



HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

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

FEBRUARY 2023

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide
CFA	County Football Association
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GMA	Grounds Management Association
HC	Hockey Club
HCB	Herefordshire Cricket Board
HFA	Herefordshire Football Association
IOG	Institute of Groundmanship
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facilities Plan
MOD	Ministry of Defence
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB	National Governing Body
NHS	National Health Service
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
TC	Tennis Club
U	Under

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

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

The Strategy is capable of:

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

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

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

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

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

Agreed scope

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

- ◀ Football
- ◀ 3G pitches
- ◀ Cricket
- ◀ Rugby union
- ◀ Rugby league
- ◀ Hockey (hockey suitable AGPs)
- ◀ Tennis
- ◀ Netball
- ◀ Bowls
- ◀ Athletics

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- ◀ Cycling and BMX
- ◀ Other sports

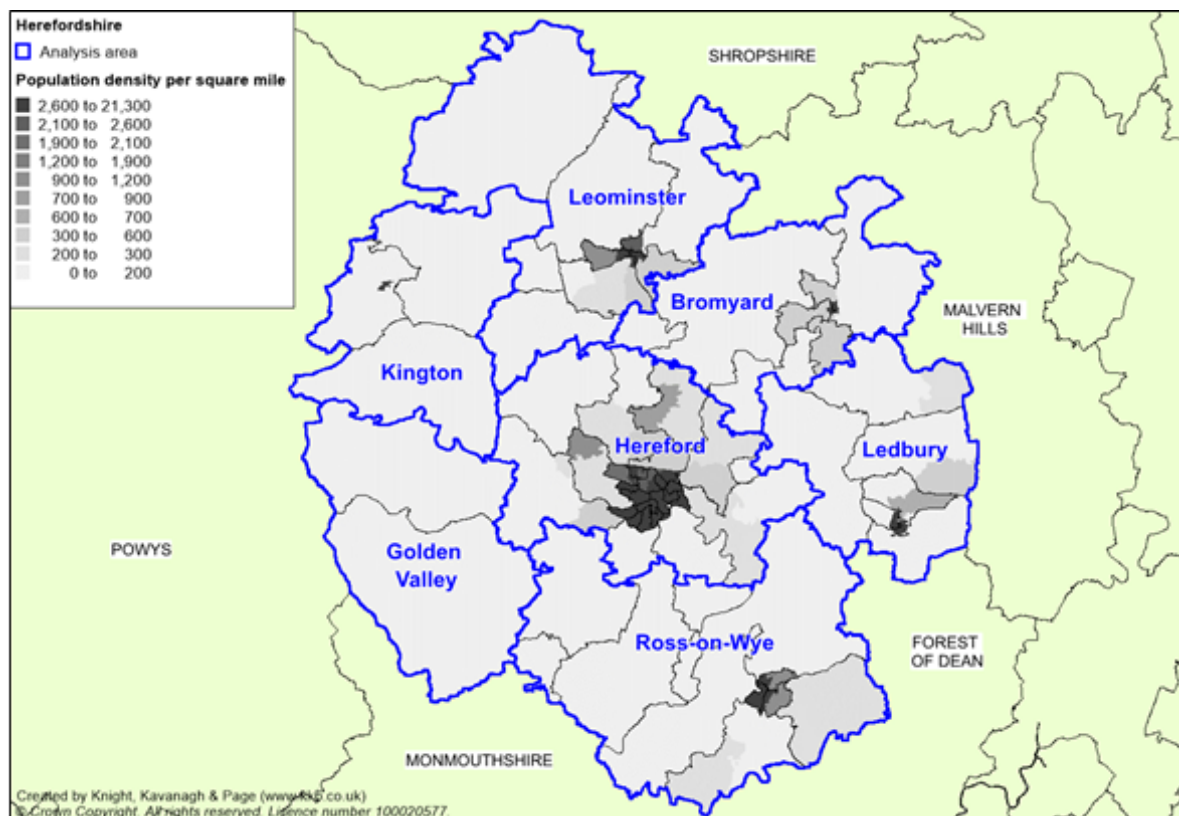
Further to the above, there is also a need to recognise the role of informal recreational space (and informal outdoor sport activity) in meeting the changing demands of local communities and links to the current Herefordshire Open Spaces Assessment.

Study area

The study area will comprise the whole of the Authority administrative area. However, it is also broken into 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, as follows:

- ◀ Bromyard
- ◀ Golden Valley
- ◀ Hereford
- ◀ Kington
- ◀ Ledbury
- ◀ Leominster
- ◀ Ross-on-Wye

Figure 1.1: Analysis areas



Please note for a detailed list of which parish/town councils are within each analysis area see Appendix Three.

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.

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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.

1.1: Structure

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

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

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

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

1.2: Context

Why the strategy is being developed

The previous Herefordshire PPOSS, which was completed in 2012, is passed its recommended life span and is therefore in need of renewal to continue to be a key evidence base for the update to the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy and the development of its related policies, including neighbourhood plans.

Additionally, there is a need for the PPOSS to help secure Section 106 developer contributions for investment into current and new provision. In addition to providing support for other external grant opportunities.

The PPOSS will therefore provide a strategic framework to ensure that the provision of outdoor playing pitches meets the needs of residents (both existing and future) and visitors across the local authority. It will also support those organisations, including the councils, involved in the provision of outdoor sports facilities across Herefordshire.

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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 playing pitches against development pressures in, and around, urban areas.
- ◀ Identify pitch (natural grass and artificial) supply and demand issues in relation to predicated population changes.
- ◀ Address 'demand' pressures created as a result of specific sports development pressures e.g. growth of mini soccer and wider use of artificial grass pitches.
- ◀ Address budget pressures and public-sector cuts.

The Herefordshire 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.

Paragraph 99 discusses assessments and the protection of "existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields". Paragraphs 100 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.

1.3: 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 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, 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, hours in the peak period is used as the comparable unit. For the other non-pitch sports (i.e. tennis, bowls etc) capacity is in accordance with Paragraph B13 of the ANOG guidance.

Table 1.1: Quantitative headline findings

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance (MES ¹)	Future supply/ demand balance 2041 (MES)
Football – grass pitches			
Bromyard	Adult	Spare capacity of 0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
	Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Youth 9v9	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Golden Valley	Adult	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 0.5
	Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Youth 9v9	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hereford	Adult	Shortfall of 5	Shortfall of 5.5
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 3	Shortfall of 3.5
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1.5	Shortfall of 1.5
	Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
Kington	Adult	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2	Shortfall of 2
	Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Ledbury	Adult	Shortfall of 1.5	Shortfall of 1.5
	Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 0.5
	Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Leominster	Adult	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1	Shortfall of 1
	Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Ross-on-Wye	Adult	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Youth 9v9	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity

¹ Match equivalent sessions per week or per year for cricket

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance (MES ¹)	Future supply/ demand balance 2041 (MES)
Herefordshire	Adult	Shortfall of 6.5	Shortfall of 7
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2	Shortfall of 2.5
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5	Shortfall of 5
	Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
Football – 3G pitches			
Bromyard	Full size	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Golden Valley	Full size	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hereford	Full size	Shortfall of 1.5 3G pitches	Shortfall of 1.5 3G pitches
Kington	Full size	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Ledbury	Full size	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch
Leominster	Full size	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch
Ross-on-Wye	Full size	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch
Herefordshire	Full size	Insufficient supply, Shortfall of 4.5 3G pitches	Insufficient supply, Shortfall of 4.5 3G pitches
Cricket			
Bromyard	Senior (Saturday)	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Senior (Sunday)	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Junior (midweek)	Shortfall of 3	Shortfall of 3
Golden Valley	Senior (Saturday)	Spare capacity of 12	Spare capacity of 12
	Senior (Sunday)	Spare capacity of 12	Spare capacity of 12
	Junior (midweek)	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hereford	Senior (Saturday)	Shortfall of 12	Shortfall of 12
	Senior (Sunday)	Shortfall of 12	Shortfall of 12
	Junior (midweek)	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Kington	Senior (Saturday)	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Senior (Sunday)	Spare capacity of 12	Spare capacity of 12
	Junior (midweek)	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Ledbury	Senior (Saturday)	Spare capacity of 12	Spare capacity of 12
	Senior (Sunday)	Spare capacity of 48	Spare capacity of 48
	Junior (midweek)	Spare capacity of 6	Spare capacity of 6
Leominster	Senior (Saturday)	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Senior (Sunday)	Spare capacity of 24	Spare capacity of 24
	Junior (midweek)	Spare capacity of 5	Spare capacity of 5
Ross-on-Wye	Senior (Saturday)	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
	Senior (Sunday)	Spare capacity of 13	Spare capacity of 13
	Junior (midweek)	Spare capacity of 5	Spare capacity of 5
Herefordshire	Senior (Saturday)	Spare capacity of 13	Spare capacity of 13
	Senior (Sunday)	Spare capacity of 97	Spare capacity of 97
	Junior (midweek)	Spare capacity of 13	Spare capacity of 13
Rugby union			
Bromyard	Senior	Shortfall of 4	Shortfall of 4
Golden Valley	Senior	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hereford	Senior	Shortfall of 6.5	Shortfall of 6.5
Kington	Senior	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Ledbury	Senior	Shortfall of 5	Shortfall of 5
Leominster	Senior	Shortfall of 2	Shortfall of 2
Ross-on-Wye	Senior	Shortfall of 1.5	Shortfall of 1.5
Herefordshire	Senior	Shortfall of 18.75	Shortfall of 19.25

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance (MES ¹)	Future supply/ demand balance 2041 (MES)
Rugby league			
Herefordshire	Senior	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hockey			
Herefordshire	Full size	Sustain and protect all full size provision	Sustain and protect all full size provision

For non-pitch sports, quantitative shortfalls can be more difficult to determine, with capacity guidance differing and with focus often away from formal club activity. The current and future picture for each sport is therefore instead summarised in the table below.

Table 1.3: Quantitative headline findings (non-pitch sports)

Sport	Current picture	Future picture (2041)
Tennis	Sufficient quantity for club demand, however, potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand	Sufficient quantity for club demand, however, potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand
Netball	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Bowls	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Athletics	Sufficient quantity albeit quality issues	Sufficient quantity albeit quality issues
Cycling and BMX	Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre	Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre
MUGAs	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area
Other sports	Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster	Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster

Conclusions

The existing position for all sports is either that demand is being met or that there is a shortfall, whereas the future position shows the exacerbation of current shortfalls and the creation of shortfalls for some sports and in some areas where demand is currently being met. The quality and quantity shortfalls identified are for adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 football pitches, cricket pitches, senior rugby union pitches, 3Gs, hockey AGPs, athletics and MUGAs.

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

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

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

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PART 2: VISION

2.1: Vision

The vision for the PPOSS reflects the Council's vision in the Herefordshire Physical Vision Strategy (2021-2026) which is:

“For every person in Herefordshire to have the opportunity to: ‘get moving, be active, feel better, keep well and enjoy healthier lives as part of everyday life in their local community”

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PART 3: AIMS

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

AIM 1

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

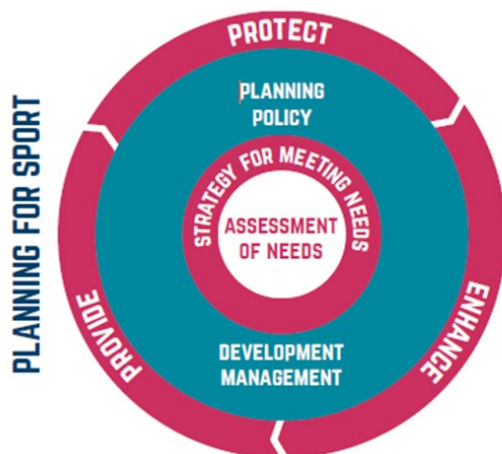
AIM 2

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

AIM 3

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

Figure 1: Sport England themes



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

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PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Football pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **In conclusion, there is insufficient capacity to cater for current demand on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. There is currently sufficient capacity to cater for mini 7v7 (although this is at capacity) and mini 5v5 demand, with mini 5v5 pitches currently have one match equivalent session of spare capacity.**
- ◀ **When factoring in future demand the shortfall worsens across adult and youth 11v11 pitches.**
- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 197 grass football pitches within Herefordshire across 101 sites. Of these, 130 pitches are available (as seen in the table below), at some level, for community use across 47 sites. All unavailable pitches are located at education sites.
- ◀ There are nine sites identified that do not have official football pitches marked out but could have the capacity to provide pitches if required.
- ◀ There are future development plans aspirations from Ledbury Swifts FC, Belmont Wanderers FC and Ross Juniors FC.
- ◀ In total, 49 pitches are rated as standard quality and 65 as poor quality with just 16 pitches rated as good quality.
- ◀ Allpay Park – Moorhouse, Bosbury C of E Primary School, Broomy Hill, Hereford Cathedral School Pitches, Hereford City Sports Club, Hereford Leisure Centre, Hereford Leisure Pool (King George V Playing Fields), Ivington C of E Primary School, Ledbury Rugby Club, Leominster Town FC (Bridge Street Park, Riverside Primary School, Ross-on-Wye Sports Centre and Whitchurch C of E Primary School, which have all currently or historically been used for football, are located on flood zones.
- ◀ Of the 47 sites that are actively used for community football, nine sites (19%) are serviced by good quality ancillary facilities, 21 sites (45%) by standard quality ancillary facilities and 12 (26%) by poor quality ancillary facilities. The remaining five sites (11%) are not serviced by onsite clubhouse/changing room provision.
- ◀ Through the audit and assessment, 287 teams are identified as playing within Herefordshire. This consists of 56 adult men's, 12 adult women's, 53 youth 11v11 boys', 10 youth 11v11 girls', 36 youth 9v9 boys', 23 youth 9v9 girls' and 97 mini teams.
- ◀ In Herefordshire, there are four clubs which compete in the NLS.
- ◀ At present, just two clubs have women's teams within the Women's National League System.
- ◀ Seven clubs' report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide. Through the clubs that quantified *potential* increase, there is a predicted growth of 29 teams.
- ◀ When aggregated actual spare capacity totals 9.5 match equivalent sessions per week across 16 pitches.
- ◀ In Herefordshire 20 pitches across 12 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 20 match equivalent sessions.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality at overplayed sites

In total, there are 20 pitches overplayed in Herefordshire across 12 sites by a combined total of 20 match equivalent sessions. Of these four are standard quality and 16 are poor quality. Therefore, 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 shortfall.

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To illustrate the above, the table below highlights that most overplayed pitches could accommodate current usage levels if provision improved to a good quality.

Table 4.1: Overplay if all pitches were good quality

Analysis area	Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating (MES)	Good quality capacity rating (MES)
Golden Valley	46	Ewyas Harold Recreation Ground	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
Hereford	6	Bartestree And Lugwardine Playing Fields	Adult	1	Poor	2	0
			(9v9)	1		1	2
Hereford	48	Fownhope Recreation Field	Adult	1	Poor	1	1
Hereford	52	Gorsty Lane	(7v7)	1	Poor	0.5	3.5
			(9v9)	2		1.5	4.5
Hereford	63	Holme Lacy Playing Field	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
Hereford	99	Old School Lane (Pegasus Juniors)	(11v11)	1	Standard	2	0
Hereford	153	Victoria Park (Hereford)	Adult	1	Poor	1	1
			(9v9)	1		1	2
Hereford	165	Widemarsh Common (Hereford)	Adult	1	Standard	2	1
Kington	115	Shobdon Airfield	Adult	1	Poor	1	1
			(9v9)	1		2	1
Ledbury	10	Bishops Frome Sports Ground	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	2.5
Ledbury	79	Ledbury Rugby Club	Adult	2	Standard	1.5	0.5
Leominster	171	Leominster FC	(11v11)	2	Poor	1	3
			(9v9)	1		1	2

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As seen, only the adult pitch at Widemarsh Common (Hereford) would remain overplayed if quality improvements are made. In comparison, the youth 11v11 pitch overplayed at Old School Lane (Pegasus Juniors) and one adult pitch at Bartestree and Lugwardine Playing Fields would have overplay addressed but would be played to capacity.

Carrying out the improvements would not only improve capacity at the relevant sites, but also in relation to the supply and demand balance overall across Herefordshire. In fact, no overall pitch shortfalls would be evident, with current shortfalls for adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 addressed.

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

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	5	11.5	6.5	0.5	7
Youth 11v11	1	3	2	0.5	2.5
Youth 9v9	2	7	5	-	5
Mini 7v7	0.5	0.5	0	-	0
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	-	1

Table 4.3: Impact of improving pitch quality on current supply and demand if overplay was removed

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	6.5	1	5.5	0.5	5
Youth 11v11	1	0	1	0.5	0.5
Youth 9v9	3.5	0	3.5	-	3.5
Mini 7v7	0.5	0	0	-	0
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	-	1

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

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

Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

As improving the quality of certain overplayed sites may not be feasible from an investment point of view, an alternative approach is to focus on improving strategic sites. To that end, the Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) identifies 13 key sites for grass pitch improvements across Herefordshire, of which, one at Ross-on-Wye Sports Centre has recently undergone work and has resulted in the pitches being upgraded to a good quality. The table below therefore identifies what the impact would be on the capacity of pitches at these sites if quality improved to good quality.

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Table 4.4: Impact of LFFP quality improvements

Analysis area	Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
Bromyard	107	Queen Elizabeth High School	Adult	2	Poor	1	5
Hereford	6	Bartestree And Lugwardine Playing Fields	Adult	1	Poor	2	0
			Mini 5v5	3	Poor	5	17
			Mini 7v7	1	Poor	0.5	4.5
			Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	2
Hereford	22	Broomy Hill	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
Hereford	53	Grandstand Road Park	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	2.5
			Mini 5v5	1	Poor	2	6
Hereford	61	Hereford Leisure Pool (King George V Playing Fields)	Adult	2	Poor	2	6
Hereford	91	Marden Primary Academy	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	0.5	3.5
Hereford	98	Newton Farm	Adult	2	Standard	2	4
			Mini 5v5	2	Standard	6.5	10.5
			Mini 7v7	2	Standard	5	9
			Youth 9v9	2	Standard	0	4
Hereford	153	Victoria Park (Hereford)	Adult	1	Poor	1	1
			Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	2
Hereford	155	Wellington Playing Field	Adult	2	Standard	2	4
			Mini 5v5	1	Standard	2.5	4.5
			Mini 7v7	2	Standard	6.5	10.5
			Youth 9v9	1	Standard	1	3
Hereford	165	Widemarsh Common (Hereford)	Adult	1	Standard	2	1
			Mini 5v5	1	Standard	1.5	3.5
			Mini 7v7	1	Standard	4	6
			Youth 9v9	1	Standard	0	2
Leominster	171	Leominster FC	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	0.5	4.5
			Mini 7v7	1	Poor	0	4
			Youth 11v11	2	Poor	1	5
			Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	2

Improving quality as set out in the table above would create 92 match equivalent sessions of additional capacity per week, whilst creating seven match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity per week and reducing overplay to just seven match equivalent sessions per week. As a result, all existing pitch shortfalls in Herefordshire would be addressed.

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 most sites currently included should remain, with discussions required regarding potential additions, such as Shobdon Airfield and Gorsty Lane, given their current usage levels and overplay.

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Providing security of tenure

Currently, 12.5 match equivalent sessions per week are played on unsecured pitches throughout Herefordshire. If these pitches were to fall out of use, shortfalls would be exacerbated on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches, whilst a current shortfall would be created for mini 5v5 pitches and mini 7v7 pitches.

Table 4.5: Supply and demand balance without unsecure sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Current total	Unsecure usage	Potential total	Future demand	Potential future total
Adult	6.5	4.5	11	0.5	11.5
Youth 11v11	2	1.5	3.5	0.5	4
Youth 9v9	5	1.5	6.5	-	6.5
Mini 7v7	0	2	2	-	2
Mini 5v5	1	3	2	-	2

A total list of unsecure sites with community use are outlined below for reference:

- ✦ Aylestone School
- ✦ Gorsley Goffs Primary School
- ✦ Hereford Cathedral School Pitches
- ✦ John Kyrle Academy
- ✦ Lord Scudamore Academy
- ✦ Marden Primary Academy
- ✦ New Street Football Club (Ledbury Town FC)
- ✦ Queen Elizabeth High School
- ✦ St Paul's C of E Primary School
- ✦ Staunton-On-Wye Endowed Primary School
- ✦ The Hereford Academy

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

Away from schools, the only unsecure use is identified at New Street Football Club (Ledbury Town FC). The site is currently under ownership from Property Solutions and the company is currently looking develop the site for housing. The loss of this site is imminent, with the Club planning to relocate with Ledbury Swifts FC, to a new site on land South of Little Marcle Road.

Securing access to currently unavailable sites

There are currently 67 grass pitches unavailable for community use. By securing access to sites accommodating this provision, spare capacity would significantly increase on adult, youth 11v11 and mini provision, whilst youth 9v9 pitch shortfalls would marginally decrease. Future demand would see adult pitches played to capacity.

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Table 4.6: Supply and demand balance without unsecure sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Current total	Unsecure usage	Potential total	Future demand	Potential future total
Adult	6.5	7	0.5	0.5	0
Youth 11v11	2	5	3	0.5	2.5
Youth 9v9	5	1	4	-	4
Mini 7v7	0	22	22	-	22
Mini 5v5	1	34	35	-	35

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

Impact of club aspirational demand on future supply and demand

Future demand reported by club aspirations through participation increases is considered more aspirational, and it is unlikely that it will all be achieved. This scenario explores the impact that the clubs aspirational demand would have if all the future demand was realised.

The total future demand expressed by clubs is broken down club by club in Table 4.6, the future demand from club aspirations amounts to 14.5 match equivalent sessions per week (as two teams equates to one match equivalent session per week playing on a home and away basis).

Broken down by pitch type, 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week are identified on adult pitches, four match equivalent sessions on youth 11v11 pitches, 3.5 match equivalent session on youth 9v9 pitches, two match equivalent sessions on mini 7v7 pitches and 3.5 match equivalent sessions on mini 5v5 pitches.

Table 4.7: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Analysis area	Club	Gender	Number of teams	Pitch size	Match equivalent sessions ²
Hereford	Belmont Wanderers FC	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
		Women's	1	Adult	0.5
		Boys	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Hereford	Hereford Pegasus FC	Girls	3	Youth 11v11	1.5
		Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Hereford	Hinton Youth	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
Hereford	Tupsley Girls FC	Women's	1	Adult	0.5
Hereford	Wellington Youth	Boys	3	Youth 11v11	1.5
		Boys	2	Youth 9v9	1
		Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5

² Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

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Analysis area	Club	Gender	Number of teams	Pitch size	Match equivalent sessions ²
Leominster	Orleton Youth	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
		Boys	2	Youth 9v9	1
		Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Ross-on-Wye	Ross Juniors	Mixed	4	Mini 5v5	2
Total			29		14.5

Most of the club aspirational demand is in the Hereford Analysis Area with a total of 9.5 match equivalent sessions per week and most is youth 11v11 pitches (3.5). Leominster Analysis Area then has a total of three match equivalent sessions per week followed by Ross-on-Wye Analysis Area equating to two match equivalent sessions per week.

The table below shows what the impact would have overall on the supply and demand analysis if club aspirational demand came to fruition.

Table 4.8: Current supply and demand balance

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	5	11.5	6.5	0.5	7
Youth 11v11	1	3	2	0.5	2.5
Youth 9v9	2	7	5	-	5
Mini 7v7	0.5	0.5	0	-	0
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	-	1

Table 4.9: Impact of club aspirational future demand on supply and demand balance

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	5	11.5	6.5	1.5	8
Youth 11v11	1	3	2	4	6
Youth 9v9	2	7	5	3.5	8.5
Mini 7v7	0.5	0.5	0	2	2
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	3.5	2.5

It should be noted that if club aspirational demand was realised, there would still be minimal levels of overplay across the Authority even after considering the aforementioned scenarios (improve pitch quality, securing tenure, opening up of those sites unavailable for community use). Therefore, in addition to these recommendations there will also be a need to consider alternative solutions such as the development of more 3G pitches to accommodate competitive demand.

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Flooding

There is a total of 13 outdoor sport sites that are located on flood zone two and/or three which include football pitches, these are outlined below.

Table 4.10: Football sites within flood zones across Herefordshire

Analysis area	Site ID	Site name	Provision	Flood Zones	
				2	3
Hereford	1	Allpay Park - Moorhouse	One adult, one youth 11v11, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch.	Yes	Yes
Hereford	22	Broomy Hill	One adult pitch.	Yes	Yes
Hereford	56	Hereford Cathedral School Pitches	One adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch.	Yes	Yes
Hereford	57	Hereford City Sports Club	One adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch.	Yes	Yes
Hereford	60	Hereford Leisure Centre	One adult, one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch.	Yes	Yes
Hereford	61	Hereford Leisure Pool (King George V Playing Fields)	Two adult pitches.	Yes	
Hereford	108	Riverside Primary School	Two mini 7v7 pitches.	Yes	Yes
Ledbury	11	Bosbury C of E Primary School	One mini 7v7 pitch.	Yes	Yes
Ledbury	79	Ledbury Rugby Club	Two adult, two youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 pitch.	Yes	
Leominster	65	Ivington C of E Primary School	One mini 5v5 pitch.	Yes	Yes
Leominster	82	Leominster Town FC (Bridge Street Sports Park)	One adult pitch.	Yes	
Ross-on-Wye	112	Ross-On-Wye Sports Centre	One adult, one youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, three mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch.	Yes	Yes
Ross-on-Wye	163	Whitchurch C of E Primary School	One mini 5v5 pitch.	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.

In addition to the above, there are also a number of unused, disused or informal pitches at sites located within a flood zone (Hereford Leisure Pool/Hereford Leisure Centre/Ross Rowing Club/Dorstone Playing Field/Canon Pyon Parish Hall). This provision has become unused due to a lack of demand in addition to the quality of the pitches. If reinstated to a reasonable quality they could provide a potential avenue to alleviate shortfalls, however, this is not usually advisable due to the cost which would be incurred through qualitative enhancements.

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Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and assessed as poor or standard quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality.
- ◀ Assist in the development of sports provision at Land South of Little Marcle Road to support the current and future demand from Ledbury Swifts FC and Ledbury Town FC.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of assisting Ross Juniors FC in acquiring additional land South of Ross-on-Wye Sports Centre in order to increase capacity for its current and future demand.
- ◀ Improve strategic sites, using the LFFP as a guide, and consider updating the priority projects within the LFFP following the findings of this study.
- ◀ Explore pitch reconfiguration at suitable, currently under-utilised sites to better cater for playing formats with identified shortfalls.
- ◀ Work with providers to secure access to unsecure sites and sites not currently offering community use via the creation of community use agreements.
- ◀ Work to accommodate future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity or at sites which are not currently available for community use.
- ◀ Where appropriate, develop partnerships and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own sites.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing/sporting offer.
- ◀ Ensure clubs playing within the football pyramid can continue to do so and that they can progress if promotion is achieved.
- ◀ Identify whether maintenance and/or drainage enhancements would be more beneficial and cost effective for pitches located in a flood zone. Also look to establish a suitable plan of action to relocate/reschedule demand if sites become unusable.

