



# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN FEBRUARY 2025

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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Cert Num: 6543-QMS-001

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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## ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation Turf
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs & Opportunities Guide
BE	Bowls England
BC	Bowls Club
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
EA	England Athletics
ECB	England & Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
EN	England Netball
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GIS	Geographic Information System
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
GPMF	Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund
HC	Hockey Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
LRCF	Leicestershire & Rutland Cricket Foundation
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
MES	Match Equivalent Sessions
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB(s)	National Governing Body (of sport)
NLS	National League System
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PIP	Pitch Improvement Programme
PPC	Playing Pitch Calculator
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
SFC	Sports Facility Calculator
U	Under (related to participating age groups)

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### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) has been appointed by Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) to deliver a Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) covering all formal playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities across the Borough to assist it to strategically plan for the future.

Building upon the preceding Assessment Report, this Strategy and Action Plan provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing playing pitch and accompanying ancillary facilities up to 2041 (in line with the Local Plan review). It has been developed to provide:

- ◀ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ A number of aims to help deliver the recommendations and actions.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch and outdoor sport facility stock.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area and site-by-site action plan that prioritises and can address key issues.
- ◀ Guidance as to how the PPOSS can be delivered.

The Strategy 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 (for "non-pitch" sports). Sport England's PPS Guidance details a stepped approach, separated into five distinct sections:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach.
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision.
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views.
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the Strategy.
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the Strategy and keep it robust and up to date.

This report represents Stage D of the process, with stages A-C covered in the preceding Assessment Report and Stage E ongoing once the study is complete. The lifespan of a PPOSS is considered to be three years, although this can be increased if updated.

The ANOG has a similar staged approach, as follows:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach.
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information on supply and demand.
- ◀ Stage C: Assessment – bringing the information together.
- ◀ Application: Application of an assessment.

Where not already implemented, the recommendations that come out of this strategy should, where appropriate, be translated into local planning policy so that there is a mechanism in place to protect existing provision and to secure investment where the opportunity arises.

The PPOSS replaces the existing study (2019) for Hinckley & Bosworth whilst also now covering a wider scope and additional sports.

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The Action Plan (Part 6) recommends a number of priority projects relating to sports provision which should be realised over the Local Plan period. It provides a framework for improvement and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, potential partners and possible sources of external funding.

Partner organisations in Hinckley & Bosworth have a vested interest in ensuring that existing playing pitches and ancillary provision are protected and enhanced. As such, many of the objectives and actions within this document need to be delivered and implemented by a wide range of bodies such as national governing bodies of sport (NGBs), sports organisations and education establishments. In some instances, HBBC will not be the organisation which delivers these actions or recommendations as the PPOSS is not solely just for the Local Authority to act upon. It applies to/for all the stakeholders and partners involved.

### Scope

Most sports facilities within Hinckley & Bosworth are owned by the Council or sports clubs/organisations. Therefore, HBBC's role in the delivery of new/improved sports facilities is to provide a robust evidence and policy to support the securing of new on-site facilities or S106 contributions from housing developments.

The scope of the PPOSS focuses geographically on all local provision, regardless of ownership and management arrangements. Provision included within the project is as follows:

- ◀ Football pitches (grass, third generation turf (3G) and ancillary provision).
- ◀ Cricket pitches.
- ◀ Rugby union pitches.
- ◀ Hockey pitches (artificial grass pitches (AGPs)).
- ◀ Other grass pitch sports as relevant e.g., rugby league, lacrosse, baseball/softball and American football.
- ◀ Tennis courts (including padel and pickleball facilities).
- ◀ Bowling greens.
- ◀ Netball courts.
- ◀ Athletics tracks (and running).
- ◀ Golf courses.

Other grass pitch sports are also included within the study where supply and/or demand is identified (e.g. rugby league, American football, lacrosse, baseball/softball).

Where a sport has not been included, this is because its presence has not been evidenced. However, that is not to say that the sports are not played informally, or that localised demand does not exist.

Sport England's PPS guidance applies to football, rugby union, cricket and hockey as well as the other grass pitch sports identified. ANOG guidance applies to the remaining 'non-pitch' sports.

### Study area

The study area comprises of the full local authority area, with analysis areas also used to allow for a more localised analysis in addition to the analysis for Hinckley & Bosworth as a whole. These can be used to allow a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch supply and demand at a local level. Use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account.

