch quality at overplayed sites*

In total there are six pitches overplayed in Worcester City across four sites by a combined total of 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Improving quality of such provision (i.e. through increased maintenance or improved drainage) will increase capacity and as a consequence reduce both current and future shortfalls.

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

*Table 4.1: Overplay if all pitches were good quality*

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating <sup>2</sup>	Good quality capacity rating <sup>3</sup>
4	Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College	(11v11)	2	Poor	0.5	5
13	Little Perdiswell	Adult	2	Standard	2.5	0.5
14	Neel Park	Adult	1	Poor	1	1
41	St Clements CE Primary School	(11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	2.5

As seen, only the adult pitches at Little Perdiswell would remain overplayed. Some play at this site should therefore be transferred to sites with actual spare capacity, to an existing or additional 3G pitch, or, if space and other usage allows, pitch re-configuration could be considered.

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

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

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Current actual spare capacity	Current overplay	Current total	Potential overplay	Potential total
Adult	3.5	3.5		0.5	3
Youth 11v11	-	1	1	-	
Youth 9v9	1.5	-	1.5	-	1.5
Mini 7v7	-	-		-	
Mini 5v5	1	-	1	-	1

<sup>2</sup> Match equivalent sessions

<sup>3</sup> Match equivalent sessions



## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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

### *Reinstatement of unused provision (Pitchcroft/Diglis/ Worcester International Hockey Centre)*

There are three sites across Worcester City which have the capacity to accommodate pitches, or accommodate additional pitches to what they currently do, however, have not been included within the supply and demand analysis. This is due to the fact they were not marked out for the 2020/21 football season.

Pitchcroft has a mixture of both active and inactive pitches on the site. In total it currently accommodates three adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, however, it could also accommodate a further two adult pitches. The site has limited usage as it is located on a flood zone which often sees it unusable for large parts of the season. There are also limitations on using the site due to the lack of suitable accompanying ancillary provision. For reference a separate scenario will be run regarding maximising utilisation at Pitchcroft.

Diglis is also located on a flood zone which means that its adult pitch is rarely marked out as actual usable provision.

In comparison the two youth 11v11 pitches at the Worcester International Hockey Centre were not marked out for the 2020/21 season as the site was being developed for hockey provision. These pitches are available and are being used within the 2021/22 season.

The table below examines the impact of what would happen if the currently unmarked pitches (four adult pitches and two youth 11v11 pitches) at each site were to be reintroduced in the supply at a minimum of standard quality.

*Table 4.3: Impact of reinstating unused provision on overall supply and demand*

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Current actual spare capacity	Current overplay	Current total	Potential actual spare capacity from unmarked pitches	Potential total
Adult	3.5	3.5		3	3
Youth 11v11	-	1	1	2	1
Youth 9v9	1.5	-	1.5	-	1.5
Mini 7v7	-	-		-	
Mini 5v5	1	-	1	-	1

If the pitches were reinstated, current levels of overplay would be fully alleviated with minimal amounts of spare capacity created. However, reinstalling all these pitches would require further feasibility work, particularly at Pitchcroft and Diglis, which are situated on flood zones.

### *Pitchcroft*

As mentioned previously, there is limited usage of the pitches at Pitchcroft as flooding makes them regularly inaccessible. As a result, spare capacity on the site has been discounted in the overall supply and demand analysis. The total number of pitches and discounted spare capacity is summarised in the table below.

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.4: Summary of pitches at Pitchcroft

Site ID	Site name	Inactive/active	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Amount of spare capacity discounted
31	Pitchcroft	Active	Adult	3	3
			Youth 9v9	1	1
			Mini 7v7	1	1
			Mini 5v5	1	1
		Inactive	Adult	2	2

In order for the spare capacity on these pitches to be counted within the supply and demand analysis there would be a requirement for significant amounts of investment. This would include ensuring the effects of flooding are minimised, for example, raising pitches and improvements to drainage, in addition to creating accompanying ancillary provision.

If these improvements were made and all pitches (active and inactive) were including in the supply, an additional eight match equivalent sessions per week of spare capacity would be created which would alleviate all overplay on adult pitches.

Table 4.5: Impact of accounting for all spare capacity at Pitchcroft

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Current actual spare capacity	Current overplay	Current total	Discounted spare capacity	Potential total
Adult	3.5	3.5		5	5
Youth 11v11	-	1	1	-	1
Youth 9v9	1.5	-	1.5	1	2.5
Mini 7v7	-	-		1	1
Mini 5v5	1	-	1	1	1

In fact, the spare capacity established could also accommodate most future demand for both adult (1.5 match equivalent sessions per week) and youth 9v9 pitches (three match equivalent sessions per week).

This enhancement of provision at Pitchcroft should be considered a long term recommendation because of the amount of resource and money which would need to be invested on such a project. As mentioned before there is no dedicated ancillary provision on the site, therefore, any large scale development of the site would need to consider the building of ancillary provision to maximise pitch usage.

### Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

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

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.6: Impact of LFFP quality improvements

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
2	Bilford Road Corner	(5v5)	2	Standard	6	10
2	Bilford Road Corner	(7v7)	2	Standard	5	9
2	Bilford Road Corner	(11v11)	1	Standard		2
2	Bilford Road Corner	(9v9)	1	Standard		2
4	Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College	(11v11)	2	Standard	0.5	1.5
7	Cornmeadow	(11v11)	1	Standard		2
12	King George V Playing Field (Worcester)	Adult	3	Standard	2	5
12	King George V Playing Field (Worcester)	(7v7)	1	Standard	2.5	4.5
12	King George V Playing Field (Worcester)	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	3.5
13	Little Perdiswell	Adult	2	Standard	2.5	0.5
13	Little Perdiswell	(7v7)	2	Standard	6	8
13	Little Perdiswell	(9v9)	1	Standard		2
28	Perdiswell Leisure Centre	Adult	5	Standard	0.5	5.5
28	Perdiswell Leisure Centre	(7v7)	1	Standard	2	4
31	Pitchcroft	Adult	3	Standard	6	9
31	Pitchcroft	(9v9)	1	Standard	2	4
31	Pitchcroft	(7v7)	1	Standard	4	6
31	Pitchcroft	(5v5)	1	Standard	4	6
38	Shap Drive	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	1.5

Improving quality as set out in the table above would create 43.5 match equivalent sessions of additional capacity, whilst creating 13.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity and reducing overplay to just 0.5 match equivalent sessions.

As the LFFP is a live document to be informed by an up-to-date PPS, it is recommended that the priority list is updated on the back of this study to account for changes in demand since the project was completed. To that end, it is considered that all sites except Bilford Road Corner and Pitchcroft should remain. The former site should be removed due to the site having accessed Pitch Preparation Grant monies to enhance quality within the last 12 months.

Pitchcroft should also be removed as based upon the above scenario and conversions with WFA and FF, and some informal input from the Grounds Management Association, detailing that it may be extremely difficult and expensive to improve the pitches on the site in conjunction to the sites risk surrounding flooding.

Furthermore, in order to prioritise the sites it is suggested that those which are currently overplayed or at capacity, namely Little Perdiswell,, Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College and Cornmeadow a deemed high priority for pitch enhancements.

The Football Foundation would encourage all priority sites to undertake PitchPower assessments to help determine appropriate maintenance regimes. This would also help to inform maintenance plans and determine associated costs.

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

An alternative approach could be to focus on pitch enhancements on adult pitches and focus on moving match play for youth and mini teams onto full size 3G provision. This could limit the amount of potential monies spent of pitch improvements whilst also alleviating current and future shortfalls. A specific scenario will be run later in the section.

### *Access to unsecure sites*

Across Worcester City there are six main sites where clubs do not have secure tenure, as follows:

- ◀ Bilford Road Corner – Perdiswell Colts FC
- ◀ Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College – Nunnery Wood Colts FC
- ◀ St Clements CE Primary School – St John Colts FC
- ◀ Battenhall Playing Fields – Nunnery Wood FC / Nunnery Wood Colts FC
- ◀ University of Worcester (Ewendine Playing Field) – Nunnery Wood Colts FC
- ◀ University of Worcester (St Marys) – Nunnery Wood Colts FC

The table below analyses the potential impact on the overall supply and demand for Worcester City if access to the abovementioned sites were to be lost and demand had to be relocated.

*Table 4.7: Impact on supply and demand if access were to be lost at sites with unsecure tenure*

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Current actual spare capacity	Current overplay	Current total	Demand with unsecure tenure	Potential total
Adult	3.5	3.5		2	2
Youth 11v11	-	1	1	8	9
Youth 9v9	1.5	-	1.5	5.5	4
Mini 7v7	-	-		6.5	6.5
Mini 5v5	1	-	1	4	3

As seen, if access to these sites were to be lost it would create a significant shortfall across all pitch types. Therefore, as a priority, it is recommended that options to secure tenure at these sites is explored. This is particularly crucial for Nunnery Wood Colts FC and Perdiswell Colts FC which have the majority/all of their demand located at sites with unsecure tenure and are therefore more at risk.

Securing tenure for clubs at these sites is strategically imported and a high priority in order for the clubs to access relevant funding.

### *Accommodating mini and youth matches Council<sup>4</sup> based competitive football demand onto 3G pitches across South Worcestershire*

In Malvern, transferring all matches for mini and youth teams currently playing competitive football on Council owned natural grass pitches may equate to a demand for six full sized floodlit 3G (rounded up from 5.53) for all the different formats of the game. This is the highest accumulative demand from youth 11v11, youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 as they have the same peak time demand. In comparison if just the mini teams there would be a requirement for just one full sized floodlit 3G pitch (rounded up for 0.40).

<sup>4</sup> This includes Malvern District Council, Wychavon District Council and Worcester City Council and any relevant parish and town council sites within each authority.

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

In Worcester City, transferring all matches for mini and youth teams currently playing competitive football on Council owned natural grass pitches may equate to a demand for exactly one full sized floodlit 3G, this is due to the fact there is only youth 11v11 demand on Council grass pitches. All youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 demand in the City is located at sites which are not managed by the Council.

In Wychavon, transferring all matches for mini and youth teams currently playing competitive football on Council owned natural grass pitches may equate to a demand for four full sized floodlit 3G (rounded up from 3.67) for all the different formats of the game. This is the highest accumulative demand from youth 11v11, youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 as they have the same peak time demand. In comparison if just the mini teams there would be a requirement for just one full sized floodlit 3G pitch (rounded up for 0.31).

Table 4.8: Summary of requirement for 3G pitches

Local authority	Number of 3G requirement for competitive demand	Current number of available 3G pitches at competitive peak time	Potential shortfall
<b>Mini</b>			
Malvern	1	2	-
Worcester City	-	2	-
Wychavon	1	2	-
<b>Mini and youth</b>			
Malvern	6	2	<b>4</b>
Worcester City	1	2	-
Wychavon	4	2	<b>2</b>

Both of the full size 3G pitches in Malvern (Malvern Town FC and Dyson Perrins) are available to accommodate competitive match play at the weekend.

Similarly, both full size 3G pitches in Worcester City (Claines Lane and University of Worcester (St Johns Campus)) are available to accommodate competitive match play at the weekend.

In comparison, Wychavon only has two full size 3G pitches available for competitive demand out of the four located within the authority namely Pershore High School and The Spiers and Hartwell Jubilee Stadium (Evesham United Football Club). The pitches at Worcester Warriors and Cummins Farm are discounted as they primarily accommodate rugby union demand.

Based on the potential shortfalls adopting the approach for accommodating mini and youth matches from grass to 3G is not deemed necessary within Worcester City (as there are no shortfalls), however, there is scope within Malvern Hill and Wychavon which have shortfalls of four and two, respectively. If the two councils decide this is an appropriate approach it would require the creation of additional 3G provision above that which is required for training demand.

### *Flooding*

There is a total of seven sporting sites that are located on flood zone two and/or three which include football pitches, these are outlined below.

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.9: Football sites within flood zones across Worcester City

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sport/s	Flood Zones	
				2	3
5	Cherry Orchard Primary School	Worcester City East	Football	Yes	
9	Diglis	Worcester City East	Football (Disused)	Yes	
28	Perdiswell Leisure Centre	Worcester City East	Football 3G Rugby union	Yes	Yes
31	Pitchcroft	Worcester City East	Football	Yes	Yes
46	The King School Worcester	Worcester City West	Football Cricket Rugby union	Yes	Yes
53	Christopher Whitehead Secondary	Worcester City West	Football Cricket Rugby union	Yes	Yes
77	Northside Youth Football Club	Worcester City East	Football (Lapsed / Disused)	Yes	Yes

Due to their locations, addressing quality issues through drainage improvements can often be ineffective with options such as dedicated regular and routine maintenance regimes consider a more effective solution. If these sites do flood, it is recommended relevant relief funds are applied for to address issues and alternative venues are found for clubs.

Although technically located on a flood zone it should be noted that Cherry Orchard Primary School and Perdiswell Leisure Centre do not suffer from as frequent flooding when compared to the remaining sites. These two sites do not have a history of flooding, in fact there is an underground culvert at Perdiswell Leisure Centre which assists in the draining pitch provision.

### Recommendations

- ◀ As a priority aim to secure long term security of tenure for football clubs at Bilford Road Corner, Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College, St Clements CE Primary School and the University of Worcester (Evendine Playing Field / St Marys) and Battenhall Playing Fields (Private landowner).
- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches until all demand is being met (unless replacement provision meets Sport England requirements and is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Sustain pitch quality and seek improvements where necessary via utilisation of the FA's Pitch Improvement Programme and associated funding opportunities.
- ◀ Work to accommodate future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity or at sites not currently available for community use that could be moving forward.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a clear need to do so.
- ◀ Ensure clubs who currently are or have ambition to, are able to meet the demands of the regulations to play higher in the football pyramid'
- ◀ Update the Local Football Facilities Plan for Worcester City with findings from the PPOSS.
- ◀ Explore the long term feasibility of creating a football hub, including the improving of both pitch and ancillary provision within the Perdiswell area.

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## Third Generation turf (3G) pitches

### Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There is an insufficient supply of full size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future training demand based on the FA training model in Worcester City.
- ◀ There are two full size 3G pitches in Worcester City that fully comply with the above specification.
- ◀ This supply is split evenly with one pitch in the Worcester City East Analysis Area (Claines Lane) and the remaining pitch in the Worcester City West Analysis Area (University of Worcester).
- ◀ There are also five smaller size 3G pitches servicing Worcester City, all of which, are floodlit and available for community use.
- ◀ There are future aspirations for 3G provision at the University of Worcester (St Johns Campus), Tudor Grange Academy, Perdiswell Leisure Centre and Bilford Road Corner.
- ◀ The full size 3G pitch at Claines Lane is FIFA compliant whereas the pitch at University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) is FA compliant.
- ◀ The 3G pitch at Claines Lane is managed through Worcestershire FA whereas the pitch at University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) is managed by the University.
- ◀ In Worcester City, the full size 3G pitches at Claines Lane is good quality whereas the pitch at University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) is standard quality. The former pitch is relatively new having been installed in 2020.

### Scenarios

#### Accommodating football training demand

As evidenced in the preceding Assessment Report, to satisfy current football training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size 3G pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a need for three full size 3G pitches located solely within the Worcester City East Analysis Area. When considering future demand, the overall shortfall remains the same.

Table 4.10: Current demand for 3G pitches by analysis area in Worcester City

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of full size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
Worcester City East	133	3.5 - 4	1	3
Worcester City West	15	0.39 - 0	1	-

It should be noted that the once the conversion of the hockey suitable AGP at University of Worcester (St John Campus) to 3G this shortfall will reduce to two full size pitches. It is recommended this conversion takes place once the Worcester International Hockey Centre is open and the University hockey teams have secure training and match play access. This pitch should also be maximised, where possible, for community use especially for match play at the weekend with consideration given to providing secured usage for Nunnery Wood Colts FC.

#### Creating additional full size 3G pitches for football

It should be noted that the feasibility for the creation of any 3G pitch needs to be fully explored as part of the PPOSS Stage E review.

The current shortfall of 3G provision across Worcester City is three full size floodlit pitches, all of which are required within the Worcester City East Analysis Area. Once the full size hockey suitable AGP at the University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) is converted this will reduce to a shortfall of two pitches.

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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It should be noted that the pitch at the University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) is located in the Worcester City West Analysis Area, however, due to the site's close proximity to the Worcester City East Analysis Area it is considered to be accessible for all teams within City and therefore reduce the overall shortfall to two full size 3G pitches.

The priority site to alleviate further shortfalls is Perdiswell Leisure Centre. The site has appropriate ancillary provision, accessibility, and management structure to support the development of 3G provision and also already accommodates a large amount of football demand from within the City. It should be noted that there will be a need to increase ancillary provision in conjunction with any 3G development in order to accommodate the increased levels of demand.

Further exploration is also required in regard to how the remaining shortfalls can be alleviated with relevant stakeholders such as the Football Foundation, Worcestershire FA and the three councils across South Worcestershire. This is due to the complexities across South Worcestershire and the large scale housing developments. However, other potential options discussed with the PPOSS Steering Group could include the conversion of the hockey suitable AGP at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex to 3G or the creation of a new pitch at Tudor Grange Academy. Both these options require additional feasibility work to be carried out to understand if they are logistically possible. If viable it is also suggested that these feasibility studies take place after the construction of the 3G provision at Perdiswell Leisure Centre to get a clearer understanding of what impact the pitch will have on supply and demand in the locality of Perdiswell. This approach can be adopted as part of the Stage E process to understand which site is a preferred location.

### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Ensure the 3G pitch at Claines Lane and University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) remains on the FIFA and FA registers, respectively.
- ◀ Ensure the conversion of the hockey suitable AGP at University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) to 3G.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of creating a full size floodlit 3G at Perdiswell Leisure Centre and accompanying ancillary facilities enhancements.
- ◀ As part of the Stage E process undertake feasibility studies regarding the development of 3G provision at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex and/or Tudor Grange Academy.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches have community use agreements in place.
- ◀ Ensure all current and future providers have in place a sinking fund to ensure long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Ensure that all new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA and FIFA recommended dimensions and quality performance standards.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are priced competitively against the cost of hiring a grass pitch and are aimed at local grassroots clubs.
- ◀ Ensure discussions take place between the Council, EH, RFU, CFA and FF before any new 3G or hockey suitable provision is created to ensure stock sustainability. This is akin to the discussions which have already taken place surrounding the conversion of the hockey suitable pitch at the University of Worcester.
- ◀ Update the Local Football Facilities Plan for Worcester City in due course with findings from the PPOSS.



# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## Cricket pitches

### Assessment Report summary

- ◀ Overall, there is currently a sufficient supply of cricket squares in Worcester City to cater for junior demand whereas capacity for Saturday and Sunday cricket is finely balanced. When considering future demand a minor shortfall arises for Saturday and Sunday cricket and all spare capacity for junior cricket is erased.
- ◀ There are eight grass wicket squares in Worcester City located across seven sites, of these, seven are available for community use across six sites.
- ◀ Both Evendine Playing Fields and Christopher Whitehead Language College previously accommodate a grass square.
- ◀ The cricket provision at Vine Cricket Club (WR3 8SD) in the Worcester City East Analysis Area is considered lapsed.
- ◀ Both Old Elizabethans CC and Old Vigornians CC report ambitions to create new facilities within the City.
- ◀ In Worcester City there are just two NTPs that accompany grass wicket squares in addition to five standalone NTPs.
- ◀ Of the two clubs based in Worcester City, only Old Elizabethans CC is considered to have security of tenure across both of its sites through a long term lease.
- ◀ The majority (71%) of all grass squares across Worcester City receive a good quality rating, which is generally supported through club consultation. This is then followed by two squares, Neel Park and Cinderella Sports Ground, being standard quality.
- ◀ Both The Kings School Worcester (Grass pitches) and New Road (Worcestershire County ground) which are actively used for cricket, are located on flood zones.
- ◀ The audit of ancillary facilities determines that most club sites (four squares or 57%) are accompanied by good quality provision. The quality of ancillary facilities at the remaining three squares is standard quality.
- ◀ There are two cricket clubs competing in Worcester City generating 22 teams.
- ◀ Old Vigornians CC exports its third Saturday team into Wychavon (King's Hawford School).
- ◀ Rushwick and Worcester Nomads cricket clubs each have one senior men's team imported into the City from the neighbouring authority of Malvern Hills.
- ◀ Both clubs indicate aspirations to increase levels of participation which equates to a total predicted growth of five teams: one senior men's, one senior women's and three junior teams.

### Scenarios

#### Flooding

There is a total of three sporting sites that are located on flood zone two and/or three which include cricket pitches, these are outlined below.

Table 4.11: Cricket sites within flood zones across Worcester City

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Flood Zones	
			2	3
16	New Road (Worcestershire County Ground)	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes
24	Old Elizabethans Cricket Club	Worcester City East	Yes	Yes
46	The King School Worcester	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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Due to their locations, addressing quality issues through drainage improvements can often be ineffective with options such as dedicated regular and routine maintenance regimes consider a more effective solution. If these sites do flood, it is recommended relevant flood relief funds are applied for to address issues and alternative venues are found for clubs utilising the provision.

Although technically located on a flood zone it should be noted that Old Elizabethans Cricket Club does not suffer from as frequent flooding when compared to the remaining sites. This site does not have a history of flooding.

### *Old Elizabethans CC*

Old Elizabethans CC currently accesses provision at its home site, of the same name, and Neel Park for its demand. The former site is played to capacity whereas the latter site only has marginal levels of spare capacity midweek.

In order for the Club to continue to grow, particular for senior cricket, alternative options to site enhancements at Neel Park and creation of a NTP at Old Elizabethans Cricket Club need to be considered. These options may have limited effect on capacity.

The Club requires access to additional provision within the Authority, which has capacity, or would need to create new provision. In the first instance, securing accessing to provision used by the Royal Grammar School Worcester at Flagge Meadow and St Oswalds should be explored. Alternatively, if the imported demand at Cinderella Sports Ground returns back to its original Authority (one team each from Rushwick and Worcester Nomads cricket clubs from Malvern Hills) this would create capacity for Old Elizabethan CC.

Another option for the Club is to potentially expand its main square. The Council reports there is scope to utilise land, which previously formed part of an adjacent golf course, to create cricket provision for the Club. This area of land is now utilised as green open space and has the potential to accommodate the creation of sporting provision, however, a detailed feasibility study would be required for such a development.

If none of these options are feasible than the viability of establishing new cricket provision should be examined.

### *Old Vigornians CC*

Compared to Old Elizabethans CC, Old Vigornians CC is in a more complicated situation. The Club currently uses provision at The Kings School Worcester which does not offer secure tenure and is also primarily utilised for curricular and extracurricular demand. This means the Club is limited to a specific level of access, making it difficult to increase participation. Furthermore, the site is also on a flood zone which makes it often entirely inaccessible and also limits its potential quality.

The Club indicates aspirations to create new provision, or access suitable alternative provision in order for it to have a secured usage of its own provision to allow for future growth. The same options mentioned for Old Elizabethans CC should also be explored for Old Vigornians CC including securing access to cricket provision owned by Royal Grammar School Worcester (Flagge Meadow and St Oswalds), utilisation of the Cinderella Ground (if imported demand can be returned) and the creation of new provision.

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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Both clubs should also be considered as part of the wider cricket landscape across South Worcestershire with new cricket provision recommended for both Malvern Hills and Wychavon. Although this new provision is primarily to provide additional capacity for the relevant clubs in each local authority there is scope to explore the feasibility for the two Worcester City based clubs to access new provision. This would require wider conversions with the steering group at the appropriate time and should be monitored within the Stage E process.

### *Reinstatement of Vine Cricket Club*

In addition to the above another potential option to provide additional capacity for cricket within Worcester City is to reinstate the lapsed cricket provision at Vine Cricket Club. The Council indicates this is a feasible option however conversations will need to take place with the private landowners to understand their plans for the site. If brought back into use it could have the potential to assist in providing Old Elizabethans CC and/or Old Vigornians CC additional capacity.

### *Recreational cricket*

Although not formally captured within the PPOSS, there are levels of recreational cricket across Worcester City which currently do not have ready access to suitable provision, such as an NTP. The Council is currently investigating the feasibility of installing a NTP at Northwick Park to meet this demand. If approved by committee it could be installed as early as Spring 2022.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect all cricket squares in current use.
- ◀ Work with clubs and grounds staff to improve square quality from standard to good quality in order to create substantial spare capacity for future growth.
- ◀ Assist clubs in accessing relevant training facilities where appropriate.
- ◀ Explore securing access for clubs at facilities used by the Royal Grammar School Worcester to provide additional capacity.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of returning imported demand back to its Authority of origin in order to create capacity for Worcester City clubs.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of creating new cricket provision in the City for Old Elizabethans CC and Old Vigornians CC.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of extending the cricket square at Old Elizabethans Cricket Club utilising land from the former golf course.
- ◀ Examine the feasibility of bringing the lapsed provision at Vine Cricket Club back in use to create additional capacity.
- ◀ Long term consider the feasibility of Worcester City based clubs accessing new cricket provision in neighbouring authorities (Malvern Hills and Wychavon) through conversations within the Steering Group
- ◀ Any new cricket provision created should have a ball strike assessment carried out as a matter of due course. Where new housing or building developments are under consideration within proximity to existing facilities a ball strike risk assessment should be undertaken. In addition, any clubs which could be potentially affected by this issue should be signposted to the ECB.
- ◀ Support the installation of a NTP at Northwick Park for identified levels of wider community and recreational demand.
- ◀ Deliver the All Stars, Dynamos and women & girls programmes and seek to increase junior and female participation as a result.
- ◀ Work to increase women and girls' participation in line with Inspiring Generations ECB Strategy and protect existing provision so that women and girls have a suitable place to practise and play.

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## Rugby union - grass pitches

### Assessment Report summary

- ✦ **Overall, provision is at capacity both currently and once taking into consideration future demand.**
- ✦ Within Worcester City there are 14 senior pitches and one junior pitch provided, with all but three pitches being available for community use. This in total amounts to 15 pitches.
- ✦ There is a considerable amount of provision within Worcester City given the fact there are no community based clubs. This is due to most of the provision being located at educational facilities to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.
- ✦ Tenure of sites in Worcester City is generally unsecure as most of the community available provision (92%) is located at educational sites.
- ✦ Of the community available pitches in Worcester City, three are assessed as good quality, seven as standard and two as poor.
- ✦ Pitches at the Kings School Worcester and Worcester Chapter Meadows both receive levels of dedicated maintenance however their overall pitch quality is brought down due to the lack of appropriate drainage as they are located on flood zones.
- ✦ Intermural demand from the University of Worcester exports competitive demand from Worcester City to utilise the WR compliant 3G pitch at Worcester Warriors midweek in Wychavon.
- ✦ There are 15 pitches across seven sites that have potential spare capacity in Worcester City, however, when analysed in greater detail there is no actual spare capacity.
- ✦ A pitch becomes overplayed when its utilisation is greater than it's carrying capacity. There are no overplayed pitches in Worcester City although one pitch is played to capacity at Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College.

### Scenarios

#### Flooding

There is a total of two sporting sites that are located on flood zone two and/or three which include rugby union pitches, these are outlined below.

Table 4.12: Rugby union sites within flood zones across Worcester City

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Flood Zones	
			2	3
46	The King School Worcester	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes
53	Christopher Whitehead Secondary	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes

Due to their locations, addressing quality issues through drainage improvements can often be ineffective with options such as dedicated regular and routine maintenance regimes consider a more effective solution. If these sites do flood, it is recommended relevant flood relief funds are applied for to address issues and alternative venues are found for clubs utilising the provision.

### Recommendations

- ✦ Continue to develop strong relationships between rugby clubs from surrounding local authorities and schools through curricular and extracurricular programmes in order to increase levels of mini and junior participation.
- ✦ Improve pitch quality where possible to better meet levels of curricular and extracurricular demand.
- ✦ Ensure discussions take place between the Council, EH, RFU, CFA and FF before any new 3G or hockey suitable provision is created to ensure stock sustainability.

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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

#### *Assessment Report summary*

- ◀ **Currently there is considered a sufficient amount of full size hockey suitable AGPs within the City, however, issues surrounding accessibility and quality results in a shortfall.**
- ◀ **The pitches at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex and University of Worcester, despite the latter pitch being used for hockey, are not considered to have capacity due to quality and need refurbishing. Additionally, the pitch at Bishop Perowne C of E College cannot be used for hockey as it is not currently marked for the sport.**
- ◀ **That said, if the two water based pitches at Worcester International Hockey Centre come online for the start of the 2021 season, capacity issues will be resolved with all hockey demand being able to be accommodated on these pitches.**
- ◀ There are three full size hockey suitable AGPs in Worcester City, of which, two (Nunnery Wood Sports Complex and Bishop Perowne C of E College (The Kings School Worcester AGP)), are available for community use and located in the Worcester City East Analysis Area.
- ◀ The pitch that is unavailable for community use is located at University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) in the Worcester City West Analysis Area. Consultation with the University indicates this is due to qualitative issues and it is no longer available for wider community access despite some utilisation by University teams.
- ◀ It should be noted that although technically available for community use the pitch at Bishop Perowne C of E College cannot be used for hockey as it does not have relevant markings.
- ◀ In addition, there are five smaller size hockey suitable AGPs in Worcester City. Of these, only one is identified as being available for community use.
- ◀ Worcester HC is currently in the process of creating two new water based AGPs in partnership with The Royal Grammar School Worcester.
- ◀ Management of the pitch at University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) is done internally through the University. In comparison, the pitch at Bishop Perowne C of E College, is actually owned and managed by The Kings School Worcester. The full size hockey suitable AGP at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex is operated via the Council's leisure provider Freedom Leisure.
- ◀ Of the three full size hockey suitable AGPs one is standard quality with the remaining two being poor quality.
- ◀ There are two hockey clubs in Worcester City, Worcester HC and University of Worcester HC. In total, these clubs accommodate 24 teams: eight men's, six women's and 10 dedicated junior/mini teams.
- ◀ Both the University of Worcester HC and Worcester HC currently export demand with each previously using the hockey suitable AGP at University of Worcester (St Johns Campus) until it reduced in quality to such an extent it became unusable for the level of hockey being played.
- ◀ All exported demand is anticipated to return to Worcester City once the Worcester International Hockey Centre opens.

***(It should be noted that since the production of the Assessment Report the Worcester International Hockey Centre is now operations (Nov 2021) All exported demand has now returned back into the City with no current hockey usage of the pitch at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex).***

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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### **Scenarios**

#### *Future capacity*

As referenced in the Assessment Report, there will be a short term requirement to understand if the hockey suitable AGP at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex is required to remain as a hockey suitable surface until the Worcester International Hockey Centre become operational.

It is anticipated that following its opening, the levels of demand from Worcester HC and other users (University of Worcester HC) will outgrow the double pitch site and therefore require a third satellite site.

In fact, in order for the Worcester International Hockey Centre to reach capacity, for competitive senior demand (Saturday), the Club would only need for create five new teams, which is not unrealistic, given the impact a new facility such as this would have for hockey in the City.

Also, taking into consideration the impact of population increase generated from the surrounding large scale housing development in Wychavon and Malvern Hills would only compound the need for a dedicated satellite site.

#### *Gen 2 Artificial Surfaces*

England Hockey reports it is currently trialling a different multi-sport surface in order to better accommodate lower levels of hockey demand and other sports such as netball and tennis. The surface type known as Gen 2<sup>5</sup> is a versatile surface that will ensure sports do not need to compromise on the playing experience. It will be a sand dressed synthetic turf with a compatible shock pad. The concept is designed to provide facilities, including schools, with a dynamic surface which reduces the amount of space required and utilised provision to full potential.

This surface type has the potential to be beneficial at educational sites where outdoor sporting provision has to be used for multiple activities and is often at a premium. The Gen 2 surface should therefore be considered when schools are refurbishing old hockey suitable AGPs or hard courts areas as a potential solution to maximise outdoor provision.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Ensure the facilities at the Worcester International Hockey Centre are maximised throughout the week and levels of usage and growth are accurately kept in order to understand the future requirement for a satellite pitch, ideally at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex.
- ◀ As part of the Stage E process of the PPOSS use update supply and demand data to understand the requirement to keep the pitch at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex as hockey suitable. Once this has been decided there is a priority to refurbish the pitch with the preferred surface type due to its poor quality.
- ◀ Ensure that future demand from new England Hockey initiative, Hockey Heroes (aimed at growing participation for under 10s) can be accommodated.
- ◀ When the 3G pitch stock increases, encourage the transfer of football demand from the sand-based AGPs in order to free up increased capacity for hockey activity.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a clear need to do so.
- ◀ Where required, assist clubs in obtaining long term agreements in order to provide security of tenure.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=2596&sectionTitle=Gen+2+Playing+Surface>

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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- ◀ When refurbishing/creating provision considered the feasibility of installing a Gen 2 surface.
- ◀ Ensure discussions take place between the Council, EH, RFU, CFA and FF before any new 3G or hockey suitable provision is created to ensure stock sustainability.
- ◀ Explore the wider development of hockey demand across South Worcestershire taking into consideration the availability and accessibility of hockey suitable provision within Malvern Hills in conjunction with the potential of satellite venues for Worcester HC.

### Tennis courts

#### *Assessment Report summary*

- ◀ **Clubs are considered viable as long as they have the appropriate levels of membership to sustain their courts and accompanying ancillary facilities.**
- ◀ **Clubs should be assisted in improve their ancillary offering, and therefore, achieving this will likely be the most beneficial action to tennis. Further to this, improving the quality of and accessibility to existing tennis, which are not good quality, will likely improve the capacity for provision to accommodate increase levels of demand.**
- ◀ **The scale of growth at the University of Worcester Tennis programme is limited by having no courts on site. Boughton Park LTC currently has capacity to host the Tennis Society, however University of Worcester may wish to consider developing court provision, if tennis is to become a significant focus sport.**
- ◀ There is a total of 54 tennis courts identified in Worcester City across 12 sites. Of these courts, 49 are categorised as being available for community use at 11 sites compared to five that are unavailable at on site.
- ◀ The majority are operated by schools, 83% of these are available for community use, although none of these have formal agreements or are widely used. There is an opportunity to develop school courts and to make them more accessible to the community. It is logical to develop current courts, rather than building new ones. The LTA can help support venues open up with Smart Access Systems.
- ◀ Most outdoor tennis courts in Worcester City have a macadam surface, with 45 being of this type and 38 of these being available for community use.
- ◀ In total, 15 of the 54 tennis courts in Worcester City are serviced by floodlights, representing 28% of the provision.
- ◀ Of the courts in Worcester City, a total of 33 of courts are assessed as good quality (61%) 14 are assessed as standard quality and seven are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ There are two tennis clubs in Worcester City. Across the two responding clubs where current membership is identified, there is an overall membership of 420, which broken down amounts to 330 senior and 90 junior members.
- ◀ Boughton Park TC and Worcester TC both report wanting to increase future levels of demand. The former club wants to increase by 50 senior and 30 junior members, whereas the latter club 20 senior and 10 junior members.

#### *Scenarios*

##### *Gate Access System*

As well as providing more accurate information on usage Gate Access Systems can assist in improving court quality. This is done via increasing usage as it allows for protected access for booked customers only, with relevant monies contributing to court refurbishment.

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

With LTA support, the Council has installed Smart Access Systems at Cripplegate Park and Gheluvelt Park, and Boughton Park LTC has done the same. Any new LTA supported padel venues will have Smart Access gates installed as a priority. A potential option to increase patriation across the District is to further explore installing gate access systems in order to increase usage and refurbishment, including but not limited to Worcester Lawn Tennis Club and Nunnery Wood High School. It should be noted a potential option for surface type refurbishment is a Gen 2 Artificial Surface especially at education sites.

### *Flooding*

There is a total of three sporting sites that are located on flood zone two and/or three which include tennis courts, these are outlined below.

*Table 4.13: Tennis sites within flood zones across Worcester City*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Flood Zones	
			2	3
46	The King School Worcester	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes
56	Cripplegate Park	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes
57	Gheluvelt Park	Worcester City East	Yes	Yes

Due to their locations and surface type (macadam) the impact of any flooding should be examined on the quality and condition of the playing surface. If there is a requirement to resurface the provision it should take into consideration the fact the site is on a flood zone and choose a more durable surface like at Evesham Rowing Club (Wychavon) which is Acrylic.

It should be acknowledged that Worcestershire County Council has put £1.2 million into improving flood defences on the New Road section of the A44 between Cripplegate Park and Worcestershire County Cricket Club.

### *Gen 2 Artificial Surfaces*

England Hockey reports it is currently trialling a different multi sport surface in order to better accommodate lower levels of hockey demand and other sports such as netball and tennis. The surface type known as Gen 2<sup>6</sup> is a versatile surface that will ensure sports do not need to compromise on the playing experience. It will be a sand dressed synthetic turf with a compatible shock pad. The concept is designed to provide facilities, including schools, with a dynamic surface which reduces the amount of space required and utilised provision to full potential.

This surface type has the potential to be beneficial at educational sites where outdoor sporting provision has to be used for multiple activities and is often at a premium. The Gen 2 surface should therefore be considered when schools are refurbishing old hockey suitable AGPs or hard courts areas as a potential solution to maximise outdoor provision.

### *Housing growth scenarios*

It should be noted that later in the report in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, the PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2041 (in line with the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review period), using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. This is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as tennis as there is no current guidance established on these sports.