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3G pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **In conclusion, there is an insufficient supply of full size 3G pitches in Herefordshire to meet current and anticipated future demand for football training.**
- ◀ There is a potential need for four additional full size 3G pitches to meet all current training demand.
- ◀ The full size hockey suitable AGPs at John Masefield High School and Whitecross High School have high levels of football demand. In comparison, the full size hockey suitable pitches at Bridge Street Sports Centre, Hereford Leisure Centre and John Kyrle Academy receive higher levels of hockey demand.
- ◀ There are three full size 3G pitches in Herefordshire. All pitches are floodlit, available for community use and are located in the Hereford Analysis Area.
- ◀ There are also two smaller size 3G pitches both of which are floodlit, available for community use and are located in the Hereford Analysis Area.
- ◀ It should be noted that there is no form of 3G provision, either full size or small size, in the Bromyard, Golden Valley, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster or Ross-on-Wye analysis areas.
- ◀ There are aspirations to create new 3G provision by Belmont Wanderers FC (Newton Farm), Hereford Pegasus FC (Old School Lane) and Hereford RFC/ Luctonians RFC.
- ◀ In Herefordshire, the pitches at Old School Lane (Pegasus Juniors), The County Ground (Herefordshire FA) and The Hereford Academy are FIFA compliant.
- ◀ Each of the full size pitches are rated as good quality having either been refurbished (The Hereford Academy) or installed within the last four years.
- ◀ The pitches at Old School Lane (Pegasus Juniors) and The County Ground (Herefordshire FA) are considered to have minimal midweek spare capacity remaining with one and two hours, respectively.

Scenarios

Accommodating football training demand

As discussed in the Assessment Report the FA's long-term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G surface.

As such, it has established a model to calculate the required number of pitches to meet demand, with one full size pitch being required to service every 38 teams within a local authority. This is based on peak time access being Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings (Mondays and Fridays are discounted as it is considered that teams do not want to train in such close proximity to a weekend match, and it also allows for other forms of access such as for commercial leagues and recreational play).

For the model, in addition to full size pitches being included, both smaller size pitches are also incorporated as they are suitable for accommodating training demand. To calculate their contribution, a pitch large enough to cater for youth matches (but not adult) is considered to be the equivalent of half a full size pitch (0.5 pitches), whilst a pitch that is large enough for mini matches (but not youth or adult) is the equivalent of quarter of a full size pitch (0.25 pitches). Any pitch smaller than this is discounted, as are any pitches that are unavailable for community use.

The contribution each pitch in Herefordshire makes towards the modelling is summarised in the table below. This then informs the proceeding modelling tables.

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Table 4.11: Contribution of 3G pitches in meeting training requirements

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Size (metres)	Comments	Full size pitch equivalents
62	Hereford Sixth Form College	Hereford	55 x 34	Large enough to accommodate mini football	0.25
148	The Point 4	Hereford	46 x 25	Large enough to accommodate mini football	0.25
99	Old School Lane (Pegasus Juniors)	Hereford	106 x 70	Large enough to accommodate all football	1
140	The County Ground (Herefordshire FA)	Hereford	106 x 70	Large enough to accommodate all football	1
145	The Hereford Academy	Hereford	102 x 64	Large enough to accommodate all football	1
Total					3.5

To satisfy current football training demand on an analysis area basis (based on the FA's model of one full size 3G pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a need for at least eight full size 3G pitches across Herefordshire. There are currently 3.5 pitches provided, meaning a shortfall of 4.5 pitches.

Table 4.12: Current demand for 3G pitches in Herefordshire by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G pitch requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Bromyard	2	0 (0.05)	0	0
Golden Valley	3	0 (0.8)	0	0
Hereford	176	5 (4.63)	3.5	1.5
Kington	15	0 (0.39)	0	0
Ledbury	28	1 (0.74)	0	1
Leominster	29	1 (0.76)	0	1
Ross-on-Wye	34	1 (0.89)	0	1
Herefordshire	287	8	3.5	4.5

When factoring in future demand from population increases there is no increase in 3G requirement.

Table 4.13: Future demand by population increases for 3G pitches in Herefordshire by analysis area

Analysis area	Future number of teams from pop. increase	3G pitch requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Bromyard	2	0 (0.05)	0	0
Golden Valley	3	0 (0.8)	0	0
Hereford	178	5 (4.68)	3.5	1.5
Kington	15	0 (0.39)	0	0
Ledbury	28	1 (0.74)	0	1
Leominster	29	1 (0.76)	0	1
Ross-on-Wye	34	1 (0.89)	0	1
Herefordshire	289	8	3.5	4.5

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If club aspirational demand was fully realised, although demand would increase by 29 teams, there would be no individual analysis area which increased in 3G pitch requirement.

Table 4.14: Future demand by club aspirational demand for 3G pitches in Herefordshire by analysis area

Analysis area	Future number of teams from club aspirations	3G pitch requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Bromyard	2	0 (0.05)	0	0
Golden Valley	3	0 (0.8)	0	0
Hereford	195	5 (5.13)	3.5	1.5
Kington	15	0 (0.39)	0	0
Ledbury	28	1 (0.74)	0	1
Leominster	35	1 (0.92)	0	1
Ross-on-Wye	38	1	0	1
Herefordshire	316	8	3.5	4.5

Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

The LFFP for Herefordshire identifies seven new 3G pitch projects, as explained in further detail in the table below.

Table 4.15: LFFP 3G pitch projects

Project	Detail	Analysis area
Queen Elizabeth High School	Creation of a small sided 5v5 3G pitch. This project was identified within the previous LFFP and has secured S106 investment. The School is looking at a delegated Football Foundation application submission within the near future (3-6 months), however, it should be noted it is still subject to planning permission.	Bromyard
Hereford Leisure Centre	Creation of a full size 3G pitch	Hereford
Newton Farm	Creation of a full size 3G pitch	Hereford
Kingstone Academy	The school has expressed an interest in upgrading some former tennis courts to support a 7v7 3G pitch at the site.	Hereford
Ledbury Area	Creation of a full size 3G pitch in the area, with no preferred site option identified	Ledbury
Leominster Area	Creation of a full size 3G pitch in the area, with no preferred site option identified	Leominster
Ross-on-Wye Area	Creation of a full size 3G pitch in the area, with no preferred site option identified	Ross-on-Wye

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

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Table 4.16: LFFP impact on 3G pitch shortfalls

Analysis area	Current number of 3G pitches	Future shortfall	Pitches proposed in LFFP	Shortfall if delivered
Bromyard	0	0	0.5	0.5
Golden Valley	0	0	0	0
Hereford	3.5	1.5	2.5	1
Kington	0	0	0	0
Ledbury	0	1	1	0
Leominster	0	1	1	0
Ross-on-Wye	0	1	1	0
Herefordshire	3.5	4.5	6	1.5

As seen, the overall future shortfall would be alleviated, with further capacity for future growth in the Hereford and Bromyard analysis areas. The next step should be to identify suitable sites in Ledbury, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye analysis areas for the creation of additional provision in order to fully eradicate the identified shortfalls.

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

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

There are currently no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in Herefordshire. However, given the grass pitch shortfalls identified (18.75 match equivalent sessions) and club aspirational future demand (5.5 match equivalent sessions), evidence exists for provision to be provided. Please note the latter (club aspirational future demand) will be explored in greater detailed below.

The need is compounded by the issues of flooding with Hereford Cathedral School Pitches, Hereford City Sports Club, Ledbury Rugby Club, Ross Rugby Football Club and Hereford Rugby Club all located on flood zones. These sites are frequently affected by flooding/water retention meaning competitive and training demand cannot take place. A full size WR compliant 3G pitch, in a suitable location, would allow for this demand to be accommodated in periods of inclement weather.

Based on the shortfall of 3G provision for football and rugby union it is suggested there is a potential to develop WR compliant pitches dependant on the potential funding options available and if they can be factored into ongoing broader football led 3G pitch development plans. It should be noted, however, that the priority should be focused on provision within the Hereford Analysis Area. Both Hereford Leisure Centre and Newton Farm have been identified as potential sites.

If the above approach is taken it should be noted that the shortfalls of 3G provision, from a football training demand perspective would be reduced, however, would likely not equate to one full size pitch equivalent as it would be used for rugby union. This would all depend on the exact programming of the provision once established.

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Site options

Bromyard

The site identified within the LFFP, Queen Elizabeth High School, was still found to be the preferred location within the Bromyard Analysis Area for a small size 3G development during consultation for the PPOSS.

The PPOSS has also acknowledged that the macadam area, which is identified for development, is currently being used to accommodate community netball demand. For reference the macadam is currently marked for with two tennis courts overmarked with two netball courts.

Therefore, for the 3G pitch to be established, it is recommended that the court provision is replaced in order to still be able to accommodate netball demand. Relevant stakeholders (Football Foundation/Herefordshire FA/England Netball/Sport England/Council/School) need to explore the feasibility of whether this could come in the form of enhancements to the remaining macadam areas on the site or whether there needs to be new provision provided. There is a disused macadam area located adjacent to Hereford Road (A465) which has previously accommodate netball/tennis provision which has the potential to be refurbished to support the overall development. It should be noted that the School, HFA, FF and NGB partners have met to discuss solutions for netball and tennis onsite, the proposal has now been revised and shared with Sport England the Council.

Hereford

Hereford Leisure Centre and Newton Farm have both been named as preferred sites to develop full size 3G pitches. Each has been confirmed through the PPOSS process as suitable locations via consultation for accommodating both football and rugby union.

It should be noted that any proposed 3G pitch at Hereford Leisure Centre would be in addition to the full size hockey suitable AGP on the site which needs to be protected for hockey purposes. Furthermore, the exact location of any development would also need to take into consideration the risk of flooding in addition to the already ongoing plans to create a closed circuit cycle track around the site.

From a rugby union perspective, having the capacity to accommodate fixtures is of high importance to address issues at Hereford RFC, Greyhound RFC and Luctonians RFC. Therefore, opportunities should be explored for a 3G pitch at Hereford Leisure Centre to be compliant for WC22 match play and Newton Farm to be explored as a potential training 3G pitch which wouldn't require it to be WC22 compliant and therefore would help support local rugby union demand in the area for both the short and long term.

Notwithstanding any challenges around dimensions, marking and posts without conditions meeting WR Law 1, only training sessions can be held on that facility.

Ledbury

The LFFP suggests there is a requirement to create one full size 3G pitch within the Ledbury Analysis Area which is supported by the evidence within the PPOSS. Furthermore, the LFFP does not indicate a preferred location for the provision, however, supply and demand analysis within this document and prior Assessment Report, suggests the preferred location to be part of the planned development at land south of Little Marcle Road.

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The rationale behind this is that land south of Little Marcle Road has been identified in the draft by Ledbury Neighbourhood Plan for playing field to support the need for the Town over the plan period (2021-2031).

Moreover, any full size 3G pitch on the site would provide a substantial amount of additional capacity (both training and match play) for Ledbury Swifts FC and Ledbury Town FC and alleviate all the shortfalls on the football pitches at Ledbury Rugby Club.

Notwithstanding the need to ensure that suitable replacement provision for the Ledbury Town FC site accords with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy (at least equitable in quantity and quality - including stands, pavilion/clubhouse, lighting, turnstiles, other spectator facilities, car parking etc.) there could be an opportunity for the funding of such a facility to be achieved through S106 monies from the development of the Ledbury Town FC current site New Street, once it has amalgamated onto the same site as Ledbury Swifts FC. Further consultation and feasibility would also be required to ensure that provision of a 3G pitch for community football is appropriate replacement for a stadia pitch.

Finally, any artificial provision built should explore the opportunity to be built with WR compliancy in order assist in alleviating identified rugby union grass pitch shortfalls from Ledbury Rugby Club amounting to five match equivalent sessions per week, in addition to other demand from surrounding overplayed rugby union sites from Bromyard, Hereford and Leominster analysis areas. There is also potential to benefit American football demand from Hereford Stampede which use the rugby union pitches. As this pitch would only be required for training demand purposes, no dedicated run off or pitch markings would be required.

Leominster

Similar to Ledbury there is a need for one full size 3G pitch in the Leominster Analysis Area with no immediate preferred site option identified within the LFFP or PPOSS through the consultation process.

Due to the topography of the Leominster Analysis Area, there are only a select number of sites of significant enough size, which are in a strategic location, to accommodate such provision. These include but are not limited to Bridge Street Sports Centre/Leominster FC, Earl Mortimer College and Sixth Form Centre and Luctonians Sports Club.

Each of these sites has potential issues surrounding being located in a flood zone (Bridge Street Sports Centre/Leominster FC), primarily being a rugby union site (Luctonians Sports Club) or being located at an already established education site (Earl Mortimer College) which may not be able to support a 3G development/surrounded by housing.

An alternative solution would be to develop a new site, however, this would likely cost substantially more than developing an existing site as the relevant infrastructure would also need to be created such as car parking/changing room etc.

Ross-on-Wye

The Ross-on-Wye Analysis Area has the same issues as Leominster with a need for one full size pitch without an identified location. In fact, there are fewer strategic sites where such provision could be located due to flooding issues. One solution could be to work with Ross Juniors FC which aspires to acquire additional land south of Ross-on-Wye Sports Centre in order to provide additional capacity to grow.

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The area of land proposed is located outside of the flood zone and is of a large enough size to accommodate a full size 3G pitch. There are potential issues with this approach including cost implications and locality next to a residential area.

It should be noted that the above recommendations, particularly for the Ledbury, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye analysis areas area would require further consultation with the relevant stakeholders in addition to a full feasibility study to ensure viability.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Develop additional 3G pitches to alleviate identified shortfalls within the Bromyard, Hereford, Ledbury, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye analysis areas.
- ◀ If the small size 3G pitch is progressed at Queen Elizabeth High School, ensure that netball/tennis provision is adequately mitigated.
- ◀ Look to confirm sites in Ledbury, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye analysis areas to fully alleviate identified 3G shortfalls.
- ◀ When new provision is established examine the feasibility of it also meeting WR compliancy in order to alleviate identified rugby union grass pitch shortfalls, particularly within the Hereford and Ledbury analysis areas.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA/RFU recommended dimensions and quality performance standards to meet performance testing criteria.
- ◀ Explore the installation of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches as a resolution for clubs that would still have grass pitch shortfalls even if quality and sports lighting was maximised.
- ◀ Work with football partners to ensure this is explored within the potential 3G pitch developments at Newton Farm and Hereford Leisure Centre.
- ◀ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are on the FA register are re-tested every three years to sustain certification.
- ◀ Resurface existing 3G pitches that have exceeded recommended lifespan in the future.
- ◀ Ensure all 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches with external funding have community use agreements in place and seek to use this to also tie in access to grass pitch and other sporting provision, where relevant.

Cricket pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **Overall, there is currently sufficient capacity of natural turf cricket squares to meet current demand for club cricket at an Authority wide level.**
- ◀ There are 37 grass wicket squares in Herefordshire located across 32 sites, of which 26 are available for community use.
- ◀ There are four disused sites which formerly had cricket pitch provision, at The Hayes, Sapey Cricket ground, Pencombe Recreation ground and Marden Recreation Ground.
- ◀ In Herefordshire, there are seven NTP's which accompany grass wicket squares, as well as nine standalone NTPs.
- ◀ All but four clubs in Herefordshire have secure tenure at their home venues through ownership, long term lease and formal rent agreement.
- ◀ Of the 26 squares available for community use, 17 are rated as good quality (65%) and nine are rated as standard quality (35%).
- ◀ The audit of ancillary facilities at available grass pitch cricket sites determines that nine squares (35%) are accompanied by good quality provision, whilst 11 (42%) squares are accompanied by standard quality provision. There are three (12%) squares accompanied by poor quality provision.

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- ◀ There are 22 cricket clubs competing in Herefordshire fielding 90 teams, equating to 51 senior men's, two senior women's, 36 junior boys' and one junior girls' team.
- ◀ Of the responding clubs, seven indicate aspirations to increase levels of participation.
- ◀ There is no predicted participation growth through population growth.
- ◀ Three squares have spare capacity and availability to accommodate additional senior cricket on Saturdays and nine squares have availability on Sundays.
- ◀ There are 14 squares which have availability on junior wickets to accommodate more junior teams.
- ◀ There are two sites in Herefordshire considered to be overplayed for senior cricket by a total of 23 match equivalent sessions per season.
- ◀ There are two sites in Herefordshire considered to be overplayed for junior cricket by a total of seven match equivalent sessions per season.

Scenarios

Addressing overplay

Although a regular, sufficient maintenance regime can sustain good quality sites with minimal levels of overplay (e.g. at Burghill Tillington & Weobley Cricket Club, The Parks, Flaggoners Green (Bromyard CC) (junior wickets) and Colwall Cricket Club (junior wickets), a reduction in play is recommended to ensure that there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.

Improving quality is one way to increase capacity, albeit many of the overplayed sites in Herefordshire are already good quality. The exception to this is the square at Burghill Tillington & Weobley Cricket Club which has a standard quality square and is currently overplayed by 12 match equivalent sessions per season.

Table 4.17: Overplay if square quality was improved to good quality

Analysis area	Site name	Site ID	No. of squares	No. of wickets	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
Senior wickets							
Hereford	Burghill Tillington & Weobley Cricket Club	25	1	6	Standard	12	6

As seen in the table above, improvement to good quality would reduce overplay to six match equivalent sessions per season. This level of overplay is considered manageable, however, any further growth could again increase overplay. It is recommended that the NTP onsite is utilised to a greater standard to alleviate the pressures on the six wicket square.

To fully alleviate overplay at The Parks, Flaggoners Green (Bromyard CC) and Colwall Cricket Club, it is recommended to install a NTP in situ as this would allow for the transfer of junior demand away from the grass wickets. None of these sites are currently serviced by such provision.

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

Although not readily available within grassroots cricket, there may be potential in the future to address overplay through the installation of hybrid wicket/s on competitive senior squares. The ECB has been working with SIS Pitches on the installation of hybrid cricket wickets at county

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cricket clubs (2019) and more recently recreational squares such as Perry Hall Park in Birmingham (2021).

Due to already good standing provision at The Parks, Flaggoners Green (Bromyard CC) and Colwall Cricket Club, along with Burghill Tillington & Weobley Cricket Club which already has an NTP installed, there is scope to potentially explore the opportunity to install hybrid wickets in the future.

A hybrid wicket combines natural turf grass with less the 5% of uniquely engineered, soft polyethylene yarn, which has already been used to improve golf tees, tennis courts and pitch surrounds. These wickets are to offer a greater capacity in addition to reducing time on repair works with a faster recovery time. Reports found that hybrid wickets improve surface stability, reduced wear, reduced bowler foot holes and significantly extended hours of playing time.

Ideally, once these become more readily available for community cricket clubs and have gone through the required testing, they could act as a way to increase levels of playing capacity on overplay squares. This would be particularly beneficial for those sites which are limited on space and cannot create additional wickets due to restrictions things such as boundary length or ball strike.

Although it is difficult at this stage to understand what impact hybrid wickets could have on each site's capacity, it is suggested that it could potentially alleviate all the overplay on both junior and senior wickets. This is based on the assumption that more senior demand can take place on the hybrid wickets allowing for the outer senior wickets to be used/converted for junior demand.

Impact of club aspirational demand on future supply and demand

There was no future demand expressed by population growth and therefore to explore future demand in the Authority future demand from club aspirations will be investigated.

Future demand reported by clubs is considered more aspirational, and it is unlikely that it will all be achieved. This scenario explores the impact that the clubs aspirational demand would have if all the future demand was realised. It should be noted that there was no anticipated growth from future population growth.

The total future demand expressed by clubs is broken down club by club in Table 4.16, the future demand from club aspirations amounts to 11 teams (Three senior Saturday men's, one senior Sunday men's, one senior Sunday women's, five junior boys' midweek and one junior girls' midweek).

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Table 4.18: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Analysis area	Club	Age group	Aspirational future demand (Number of teams)	Day	Wicket type	Capacity balance ³	Match equivalent sessions required to accommodate future demand	Actual spare capacity at home site
Hereford	Bartestree & Lugwardine CC	Senior Men's	1	Sunday	Senior	6	12	No
		Junior boys	1	Midweek	Junior		5	Yes
Ledbury	Colwall CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	Senior	21	12	Yes
Ledbury	Eastnor CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	Senior	18	12	No
Ledbury	Ledbury CC	Senior Women's	1	Sunday	Senior	30	12	Yes
		Junior boys	1	Midweek	Junior	5	5	Yes
Ross-on-Wye	Goodrich CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	Senior	25	12	Yes
Ross-on-Wye	Ross-on-Wye CC	Junior boys	2	Midweek	Junior	30	10	No
		Junior girls	1	Midweek	Junior		5	No
Ross-on-Wye	Woolhope CC	Junior boys	1	Midweek	Junior	9	5	Yes

Bartestree & Lugwardine CC has potential spare capacity onsite, however, due to the volume of current demand on the square, the site does not have enough spare capacity to cater for a further senior Sunday men's team without the square becoming overplayed. The square is currently considered good quality, therefore there is a need to explore other options (e.g NTPs) to cater for this future aspirational demand. Alternatively, the Club aspires to create a second square at Bartestree And Lugwardine Playing Fields to accommodate future demand, it is recommended that this should be explored only after the aforementioned options are reviewed.

Eastnor CC does not have capacity on its current square to host an additional senior Saturday men's team. However, the site previously accommodated a second grass square, and if this was brought back into use the Club would have actual spare capacity which would enable them to accommodate this third senior Saturday men's team.

Ross-on-Wye Sports Centre has potential spare capacity to accommodate all future aspirational demand. However, due to the site being located on a flood zone and regularly flooding, the spare capacity is discounted and therefore the site cannot be considered able to meet the future aspirational demand.

³ Match equivalent sessions per season

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If all future club aspirational demand was realised, it would see Saturday cricket become overplayed at an Authority wide level by 23 match equivalent sessions per season, whilst shortfalls would become evident in the Ledbury and Ross-on-Wye analysis areas. Sunday cricket capacity would remain sufficient, although overplay in the Hereford Analysis Area would be exacerbated. Midweek cricket would also become overplayed at an Authority wide level by two match equivalent sessions, with shortfalls becoming evident in the Ross-on-Wye Analysis Area.

Table 4.19: Impact of club aspirational future demand on supply and demand balance

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per season)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Saturday cricket					
Bromyard	-	-	0	-	0
Golden Valley	12	-	12	-	12
Hereford	-	12	12	-	12
Kington	-	-	0	-	0
Ledbury	12	-	12	24	12
Leominster	-	-	0	-	0
Ross-on-Wye	12	11	1	12	11
Total	36	23	13	36	23
Sunday cricket					
Bromyard	-	-	0	-	0
Golden Valley	12	-	12	-	12
Hereford	-	12	12	12	24
Kington	36	-	36	-	36
Ledbury	48	-	48	12	36
Leominster	24	-	24	-	24
Ross-on-Wye	24	11	13	-	13
Total	144	23	121	24	97
Midweek cricket (junior)					
Bromyard	-	3	3		3
Golden Valley	-	-	0		0
Hereford	5	-	5	5	0
Kington	5	-	5		5
Ledbury	10	4	6	5	1
Leominster	5	-	5		5
Ross-on-Wye	5	-	5	15	10
Total	30	7	23	25	2

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Flooding

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

Table 4.20: Cricket sites within flood zones across Herefordshire

Analysis area	Site ID	Site name	Provision	Flood Zones	
				2	3
Kington	74	Kington Recreation Ground	One grass square which consists of 12 senior wickets.	Yes	
Ledbury	11	Bosbury C of E Primary School	One grass square which consists of five senior wickets	Yes	Yes
Leominster	36	Dales Cricket Club	One grass square which consists of nine senior wickets and two junior wickets.	Yes	Yes
Ross-on-Wye	112	Ross-on-Wye Sports Centre	One grass square which consists of 12 senior wickets. One Standalone NTP also onsite.	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.

Disused cricket sites/provision

There are number of disused sites in Herefordshire which only contain cricket provision or sites which are still active but used to accommodate a grass cricket square as summarised below.

Disused sites

- ◀ Marden Recreation Ground (Hereford Analysis Area) – HR1 3EQ
- ◀ Pencombe Recreation Ground (Golden Valley Analysis Area) – HR7 4RW
- ◀ Sapey Cricket Ground (Bromyard Analysis Area) – WR6 6EU
- ◀ The Hayes (Kington Analysis Area) – HR6 9NZ

Disused cricket squares

- ◀ Bridge Street Sports Centre (Leominster Analysis Area) – HR6 8EA
- ◀ Dorstone Playing Field (Golden Valley Analysis Area) - HR3 6AW
- ◀ Eastnor Cricket Club (Ledbury Analysis Area) – HR8 1RW
- ◀ Ewyas Harold Recreation Ground (Golden Valley Analysis Area) – HR2 0JD
- ◀ Hereford City Sports Club (Hereford Analysis Area) – HR4 9NG
- ◀ Hereford Leisure Pool – (Hereford Analysis Area) – HR2 7RQ
- ◀ Ledbury Rugby Club (Ledbury Analysis Area) – HR8 2LP
- ◀ Wellington Playing Field (Hereford Analysis Area) – HR4 8AZ
- ◀ Widemarsh Common (Hereford Analysis Area) – HR4 9NA
- ◀ Victoria Park (Hereford Analysis Area) – HR1 1AH

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Although these sites are currently not used, it is recommended that they are retained as strategic reserve in order to potentially provide additional capacity for future growth or alternatively venues to increase recreational demand. In particular the disused square at Eastnor Cricket Club should be considered to be reinstated if future demand from Eastnor CC can be realised.

It should be noted that of the above sites, Bridge Street Sports Centre, Hereford City Sports Club, Hereford Leisure Pool, Ledbury Rugby Club and Widemarsh Common are located on a flood zone.

Impact of growth in women's and girls' cricket

Herefordshire CCC reports that in the coming 2-3 years it is looking to grow women and girls' cricket within Herefordshire. There are currently three women's and girls' teams in Herefordshire (two women's teams at Brockhampton CC and Colwall CC, one junior girls' team at Ross-on-Wye CC). Herefordshire CCC has started to work on improving this with two further women's and girls' programme at Bartestree & Lugwardine CC and Wormelow CC.

At present, this new demand is all for softball cricket with aspirations from Herefordshire CCC to increase the number of women's and girls' sections to ten clubs. Softball cricket would limit the availability to access pitches within Herefordshire, however softball cricket does not require grass wickets and therefore would not have an impact on capacity.

Whilst it also suggests that in the near future it hopes to develop ten women's hard ball teams which will play fixtures at respective sites. With only two current women's hard ball teams in place, this means an increase of eight teams. It is predicted that three of these teams will be based at Ross-on-Wye CC (Ross-on-Wye), Wormelow CC (Ross-on-Wye) and Bartestree & Lugwardine CC (Hereford). The locations of the remaining five teams are currently unknown and therefore cannot be allocated to a specific analysis area.

Women's hard ball cricket is played within Herefordshire and nationally on Sunday afternoons. In Herefordshire the average number of matches played by each team per season is eight and therefore this will be applied as the demand for future teams.

Table 4.21: Impact of future women's demand

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per season)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Sunday cricket					
Bromyard	-	-	0		0
Golden Valley	12	-	12		12
Hereford	-	12	12	8	20
Kington	36	-	36		36
Ledbury	48	-	48		48
Leominster	24	-	24		24
Ross-on-Wye	24	11	13	16	3
Total	144	23	121	64⁴	57

⁴ 40 MES added for women's hard ball teams

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There is current actual spare capacity of 121 on Sunday afternoons, therefore with eight additional teams (64 match equivalent sessions) on Sundays there is enough spare capacity in Herefordshire to cater for this. However, future demand in both Ross-on-Wye would create overplay of three match equivalent sessions per season. Whilst overplay in Hereford would be further exacerbated.

When broken down, a future women's team at Ross-on-Wye CC (Ross-on-Wye Sports Centre) could be catered for as the site offers actual spare capacity on Sunday afternoons. Whilst Wormelow CC (Wormelow Cricket Club) and Bartestree & Lugwardine CC (Bartestree and Lugwardine Playing Fields) are free to accommodate additional teams, however, both sites would become overplayed with this additional demand.