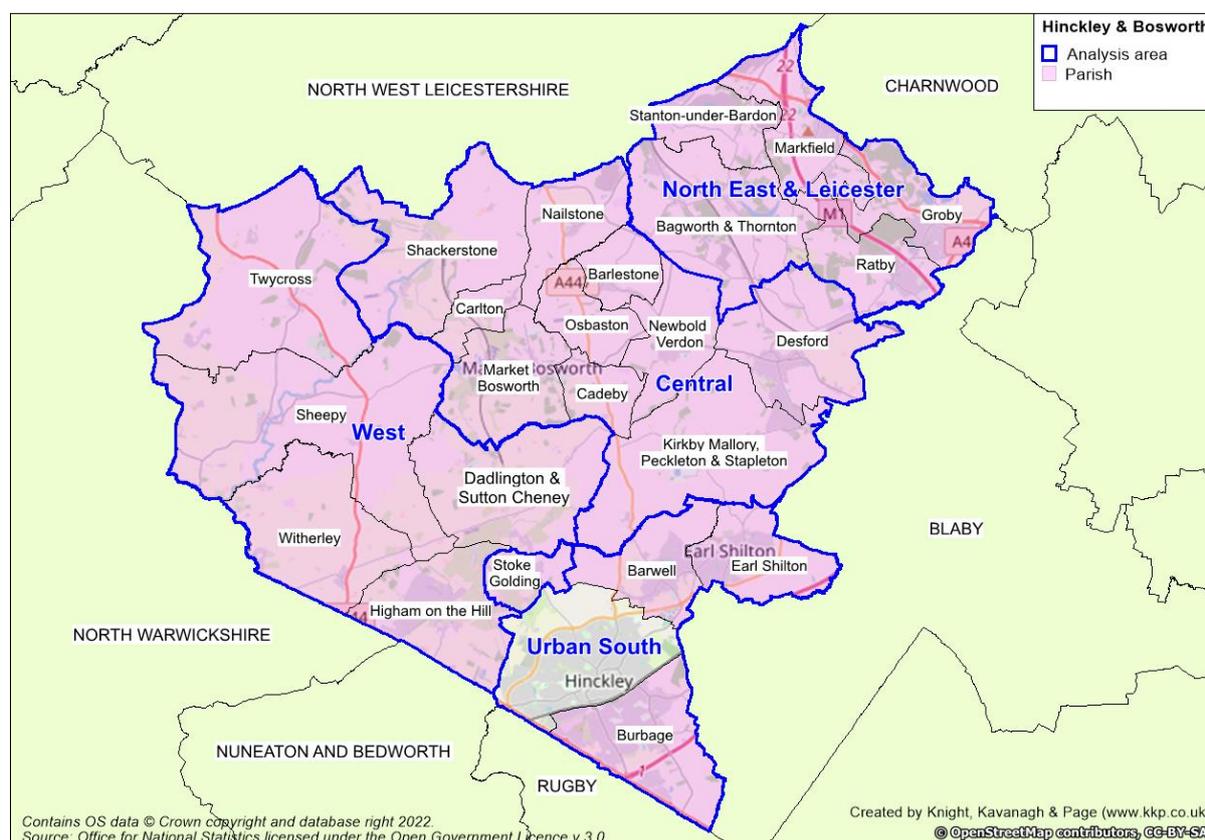
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For the purposes of this strategy, Hinckley & Bosworth is divided into four analysis areas to better reflect the population split within the Borough. Each analysis area is made up of the following parishes:

- ◀ **Central Analysis Area-** Barlestone, Cadeby, Carlton, Desford, Kirkby Mallory, Peckleton & Stapleton, Market Bosworth, Nailstone, Newbold Verdon, Osbaston, Shackerstone and Stoke Golding.
- ◀ **North East & Leicester Analysis Area-** Bagworth & Thornton, Groby, Markfield, Ratby and Stanton-under-Bardon.
- ◀ **Urban South Analysis Area-** Barwell, Burbage and Earl Shilton.
- ◀ **West Analysis Area-** Dadlington & Sutton Cheney, Higham on the Hill, Sheepy, Twycross and Witherley.

For a map showing the analysis areas, please see below.