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=2596&sectionTitle=Gen+2+Playing+Surface>



# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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It is still recommended that tennis is acknowledged as part of this process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population for tennis courts.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Retain and sustain quality of club courts for competitive play through implementation of appropriate maintenance regimes.
- ◀ Support clubs which have aspiration for courts and ancillary facility improvements.
- ◀ Improve quality of key local authority courts and accompanying ancillary provision, first and foremost focusing on sites that best accommodate informal play.
- ◀ Explore implementation of ClubSpark, Rally and Smart Access systems at appropriate sites to enhance available provision for affordable and accessible tennis. including but not limited to Worcester Lawn Tennis Club and Nunnery Wood High School
- ◀ Consider the feasibility of operating LTA programmes.
- ◀ When refurbishing/creating provision considered the feasibility of installing a Gen 2 surface.

### **Netball courts**

#### **Assessment Report summary**

- ◀ **In summary, there is enough outdoor netball provision in Worcester City to meet current demand therefore priority should be placed on improving court quality and ensuring courts are retained and made available to the community where demand arises.**
- ◀ There are 28 outdoor macadam netball courts located across eight sites in Worcester City, of which, 24 courts across seven sites are available for community use. All courts are located at educational sites.
- ◀ In total, nine (32%) courts are assessed as good quality, 17 (61%) as standard quality and two (7%) as poor quality.
- ◀ All outdoor netball courts in Worcester City have a macadam surface.
- ◀ The main demand for the sport is from the Worcester City Netball which operates both winter (indoor) and summer (outdoor) leagues.
- ◀ The largest club in the authority is Worcester NC.

### **Scenarios**

#### *Gen 2 Artificial Surfaces*

England Hockey reports it is currently trialling a different multi sport surface in order to better accommodate lower levels of hockey demand and other sports such as netball and tennis. The surface type known as Gen 2<sup>7</sup> is a versatile surface that will ensure sports do not need to compromise on the playing experience. It will be a sand dressed synthetic turf with a compatible shock pad. The concept is designed to provide facilities, including schools, with a dynamic surface which reduces the amount of space required and utilised provision to full potential.

This surface type has the potential to be beneficial at educational sites where outdoor sporting provision has to be used for multiple activities and is often at a premium. The Gen 2 surface should therefore be considered when schools are refurbishing old hockey suitable AGPs or hard courts areas as a potential solution to maximise outdoor provision.

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<sup>7</sup> <http://www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=2596&sectionTitle=Gen+2+Playing+Surface>

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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### *Housing growth scenarios*

It should be noted that later in the report in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, the PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2041 (in line with the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review period), using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. This is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as netball as there is no current guidance established on these sports. However, it is still recommended that tennis is acknowledged as part of this process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population for netball courts.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect quantity of courts.
- ◀ When refurbishing/creating provision considered the feasibility of installing a Gen 2 surface.
- ◀ Seek to improve poor quality courts quality through resurfacing or improved maintenance.
- ◀ Look to continue and expand the use of courts for England Netball initiatives such as Back to Netball and Walking Netball.
- ◀ Facilitate improved engagement between England Netball and schools.

### **Bowling greens**

#### **Assessment Report summary**

- ◀ **Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand given that no clubs express a need for additional greens.**
- ◀ There are seven flat greens located across five sites in Worcester City.
- ◀ The large majority of greens are located in the Worcester City East Analysis Area (four), whereas three greens are located in the Worcester City West analysis area.
- ◀ Four greens are assessed as good quality, one as standard quality.
- ◀ No greens are floodlit.
- ◀ The greens at Cripplegate Park and King George V Playing Field are owned and managed by the Council. The clubs located at Cripplegate Park lease the greens from the council, there is currently five years left on the lease with it expiring in 2026. The greens at St Dunstons BC and Barbourne BC are owned and managed privately by the club members.
- ◀ All clubs have access to a clubhouse/pavilion on site; however, these vary significantly in quality.
- ◀ There are seven clubs playing in Worcester City. Where known, membership of these clubs equates to 296.
- ◀ Using ONS projections, demand for bowling greens is likely to increase slightly in the future or at least remain static in the future due to an increase in the population aged 65 and over.

### **Scenarios**

#### *Flooding*

There is a total of one sporting sites that is located on flood zone two and/or three which include bowling, which is outlined below.

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.14: Bowling green sites within flood zones across Worcester City

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Flood Zones	
			2	3
56	Cripplegate Park	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes

Due to its location, addressing quality issues through drainage improvements can often be ineffective with options such as dedicated regular and routine maintenance regimes consider a more effective solution. If the site does flood, it is recommended relevant flood relief funds are applied for to address issues and alternative venues are found for clubs utilising the provision.

### *Housing growth scenarios*

It should be noted that later in the report in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, the PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2041 (in line with the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review period). using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. This is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as bowls as there is no current guidance established on these sports. However, it is still recommended that bowls is acknowledged as part of this process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population for bowling greens.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Retain existing quantity of greens.
- ◀ Ensure that any potential development of greens considered as disused/lapsed are mitigated in line with Sport England NPPF.
- ◀ Assist clubs, where possible, with any future ancillary provision improvements
- ◀ Support clubs with plans to increase membership so that growth can be maximised.

### **Athletics**

#### **Assessment Report summary**

- ◀ **The track at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex requires protection. There is also a clear and evident need to make qualitative improvements with a recognised need to resurface the track in the immediate future and accompanying field facilities.**
- ◀ There is one purpose built 400-metre floodlit eight lane synthetic athletics track within Worcester City which is located at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex. Further to this there are accompanying field facilities for high jumps, long/triple jumps, pole vault, throws cage and relevant field for shot put and javelin.
- ◀ A non-technical site assessment rates the provision as poor quality. This is echoed by Worcester AC which states the site as a whole has become much poorer over the last few years.
- ◀ Worcester AC is the largest club based within Worcester City and uses Nunnery Wood Sports Complex as its home venue. It currently caters for around 297 members: 115 male, 53 female and 129 juniors (U18).
- ◀ There are also levels of demand from Black Pear Joggers and the University of Worcester AC.
- ◀ In Worcester City, two different Park Run events are held each week. The events are accommodated in Pitchcroft and Worcester Wood Country Park (adjacent to Nunnery Wood Sports Complex).

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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- ◀ Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in athletics but 'are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand amounting to 2,160 people within Worcester City.
- ◀ Worcester AC aspires to increase its overall participation by 120 members, however, cannot currently do so due to a lack of suitable coaches. Therefore, this demand is considered to be further additional latent demand.

### **Scenarios**

#### *Nunnery Wood Sports Complex*

Given that Worcester AC currently has, a significant membership base and has further growth potential, it is believed that enhancing the track at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex would improve capacity and the experience for the athletes. The facility is also strategically important and services a substantial amount of demand across South Worcestershire therefore there is an even greater need for refurbishment.

There is already a reasonably high level of demand for athletics and running events such as Parkrun in the City and as such sustaining and increasing the popularity of these as well as exploring the growth of initiatives such as RunTogether groups will also help to increase participation.

#### *Housing growth scenarios*

It should be noted that later in the report in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, the PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2041 (in line with the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review period), using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. This is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as athletics as there is no current guidance established on these sports. However, it is still recommended that athletics is acknowledged as part of this process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population for athletics provision including purpose built and also active and healthy lifestyle provision such as trim trails / running routes etc.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ As a priority look to refurbish the athletics track at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex and ensure the provision is protected to accommodate current and future athletics demand.
- ◀ Look to improve accompanying ancillary where appropriate.
- ◀ Consider the feasibility of operating additional athletic programmes such as Park Runs, Couch to 5K.

### **Other sports**

#### ***Rugby league summary***

- ◀ Although the current pitch at Droitwich RFC (Glyn Mitchell Memorial Ground) is suitable for its current level of demand it will not provide enough capacity for the Worcester Jaguars RLFC moving forward.
- ◀ Therefore, the feasibility of developing a suitable site for Worcester Jaguars RLFC should be explored to provide the Club with additional capacity to increase levels of rugby league demand across South Worcestershire. Subject to addressing displacement of any existing pitches.

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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### ***Cycling summary***

- ◀ High demand for cycling is identified within South Worcestershire through identified current and latent demand. Furthermore, there are clear aspirations from within the area to develop a purpose built cycling facility.
- ◀ Therefore, assistance should be provided to Wychavon District Council and the planning application (21/02022/FUL) for the creation of a closed road circuit, pump track, a learn to ride circuit, an all ability cycle route, a trials/cyclocross route option an access path and car park extension at The Spiers and Hartwell Jubilee Stadium (Evesham United Football Club).
- ◀ Malvern Cycle Sport has demonstrated aspirations to Malvern Hills District Council over the past 15 years for the development of a cycle facility. The aspirations have varied from a cyclo-cross facility on the Malvern Hills to a Pump Track.
- ◀ The delivery of an appropriate cycling facility with the Malvern Hills should be supported subject to the availability of land and funding.

### ***Multi use games areas summary***

- ◀ Given that demand for MUGAs falls into informal use it is difficult to assess and quantify demand. However, it is considered likely that there is an under provision due to the low quantity provided against the geographical size of South Worcestershire.
- ◀ Provision of MUGA's is recommended within new major housing developments and should be considered within rural communities where formal pitches may not be deliverable.

### ***American football summary***

- ◀ In South Worcestershire there are currently two American football clubs that compete, Worcestershire Black Knights (Wychavon) and the University of Worcester Royals (Worcester City). Current levels of supply are considered sufficient to meet the demand from the clubs.

### ***Archery summary***

- ◀ Current levels of provision for outdoor archery services Evesham Archery Club, Droitwich Archery Club (Wychavon) and Malvern Archers (Malvern Hills), is considered sufficient.

### ***Baseball/Softball summary***

- ◀ There is a need to improve the quality of baseball/softball provision at Norton Parish Hall Playing Fields (Wychavon) to better support current and future levels of demand.

### ***Croquet summary***

- ◀ There are lawn and ancillary provision improvements required at Worcester Norton Croquet Club (Wychavon) and Broadwas Croquet Club (Malvern Hills) to better support current and future levels of demand.

### ***Lacrosse summary***

- ◀ There is considered enough Lacrosse provision at Malvern St James Girls School (Malvern Hills) to cater or demand from Tribe LC.

### ***Ultimate (frisbee) summary***

- ◀ There is considered enough Ultimate provision to cater for current levels of demand from the University of Worcester (Worcester City).

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Explore the feasibility of establishing a dedicated rugby league site across South Worcestershire to assist in growing levels of demand at Worcester Jaguars.
- ◀ Assist where possible in the creation of the dedicated cycling facility within Wychavon and ensure to maximise its usage. Ensure any impact of current sporting provision on the site is fully mitigate in line with Sport England Playing Field Policy and NPPF guidelines.
- ◀ Consideration should be given to exploring and supporting cycling provision plans within Malvern Hills.
- ◀ Look to improve the quality of MUGAs across South Worcestershire and work with relevant stakeholder such as Parish/Town Councils to establishing new provision where appropriate.
- ◀ Provision of MUGA's is recommended within new major housing developments and should be considered within rural communities where formal pitches may not be deliverable.
- ◀ Ensure there is suitable levels of quality and quality American football, archery, baseball/softball, croquet/lacrosse and Ultimate provision to assist in sustaining and growing the demand for each of the sports.

## PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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

### AIM 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sport facilities where it is needed for meeting current and future needs.

#### Recommendations:

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

#### **Recommendation (a) – Ensure, through the use of the PPOSS, that playing pitch facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.**

The Worcester City PPOSS Assessment shows that all currently used playing field and outdoor sport sites require protection or replacement and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. This includes lapsed, disused, underused and poor quality sites, which should also be protected from development or replaced as there is a requirement for such provision to meet the identified shortfalls.

NPPF paragraph 99 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land should not be built on unless:

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

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

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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### ***New housing development***

Where proposed housing development is located within proximity of a good quality existing site as identified in the PPOSS, this does not necessarily mean that there is no need for further improvements. To the contrary, provision enhancements may be required in order to accommodate additional demand arising from a particular development (or group of developments). The PPOSS should be used to help determine what impact the new development will have on the demand for, and capacity of, existing sites, and whether improvement to increase capacity or new provision is required.

Housing growth scenarios have been provided in Part 7 of this document to provide a guide and to estimate the additional demand that could be generated by specific housing growth by sport and facility type. Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator, which has informed the scenarios, will be available for the Council to use upon completion of the PPOSS.

### ***Development Management***

The PPOSS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new playing fields, outdoor sport facilities and ancillary provision. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case-by-case basis, taking into account site specific factors.

In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of sports facilities and will use the PPOSS to help assess such planning applications against its Playing Fields Policy. It will object to proposals unless at least one of its five policy exceptions is met. The exceptions are:

- ◀ **Exception One:** Excess of provision - a robust and up-to-date assessment has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of Sport England, that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, which will remain the case should the development be permitted, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.
- ◀ **Exception Two:** Ancillary development - the proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field and does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.
- ◀ **Exception Three:** Land incapable of forming part of a pitch - the proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:
  - ◀ reduce the size of any playing pitch;
  - ◀ result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas);
  - ◀ reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain their quality;
  - ◀ result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site; or
  - ◀ prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site.
- ◀ **Exception Four:** Replacement provision of equivalent or better quality and quantity - the area of playing field to be lost as a result of the proposed development will be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new area of playing field:
  - ◀ of equivalent or better quality, and
  - ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity, and
  - ◀ in a suitable location, and
  - ◀ subject to equivalent or better accessibility and management arrangements.
- ◀ **Exception Five:** New sports provision benefit outweighs the loss of the playing field - the proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice to the use, of the area of playing field.



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It may be appropriate to consider rationalisation of certain low value sites (i.e. poor quality one/two pitch sites with no changing provision) to generate investment in creating bigger and better venues (hub sites). It is vital, however, that there is no net loss of facilities and that replacement provision is provided, available and useable in equivalent of greater quality and quality prior to existing provision being lost (including an allowance for a “bedding-in” period. As such, rationalisation needs to be carried out in accordance with paragraph 99 of the NPPF and Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy.

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

A number of education sites are being used across Worcester City for competitive play, predominately for football. The following schools are already used for community use at varying levels but have no secure community usage:

- ◀ Bilford Road Corner (Tudor Grange Academy)
- ◀ Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College
- ◀ Battenhall Playing Fields
- ◀ Evendine Playing Field (University of Worcester)
- ◀ St Marys (University of Worcester)
- ◀ The Kings School Worcester

Not having fully formalised usage presents a risk for those clubs using these sites as community use could technically be terminated at any time. Securing community use at the sites referenced above will help to create additional pitch capacity and could help to address deficiencies as demonstrated within the Football Scenarios.

Further partnership working with NGBs should be carried out to encourage schools to put in place Community Use Agreement (CUA) including access to changing provision where required.

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

It is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations to enable them to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities. To facilitate this, where practical, the Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds, providing this is to the benefit of sport.

The Council should assist, where possible, in exploring opportunities to grant clubs security of tenure for clubs utilising educational provision through lease agreements (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs) or community use agreements. The focus should be on securing clubs at educational sites which will allow them to potentially access funding to improve pitch and / or ancillary facilities. Security of tenure would encourage clubs to take more care of the site through responsible play. It would motivate them to look at ways of enhancing their facilities by using external funding mechanisms that the local authority may not be able to access. Clubs with lease arrangements already in place with other owners should review existing agreements when the term dips below 25 years.

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

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

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

Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council and NGBs to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership work. All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)<sup>8</sup>. They should also be encouraged to work with partners locally – such as volunteer support agencies or local businesses.

The Council could establish core outcomes to derive from clubs taking on a lease arrangement to ensure that the most appropriate are assigned sites. Outcomes may, for example, include:

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

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

For clubs with lease arrangements already in place, these should be reviewed when fewer than 25 years remain to improve security of tenure and aid the attraction of funding; clubs with fewer than 25 years remaining on a lease agreement are unlikely to be eligible for external funding.

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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

To maximise community use, development of a more coherent, structured relationship with schools is recommended. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train. A key issue in Worcester is a lack of access to high quality provision located at its several private educational establishments.

A large number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the schools and local clubs. It is, however, common for school stock not to be fully maximised for community use, even on established community use sites.

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

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

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

### **AIM 2**

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

### **Recommendations:**

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

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

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

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

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

Quality across Worcester City is variable but generally most pitches are assessed as poor or standard quality. Where facilities are assessed as standard or poor quality and/or overplayed, maintenance regimes should be reviewed and, where possible, improved to ensure that what is being done is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring continuance of existing maintenance of good quality sites is also essential.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In order to prioritise investment into key sites it is recommended that the Steering Group works up a list of criteria, to provide a steer on future investment. It should be noted that for football this will be linked to the updating of the LFFP.

### *FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)<sup>9</sup>*

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. As part of this, grass pitches identified as having quality issues undergo a pitch inspection, known as a PitchPower Assessment (more information surrounding a PitchPower Assessments can be found at <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/pitchpower>). This can be carried out by the relevant club or from a member of the Grounds Management Association (GMA, formerly Institute of Groundsmanship).

The FA in partnership with the Grounds Management Association (GMA) has developed a Grass Pitch Improvement and Maintenance Programme that can be utilised by grassroots football clubs, organisations and local authorities with the simple aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide members of the programme with advice/practical solutions via a Grass Pitch Assessment Report which will also identify the key enhanced maintenance works required along with machinery requirements.

Following a Grass Pitch Assessment Report, clubs can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified in order to improve the quality of their pitches. Clubs can also utilise the report as an evidence base to acquire potential funding streams to obtain the relevant maintenance equipment.

If a site is categorised as 'poor' or 'basic' on the Grass Pitch Assessment Report they are then eligible to apply for Grass Pitch Funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund, a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help clubs enhance or sustain the quality of their grass pitches. The fund is a key part of the Football Foundation's

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<sup>9</sup> <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/grass-pitch-maintenance-fund>

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Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 20,000 quality grass pitches by 2030.

All applicants must have the required security of tenure and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, prioritising target areas with multiple pitch sites to maximise impact. Eligible clubs are from Regional Feeder Leagues (formerly Step 7) but not National League System (Step 1 – 6) clubs unless their pitches are used by youth teams and not solely for 1st team use.

### *Flooding*

Key sites within Worcester City are located near to the River Severn. This means specific sports sites within the Authority are located on flood zones. The table below identifies the different definitions for each flood zone.

*Table 5.2: Flood Zones*

Flood Zone	Definition
<b>Zone One - Low Probability</b>	Land having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river or sea flooding.
<b>Zone Two - Medium Probability</b>	Land having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding; or land having between a 1 in 200 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of sea flooding.
<b>Zone Three A - High Probability</b>	Land having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding; or Land having a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of sea flooding.
<b>Zone Three B - The Functional Floodplain</b>	This zone comprises land where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood. Local planning authorities should identify in their Strategic Flood Risk Assessments areas of functional floodplain and its boundaries accordingly, in agreement with the Environment Agency.

In fact, there are a total of 13 sites which contain outdoor sports provision which are located in either flood zones two and/or flood zone three.