Therefore, an increase in women's team should be explored across Herefordshire on sites which currently offer actual spare capacity on Sunday afternoons and where they are not currently operating women's hard ball teams, namely these are:

- ◀ Coppice Field (Moccas Cricket Club)
- ◀ Spearmarsh Common (Almeley CC)
- ◀ Kington Recreation Ground (Kington CC)
- ◀ Canon Frome Cricket Club
- ◀ Eastnor Cricket Club
- ◀ Ledbury Cricket Club
- ◀ Luctonians Sports Club
- ◀ Ross-On-Wye Sports Centre
- ◀ The Avenue (Goodrich Cricket Club)

Furthermore, if improvements were made at Herefordshire Cricket Ground (Pentland Gardens) and this site was made available for use of senior cricket then this site would also be available for use on Sundays for women's hard ball teams. If required, the reinstatement of disused sites/provision which previously accommodated cricket could also be explored to meet future demand.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares.
- ◀ Work with clubs and grounds staff to review quality issues on squares to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Look to retain strategic reserve sites in order to allow for potential future growth of both community club and recreational cricket.
- ◀ Address overplay via quality improvements and the installation of NTPs/Hybrid wickets as well as through greater utilisation of the NTPs already in place.
- ◀ Ensure clubs can realise future growth plans and continue to monitor increases in demand to ensure additional teams can be fielded.
- ◀ Pursue improved security of tenure, particularly for Brampton Bryan and Leintwardines CC, Garnons CC and Herefordians CC.
- ◀ Ensure security of tenure is secured through extending long term lease agreements at respective sites, particularly for Moccas CC (Coppice Field), Kington CC (Kington Recreation Ground and Canon Frome CC (Canon Frome Cricket Club)
- ◀ Improve the ancillary facilities, particularly those which have expressed issues and development plans and those of a standard/poor quality.
- ◀ Consider options to increase and improve stock of suitable practice facilities, first and foremost focusing on Woolhope CC, Almeley CC and Dales CC.
- ◀ Look to bring back the use of the second square at Eastnor CC should the Club realise aspirations of increasing its number of senior Saturday teams.

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- ◀ Identify whether maintenance and/or drainage enhancements would be more beneficial and cost effective for squares located in a flood zone. Also look to establish a suitable plan of action to relocate/reschedule demand if sites become unusable.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing cricket sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).

Rugby union pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **Overall, there is a current shortfall of 18.75 match equivalent sessions per week on senior rugby union pitches to meet current demand.**
- ◀ **This is further exacerbated when considering future demand, resulting in a future shortfall of 19.25 match equivalent sessions per week.**
- ◀ Within Herefordshire there are 26 senior, 11 junior and seven mini pitches provided, with all but 10 being available for community use. This in total amounts to 44 pitches, of which, 34 are available for community use.
- ◀ Each club has complete security of tenure at their home ground through either freehold or long term lease.
- ◀ Greyhound RFC reports it is looking to extend its current lease at Hereford City Sports Club this year (2022).
- ◀ It should be noted that Hereford RFC has previously (2013) been granted planning permission for a complete relocation from Hereford Rugby Club to a site known as Holywell Gutter Lane.
- ◀ Ledbury RFC reports that once the Ledbury Swifts FC has relocated it plans to use the area of land, which previously accommodated the football pitches, to create more rugby union provision.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches in Herefordshire, two are assessed as good quality, 22 as standard and ten as poor.
- ◀ It should be noted that Clive Richards Sports Ground, Hereford Cathedral School Pitches, Hereford City Sports Club, Ledbury Rugby Club, Ross Rugby Football Club and Hereford Rugby Club are actively used for football, are located on flood zones.
- ◀ Hereford RFC reports that its poor quality ancillary provision is limiting potential demand on the site, particularly for women and girls. Its strategic ambition is to either replace or upgrade its clubhouse to better cater for all types of demand in addition to establishing more facilities in order for the Club to grow.
- ◀ There are aspirations for Hereford RFC and Luctonians RFC to access WR compliant 3G pitches for training demand.
- ◀ Overall, all five clubs, that responded to consultation, report future aspirations to create a total of 13 teams which equates to 5.5 match equivalent sessions per week on senior pitches.
- ◀ In total there are two match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity on senior pitches across Herefordshire. This equates to two match equivalent sessions at Luctonians Sports Club (Leominster Analysis Area).
- ◀ There are 11 pitches across five sites in Herefordshire which are overplayed by a total of 20.75 match equivalent sessions per week.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

Improving pitch quality through maximising maintenance and the type of drainage system installed would alleviate overplay on seven of the 11 pitches that are currently overplayed, as shown in the table below.

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Table 4.22: Capacity of overplayed pitches if quality improved to good (M2/D3)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type (no. of pitches)	Current quality	Current Capacity rating ⁵	M2/D3 capacity rating ⁶
31	Clive Richards Sports Ground	Bromyard	Senior (2)	M1/D2	4	2
172	Hereford Rugby Club	Hereford	Senior (1)	M2/D0	6	4.5
			Mini (1)	M2/D0	0.5	1
79	Ledbury Rugby Club	Ledbury	Junior (1)	M1/D1	5	3.5
88	Luctonians Sports Club	Leominster	Junior (1)	M1/D1	0.5	1
			Senior (3)	M1/D1	3.5	1
111	Ross Rugby Football Club	Ross-on-Wye	Senior (2)	M0/D1	1.25	2.75

The above would reduce the current overall shortfall of rugby union pitches in Herefordshire from 18.75 match equivalent sessions to ten match equivalent sessions per week and the future shortfall from 19.25 match equivalent sessions to six match equivalent sessions per week.

However, in reality it is not feasible for every pitch within Herefordshire to be improved to the maximum quality rating due to the financial implications and location of provision. For example, it is not considered to be viable to improve the drainage system at Hereford Rugby Club due to its location on a flood zone as it would have limited effectiveness.

Therefore, the below outlines specific recommendations on each of the overplayed sites on how shortfalls can be overcome.

Clive Richards Sports Ground (Bromyard RFC)

Although it may not be considered feasible to enhance pitch quality at Clive Richards Sports Ground to a higher rating of M2/D3, there is scope to improve the pitches by one maintenance increment. This would see both senior pitches go from a M1/D2 rating to a M2/D2 rating which would result in a decrease in overplay from four match equivalent sessions to 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

To fully alleviate shortfalls on the site there is a need to either create new provision or the transfer some demand off the pitches. There has been no evidence through consultation of an aspiration from Bromyard RFC to develop new pitches, therefore, this leaves the removal of demand off this site is likely to be the more appropriate solution.

As mentioned above in the 3G section, there is evidence to suggest a need for at least one WR compliant 3G pitch in Herefordshire. If this can be achieved within the locality of Bromyard, it is advised the Club relocates some training demand (approximately three match equivalent sessions per week) to the facility. If this could be achieved, it would fully alleviate overplay at Clive Richard Sports Ground.

⁵ Match equivalent sessions

⁶ Match equivalent sessions

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There are limited options for the Club to relocate demand to other grass rugby union pitches in Bromyard with the closest being a poor quality senior pitches at Queen Elizabeth High School which only has 0.5 match equivalent sessions available after curricular and extracurricular demand.

Hereford Rugby Club

As seen in the table above, even if the pitches at Hereford Rugby Club were to be improved to the maximum quality rating, overplay amounting to 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week on the senior pitches would still exist.

Like at Bromyard RFC, there is a need to transfer demand off the site to full alleviate overplay. This could either be done through greater utilisation of other pitches within its locality such as Hereford Cathedral School, The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School or The Hereford Academy. However, these sites offer little additional capacity and suffer issues with unsecure tenure in addition to being located on a flood zone (Hereford Cathedral School).

Alternatively, and again like Bromyard RFC, the development of a WR compliant 3G pitch within the locality of Hereford would allow training/competitive demand from Hereford RFC to be transferred.

A more longer term recommendation would be to explore the feasibility of completely relocating the Club to a new site which is not located on a flood zone. As discussed in the Assessment Report, this has previously been attempted (2013) when planning permission was obtained for the relocation of the Club to a new 22-acre location which included one full size floodlit 3G pitch in addition to three senior grass pitches of which two would be floodlit.

This, however, did not come to fruition but should be re-examined as it would provide the Club with the capacity it needs to meet current and future levels of demand. In addition, it would also provide capacity for surrounding clubs such as Bromyard RFC to alleviate its shortfalls, if a WR compliant 3G were to be established.

Ledbury Rugby Club

The overplay at Ledbury Rugby Club is located solely on one of its 10 pitches. This is a floodlit junior pitch which is overplayed by five match equivalent sessions as it is predominantly used for training demand.

The main way to reduce the amount of overplay is to disperse the training demand across several pitches, however, this may result in a need for additional floodlights. A potential different approach would be to create new provision.

Ledbury RFC reports that if the development at Land South of Little Marcle Road takes places, which would see the removal of football pitches off Ledbury Rugby Club, it would have enough land available to create new pitches. The amount of provision that could be established, and the additional capacity that would be established would directly impact the need for further pitch improvements on the site. The Club did not indicate what provision it would create on the land.

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Luctonians Sports Club

In total there are five senior pitches, of which three are floodlit, and one junior pitch at Lunctonians Sports Club. The two senior pitches that are not floodlit have spare capacity of two match equivalent sessions, whereas the remaining three senior pitches which do have floodlights are overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions. The junior pitch is also overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Each pitch has a M1/D1 quality rating.

In order to alleviate shortfalls on the site entirely there is a need for additional floodlights on one of the senior pitches, to allow for more equal dispersal of demand, in addition pitch improvements.

If each of the current floodlit senior pitches and junior pitch improved from a M1/D1 to a M2/D1 rating this would reduce overall overplay to 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Then there would be a need to install floodlights one of the remaining pitches to allow for spare capacity to be utilised and dispersal of training demand.

Ross Rugby Football Club

There are two senior pitches currently at Ross Rugby Football Club which are poor quality (M0/D1) and are overplayed by 1.25 match equivalent sessions per week. In order to fully alleviate overplay on the site, one pitch would need to be improved to a M1/D2 rating whereas the other pitch would only need to be enhanced to a M1/D1 quality. If this occurred, the site would revert from a shortfall to having spare capacity amounting to 0.25 match equivalent sessions per week. However, this is not enough to accommodate any future demand should this be realised.

It should be noted that Ledbury Rugby Club, Luctonians Sports Club and Ross Rugby Club could also benefit from the development of a WR compliant 3G pitch. If such provision is created in the locality of both clubs, it has the potential to alleviate some shortfalls and as a result, minimise the enhancements required on each of the sites.

Impact of club aspirational demand on future supply and demand

Future demand identified through club aspirations is generally considered more aspirational than population growth. This scenario explores the impact that aspirational demand would have if all the future demand was realised.

All five clubs, that responded to consultation, report future aspirations to create a total of 13 teams which equates to 5.5 match equivalent sessions per week on senior pitches as shown below.

Table 4.23: Summary of club aspirational future demand

Club	Analysis area	Future team aspirations	Future aspirations in match equivalent sessions (MES) on a senior pitch ⁷
Greyhound RFC	Hereford	1 x senior men's	0.5
		2 x mini teams	0.5
Hereford RFC	Hereford	1 x senior men's	0.5
		2 x mini teams	0.5

⁷ Anticipated future junior demand is represented as 0.5 MES on a senior pitch whereas anticipated mini future demand is represented as 0.25 MES on a senior pitch.

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Club	Analysis area	Future team aspirations	Future aspirations in match equivalent sessions (MES) on a senior pitch ⁷
Ledbury RFC	Ledbury	1 x senior women's	0.5
		2 x junior girls	1
Luctonians RFC	Leominster	1 x senior men's	0.5
		1 x senior women's	0.5
Ross-on-Wye RFC	Ross-on-Wye	2 x junior girls	1
Total			5.5

Of the five clubs that have ambitions to increase participation, three (60%) specifically state aspirations to directly expand their women and girls' offering by at least one team.

If realised, club aspirational demand would create an increase of overplay across the Hereford, Ledbury, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye analysis areas. This signifies the importance of improving pitch quality and development of a WR compliant 3G pitch.

Table 4.24: Impact of club aspirational future demand on supply and demand balance

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bromyard	-	4	4	-	4
Golden Valley	-	-	0	-	0
Hereford	-	6.5	6.5	-	6.5
Kington	-	-	0	-	0
Ledbury	-	5	5	-	5
Leominster	2	4	2	-	2
Ross-on-Wye	-	1.25	1.25	-	1.25
Total	2	20.75	18.75	0.5⁸	19.25
Impact of future demand					
Bromyard	-	4	4	-	4
Golden Valley	-	-	0	-	0
Hereford	-	6.5	6.5	2	8.5
Kington	-	-	0	-	0
Ledbury	-	5	5	1.5	6.5
Leominster	2	4	2	1	3
Ross-on-Wye	-	1.25	1.25	1	2.25
Total	2	20.75	18.75	5.5	24.25

⁸ Future demand has been put on Herefordshire as a whole as it cannot be accredited to specific analysis area
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Flooding

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

Table 4.25: Rugby union sites within flood zones across Herefordshire

Analysis area	Site ID	Site name	Provision	Flood Zones	
				2	3
Hereford	56	Hereford Cathedral School Pitches	Two senior and one junior pitch.	Yes	Yes
Hereford	57	Hereford City Sports Club	Two senior pitches.	Yes	Yes
Hereford	172	Hereford Rugby Club	Two senior and one mini pitch.	Yes	Yes
Ledbury	79	Ledbury Rugby Club	One senior, four junior and five mini pitches.	Yes	
Ross-on-Wye	111	Ross Rugby Football Club	Two senior pitches.	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.

Impact of 3G pitch provision to support training demand in the Hereford Analysis Area

The table below, explores the impact of removing the training demand from Greyhound RFC and Hereford RFC off their respective sites.

Table 4.26: Impact of relocating training demand for Greyhound RFC and Hereford RFC onto 3G pitches

Club	Site ID	Site name	Training demand in MES ⁹	Current capacity balance ¹⁰	Potential capacity balance ¹¹
Greyhound RFC	57	Hereford City Sports Club	2	0	2
Hereford RFC	172	Hereford Rugby Club	6	6	0

As seen in the table above, if training demand was relocated off the grass pitch used for training at Hereford City Sports Club, spare capacity of two MES per week would be created. In addition, if all training demand was removed off the grass pitch used for training at Hereford Rugby Club then the overplay of six match equivalent sessions per week would be alleviated, leaving the pitch played to capacity.

On this basis, development of a 3G pitch across the Hereford Analysis Area, which incorporates a shock pad and is WR compliant would help to support cater for training demand for rugby union in the analysis area.

⁹ Match equivalent session (MES)

¹⁰ Capacity balance on pitch utilised for training

¹¹ Capacity balance on pitches currently utilised for training, if training demand was removed and relocated onto 3G pitch provision.

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World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

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

There are currently no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in Herefordshire. However, given the grass pitch shortfalls identified (18.75 match equivalent sessions) and club aspirational future demand (5.5 match equivalent sessions), evidence exists for provision to be provided. Please note the latter (club aspirational future demand) will be explored in greater detailed below.

The need is compounded by the issues of flooding with Hereford Cathedral School Pitches, Hereford City Sports Club, Ledbury Rugby Club, Ross Rugby Football Club and Hereford Rugby Club all located on flood zones. These sites are frequently affected by flooding/water retention meaning competitive and training demand cannot take place. A full size WR compliant 3G pitch, in a suitable location, would allow for this demand to be accommodated in periods of inclement weather.

Based on the shortfall of 3G provision for football and rugby union it is suggested there is a potential to develop WR compliant pitches dependant on the potential funding options available and if they can be factored into ongoing broader football led 3G pitch development plans. It should be noted, however, that the priority should be focused on provision within the Hereford Analysis Area. Both Hereford Leisure Centre and Newton Farm have been identified as potential sites.

If the above approach is taken it should be noted that the shortfalls of 3G provision, from a football training demand perspective would be reduced, however, would likely not equate to one full size pitch equivalent as it would be used for rugby union. This would all depend on the exact programming of the provision once established.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches and areas used for rugby union activity.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at all sites used by clubs through improved maintenance and/or the installation of drainage systems, particularly at sites containing overplayed pitches.
- ◀ Explore long term the potential relocation of Hereford Rugby Club to a better suited located not on a flood zone.
- ◀ Assist in the development of provision to benefit both rugby union and football at Ledbury Rugby Club/Land South of Little Marcle Road.
- ◀ Explore the installation of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches as a resolution for clubs that would still have grass pitch shortfalls even if quality and sports lighting was maximised. Work with football partners to ensure this is explored within the potential 3G pitch developments at Newton Farm and Hereford Leisure Centre.
- ◀ Support all clubs with their aspirations to improve their ancillary facilities.

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Hockey pitches

Assessment Report summary

Hockey summary

- Based on this information (level and location of demand) there is a need to sustain, protect and improve all current full size hockey suitable AGPs in Herefordshire in order to cater for various types of hockey demand across the geographical area of the Authority
- There are five full size hockey suitable AGPs in Herefordshire, of which, all of which are available for community use and are floodlit and need protecting as a hockey suitable surface.
- In total there are seven small size hockey suitable AGPs in Herefordshire of which two are available for community use (Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre and The Downs – Malvern College).
- The full size hockey suitable AGPs at Bridge Street Sports Centre and Hereford Leisure Centre are operated via the Council's leisure provider, Halo Leisure. Comparatively, the pitches at John Kyrle Academy and John Masefield High School are managed internally by the respective schools.
- There are three key hockey sites in Herefordshire, based on levels of demand, which are Bridge Street Sports Centre, Hereford Leisure Centre and John Kyrle Academy.
- There are five full size AGPs within Herefordshire, of which, four are poor quality and one is good quality.
- The majority (three sites or 60%) of ancillary facilities accompanying full size hockey suitable AGPs in Herefordshire are poor quality.
- The six clubs classed as being from Herefordshire accommodate 12 senior teams: six men's teams, five women's teams and one mixed team.
- Furthermore, there are levels of junior demand totalling 221 members. (Leominster Ladies HC - 2, Leominster HC / Kingsland HC - 54, Kington Ladies HC - 18, Ross-on-Wye HC – 54 and MonRoss Ladies HC – 5).
- Leominster HC, Leominster Ladies HC and Ross-on-Wye HC all report latent demand.
- There is imported demand from Malvern Hills by Tenbury Ladies HC into Herefordshire. The Club has two teams which train and play at Bridge Street Sports Centre, Leominster.
- There are two clubs which currently export demand outside of the Authority, namely MonRoss Ladies HC and Kington Ladies HC.

Scenarios

Impact of loss of full size AGP pitches

All five hockey suitable AGPs currently in use for hockey should be protected as such unless replacement provision is provided within the locality and agreed with England Hockey (for reference any replacement provision would need to be built and full community accessible before the feasibility of developing a pitch could be considered). This is because it is considered unfeasible for demand, whether this is community club demand or curricular/extracurricular demand, to be amalgamated onto fewer pitches given the rural nature of Herefordshire and drive-time distances between provision. For clarity, this means that the pitches at the following sites require protection:

- Hereford Leisure Centre
- Whitecross High School Hereford
- John Masefield High School (JMSPORT)
- Bridge Street Sports Centre
- John Kyrle Academy

There is a need to protect provision in order to accommodate current levels of demand in addition to providing capacity for future/latent demand.

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The small size pitch at Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre should also be protected due to it actively being used for both curricular/extracurricular demand and community club demand (Kington Ladies HC).

Therefore, it is considered that if any pitches were to fall out of use, demand would likely be exported out of the Authority as it is generally considered that clubs would have unreasonable travel drive-times across Herefordshire to access other pitches. This would likely hinder both current and future demand for hockey and hence all full size pitches require protection.

Quality improvements

Following on from the above, in order to protect the provision, there is a clear need for improvements to be made regarding the quality of pitch and/or ancillary facilities (Clubhouse/changing rooms/floodlights etc) particularly at those sites used for community hockey such as Hereford Leisure Centre (Hereford HC), John Kyrle Academy (Ross-on-Wye HC) in addition to those currently used for curricular/extracurricular demand such as Whitecross High School and John Masefield High School.

If these enhancements do not take place and the facilities become unusable due to their poor quality both Hereford HC and Ross-on-Wye HC would need to find alternative provision for their demand. Based on the geographical location of the remaining pitch provision in Herefordshire, in addition to its quality, it is deemed that the aforementioned clubs would not be able to relocate to another facility resulting in a significant chance of them folding.

A potential option in order to minimise costings is to look to refurbish these pitches as a collective for economies of scale. This is particularly prevalent for Hereford Leisure Centre and Whitecross High School which are in the same analysis area (Hereford) and only approximately two miles apart from each other. Additionally, all potential options to help fund such an endeavour should be explored, including but not limited to, potential monies from planning (Section 106), match funding from grant opportunities (England Hockey / Sport England) and contributions from site owners (Halo Leisure / Schools / PFI contractors).

Security of tenure/accessibility

Another key issue for hockey across Herefordshire is the lack of security of tenure for clubs. None of the clubs in the Authority are considered to have security of tenure as they each rent the use of their facilities. The lack of secure access means clubs are not guaranteed to be able to use the provision at their preferred time periods. An example of this is Hereford HC at Hereford Leisure Centre where the provider occasionally closes early on Saturday to lessen its expenditure, resulting in the Club only being able to accommodate two matches despite having four senior teams.

The lack of secured access to pitches is impacting the potential growth of hockey, resulting in substantial levels of latent demand. To protect current levels of demand, and allow for the growth of the sport, efforts should be made to secure dedicated club usage (training and match play) at the hockey pitches in Herefordshire.

Recommendations

- ◆ As a minimum, protect the five full size hockey suitable pitches in Herefordshire as well as the small size pitch at Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre.
- ◆ As a priority, refurbish the pitches at Hereford Leisure Centre, Whitecross High School, John Masefield High School and John Kyrle Academy exploring options for economies of scale and potential funding partnerships.

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

- ◀ Encourage providers to have sinking funds in place at all sites to ensure long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Look to explore options to stop the unsolicited conversion of artificial grass surfaces including, but not limited to, the removal of permitted development rights.
- ◀ Pursue long-term security of tenure for clubs through community use agreements. In conjunction look to develop the management and accessibility of provision to ensure its accessibility based on club requirements in order to allow demand to grow.
- ◀ Ensure that no 3G pitch conversions take place that are detrimental to hockey and revisit hockey demand if and when a conversion is proposed to ensure that the pitch in question is not required.
- ◀ Ensure any new 3G pitch developments do not make sand-based provision in the locality unsustainable following the transfer of football activity.

Tennis courts

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **There is currently sufficient capacity at the majority of club sites within Herefordshire with potential issues at Hereford Squash Tennis and Racquetball Centre and Ross-on-Wye Tennis Centre.**
- ◀ **There are also limited options for casual pay & play use for the population of Herefordshire.**
- ◀ There is a total of 124 tennis courts identified in Herefordshire across 35 sites. Of these courts, 85 are identified as being available for community use, whilst 39 are identified as being unavailable.
- ◀ There is one indoor tennis facility in Herefordshire located at Bridge Street Sports Centre.
- ◀ Most outdoor tennis courts in Herefordshire have a macadam surface, with 102 of the 124 courts (82% of all courts) of this type.
- ◀ Most courts in Herefordshire are rated as poor quality (44 courts or 35%), 39 are rated as standard quality (31%) and 41 are accessed as good quality (34%).
- ◀ Hereford Cathedral School, Hereford Leisure Pool, Eardisley Tennis Club and Bridge Street Sports Centre which are actively used for tennis, are located on flood zones.
- ◀ Most courts (66 courts, 53% of all courts) are within education ownership followed by 37 courts (30% of all courts) managed by the resident tennis clubs.
- ◀ There are 13 LTA affiliated tennis clubs in Herefordshire with membership totalling, where known through consultation, 1,046 members.
- ◀ Madley TC, Woolhope TC, Ledbury LTC, Hereford Tennis Centre and Ross-on-Wye Tennis Centre all report having aspirations to increase their membership for both seniors and juniors.

Scenarios

LTA Investment & increasing casual pay and play

In October 2021, the Government and the LTA announced a package of £30 million for investment and improvements for public tennis courts. The Government is to put £22 million whilst the LTA invest £8.4 million into the package. The investment is to be made into public tennis courts which are currently accessed as poor or unplayable quality, the investment will be to bring the courts back to a quality that will benefit the local community.

Using the above funding the LTA has developed a package of support for LAs to grow the use of park tennis courts by removing key barriers to participation. The three products are ClubSpark, Rally and Gate Access and can be used individually or in combination. The products are used to provide a remote booking and access system.

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Instead of providing free access, some local authorities are now securing their courts as per a membership scheme that allows members access through a key fob system following payment of a small yearly fee. Not only does help to deter unofficial use of courts but it also allows official use to be tracked, thus providing data on how well and how often courts are being accessed. In addition, it provides income generation that can go towards ongoing maintenance of the courts.

Both Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre (Kington) and Bridge Street Sports Centre (Leominster) are currently sites in Herefordshire which offer four courts, with sports lighting.

These sites have been identified as non-club sites, which could be developed through the LTA investment to provide more pay and play facilities in the Authority. Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre courts are currently good quality and although no upgrade to the courts are required, installing a Gate Access system for the courts and LTA Smart Access for the site would improve its pay and play offer to attract more users. Likewise Bridge Street Sports Centre, requires both a Gate Access system for the courts and LTA Smart Access for the site, whilst the four courts require improvement as they are currently standard quality.

Further to the above, the LTA identifies an aspiration to develop the macadam area at Hereford Leisure Pool for pay and play. The area has previously accommodated tennis courts, however, none were officially marked out at the time of the site assessments. In order to improve the facility, it is recommended that both the quality and accessibility (Gate/Smart Access) are enhanced. This site is seen as a key for investment within Herefordshire to ensure better and further facilities are available for non-club participants.

Flooding

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

Table 4.27: Tennis sites within flood zones across Herefordshire

Analysis area	Site ID	Site name	Provision	Flood Zones	
				2	3
Hereford	61	Hereford Leisure Pool (King George V Playing Fields)	Six grass courts.	Yes	
Kington	173	Eardisley Tennis Club	Three macadam courts.	Yes	Yes
Leominster	16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	Four macadam courts.	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.

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 to 2041 (in line with the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy Review) using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. However, 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.

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It is still recommended that tennis is built into the process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be enough increase in population to justify on site tennis courts or securing contributions for improvements on existing provision, which would increase capacity to cater for new population. Developer contributions from smaller scale housing developments should also be allocated, where appropriate, to increase the capacity of existing courts by improving the quality and accessibility of provision at key sites in the locality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs or that are well used for recreational demand.
- ◀ Linked to the above, improve park courts as a priority to create year-round recreational tennis options to meet local demand.
- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via utilisation of technology provided by the LTA to support the customer journey and through investment into facilities and accompanying ancillary provision.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Install additional sports lighting at club-based venues, particularly at sites operating above the capacity guidance.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision at club sites, where it is required.
- ◀ Support the development of padel tennis provision in strategic areas and where aspirations exist e.g. at Hereford Squash and Racquetball Centre.
- ◀ Where appropriate, allocate developer contributions to increase the capacity of existing courts by improving the quality and accessibility of provision at key sites in the locality.