Figure 1.1: Map of Hinckley & Bosworth



There is also a level of imported demand and sports teams from outside the study area that use pitches within Hinckley & Bosworth. In addition, it is likely that sports teams from inside of Hinckley & Bosworth use facilities outside of the Borough, for example in including North West Leicestershire, Leicester, Charnwood, Blaby, North Warwickshire, Rugby and Nuneaton & Bedworth. In addition, it is likely that sports teams from inside Hinckley & Bosworth also use facilities outside of the area.

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### Local context

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) is preparing a new Local Plan to replace the Adopted Local Plan (2006-2026). In order to inform the development of policies to support sport and recreation facilities, it needs to review and update the Playing Pitch Strategy that was prepared in 2019.

HBBC's vision for the Borough is to be a place of opportunity which creates great place to live work and enjoy through three objectives set out in the Corporate Plan (2022-25):

- ▶ People: Helping people to stay healthy, active in work and protected from harm.
- ▶ Places: Creating clean, sustainable and attractive places to live and work.
- ▶ Prosperity: Encouraging sustainable economic and housing growth, attractive businesses, improving skills and supporting regeneration.

The current Local Plan is made up of four documents known as: Core Strategy (2009); Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan (2011); Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan (2014); Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD (2016). As highlighted above, the Council is in the process of undertaking a new Local Plan and has undertaken the following stages:

- ▶ Scope, Issues and Options (January 2018 to February 2018).
- ▶ Directions for Growth Consultation (January 2019).
- ▶ Draft Local Plan (June 2021).
- ▶ Local Plan Regulation 19 Consultation Document (February 2022 to March 2022).

Since the Regulation 19 Consultation took place in Spring 2022, there have been multiple changes in context and the Borough Council have returned to the Regulation 18 Consultation stage so that changes in circumstances at local and national level could be considered. The Borough Council consulted on the Local Plan Regulation 18 Version between 31<sup>st</sup> July and 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024. As the Local Plan progresses the Borough Council are continuing to review its existing evidence base to establish what requires updating and identify any evidence gaps.

The emerging Local Plan sets out an aspirational but realistic vision for the borough that encompasses an objective to ensure facilities for sports are accessible for all. The first Spatial Objective of the Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 version calls for 'healthy communities and places'. It looks to achieve this by enhancing the overall provision of community, sports and cultural facilities and improving access to existing facilities.

Core Strategy Policy 19: Green Space and Play Provision is the main policy hook in terms of open space requirements; however, the Open Space and Recreation Study (2016) updates the standards that are set out in the Policy. Policy DM8 of the Site Allocations supplements the Core Strategy by seeking to safeguard open space, sports and recreational facilities. At the time of developing the Adopted Local Plan, it was considered that the provision of facilities across the borough was generally sufficient, although the quality of them needed to improve.

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### National context

Section eight of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities, stating that “planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.”

Paragraph 103 sets three criterion that ensures existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- a) An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- b) 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
- c) The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

Paragraphs 105, 106, and 107 set the parameters for the designation of Local Green Space. Such spaces may include playing fields and outdoor sport facilities.

An up-to-date PPOSS will form a key element of the Council’s key evidence base to support its emerging health and well-being policies and the Local Plan as a whole.

This may provide opportunities to develop new playing pitches or improve the quality of existing playing pitches in Hinckley & Bosworth in response to housing developments that create additional demand for pitches and the accompanying ancillary facilities. Any requirement would be calculated by using the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator<sup>1</sup>. Where possible, this will be aligned to existing community sport clubs in Hinckley & Bosworth which already play an integral part in providing sport and physical activities to the local community.

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/playing-pitch-calculator>

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## PART 2: VISION AND AIMS

In line with existing corporate policies, the proposed vision for the PPOSS is:

“To be a place of opportunity which creates a great place to live work and enjoy through the objectives set out in the Corporate Plan (2022-25)”.

In addition, the following overarching aims are based on the three Sport England themes (see figure 2.1 below). It is recommended that these are also adopted by the Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the PPOSS and Sport England planning objectives. Strategy delivery is the responsibility of, and relies upon, all relevant stakeholders.