*Table 5.3: Sporting sites within flood zones across Worcester City*

PPS ID	Site	Analysis area	Flood zones	
			2	3
5	Cherry Orchard Primary School	Worcester City East	Yes	
9	Diglis	Worcester City East	Yes	
16	New Road (Worcestershire County Ground)	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes
24	Old Elizabethans Cricket Club	Worcester City East	Yes	Yes
28	Perdiswell Leisure Centre	Worcester City East	Yes	Yes
31	Pitchcroft	Worcester City East	Yes	Yes
46	The Kings School Worcester (Grass Pitches)	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes
53	Worcester Chapter Meadows	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes
56	Cripplegate Park	Worcester City West	Yes	Yes
57	Gheluvelt Park	Worcester City East	Yes	Yes
70	St Georges Primary School	Worcester City East	Yes	Yes
76	University of Worcester (The Moors Playing Field)	Worcester City East	Yes	Yes
77	Northside Youth Football Club	Worcester City East	Yes	Yes

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Due to the above sites' location, addressing quality issues through drainage improvements can often be ineffective with options such as dedicated regular and routine maintenance regimes consider a more effective solution. If these sites do flood, it is recommended relevant flood relief funds are applied for to address issues.

### **Addressing overplay**

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

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

*Table 5.4: Capacity of pitches*

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Rugby league	Senior pitch	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season		
Hockey	Full size AGP	4 per day	4 per day	4 per day

For tennis, the LTA suggests that a floodlit hard court can accommodate 60 members, whereas a non-floodlit court can cater for 40 members. For athletics it is considered that in order for an athletics track to be sustainable, nationally, a club membership of 200 is recommended by UKA<sup>10</sup>.

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

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

<sup>10</sup> Source: UKA Facilities Strategy recommends that Regional Outdoor Competition Venues should have a strong anchor performance club (i.e. 200+ track and field members).

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

For rugby union and rugby league, additional floodlighting can mitigate some of the overplay as it allows training demand to be spread across a greater number of pitches or unmarked areas. If permanent floodlighting is not possible, portable floodlighting is an alternative, as is the installation of a World Rugby / RFL compliant 3G pitch. Further to this another potential option for rugby league is the creation of additional pitches.

As mentioned earlier, there are also sites that are poor quality but which are not overplayed. These should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than others but demand could increase if the quality was improved. It does, however, work both ways as potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular, which in the long run can again lead to them becoming poor quality pitches if not properly maintained. It is therefore imperative that any enhancements are supported by adequate maintenance to ensure that the improvements are sustainable.

### ***Increasing maintenance***

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

The FA has a general pitch improvement strategy which has been developed in partnership with Grounds Management Association (GMA) to develop a grass pitch maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots clubs with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and therefore the quality of pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide clubs with advice/practical solutions in a range of areas, with the simple aim of improving playing surfaces. The programme is designed to help clubs on sites that they themselves manage and maintain but can also be used to advise council-maintained sites.

In addition, the FA's Strategy also aims to focus on developing improved maintenance with local authorities that can be utilised at local authority-maintained sites.

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

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

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



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### ***Improving changing provision***

There is a need to address changing provision at some sites in Worcester City.

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

- ◀ Bilford Road Corner
- ◀ Cinderella Sports Ground
- ◀ Nunnery Wood Sports Complex
- ◀ Pitchcroft
- ◀ Perdiswell Leisure Centre
- ◀ University of Worcester (St Marys)
- ◀ Worcester Golf and Country Club
- ◀ Worcester Lawn Tennis Club

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

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

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

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

To address community need, target priority areas and reduce provision duplication, a coordinated approach to strategic investment is required. In delivering this recommendation, the Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners through the PPOSS Steering Group.

Although some investment in new provision will not be made by the Council directly, it is important that the Steering Group directs and leads a co-ordinated approach to facility development whether made at/by education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector. This is to ensure that the extent to which it addresses community need is optimised and duplication is avoided.

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

Please refer to Appendix One for further funding information which includes detail in respect of current opportunities, likely funding requirements and indicative project costs.

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

This strategy should inform policies and supplementary planning documents by setting out the approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development.

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A development located within an accessible distance from a high-quality outdoor sport facility does not necessarily negate need for further provision or improvement to existing provision in the locality to accommodate additional demand arising from that development. The PPOSS should be used to help determine the likely impact of a new development on demand, the capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for improvements to increase capacity or new provision is required.

For playing pitches, the Council should use Sport England's new Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) (see Part 7) as a tool to determine developer contributions linking to sites within the locality. This uses team generation rates from the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams will be generated from an increase in population, as per that derived from housing growth. This is then converted into pitch requirements for each sport alongside the associated costs.

Important to note that the calculator is only a guide price and, for example, does not include local requirements e.g. the SWDPR requires the inclusion of a 'greening;' measures e.g. grey water harvesting renewable energy installations in new and refurbished developments.

The guidance should be the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision within the development and/or enhancement of appropriate playing fields and subsequent maintenance on existing sites within the locality. Section 106 contributions can also be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes of pitches which, in turn, will increase pitch capacity to accommodate more matches.

Where it is determined that new provision is required to accompany a development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality, with the PPOSS used to guide this. Where improvements are required, the PPOSS and in particular the Action Plan can identify sites in the locality that would most benefit from contributions and that would best cater for the increased demand.

To determine what supply of provision is provided, it is imperative that the PPOSS findings are taken into consideration and that for particularly large developments consultation takes place with the relevant NGBs and Sport England. This is due to the importance of ensuring that the stock of facilities provided is correct to avoid provision becoming unsustainable and unused. The preference is for multi-pitch and multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for future 3G/AGP development.

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

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

- ◆ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to specific planning obligations. Where developer contributions are applicable, a Section 106 agreement or equivalent must be completed that should specify, when applied, the amount that will be linked to Sport England's Building Cost Information Service from the date of the permission and timing of the contribution/s to be made.

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- ◀ Contributions should also be secured towards the first 20 years of maintenance on new pitches, the cost of which is indicated by the Sport England Development Calculator. NGBs and Sport England can provide further and up to date information on the associated costs.
- ◀ External funding should be sought/secured to achieve maximum benefit from the investment into appropriate playing pitch facility enhancement, alongside other open space provision, and its subsequent maintenance.
- ◀ Where new multiple pitches are provided, appropriate changing rooms and associated car parking should be located on site.
- ◀ All new or improved outdoor sports facilities on school sites should be subject to community use agreements.

Please see Part 7 for further information in regard to Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator.

### AIM 3

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

#### Recommendations:

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

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

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

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

It is important that there is a joined-up approach between the relevant neighbouring authorities to ensure that 3G pitches are developed at the most appropriate sites, such as by selecting sites that can contribute towards accommodating demand from neighbouring authorities. This approach will also ensure there is no duplication of provision that will compete against each other to attract demand.

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

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

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

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

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
  - ◀ It should be noted that improvements at sites within flood zones may not provide value for money due to their location and should be examined on a site by site basis.

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- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity.
- ◀ The re-designation of facilities.
- ◀ Securing long term community use at school sites including those currently unavailable.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to secure tenure and increase usage.

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

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

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## PART 6: ACTION PLAN

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

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

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

*Table 6.1: Tiered site criteria*

Criteria	Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
<b>Site location</b>	Strategically located in the Authority. Priority sites for NGBs.	Strategically located within the analysis area.	Serves the local community.
<b>Site layout</b>	Accommodates three or more grass pitches, including provision of an AGP.	Accommodates two or more grass pitches.	Accommodates one or more pitches.
<b>Type of sport</b>	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.
<b>Management</b>	Management control remains within the local authority/other provider or with an appropriate lease arrangement through a committee or education owned.	Management control remains within the local authority/provider or with an appropriate club on a lease arrangement.	Management control remains within the local authority/provider or with an appropriate club on a lease arrangement.
<b>Maintenance regime</b>	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime either by the club or in house maintenance contract.
<b>Ancillary facilities</b>	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	No changing room access on site or appropriate access to accommodate both senior and junior use concurrently (if required).

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

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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

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

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

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

Other sites considered in this tier may be primary school sites or secondary school sites that are not widely used by the community or that do not offer community availability.

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

### **Management and development**

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

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

### **Partners**

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

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### **Priority**

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

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

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

### **Costs**

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

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

These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at:  
<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>

### **Timescales**

The Action Plan has been created to be delivered over a ten-year period. The information within the Assessment Report, Strategy and Action Plan will require updating as developments occur.

The indicative timescales relate to delivery times and are not priority based:

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

### **Aim**

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



# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## WORCESTER CITY EAST ANALYSIS AREA

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Worcester City East	Adult	At capacity	Shortfall of 0.5
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 4
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 1.5	Shortfall of 3
		Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1	Shortfall of 3.5
	Worcester City	Adult	At capacity	Shortfall of 0.5
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1	Shortfall of 4.5
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 1.5	Shortfall of 3
		Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1	Shortfall of 4.5
Football (3G pitches)	Worcester City East	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 3	Shortfall of 3
Cricket	Worcester City East	Saturday	At capacity	At capacity
		Sunday	At capacity	At capacity
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 12	Spare capacity of 8
	Worcester City	Saturday	At capacity	Shortfall of 10
		Sunday	At capacity	Shortfall of 8
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 12	At capacity
Rugby union	Worcester City East	Senior	At capacity	At capacity
	Worcester City	Senior	At capacity	At capacity
Hockey (sand AGPs)	Worcester City	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient	Sufficient but a requirement in the short term to monitor capacity
Tennis	Worcester City	Courts	Sufficient	Sufficient
Netball	Worcester City	Courts	Sufficient	Sufficient
Bowls	Worcester City	Greens	Sufficient	Sufficient
Athletics	Worcester City	-	Sufficient provision however quality issues	Sufficient provision however quality issues
Other Sports	Worcester City	-	Sufficient	Sufficient

<sup>[1]</sup> MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>11</sup>	Cost <sup>12</sup>	Aim
1	Archdale 73	WR4 9XL	Football	Sports club	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Archdale 73 is currently fundraising to carry out drainage improvements.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Assist the Club where possible to carry out drainage improvements.	Sports club WFA FF	Local site	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
2	Bilford Road Corner	WR3 8QA	Football / 3G	Education	One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all of which are standard quality. The youth 11v11 and the youth 9v9 pitch are played to capacity whereas all mini pitches are played to capacity at peak time. Tudor Grange Academy Worcester has plans to develop Bilford Road Corner which could see pitches being reconfigured and improved, creation of a purpose built pavilion and small sized 3G pitch. It also reports it is in the process of agreeing a long term agreement for Perdiswell Colts FC. Identified as a strategic site for football in both the LFFP and PPOSS.	Look to work with relevant stakeholders to develop the site which meet the needs of curricular, extracurricular and community demand. This would involve securing the tenure for Perdiswell Colts FC, improving pitch quality, creating a dedicated pavilion and explore the potential of establishing a small size 3G pitch.	Education WFA FF	Local site	H	S - M	M	Protect Provide Enhance
3	Bishop Perowne C Of E High School	WR3 8LE	Rugby union	Education	One poor quality senior pitch which is poor quality (M0/D1). Pitch is not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality when required to better meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education RFU	Local site	L	L	L	Enhance
3	Bishop Perowne C Of E High School	WR3 8LE	Tennis	Education	Two poor quality macadam courts that are not floodlit but are available for community use.	Improve court quality when required to better meet curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	Education LTA	Local site	L	M	L	Enhance
3	Bishop Perowne C Of E High School	WR3 8LE	Netball	Education	Two poor quality macadam courts that are not floodlit but are available for community use. Used by Worcester City Netball League.	Improve court quality when required to better meet curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	Education EN	Local site	L	M	L	Enhance
4	Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College	WR5 2XD	Football	Education	Two poor quality youth 11v11 pitches that are overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Used by Nunnery Wood Colts FC which do not have secure tenure. Identified as a strategic site for football in both the LFFP and PPOSS.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to secure tenure for Nunnery Wood Colts with a long term agreement such as a CUA.	Education WFA FF	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
4	Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College	WR5 2XD	Rugby union	Education	One poor quality (M0/D0) junior pitch that is available for community use.	Improve pitch quality when required to better meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education RFU	Key centre	L	L	L	Enhance
4	Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College	WR5 2XD	Hockey	Education	One small size (40x30m) hockey suitable AGP which is floodlit and available for community use.	Sustain quality as appropriate to meet curricular, extracurricular and community demand. Ensure there is a sinking fund in place for its eventual refurbishment.	Education EH	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
4	Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College	WR5 2XD	Tennis	Education	Four standard quality macadam courts that are not floodlit but are available for community use.	Improve court quality when required to better meet curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	Education LTA	Key centre	L	L	L	Enhance

<sup>11</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>12</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>11</sup>	Cost <sup>12</sup>	Aim
4	Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College	WR5 2XD	Netball	Education	Four standard quality macadam courts that are not floodlit but are available for community use. Used by Worcester City Netball League.	Improve court quality when required to better meet curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	Education EN	Key centre	L	L	L	Enhance
5	Cherry Orchard Primary School	WR5 2DD	Football	Education	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch that is not available for community use, Site is located on a flood zone.	Improve pitch quality where possible to better meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA FF	Local site	L	L	L	Enhance
7	Cornmeadow	WR3 7PF	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch that is played to capacity. Site does not have any ancillary provision. Identified as a strategic site for football in both the LFFP and PPOSS.	Improve pitch quality with an enhanced maintenance regime.	Council WFA FF	Local site	M	L	L	Enhance
8	Claines Lane	WR3 7SS	Football	WFA	One good quality adult pitch that has spare capacity of one match equivalent session.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Utilise spare capacity.	WFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
8	Claines Lane	WR3 7SS	3G	WFA	One good quality full size 3G pitch which was built in 2020. Pitch is also FIFA compliant.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	WFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
9	Diglis	WR5 3DQ	Football	Council	One adult pitch which is not currently maintained but can be reinstated based on levels of demand. Site is located on a flood zone.	Keep as a strategic reserve and explore the feasibility of bringing back into use based on levels of demand.	Council WFA FF	Local site	L	L	L - M	Protect
11	Hollymount School	WR4 9SG	Football	Education	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch which is played to capacity. Pitch is available for community use.	Improve pitch quality to better cater for curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA FF	Local site	L	L	L	Enhance
12	King George V Playing Field (Worcester)	WR4 9TL	Football	Community trust	Three adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch all of which are standard quality. Mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity whereas the youth 9v9 pitches and adult pitches each have spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Issues with dog fouling. WCT Raiders Youth FC reports there are occasional access issues at King George V Playing Field, where toilet facilities are not always open when pitches are in use. Identified as a strategic site for football in both the LFFP and PPOSS.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Examine potential options on how to reduce dog fouling. Ensure ancillary facilities are readily accessible.	Community trust WFA FF	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect
12	King George V Playing Field (Worcester)	WR4 9TL	3G	Community trust	One small size (68x40m) 3G pitch which is floodlit and available for community use. There are plans to refurbish the small size 3G pitch as it is poor quality in summer 2022.	Refurbish the 3G pitch.	Community trust WFA. FF	Key centre	H	S	M	Enhance
12	King George V Playing Field (Worcester)	WR4 9TL	Bowls	Community trust	One standard quality bowling green.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Community trust Bowls England	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
12	King George V Playing Field (Worcester)	WR4 9TL	MUGA	Community trust	One poor quality MUGA which is not floodlit.	Explore the feasibility of refurbishment based on levels of demand.	Community trust	Key centre	L	M	L	Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>11</sup>	Cost <sup>12</sup>	Aim
13	Little Perdiswell	WR3 7SW	Football	Sports club	Two adult, two mini 7v7 and one youth 9v9 pitch all standard quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is played to capacity, the mini 7v7 pitches are played to capacity at peak time and the adult pitches are overplayed by 2.5 match sessions. Warndon Villages Youth FC reports ancillary provision at Little Perdiswell to suffer from regular vandalism due to the fact being classed as open space. Identified as a strategic site for football in both the LFFP and PPOSS.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the feasibility of improving the quality of ancillary provision to reduce levels of vandalism.	Sports club WFA FF	Local site	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
14	Neel Park	WR3 7SN	Football	Sports club	One adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch. The adult pitch is poor quality whereas the rest is standard quality. The adult pitch is overplayed by one match sessions, the mini 5v5 pitch has spare capacity of one match equivalent sessions and the remaining pitches are played to capacity at peak time. Site has standard quality ancillary provision.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club WFA FF	Key centre	M	S	L - M	Enhance
14	Neel Park	WR3 7SN	Cricket	Sports club	One standard quality grass square with nine wickets and an NTP. The square has marginal spare capacity midweek, however, is played to capacity both on a Saturday and Sunday. Site is on a long term lease to Old Elizabethan CC.	Improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club ECB WCB	Key centre	M	S	L - M	Enhance
15	New College Worcester	WR5 2JX	Hockey	Education	One small size (40x30m) hockey suitable AGP which is floodlit but not available for community use.	Sustain quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education EH	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
17	North Worcester Primary Academy	WR3 7NS	Hockey	Education	One small size (35x25m) hockey suitable AGP which is not floodlit and not available for community use.	Sustain quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education EH	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
18	Northwick	WR3 7LZ	Football	Council	Two standard quality adult pitches that have spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to utilise spare capacity.	Council WFA, FF	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
19	Northwick Manor Primary School	WR3 7EA	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch both of which are poor quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is played to capacity whereas the mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Education WFA FF	Local site	M	S	L	Enhance
20	Nunnery Wood High School	WR5 2LT	Football	Education	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch both of which are standard quality and have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Education WFA, FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
20	Nunnery Wood High School	WR5 2LT	Cricket	Education	A standalone NTP.	Retain as current use.	Education ECB, WCB	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>11</sup>	Cost <sup>12</sup>	Aim
20	Nunnery Wood High School	WR5 2LT	Rugby union	Education	Two standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitches that are available for community use but are not floodlit. Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Education RFU	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
20	Nunnery Wood High School	WR5 2LT	Tennis	Education	Five standard quality macadam courts which are not floodlit nor available for community use.	Sustain quality and improve in quality when required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education LTA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
20	Nunnery Wood High School	WR5 2LT	Netball	Education	Four standard quality macadam courts which are not floodlit nor available for community use.	Sustain quality and improve in quality when required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education EN	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
21	Nunnery Wood Primary School	WR5 1QE	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that is not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality as required to better sustain curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance
22	Nunnery Wood Sports Complex	WR5 2NL	Football	Trust	One standard quality adult pitch which is played to capacity.	Sustain grass pitch quality with appropriate maintenance.	Trust, WFA FF, EH	Hub site	L	L	L	Protect
22	Nunnery Wood Sports Complex	WR5 2NL	Hockey	Trust	One full size hockey suitable AGP which is floodlit. Pitch is poor quality. It is currently used by Worcester HC whilst the Worcester International Hockey Centre is being built. The feasibility of converting the AGP at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex to 3G needs to be examined in greater detail once the Worcester International Hockey Centre.	Aim to maintain pitch quality, as best as possible in the short term until a more detailed analysis can be obtained of levels of supply and demand for hockey and football following the opening of the Worcester International Hockey Centre. Once obtained look to refurbish the pitch with the preferred surface type (hockey AGP or 3G).	Trust EH WFA, FF	Hub site	H	S - M	M	Enhance Protect
22	Nunnery Wood Sports Complex	WR5 2NL	Athletics	Trust	A 400 metre floodlit eight lane synthetic track with accompanying field facilities. Provision is rated as poor quality and has failed is TrackMark Unit 2 inspection.	As a priority explore the feasibility of refurbishing Athletics provision. Once it is refurbished look to obtain TrackMark certification.	Trust UKA	Hub site	H	S - M	M	Enhance
23	Oasis Academy Warndon	WR4 9PE	Football	Education	One poor quality youth 9v9 which is not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality as required to better sustain curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance
24	Old Elizabethans Cricket Club	WR3 7SN	Cricket	Sports club	A good quality square with 14 grass wickets, of which only 12 can be used for competitive senior demand due to boundary length. Square is played to capacity. Site is leased to Old Elizabethans CC which has plans to create an additional square or extend its main square	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the feasibility of extending the main square. Explore the feasibility of assisting the Club in either expanding its current square to create additional capacity or the creation of a new square within its locality.	Sports club ECB WCB	Local site	M	M - L	M	Protect Provide
25	Worcester International Hockey Centre	WR3 7SW	Hockey	Sports club Education	Worcester HC is in the process of creating two new water-based AGPs in partnership with The Royal Grammar School Worcester. Worcester International Hockey Centre (WIHC) is located at the Old Porcelain Ground. The development has been self-funded and will be owned by the two stakeholders. The completion of this project is linked to conversion of the poor quality hockey suitable AGP at University of Worcester.	Monitor the usage to understand if there is a requirement to keep the pitch at Nunnery Wood Sports Complex as a hockey suitable surface based on future demand. Ensure hockey teams from the University of Worcester have sufficient access to the pitches for their level of demand to all for the conversion of the poor quality hockey suitable AGP at University of Worcester.	Sports club Education EH	Key centre	H	S	L	Provide