Netball courts

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **There is a sufficient supply of courts to cater for current demand.**
- ◀ There are 55 outdoor netball courts identified in Herefordshire across 22 sites, of which, 20 are available for community use across seven sites.
- ◀ England Netball highlight there are two key venues for indoor netball in Herefordshire these are at Bridge Street Sports Centre and The Point 4.
- ◀ Most courts (34 or 62%) are rated as poor quality with significant issues surrounding grip, court markings and evidence of moss/lichen. The remaining courts are either standard (14 courts or 25%) or good quality (seven courts or 13%).
- ◀ All the outdoor netball courts in Herefordshire have a macadam surface.
- ◀ England Netball identifies 22 clubs within the Authority. Herefordshire Netball also operate a Herefordshire Netball League, where 18 summer league teams currently participate across three divisions.
- ◀ Play Netball also operates a league at Hereford Sixth Form College on Monday and Wednesday nights from 7pm-9pm.

Scenarios

Queen Elizabeth High School

As mentioned in the 3G pitch scenarios, there is a potential development of the macadam area at Queen Elizabeth High School which currently accommodates two netball courts overmarked by two tennis courts. Although the provision is not actively used for tennis it is used for community netball.

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The development consists of converting the macadam to a small size 3G pitch which would displace the netball demand off the site. Therefore, it is recommended that a sufficient level of mitigation for the netball/tennis courts is agreed prior to the approval of the conversion. There is a disused macadam area located adjacent to Hereford Road (A465) which has previously accommodate netball/tennis provision which has the potential to be refurbished to support the overall development.

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 to 2041 (in line with the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy Review) using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. However, this is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as tennis and netball as there is no current guidance established on these sports.

It is still recommended that netball is built into the process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be enough increase in population to justify on site netball courts or securing contributions for improvements on existing provision, which would increase capacity to cater for new population. Developer contributions from smaller scale housing developments should also be allocated, where appropriate, to increase the capacity of existing courts by improving the quality and accessibility of provision at key sites in the locality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Ensure that netball provision at Queen Elizabeth High School is sufficiently mitigated if lost as part the 3G development.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs and for England Netball initiatives.
- ◀ Consider establishing additional floodlighting at club-based venues or at venues that could attract netball demand following installation.
- ◀ Where appropriate, secure developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of netball provision.

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Bowling greens

Assessment Report summary

Bowls summary

- There is currently sufficient capacity for both crown and flat bowling greens to meet both current and future demand for each format.
- There are three bowling clubs with around 20 members or fewer which require support to ensure that they remain viable despite a low membership base.
- There are 18 bowling greens in Herefordshire located across 18 sites each of which accommodate one green. All bowling greens in the City are considered available to for community use in some capacity.
- The one crown green in the Authority is located in the Golden Valley Analysis Area at Dorstone Playing Field.
- There is one indoor bowls facility in Herefordshire located at Bridge Street Sports Centre.
- Following a non-technical assessment of greens in Herefordshire and cross referencing the findings against club consultation, most greens (15 or 83%) are rated as good quality, with two greens (11%) rated as standard quality and one green rated as poor quality (6%).
- Bromyard Bowls Club, Dorstone Playing Field, Castle Green, Eardisland Bowls Club and St. Martins Bowls Club which all accommodate bowling greens, are located within flood zones.
- There is only one bowling green (6%) in Herefordshire accompanied by sports lights which is located at Brimfield And Little Hereford Tennis & Bowls Club
- There are 18 bowling clubs playing in Herefordshire. Where known, membership of these clubs totals 637 members.
- Future demand expressed from club during consultation totals 144 members (77 senior and 37 junior).

Scenarios

Accommodating current and future demand

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

- Brimfield And Little Hereford BC (67 members based at Brimfield And Little Hereford Tennis & Bowls Club)
- Ross-on-Wye BC (124 members based at Ross-On-Wye Bowling Club)
- Wellington BC (57 members based at Wellington Playing Field)

Of these, no clubs currently report any capacity issues, with both Ross-on-Wye BC and Brimfield And Little Hereford BC expressing an aspiration to further increase their memberships. All three clubs should be closely monitored to ensure that the clubs and greens do not become oversubscribed.

Club sustainability

Bowls England suggests that clubs operating with a membership of below and around 20 could be unsustainable. In Herefordshire, this relates to the following three clubs:

- Bulmers BC (19 members)
- Castle Green BC (22 members)
- Bodenham BC (26 members)

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Concerns would be alleviated for Castle Green BC if its future demand aspirations were fulfilled, with support therefore required to enable such growth. Bulmers and Bodenham bowls clubs do not report any future demand but also does not report any concerns in relation to long-term future.

For some authorities, an amalgamation of clubs can often be a solution when numerous clubs are struggling for membership within a locality. This could be considered a viable option for Bulmers BC or Castle Green BC due to being located within the Hereford Analysis Area, where several greens are located closer together.

For flat green bowls, Bowls England has implemented new products to increase participation; Bowls Bash[1] (a shortened format) and Play Bowls[2] (to assist clubs to attract more casual, pay and play, participants). Herefordshire currently has no clubs signed up to Bowls Bash and PlayBowls.

Flooding

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

Table 4.28: Bowling green sites within flood zones across Herefordshire

Analysis area	Site name	Site ID	Provision	Flood Zones	
				2	3
Bromyard	Bromyard Bowls Club	193	One flat bowling green	Yes	Yes
Golden Valley	Dorstone Playing Field	39	One crown bowling green	Yes	
Hereford	St. Martins Bowls Club	184	One flat bowling green	Yes	Yes
Hereford	Castle Green	187	One flat bowling green	Yes	
Leominster	Eardisland Bowls Club	191	One flat bowling green	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.

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 to 2041 (in line with the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy Review) using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. However, 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. It is still recommended that bowls is built into the process especially as part of any large scale developments albeit as no new provision is currently recommended development is unlikely to warrant new bowling greens. Therefore, contributions towards increasing the capacity of existing provision to cater for new population should be sought.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of greens that are in use.
- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Seek to improve ancillary facility quality where it is necessary.

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- ◀ Improve security of tenure for Weobley BC, Bodenham BC and Brimfield And Little Hereford BC.
- ◀ Support Brimfield And Little Hereford BC, Ross-on-Wye BC and Wellington BC to ensure demand continues to be met, given high levels of membership.
- ◀ Ensure greens at Bulmers BC, Castle Green BC and Bodenham BC remain sustainable and support club users to increase membership.
- ◀ For flat green bowls, support Bowls England to implement new products to increase participation; Bowls Bash^[1] (a shortened format) and Play Bowls^[2] (to assist clubs to attract more casual, pay and play, participants).
- ◀ Mitigate any permanent loss of greens at disused sites through replacement provision or through appropriate enhancements to other facilities.
- ◀ Where appropriate, secure developer contributions to improve the quality of bowling green provision.

Athletics facilities

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **In conclusion, there is sufficient supply of traditional athletics facilities (400m track) in Herefordshire to meet current and future demand for athletics.**
- ◀ **However, there are qualitative issues at Hereford Leisure Centre with improvements required to ensure it can continue to meet track and field club need and other uses.**
- ◀ In Herefordshire, there is one purpose-built outdoor athletics tracks. The Track is a 400-metre track located at Hereford Leisure Centre in the Hereford Analysis Area.
- ◀ The is one 400 metre track which is owned by Herefordshire Council and overseen by Halo Leisure on its behalf. At present all clubs accessing tracks pay an annual rent.
- ◀ The one athletics track in Herefordshire at Hereford Leisure Centre is rated as poor quality.
- ◀ Within the Authority there are three track and field clubs which access athletics tracks. Membership of these clubs, where known, currently equates to 113 in total.

Scenarios

Track refurbishment (Hereford Leisure Centre)

Given the poor quality of the track and desired plans set out by both Hereford & County AC and Halo Leisure the refurbishment/resurfacing of the athletics track at Hereford Leisure Centre should be seen as a priority. The facility is also strategically important and services a substantial amount of demand across Herefordshire 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 Authority 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.

[1] <https://www.bowlsengland.com/bowlsbash/>

[2] <https://play-bowls.com/>

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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 to 2041 (in line with the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy Review) using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. However, 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. It is still recommended that athletics is built into the process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population to consider more informal running/athletics provision. Contributions towards increasing the capacity of existing provision (through quality improvements) to cater for new population may also be an option for formal athletics track provision.

Recommendations

- ◀ As a priority look to refurbish the athletic tracks at Hereford Leisure Centre and ensure the provision is protected to accommodate current and future athletics demand.
- ◀ Support clubs, running groups, events and England Athletics initiatives such as Park Run and pursue increased participation, where possible.
- ◀ Ensure all clubs/groups continue to have access to Hereford Leisure Centre to operate from and pursue improved security of tenure where it is required.
- ◀ Where appropriate, allocate developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of athletics provision.

Cycling and BMX

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **High demand for cycling is identified within Herefordshire through identified current and latent demand. Furthermore, there are clear aspirations to develop cycling provision at Hereford Leisure Centre.**
- ◀ **Therefore, assistance should be provided to Hereford City Council/Herefordshire Council and ambitions in establishing a dedicated cycling facility with the exact site location and configuration to be decided on with relevant stakeholders (British Cycling, Sport England etc).**
- ◀ Across Herefordshire there are currently two BMX Pump Tracks in the Authority. One is located at Withington Fields, whilst the other is located at Westfaling Street Park both of which are located in the Hereford Analysis Area
- ◀ Credenhill Parish Council reports that it has S106 monies from two housing developments within its locality to develop provision within its Parish.
- ◀ Planning permission (220369) was approved, subject to conditions, to create a new 1.03km closed circuit cycle track with associated external works including perimeter fencing, learn to ride areas, skill based off road areas and perimeter lighting.
- ◀ In total across Herefordshire there is a total of 347 cycling members across the five affiliated clubs.

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Scenarios

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 to 2041 (in line with the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy Review) using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. However, this is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as cycling as there is no current guidance established on these sports. It is still recommended that cycling is built into the process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population to consider cycling provision.

Recommendations

- ◀ Assist where possible in the creation of the dedicated cycling facility at Hereford Leisure Centre 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.
- ◀ Sustain and improve as required the facilities at Westfalin Street Park and Withington Fields.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of creating dedicated cycling provision for Credenhill Parish Council as part of S106 contributions.
- ◀ Ensure continued access to sites and routes used for formal cycling.
- ◀ Consider creation of a Cycling Network that can link up with school and park sites.
- ◀ Explore the creation and/or more regular access to traffic free provision.
- ◀ Ensure all clubs/groups have home bases to operate from and pursue improved security of tenure where it is required.
- ◀ Where appropriate, allocate developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of cycling provision.

Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs)

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ **There are evident shortfalls across the Authority outside of the Hereford Analysis Area.**
- ◀ Across Herefordshire there is a total of seven MUGAs.
- ◀ All MUGAs are owned and managed by the Council (including parish/town councils).
- ◀ In total across Herefordshire, five MUGAs are assessed as poor quality, whilst two are assessed as good quality.
- ◀ Given the open access nature of the MUGAs provided within Herefordshire, no usage is recorded; meaning demand for access is therefore unknown.
- ◀ When looking at the locations of the current supply of MUGAs in Herefordshire it is evident that there is a lack of supply in the majority of the analysis areas. At present there is an evident shortfall with no provision in the Bromyard, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye analysis areas. Whilst there is just one facility in the each of the Kington and Golden Valley analysis areas.

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Scenarios

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 to 2041 (in line with the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy Review) using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. However, this is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union and cricket and does not include calculations for MUGAs as there is no current guidance established. It is still recommended that MUGAs are built into the process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population to consider additional provision which could also be linked to the provision of tennis/netball courts.

Recommendations

- ◀ Look to improve the quality of MUGAs across the Authority and work with relevant stakeholders to establishing new provision where appropriate.
- ◀ Provision of MUGAs is recommended within new major housing developments and should be considered within rural communities where formal pitches may not be deliverable.
- ◀ Where appropriate, allocate developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of MUGA provision.

Other sports

Assessment Report summary

American football

- ◀ There is currently one American football club based in Herefordshire, Hereford Stampede which is based at Ledbury Rugby Club.
- ◀ At present, there is sufficient supply of facilities at Ledbury Rugby Club to cater for current demand.

Croquet

- ◀ At present it is considered that there is sufficient supply of provision to cater for current and future demand.
- ◀ There are two croquet clubs in Herefordshire, Luctonians Croquet Club which plays at Luctonians Sports Club (Leominster Analysis Area), whilst Eardisley Croquet Club is based at Eardisley Tennis Club in the Kington Analysis Area.

Lacrosse

- ◀ There are no known aspirations to develop Lacrosse within Herefordshire.

Skate parks

- ◀ It is evident that Herefordshire has a good supply of skatepark provision in high population density areas. Issues remain with the quality of provision with skateparks at Bromyard Skate Park and Newton Farm Skate Park, Further investigation is required in Ledbury and Leominster to establish if demand exists for additional skatepark provision to be provided.
- ◀ In total 50% of provision is rated as good quality with the remaining provision equally split between standard (25%) and poor quality (25%).
- ◀ There are four dedicated skatepark facilities identified in Herefordshire at four sites, one within Bromyard Analysis Area, two within the Hereford Analysis Area and one in the Ross-on-Wye Analysis Area.

Rugby league

- ◀ There is currently no provision for rugby league in Herefordshire. Further to this, there is no known rugby league club based in the Authority.

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Rounders

- ◀ Luctonians Sports Club operates the Luctonians Rounders League, which started operating in 2010.
- ◀ There are seven rounders pitches across three sites (Hereford Leisure Pool / The Bishops of Hereford's Bluecoat School/Luntonians Sports Club) in Herefordshire.
- ◀ There are currently 12 rounders team which play within the Luctonians Rounders League.

Scenarios

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 to 2041 (in line with the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy Review) using the Sport England Development Pitch Calculator. However, this is only for the pitch sports of football, hockey, rugby union, rugby league and cricket and does not include calculations for sports such as rounders, croquet etc as there is no current guidance established on these sports. It is still recommended that, as required, such provision is built into the process especially as part of any large scale developments where there may be substantial enough increase in population to consider contributions towards increasing the capacity of existing provision (through quality improvements) to cater for new populations.

Recommendations

- ◀ Retain, and improve as relevant, the provision for American football, croquet, rounders and skate parks.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of creating skate park facilities in areas of high population which do not currently have any such as Leominster and Ledbury.
- ◀ Where appropriate, allocate developer contributions to improve the quality and accessibility of other sports provision.

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PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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

OBJECTIVE 1

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

Recommendations:

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

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

The PPOSS Assessment shows that all currently used outdoor sports sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because shortfalls would occur both now and, in the future, if they were lost. Consideration should also be given to the protection of underused and poor quality sites from development or replacement as they may offer potential to meet shortfalls, particularly for football and rugby, in the future.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 99 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

Should outdoor sports facilities be taken out of use for any reason (e.g. Council budget restraints), land should ideally be retained so that it can be brought back into use in the future.

Although there are some identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions i.e. for rugby union and football pitches, most demand is currently being met and most shortfalls are likely able to be addressed through quality improvements. However, qualitative improvements should be secured as a sports development initiative and should not be used to mitigate the loss of playing field arising from a non-sport development. It is therefore, not recommended as a priority to identify 'new' sites for provision.

The PPOSS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new outdoor sports and ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the

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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 playing fields and will use the PPOSS to help assess that planning application against its Playing Fields Policy¹².

Sport England's Playing Fields Policy exception E1 only allows for development of disused playing fields if a Playing Pitch Strategy (in this case PPOSS) shows a clear excess in the quantity of playing pitch provision at present and in the future across all playing pitch sport types and sizes.

Policy Exception E1:

'A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Sport England that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport'.

Where the PPOSS cannot demonstrate that the site, or part of a site, is clearly surplus to requirements then replacement of the site, or part of a site, will be required to comply with the remaining Sport England policy exceptions.

Policy Exception E2

'The proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field and does not affect the quantity and quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use'.

Policy Exception E3

'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 quality.
- ◀ Result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site.
- ◀ Prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site'.

Policy Exception E4:

'The playing field or fields to be lost as a result of the proposed development would be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new playing field site or sites:

- ◀ of equivalent or better quality and
- ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity;
- ◀ in a suitable location and;
- ◀ subject to equivalent or better management arrangements.

¹²https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy

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Policy Exception E5

'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 of use, of the area of playing field'.

Disused sites

Disused sites will also be considered in accordance with Sport England's policy exceptions. They provide a potential solution to reducing any identified shortfalls for football and rugby union. A disused site is a site where pitches were once, but are no longer, marked out and remain undeveloped.

Any disused playing fields are included within the Action Plan together with a recommendation in relation to potentially bringing the site back into use or to mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)¹³. They should also be encouraged to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies and local businesses.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

¹³ <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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

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

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, as well helping to reduce identified shortfalls. It is, however, common for school provision not to be fully maximised for community use, even on established community use sites.

In some instances, 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 facilities sometimes leads to them being played to capacity or overplayed simply due to curricular and extra-curricular use, meaning they cannot accommodate any additional use by the community.

As a priority, community use options should be explored at large schools offering numerous pitches, such as Hereford Cathedral School, The Hereford Academy, Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre and John Kyrle Academy. Securing access to such sites will significantly reduce shortfalls throughout the analysis areas that they are based within.

Although there are 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, relevant NGBs have a role to play in supporting the Council to deliver upon this recommendation and communicating with schools where necessary to address shortfalls in provision.

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 outset to maximise the potential for facility provision to be made within the developments, if appropriate. An example of this is ensuring the provision of youth 11v11 and/or youth 9v9 grass football pitches, given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students.

As detailed earlier, NGBs, Active Herefordshire and Worcestershire 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.

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OBJECTIVE 2

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

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

There are several ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality and these are explored below.

Ground Maintenance Association (GMA) Pitch Advisory Service

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation, the Pitch Advisory Service (PAS, formerly the Grounds and Natural Turf Improvement Programme) was launched in 2014 and is funded by the GMA and its partners; the Football Foundation, Sport England, FA, ECB, RFU and RFL.

Its aim is to raise the standards of sports surfaces as well as the understanding of sports turf management practices among grassroots clubs across England and Wales. The PAS provides an enhanced network of support and expertise available to those maintaining natural turf pitches, particularly at a local level.

The service can be utilised by grassroots 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 report which will also identify the key enhanced maintenance works required along with machinery requirements.

For football, Pitch providers are encouraged to complete a self-assessment of pitches using the Football Foundation PitchPower tool, whilst for other sports a site visit in person may be undertaken by a GMA Pitch Advisor.

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 (PQS) assessment. The Performance Quality Standard Assessment assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether it meets the standards that are benchmarked by the Ground Management Association.

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Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF)

Eligible clubs and organisations can also utilise the report as an evidence base to acquire potential funding streams, for example, to obtain the required maintenance equipment. If a PitchPower assessment categorises pitches as 'poor' or 'basic' they are then eligible to apply for Grass Pitch Funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund¹⁴, 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 Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 20,000 quality grass pitches by 2030. Clubs with good or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding.

All applicants must have the required security of tenure and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs, leagues, National League System Clubs at Steps 1-6 and charities (with an annual turnover of under £500,000). Local authorities are not currently eligible applicants, however, clubs, leagues and charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure.

The Council is not presently eligible to access the GPMF as an applicant, however, can undertake technical assessment of pitches using the PitchPower app. Opportunities to access the fund to support presently Council managed sites include establishment of a service level agreement with a resident club for maintenance responsibilities, or transfer of long-term management to the club/organisation through leasehold or CAT, both enabling the club/organisation to apply to the fund.

Furthermore, the Football Foundation also launched a new Groundskeeping Community online platform in 2019 which provides a resource of expert advice for grounds staff, enabling them to connect with peers, discover new tips and tricks and share advice on best industry practice. Users can seek guidance from the GMA regional pitch advisors, who are available to answer questions and update members on changes to industry standards.

Addressing quality issues

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 there is no dedicated drainage system in place or if existing drainage systems are inadequate or have become compromised or poorly maintained. 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 Strategy approach to outdoor sports facilities achieving these standards should be to enhance quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.

¹⁴ <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/grass-pitch-maintenance-fund>

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For the purposes of quality assessments, the PPOSS refers to outdoor sports facilities and ancillary facilities separately as being of ‘Good’, ‘Standard’ or ‘Poor’ quality. For example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements and vice versa (e.g. a good quality pitch may be serviced by poor quality changing facilities).

Good quality refers to pitches that have, for example, good grass cover, an even surface, are free from vandalism and litter. For rugby union, 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 union, 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. For rugby, pitches will have inadequate natural 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. Also, key sites without a suitable offer may not be able to establish or grow participation in key sport development areas with specific requirements, such as disability or women and girls’ sport.

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

Flooding

As mentioned in Part 4: Sport Specific Issues Scenarios and Recommendations, key sites within Herefordshire are located near to the River Wye and its tributaries. 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
Zone One - Low Probability	Land having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river or sea flooding.
Zone Two - Medium Probability	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.
Zone Three A - High Probability	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.

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Flood Zone	Definition
Zone Three B - The Functional Floodplain	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.

The table below identifies the sites and sports which are located in either flood zones two and/or flood zone three.

Table 5.3: Sporting sites within flood zones across Herefordshire

Analysis area	PPS ID	Site	Flood zones	
			2	3
Football				
Hereford	1	Allpay Park - Moorhouse	Yes	Yes
Hereford	22	Broomy Hill	Yes	Yes
Hereford	56	Hereford Cathedral School Pitches	Yes	Yes
Hereford	57	Hereford City Sports Club	Yes	Yes
Hereford	60	Hereford Leisure Centre	Yes	Yes
Hereford	61	Hereford Leisure Pool (King George V Playing Fields)	Yes	
Hereford	108	Riverside Primary School	Yes	Yes
Ledbury	11	Bosbury C of E Primary School,	Yes	Yes
Ledbury	79	Ledbury Rugby Club	Yes	
Leominster	65	Ivington C of E Primary School	Yes	Yes
Leominster	82	Leominster Town FC (Bridge Street Sports Park)	Yes	
Ross-on-Wye	112	Ross-On-Wye Sports Centre	Yes	Yes
Ross-on-Wye	163	Whitchurch C of E Primary School	Yes	Yes
Cricket				
Kington	74	Kington Recreation Ground	Yes	
Ledbury	11	Bosbury C of E Primary School	Yes	Yes
Leominster	36	Dales Cricket Club	Yes	Yes
Ross-on-Wye	112	Ross-On-Wye Sports Centre	Yes	Yes
Rugby union				
Hereford	56	Hereford Cathedral School Pitches	Yes	Yes
Hereford	57	Hereford City Sports Club	Yes	Yes
Hereford	172	Hereford Rugby Club	Yes	Yes
Ledbury	79	Ledbury Rugby Club	Yes	
Ross-on-Wye	111	Ross Rugby Football Club	Yes	Yes
Hockey suitable AGPs				
Leominster	16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	Yes	
Tennis				
Hereford	61	Hereford Leisure Pool	Yes	
Kington	173	Eardisley Tennis Club	Yes	
Leominster	16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	Yes	
Bowling greens				
Bromyard	193	Bromyard Bowls Club	Yes	Yes
Golden Valley	39	Dorstone Playing Field	Yes	
Hereford	184	St. Martins Bowls Club	Yes	Yes
Hereford	187	Castle Green	Yes	Yes
Leominster	191	Eardisland Bowls Club	Yes	Yes

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Analysis area	PPS ID	Site	Flood zones	
			2	3
Athletics				
Hereford	60	Hereford Leisure Centre	Yes	Yes

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 and rugby union and seasonal for cricket), as shown in the preceding Assessment Report.

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

Table 5.4: Carrying 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 pitches	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	60 per season	0 per season
Hockey	Sand/water based AGP	4 per day	4 per day	N/A

For non-pitch sports, capacity is not linked to the number of matches taking place but rather the number of members (and other users) attracted to a site. For example, for tennis, a hard court is said to have capacity for 60 members if it is serviced by sports lighting, whereas a non-lit has court has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts).

It is imperative to engage with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity. Where overplay is identified, play should be encouraged, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity, or quality, where possible, should be improved to increase capacity to appropriate levels. Where play is transferred, this may include transferring play to 3G pitches or to sites not currently available for community use but which may be in the future.

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

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For rugby union and tennis, additional sports lighting will reduce levels of overplay at club sites as it will allow clubs to spread demand across a greater number of pitches/courts or, in the case of rugby union, unmarked areas. If permanent sports lighting is not possible, portable sports lighting is an alternative.

As mentioned earlier, there are also sites that are poor quality but 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 lead again to them becoming poor quality pitches if not properly maintained.

Improving changing provision

There is a need to address changing provision at some sites in Herefordshire (these are detailed in the Action Plan). As previously mentioned, 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Recommendation (g) – Secure developer contributions

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

For playing pitches, it is recommended the Council use Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator as a tool for helping to determine the additional demand for pitches and to estimate the likely developer contribution required linking to sites within the locality. This should form part of the Council working with Sport England to develop a process and guidance for obtaining developer contributions.

The calculator uses the current number of teams by sports pitch type contained within the Assessment Report and calculates the percentage within each age group that play that sport. That percentage is then applied to the population growth. The additional teams likely to be generated are then converted into match equivalent sessions and associated pitch requirements in the peak period, with the associated costs (both for providing the pitch/facility and for its life cycle) then given. The calculator splits the requirement into peak time demand for natural turf pitches, training demand for artificial grass pitches, and the number of new changing rooms required.

The PPOSS should be used to help determine the likely impact of a new development on demand and the capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for improvements to increase capacity of existing provision or if new provision is required. Where a development is located within access of existing high-quality provision, this does not necessarily mean that there is no need for further provision or improvement to existing provision, as additional demand arising from the development is likely to result in increased usage (which can result in overplay or quality deterioration).

Where it is determined that new provision is required to accompany a development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality. To determine 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 potentially multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for future AGP development. This is because single-pitch facilities are more likely to become under-used (or unused), unviable and unsustainable.

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

The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate provision and subsequent maintenance. S106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and of the pitches/other facilities included within the PPOSS in order to increase capacity to accommodate more activity.

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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 S106 agreement or equivalent must be completed that should specify, when applied, the amount that will be linked to Sport England's Building Cost Information Service¹⁵ from the date of the permission and timing of the contribution/s to be made.
- ◀ Contributions should also be secured towards the first ten years of maintenance on new pitches (lifecycle costs), the cost of which is indicated by the Sport England Playing Pitch 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 facility enhancement, alongside other open space provision, and its subsequent maintenance.
- ◀ Where new provision is 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.

For further information, please see Part 7 of this report.

¹⁵<https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/facility-cost-guidance>

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OBJECTIVE 3

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

Recommendations:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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 is separated by analysis area and includes information pertaining to the sub sections below.

Site hierarchy

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

The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in an Authority-wide context i.e., they accommodate most of the demand, or the recommended action has the greatest 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
Site location	Strategically located in the Authority. Priority sites for NGBs.	Strategically located within the analysis area.	Serves the local community.
Site layout	Accommodates three or more grass pitches, generally including provision of an AGP (or with the potential).	Accommodates two or more grass pitches.	Accommodates one or two pitches.
Type of sport	Multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.	Generally single sport provision but may cater for two.
Management	Management control allows for wide community use, i.e., through the local authority, a leisure operator or a school with a community use agreement.	Management control generally allows for wide community use but may include sites that are owned or leased by clubs/other organisations.	Management control can be via the local authority, schools, clubs and other providers.
Maintenance regime	Maintenance regime aligns or could align with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns or could align with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime or an in-house maintenance contract.
Ancillary facilities	Good quality ancillary facilities on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches; may include wider social/function facilities.	Good quality ancillary facility on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Limited or no changing room access on site.

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Hub sites are of 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.

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

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

Local sites refer to those sites offering minimal provision or that are of minimal value to the wider community. Primarily they are sites with one pitch/facility or a low number of pitches/facilities that service just one or two sports (e.g., bowling green sites).