### AIM 1

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

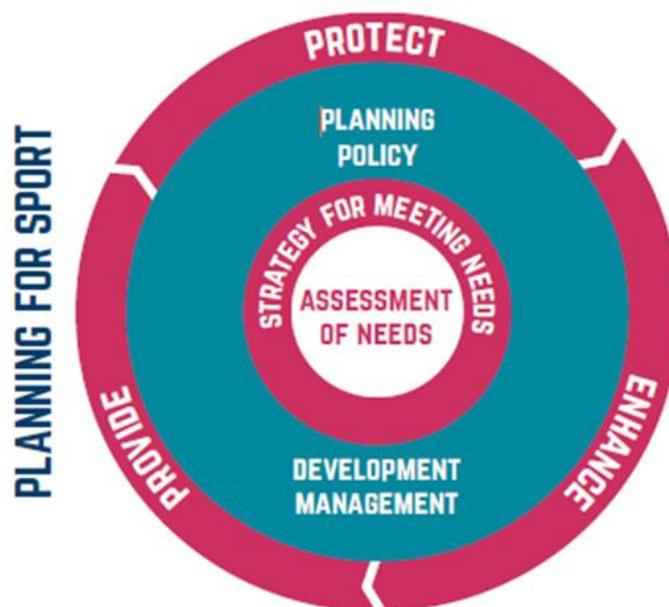
### AIM 2

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

### AIM 3

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

Figure 2.1: Sport England themes



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

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## PART 3: HEADLINE FINDINGS

The table below highlights the current quantitative shortfalls for each main pitch sport included within the PPOSS, as identified in the preceding Assessment Report. For qualitative findings and site-specific findings, please see Part 4: Sport Specific Recommendations and Scenarios, and Part 6: Action Plan.

Natural turf 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 (MES). The table below therefore uses this for football, rugby union, rugby league and cricket, converting both the amount of play a site can accommodate (its carrying capacity) and how much play takes place (its current use) into the same unit of demand to enable an analysis to be undertaken.

Based on how the sports tend to be played, the match equivalent session unit for football, rugby union and rugby league pitches relates to a typical week within the season for each sport, whereas for cricket, the number of match equivalent sessions is over the course of a season. This is because how much play a cricket pitch can accommodate is primarily determined by the number and quality of wickets on a square, with only one match generally played per pitch per day and with the wickets rotated throughout a season to reduce wear and to allow for repair. Each wicket is therefore able to accommodate a certain amount of play per season as opposed to a week.

For artificial surfaces, the carrying capacity of the provision is much higher, meaning how much play can be accommodated is primarily determined by availability, rather than how usage adversely affects quality, as is the case with grass pitches. Therefore, the total number of pitches required is instead used to form an analysis. This is pertinent to 3G and hockey (sand/water-based pitches).

Table 3.1: Current quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions <sup>2</sup> )	Future supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
<b>Football – grass pitches</b>	-	-	-
Central	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week
Central	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 4 MES per week	Shortfall of 6 MES per week
Central	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Central	Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week
Central	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
North East & Leicester	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week	Played to capacity
North East & Leicester	Youth 11v11	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1 MES per week
North East & Leicester	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 2.5 MES per week
North East & Leicester	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week

<sup>2</sup> Per week for rugby and football, per season for cricket

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Analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions <sup>2</sup> )	Future supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
North East & Leicester	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 5 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 MES per week
Urban South	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week
Urban South	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 8 MES per week	Shortfall of 11 MES per week
Urban South	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 3.5 MES per week
Urban South	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Urban South	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week
West	Adult	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
West	Youth 11v11	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
West	Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
West	Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
West	Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Adult</b>	<b>Actual spare capacity of 5 MES per week</b>	<b>Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week</b>
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Youth 11v11</b>	<b>Shortfall of 12 MES per week</b>	<b>Shortfall of 18 MES per week</b>
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Youth 9v9</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week</b>	<b>Shortfall of 6.5 MES per week</b>
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Mini 7v7</b>	<b>Actual spare capacity of 5 MES per week</b>	<b>Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week</b>
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Mini 5v5</b>	<b>Actual spare capacity of 9.5 MES per week</b>	<b>Actual spare capacity of 6 MES per week</b>
<b>Football – 3G pitches<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Central	11v11	Shortfall of 1 pitch	-
North East and Leicester	11v11	Shortfall of 1 pitch	-
Urban South	11v11	Shortfall of 2 pitches	-
West	11v11	Played to capacity	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>11v11</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3.5 pitches</b>	<b>Shortfall of 5 pitches</b>
<b>Rugby union</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Central	Senior	Shortfall of 3 MES per week	-
North East and Leicester	Senior	Played to capacity	-
Urban South	Senior	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week	-
West	Senior	Played to capacity	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Senior</b>	<b>Shortfall of 2.5 MES per week</b>	<b>Shortfall of 4 MES per week</b>
<b>Hockey (sand AGPs)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Full size</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>
<b>Cricket squares</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Central	Saturday	Actual spare capacity of 48 MES per week	-

<sup>3</sup> Shortfall calculated based on FA training model of one 3G pitch (11v11 size) accommodating 38 teams.