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>11</sup>	Cost <sup>12</sup>	Aim
25	Worcester International Hockey Centre	WR3 7SW	Football	Sports club Education	Two youth 11v11 pitches that are currently not active during the construction of the water base pitches and ancillary provision. Pitches are set to be reinstated for the 2021/22 football season. <b>(Pitches are now in use as of Nov 2021).</b>	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club WFA, FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
28	Perdiswell Leisure Centre	WR3 8DX	Football	Trust / Council	Five adult pitches and one mini 7v7 pitch all of which are standard quality. The mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity at peak time whereas the adult pitches have spare capacity discounted.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Trust WFA, FF	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect
28	Perdiswell Leisure Centre	WR3 8DX	3G	Trust / Council	Two small size (36x20m) floodlit 3G pitches that are available for community use. There are aspirations to create a full size floodlit 3G pitch on the site.	Sustain small size 3G pitches as appropriate. Explore the feasibility of creating a full size floodlit 3G pitch on the site in order to alleviate identified shortfalls. If 3G is established ensure relevant ancillary facilities are enhanced.	Trust FF WFA	Key centre	H	S	H	Provide Enhance
28	Perdiswell Leisure Centre	WR3 8DX	Rugby union	Trust / Council	One standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch. Spare capacity discounted.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Trust RFU	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
29	Perdiswell Primary School	WR3 8QA	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches that are not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality as required to better sustain curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance
29	Perdiswell Primary School	WR3 8QA	Tennis	Education	The school aspires to develop its tennis provision to include covered courts, floodlights and a gate access system. It also wants to develop dedicated padel tennis courts. This development would be located across two sites Tudor Grange Academy and Perdiswell Primary School.	Assist the school, where possible, in its aspirations to develop its tennis provision ensuring it is available for curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	Education LTA	Local site	M	M	M	Enhance
30	Perrywood Primary and Nursery School	WR5 1PP	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches that are not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality as required to better sustain curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance
31	Pitchcroft	WR2 5LA	Football	Council	Three adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of which are standard quality and have spare capacity discounted due to being location on a flood zone. It could also accommodate a further two adult pitches and is accompanied by poor quality ancillary provision. Identified as a strategic site for football in both the LFFP and PPOSS.	Explore the feasibility of investing into the site, including both pitch and ancillary provision, in order to maximise utilisation. This would need to take into consideration the significant flooding issues.	Council WFA FF	Key centre	M	L	H	Enhance Protect Provide
33	RGS Springfield Worcester	WR1 3DL	Hockey	Education	One small size (35x18) which is not floodlit or available for community use.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education EH	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
34	Ronkswood Community Centre	WR5 1HX	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch with actual spare capacity of one match equivalent sessions. No onsite ancillary provision.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Utilise spare capacity.	Council WFA, FF	Local site	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>11</sup>	Cost <sup>12</sup>	Aim
34	Ronkswood Community Centre	WR5 1HX	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA which is floodlit.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance and look to refurbish when required.	Council	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
35	Royal Grammar School Worcester	WR1 1HP	Hockey	Education	One small size (36x30) which is not floodlit or available for community use.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education EH	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
35	Royal Grammar School Worcester	WR1 1HP	Tennis	Education	Four good quality macadam courts which are available for community use but are not floodlit.	Sustain court quality and retain as current use.	Education LTA	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
35	Royal Grammar School Worcester	WR1 1HP	Netball	Education	Four good quality macadam courts which are available for community use but are not floodlit.	Sustain court quality and retain as current use.	Education EN	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
36	Royal Grammar School Worcester (Flagge Meadow)	WR3 8XQ	Football	Education	One good quality adult pitch which has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain court quality and retain as current use.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
36	Royal Grammar School Worcester (Flagge Meadow)	WR3 8XQ	Cricket	Education	One good quality square with 14 grass wickets. Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the potential of securing access for Old Elizabethans CC and/or Old Vigornians CC.	Education ECB, WCB	Local site	M	L	L	Protect Provide
36	Royal Grammar School Worcester (Flagge Meadow)	WR3 8XQ	Rugby union	Education	One good quality (M2/D1) senior pitch which has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Education RFU	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
37	Royal Grammar School Worcester (St Oswalds)	WR1 1PB	Football	Education	Two good quality youth 11v11 pitches which have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
37	Royal Grammar School Worcester (St Oswalds)	WR1 1PB	Cricket	Education	One good quality square with six grass wickets. Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the potential of securing access for Old Elizabethans CC and/or Old Vigornians CC.	Education ECB, WCB	Local site	M	L	L	Protect Provide
37	Royal Grammar School Worcester (St Oswalds)	WR1 1PB	Rugby union	Education	Two good quality (M2/D1) senior pitches which have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Education RFU	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
38	Shap Drive	WR4 9YR	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch that has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Identified as a strategic site for football in both the LFFP and PPOSS.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Utilise spare capacity.	Council WFA, FF	Local site	M	S	L	Protect
40	St Barnabas CE Primary School	WR3 8NZ	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that is not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality as required to better sustain curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance
43	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	WR4 9PG	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that is not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality as required to better sustain curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance
45	Stanley Road Primary School	WR5 1BD	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that is not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality as required to better sustain curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance
47	The Kings School Worcester (STP)	WR3 8BF	Hockey	Education	One full size hockey suitable AGP which is floodlit and available for community use. Pitch is not marked out for hockey. Pitch is standard quality having been built in 2010.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure there is a sinking fund in place for its eventual refurbishment.	Education EH	Local site	M	M	M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>11</sup>	Cost <sup>12</sup>	Aim
48	Tudor Grange Academy Worcester	WR3 8HN	3G	Education	The school aspires to create a full size floodlit 3G pitch on the site.	Explore the feasibility for the site being suitable for full size 3G pitch development, only once feasibility options for this site and Nunnery Wood are progressed. The potential for this project should proceed where it is deemed necessary to retain the Nunnery Wood AGP as a hockey suitable surface.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	L	L	Provide
48	Tudor Grange Academy Worcester	WR3 8HN	Tennis	Education	Four standard quality courts which are available for community use but are not floodlit. The school aspires to develop its tennis provision to include covered courts, floodlights and a gate access system. It also wants to develop dedicated padel tennis courts. This development would be located across two sites Tudor Grange Academy and Perdiswell Primary School.	Assist the school, where possible, in its aspirations to develop its tennis provision ensuring it is available for curricular, extracurricular and community demand,	Education LTA	Local site	M	M	M	Enhance
49	Battenhall Playing Fields	WR5 2BT	Football	Private	Three good quality adult pitches that have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to formalise community use and provide users with secured access via a long term lease/licence agreement.	Private WFA FF	Local site	M	S - M	L	Protect
50	University of Worcester (Ewendine Playing Field)	WR5 2BP	Football	University	Two good quality mini 5v5 pitches which are played to capacity at peak time. The University is in a formal agreement with Nunnery Wood Colts FC however this does not provide security of tenure.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Examine the feasibility of securing tenure for Nunnery Wood Colts FC on the site.	University WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Protect
50	University of Worcester (Ewendine Playing Field)	WR5 2BP	Cricket	University	The University of Worcester reports that it no longer maintains a cricket square at Ewendine Playing Fields due to a lack of cricket demand at the University with the site currently being used for mini football by Nunnery Woods Colts FC. The square previously accommodated seven grass wickets and an NTP.		University ECB, WCB	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
52	Vine Cricket Club (Closed)	WR3 8SD	Cricket (Lapsed)	Unknown	The site used to be home to Vine Cricket Club, however, after the Club folded in 2011 it was used on an ad hoc basis as a secondary venue until it eventually stopped being used entirely circa 2016.	The disused square should be considered to be brought back into use or protected from development or replacement (unless adequately re-provided elsewhere in accordance with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy), as there is potential need for playing field land to accommodate more pitches to meet the identified shortfalls.	ECB WCB	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
57	Gheluvelt Park	WR3 7AE	Tennis	Council	Two good quality macadam courts that are available for community use but are not floodlit. Site is located on a flood zone. Site is used for LTA initiatives.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to maximise courts usage through LTA initiatives.	Council LTA	Local site	L	L	L	Protect



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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>11</sup>	Cost <sup>12</sup>	Aim
58	Northwick Worcestershire Tennis Club	WR3 7EF	Tennis	Sports club	Four macadam and three artificial club courts which are all floodlit and three grass courts which are not floodlit. All courts are good quality. Used by Worcester TC.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club LTA	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
59	Barbourne Bowling Club	WR3 7AR	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality green used by Barbourne BC. The Club is looking to improve its green and surrounding area to achieve County status.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance. Look to improve the quality of surrounding areas to meet County status.	Sports club BE	Local site	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
61	Horizon Community Centre	WR5 1DS	MUGA	Council	A standard quality macadam MUGA which is not floodlit.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance and look to refurbish when required.	Council	Local site	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
62	City Youth House	WR1 2AE	MUGA	Council	A poor quality macadam MUGA which is floodlit.	Explore the feasibility of refurbishment based on demand.	Council	Local site	L	M	L	Enhance
65	Fairfield Community Centre	WR4 9HG	MUGA	Council	A poor quality macadam MUGA which is not floodlit.	Explore the feasibility of refurbishment based on demand.	Council	Local site	L	M	L	Enhance
67	Merrimans Hill	WR3 8NZ	MUGA	Council	A poor quality macadam MUGA which is floodlit.	Explore the feasibility of refurbishment based on demand.	Council	Local site	L	M	L	Enhance
71	St Peters MUGA	WR5 3SW	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA which is floodlit.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance and look to refurbish when required.	Council	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
72	Warndon Community Centre	WR4 9NX	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA which is not floodlit.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance and look to refurbish when required.	Council	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
73	St Dunstons Bowling Club	WR5 2AF	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality green used by St Dunstons BC. It states that its ancillary facilities have improved vastly in the past year, although it is still looking to make improvements to the toilet facilities.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance. Assist the Club in improving ancillary provision.	Sports club BE	Local site	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
74	Worcester Bowling Club	WR1 1NY	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality green used by St Worcester BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
76	University of Worcester (The Moors Playing Field)	WR1 3ED	American football	University	One dedicated American football pitch accompanied by poor quality ancillary facilities which the University aspires to improve.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance. Assist the University, where possible, in improving ancillary provision.	University	Local site	L	M	M	Protect Enhance
77	Northside Youth Football Club	WR1 3JR	Football	County Council	Northside Youth Football Club site, which is owned by the County Council, is disused having previously accommodated one youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 pitch. The Club has folded. There is no current affiliated demand using the site although there were sets of portable goals visible in 2019 (based on satellite imagery).	The disused playing field should be protected from development or replacement (unless adequately re-provided elsewhere in accordance with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy), as there is potential need for playing field land to accommodate more pitches to meet the identified shortfalls.	County Council WFA FF	-	-	-	-	-

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>11</sup>	Cost <sup>12</sup>	Aim
80	University of Worcester (St Marys)	WR5 2BP	Football	Private	Two youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches all of which, are good quality and played to capacity at peak time. The site is accompanied by poor quality ancillary provision. The University of Worcester previously leased St Marys from a Housing Developer which came to an end in June 2021.	As a priority look to secure tenure for community users, such as Nunnery Wood Colts FC. If successful look at potential options to improve the quality of ancillary provision. Alternatively, the provision should be protected from development or replacement (unless adequately re-provided elsewhere in accordance with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy), as there is potential need for playing field land to accommodate more pitches to meet the identified shortfalls.	Private Council WFA FF University	Local site	H	S	L - M	Protect Enhance
82	Worcester Sixth Form College	WR5 2LT	Tennis	Education	Two standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use but are not floodlit.	Sustain court quality and retain as current use.	Education LTA	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
82	Worcester Sixth Form College	WR5 2LT	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use but are not floodlit.	Sustain court quality and retain as current use.	Education EN	Local site	L	L	L	Protect

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## WORCESTER CITY WEST ANALYSIS AREA

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Worcester City West	Adult	At capacity	At capacity
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 0.5
		Youth 9v9	At capacity	At capacity
		Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity	Shortfall of 1
	Worcester City	Adult	At capacity	Shortfall of 0.5
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1	Shortfall of 4.5
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 1.5	Shortfall of 3
		Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1	Shortfall of 4.5
Football (3G pitches)	Worcester City West	Full size, floodlit	At capacity	At capacity
Cricket	Worcester City West	Saturday	At capacity	Shortfall of 10
		Sunday	At capacity	Shortfall of 8
		Midweek	At capacity	Shortfall of 8
	Worcester City	Saturday	At capacity	Shortfall of 10
		Sunday	At capacity	Shortfall of 8
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 12	At capacity
Rugby union	Worcester City West	Senior	At capacity	At capacity
	Worcester City	Senior	At capacity	At capacity
Hockey (sand AGPs)	Worcester City	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient	Sufficient but a requirement in the short term to monitor capacity
Tennis	Worcester City	Courts	Sufficient	Sufficient
Netball	Worcester City	Courts	Sufficient	Sufficient
Bowls	Worcester City	Greens	Sufficient	Sufficient
Athletics	Worcester City	-	Sufficient provision however quality issues	Sufficient provision however quality issues
Other Sports	Worcester City	-	Sufficient	Sufficient

<sup>[1]</sup> MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>13</sup>	Cost <sup>14</sup>	Aim
6	Cinderella Sports Ground	WR2 4EU	Cricket	Education	A standard quality grass cricket square with 10 wickets. Spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure. The usage of the provision is imported demand by Rushwick CC and Worcester Nomads CC from Malvern Hills.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. If imported demand returns back to Malvern Hills look to utilise spare capacity for Worcester City demand.	Education Sports club ECB WCB	Local site	M	M	L	Protect
10	Dines Green Community Primary School	WR2 5QH	Football	Education	Two mini 5v5 pitches that are not available for community use and are poor quality.	Improve pitch quality as required to better sustain curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance
10	Dines Green Community Primary School	WR2 5QH	Cricket	Education	A standalone NTP.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education ECB WCB	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
16	New Road (Worcestershire County Ground)	WR2 4QQ	Cricket	Sports club	A good quality grass cricket square that is used by Worcestershire CCC.	No action required.	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Oldbury Park Primary RSA Academy	WR2 6AA	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch that is not available for community use and is poor quality.	Improve pitch quality as required to better sustain curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance
41	St Clements CE Primary School	WR2 5NS	Football	Education	One youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitch both of which are poor quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Spare capacity on the mini 7v7 pitch is discounted due to unsecure tenure. Pitches used by St John Colts FC.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance to better withstand curricular, extracurricular and community demand. Look to secure tenure for community users via a community use agreement.	Education WFA FF	Local site	M	S	L	Enhance
42	St John's Sports Centre	WR2 4LE	3G	Trust	Two small size (36x25m) floodlit 3G pitches which are available for community use.	Sustain quality and retain as current use. Ensure there is a sinking fund in place for eventual refurbishment.	Trust WFA FF	Local site	L	L	M	Protect
46	The Kings School Worcester (Grass Pitches)	WR2 4AD	Football	Education	Five adult and three mini 7v7 pitches all of which are standard quality and have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure. Pitches are located on a flood zone.	Sustain quality as appropriate taking into consideration the pitches are located on a flood zone.	Education WFA FF	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
46	The Kings School Worcester (Grass Pitches)	WR2 4AD	Cricket	Education	Two good quality squares one with 14 wickets and one with six wickets. There is also a standalone NTP and a NTP attached to one of the squares. Provision is considered to be played to capacity due to be located on a flood zone. Used by Old Vigorians CC.	Explore improving access and quality of the squares to better sustain curricular, extracurricular and community demand. Any enhancements need to take into consideration the provision is located on a flood zone. Examine the feasibility of securing community access through a formal community use agreement.	Education ECB WCB	Local site	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
46	The Kings School Worcester (Grass Pitches)	WR2 4AD	Rugby union	Education	Five standard quality (M2/D0) senior pitches which have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. Pitches are located on a flood zone.	Sustain quality as appropriate taking into consideration the pitches are located on a flood zone.	Education RFU	Local site	L	L	L	Protect