For local authority sites local sites, consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking on a long-term lease (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought. Such sites will require some level of investment, either to the outdoor sport facilities or ancillary facilities and 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.

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 the actions identified but where the action is a priority and resource is available the partner will endeavour to assist.

As all sites sit within the local authority area, the Council is considered to be a partner for each identified action (as the column indicates partners for the Council) and is therefore not included. However, it is acknowledged that it will take on more of a leading role for some specific sites and some specific actions (e.g., at council venues).

Priority

Although hub sites are mostly likely to have a **high** priority actions, as they have wide importance, these 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 have **medium** priority actions. These have analysis area importance and are identified on the basis of the impact that they will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment, although not to the same extent as high priority actions.

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The **low** priority actions tend to be for 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. Whilst low priority, there may be opportunities to action some of the recommendations made against such sites relatively quickly e.g., through S106 funding.

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/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/facility-cost-guidance>

Timescales

The Action Plan has been created to be delivered over a ten-year period and 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 Sport England aims of the Strategy; **Enhance, Provide, Protect.**

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BROMYARD ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Bromyard	Adult	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Youth 9v9	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Adult	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 7 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
3G	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Cricket	Bromyard	Saturday	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Sunday	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Midweek	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season
	Herefordshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Bromyard	Senior	Shortfall of 4 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 4 match equivalent sessions
	Herefordshire	Senior	Shortfall of 18.75 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 19.25 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hockey	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sustain and protect all full size provision	Sustain and protect all full size provision
Tennis	Herefordshire	Courts	Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand	Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Netball	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Bowls	Herefordshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity however quality issues	Sufficient quantity however quality issues
Cycling & BMX	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>
MUGAs	Herefordshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area
Other sports	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
15	Bredenbury Primary School	HR7 4TF	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
19	Bringsty Common	WR6 5UW	Football (Disused)	Whitbourne PC	Previously accommodated an adult pitch. It has not been maintained nor marked since circa 2009. It should be noted that satellite imagery suggests goalposts were still installed in 2021.	If required explore opportunity to dedicate maintenance to bring disused/unmarked pitches back to use.	Whitbourne PC HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
26	Burley Gate C of E Primary School	HR1 3QR	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One poor quality macadam netball court with no sports lighting unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
31	Clive Richards Sports Ground	HR7 4LP	Rugby union	Sports club	Two senior rugby union pitches of M1/D2 (standard) quality. Both pitches have sports lighting and are available for community use. Ancillary provision of good quality. Pitches are currently overplayed by four MES per week.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the creation of additional provision on the site or removal of demand off in order to reduce overplay. If a WR complaint 3G is established in its locality look to transfer partial demand off the site to the artificial surface in order to alleviate overplay.	Sports club RFU	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance
			Tennis (Disused)		Three disused macadam courts that have not been used for over a decade.	If required explore opportunity to dedicate maintenance to bring disused courts back to use.	Sports club LTA		L	L	L	Protect
38	Delahay Meadow	HR7 4NT	Football	Sports club	One adult pitch of standard quality. Available for community use. Pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site has previously maintained a further two adult pitches, however since 2013, two of the pitches have not been marked or maintained and are now classified as disused pitches. Work done on the grass pitches could be undertaken to bring the pitches back into use if required.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. If required explore opportunity to dedicate maintenance to bring disused/unmarked pitches back to use. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
105	Pencombe C E Primary School	HR7 4SH	Football	Education	One mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
107	Queen Elizabeth High School	HR7 4QS	Football	Education	Two youth 11v11 of poor quality, available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to secure use of the site and make use of availability.	School HFA FF	Key site	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			3G		The Football is currently working with the School regarding developing a small size 3G pitch. This project was identified within the LFFP and has secured S106 investment. The School is looking at a delegated Football Foundation application submission within the near future (3-6 months), however, it should be noted it is still subject to planning permission.	Explore the opportunity to develop a small sided 3G pitch onsite. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	School HFA FF		M	M	M	Provide
			Cricket		One standard quality, standalone NTP. The pitch is available for community use and is used actively by Bromyard CC for senior men's cricket on Saturday afternoons.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby union		One senior rugby pitch of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Pitch has no sports lighting and is available for community use. Pitch isn't currently utilised outside of school use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to secure use of the site and make use of availability.	School RFU		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two macadam courts of poor quality, with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use. In addition, there is also another macadam area onsite, which previously accommodated tennis courts until c1999, this area has not been used for over two decades.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Two macadam netball courts, poor quality, with two further courts overmarked on macadam tennis courts of poor quality. All courts with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	It is recommended that a sufficient level of mitigation for the netball/tennis courts is agreed prior to the approval of the conversion.	School EN		H	S	M	Protect Provide
113	Sapey Cricket Ground	WR6 6EU	Cricket (Disused)	Private	Previously accommodated a four wicket grass cricket square alongside an NTP. The site has not been maintained for cricket since circa 2013 when the former users, Sapey CC, folded. Players from Sapey CC moved to other clubs in the area to access cricket.	Explore opportunity to bring disused pitch back to use. The site should be protected from development until all demand is met (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 HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
125	St Michael's C of E Primary School	HR1 3JU	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
127	St Peter's Primary School	HR7 4UY	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
132	Stoke Prior Primary School	HR6 0ND	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
162	Whitbourne Playing Field	WR6 5RN	Football	Whitbourne PC	One recreational youth 9v9 pitch.	Look to improve and maintain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for recreational use.	Whitbourne PC HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
180	Bodenham & District Tennis Club	HR1 3LB	Tennis	Sports club	Two macadam courts of standard quality with sports lighting and available for community use. Bodenham & District TC indicates that the courts are nearing the time for resurface and refurbished. The Club plans on starting this process in the coming two/three years.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to resurface and refurbish courts when required.	Sports club LTA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
193	Bromyard Bowls Club	HR7 4LW	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Green is located within a flood zone.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
196	Bodenham Bowls Club	HR1 3LS	Bowls	Trust	One standard quality flat green with no sports lighting. Bodenham BC reports that the green has decreased in quality due to lack of watering. Bodenham BC rents the site on a peppercorn agreement, and therefore is considered to have unsecure tenure. The Club has a low membership of 26 members and is close to the recommended 20 members for green sustainability.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to secure tenure for Bodenham BC on site, through a formal longer term agreement. Explore the opportunity to increase club membership, to ensure green remains sustainable.	Sports club BE	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
197	Bromyard Skate Park	HR7 4TW	Skate Park	Bromyard and Winslow TC	One poor quality skate park with no sports lighting. A basic facility made up from wood/composite ramps upon a tarmac base consisting of two roll-in ramps with a funbox in the middle and a rail set to one side.	Look to improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Bromyard and Winslow TC SBGB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
202	Gaines Manor	WR6 5RN	Football Tennis (Disused)	Religious centre	One youth 9v9 and three tennis courts (one macadam and two grass). Satellite imagery suggests the pitches ceased maintenance between 2005.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the site.	Religious centre HFA FF LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
206	Flaggoners Green (Bromyard CC) (Bromyard CC)	HR7 4QS	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality grass square consisting of eight senior wickets and two junior wickets. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to resurface net facility.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance

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PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					Senior wickets currently have spare capacity of seven MES, however, only has actual spare capacity for midweek cricket. The junior wickets are overplayed by three MES. Two lane net facility of poor quality, which needs fully resurfacing.							

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

GOLDEN VALLEY ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Golden Valley	Adult	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Youth 9v9	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Adult	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 7 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
3G	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Cricket	Golden Valley	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Golden Valley	Senior	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Senior	Shortfall of 18.75 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 19.25 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hockey	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sustain and protect all full size provision	Sustain and protect all full size provision

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Tennis	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand</i>
Netball	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Bowls	Herefordshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
Cycling & BMX	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>
MUGAs	Herefordshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area
Other sports	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
30	Clifford Primary School	HR3 5HA	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
35	Coppice Field (Moccas Cricket Club)	HR2 9LG	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality grass square consisting of seven senior wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. The senior wickets have spare capacity of 22 MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams for senior Saturday, senior Sunday and midweek cricket. Current lease expires in 2027.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to make use of the actual spare capacity where required. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to renew the lease on a long term basis, to secure the long term future of the Club.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
39	Dorstone Playing Field	HR3 6AW	Football	Community organisation	One recreational adult pitch.	Look to improve and maintain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for recreational use.	Community organisation HFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		One good quality crown green, with no sports lighting. Green is located within a flood zone.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA		L	L	L	Protect
			Cricket		Previously accommodated a six wicket grass square which ceased maintenance circa 2013.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Council HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
44	Escley & District Sports Pavilion	HR2 0JS	Cricket	Council	One standard quality standalone NTP.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			MUGA		One poor quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
45	Ewyas Harold Primary School	HR2 0EY	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
46	Ewyas Harold Recreation Ground	HR2 0JD	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch (overmarked with a youth 9v9). Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Used by Ewyas Harold FC (Regional Feeder League).	Look to improve and maintain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket (Disused)		Previously accommodated an NTP and four wicket grass square. The site is still actively used for football, with the cricket provision onsite not being maintained since circa 2009.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Council HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
85	Longtown Community Primary School	HR2 0LE	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
106	Peterchurch Primary School	HR2 0RP	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
179	Preston-on-Wye Tennis Courts	HR2 9JU	Tennis	Sports club	Two poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance	Sports club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
207	Pencombe Recreation Ground	HR7 4RW	Cricket Football (Disused)	<i>Unknown</i>	Last used and maintained for cricket <i>circa</i> 2013. However, the site itself continued to be used and maintained for adult football until around 2018. The grass square accommodated five wickets and was used by Pencombe CC before the Club became nomadic playing irregular friendly fixtures at hosting teams.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the site.	Council HFA FF HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

HEREFORD ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Hereford	Adult	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
	Herefordshire	Adult	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 7 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
3G	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 1.5 3G pitches	Shortfall of 1.5 3G pitches
Cricket	Hereford	Saturday	Shortfall of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 12 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Shortfall of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 12 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Hereford	Senior	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions
	Herefordshire	Senior	Shortfall of 18.75 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 19.25 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hockey	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sustain and protect all full size provision	Sustain and protect all full size provision

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Tennis	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand</i>
Netball	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Bowls	Herefordshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
Cycling & BMX	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>
MUGAs	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Other sports	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Allpay Park - Moorhouse	HR4 9NA	Football	Sports club	<p>One adult, one mini 5v5, one mini 7v7 and one youth 11v11 (overmarked with youth 9v9) all of good quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Site is located on a flood zone.</p> <p>The adult pitch is currently played to capacity, whilst all other pitches have potential spare capacity. All spare capacity onsite is discounted due to be located on a flood zone.</p> <p>Westfields FC (Step 5/Tier 6) suggests there is a need to extend/develop a larger car park onsite. At present there is not enough parking space available, with significant congestion around the ground on training and match days.</p>	<p>Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to extend/develop a larger car park onsite.</p> <p>Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step/Tier football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.</p>	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L-M	M	L-M	Protect Provide
5	Aylestone School	HR1 1HY	Football	Education	<p>One youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality, pitch is available for community use. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Youth 9v9 pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure.</p>	<p>Look to improve and maintain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Look to secure tenure of the site for community clubs, then utilise actual spare capacity where required.</p>	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		<p>Five standard quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.</p>	<p>Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. for school use.</p>	School LTA					
			Netball		<p>Four standard quality netball courts overmarked onto tennis courts, unavailable for community use.</p>	<p>Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. for school use.</p>	School EN					
6	Bartestree And Lugwardine Playing Fields	HR1 4BU	Football	Community organisation	<p>One adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 pitches all of poor quality. Available for community. Ancillary provision of poor quality.</p> <p>Adult pitch is overplayed by two MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by one MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity at peak time, whilst the three mini 5v5 pitches have potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to poor pitch quality.</p>	<p>Look to improve and maintain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.</p>	Community organisation HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Cricket		One good quality square which consist of ten senior wickets. Ancillary provision of good quality. The senior wickets have spare capacity of six MES per season, with actual spare capacity to accommodate. Bartestree & Lugwardine CC reports that for continued growth, it plans to develop a second ground at Bartestree And Lugwardine Playing Fields. It has had discussions with the local Playing Fields Trust around developing the field East of the current site into a second cricket square. This development would see an additional changing facility alongside the square.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop a second square onsite accompanied by ancillary facilities, in line with Barstree & Lugwardine CC's growth.	Community organisation HCB ECB		M	M	M-H	Protect Provide
7	Belmont Abbey	HR2 9RZ	Football	Sports club	One adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Available for community use. Adult pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch has actual spare capacity one MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity at peak time, whilst the mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. Toros FC reports that although the ancillary facilities are of good quality, there are currently not enough changing rooms to cater for its recent growth in teams.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility to increase number of changing rooms onsite to cater for current demand, through temporary or permanent facilities.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L-M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
20	Broadlands Primary School	HR1 1HY	Netball	Education	Four standard quality macadam netball courts, with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
22	Broomy Hill	HR4 0LJ	Football	Sports club	One adult pitch of standard quality. Available for community use. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is currently played to capacity at peak time. Hinton FC (Regional Feeder League) reports that it has planning permission granted for the build of a new clubhouse at Broomy Hill. At present the Club has a tender out for prices on the build and is awaiting responses on this to progress the development. The Club plan to apply for Football Foundation Funding to support the development whilst the Club plan to raise funds through local business support, Section 106 monies, and fundraising for the remaining amount.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Look to support the Club with required funding actions to ensure the clubhouse development is completed. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	M-H	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance Provide
24	Burghill Community Academy	HR4 7RP	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
25	Burghill Tillington & Weobley Cricket Club	HR4 8LL	Cricket	Sports club	One standard quality grass square which consists of six senior wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of poor quality. The senior wickets are overplayed by 12 MES per season. The site has recently had a new two-lane fixed net facility built.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
29	Canon Pyon CE Academy	HR4 8PF	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
48	Fownhope Recreation Field	HR1 4PJ	Football	Community organisation	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by one MES per week.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Community organisation HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standard quality grass square which consists of seven senior wickets. Ancillary provision of good quality. Senior wickets have spare capacity of eight MES per season. Actual spare capacity to accommodate a further midweek team. One poor quality standalone NTP.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to improve with enhanced levels of maintenance or replace poor quality standalone NTP onsite.	Community organisation HCB ECB		L	M	L	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
49	Garnons Cricket Club	HR4 7LD	Cricket	Private	One good quality grass square which consists of seven senior wickets. Ancillary provision of good quality. The site is currently considered to offer unsecure tenure as the club has an annual rent agreement onsite. Senior wickets have spare capacity of 26 MES per season. Actual spare capacity is discounted due to the site offering unsecure tenure.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to secure tenure for the site, so that actual spare capacity can be utilised.	Private HCB ECB	Local	M-H	S-M	L	Protect
52	Gorsty Lane	HR1 1UN	Football	Trust	One mini 5v5, one mini 7v7 (overmarked with mini 5v5) and two youth 9v9 (overmarked with mini 7v7) pitches all of poor quality. Pitches are affected by poor drainage with standing water often present after rain. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Mini 5v5 overplayed to capacity at peak time. Mini 7v7 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by 1.5 MES per week. Tupsley Girls FC suggests that to accommodate the growth of the Club, a new changing facility is required onsite. It reports it may have to look for an alternative site to help its growth if this is not feasible.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop current ancillary facilities or develop new changing provision onsite, to accommodate the growth of Tupsley Girls FC. Explore the feasibility of adding the site to the LFFP priority site list within the Herefordshire LFFP update.	Trust HFA FF	Local	M	M	M-H	Protect Enhance Provide
				MUGA	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Trust		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
53	Grandstand Road Park	HR4 9JF	Football	Council	One adult and one mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Both pitches have potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
				MUGA	One poor quality MUGA, with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
54	Hampton Dene Primary School	HR1 1RT	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
55	Hereford Cathedral School	HR1 2NG	Hockey AGP	Education	One good quality small sided (28x18) sand based AGP, with no sports lighting. Unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		Two standard quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, overmarked on tennis courts. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect
56	Hereford Cathedral School Pitches	HR4 0PH	Football	Education	One adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. Available for community use. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located on the riverbank, within a flood zone and flood often. The pitches offer spare capacity, however due to being in a flood zone and also offering unsecure tenure the spare capacity is discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		Three good quality grass squares. Square one consists of 14 wickets, whilst Square two and three both consist of four wickets each. Pitches are unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
			Rugby union		Two senior and one junior rugby union pitch of M2/D0 (standard) quality. Available for community use. Site is located on the riverbank, within a flood zone and flood often. The pitches offer spare capacity, however due to being in a flood zone and also offering unsecure tenure the spare capacity is discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance improvements. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to increase community use particularly from Hereford RFC.	School HFA FF		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
57	Hereford City Sports Club	HR4 9NG	Football	Council	One adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located on within a flood zone and floods often. The pitches offer spare capacity, however due to being in a flood zone and also offering unsecure tenure the spare capacity is discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Cricket <i>(Disused)</i>		Site is now solely used for rugby union activity by Greyhound RFC. Previously the site accommodated a 14 wicket cricket square, with satellite imagery suggesting it has not been maintained since circa 2013.	Retain as strategic reserve and look to reinstate if levels of future/recreational demand warrant more supply.	Council ,HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
			Rugby union		Two senior rugby union pitches of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often. The pitches onsite are currently played to capacity. The ancillary facilities are aging and in need of modernisation. The current short term lease (2026) will create issues for the Club in accessing relevant S106/grant funding. Sports lighting on training area requires updating. Greyhound RFC reports it is looking to extend its current lease. It wants to extend its lease to a more substantial length of time to meet criteria for relevant grant funding, which generally requires secure tenure for a minimum of 25 years, for future ancillary and pitch enhancements.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and potential drainage improvements. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to upgrade sports lighting on grass training area. Support Greyhound RFC in securing an extension to the lease to secure tenure of the site on a long-term basis.	Council/ Sports club RFU		M	S-M	L-M	Protect Enhance
58	Hereford FC (Edgar Street)	HR4 9JU	Football	Sports club	One adult pitch of good quality, with sports lighting. Pitch is used by Hereford FC in the National League North (Step 2 NLS). Ancillary provision of good quality. Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
59	Hereford Lads Club	HR4 9NA	Football	Sports club	One mini 7v7 of standard quality. Pitch is played to capacity at peak time. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Hereford Lads Club FC (Step 6) suggest that work is required to improve the quality of the clubhouse on its site, Hereford Lads Club. At present, work is being done to the community room to improve its quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to continue improvement to the ancillary provision onsite. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					The changing block is a recent development built in the last five years and is of good quality.							
60	Hereford Leisure Centre	HR4 9UD	Football / 3G	Trust	<p>One adult, two youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.</p> <p>The pitches offer spare capacity, however due to being in a flood zone and also offering unsecure tenure the spare capacity is discounted.</p> <p>Site previously accommodated a further one adult pitch, this is no longer being marked out. The pitch is currently subject to on an ongoing planning application (220369) for a proposed installation of a new 1.03km closed circuit cycle track with associated external works including perimeter fencing, learn to ride areas, skill based off road areas and perimeter lighting. If approved, the development of the unused adult pitch will need to meet Sport England and NPPF guidelines.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Ensure that any development/approved planning application of the circuit cycling track which would see the permanent loss of the unmarked adult pitch meets Sport England and NPPF guidelines.</p> <p>In line with LFFP and PPOSS findings explore the feasibility of creating a full size 3G pitch on the site. This should be located in a suitable location to limit the potential effects of flooding and is its own independent facility and not a conversion of the hockey AGP on the site.</p> <p>Ensure 3G pitch is installed to RFU specification Law 1 dimensions with shockpad and gains WR compliance for rugby union match play and training use.</p>	Halo Leisure HFA FF RFU	Hub site	H	S-L	H	Protect Enhance Provide
			Hockey AGP		<p>One poor quality full size (98x68) sand based hockey AGP with sports lighting, available for community use. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.</p> <p>Pitch currently has 43% spare capacity on a weekly basis, the majority of which is on Sundays. Hereford HC suggest maintenance on the pitch and surrounding facilities are a big factor in the poor quality pitch.</p>	<p>As a priority look to fully refurbish the pitch with an appropriate surface for hockey. The preferred surface should be discussed with appropriate stakeholders (Council/Halo Leisure/ EH/ Hereford HC).</p> <p>Look to secure community access for community (Hereford HC), educational (curricular/extracurricular demand).</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of creating a portfolio of pitches which can be refurbished at the similar times in order to reduce overall costs. In particular Hereford Leisure Centre and Whitecross High School.</p>	Halo Leisure EH		H	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance
			Athletics		<p>One poor quality synthetic eight-lane 400m athletic track, with sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.</p>	<p>Look to carry out an in depth track inspection to determine the most suitable actions to improve its quality. This should include the potential of a full refurbishment/deep clean.</p>	Halo Leisure EA		M	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance

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					The track is Hereford Leisure Centre is currently working towards TrackMark status, although the cage on site is considered non-compliant. Halo Leisure is currently working towards a track replacement in the coming months. Halo Leisure is looking for local clubs to support the funding of the track as it states it currently does not have the resources to fund the entire project. Hereford AC as began a project to raise funds in order to support Halo Leisure with the development and resurfacing of the track.	Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Ensure work towards gaining TrackMark statues is continued.						
			Cricket		One standalone poor quality NTP. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.	Look to improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Halo Leisure HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cycling / BMX		Planning permission (220369) at Hereford Leisure Centre was approved, subject to conditions, to create a new 1.03km closed circuit cycle track with associated external works including perimeter fencing, learn to ride areas, skill based off road areas and perimeter lighting. The approval also includes the installation of a social hub comprising of three individual reused shipping containers with associated outdoor seating area. The development has the backing of British Cycling, Sport England as well as the Council and Hereford City Council. The facility aims to provide people within the locality with a safe place to learn to ride/exercise in addition to contributing to several health and wellbeing benefits.	Work with the relevant stakeholders to develop the planned circuit cycle track subject to relevant planning conditions. Ensure that any development/approved planning application of the circuit cycling track which would see the permanent loss of the unmarked adult pitch meets Sport England and NPPF guidelines.	Halo Leisure BC		M	M-L	M-H	Provide

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61	Hereford Leisure Pool (King George V Playing Fields)	HR2 7RQ	Football	Trust	Two adult pitches of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often. The pitches are currently unused. However, due to being located on a flood zone the pitches spare capacity has been discounted. Site previously accommodated a further two youth pitches. Goalposts for these pitches were removed <i>circa</i> 2018.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity/need to bring back into use the unused youth pitches previously marked onsite	Trust HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Six standard quality grass courts, with no sports lighting, available for community use. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often. Also there is a macadam area which can accommodate up to four courts, however, no provision was marked out upon non-technical assessments.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop macadam area for formal tennis courts including quality and accessibility improvements.	Trust LTA		M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Cricket (Disused)		Previously used for cricket. The site accommodated a five wicket grass square, however, ceased maintenance for cricket use circa 2009. The site remains active for other sporting use.	Retain as strategic reserve and look to reinstate if levels of future/recreational demand warrant more supply.	Trust HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
			MUGA		Site is identified in the LFFP as a site for MUGA development.	Explore the feasibility to undertake LFFP priority projects onsite.	Trust HFA, FF		M	S-M	M	Provide
			Rounders		One standard quality rounders pitch.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Trust RE		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			62		Hereford Sixth Form College	HR1 1LU	3G		Education	One good quality small sided (55x34) with sport slighting, available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School HFA FF LTA EN
Tennis	Three good quality macadam courts with sports lighting, available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.										
Netball	Three good quality macadam netball courts, with sports lighting, available for community use. Courts are overmarked on tennis courts.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.										