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Analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions <sup>2</sup> )	Future supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
Central	Sunday	Actual spare capacity of 36 MES per week	-
Central	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 102 MES per week	-
North East & Leicester	Saturday	Shortfall of 33 MES per week	-
North East & Leicester	Sunday	Shortfall of 33 MES per week	-
North East & Leicester	Midweek	Shortfall of 33 MES per week	-
Urban South	Saturday	Shortfall of 43 MES per week	-
Urban South	Sunday	Shortfall of 28 MES per week	-
Urban South	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 33 MES per week	-
West	Saturday	Played to capacity	-
West	Sunday	Actual spare capacity of 12 MES per week	-
West	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 23 MES per week	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	Saturday	Shortfall of 28 MES per week	Shortfall of 76 MES per week
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	Sunday	Shortfall of 16 MES per week	Shortfall of 16 MES per week
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 145 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 127 MES per week

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

Table 3.2: Headline findings (remaining sports)

Sport	Headline findings
<b>Tennis</b>	For club-based tennis, there is sufficient capacity in Hinckley & Bosworth to facilitate current and future demand. For non-club activity, Hinckley & Bosworth is relatively well placed given the implementation of LTA products at the local authority and park venues. However, there is scope to incorporate more sites into this to ensure a greater range of people can be accommodated and to improve the quality at more sites and ensure future sustainability of those park venues.
<b>Netball</b>	There is a low level of demand for netball identified across Hinckley & Bosworth. In terms of current stock, the netball courts in the Borough is sufficient in relation to the level of demand that is taking place. However, some improvements are needed to better the demand and ensure that the sport can continue to grow.
<b>Bowls</b>	Seven clubs are operating at or above the recommended capacity levels, although no issues are reported. With no other clubs reporting any capacity issues, supply is considered sufficient to meet demand.

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Sport	Headline findings
	However, where future demand is expressed at sites which are already over capacity, these will need to be monitored as part of Stage E to ensure this position remains the same.
<b>Athletics</b>	In the Borough, it is thought supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, with no track and field clubs currently based within the Borough. Away from track and field activity, emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other activities identified in Hinckley & Bosworth with a focus on retaining and increasing participation and growing the various initiatives that are in place.
<b>Golf</b>	With only two golf courses currently provided, there is a low level of supply servicing the Borough. Furthermore, there is also a distinct lack of variety in that both courses currently provide standard hole provision at a relatively high price point, with no cheaper offerings available or shorter, traditional offerings, due to all existing provision located to the north and south.
<b>Other grass pitch sports</b>	Supply for the remaining sports is adequate to meet current – or there is no identifiable local demand. Where sports are not currently catered for, it is imperative that any localised demand is signposted to neighbouring authorities to ensure that it can be accommodated.

## Conclusion

The existing position for all sports is that there is a mixture of shortfalls, spare capacity and sufficient capacity. For most sports played on natural turf pitches there are identified current shortfalls albeit the extent of this differs between the sports. 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.

For grass football pitches, most shortfalls are identified in the Urban South Analysis Area albeit these are relatively small and are likely to be able to be addressed through quality improvements. For 3G pitches there are shortfalls (for football training) in three of the four analysis areas with the most in the Urban South Analysis Area (two currently). This can only be addressed through new provision.

Rugby union has shortfalls apparent at two of the club sites for Market Bosworth RFC and for Burbage RUFC at Britannia Road Recreation Ground. Most overplay is at Market Bosworth RFC as the site's four pitches are overplayed by 5.5 match equivalent sessions per week. It is likely that a combination of measures will be required to fully address these shortfalls.

Although there appears to be a sufficient current supply of hockey suitable AGPs in Hinckley & Bosworth, some capacity pressures coupled with quality issues means there are significant issues to be resolved to adequately cater from existing demand.

Cricket is currently showing shortfalls for Saturday and Sunday cricket across the Borough. This is due to overplay being created where clubs are utilising poor quality squares and the high level of demand at sites such as at Ratby Sports Club (Ratby Town CC).