<sup>13</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>14</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>13</sup>	Cost <sup>14</sup>	Aim
51	University of Worcester (St Johns Campus)	WR2 6AJ	3G	University	One full size floodlit 3G pitch which is FA certified. Pitch is standard quality having been built in 2010. It should be noted that the University of Worcester reports that if it is successful in refurbishing its hockey suitable AGP to a 3G surface it will need to upgrade its ancillary provision at St Johns Campus in order to accommodate additional demand.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance. Ensure there is a sinking fund in place for its eventual refurbishment. If the AGP is converted to 3G enhance the onsite ancillary provision to accommodate additional demand.	University WFA FF	Local site	H	S - M	M - H	Protect Enhance
51	University of Worcester (St Johns Campus)	WR2 6AJ	Hockey	University	One full size floodlit hockey suitable AGP. Consultation with the University indicates this is due to qualitative issues and it is no longer available for wider community access despite some utilisation by University teams. The University aspires to convert its poor quality hockey suitable AGP to a 3G pitch, however, needs to wait until the WIHC comes online before it can move forward on the project.	Ensure University hockey teams have secured access to the WIHC for current and future demand. Once the WIHC has come online progress with the conversion of the AGP to 3G ensuring community use is secured for clubs such as Nunnery Wood Colts FC.	University EH	Local site	H	S - M	M - H	Protect Enhance
53	Christopher Whitehead Language College (Unattached Playing Field)	WR2 4BH	Football	Education	One adult and one mini 7v7 pitch both of which are standard quality. Spare capacity discounted due to being located on a flood zone.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education FF WFA	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
53	Christopher Whitehead Language College (Unattached Playing Field)	WR2 4BH	Cricket	Education	One standalone NTP and a disused four wicket grass square.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education ECB WCB	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
53	Christopher Whitehead Language College (Unattached Playing Field)	WR2 4BH	Rugby league	Education	Worcester Jaguars RLFC has an eight-year development plan which includes both improving levels of supply and demand for rugby league across South Worcestershire. The Club reports over the previous three years it has created a player pathway from mini and youth through to its academy and senior teams. It has managed to accomplish this via its partnership with Christopher Whitehead Language College (Worcester City) and has ambitions to expand its school development to the primary school network in the City. Its eventual aim is to establish itself as a professional club which can provide accessible sporting opportunities for the wider community of Worcester.	Explore the feasibility of the project on the site. If not, feasibility look to assist the Club in finding a suitable location to develop its own provision. If deemed feasible ensure that any development meets Sport England Playing Field Policy and NPPF guidelines.	Education RFL	Local site	M	L	L	Provide
55	Worcester Golf and Country Club	WR2 4EZ	Tennis	Sports club	Four floodlit macadam and three grass courts which are not floodlit all of which are good quality. Provision is owned by Broughton Park TC. The Club aspires to improve ancillary provision.	Sustain court quality with appropriate maintenance. Assist the Club in improving ancillary provision.	Sports club LTA	Local site	L	L	L - M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>13</sup>	Cost <sup>14</sup>	Aim
56	Cripplegate Park	WR2 5BA	Tennis	Council	Five good quality macadam courts that are available for community use but are floodlit. Site is located on a flood zone. Site is used for LTA initiatives.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to maximise courts usage through LTA initiatives.	Council LTA	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
60	Christopher Whitehead Secondary	WR2 4AF	Tennis	Education	Four standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use but are not floodlit.	Sustain court quality and retain as current use.	Education LTA	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
60	Christopher Whitehead Secondary	WR2 4AF	Netball	Education	Three standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use but are not floodlit.	Sustain court quality and retain as current use.	Education EN	Local site	L	L	L	Protect
64	Dines Green Community Centre	WR2 5QS	MUGA	Council	A poor quality macadam MUGA which is not floodlit.	Explore the feasibility of refurbishment based on levels of demand.	Council	Local site	L	M	L	Enhance
79	Comer Road (County Council)	WR2 5NY	Football	County Council	One youth 11v11 pitch which has spare capacity discounted due to its poor quality.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	County Council WFA, FF	Local site	L	S	L	Enhance

### PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sports based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2041 (in line with the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review period). This future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required.

The Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converts the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required. This is achieved via team generation rates (TGRs) in the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth and gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision.

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

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

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

It should be noted that rugby league is included within the PPC, however, as there is no rugby league demand across South Worcestershire this will not be included in the scenarios below as it will not produce any relevant findings.

The indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.3 per dwelling. This figure is based upon the average household sizes from the 2011 census for Malvern Hills, Wychavon and Worcester City. The indicative figures will be applied to the scenario as follows:

- ◀ **Scenario One** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 2,000 dwellings by Strategic Site Development (Throckmorton). This site is located within the local authority of Wychavon.
- ◀ **Scenario Two** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 5,000 dwellings by Strategic Site Development (Worcestershire Parkway). This site is located within the local authority of Wychavon.
- ◀ **Scenario Three** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 1,000 dwellings by Strategic Site Development (Rushwick). This site is located within the local authority of Malvern Hills.
- ◀ **Scenario Four A** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 500 dwellings by Strategic Site Development (Mitton). This site is located within Wychavon, however, caters for housing need for both Wychavon and the neighbouring authority of Tewkesbury. The 500 dwellings in this scenario is the amount of housing required to meet Wychavon's need.

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- ◀ **Scenario Four B** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 1,000 dwellings by Strategic Site Development (Mitton). This site is located within Wychavon, however, caters for housing need for both Wychavon and the neighbouring authority of Tewkesbury. The 1,000 dwellings in this scenario is the amount of housing required to meet the need for both authorities (500 for Wychavon and 500 from Tewkesbury).
- ◀ **Scenario Five** - Accumulative demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from total anticipated housing growth across South Worcestershire

Please note that scenarios take into consideration training demand for the individual sports which will give an exact requirement for provision required by housing growth.

Although the demand data for each sport is based on information utilised within the draft assessment reports, it is yet to be verified by the relevant NGB. However, the demand data is considered robust enough to run the below scenarios as it has mainly been provided through NGB affiliation data and any resultant changes in demand are highly unlikely to have a significant impact on the figures.

The number of pitches required in the following tables has been rounded up or down accordingly, however, capital and revenue costs are based on indicative pitch costs, proportionate to the total match equivalent sessions required rather than just whole pitches required. Where demand is not sufficient to warrant the creation of new pitches, the associated costs are still included and investment into existing sites should be considered to increase capacity to accommodate new demand.

It should be noted that the figures referenced for changing rooms are based upon information from Sport England's Facility Cost Guidance<sup>15</sup> which is based upon costings for two changing rooms and one official's room. Although the costs are based on specifically on the aforementioned it should be noted that any gathered developer contributions do not have to be limited to changing rooms, however, can be spent on wider ancillary provision such as multi-functional rooms / kitchens etc.

Additionally, the below scenarios/recommendations are based upon the PPC which only takes into consideration the five pitch sports of football (grass and 3G), cricket, rugby league, rugby union and hockey (AGPs). It does not take into consideration the requirement of other sports facilities mentioned within the document such as Athletics, Tennis, Netball, Bowls, MUGAs. Nor does it consider the requirement for open space/recreational playing fields areas. Therefore, master planning for these elements within housing developments will need to take place outside of PPOSS, however, this document can help guide these discussions.

### **Scenario One – Throckmorton (Wychavon)**

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2,000 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 4,600 people.

This population increase equates to 4.51 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.24 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 38.05 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 7.23 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.84 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 1.01 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

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<sup>15</sup><https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/facility-cost-guidance>



## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 7.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 2,000 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 2,000 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>16</sup>	Training demand <sup>17</sup>
Adult football	1.09	7.23 hours
Youth football	1.58	
Mini soccer	0.95	
Rugby union	0.86	0.98 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.03	0.03 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.24	0.73 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.0	0.11 hours
Cricket	38.05	-

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

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>18</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>19</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	1.09	£104,265	£22,000	2.17	£359,715
Youth football	1.58	£121,597	£25,535	1.95	£322,898
Mini soccer	0.95	£22,732	£4,774	0	£0
Rugby union	0.86	£115,791	£24,779	1.72	£285,341
Rugby league	0.03	£3,859	£853	0.07	£11,577
Cricket	0.84	£238,062	£48,089	1.68	£278,412
Sand based AGPs	0.06	£48,349	£1,499	0.12	£20,097
3G	0.19	£181,818	£7,008	0.38	£63,042
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>£836,473</b>	<b>£134,537</b>	<b>8.09</b>	<b>£1,341,082</b>

### Key recommendations - Throckmorton

Population growth due to the housing development at Throckmorton indicates there is a need for 5.6 pitches to be provided. Using this information, and with evidence from the PPOSS documents there is an identified need to provide onsite provision at this location.

It should be noted that the exact facility mix of any potential provision should not be limited to football but be dependent on the specific supply and demand requirements at the time of site development and checked against the findings of an up to date PPOSS. In addition, any future onsite sports provision should explore the feasibility of providing multi sports and not just be specific to one sport, as well as providing appropriate accompanying ancillary provision.

With the above being said, there are current shortfalls on youth 9v9, full size 3G pitches, cricket squares and rugby union provision. When factoring in future demand shortfalls become evident on youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitches.

<sup>16</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>17</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>18</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>19</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Although the scenario is based on 2,000 dwellings there is a potential to increase the future size of the development moving forward to 5,000 dwellings (an additional 3,000) post 2041. The 5,000 dwellings would generate a need for a new secondary school and three primary schools. Depending on phasing, it is recommended that additional new provision is provided linked to the education sites, primarily the secondary school, to meet curricular, extracurricular and external community demand. If provision is to be established at these educational sites, there would need a be a community use agreement to form part of the planning conditions.

Furthermore, consideration needs to be given to the locality of flood zones on or nearby the development. In the first instance if new provision is provided onsite it needs to be located in a suitable location in order to minimise the potential impact of flooding. Secondly, if monies are spent on improving existing provision within the locality it should be directed at assisting sites that are readily affected by flooding including but not limited to site in Pershore, Fladbury and Evesham.

### **Scenario Two – Worcestershire Parkway**

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 5,000 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 11,500 people.

This population increase equates to 11.29 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.61 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 95.13 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 18.08 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 2.1 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 2.54 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

*Table 7.3: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 5,000 dwellings*

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 5,000 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>20</sup>	Training demand <sup>21</sup>
Adult football	2.71	18.08 hours
Youth football	3.96	
Mini soccer	2.37	
Rugby union	2.15	2.45 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.09	0.09 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.61	1.82 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.28 hours
Cricket	95.13	-

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

<sup>20</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>21</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 7.4: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>22</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>23</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	2.72	£260,655	£54,998	5.43	£899,258
Youth football	3.96	£304,002	£63,840	4.87	£807,252
Mini soccer	2.37	£56,832	£11,935	0	£0
Rugby union	2.15	£289,478	£61,948	4.31	£713,357
Rugby league	0.09	£9,647	£2,132	0.17	£28,942
Cricket	2.1	£595,148	£120,220	4.2	£696,020
Sand based AGPs	0.15	£120,872	£3,747	0.3	£50,242
3G	0.48	£454,550	£17,519	0.95	£157,608
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.02</b>	<b>£2,091,184</b>	<b>£336,339</b>	<b>20.23</b>	<b>£3,352,679</b>

### Key recommendations - Worcestershire Parkway

Population growth due to the housing development at the Worcestershire Parkway indicates there is a need for 14 pitches. Using this information, and in line with evidence from both PPOSS documents there is an identified need to provide onsite provision at this location.

It should be noted that the above scenario is run off demand based within Wychavon as this is where the proposed development is geographically located. However, the Worcestershire Parkway development will also help to meet some of the housing need arising from neighbouring authority Worcester City. Therefore, this would further compound the need to create new provision as the site is likely to have sporting demand from both Worcester City and Wychavon.

Similar to Throckmorton, the proposed development at Worcestershire Parkway is of such a size that there is a need for additional infrastructure to support the housing demand. To 2041, this includes the need for a secondary school and four primary schools. A further 5,000 dwellings could also be delivered post 2041. If these additional dwellings are built out the overall pitch requirements could approximately double to an overall 28 pitches (however a new supply and demand analysis of playing provision would be required to get an accurate idea of the need for new provision). It is recommended that new community provision is built to accompany this site in order to maximise sustainability through usage (education and community) and efficiencies for provision of ancillary facilities.

With the above being said, there are current shortfalls on youth 9v9, full size 3G pitches, cricket squares and rugby union provision. When factoring in future demand shortfalls become evident on youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitches.

It should be noted that the exact facility mix of any potential provision should not be limited to football but be dependent on the specific supply and demand requirements at the time of site development and checked against the findings of the PPOSS. In addition, any future onsite sports provision should explore the feasibility of providing multi sports and not just be specific to one sport, as well as providing appropriate accompanying ancillary provision.

<sup>22</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>23</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Three – Rushwick

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 1,000 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 2,300 people.

This population increase equates to 1.69 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.04 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 17.39 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 2.89 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.25 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.29 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.5: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,000 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 1,000 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>24</sup>	Training demand <sup>25</sup>
Adult football	0.3	2.89 hours
Youth football	0.69	
Mini soccer	0.46	
Rugby union	0.24	0.29 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	-
Adult hockey	0.04	0.13 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.12 hours
Cricket	17.39	-

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

Table 7.6: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>26</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>27</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.3	£28,848	£6,087	0.6	£99,527
Youth football	0.69	£52,676	£11,062	0.86	£141,976
Mini soccer	0.46	£10,997	£2,309	0	£0
Rugby union	0.24	£32,676	£6,993	0.49	£80,524
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.38	£108,786	£21,975	0.77	£127,225
Sand based AGPs	0.02	£16,237	£503	0.04	£6,749
3G	0.08	£72,625	£2,799	0.15	£25,181
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.17</b>	<b>£322,845</b>	<b>£51,728</b>	<b>2.91</b>	<b>£481,182</b>

<sup>24</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>25</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>26</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>27</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### *Key recommendations - Rushwick*

Population growth due to the housing development at the Rushwick indicates there is a need for two pitches. It should be noted that this demand is accumulated across the various pitch sports with no sports requiring a full pitch. Therefore, monies from the development should, primarily, be allocated to improving existing provision within the locality and the PPOSS Action Plan should be used to further help determine where capacity improvements can be made.

With the above being said, there are current shortfalls on youth 9v9, full size 3G pitches, cricket squares and rugby union provision. When factoring in future demand shortfalls become evident on youth 11v11 pitches.

If there is scope to create new provision, either on, or adjacent to the current site to alleviate overplay, or to create additional capacity for future, latent or exported demand, this should also be explored as well as providing appropriate accompanying ancillary provision.

It should be noted that an emerging concept plan is proposing a second cricket square for Rushwick CC, new/replacement football pitches and associated ancillary provision, which is in cohesion with the above recommendations.

### **Scenario Four A – Mitton (Wychavon Housing Need)**

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 500 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 1,150 people.

This population increase equates to 1.14 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.06 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 9.51 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 1.81 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.21 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.25 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

*Table 7.7: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 500 dwellings*

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 500 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>28</sup>	Training demand <sup>29</sup>
Adult football	0.27	1.81 hours
Youth football	0.4	
Mini soccer	0.24	
Rugby union	0.22	0.24 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.01	0.01 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.06	0.18 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.03 hours
Cricket	9.51	-

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

<sup>28</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>29</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 7.8: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>30</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>31</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.27	£26,067	£5,500	0.54	£89,931
Youth football	0.4	£30,400	£6,384	0.49	£80,739
Mini soccer	0.24	£5,684	£1,194	0	£0
Rugby union	0.22	£28,947	£6,195	0.43	£71,334
Rugby league	0.01	£965	£213	0.02	£2,894
Cricket	0.21	£59,515	£12,022	0.42	£69,602
Sand based AGPs	0.02	£12,087	£375	0.03	£5,024
3G	0.05	£45,457	£1,752	0.1	£15,761
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.42</b>	<b>£209,122</b>	<b>£33,635</b>	<b>2.03</b>	<b>£335,285</b>

### Scenario Four B – Mitton (Wychavon & Tewkesbury Housing Need)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 1,000 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 2,300 people.

This population increase equates to 2.25 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.12 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 19.03 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 3.62 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.42 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.51 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.9: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,000 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 1,000 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>32</sup>	Training demand <sup>33</sup>
Adult football	0.54	3.62 hours
Youth football	0.79	
Mini soccer	0.47	
Rugby union	0.43	0.49 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.02	0.02 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.12	0.36 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.06 hours
Cricket	19.03	-

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

<sup>30</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>31</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

<sup>32</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>33</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 7.10: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>34</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>35</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.54	£52,130	£10,999	1.09	£179,848
Youth football	0.79	£60,808	£12,770	0.97	£161,457
Mini soccer	0.47	£11,367	£2,387	0	£0
Rugby union	0.43	£57,898	£12,390	0.86	£142,678
Rugby league	0.02	£1,929	£426	0.03	£5,788
Cricket	0.42	£119,031	£24,044	0.84	£139,206
Sand based AGPs	0.03	£24,174	£749	0.06	£10,048
3G	0.1	£90,916	£3,504	0.19	£31,524
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>£418,253</b>	<b>£67,269</b>	<b>4.04</b>	<b>£670,549</b>

### Key recommendations – Land at Mitton

Although this scenario is split into two, one for just housing need from Wychavon and one for housing need from both Wychavon and Tewkesbury, it is suggested that only the figures used in scenario Four B are utilised. This is due to all 1,000 houses being geographically located within Wychavon, even though they are partly meeting the housing demand from Tewkesbury. Therefore, the entire increase in population, not just demand generated from the 500 dwellings proposed in the SWDP Review, is highly likely to utilise provision within Wychavon.

With the above being said, there are current shortfalls on youth 9v9, full size 3G pitches, cricket squares and rugby union provision. When factoring in future demand shortfalls become evident on youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitches.

Population growth due to the housing development at Mitton indicates a need for 2.8 pitches. Due to the minimal amount of anticipated new pitch provision indicated in the tables above it is recommended that potential monies from the development should be allocated to increasing capacity at existing provision within the locality. For Wychavon, focus should be on those sites in the immediate vicinity of the development such as those in Bredon, Beckford and Overbury. The PPOSS Action Plan should be used to further help determine where capacity improvements can be made.

It should be noted that both Sport England and Wychavon Council agree that off site contributions are the preferred option, however, a developer is currently promoting dual use of the proposed primary school playing field as contributions which Sport England has objected against. This being said if demand is to be met on site the pitches provided should be suitable for a broader age range not just suitable for mini/youth football.

<sup>34</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>35</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

**WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

**Scenario Five - Accumulative demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from total anticipated housing growth across South Worcestershire**

The estimated additional population from housing growth from all the scenarios is 19,687 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household this equates to 45,280 people. This equates to 7,652 dwellings in Malvern Hills (17,600 people), 1,336 dwellings in Worcester City (3,073 people) and 10,699<sup>36</sup> dwellings in Wychavon (24,607 people). It should be noted that this does not include the estimated windfall sites from the SWDP Review which amount to approximately 1,900 dwellings as these cannot be accurately attributed to each local authority at this stage.

This population increase equates to 39.28 (12.89 Malvern Hills, 2.24 Worcester City and 24.15 Wychavon) match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, two match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey (0.33 Malvern Hills, 0.38 Worcester City and 1.29 Wychavon) and 343.31 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket (133.08 Malvern Hills, 6.68 Worcester City and 203.55 Wychavon).

Training demand equates to 65.28 hours (22.11 Malvern Hills, 4.48 Worcester City and 38.69 Wychavon) of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 7.3 hours of use per week on AGPs (1.93 Malvern Hills, 0.87 Worcester City and 4.5 Wychavon). There are also 7.61 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch (2.18 Malvern Hills and 5.43 Wychavon).