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
63	Holme Lacy Playing Field	HR2 6JY	Football	Council	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Used by Holme Lacey FC (Regional Feeder League)	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
72	Kingstone Academy	HR2 9HJ	Football	Education	One poor quality adult pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby union		One senior rugby union pitch of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Unavailable for community use. Senior pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/ drainage improvement for continued school use. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School RFU		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Three poor quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standard quality, standalone NTP, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
86	Lord Scudamore Academy	HR4 0AS	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Available for community use. Mini 5v5 pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Look to secure tenure for community club use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Two poor quality macadam netball courts, with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
89	Lugwardine Primary Academy	HR1 4DH	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
91	Marden Primary Academy	HR1 3EW	Football	Education	One youth 11v11 of poor quality. No dedicated ancillary provision. Available for community use. Youth 11v11 pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision. Look to secure tenure for community club use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		One good quality and one standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, both available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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94	Mordiford C of E Primary School	HR1 4LW	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
98	Newton Farm	HR2 7TD	Football/ 3G	Sports club	<p>Two adult, two youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality.</p> <p>Adult pitches have actual spare capacity of two MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitches are played to capacity at peak time. Mini 7v7 pitches have spare capacity but are played to capacity at peak time. Mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week.</p> <p>Belmont Wanderers FC is currently working towards the development of the site. The Club is working with the Football Foundation and HFA to navigate through a Stronger Towns bid with the exact scope of the works required to be determined. This being said there are aspirations from the Club for the development to include the creation of a full size 3G pitch, in replacement of one of the onsite grass pitches. Very little ancillary provision, onsite, with portacabins servicing the pitches. As part of the proposed plan for the site, a brand new clubhouse and changing block is to be developed. The Club plans to apply for Football Foundation funding to support the development with Belmont Wanderers FC accessing other funds to support the remaining costs.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop the site, including developments for full size 3G pitch, dedicated ancillary provision and grass pitch improvement.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to install shock pad and gain WR compliance for rugby union training use.</p>	Sports club Council HFA FF RFU	Local	H	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance Provide
99	Old School Lane (Pegasus Juniors)	HR1 1EX	Football	Sports club	<p>One youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality.</p> <p>Youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed by two MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity, however, is played to capacity at peak time.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step/Teir football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.</p>	Sports club HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			3G		One good quality full size (106x70) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is FIFA compliant. Ancillary provision of good quality. Pitch has minimal spare capacity with only two hours of spare capacity throughout the week (one on the weekend, one midweek). Hereford Pegasus FC (Step/Tier) aspires to develop a second full size 3G pitch onsite.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the feasibility to develop a second 3G onsite. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and are retested for compliance so that they can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step/Tier football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Sports club HFA FF		M	M-L	M-H	Protect Provide
108	Riverside Primary School	HR2 7JF	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches, unavailable for community use. Site is located on a flood zone.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
109	Roman Park - Credenhill	HR4 7DW	Football	Council	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Adult pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to poor pitch quality. On informal mini 7v7 pitch.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
118	St Francis Xavier's Primary School	HR1 1DT	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use. Site is located on a flood zone.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
124	St Mary's RC High School	HR1 4DR	Football	Education	One adult pitch of poor quality. Pitch is unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standard quality standalone NTP, available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby union		One senior rugby union pitch of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Unavailable for community use. Senior pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/ drainage improvement for continued school use. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School RFU		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Six poor quality macadam tennis courts, with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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			Netball		Four poor quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting, available for community use. Courts are over marked on tennis courts.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
126	St Paul's C of E Primary School	HR1 1UX	Football	Education	Two mini 7v7 pitches of poor quality. No dedicated ancillary provision. Pitches are available for community use. Mini 7v7 pitches offer potential spare capacity, but this is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision. Look to secure tenure for community club use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
128	St Thomas Cantilupe C of E Academy	HR1 2DY	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
130	St. Marys C of E Primary School	HR4 7DW	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
133	Stretton Sugwas Academy	HR4 7AE	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Two poor quality macadam, netball courts with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
137	The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School	HR1 1UU	Football	Education	One youth 11v11 pitch and one youth 9v9 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Seven poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Three poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use. Courts are overworked on tennis courts.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
138	The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School (Hampton Dene Playing Fields)	HR1 1UX	Rugby union	Education	Three senior rugby union pitches of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Unavailable for community use. Senior pitches have potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/ drainage improvement for continued school use. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One good quality grass square which consists of ten senior wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Look to secure tenure for community club use.	School HCB ECB		M	S-M	L	Protect Enhance

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					Square has spare capacity of 42 MES per season. However, the site offers unsecure tenure and therefore the spare capacity is discounted.							
139	The Copse (Burghill Community Playing Fields)	HR4 7RW	Football	Trust	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch is played to capacity, however, could accommodate further teams at peak time if quality was improved.	Look to improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision	Trust HFA FF	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
140	The County Ground (Herefordshire FA)	HR4 9NA	3G	HFA	One good quality full size (106x70) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is FIFA compliant. Ancillary provision of good quality. Pitch has minimal midweek spare capacity with only two hours of spare capacity. At the weekend the pitch has six hours of spare capacity. Used to accommodate Step 5 Football.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and are retested for compliance so that they can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
145	The Hereford Academy	HR2 7NG	Football	Education	One adult pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Available for community use. Adult pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Look to improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision. Look to secure tenure for community clubs.	School HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		One good quality full size (102x64) 3G pitch with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is FIFA compliant. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Pitch is currently available for 14 of the 18 FPM during the midweek and all 16 hours of the FPM on the weekend. Current usage of the site is currently unknown.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and are retested for compliance so that they can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	School HFA FF		L	L	L	Protect

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			Rugby union		One senior rugby union pitch of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Pitch is available for community use. Senior pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/ drainage improvement for continued school use. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School RFU		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect
			Netball		Four good quality macadam netball courts with no sports lighting, available for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect
148	The Point 4	HR1 1DT	3G	Education	One good quality small sized (46x25) 3G pitch with sports lighting and available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
150	Trinity Primary School	HR4 0NU	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
153	Victoria Park (Hereford)	HR1 1AH	Football	Sports club	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by one MES per week. Pitch has potential spare capacity at peak time. Tupsley Girls FC reports that maintenance of the pitch is limited.	Look to improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket (Disused)		Previously, accommodated an NTP onsite. The NTP has since been removed and is no longer onsite, satellite imagery suggests the NTP was removed circa 2009.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Sports club HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
155	Wellington Playing Field	HR4 8AZ	Football	Sports club/ Trust	Two adult, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitches have actual spare capacity of one MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch has actual spare capacity of one MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitches have actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. Mini 5v5 pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision. Monitor Wellington FC's lease agreement onsite and support club in extending if/when required to secure long-term tenure of the site. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Sports club/ Trust HFA FF	Local	M	L-M	L	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					Wellington FC (Regional Feeder League) has a split tenure onsite, as it has the freehold of part of the site and leases the remaining area from a Wellington Community Trust. The Club does not state how long its arrangement with Trust and therefore should be monitored to it is of sufficient length to ensure it keeps security of tenure.							
			Cricket (Disused)		Previously accommodated a four wicket grass square, the site is still active for football, however, the square has not been maintained for cricket for a number of years, with evidence suggesting it has had no use since circa 2009.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Sports club/ Trust HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		Three good quality artificial turf courts with sports lighting and available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club/ Trust LTA		L	L	L	Protect
			Bowls		One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Wellington BC is operating close to recommended capacity.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Monitor Wellington BC membership to ensure that the clubs demand can be met.	Sports club/ Trust BE		L	L	L	Protect
159	Westfaling Street Park	HR4 0JF	Cycling / BMX	Council	One good quality macadam BMX pump track.	Sustain track quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council BC	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			MUGA		One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
164	Whitecross High School Hereford	HR4 0RN	Football	School	Two adult pitches of standard quality. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey AGP		One poor quality full size (96x62) sand based AGP with sports lighting and available for community use. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Pitch is currently available for 10.5 of the 18 FPM during the midweek and all 16 hours of the FPM on the weekend. Current spare capacity equates to 32% weekly.	As a priority look to fully refurbish the pitch with an appropriate surface for hockey. The preferred surface should be discussed with appropriate stakeholders (Council/School/ EH/ Hereford HC). Look to secure community access for community (Hereford HC), educational (curricular/extracurricular demand). Explore the feasibility of creating a portfolio of pitches which can be refurbished at the similar times in order to reduce overall costs. In particular Hereford Leisure Centre and Whitecross High School.	School EH		H	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Tennis		Four poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Three poor quality netball courts with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
165	Widemarsh Common (Hereford)	HR4 9NA	Football	Council	One adult, one youth 9v9 one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Site located on a flood zone. Adult pitch is overplayed by two MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch is played to capacity. Mini 7v7 has potential spare capacity which is discounted due to site being located on a flood zone. Mini 5v5 pitch is played to capacity at peak time. Hereford Lads Club FC has an agreement with the Council onsite through a license. The Club maintains the site, however, due to it being open access and common land, the Council has ownership of the site.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket (Disused)		The site previously had an eight grass wicket square onsite, with an NTP attached. The cricket provision onsite has not maintained or accessed since circa 2009.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Council HCB ECB					
168	Withington Fields	HR1 3PX	Football	Council	One adult and one mini 7v7 recreational football pitch.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued recreational use.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cycling / BMX		One standard quality Dirt BMX Pump Track.	Look to improve track quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council BC		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			MUGA		One good quality MUGA with sports lighting,	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council		L	L	L	Protect
169	Withington Primary School	HR1 3QE	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
172	Hereford Rugby Club	HR4 0PH	Rugby union	Sports club	Two senior and one mini rugby union pitch of M2/D0 (standard) quality. One senior pitch has sports lighting. Site is located on the riverbank, within a flood zone and flood often. Ancillary provision of poor quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/drainage improvement. Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision. Explore the opportunity to upgrade sports lighting onsite.	Sports club RFU	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					Unlit senior pitch is played to capacity. Floodlit senior pitch is overplayed by six MES per week. Mini pitch is overplayed by one MES per week. Hereford RFC reports that its poor quality ancillary provision is limiting potential demand on the site, particularly for women and girls. Its strategic ambition is to either replace or upgrade its clubhouse to better cater for all types of demand in addition to establishing more facilities in order for the Club to grow. The Club also reports that the sports lights onsite require updating.							
175	Hereford Squash Tennis and Racquetball Centre	HR4 0LX	Tennis	Sports club	Three good quality macadam courts with sports lighting and three poor quality macadam courts with sports lighting. Hereford Tennis Centre aspires to refurbish the poor quality as dedicated padel tennis courts to widen the sports it offers to the community. Hereford Tennis Centre has plans to make improvements to its clubhouse. The improvements will look to offer added community functions to the clubhouse allowing it to be used for a range of activities support groups from across the area. The courts onsite are currently considered to be overplayed marginally due to the number of members at Hereford Tennis Centre.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop poor quality courts into dedicated padel tennis courts. Explore the feasibility to develop ancillary provision onsite.	Sports club LTA	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
176	Holme Lacy House Hotel Leisure Club	HR2 6LP	Tennis	Private/ Commercial	Two standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use. The courts are only available to people using the hotel and are not available for wider public use.	Look to improve courts quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued hotel guest use.	Private/ Commercial LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
178	Madley Tennis Club	HR2 9LX	Tennis	Sports club	Two good quality macadam courts with sports lighting and two good quality macadam courts without sports lighting. Madley TC indicates it could attract more older members if it refurbished the courts to artificial surface as it is a gentler playing experience, however, the cost of such a development currently is prohibitive. In the short term it has resurfaced and made repairs to its current provision. Madley TC reports that it has development plans to make improvements to the clubhouse which in turn will help to support increasing its membership.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the feasibility to resurface courts to artificial turf surface. Explore the opportunity to develop ancillary facilities.	Sports club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
184	St. Martins Bowls Club	HR2 7JE	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Site located within a flood zone.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
185	Herefordshire Cricket Ground (Pentland Gardens)	HR4 0TN	Cricket	Sports club HCB	One good quality grass square which consists of six junior wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square is played to capacity. Herefordshire CCC aspires to open the site up to cater for senior cricket demand, are currently exploring conditions of use on the site. Herefordshire CCC plans to utilise the site as a hub for the growing women's and girls' game. The site does not currently have ancillary provision to support this.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop hybrid wickets onsite to increase capacity. Look to have ball strike assessment completed to understand risks and proximity of houses surrounding the ground. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. This would include the provision being developed to support women's and girls' cricket onsite.	Sports club HCB ECB	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Bowls		One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Bulmers BC is operating below the recommended sustainability membership.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Support the club in increasing membership to ensure green remain sustainable.			Sports club BE	M	L	L
186	Hereford Bowls Club	HR4 0BA	Bowls	Sports club	One standard quality flat green with no sports lighting. Hereford BC has two main projects planned for its ancillary provision onsite which include carrying out maintenance/repairs to its roof and to replace/repair the windows of the building. Hereford BC is currently operating recommended capacity.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to support and complete ancillary provision projects set out by Hereford BC. Monitor Hereford BC membership to ensure that the clubs demand can be met.	Sports club BE	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
187	Castle Green	HR1 2NX	Bowls	Sports club	One poor quality flat green with no sports lighting. Castle Green BC has had issues with lack of maintenance and vandalism which is impacted both green and ancillary provision quality. Castle Green BC is operating close to the recommended sustainability membership.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Support the club in increasing membership to ensure green remain sustainable.	Sports club BE	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
198	Newton Farm Skate Park	HR2 7DG	Skate Park	Trust	One standard quality skate park.	Look to improve skate park quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Trust SBGB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
200	Hereford Skate Park	HR4 9UD	Skate Park	Trust	One good quality skate park. Site is located on a flood zone.	Sustain skate park quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Trust SBGB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
204	Waterfield Road Open Space	HR2 7EY	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
205	Canon Pyon Parish Hall	HR4 8PE	Football	Parish council	One recreational adult pitch.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued recreational use.	Parish Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Parish Council LTA					
208	Marden Recreation Ground	HR1 3EQ	Cricket (Disused)	Commercial	Site previously accommodated an eight wicket grass square. In 2014, the landlord of the local public house The Volunteer Inn did not renew the yearly license for use by Marden CC. Therefore in 2014, the site became disused and ceased maintenance for cricket.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Commercial HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

KINGTON ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Kington	Adult	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Adult	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 7 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
3G	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Cricket	Kington	Saturday	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Kington	Senior	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Senior	Shortfall of 18.75 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 19.25 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hockey	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sustain and protect all full size provision	Sustain and protect all full size provision
Tennis	Herefordshire	Courts	Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for	Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
			informal/recreational demand	informal/recreational demand
Netball	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Bowls	Herefordshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity however quality issues	Sufficient quantity however quality issues
Cycling & BMX	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>
MUGAs	Herefordshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area
Other sports	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
40	Eardisley C of E Primary School	HR3 6NS	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One poor quality netball court, with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
74	Kington Recreation Ground	HR5 3AW	Football	Sports club	One adult, one mini 5v5 and one youth 9v9 pitch all of poor quality. All pitches have potential spare capacity, which were discounted due to poor pitch quality. Site is located on a flood zone. Ancillary provision of standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Sports club HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standard quality square which consists of 12 senior wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. The senior wickets have spare capacity of 26 MES per season, with actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sundays and midweek. Current lease expires in 2027.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to make use of the actual spare capacity where required. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to renew the lease on a long term basis, to secure the long term future of the Club.	Sports club HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			MUGA		Site is identified in the LFFP as a site for MUGA development.	Explore the feasibility to undertake LFFP priority projects onsite.	Sports club HFA, FF		M	S-M	M	Provide
75	Lady Hawkins Community Leisure Centre (Kington)	HR5 3AG	Football	School/Council	One adult and one youth 11v11 pitch of poor quality. Both are available for community use and are currently unused, offering one MES of actual spare capacity per week. Ancillary provision of poor quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to make use of the actual spare capacity where required. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	School/Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One good quality grass square which consists of eight senior wickets and one NTP. Unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School/Council HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey AGP		One small sided (62x32) sand based AGP of poor quality. Available for community use, with sports lighting. Pitch is actively used by Kington Ladies HC for midweek training.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to resurface pitch surface when required. Look to secure community use through a CUA.	School/Council EH		L	M-L	M	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Four courts are overmarked on the hockey sand based AGP. Although the AGP is rated as poor quality, the surface is considered a good quality to support tennis activity.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via utilisation of technology provided by the LTA to support the customer journey and through investment into facilities and accompanying ancillary provision.	School/Council LTA		M	S-M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					The courts have previously been used by Kington TC, at present the Club is dormant, however expresses a desire to re-instate its demand onsite. The AGP was refurbished in 2019, with available S106 monies. The site is identified as a potential site for LTA investment to offer more casual pay and play sites within Herefordshire.							
93	Mill Street (Kington Town FC)	HR5 3AL	Football	Sports club	One good quality adult pitch with sports lighting and available for community use. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Pitch is currently played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
104	Pembridge C Of E Primary School	HR6 9EA	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
115	Shobdon Airfield	HR6 9NR	Football	Sports club	One adult and one youth 9v9 (overmarked with mini 7v7 & 5v5) of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by one MES per week, whilst the youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by two MES per week. Used by Shobdon FC (Regional Feeder League).	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility of adding the site to the LFFP priority site list within the Herefordshire LFFP update. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
116	Shobdon Primary School	HR6 9LX	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
117	Spearsmarsh Common	HR3 6LH	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality grass square, which consists of eight senior wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. The senior wickets have spare capacity of 23 MES per season. The square has actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sunday's and midweek. Almeley CC has aspirations to develop onsite fixed net provision.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility to develop fixed net facility onsite.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	M	L	L-M	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
131	Staunton-On-Wye Endowed Primary School	HR4 7LT	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, available for community use. Currently unused, with actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to secure tenure of the site for community clubs, then utilise actual spare capacity where required.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
144	The Hayes	HR6 9NZ	Disused cricket	Private	There was previously a five wicket cricket square and one NTP which ceased maintenance circa 2009. The site is now maintained as agricultural land. The clubhouse which catered for the grass square is currently still standing.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Private HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
173	Eardisley Tennis Club	HR3 6NS	Tennis	Sports club	Three good quality macadam courts, with sports lighting and available for community use. Site is located on a flood zone.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Croquet		Two croquets lawns of good quality. One of which was developed in 2021. Eardisley Croquet Club has had a growing membership in recent years.	Sustain lawn quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Monitor club membership to ensure demand is being met.	Sports club The Croquet Association		L	L	L	Protect
201	Kington Bowls Club	HR5 3AP	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green, with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
207	The Birches	HR6 9NG	MUGA	Council	One good quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

LEDBURY ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Ledbury	Adult	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent session
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Adult	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 7 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
3G	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch
Cricket	Ledbury	Saturday	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 48 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 48 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 6 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 6 match equivalent sessions a season
	Herefordshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Ledbury	Senior	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
	Herefordshire	Senior	Shortfall of 18.75 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 19.25 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hockey	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sustain and protect all full size provision	Sustain and protect all full size provision

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Tennis	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand</i>
Netball	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Bowls	Herefordshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
Cycling & BMX	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>
MUGAs	Herefordshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area
Other sports	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
4	Ashperton Primary Academy	HR8 2SE	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey AGP		One small sized (35x32) sand based AGP with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EH					
			Netball		One poor quality macadam netball court with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN					
10	Bishops Frome Sports Ground	WR6 5DA	Football	Council	One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches or poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. All pitches have potential spare capacity at peak time, which is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Used by Bromyard FC who is in a Regional Feeder League.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standard quality standalone NTP.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council HCB ECB					
11	Bosbury C of E Primary School	HR8 1PX	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use. Site located on a flood zone.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standard quality grass square which consists of five senior wickets. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Site located on flood zone. Available for community use. Square has spare capacity of eight MES per season. All actual spare capacity is discounted due to site being located on a flood zone. Provision is on a leasehold to Bosbury CC.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Ensure Bosbury CC has long term tenure on the site.	Sports club/ School HCB ECB		M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One poor quality macadam netball court with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
28	Canon Frome Cricket Club	HR8 2SB	Cricket	Sports club	One standard quality grass square which consists of eight senior wickets. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Square has spare capacity of 14 MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sundays and Midweek.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
33	Colwall Cricket Club	WR13 6EH	Cricket	Sports club	Two good quality squares. Square one consists of 12 senior wickets and two junior wickets. Square two consists of ten senior wickets and two junior wickets. Ancillary facilities of standard quality. Square one's senior wickets have spare capacity of 21 MES per season, its junior wickets have spare capacity of four MES per season. The Senior wickets have actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sundays and midweek. Whilst the junior wickets do not have enough spare capacity to cater for any further growth. Square two's senior wickets have spare capacity of 21 MES per season. Whilst the junior wickets are overplayed by four MES. Senior wickets have actual spare capacity to cater for teams on Saturday, Sunday and midweek. Colwall CC suggests that in the coming years it plans to redevelop its clubhouse. There are no drawn plans at present, and the Club is currently unsure whether it is looking to use the same structure or to look at a rebuild of the clubhouse. In addition, the site currently has no car parking, which has become a significant issue but due to lack of land on the site, it is unlikely that this issue can be solved. The Club suggests that if a small patch of land close to the site could be secured then this would likely be the ideal scenario for a car park.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to complete plans to develop and improve ancillary provision on site. Support Colwall CC in its search for land for car parking.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
34	Colwall Football Pitch	WR13 6EF	Football	Parish council	One adult pitch of poor quality. No dedicated ancillary provision. Adult pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Parish council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
43	Eastnor Cricket Club	HR8 1RW	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality square which consists of ten senior wickets and four junior wickets. Ancillary provision of good quality. Senior wickets have spare capacity of 18 MES per season, whilst junior wickets have spare capacity of eight MES per season. The senior wickets have actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sunday and Midweek. Whilst junior wickets have actual spare capacity to accommodate further midweek teams. The site previously accommodated a second cricket square onsite, as recently as 2018. Due to Eastnor CC no longer operating a Saturday third team, the square was no longer required, however, the Club has plans to re-establish the third team and would look at bringing the second square back into use. The site is utilised by Herefordshire CCC for National Counties matches and Eastnor CC suggests that to continue being awarded these fixtures the Club needs to extend the changing rooms as the County Club suggests they are currently too small. The Club also aspires to extend the function room.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the need and feasibility to extend changing and function room facility. Explore the opportunity to re-instate the second square onsite to cater for a third senior Saturday men's team.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
67	John Masefield High School (JMSPORT)	HR8 2HF	Rugby union	School	One junior rugby union pitch of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Unavailable for community use. Junior pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/ drainage improvement for continued school use. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School RFU	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey AGP		One poor quality full size (98x62) sand based AGP, with sports lighting and available for community use. Ancillary provision of poor quality.	As a priority look to fully refurbish the pitch with an appropriate surface for hockey. The preferred surface should be discussed with appropriate stakeholders.	School EH		M	M	M-H	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					Pitch is available for use for 14 hours midweek, whilst isn't available at the weekend. At present it has 29% spare capacity. Herefordshire Hockey Association states that there has previously been community hockey demand on the pitch, however, this stopped and relocated to other pitches due to the degrading of the surface quality making it unsafe to use for hockey. The School suggests it does not have the required finances to resurface the pitch.	Look to secure tenure for external users. Look to increase hockey usage on the pitch in cohesion with any refurbishment. Explore the feasibility of creating a portfolio of pitches which can be refurbished at the similar times in order to reduce overall costs.						
			Tennis		Five poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Five poor quality macadam netball courts with no sports lighting, available for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
77	Ledbury Cricket Club	HR8 2LW	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality grass square which consists of 12 senior wickets and four junior wickets. Ancillary provision of good quality. Senior wickets have spare capacity of 30 MES per season, whilst the junior wickets have spare capacity of five MES per season. The senior wickets have actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sunday and Midweek. Whilst junior wickets have actual spare capacity to accommodate further midweek teams.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
78	Ledbury Primary School	HR8 2BE	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
79	Ledbury Rugby Club / Land South of Little Marcle Road	HR8 2LP	Football / Rugby union / 3G / American football	Sports club	Two adult (overmarked by mini 7v7), two youth 9v9 (overmarked by mini 7v7) and one mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality. Adult pitches are overplayed by 1.5 MES per week. Youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches have potential spare capacity, which are discounted due to site being located on a flood zone.	Assist where possible in the development of Land South of Little Marcle Road for football, to meet the demand from Ledbury Town Swifts and Ledbury Town FC (if relocated as part of the development of New Street).	Sports clubs HFA FF RFU BAFA Council Ledbury Town Council SE	Key centre	H	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					<p>One senior (sports lit), four junior (one fully and two partially sports lit) and five mini pitches of M1/D1 (standard) quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Senior pitch with sports lighting has spare capacity of one MES per week, however, is played to capacity at peak time. Junior pitch that is full sports lit is overplayed by five MES per week. Junior pitches with partial sports lighting have spare capacity of one MES and this available at peak time however this is discounted due to site being on a flood zone. Mini pitches has spare capacity of six MES per week, however, is played to capacity at peak time. One of the senior pitches is used by Hereford Stampeded (American Football) to accommodate its training and competitive demand.</p> <p>Ledbury Rugby Club is located on a flood zone and is accompanied by good quality ancillary provision. In comparison Land South of Little Marcle Road is not on a flood zone.</p> <p>There are ongoing development plans to relocate Ledbury Swifts FC and Ledbury Town FC (currently at New Street) to land adjacent known as Land South of Little Marcle Road. This would remove the football pitches off the site and allow Ledbury RFC to establish more provision.</p> <p>If progressed New Street would be developed with S106 contributions going towards Land South of Little Marcle Road.</p> <p>Developing the site would require planning permission and securing relevant funding. The Council reports it is seeking potential S106 monies to contribute to the creation of the facility, whereas Ledbury Swifts FC will be seeking to secure</p>	<p>Ensure relevant ancillary provision is established to accompany provision. This could be new facilities of enhancement of the current onsite provision.</p> <p>In order to maximise available land explore the feasibility of creating a full size 3G pitch at Land South of Litte Marcle Road which meets the requirement for competitive football and rugby union. This land is not located on a flood zone and is preferred to Ledbury Rugby Club, however, providing a 3G at this site should also be explored.</p> <p>Ensure any relevant S106 monies are contributed to the development in addition to any potential grant funding for multi sports sites.</p> <p>If the development of Land South of Litte Marcle Road does not take place look to improve the quality of all provision with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>There is also a need to provide additional sports lighting for Ledbury RFC whether the development takes place or not.</p>						

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					grant monies to support the project. Site has also been identified for a potential 3G to alleviate identified football and rugby union shortfalls.							
			Cricket (Disused)		Previously had an active grass cricket square onsite, however, the eight wicket square ceased maintenance circa 2009. Area is now amalgamated into football and rugby union provision.	Retain as strategic reserve and look to reinstate if levels of future/recreational demand warrant more supply.	Sports club HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
97	New Street Football Ground (Ledbury Town FC)	HR8 2EL	Football	Sports club	One adult pitch of good quality, with sports lighting. Ancillary provision of good quality. Adult pitch has spare capacity of two MES per week. However, it is played to capacity at peak time. Ledbury Town FC (Regional Feeder League) is considered to have unsecure tenure at New Street as the owners of the site, Property Solutions, want to develop the site for housing. Initial indication suggests the Club would relocate, with Ledbury Swifts FC, to the new Land South of Little Marcle Road.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Monitor Club and Site circumstances to ensure that if the Club relocate off site, the site on land adjacent to Ledbury Rugby Club is available for Ledbury Town FC to relocate to. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs. If Club is relocated ensure replacement provision meets Sport England's Playing Field Policy.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	M	M-L	L	Protect
141	The Downs - Malvern College Preparatory School	WR13 6EY	Hockey AGP	Education	One good quality small sized (74x36) water based AGP, with no sports lighting and available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Cricket		One good quality grass square which consists of five wickets. Unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		Four standard quality artificial turf courts, with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
142	The Downs - Malvern College Sports Field	WR13 6EX	Football	Education	Two good quality mini 5v5 pitches, unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Cricket		Two good quality grass squares. Square one consists of seven wickets and square two consists of six wickets. Unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Rugby union		Two junior and one mini rugby union pitch of M2/D1 (good) quality. Unavailable for community use. Junior and mini pitches have potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School RFU		L	L	L	Protect
143	The Elms School	WR13 6EF	Football	Education	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		Two good quality grass squares. Square one consists of six wickets. Square two consists of two wickets. Unavailable for community use.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
			Rugby union		Two junior rugby union pitches of M1/D1 (standard) quality. Unavailable for community use. Junior pitches have potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School RFU		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
177	Ledbury Lawn Tennis Club	HR8 2JE	Tennis	Sports club	Three good quality artificial turf courts with sports lighting and available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
183	Mathon Cradley & Storridge Tennis Club	WR13 5PG	Tennis	Sports club	Three good quality macadam courts, two with sports lighting one without. Available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
188	Eastnor Bowls Club	HR8 1RQ	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
189	Ledbury Bowling Club	HR8 1AA	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

LEOMINSTER ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Leominster	Adult	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent session
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Adult	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 7 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
3G	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch
Cricket	Leominster	Saturday	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 24 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 24 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 5 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 5 match equivalent sessions a season
	Herefordshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Leominster	Senior	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
	Herefordshire	Senior	Shortfall of 18.75 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 19.25 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hockey	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sustain and protect all full size provision	Sustain and protect all full size provision
Tennis	Herefordshire	Courts	Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential	Sufficient quantity for club demand however

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
			shortfalls for informal/recreational demand	potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand
Netball	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Bowls	Herefordshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity however quality issues	Sufficient quantity however quality issues
Cycling & BMX	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>
MUGAs	Herefordshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area
Other sports	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
14	Brampton Bryan and Leintwardine Cricket Club	SY7 0DH	Cricket	Council	One standard quality grass square which consists of five senior wickets. No dedicated ancillary provision. Site offers unsecure tenure due to annual rent agreement. Senior wickets have spare capacity of ten MES per season, however due to unsecure tenure the actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sundays and midweek is discounted.	Look to improve square quality with enhance levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary provision. Support the Club in securing tenure onsite through long-term agreement.	Council HCB ECB	Local	M-H	S-M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	HR6 8EA	Hockey AGP	Trust	One good quality full size (98x61) sand based AGP with sports lighting and available for community use. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Site is located on flood zone. Pitch has full availability from FPM, with spare capacity of 39%, it should be noted the majority of spare capacity is available on Sunday's. Leominster HC reports the goals and dugouts are in a poor state of repair and in need of replacement.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility to repair and/or replace goals and dugouts.	Trust EH	Key centre	M	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket (Disused)		Previously had a 10 wicket square maintained for cricket circa 1999. The site no longer accommodates cricket.	Retain as strategic reserve and look to reinstate if levels of future/recreational demand warrant more supply.	Trust HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		Four standard quality macadam, courts with sports lighting and available for community use. Leominster TC indicates the courts will need refurbishing within approximately five years and are classed as below average. It suggests that the courts would benefit in the interim period from repainting, cleaning and improvement of sports lighting. Site identified for LTA investment.	Look to improve courts with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to install LTA Gate access onsite, to offer more pay and play opportunities. Monitor court quality and explore opportunity to resurface courts in the long-term.	Trust LTA		M	M-L	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Netball		Two standard quality netball courts, with sports lighting, available for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Look to improve courts with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Trust EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
18	Brimfield and Little Hereford Sports Club	SY8 4BG	Football	Sports club	One poor quality adult pitch. Ancillary provision of standard quality. One recreational adult pitch. Site located on flood zone. Adult pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. However actual spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve courts with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Three poor quality macadam with sports lighting and available for community use. Brimfield and Little Hereford TC aspires to refurbish its courts with a 3G surface. This is based on the Club having limited tennis demand. It is likely that if successful, the tennis section of the overarching sports club would fold.	Look to improve courts with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity and feasibility to develop tennis courts to a small sided 3G.	Sports club LTA HFA FF		M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Bowls		One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Brimfield and Little Hereford BC has unsecure tenure onsite. Brimfield and Little Hereford BC is operating above the recommended capacity.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Support Brimfield and Little Hereford BC in gaining secure tenure onsite. Monitor Brimfield and Little Hereford BC membership to ensure that the clubs demand can be met.	Sports club/ Trust BE		L	L	L	Protect
27	Bury Lane Community Field	HR6 9US	Football	Council	One adult recreational pitch.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued recreational use.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
36	Dales Cricket Club	HR6 8DY	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality which consists of nine senior wickets and two junior wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site located on flood zone. Senior wickets have spare capacity of 26 MES per season, however actual spare capacity to accommodate further Sunday and midweek teams is discounted due to site being on a flood zone. Dales CC aspires to develop fixed net provision onsite.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility to develop fixed net facility onsite.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	L-M	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
41	Earl Mortimer College and Sixth Form Centre	HR6 8JJ	Football / 3G	Education	Two standard quality adult pitches, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use. Explore the potential of the site being able to accommodate a full size 3G pitch in order to alleviate shortfalls with relevant stakeholders.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standard quality grass square which consists of seven	Retain as current use and improve as required.	School ECB		L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Rugby union		wickets. Unavailable for community use. One senior rugby union pitch of M0/D1 (poor) quality, available for community use. Senior pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/ drainage improvement for continued school use. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	HCB School RFU		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey AGP		One good quality small sided (74x55) sand based AGP with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EH		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
65	Ivington C of E Primary School	HR6 0JH	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use. Site located on a flood zone.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
68	Kimbolton St James C of E Primary School	HR6 0HQ	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
71	Kingsland Coronation Hall	HR6 9SQ	Tennis	Community organisation	Two standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting and available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting, available for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
80	Leintwardine Primary School	SY7 0LL	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
82	Leominster Town FC (Bridge Street Sports Park)	HR6 8EA	Football	Sports club	One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site located on flood zone. Adult pitch is currently played to capacity.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
87	Lucton School	HR6 9PN	Football	Education	One adult pitch of standard quality, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One good quality grass square which consists of six wickets. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby union		Two senior rugby union pitches of M1/D1 (standard) quality. Unavailable for community use. Senior pitches have potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/ drainage improvement for continued school use. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School RFU		L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Tennis		Two standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting and available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam netball courts with no sports lighting and available for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
88	Luctonians Sports Club	HR6 9SB	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality grass square which consists of 13 senior wickets, three junior wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of good quality. Senior wickets have spare capacity of 41 MES per season, the senior wickets have actual spare capacity to accommodate further Sunday and midweek teams. Junior wickets have spare capacity of six MES per season, with actual spare capacity to accommodate further midweek teams.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club HCB ECB	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
			Rugby union / 3G		Five senior rugby union pitches (three with sports lighting, two without) and one Junior pitch of M1/D1 (standard) quality. Ancillary provision good quality. The three senior sports lit pitches are overplayed by 3.5 MES per week. The two unlit senior pitches have actual spare capacity at peak time of two MES. The junior pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Luctonians RFC aspires to develop its toilet block. The Club also has longer term ambitions to establish a sports hall on the site in order to incorporate its netball club.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and potential drainage. Explore the opportunity/feasibility to improve the ancillary provision to develop toilet block and establish a sports hall onsite. Explore the potential of the site being able to accommodate a full size 3G pitch in order to alleviate shortfalls with relevant stakeholders.	Sports club RFU		L	L	M-H	Protect Enhance Provide
			Croquet		Croquet activity takes places onsite however there is no dedicated croquet lawn, with activity taking place on the cricket outfield.	Look to improve and sustain quality of cricket outfield to support croquet activity onsite.	Sports club The Croquet Association		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Rounders		Three good quality rounders pitches.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club RE		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
101	Orleton C Of E Primary School	SY8 4HQ	Football	Education	Twp poor quality mini 5v5 pitches, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
102	Orleton Recreation Ground	SY8 4HW	Football	Parish council	One adult (overmarked by mini 7v7), one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Adult pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per season, actual spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Youth 11v11 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per season, actual spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Youth 9v9 pitch is played to capacity, however, has potential spare capacity. Olreton Youth FC reports that the clubhouse and changing provision at Orleton Recreation Ground is poor quality and needs replacing. The Club has had plans approved (201570 ¹⁶) for a metal structure clubhouse onsite and plans to start the development as soon as possible. It should be noted that the proposal submitted for planning, with input from the Football Foundation, was non-compliant.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity/feasibility to develop a new clubhouse onsite.	Parish council HFA FF	Local	M	M	M-H	Protect Enhance Provide
123	St Mary's Primary School	HR4 8HR	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
157	Weobley High School	HR4 8ST	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 and two youth 11v11 pitch of poor quality, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Four poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA					
			Netball		Four poor quality macadam netball courts with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN					
166	Wigmore Leisure Centre	HR6 9UW	Cricket	Commercial	One standard quality grass square which consists of five senior wickets and one NTP. The pitch is unused by the community but is utilised by the adjoining school. No dedicated ancillary provision. Site offers unsecure tenure.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to secure tenure onsite for community clubs.	Commercial HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

¹⁶https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200142/planning_services/planning_application_search/details?id=211440&search-term=10023975525&search-service=uprn&search-source=Postal%20address&search-item=Pavilion%20at%20The%20Recreation%20Ground%20Orleton%20Village%20Hall,%20Millbrook%20Way,%20Orleton,%20Ludlow,%20Shropshire,%20SY8%204HW

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					Senior wickets have spare capacity of 12 MES per season, however actual spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.							
			Tennis		Five poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting and available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Commercial LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			MUGA		Site is identified in the LFFP as a site for MUGA development.	Explore the feasibility to undertake LFFP priority projects onsite.	Commercial HFA FF		M	S-M	M	Provide
167	Wigmore Primary School	HR6 9UN	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
171	Leominster FC	HR6 8EA	Football / 3G	Sports club	Two youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Youth 11v11 pitches are overplayed by one MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by one MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity. Mini 5v5 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week, however, is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the potential of the site being able to accommodate a full size 3G pitch in order to alleviate shortfalls with relevant stakeholders.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
190	Leominster Bowls Club	HR6 8PH	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
191	Eardisland Bowls Club	HR6 9BP	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
192	Kingsland Bowling Club	HR6 9QN	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
203	Weobley & District Bowling Club	HR4 8QL	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Weobley BC currently has unsecure tenure onsite.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Support Weobley BC in gaining secure tenure onsite.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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ROSS-ON-WYE ANALYSIS AREA

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Ross-on-Wye	Adult	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Youth 11v11	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Youth 9v9	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
	Herefordshire	Adult	Shortfall of 6.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 7 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
3G	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch
Cricket	Ross-on-Wye	Saturday	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session a season	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 5 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 5 match equivalent sessions a season
	Herefordshire	Saturday	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 97 match equivalent sessions a season
		Midweek	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Ross-on-Wye	Senior	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
	Herefordshire	Senior	Shortfall of 18.75 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 19.25 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Herefordshire	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Hockey	Herefordshire	Full size, floodlit	Sustain and protect all full size provision	Sustain and protect all full size provision

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2041)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES
Tennis	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for club demand however potential shortfalls for informal/recreational demand</i>
Netball	Herefordshire	Courts	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Bowls	Herefordshire	Greens	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Athletics	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity however quality issues</i>
Cycling & BMX	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity once provision is developed at Hereford Leisure Centre</i>
MUGAs	Herefordshire	Provision	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area	Shortfalls outside of the Hereford Analysis Area
Other sports	Herefordshire	Provision	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>	<i>Generally sufficient quantity with a potential need for additional skate parks in Ledbury and Leominster</i>

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
3	Ashfield Park Primary School	HR9 5AU	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
9	Berryfield Woolhope Playing Fields	HR1 4QZ	Cricket	Sports club	One standard quality grass square which consist of seven senior wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Senior wickets have spare capacity of nine MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate a further midweek team. Woolhope CC aspires to develop a fixed net lane facility onsite.	Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility to develop dedicated fixed net facilities onsite.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Football (Disused)		One adult pitch previously marked out. The pitch currently has goalposts installed though has had no formal line markings since 2013.	Retain as current use.	Sports club HFA FF		L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts with sports lighting and available for community use. Woolhope TC plans to refurbish the onsite in 2025 using monies from its sinking fund. Woolhope TC currently has metal halide lights but has plans to replace these with LED sports lights at the end of summer 2022. It has received a grant from Active Herefordshire and Worcestershire towards the replacement.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to resurface courts when required. Look to replace halide sports lights with LED sports lighting.	Sports club LTA		M-H	M	M-H	Protect Enhance
13	Brampton Abbots C of E Primary School	HR9 7FX	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
50	Garway Primary School	HR2 8RQ	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
51	Gorsley Goffs Primary School	HR9 7SE	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 5v5 pitches, available for community use. Mini 5v5 pitches have potential spare capacity which is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
66	John Kyrle Academy	HR9 7ET	Football	Education	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches, available for community use. Youth 11v11 pitches have potential spare capacity which is discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to secure community use, through secure tenure if required for community clubs.	School HFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Cricket		One stand quality standalone NTP. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey AGP		One poor quality full sized (96x62) sand based AGP, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch has 14 of the 18 hours midweek available and four of 16 available at the weekend from FPM, with spare capacity of 11%. Ross-on-Wye HC indicates the pitch onsite is poor quality highlighting issues with the stitching of the surface and floodlighting not being of suitable quality particularly for evening training. Consultation with the School indicates it is looking at options to replace the carpet as it is past its lifespan. The School reports aspirations to carry out a like for like hockey suitable surface refurbishment in 2023 if appropriate levels of funding can be found. Ross-on-Wye HC similarly states changing rooms to be inadequate onsite, being extremely basic and not conducive for the growth of women and junior demand.	As a priority look to fully refurbish the pitch with an appropriate surface for hockey. The preferred surface should be discussed with appropriate stakeholders. Look to secure community access for community (Ross-on-Wye HC), educational (curricular/extracurricular) demand. Explore the feasibility of creating a portfolio of pitches which can be refurbished at the similar times in order to reduce overall costs.	School EH		H	S-M	M-H	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Six standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting and available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LTA		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Netball		Three standard quality macadam netball courts, with sports lighting and available for community use. Overmarked on tennis courts.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School EN		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
69	King's Caple Primary Academy	HR1 4TZ	Netball	Education	One poor quality macadam netball court with no sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
73	Kingstone and Thruxton Primary School	HR2 9HJ	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
76	Lea C of E Primary School	HR9 7JY	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Hockey AGP		One good quality small sized (34x20) sand based AGP, with no sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
83	Little Dewchurch C of E Primary School	HR2 6PN	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
84	Llangrove CE Academy	HR9 6EZ	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
95	Much Birch C of E Primary School	HR2 8HL	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
96	Much Marcle C of E Primary School	HR8 2LY	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
100	Orcop Village Hall	HR2 8ET	Football (Disused)	Parish council	Formerly accommodated an adult pitch. The pitch has not been utilised in over 10 years, with maintenance and marking of the pitch ceasing to exist as of 2009.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Parish council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
110	Ross Rowing Club	HR9 7BU	Football (Disused)	Sports club	Previously accommodated one adult, one youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitch. Satellite imagery suggests the pitches ceased maintenance between 2009 and 2013. Site located on flood zone.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
111	Ross Rugby Football Club	HR9 7GQ	Rugby union	Sports club	Two senior rugby union pitches of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Two senior pitches are overplayed by 1.25 MES per week. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site located on flood zone. Ross-on-Wye RFC indicates pitch quality has decreased over the previous few seasons since the dedicated grounds person left the Club. It aspires to hire someone full time to help support the regular maintenance of the pitches in the upcoming years dependent on the available budget. Ross-on-Wye RFC has recently had planning application (P220034/F ¹⁷) approved to extend a flat roof at the back of its main	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity/feasibility to improve the ancillary provision and develop the clubhouse to establish additional toilets and storage. If a WR complaint 3G is established in its locality look to transfer partial demand off the site to the artificial surface in order to alleviate overplay.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide

¹⁷ https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200142/planning_services/planning_application_search/details?id=220034&search-term=10090723434&search-service=uprn&search-source=Postal%20address&search-item=Ross%20Rugby%20Club,%20Abbots%20Close,%20Greytrees,%20Ross-on-Wye,%20Herefordshire,%20HR9%207GQ

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					clubhouse in order to establish additional toilets and storage.							
112	Ross-On-Wye Sports Centre	HR9 5JA	Football / 3G	Sports club	One adult, one youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, three mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of good quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. All pitches currently have spare capacity, however the adult, youth 11v11, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches are all played to capacity at peak time. The youth 9v9 pitch has actual spare capacity at peak time of one MES, however this is discounted due to the site being located on a flood zone. Ross Juniors FC currently has land south of the current pitches onsite which it could bring into use for additional pitches. It suggests that to get this facility up to a usable standard it would cost around £25,000 and would require funding to support this development.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance given the fact they are located on a flood zone. Explore the opportunity to develop additional pitches on the land south of the site. In particular examine the feasibility of the piece of land being able to accommodate a full size 3G pitch in order to alleviate identified shortfalls.	Sports club HFA FF	Key centre	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Cricket		One standard quality grass square which consists of 12 senior wickets. One standard quality standalone NTP. Ancillary provision of good quality. Site located on flood zone. Senior wickets have spare capacity of 30 MES per season. The site has actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sunday and midweek, however due to the site being located on a flood zone the actual spare capacity is discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club HCB ECB		L	L	L	Protect Enhance
			MUGA		Site is identified in the LFFP as a site for MUGA development.	Explore the feasibility to undertake LFFP priority projects onsite.	Sports club HFA, FF		M	S-M	M	Provide
114	Seven Site (Kingstone)	HR2 9ER	Football	Council	One recreational adult pitch.	Look to improve and sustain pitch with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued recreational use.	Council HFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
120	St Joseph's RC Primary School	HR9 5AW	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
136	The Avenue (Goodrich Cricket Club)	HR9 6HT	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality grass square which consist of nine senior wickets. Ancillary provision of good quality. Square has spare capacity of 36 MES per season. The square has actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Saturday, Sunday and midweek.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
147	The Parks	HR1 4TQ	Cricket	Sports club	Two good quality grass squares. Square one consists of eight senior wickets and four junior wickets. Square two consists of seven senior wickets. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square one's senior wickets is overplayed by 11 MES per season. The junior wickets have spare capacity of eight MES per season, with actual spare capacity for an additional midweek team. Square two has spare capacity of ten MES, with actual spare capacity for an additional midweek team.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
151	Tudor Park	HR9 5UQ	Football	Council	One recreational mini 7v7 pitch.	Look to improve and sustain pitch with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued recreational use.	Council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
154	Walford Primary School	HR9 5SA	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 5v5 pitches, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
160	Weston-Under-Penyard Village Hall and Recreation Ground	HR9 7PA	Football	Parish council	One adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch all of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Adult pitch is played to capacity. Youth 9v9 pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week, with actual spare capacity at peak time, which is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity of one MES per week, however, the pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Parish council HFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
163	Whitchurch C of E Primary School	HR9 6DA	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School HFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
170	Wormelow Cricket Club	HR2 8EJ	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality grass square which consists of six senior wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of good quality. Square is played to capacity.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
174	Goodrich Tennis Club	HR9 6JA	Tennis	Sports club	Two good quality artificial turf courts with sports lighting and one good quality macadam court with no sports lighting. Goodrich TC is currently in the process of building a new clubhouse, and as part of this is also looking to install sports lighting across its courts. Funding from Active Herefordshire and Worcestershire has been secured for this development.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to complete the clubhouse development and installing sports lighting across all courts.	Sports club LTA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
181	Ross-on-Wye Tennis Centre	HR9 5AR	Tennis	Sports club	Four good quality macadam, courts with sports lighting and available for community use. The Club are exploring opportunity to develop LTA GateAccess. Ross TC are exploring the need for sports lighting update to LED lights. The Club aspires to develop dedicated car parking onsite, as well as improve its clubhouse facility.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop LTA GateAccess on courts. Look to update sports lighting to LED lighting. Explore the opportunity to undertake development onsite for dedicated car parking and clubhouse improvements.	Sports club LTA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
194	Aston Ingham Bowls Club	HR9 7LS	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Aston Ingham BC reports aspirations to acquire an additional piece of land from a neighbouring landowner to create additional parking.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to acquire and develop additional land for car parking.	Sports club BE	Local	L	L	L-M	Protect Provide
195	Ross-On-Wye Bowling Club	HR9 5AR	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Ross-on-Wye BC is operating above the recommended capacity.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Monitor Ross-on-Wye BC membership to ensure that the clubs demand can be met.	Sports club/ Trust BE	Local	L	L	L	Protect
199	Ross-on-Wye Skate Park	HR9 7BY	Skate Park	Parish council	One good quality skate park. Site is located on a flood zone.	Sustain skate park quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Trust SBGB	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2043. This future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required. The Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC)¹⁸ 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 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 identified earlier under Recommendation (g) – Secure developer contributions, for playing pitches, the Council should use Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator as a tool for determining developer contributions linking to sites within the locality.

Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, the Action Plan in this document should be consulted to determine whether the additional demand can be accommodated via existing provision (in which case no further action is required). If this is not the case, contributions should be sought to enhance existing provision in the locality to accommodate the increased demand. This can be through, for example, improving quality, or providing new or improved ancillary provision. Consultation with appropriate NGBs should also 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 most sports, except for cricket, where match equivalent sessions are by season. Training demand is expressed in either hours or match equivalent sessions. Where expressed in hours, it is expected that demand will be to either a 3G pitch (to accommodate football training demand) or an AGP (to accommodate hockey match play and training demand). Where expressed in match equivalent sessions, it is expected training will take place on floodlit grass pitches.

The scenarios are as follows and are all based on an occupancy rate of 2.24 as agreed with Herefordshire Council planning officers:

- ◀ **Scenario One** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (3,577 dwellings) in the Hereford Analysis Area.
- ◀ **Scenario Two** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (617 dwellings) in the Bromyard Analysis Area.
- ◀ **Scenario Three** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (50 dwellings) in the Kington Analysis Area.
- ◀ **Scenario Four** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (1,105 dwellings) in the Ledbury Analysis Area (Plan A).
- ◀ **Scenario Five** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (2,205 dwellings) in the Ledbury Analysis Area (Plan B).
- ◀ **Scenario Six** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (1,500 dwellings) in the Leominster Analysis Area.
- ◀ **Scenario Seven** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (1,649 dwellings) in the Ross-on-Wye Analysis Area.

¹⁸ <https://www.activeplacespower.com/>

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The scenarios below have been run on a strategic housing site level and will be able to give an indication of what level of onsite provision will need to be established or if offsite contributions should be secured.

- ◀ **Scenario Eight** - additional demand for pitch sports generated from the proposed Three Elms development¹⁹ (350 dwellings).
- ◀ **Scenario Nine**- additional demand for pitch sports generated from the proposed Lower Bullingham development²⁰ (1,300 dwellings).
- ◀ **Scenario Ten**- additional demand for pitch sports generated from the estimated Western option development²¹ (3,615 dwellings).

Please note that the examples used in each of the scenarios have been provided on the basis that there is no adjustment to future demand (from participation growth) over and above population growth. It is suggested that this is monitored and updated as part of the PPOSS Stage E review to monitor the likely impact on future participation levels. Furthermore, the scenarios have used ONS data to predict future growth²² in order to give a base understanding of the impact of housing demand on the need for additional pitch provision.

Scenario One – additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (3,577 dwellings) in the Hereford Analysis Area.

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 3,577 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 8,012 people. This population increase equates to 6.87 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.24 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 33.67 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket per season.

Training demand equates to 11.7 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.90 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 1.16 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 3,577 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 3,577 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ²³	Training demand ²⁴
Adult football	1.39	11.7 hours
Youth football	2.49	
Mini soccer	1.98	
Rugby union	1.01	1.16 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	-
Adult hockey	0.22	0.67 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.02	0.23 hours
Cricket	33.67	-

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

¹⁹ P222138/O

²⁰ P194402/O

²¹ HLAA/637/001

²² <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datasets/localauthoritiesinenglandz1>

²³ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

²⁴ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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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 ²⁵	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²⁶	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	1.39	£148,354	£31,303	2.77	£511,823
Youth football	2.49	£212,909	£44,711	2.57	£474,266
Mini soccer	1.98	£52,886	£11,106	0	£0
Rugby union	1.01	£151,175	£32,351	2.02	£372,538
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.76	£238,512	£48,179	1.51	£278,938
Sand based AGPs	0.06	£49,781	£1,543	0.11	£20,692
3G	0.31	£327,845	£11,337	0.62	£113,675

Scenario Two – additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (617 dwellings) in the Bromyard Analysis Area.

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 617 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 1,382 people. This population increase equates to 1.18 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.04 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 5.81 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 2.02 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.16 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.2 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.3: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 617 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 617 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ²⁷	Training demand ²⁸
Adult football	0.24	2.02 hours
Youth football	0.43	
Mini soccer	0.34	
Rugby union	0.17	0.2 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.04	0.12 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.04 hours
Cricket	5.81	-

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

Table 7.4: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

²⁵ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

²⁶ 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)

²⁷ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

²⁸ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ²⁹	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ³⁰	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.24	£25,591	£5,400	0.48	£88,289
Youth football	0.43	£36,730	£7,713	0.44	£81,811
Mini soccer	0.34	£9,121	£1,915	0	£0
Rugby union	0.17	£26,078	£5,581	0.35	£64,265
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.13	£41,143	£8,311	0.26	£48,117
Sand based AGPs	0.01	£8,587	£266	0.02	£3,569
3G	0.05	£56,551	£1,955	0.11	£19,608

Scenario Three – additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (50 dwellings) in the Kington Analysis Area.

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 50 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 112 people. This population increase equates to 0.09 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.01 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 0.47 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 0.16 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.01 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.02 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.5: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 50 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 50 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ³¹	Training demand ³²
Adult football	0.02	0.16 hours
Youth football	0.03	
Mini soccer	0.03	
Rugby union	0.01	0.02 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.01	0.01 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0 hours
Cricket	0.47	-

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

²⁹ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

³⁰ 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)

³¹ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

³² Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Table 7.6: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ³³	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ³⁴	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.02	£2,074	£438	0.04	£7,156
Youth football	0.03	£2,977	£625	0.04	£6,641
Mini soccer	0.03	£737	£155	0	£0
Rugby union	0.01	£2,114	£452	0.03	£5,209
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.01	£3,336	£674	0.02	£3,901
Sand based AGPs	0	£696	£22	0	£289
3G	0	£4,579	£158	0.01	£1,588

Scenario Four – additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (1,105 dwellings) in the Ledbury Analysis Area (Plan A).

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 1,105 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 2,475 people. This population increase equates to 2.12 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.08 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 10.40 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 3.61 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.28 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.36 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.7: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,105 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 1,105 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ³⁵	Training demand ³⁶
Adult football	0.43	3.61 hours
Youth football	0.77	
Mini soccer	0.61	
Rugby union	0.31	0.36 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.07	0.21 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.01	0.07 hours
Cricket	10.40	-

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

³³ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

³⁴ 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)

³⁵ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

³⁶ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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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 ³⁷	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ³⁸	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.43	£45,826	£9,669	0.86	£158,100
Youth football	0.77	£65,768	£13,811	0.79	£146,508
Mini soccer	0.61	£16,337	£3,431	0	£0
Rugby union	0.31	£46,699	£9,994	0.62	£115,081
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.23	£73,676	£14,883	0.47	£86,164
Sand based AGPs	0.02	£15,377	£477	0.03	£6,392
3G	0.1	£101,273	£3,502	0.19	£35,115

Scenario Five – additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (2,205 dwellings) in the Ledbury Analysis Area (Plan B).

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2,205 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 4,939 people. This population increase equates to 4.22 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.15 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 20.76 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 7.21 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.55 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.72 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.9: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 2,205 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 2,205 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ³⁹	Training demand ⁴⁰
Adult football	0.85	7.21 hours
Youth football	1.53	
Mini soccer	1.22	
Rugby union	0.62	0.72 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.14	0.41 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.01	0.14 hours
Cricket	20.76	-

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

³⁷ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

³⁸ 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)

³⁹ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

⁴⁰ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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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 ⁴¹	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ⁴²	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.85	£91,450	£19,296	1.71	£315,503
Youth football	1.53	£131,246	£27,562	1.58	£292,343
Mini soccer	1.22	£32,601	£6,846	0	£0
Rugby union	0.62	£93,186	£19,942	1.24	£229,636
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.47	£147,024	£29,699	0.93	£171,943
Sand based AGPs	0.03	£30,687	£951	0.07	£12,755
3G	0.19	£202,096	£6,988	0.38	£70,074

Scenario Six – additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (1,500 dwellings) in the Leominster Analysis Area.

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 1,500 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 3,360 people. This population increase equates to 2.87 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.10 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 14.12 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 4.91 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.29 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.49 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.11: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,500 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 1,500 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ⁴³	Training demand ⁴⁴
Adult football	0.58	4.91 hours
Youth football	1.04	
Mini soccer	0.83	
Rugby union	0.42	0.49 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.09	0.28 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.01	0.1 hours
Cricket	14.12	-

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

⁴¹ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

⁴² 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)

⁴³ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

⁴⁴ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Table 7.12: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ⁴⁵	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ⁴⁶	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.58	£62,217	£13,128	1.16	£214,648
Youth football	1.04	£89,293	£18,752	1.08	£198,908
Mini soccer	0.83	£22,179	£4,658	0	£0
Rugby union	0.42	£63,403	£13,568	0.85	£156,242
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.32	£100,026	£20,205	0.63	£116,980
Sand based AGPs	0.02	£20,877	£647	0.05	£8,678
3G	0.13	£137,492	£4,754	0.26	£47,673

Scenario Seven – additional demand for pitch sports generated from preferred housing sites (1,649 dwellings) in the Ross-on-Wye Analysis Area.