Table 7.11: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from all housing demand across South Worcestershire

Pitch sport	Malvern Hills		Worcester City		Wychavon		South Worcestershire	
	Match demand (MES) per week	Training demand	Match demand (MES) per week	Training demand	Match demand (MES) per week	Training demand	Match demand (MES) per week	Training demand
Adult football	2.3	22.11 hours	0.71	4.48 hours	5.81	38.69 hours	8.82	65.28 hours
Youth football	5.24		0.93		8.47		14.64	
Mini soccer	3.5		0.6		5.08		9.18	
Rugby union	1.85	2.18 MES	0	0	4.6	5.24 MES	6.45	7.42 MES
Rugby league	0	0	0	0	0.19	0.19 MES	0.19	0.19 MES
Adult hockey	0.33	0.99 hours	0.23	0.68 hours	1.29	3.9 hours	1.85	5.57 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.94 hours	0.15	0.19 hours	0	0.6 hours	0.15	1.73 hours
Cricket	133.08	-	6.68	-	203.55	-	343.31	-

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

Table 7.12: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision from all housing demand across South Worcestershire

Pitch type	Malvern Hills					Worcester City					Wychavon <sup>37</sup>					South Worcestershire				
	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms		Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms		Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms		Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>38</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>39</sup>	No.	Capital cost	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	No.	Capital cost	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	No.	Capital cost	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	No.	Capital cost
Adult football	2.3	£220,749	£46,578	4.59	£761,591	0.71	£67,846	£14,316	1.41	£234,069	5.81	£557,739	£117,682	11.61	£1,924,194	8.82	£846,334	£178,576	17.61	£2,919,854
Youth football	5.24	£403,049	£84,641	6.55	£1,086,354	0.93	£71,585	£15,033	1.17	£194,196	8.47	£650,474	£136,599	10.43	£1,727,326	14.64	£1,125,108	£236,273	18.15	£3,007,876
Mini soccer	3.5	£84,158	£17,673	0	£0	0.6	£14,433	£3,031	0	£0	5.08	£121,604	£25,538	0	£0	9.18	£220,195	£46,242	0	£0
Rugby union	1.85	£250,034	£53,508	3.73	£616,158	0	£0	£0	0	£0	4.6	£619,407	£132,554	9.22	£1,526,395	6.45	£869,441	£186,062	12.95	£2,142,553
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0	0	£0	£0	0	£0	0.19	£20,642	£4,563	0.36	£61,928	0.19	£20,642	£4,563	0.36	£61,928
Cricket	2.95	£832,421	£168,150	5.88	£973,509	0.14	£40,453	£8,172	0.29	£47,309	4.5	£1,273,461	£257,240	8.99	£1,489,303	7.59	£2,146,335	£433,562	15.16	£2,510,121
Sand based AGPs	0.15	£124,246	£3,851	0.31	£51,644	0.06	£47,629	£1,476	0.12	£19,798	0.33	£258,636	£8,018	0.65	£107,506	0.54	£430,511	£13,345	1.08	£178,948
3G	0.58	£555,730	£21,420	1.18	£192,690	0.12	£112,623	£4,341	0.24	£39,050	1.02	£972,613	£37,487	2.05	£337,237	1.72	£1,640,966	£63,248	3.47	£568,977
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.57</b>	<b>£2,470,387</b>	<b>£395,821</b>	<b>22.24</b>	<b>£3,681,946</b>	<b>2.56</b>	<b>£354,569</b>	<b>£46,369</b>	<b>3.23</b>	<b>£534,422</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>£4,475,576</b>	<b>£719,681</b>	<b>43.31</b>	<b>£7,173,889</b>	<b>49.13</b>	<b>£7,229,532</b>	<b>£1,161,871</b>	<b>68.78</b>	<b>£11,390,257</b>

<sup>36</sup> The total amount of dwellings for Wychavon includes the 500 to cater for the Land at Mitton Development rather than the total of 1,000 as the remaining 500 houses are to meet the need of Tewkesbury.

<sup>37</sup> The total amount of dwellings for Wychavon includes the 500 to cater for the Land at Mitton Development rather than the total of 1,000 as the remaining 500 houses are to meet the need of Tewkesbury.

<sup>38</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>39</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)



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### **Conclusion**

The tables above show that through housing growth, demand will be generated for each pitch sport to a lesser or greater extent. That being said, it must be noted that not all developments will require new on site provision, with the capacity of existing sites in the locality needing to be assessed to understand if they can accommodate increased usage.

Experience shows that only significantly large housing sites are likely to generate demand in their own right; however, the cumulative impact of housing across South Worcestershire will result in substantial demand generated across each local authority in each analysis area.

For developments not requiring on site provision, contributions should be focused on improving existing sites.

### *Creation of new provision*

Even though developer contributions generated can go towards improving current sites or reintroducing unused and lapsed sites back into use, in order for them to accommodate additional demand there is still a clear requirement to create new provision. This is mainly to accommodate the future demand from the significant population from housing growth specifically from the proposed strategic sites of Throckmorton, Worcestershire Parkway, and Rushwick, and the reallocation sites at Worcester West Urban Extension and Worcester South Urban Extension.

Further to this there is a need to create new provision to cater for current shortfalls as identified within the assessment reports. Such provision is outlined below:

- ◀ **Malvern Hills** – Football pitches, Full size floodlit 3G pitches and additional cricket provision.
- ◀ **Worcester City** – Full size floodlit 3G pitches, potentially rugby league and additional cricket provision.
- ◀ **Wychavon** – Football pitches, Full size floodlit 3G pitches and additional cricket provision.

Although the PPC focuses on pitch sports it should be noted that there may be a future requirement to create new non pitch sports provision such as tennis, netball, other sports and MUGAs.

Unless stated, the location of new provision is still undetermined at this time and would require further feasibility as part of the Stage E process with dialogue between the relevant stakeholders i.e. the Council, NGBs and Sport England.

Wider feasibility studies should be explored across South Worcestershire before the creation of any new provision as it could potentially have a direct impact of the sustainability of other provision.

### *Strategic Hub sites*

Taking the above into consideration, the information below identifies the strategic options for sporting provision and securing S106 monies for each of the strategic housing sites based on the findings from the PPOSS.

- ◀ **Throckmorton** – focus should be on creating new cricket and football provision to assist in addressing overplay and flooding issues. Further dialogue is required with Sport England, RFU and ECB/WCB to identify the best suitable locations and a club which could benefit from the new provision.

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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- ◀ There is scope to alleviate identified 3G shortfalls at the proposed secondary schools within the development, however, this is dependent on the levels of supply and demand at the time of construction and would require further consultation with the wider Steering Group.
- ◀ **Worcestershire Parkway** – similar to Throckmorton there is scope to alleviate identified 3G shortfalls at the proposed secondary school/leisure centre within the development, however, this is dependent on the levels of supply and demand at the time of construction and would require further consultation with the wider Steering Group.
- ◀ Focus should also be on proving youth football, cricket and rugby union pitches. Further dialogue would be required with Sport England, RFU, FF, WFA and ECB/WCB to identify the best suitable locations and suitable club which could benefit from new provision.
- ◀ **Rushwick** - there is scope to create new provision, at/adjacent or in close proximity to current sites to alleviate overplay, or to create additional capacity for future, latent and/or exported demand. New cricket provision would help to address shortfalls.
- ◀ **Land at Mitton** - focus should be placed on those sites in the immediate vicinity of the development such as those in Bredon, Beckford and Overbury and improve their quantity/quality, where feasible.

The PPOSS identifies the current and future shortfalls of provision, however, additional feasibility work is required with relevant stakeholders to create detailed site layouts for provision to be established at the four key strategic location sites. Furthermore, the sports facilities to be provided may change based depending on when the strategic sites are constructed.

Furthermore, it is suggested that at multi pitch sites on major developments, consideration should be given to forming community partnerships to work alongside a secondary schools/community organisations if the provision is to be located on school sites to ensure the longevity of provision quality and ensure it is managed and operated appropriately.

### *New educational provision*

It should be noted that the abovementioned recommendations need to take into consideration the development of new educational provision within the four major strategic growth areas across South Worcestershire. The SWDPR identifies that there will be a requirement for one secondary school and two primary schools in Throckmorton (Scenario One), one secondary school and four primary schools within Worcestershire Parkway (Scenario Two) and one primary school within Rushwick (Scenario Three) (data correct as of September 2020).

As the exact dates for the creation of the strategic sites are currently unknown it is not possible within this document to provide a detailed analysis on what sporting provision should be established within each of the secondary school sites. However, co-location of sporting provision attached to the secondary school sites should be a key consideration. Keeping the PPOSS up to date in line with Sport England Guidance will provide future evidence for this.

Schools, in particular the secondary schools, often provide suitable land for the creation of new playing field which can assist in alleviating shortfalls identified in the vicinity. When establishing new school sites, suitable community use access (including community use agreements and accessible ancillary provision etc) should be built into masterplans. These community use agreements must be robust with clear commitments to maintenance standards.

Although exact provision cannot be detailed at this stage, artificial provision (3G pitches/hockey suitable AGPs) at secondary schools are generally considered sustainable given they provide suitable provision for curricular, extracurricular and community demand throughout the week.

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### *Improving current provision*

The PPC indicates that all scenarios have enough growth in new population across the lifespan of the Local Plan to warrant new provision. Although there is some need to create new provision, developer contributions can be utilised to improve existing facilities, so they have the capacity to accommodate increased levels of demand from new populations.

All remaining scenarios should look at the potential option of pooling funds to improve existing facilities. The table below identifies potential sites where developer contributions could be secured to alleviate current and future shortfalls through qualitative improvements. The detailed actions required can be found in Part 6 Action Plan.

It should be noted that further work is required as part of the Stage E process to fully identify key sites for investment as supply and demand may change on an annual basis.

*Table 7.13: Key site recommendations for investment*

Authority	Analysis area	Site ID	Site name
Malvern Hills	Central	45	Ralph's Field
	Malvern	29	Lower Howsell Road Playing Fields
	Malvern	33	Malvern Rugby Football Club
	Malvern	47	Sling Lane Playing Fields
	Upton and the South	48	Spitalfield Recreation Ground
	Upton and the South	62	Upton-upon-Severn RFC
	Tenbury and the North	19	Hallow Playing Field
	Tenbury and the North	26	Knighton-on-Teme Cricket Ground
	Tenbury and the North	39	Palmers Meadow
	Tenbury and the North	58	The Jewry Field
Worcester City	East	1	Archdale 73
	East	2	Bilford Road Corner
	East	22	Nunnery Wood Sports Complex
	East	28	Perdiswell Leisure Centre
	East	31	Pitchcroft
	West	6	Cinderella Sports Ground
Wychavon	Droitwich	20	Chawson Valley
	Droitwich	28	Glyn Mitchell Memorial Ground
	Droitwich	30	Droitwich Spa Leisure Centre
	Droitwich	76	St Peter's Playing Field
	Droitwich	83	Cutnall Green Tennis & Cricket Club
	Droitwich	122	Worcester Rugby Club
	Evesham	3	Ashton-Under-Hill Playing Field
	Evesham	35	Evesham Sports Club
	Evesham	44	Honeybourne Sports & Recreation Field
	Evesham	49	Milestone Ground (Broadway FC)
	Evesham	54	Offenham Recreation Ground
	Evesham	62	Prince Henry's High School
	Evesham	78	The De Montfort School
	Pershore	12	Bredon Playing Field
	Pershore	27	Drakes Broughton Playing Field
	Pershore	32	Eckington Recreation Centre
	Pershore	46	King George V Playing Fields (Pershore)
	Pershore	57	Peopleton Playing Fields
	Pershore	59	Pershore & District Sports Club

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Authority	Analysis area	Site ID	Site name
	Pershore	65	Sands Road
	Pershore	69	Spetchley Park
	Pershore	121	Pershore Rugby Club

As mentioned, the PPC only identifies pitch sports and there is also a requirement to improve facilities for non-pitch sports such as tennis, netball, bowls, athletics and MUGAs. Therefore, securing developer contributions to deliver improvements/new provision should be guided by the site by site Action Plan and in consultation with the relevant NGB.

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

#### ***Delivery***

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

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

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

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

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

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

It is important that as part of the Stage E process there is need for regular annual monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. This is particularly pertinent due to the ongoing COVID19 Pandemic (2020/21) which is expected to continue to have a direct impact on participation and funding streams across all sports.

In the case of the Worcester City PPOSS, it is advised the documents are reviewed within 12 months of adoption by the Council to further understand the impact of COVID 19 on the demand for outdoor sports. Depending on the outcomes of the PPOSS review, there may be a need to carry out alterations to the strategic recommendations within this document or add new recommendations.

As mentioned in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios, it is also suggested that any usage of Playing Pitch Calculator should be carried out as part of a Stage E review and updated following consultation with the NGBs in relation to adjusting future demand from participation.

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This should be led by the Council and supported by all members of, and reported back to, the Steering Group. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPOSS has been applied should be a key component of monitoring its delivery and be an on-going role of the steering group.

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

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

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

- ◀ How delivery of the recommendations and action plan has progressed and any changes required to the priority afforded to each action (e.g. the priority of some may increase or reduce following the delivery of others).
- ◀ How the PPOSS has been applied and the lessons learnt.
- ◀ Any changes to particularly important sites and/or clubs in the area (e.g. the most used or high quality sites for a particular sport) and other supply and demand information, what this may mean for the overall assessment work and the key findings and issues.
- ◀ Any development of a specific sport or particular format of a sport.
- ◀ Any new or emerging issues and opportunities.
- ◀ Impact of COVID 19.

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

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

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

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

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

The Steering Group should also regularly review and refresh the Action Plan, taking account of any changes in pitch quality (and hence changes in pitch capacity) and demand as well as new provision that has been created or any new negotiations for community use of education sites in the future.

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

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## Checklists

In order for this Strategy to be signed off by the steering group, a Stage D Checklist: Develop the Strategy, is signed off.

Stage D Checklist: Develop the Strategy	Tick ✓	
	Yes	Requires Attention
<b>Step 7: Develop the recommendations and action plan</b>	✓	
1. Have a number of study area specific scenarios been looked at to help explore key issues and findings along with possible recommendations and actions?	✓	
2. Have any recommendations and actions regarding AGP provision taken into account the guidance in the 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface' document and any NGB specific information?	✓	
3. Do the recommendations reflect the drivers, vision and objectives of the work?	✓	
4. Are the recommendations precise enough to enable the development of clear individual area, sport and site specific actions to help achieve them?	✓	
5. Have all relevant parties been engaged with the development of, and are signed up to the delivery of, the recommendations and actions?	✓	
6. Are the recommendations and actions clearly presented?	✓	
7. Has particular attention been paid to the situation at priority sites and those which are being significantly overplayed?	✓	
8. Have area, sport and site specific solutions been proposed to protect, enhance, and provide playing pitch provision to meet the current and future demand?	✓	
9. Has guidance on the future of any sites highlighted as being at risk been provided?	✓	
10. Do the recommendations and actions seek to make the best use of existing pitches?	✓	
11. Has the detriment and benefit of proposals to relocate provision been presented?	✓	
12. Has the level and type of any new playing pitch provision required been presented?	✓	
13. Has the importance of providing appropriate and fit for purpose ancillary facilities been highlighted in order to maximise the potential benefit to sport of any pitches?	✓	
14. Have the recommendations sought to ensure an adequate amount of spare capacity in the provision of accessible pitches with secured community use?	✓	
15. Does the PPS provide a steer as to the future of any spare capacity and any provision that may be genuinely surplus to requirements (paragraphs D12 to D15)?	✓	
16. Does the action plan cover the points listed in paragraph D17?	✓	
17. Does the action plan provide the most appropriate actions to improve provision in the study area rather than just those which the local authority can deliver?	✓	
18. Does the action plan represent an infrastructure plan for playing pitches with deliverable area, sport and site specific actions and projects?	✓	
<b>Step 8: Write and Adopt the Strategy</b>	✓	
1. Does the PPS document provide the reader with a clear understanding of the areas listed in paragraph D20?	✓	



## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

2.	Is it clear from the PPS document why the recommendations and actions have been included, how they are to be delivered and what they will achieve?	✓	
3.	Does the PPS document indicate how it should be used and applied in different areas and circumstances along with the benefits of doing so?	✓	
4.	Has the PPS document been subject to appropriate consultation?	✓	
5.	Do all members of the steering group and other relevant parties endorse the PPS and recognise its lead role in guiding the improvement of pitches in the study area?	✓	
6.	Has the PPS document been formally adopted by the local authority and is its status recognised across all relevant departments?	✓	

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

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

For more information, see:

<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport>

# WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## APPENDIX ONE: FUNDING PLAN

### Funding opportunities

In order to deliver much of the Action Plan it is recognised that external partner funding will need to be sought. Although seeking developer contributions in applicable situations and other local funding/community schemes could go some way towards meeting deficiencies and/or improving provision, other potential/match sources of funding should be investigated. Below is a list of current funding bodies and relevant website links offering funding advice for each sport. Please note that funding streams are regularly changing.

Awarding body	Website link
England Hockey	<a href="https://www.englishhockey.co.uk/deliver/facilities/funding-for-facilities">https://www.englishhockey.co.uk/deliver/facilities/funding-for-facilities</a>
EU Life Fund	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm</a>
Football Foundation	<a href="https://footballfoundation.org.uk/looking-for-funding">https://footballfoundation.org.uk/looking-for-funding</a>
National Hockey Foundation	<a href="http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/">http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/</a>
Rugby Football League (RFL)	<a href="https://www.rfl.com/facilities">https://www.rfl.com/facilities</a> <a href="https://www.rugby-league.com/get-involved/club-support/community-investment-&amp;-funding-">https://www.rugby-league.com/get-involved/club-support/community-investment-&amp;-funding-</a>
Rugby Football Union (RFU)	<a href="https://www.englishrugby.com/participation/running-your-club/funding">https://www.englishrugby.com/participation/running-your-club/funding</a>
Sport England	<a href="https://www.sportengland.org/funding/">https://www.sportengland.org/funding/</a>
The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB)	<a href="https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding">https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding</a> <a href="https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/creating-welcoming-environments">https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/creating-welcoming-environments</a> <a href="https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding/county-grant-fund">https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding/county-grant-fund</a>
The National Lottery Community Fund	<a href="http://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/">http://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/</a>
England Athletics	<a href="https://www.englishathletics.org/clubs-and-facilities/club-support-services/club-support-fund/">https://www.englishathletics.org/clubs-and-facilities/club-support-services/club-support-fund/</a>
England Netball	<a href="https://www.englishnetball.co.uk/support/support-for-organisations/facilities/funding-sources/">https://www.englishnetball.co.uk/support/support-for-organisations/facilities/funding-sources/</a>
Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)	<a href="https://www.lta.org.uk/workforce-venues/tennis-venue-support/tennis-and-padel-facility-funding-and-advice/">https://www.lta.org.uk/workforce-venues/tennis-venue-support/tennis-and-padel-facility-funding-and-advice/</a>

### Funder's requirements

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

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

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- ◀ Background/essential documentation (e.g., community use agreement).
- ◀ Assessment of risk.