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 1,649 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 1,649 people. This population increase equates to 3.17 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.11 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 15.52 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 5.39 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.42 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.54 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.13: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,649 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 1,649 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ⁴⁷	Training demand ⁴⁸
Adult football	0.64	5.39 hours
Youth football	1.15	
Mini soccer	0.91	
Rugby union	0.47	0.54 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.1	0.31 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.01	0.11 hours
Cricket	15.52	-

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

⁴⁵ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

⁴⁶ 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)

⁴⁷ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

⁴⁸ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Table 7.14: 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 ⁴⁹	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ⁵⁰	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.64	£68,397	£14,432	1.28	£235,971
Youth football	1.15	£98,162	£20,614	1.18	£218,643
Mini soccer	0.91	£24,383	£5,120	0	£0
Rugby union	0.47	£69,696	£14,915	0.93	£171,751
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.35	£109,965	£22,213	0.7	£128,603
Sand based AGPs	0.03	£22,951	£711	0.05	£9,540
3G	0.14	£151,152	£5,227	0.28	£52,409

Scenario Eight – additional demand for pitch sports generated from the proposed Three Elms development (350 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 350 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 784 people. This population increase equates to 0.67 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.02 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 3.29 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 1.14 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.09 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.11 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.15: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 350 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 350 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ⁵¹	Training demand ⁵²
Adult football	0.14	1.14 hours
Youth football	0.24	
Mini soccer	0.19	
Rugby union	0.1	0.11 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.02	0.07 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0	0.02 hours
Cricket	3.29	-

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

⁴⁹ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

⁵⁰ 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)

⁵¹ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

⁵² Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Table 7.16: 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 ⁵³	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ⁵⁴	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.14	£14,516	£3,063	0.27	£50,079
Youth football	0.24	£20,830	£4,374	0.25	£46,397
Mini soccer	0.19	£5,173	£1,086	0	£0
Rugby union	0.1	£14,792	£3,165	0.2	£36,451
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.07	£23,339	£4,714	0.15	£27,295
Sand based AGPs	0.01	£4,871	£151	0.01	£2,025
3G	0.03	£32,073	£1,109	0.06	£11,121

Scenario Nine – additional demand for pitch sports generated from the proposed Lower Bullingham development (1,300 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 1,300 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 2,912 people. This population increase equates to 2.49 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.09 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 12.24 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 4.25 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.32 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.42 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.17: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,300 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 1,300 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ⁵⁵	Training demand ⁵⁶
Adult football	0.5	4.25 hours
Youth football	0.9	
Mini soccer	0.72	
Rugby union	0.37	0.42 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.08	0.24 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.01	0.08 hours
Cricket	12.24	-

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

⁵³ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

⁵⁴ 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)

⁵⁵ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

⁵⁶ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Table 7.18: 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 ⁵⁷	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ⁵⁸	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.5	£53,921	£11,377	1.01	£186,026
Youth football	0.9	£77,385	£16,251	0.93	£172,358
Mini soccer	0.72	£19,220	£4,036	0	£0
Rugby union	0.37	£54,943	£11,758	0.73	£135,396
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.27	£86,687	£17,511	0.55	£101,379
Sand based AGPs	0.02	£18,093	£561	0.04	£7,521
3G	0.11	£119,156	£4,120	0.22	£41,315

Scenario Ten – additional demand for pitch sports generated from the estimated Western option development (3,615 dwellings)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 3,615 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 8,098 people. This population increase equates to 6.93 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.25 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 34 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 11.83 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.91 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.68 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.19: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 3.615 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 3.615 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ⁵⁹	Training demand ⁶⁰
Adult football	1.4	11.83 hours
Youth football	2.51	
Mini soccer	2	
Rugby union	1.02	0.68 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.23	0.68 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.02	0.23 hours
Cricket	34	-

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

⁵⁷ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

⁵⁸ 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)

⁵⁹ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

⁶⁰ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Table 7.20: 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 ⁶¹	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ⁶²	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	1.4	£149,943	£31,638	2.8	£517,303
Youth football	2.51	£215,191	£45,190	2.6	£479,329
Mini soccer	2	£53,454	£11,225	0	£0
Rugby union	1.02	£152,792	£32,697	2.04	£376,523
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.76	£241,067	£48,695	1.53	£281,925
Sand based AGPs	0.06	£50,314	£1,560	0.11	£20,914
3G	0.31	£331,360	£11,458	0.62	£114,894

The most appropriate way to meet the estimated demand

It is important that the above results are looked at alongside the findings of the Assessment Report, and the recommendations and actions of the Strategy. By doing so, the most appropriate way of meeting the estimated needs can be determined and any resulting proposals justified. This should include:

- ◀ Using the Assessment Report and related Strategy to understand the nature of the playing pitch sites within an appropriate catchment of the new population along with issues, recommendations and actions relevant to that area.
- ◀ Looking at the different ways in which the needs could be met, including for example:
 - ◀ Enhancing existing provision to increase capacity, supported by suitable management and maintenance arrangements to ensure the greater capacity is maintained over the longer term;
 - ◀ Undertaking works, and ensuring long term maintenance and access arrangements, to secure new or greater community use of existing provision;
 - ◀ Providing new pitches as an extension on current sites.
 - ◀ Providing new (natural and/or artificial grass pitches).

If the decision is taken to provide new pitches, then the calculator takes the estimated needs for matches and training activity and converts this into an estimate of the likely pitch provision required to meet the needs of population projections. Indicative costs are also provided to provide this level of pitch provision in addition to costing for associated changing room provision.

⁶¹ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

⁶² 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

Herefordshire (Authority wide) – Scenarios One to Seven

The scenarios above show that through housing growth, demand will be generated for each pitch sport to a lesser or greater extent, apart from rugby league as there is currently no demand within Herefordshire.

For reference the figures in these tables have been amalgamated into the two tables below to give an overall representation of the requirement for additional provision across the Authority. This is based on Ledbury Plan B option and not Plan A as this will provide information if the greater number of houses are to be developed. The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 9,598 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.24 per household is 21,500 people.

This population increase equates to 18.41 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.65 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 90.36 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 31.40 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 2.41 match equivalent sessions for hockey on AGPs. There are also 3.12 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on floodlit grass rugby union pitches.

Table 7.21: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 9,598 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 9,598 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ⁶³	Training demand ⁶⁴
Adult football	3.72	31.40 hours
Youth football	6.67	
Mini soccer	5.31	
Rugby union	2.71	3.12 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	- match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.60	1.80 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.05	0.61 hours
Cricket	90.36	-

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

⁶³ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

⁶⁴ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Table 7.22: 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 ⁶⁵	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ⁶⁶	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	3.72	£398,094	£83,998	7.44	£1,373,424
Youth football	6.67	£571,331	£119,979	6.9	£1,272,653
Mini soccer	5.31	£141,916	£29,802	0	£0
Rugby union	2.71	£405,659	£86,811	5.42	£999,659
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	2.03	£640,022	£129,284	4.06	£748,501
Sand based AGPs	0.15	£133,584	£4,141	0.3	£55,526
3G	0.83	£879,748	£30,421	1.65	£305,038

Despite the information suggesting there is a need for new provision for all sports apart from rugby league and hockey suitable AGPs it should be noted that this is Authority wide and is the requirement across the total plan period going to 2041. This means that this provision would need to be established gradually as the various dwellings are built.

Furthermore, taking the individual scenarios for each analysis area, there is not sufficient housing growth in the Bromyard, Kington, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye analysis areas to warrant new provision with contributions being better allocated to improving the quality of current provision to accommodate an increase usage. Even though some of the analysis areas are indicating a need for a solitary adult/youth/mini football pitch it is not recommended to establish single pitch sites as their longevity is considered unsustainable due to lack of accompanying ancillary provision and maintenance.

In comparison, overall housing growth in both Hereford and Ledbury (if Plan B is chosen) provides suitable levels of growth to warrant new provision to be built. However, given that both areas are regularly affected by flooding it may be difficult to find an appropriate location for any new provision. Therefore, off site contributions should also be examined if no viable sites can be found.

Individual housing developments – Scenarios Eight to Ten

Experience shows that only significantly large housing sites are likely to generate demand for onsite provision (notwithstanding any need for off-site contributions). Based on scenarios Eight, Nine and Ten a development within Herefordshire would need to be around 1,300 dwellings (at an occupancy rate of 2.24) to warrant any form of new pitches.

Therefore, based on 350 dwellings, Scenario Eight: Three Elms development, it is recommended that off-site contributions would better service the new demand created and should be linked to local priorities identified in Table 7.23.

Scenario Nine identifies limited new provision and although this could be split to include an element of both onsite and off-site contributions, there is not enough provision to sustain on-site provision.

⁶⁵ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2021 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance>)

⁶⁶ 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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Further to this, although there are shortfalls of football, rugby union and cricket pitches in Hereford Analysis Area, these are best addressed through qualitative improvements to existing sites in the area (as demonstrated through the scenario testing). Therefore, it is recommended that off-site contributions would better service the new demand created and should be linked to local priorities identified in Table 7.23.

For Scenario Ten, (additional demand for pitch sports generated from the estimated Western option development), based upon the potential of 3,615 dwellings, there is substantial demand for new pitches. In total, it indicates demand for adult, youth and mini football, senior rugby union and cricket provision and as such there is a case to suggest that onsite provision would be more sustainable in the form of a hub site, for example. Inclusion of 3G pitch would also help to meet identified need and would be best located to a new school or sports hub to manage the facility. Further discussion is required to fully establish the opportunities at the site.

Further analysis is required to identify the closest priority playing field sites to the proposed housing developments where off site contributions may be considered. Local priorities for football, cricket, rugby and hockey have been added to Table 7.3 below.

It is therefore recommended that in the first instance that offsite contributions are examined on housing developments under 1,300 dwellings whereas potential new provision onsite should be examined on anything over this amount. With this being said, even developments over this amount should be analysed on a case by case basis to understand if onsite provision is required using the most recent supply and demand data available at that time. For example, there could be rationale to bring a disused site back into use rather than creating a new provision onsite if it is in the locality of the development.

Offsite contributions

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

All 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.

A potential benefit from pooling monies is that larger scale developments such as the creation of new 3G pitches or the refurbishment of hockey suitable AGPs become more feasible. For example, although none of the scenarios suggest a requirement for new hockey suitable pitches, based on population growth, the associated monies could be aggregated to go towards a pitch refurbishment.

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.

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Table 7.23: Key site recommendations for investment

Analysis area	Site ID	Site name	NGB Priority sites ^{67C}
Bromyard	31	Clive Richards Sports Ground	-
	107	Queen Elizabeth High School	FF Priority EN Priority
	180	Bodenham & District Tennis Club	-
	196	Bodenham Bowls Club	-
	197	Bromyard Skate Park	-
	206	Flaggoners Green (Bromyard CC) (Bromyard CC)	-
Golden Valley	44	Escley & District Sports Pavilion	-
	46	Ewyas Harold Recreation Ground	-
	179	Preston-on-Wye Tennis Courts	-
Hereford	1	Allpay Park - Moorhouse	-
	6	Bartestree And Lugwardine Playing Fields	FF Priority
	22	Broomy Hill	FF Priority
	25	Burghill Tillington & Weobley Cricket Club	-
	48	Fownhope Recreation Field	-
	52	Gorsty Lane	FF Priority
	60	Hereford Leisure Centre	RFU Priority FF Priority EA Priority EH Priority
	61	Hereford Leisure Pool (King George V Playing Fields)	-
	98	Newton Farm	FF Priority
	155	Wellington Playing Field	FF Priority
	164	Whitecross High School Hereford	-
	172	Hereford Rugby Club	RFU Priority
	185	Herefordshire Cricket Ground (Pentland Gardens)	ECB Priority
186	Hereford Bowls Club	-	
Kington	74	Kington Recreation Ground	-
	115	Shobdon Airfield	-
	173	Eardisley Tennis Club	-
Ledbury	10	Bishops Frome Sports Ground	-
	67	John Masefield High School (JMSPORT)	-
	79	Ledbury Rugby Club / Land South of Little Marcle Road	RFU Priority FF Priority
	97	New Street Football Ground (Ledbury Town FC)	FF Priority
Leominster	16	Bridge Street Sports Centre	-
	18	Brimfield and Little Hereford Sports Club	-
	88	Luctonians Sports Club	-
	102	Orleton Recreation Ground	FF Priority
	171	Leominster FC	-
Ross-on-Wye	9	Berryfield Woolhope Playing Fields	-
	66	John Kyrle Academy	-
	111	Ross Rugby Football Club	RFU Priority
	112	Ross-On-Wye Sports Centre	FF Priority

⁶⁷ Please note that further consultation is required with NGBs that have not fully indicated their priorities as part of the PPOSS process, including ECB and England Hockey.

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Analysis area	Site ID	Site name	NGB Priority sites ^{67C}
	160	Weston-Under-Penyard Village Hall and Recreation Ground	FF Priority
	194	Aston Ingham Bowls Club	-

As mentioned, when considering any potential disposal of disused playing field sites, consideration should be given as to whether these sites can sustainably be brought back into use to meet future need before deciding on disposal and replacement to meet Sport England's Playing Field Policy. Developer contributions could be allocated towards bringing disused sites back into use.

Please note that the PPC only includes the main pitch sports but there may also be a requirement to improve or provide facilities for other pitch and non-pitch sports such as netball, tennis, bowls, MUGAs, cycling and athletics, for example. With this being said the supply and demand analysis from the proceeding Assessment report indicates there is enough tennis, bowls, traditional athletics and netball provision, however, quality and accessibility of provision for all the sports need improving.

In comparison there is scope to create compact/mini/active athletics provision to service the areas of high population density such as Leominster, Ledbury and Ross-on-Wye. There is also a need to provide a dedicated cycling facility which is progressing at Hereford Leisure Centre in addition to more MUGAs across the Authority particularly in those areas which are not serviced by any or little provision such as Bromyard, Golden Valley, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye.

Therefore, securing developer contributions to deliver improvements/new provision should be guided by this Strategy and in particular the site by site Action Plan and in consultation with the relevant NGB through the PPOSS Steering Group.

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

Delivery

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

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

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

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

Monitoring and updating

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

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

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

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

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


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

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

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Checklist

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

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

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APPENDIX ONE: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

National context

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

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

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

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

Sport England: Uniting the Movement 2021

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

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

There are three key objectives to the Strategy:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

National Planning Policy Framework (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. Over the next two years to 2020, a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) will be produced for every local authority across England. Each plan will be 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 will establish a ten-year vision for football facilities that aims to transform the playing pitch stock in a sustainable way. They will 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: Time for Change Strategy (2020-24)

The FA launched its new National Game Strategy in January 2021 which aims to 'unite the game and inspire the nation'. It will do this in two ways, by 'changing the game to maximise its impact' and by 'serving the game to deliver football for all'.

To achieve this, the strategy will focus on six Game Changer objectives, to change the fabric of the game and tackle long-term issues, to make the largest possible impact in the years ahead:

- ◀ Win a major tournament
- ◀ Service > two million through a transformed media platform
- ◀ Ensure equal opportunities for every girl
- ◀ Delivery of 5,000 quality pitches
- ◀ A game free of discrimination
- ◀ Maximise the appeal and revenue of the FA cups and BFAWSL

These are underpinned by eight Serve objectives, ensuring maintenance of brilliant business-as-usual services to support the growing and evolving needs of the game:

- ◀ Trusted, progressive regulation and administration
- ◀ Safe and inclusive football pathways and environment
- ◀ Personalised and connected learning experiences
- ◀ Maximum investment into the game
- ◀ Diverse, high-performing workforce and inclusive culture
- ◀ World class venues and events
- ◀ Strong reputation and clear brand identity
- ◀ Technology enabled and insight driven

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

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

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

- ◀ **Inspire through elite teams**
 - ◀ Increase investment in the county talent pathway
 - ◀ Incentivise the counties to develop England Players
 - ◀ Drive the performance system through technology and innovation
 - ◀ Create heroes and connect them with a new generation of fans

- ◀ **Make cricket accessible**
 - ◀ Broaden crickets appeal through the New Competition
 - ◀ Create a new digital community for cricket
 - ◀ Install non-traditional playing facilities in urban areas
 - ◀ Continue to deliver South Asian Action Plans
 - ◀ Launch a new participation product, linked to the New Competition

- ◀ **Engage children and young people**
 - ◀ Double cricket participation in primary schools
 - ◀ Deliver a compelling and coordinated recreational playing offer from age five upwards
 - ◀ Develop our safeguarding to promote safe spaces for children and young people

- ◀ **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.

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- ◀ **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.
- ◀ **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.

Rugby Football League Strategic Plan 2015 – 2021

The RFL's most recent strategy aims to establish rugby league as "a growing sport, available throughout the country, that is recognised as providing positive experience for all participants and spectators, in environments that are welcoming, inclusive, vibrant, safe and comfortable - encouraging people to return again and again, featuring:

- ◀ Financially viable and sustainable professional clubs creating stable employment opportunities, showcasing local, national and international playing talent, and leading the sport's development - and making a difference - in their own communities;
- ◀ Welcoming community clubs, putting players first, offering recreational enjoyment for children and adults alike in a safe and inclusive environment;
- ◀ A central organisation that stands out for excellence, innovation, mutual respect, integrity and inclusion that understands its role in servicing the wider sport;
- ◀ A sports that lives its values in all its decisions and actions.

This vision is underpinned by 13 core principles, including:

- ◀ **An integrated whole sport.** Each constituent part of the sport will have a responsibility to ensure the good health of the entire game;
- ◀ **Return on investment.** Investment will be targeted to ensure the sustainability of member clubs, and growth in the number and quality of players thus seeking an effective return for the game;
- ◀ **Financial parameters.** Financial distributions will be undertaken to ensure the whole of the game will move forward together;
- ◀ **Geographic expansion.** Geographic expansion of the sport should be carried out in a proportionate and sustainable manner.

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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

England Hockey Strategy

England Hockey’s Facilities Strategy can be found [here](#). Please note a new Strategy is currently being developed.

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

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

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

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

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England Netball

In November 2021 England Netball launched a 10-year 'Adventure Strategy' for the game with a new brand identity for the organisation.

England Netball's 'Adventure Strategy' shares a purpose-led ambition for the game, to build on the momentum the sport has seen in recent years and take it to new heights for the decade ahead.

The 'Adventure Strategy' outlines the intention to:-

- ◀ accelerate the development and growth of the game at every level, from grassroots to the elite,
- ◀ elevate the visibility of the sport, and
- ◀ lead a movement to impact lives on and beyond the court.

At the heart of its purpose, England Netball, with its proud and unique female foundations, will remain dedicated to increasing opportunities for women and girls to play the game as a priority, working tirelessly to address the gender participation gap in sport that has widened since the global pandemic.

Underpinned by years of engaging with and delivering netball for female communities, the organisation pledges to understand, support and nurture women and girls more deeply at every life stage, at every age.

The organisation is also committed to opening the sport to new audiences in every community, so netball better represents the rich diversity of the country it proudly represents, and ensures the sport continues to evolve and adapt to thrive in the future, helping to create a truly inclusive sport for all where everyone can belong, flourish and soar. A recent partnership announcement with England Men's and Mixed Netball Association (EMMNA) to help develop and grow male participation in the game, supports this commitment as England Netball pledges to promote difference and embrace the opportunity to make the sport a possibility within everyone's reach.

Transforming netball for children and young people is a strategic priority to protect the future of the sport. Working with schools and policy makers to extend physical literacy within, and after the school day with a focus on netball specific provision will pave the way for greater community participation. The organisation will accelerate the expansion of its Bee Netball programme for young children, whilst supporting teens and young women to stay in the game to keep them physically active and in the game for life.

Facility Development

The facility development aspirations stated within the Strategy are to:-

- ◀ Take a fresh look at the spaces required to support the sport, creating accessible places in every community to allow netball to be incorporated into how and where women and girls live their lives;
- ◀ Protect, enhance, and extend the network of homes that house the sport at a local and regional level;
- ◀ Develop an elite domestic professional competition that supports full time athletes underpinned by a world class infrastructure and environments.
- ◀ For England Netball to achieve its ambitions to make the game accessible to wider audiences and in every community, it encourages Local Authorities to adopt policies within Playing Pitch Strategies and Built Facilities Strategies that:-

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- ◀ Facilitates informal netball activity within neighbourhood multi use games areas for example by installing combined outdoor basketball and netball goals and art courts in Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs).
- ◀ Incorporates the cultural and health needs of women and girls within any designs for improved or new facilities.
- ◀ Protects and enhances netball facilities within all Primary and Secondary School environments so they offer a positive first experience of the sport for students and the wider community during out of school hours.
- ◀ Supports the installation of floodlights on outdoor courts to increase all year-round use.
- ◀ Facilitates the development of netball growth programmes, club training and competition within public leisure centres.
- ◀ Where appropriate, supports the development of netball homes and performance environments that enable local women and girls to pursue a career in netball as an elite athlete, official, coach or administrator.

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.

British Crown Green Bowling Association

Please note there is no current facility guidance provided by British Crown Green Bowling Association responsible for crown green bowls in England.

<http://bcgba.org.uk/index.html>

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Bowls England: Fit for the Future (2021-2026)

Bowls England's Strategy 'Fit For The Future' frames an exciting course for the sport. The five-year plan has been designed with the ultimate goal of getting more people playing & enjoying bowls. It sets out its vision for the sport, how it plans to achieve its objectives and what success looks like in 2026. The priorities that will get it the target of 1 million bowls experiences per year by 2026 are:

- ◀ Building the brand of bowls by increasing focus on international & top domestic bowls, and utilizing opportunities such as Birmingham 2022 to achieve larger media coverage;
- ◀ Ensuring the sport is truly accessible to all by offering different formats of the game which suit all time constraints, as well as driving more people to clubs in new ways;
- ◀ Creating positive playing experiences for everyone who steps on the green, both for casual and competitive players, as well as growing our events calendar and introducing a Performance Pathway
- ◀ Putting volunteers first, as the lifeblood of our sport, by increasing our support for clubs in order to empower them to thrive;
- ◀ Leading the sport with purpose by developing our Governance structures, diversifying our revenue streams, and work collaboratively with all the sport's key stakeholders.

England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)

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

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

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

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

British Cycling Lead our Sports – Inspire our communities⁶⁸

British Cycling's Strategy identifies seven key priorities for cycling before the Paris Olympics in 2024. These priorities are:

- ◀ Inspiring Performances
- ◀ Grow Communities
- ◀ Engage the Next Generation
- ◀ Flagship Events
- ◀ Cycling for Everyone
- ◀ Work Together
- ◀ Equipped for Success

⁶⁸ [British Cycling Lead our Sports](#)

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The seven priorities are not everything that British Cycling will do, but that can have the greatest impact over the next 36 months. The priorities are all interconnected and are cross interdependencies – achieving one strategic priority is often reliant upon achieving the other.

For each of the priorities, the Strategy sets out the measures of success:

Priority	Sub priority	Measures
Inspiring Performances	Sustain inspirational global elite cycling success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Win 10 Olympic and 15 Paralympic medals. ▶ Creation of a development plan to support elite non Olympic and Paralympic disciplines. ▶ Increase by 10% the number of riders in the talent pathway across ethnic communities, disability and low socioeconomic backgrounds.
Grow Communities	Grow and serve our cycling communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Diversify and grow our cycling communities. ▶ Grow membership from 150k to 250k. ▶ Increase affiliated clubs and groups by 20%
Engage the Next Generation	Encourage more children and young people to make cycling a lifelong habit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Increase the number of children and young people in clubs or groups by 20%. ▶ Increase by 10% the number of children and young people participating across ethnic communities, disability and low socio-economic backgrounds. ▶ Increased awareness and perception of British Cycling in a younger audience through yearly tracking.
Flagship Events	Host world class major events to excite and inspire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Achieve major event hosting targets across disciplines. ▶ Support the legacy impact of both the 2022 Commonwealth Games and the Cycling World Championships 2023. ▶ Increase the opportunities for British riders to perform on home soil.
Cycling for Everyone	Ensure cycling is open to everyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Put in place robust tracking and increased diversity in facilitators and governance. ▶ 90% of our communities to believe cycling is an inclusive activity and a sport for them. ▶ Increase participation in our sport across genders, ages, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation and low socioeconomic backgrounds by 10%.
Work Together	Work together with everyone who makes cycling happen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A 25% increase in the percentage of cycling facilitators that feel appreciated for the work they do. ▶ Retain, grow and diversify the range of partners in line with our strategic priorities.
Equipped for Success	Deliver our strategy effectively and efficiently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 100% increase in the diversity of the industries represented in the British Cycling partnership portfolio. ▶ Grow and diversify income streams.

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APPENDIX TWO: GLOSSARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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APPENDIX THREE: ANALYSIS AREA WITH PARISH LISTS

Analysis areas with parish lists	
Bromyard	
Avenbury	Linton
Bodenham	Little Cowarne
Bredenbury	Newton
Brockhampton	Norton
Bromyard and Winslow	Ocle Pychard
Collington	Pencombe with Grendon Warren
Docklow and Hampton Wafer	Pudleston
Edvin Loach and Saltmarshe	Stoke Lacy
Edwyn Ralph	Tedstone Delamere
Felton	Tedstone Wafer
Ford and Stoke Prior	Thornbury
Grendon Bishop	Ullingswick
Hampton Charles	Upper Sapey
Hatfield and Newhampton	Wacton
Hope under Dinmore	Whitbourne
Humber	Wolferlow
Golden Valley	
Abbey Dore	Longtown
Bacton	Michaelchurch Escley
Blakemere	Moccas
Bredwardine	Newton
Clifford	Peterchurch
Craswall	Preston on Wye
Cusop	Rowlstone
Dorstone	St. Margarets
Dulas	Turnastone
Ewyas Harold	Tyberton
Llancillo	Vowchurch
Llanveynoe	Walterstone
Hereford	
Bartestree	Holmer & Shelwick
Belmont Rural	Kenchester
Bishopstone	King's Pyon
Breinton	Lower Bullingham
Bridge Sollers	Lugwardine
Brinsop and Wormsley	Madley
Burghill	Mansell Gamage
Byford	Mansell Lacy
Callow	Marden
Canon Pyon	Mordiford
Clehonger	Moreton on Lugg
Credenhill	Pipe and Lyde
Dewsall	Preston Wynne
Dinedor	Stoke Edith
Dinmore	Stretton Sugwas
Dormington	Sutton
Eaton Bishop	Tarrington
Fownhope	Wellington
Grafton	Westhide
Hampton Bishop	Weston Beggard
Haywood	Withington
Hereford	Yazor

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Analysis areas with parish lists	
Holme Lacy	
Kington	
Almeley	Lyonshall
Brilley	Norton Canon
Brobury with Monnington on Wye	Pembridge
Eardisley	Rodd, Nash and Little Brampton
Huntington	Sarnesfield
Kington	Shobdon
Kington Rural	Staunton on Arrow
Kinnersley	Staunton on Wye
Knill	Titley
Letton	Whitney-on-Wye
Lower Harpton	Willersley and Winforton
Ledbury	
Acton Beauchamp	Evesbatch
Ashperton	Ledbury
Aylton	Little Marcle
Bishop's Frome	Mathon
Bosbury	Moreton Jeffries
Canon Frome	Much Cowarne
Castle Frome	Munsley
Coddington	Pixley
Colwall	Putley
Cradley and Storrige	Stanford Bishop
Donnington	Stretton Grandison
Eastnor	Wellington Heath
Eggleton	Yarkhill
Leominster	
Adforton	Laysters
Aymestrey	Leinthall Starks
Birley with Upper Hill	Leintwardine
Brampton Bryan	Leominster
Brimfield	Lingen
Buckton and Coxall	Little Hereford
Burrington	Lucton
Byton	Luston
Combe	Middleton on the Hill
Croft and Yarpole	Monkland and Stretford
Dilwyn	Orleton
Downton	Pipe Aston
Eardisland	Richards Castle (Hereford)
Elton	Stapleton
Eye, Moreton and Ashton	Walford, Letton and Newton
Eyton	Weobley
Kimbolton	Wigmore
Kingsland	Willey
Kinsham	
Ross-on-Wye	
Aconbury	Llangarron
Allensmore	Llanrothal
Aston Ingham	Llanwarne
Ballingham	Marstow
Bolstone	Much Birch
Brampton Abbots	Much Dewchurch
Bridstow	Much Marcle

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Analysis areas with parish lists	
Brockhampton	Orcop
Foy	Pencoyd
Ganarew	Peterstow
Garway	Ross-on-Wye
Goodrich	Sellack
Harewood	Sollers Hope
Hentland	St. Weonards
Hope Mansell	Thrupton
How Caple	Tretire with Michaelchurch
Kentchurch	Upton Bishop
Kilpeck	Walford
Kings Caple	Welsh Bicknor
Kingtone	Welsh Newton
Lea	Weston under Penyard
Linton	Whitchurch
Little Birch	Woolhope
Little Dewchurch	Yatton
Llandinabo	