### **Indicative costs**

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

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

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

### APPENDIX TWO: GLOSSARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### APPENDIX THREE: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

#### National context

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

There are three key objectives to the Strategy:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **National Planning Policy Framework (updated 2021)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### *Local Football Facility Plans*

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- ◀ ***Grow and nurture the core***
  - ◀ Create an infrastructure investment fund for First Class County Clubs (FCCs)
  - ◀ Introduce a new Community Investment Funding for FCCs and County Cricket Boards (CCBs)
  - ◀ Invest in club facilities
  - ◀ Develop the role of National Counties Cricket
  - ◀ Further invest in County Competitions

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- ◀ **Inspire through elite teams**
  - ◀ Increase investment in the county talent pathway
  - ◀ Incentivise the counties to develop England Players
  - ◀ Drive the performance system through technology and innovation
  - ◀ Create heroes and connect them with a new generation of fans
  
- ◀ **Make cricket accessible**
  - ◀ Broaden crickets appeal through the New Competition
  - ◀ Create a new digital community for cricket
  - ◀ Install non-traditional playing facilities in urban areas
  - ◀ Continue to deliver South Asian Action Plans
  - ◀ Launch a new participation product, linked to the New Competition
  
- ◀ **Engage children and young people**
  - ◀ Double cricket participation in primary schools
  - ◀ Deliver a compelling and coordinated recreational playing offer from age five upwards
  - ◀ Develop our safeguarding to promote safe spaces for children and young people
  
- ◀ **Transform women's and girls' cricket**
  - ◀ Grow the base through participation and facilities investment
  - ◀ Launch centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure
  - ◀ Invest in girls' county age group cricket
  - ◀ Deliver a girls' secondary school programme
  
- ◀ **Support our communities**
  - ◀ Double the number of volunteers in the game
  - ◀ Create a game-wide approach to Trust and Foundations through the cricket network
  - ◀ Develop a new wave of officials and community coaches
  - ◀ Increase participation in disability cricket

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

The RFU has released its new strategic vision, which is to achieve 'a successful and thriving game across England'. The strategy can be found [here](#).

It identifies four 'Game Objectives' and four 'Driving Objectives', to form priority focuses for the strategy. It believes that these objectives will make the greatest substantive improvements to the game and investment will be aligned to these areas.

#### *Game objectives*

- ◀ **Enjoyment** – Enable positive player experiences on and off the field.
- ◀ **Winning England** – Create the best possible high-performance system for England Rugby.
- ◀ **Welfare** – Enhance players welfare to protect and support the wellbeing of players.
- ◀ **Flourishing rugby communities** – Support clubs to sustain and grow themselves and to reflect society.

#### *Driving objectives*

- ◀ **Diversity & inclusion** – Drive rugby union in England to reflect the diversity of society.
- ◀ **Understand** – Build a deep understanding of players, volunteers and fans to shape the future of the game.
- ◀ **Connect** – Connect with and grow the rugby community and create exceptional experiences.

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- ◀ **Commercial & operational excellence** – Ensure a sustainable and efficient business model delivered by an inspired workforce.

A number of aims, identified as key to the achievement of these main objectives, are particularly relevant to facilities. The provision of good quality and suitable rugby union facilities will help to achieve these aims and in turn objectives:

- ◀ *Enjoyment* – Improve accessibility for women and girls across the game.
- ◀ *Enjoyment* – Make the game inclusive and attractive for 14 to 18 year olds.
- ◀ *Flourishing rugby communities* – Provide support to help clubs maximise the benefit from their facilities and assets.
- ◀ *Diversity & Inclusion* – Improve the diversity of all facets of our game and continue to create an inclusive environment for all.

### **The Rugby Football League Facility Strategy**

The RFL's Facilities Strategy was published in 2011. The following themes have been prioritised:

- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe & Playable
- ◀ Sustainable clubs
- ◀ Environmental Sustainability
- ◀ Geographical Spread
- ◀ Non-club Facilities

The RFL Facilities Trust website [www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk](http://www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk) provides further information on:

- ◀ The RFL Community Facility Strategy
- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe and Playable Programme
- ◀ Pitch Size Guidance
- ◀ The RFL Performance Standard for Artificial Grass Pitches
- ◀ Club guidance on the Annual Preparation and Maintenance of the Rugby League Pitch

Further to the 2011 Strategy detail on the following specific programmes of particular relevance to pitches and facility planning are listed below and can be found via the trust link (see above):

- ◀ The RFL Pitch Improvement Programme 2013 – 2017
- ◀ Clean, Dry and Safe programmes 2013 - 2017

### **Rugby League World Cup 'Inspired by 2022' Legacy Programme**

The Rugby League World Cup 2022 will develop a £10 million legacy programme with funds driven into local clubs and community projects. The government investment, delivered by Sport England, is part of RLWC 2021's ambitious plan to grow the sport and make it more visible, engaging and welcoming to current and potential participants.

The funding will be split into large transformational community projects, such as changing room improvements and new artificial grass pitches with the remaining funding used for smaller scale initiatives such as supplying new kit and equipment to promote club and community development. The investment will focus on the following four key areas:

- ◀ Creating welcoming environments
- ◀ Encouraging participation growth
- ◀ Building community engagement
- ◀ Cultivating further investment

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

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

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

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

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

The core objectives are as follows:

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

#### *Club participation*

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

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

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

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### *England Hockey Strategy*

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

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

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

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

#### **1. PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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### ***Tennis in Britain - LTA Strategy***

The LTA's vision for 2019 – 2023, Tennis Opened Up includes seven strategies relating to three objectives which are built around its mission 'to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable'.

#### **Objectives**

- ◀ Increase the number of fans on our database from [623,602] to [1,000,000] by 2023.
- ◀ More people playing more often;
  - ◀ Increase the number of adults playing tennis each year from [7.7% (4,018,600)] of the population to [8.5% (4,420,460)], and the frequency of adults playing tennis twice a month 2.5% 1,311,800 to 1.9% 1,500,000 by 2023.
  - ◀ The number of children playing tennis once a week from 550,000 to 700,000 (7.9% to 10% of the population) by 2023.
- ◀ Enable 5 new players to break into the top 100 by 2023 and inspire the tennis audience.

#### **Strategies**

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

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

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

The overall vision of Bowls England is to:

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

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

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

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- ◀ 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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## APPENDIX FOUR: ADDITIONAL HOUSING SCENARIOS

### *Housing growth information in scenarios correct as of September 2020*

#### **Scenario Six – Worcester West Urban Extension (Malvern Hills)**

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2,150 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 4,945 people.

This population increase equates to 3.63 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.09 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 37.39 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 6.21 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.55 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.61 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

*Table 7.14: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 2,150 dwellings*

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 2,150 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>40</sup>	Training demand <sup>41</sup>
Adult football	0.65	6.21 hours
Youth football	1.47	
Mini soccer	0.99	
Rugby union	0.52	0.61 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	0 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.09	0.28 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.27 hours
Cricket	37.39	-

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

*Table 7.15: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision*

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>42</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>43</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.65	£62,022	£13,087	1.29	£213,977
Youth football	1.47	£113,242	£23,781	1.84	£305,229
Mini soccer	0.99	£23,645	£4,966	0	£0
Rugby union	0.52	£70,250	£15,033	1.05	£173,116
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.83	£233,879	£47,244	1.65	£273,520
Sand based AGPs	0.04	£34,909	£1,082	0.09	£14,510
3G	0.16	£156,139	£6,018	0.33	£54,139
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.66</b>	<b>£694,086</b>	<b>£111,211</b>	<b>6.25</b>	<b>£1,034,491</b>

<sup>40</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>41</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>42</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>43</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

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### Scenario Seven – Worcester South Urban Extension (Malvern Hills)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2,600 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 5,980 people.

This population increase equates to 4.38 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.11 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 45.22 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 7.51 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.65 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.74 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.16: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 2,600 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 2,600 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>44</sup>	Training demand <sup>45</sup>
Adult football	0.78	7.51 hours
Youth football	1.78	
Mini soccer	1.19	
Rugby union	0.63	0.74 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	0 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.11	0.33 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.32 hours
Cricket	45.22	-

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

Table 7.17: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>46</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>47</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.78	£75,006	£15,826	1.56	£258,772
Youth football	1.78	£136,954	£28,760	2.23	£369,125
Mini soccer	1.19	£28,596	£6,005	0	£0
Rugby union	0.63	£84,957	£18,181	1.26	£209,359
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	1	£282,841	£57,134	2	£330,780
Sand based AGPs	0.05	£42,215	£1,309	0.11	£17,547
3G	0.2	£188,831	£7,278	0.4	£65,474
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.64</b>	<b>£839,400</b>	<b>£134,493</b>	<b>7.55</b>	<b>£1,251,057</b>

<sup>44</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>45</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>46</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>47</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Eight – Worcester City (1,336 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 1,336 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 3,073 people.

This population increase equates to 2.24 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.12 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 6.68 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 4.48 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.87 hours of use per week on AGPs.

Table 7.18: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,336 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 1,336 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>48</sup>	Training demand <sup>49</sup>
Adult football	0.71	4.48 hours
Youth football	0.93	
Mini soccer	0.6	
Rugby union	0	0 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	0 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.23	0.68 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.15	0.19 hours
Cricket	6.68	-

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

Table 7.19: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>50</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>51</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.71	£67,846	£14,316	1.41	£234,069
Youth football	0.93	£71,585	£15,033	1.17	£194,196
Mini soccer	0.6	£14,433	£3,031	0	£0
Rugby union	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.14	£40,453	£8,172	0.29	£47,309
Sand based AGPs	0.06	£47,629	£1,476	0.12	£19,798
3G	0.12	£112,623	£4,341	0.24	£39,050
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.56</b>	<b>£354,569</b>	<b>£46,369</b>	<b>3.23</b>	<b>£534,422</b>

<sup>48</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>49</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>50</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>51</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Nine – Evesham (658 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 658 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 1,513 people.

This population increase equates to 1.48 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.08 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 12.52 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 2.38 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.28 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.33 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.20: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 658 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 658 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>52</sup>	Training demand <sup>53</sup>
Adult football	0.36	2.38 hours
Youth football	0.52	
Mini soccer	0.31	
Rugby union	0.28	0.32 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.01	0.01 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.08	0.24 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.04 hours
Cricket	12.52	-

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

Table 7.21: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>54</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>55</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.36	£34,296	£7,236	0.71	£118,320
Youth football	0.52	£39,999	£8,400	0.64	£106,216
Mini soccer	0.31	£7,477	£1,570	0	£0
Rugby union	0.28	£38,087	£8,151	0.57	£93,858
Rugby league	0.01	£1,269	£281	0.02	£3,808
Cricket	0.28	£78,307	£15,818	0.55	£91,580
Sand based AGPs	0.02	£15,904	£493	0.04	£6,611
3G	0.06	£59,807	£2,305	0.13	£20,737
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.84</b>	<b>£275,146</b>	<b>£44,254</b>	<b>2.66</b>	<b>£441,130</b>

<sup>52</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>53</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>54</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>55</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Ten – Droitwich Spa (925 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 925 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 2,128 people.

This population increase equates to 2.09 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.11 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 17.6 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 3.35 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.39 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.47 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.22: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 925 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 925 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>56</sup>	Training demand <sup>57</sup>
Adult football	0.5	3.35 hours
Youth football	0.73	
Mini soccer	0.44	
Rugby union	0.4	0.45 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.02	0.02 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.11	0.34 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.05 hours
Cricket	17.6	-

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

Table 7.23: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>58</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>59</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.5	£48,232	£10,177	1	£166,400
Youth football	0.73	£56,245	£11,811	0.9	£149,363
Mini soccer	0.44	£10,517	£2,209	0	£0
Rugby union	0.4	£53,564	£11,463	0.8	£131,997
Rugby league	0.02	£1,785	£395	0.03	£5,355
Cricket	0.39	£110,126	£22,246	0.78	£128,792
Sand based AGPs	0.03	£22,367	£693	0.06	£9,297
3G	0.09	£84,108	£3,242	0.18	£29,163
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>£386,944</b>	<b>£62,236</b>	<b>3.75</b>	<b>£620,367</b>

<sup>56</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>57</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>58</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>59</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Eleven – Malvern (833 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 833 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 1,916 people.

This population increase equates to 1.4 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.04 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 14.49 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 2.41 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.12 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.24 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.24: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 833 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 833 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>60</sup>	Training demand <sup>61</sup>
Adult football	0.25	2.41 hours
Youth football	0.57	
Mini soccer	0.38	
Rugby union	0.2	0.24 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	0 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.04	0.11 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.01 hours
Cricket	14.49	-

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

Table 7.25: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>62</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>63</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.25	£24,030	£5,070	0.5	£82,905
Youth football	0.57	£43,876	£9,214	0.71	£118,269
Mini soccer	0.38	£9,162	£1,924	0	£0
Rugby union	0.2	£27,218	£5,825	0.41	£67,073
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.32	£90,619	£18,305	0.64	£105,978
Sand based AGPs	0.02	£13,526	£419	0.03	£5,622
3G	0.06	£60,498	£2,332	0.13	£20,977
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>£268,929</b>	<b>£43,089</b>	<b>2.42</b>	<b>£400,824</b>

<sup>60</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>61</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>62</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>63</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Twelve – Pershore (358 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 358 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 823 people.

This population increase equates to 0.8 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.04 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 6.81 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 1.29 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.15 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.19 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.26: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 358 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 358 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>64</sup>	Training demand <sup>65</sup>
Adult football	0.19	1.29 hours
Youth football	0.28	
Mini soccer	0.17	
Rugby union	0.15	0.18 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.01	0.01 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.04	0.13 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.02 hours
Cricket	6.81	-

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

Table 7.27: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>66</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>67</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.19	£18,649	£3,935	0.39	£64,337
Youth football	0.28	£21,755	£4,569	0.35	£57,773
Mini soccer	0.17	£4,066	£854	0	£0
Rugby union	0.15	£20,713	£4,433	0.31	£51,042
Rugby league	0.01	£690	£153	0.01	£2,071
Cricket	0.15	£42,579	£8,601	0.3	£49,796
Sand based AGPs	0.01	£8,649	£268	0.02	£3,595
3G	0.03	£32,524	£1,254	0.07	£11,277
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>£149,625</b>	<b>£24,067</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>£239,891</b>

<sup>64</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>65</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>66</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>67</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Thirteen – Tenbury (180 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 180 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 414 people.

This population increase equates to 0.29 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.01 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 3.13 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 0.52 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.04 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.05 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.28: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 180 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 180 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>68</sup>	Training demand <sup>69</sup>
Adult football	0.05	0.52 hours
Youth football	0.12	
Mini soccer	0.08	
Rugby union	0.04	0.05 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	0 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.01	0.02 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.02 hours
Cricket	3.13	-

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

Table 7.29: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>70</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>71</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.05	£5,197	£1,097	0.11	£17,930
Youth football	0.12	£9,475	£1,990	0.15	£25,544
Mini soccer	0.08	£1,980	£416	0	£0
Rugby union	0.04	£5,884	£1,259	0.09	£14,500
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.07	£19,585	£3,956	0.14	£22,904
Sand based AGPs	0	£2,923	£91	0.01	£1,215
3G	0.01	£13,072	£504	0.03	£4,532
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.37</b>	<b>£58,116</b>	<b>£9,313</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>£86,625</b>

<sup>68</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>69</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>70</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>71</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)



## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Fourteen – Upton (120 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 120 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 276 people.

This population increase equates to 0.2 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.01 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 2.09 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 0.35 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.03 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.03 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.30: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 276 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 276 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>72</sup>	Training demand <sup>73</sup>
Adult football	0.04	0.35 hours
Youth football	0.08	
Mini soccer	0.05	
Rugby union	0.03	0.03 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	0 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.01	0.02 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.01 hours
Cricket	2.09	-

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

Table 7.31: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>74</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>75</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.04	£3,459	£730	0.07	£11,934
Youth football	0.08	£6,317	£1,327	0.1	£17,031
Mini soccer	0.05	£1,319	£277	0	£0
Rugby union	0.03	£3,918	£839	0.06	£9,656
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.05	£13,049	£2,636	0.09	£15,260
Sand based AGPs	0	£1,948	£60	0	£810
3G	0.01	£8,710	£336	0.02	£3,020
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>£38,720</b>	<b>£6,205</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>£57,711</b>

<sup>72</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>73</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>74</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>75</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Fifteen – Rural areas Wychavon (1,258 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 1,258 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 2,893 people.

This population increase equates to 2.84 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.15 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 23.93 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 4.55 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.53 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.64 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.32: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,258 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 1,258 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>76</sup>	Training demand <sup>77</sup>
Adult football	0.68	4.55 hours
Youth football	1	
Mini soccer	0.6	
Rugby union	0.54	0.62 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.02	0.02 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.15	0.46 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.07 hours
Cricket	23.93	-

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

Table 7.33: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>78</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>79</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.68	£65,575	£13,836	1.37	£226,233
Youth football	1	£76,476	£16,060	1.23	£203,085
Mini soccer	0.6	£14,296	£3,002	0	£0
Rugby union	0.54	£72,827	£15,585	1.08	£179,466
Rugby league	0.02	£2,427	£536	0.04	£7,281
Cricket	0.53	£149,724	£30,244	1.06	£175,101
Sand based AGPs	0.04	£30,408	£943	0.08	£12,640
3G	0.12	£114,349	£4,407	0.24	£39,649
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.53</b>	<b>£526,082</b>	<b>£84,613</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>£843,455</b>

<sup>76</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>77</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>78</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>79</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

## WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

### Scenario Sixteen – Rural areas Malvern Hills (769 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 769 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 1,769 people.

This population increase equates to 1.3 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.03 match equivalent sessions of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 13.37 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 2.22 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.2 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.22 match equivalent sessions per week of training for rugby on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.34: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 769 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 769 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>80</sup>	Training demand <sup>81</sup>
Adult football	0.23	2.22 hours
Youth football	0.53	
Mini soccer	0.35	
Rugby union	0.19	0.22 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	0 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.03	0.1 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.1 hours
Cricket	13.37	-

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

Table 7.35: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>82</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>83</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.23	£22,187	£4,681	0.46	£76,546
Youth football	0.53	£40,509	£8,507	0.66	£109,180
Mini soccer	0.35	£8,459	£1,776	0	£0
Rugby union	0.19	£25,131	£5,378	0.37	£61,930
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.3	£83,662	£16,900	0.59	£97,842
Sand based AGPs	0.02	£12,488	£387	0.03	£5,191
3G	0.06	£55,855	£2,153	0.12	£19,367
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>£248,291</b>	<b>£39,782</b>	<b>2.23</b>	<b>£370,056</b>

<sup>80</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>81</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>82</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>83</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)