For the non-pitch sports, there is sufficient capacity in Hinckley & Bosworth to facilitate current and future demand. Both adult and junior demand is being accommodated at club sites of Hinckley Netball Club and Sport in Desford. However, for bowls is showing some potential overplay with seven clubs operating at or above recommended capacity levels albeit clubs do not report the need for new provision.

For athletics, with four running clubs identified above in the Borough it is suggested that opportunities to install both a NewGen, MiniTrack & ActiveTrack should be explored to benefit Desford Striders, Hinckley Running Club and 1485 Triathlon Club as these clubs have active junior sections.

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Finally, for golf as there are only two golf courses currently provided, there is a low level of supply servicing the Borough. Furthermore, there is also a distinct lack of variety in that both courses currently provide standard hole provision at a relatively high price point, with no cheaper offerings available or shorter, traditional offerings, due to all existing provision located to the north and south.

Where demand is being met, this does not equate to a surplus of provision, with any spare capacity instead considered a potential 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 NPPF and 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.

Although there is value in improving quality, installing additional sports lighting (where permissible), improving ancillary facilities, and enabling access to existing unused provision, capacity improvements may not offer significant capacity gains in the peak period to meet all shortfalls expressed, particularly for cricket and rugby union. A strategic solution is considered to be necessary involving new pitches to address this scale of shortfall. There is also an overall shortfall of 11v11 3G pitches identified across Hinckley & Bosworth and these shortfalls cannot be addressed unless this type of pitch is approved and constructed. This is further explored on a sport by sport basis within the scenarios.

In addition to population forecasts applied through future demand calculations, further calculations are made in relation to specific housing growth demand and this is presented in Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios.

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## PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

The included scenarios focus on the impact that they will have on the shortfalls and key issues identified and how they can be overcome. However, whilst each can improve the picture to a greater or lesser extent, it should be noted that carrying out some scenarios to the fullest degree is likely to be unviable and that a combination of actions will instead be required to ensure that all current and future demand can be met.

For some sports, no scenarios are included, although that is not to say that no action is required. Instead, recommendations are clear without the requirement for scenarios to be tested.

### Football – grass pitches

#### Assessment Report summary

##### Football – supply and demand summary

- Actual spare capacity by site and pitch type across Hinckley & Bosworth totals 25.5 match equivalent sessions per week and is identified across 39 pitches at 18 sites.
- There is a current shortfall of youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitch capacity, with actual spare capacity on adult and mini pitches.
- When factoring in future demand, shortfalls worsen on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches and emerge on mini 7v7 pitches.

##### Football – supply summary

- The audit identifies a total of 149 pitches in Hinckley & Bosworth across 50 sites. Of the pitches, 133 are available at some level for community use (although not necessarily used) across 41 sites.
- Future provision could be established at Rugby Road Recreation Ground to provide one adult football pitch and accompanying changing pavilion, although no formal plans are in place.
- Caterpillar Pitches is allocated in the development plan as an Outdoor Sports Facility (DES26) which seeks to protect playing fields from being built on. Paragraph 103 of the NPPF requires that existing playing fields should not be built on unless one of three criterion applies. In view of the shortfall of pitches identified in the area, any future proposals to build on these sites would need to demonstrate that criteria 103b) in the NPPF and exception 4 in Sport England's Playing Fields Policy is met. There is a need to retain the quantity of pitches within the Central Analysis Area.
- Most pitches are provided by education sites (44 pitches), 40 by parish councils, 30 by sports clubs sites, 12 by the Council and the remaining seven by other entities.
- Of the pitches that are available for community use, 33 are assessed as good quality, 54 as standard quality and 46 as poor quality.
- Britannia Road Recreation Ground, Colts Close Recreation Ground, Markfield Jubilee Playing Fields, Ratby Sports Club, Richmond Park and Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground are serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.
- There are two clubs who play within the football pyramid structure, with AFC Barwell operating at Step 3, playing in the Southern League Premier Division Central and Hinckley LRFC operating at Step 6 playing in the Midland League Division One and Desford & Caterpillar FC playing in a regional feeder league. Whilst one team (Desford & Caterpillar Ladies FC) compete in the women's national league structure at Tier 6.

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## Football – demand summary

- ◀ Through the audit and assessment, 273 teams from within 37 clubs are identified as playing within Hinckley & Bosworth. This comprises of 36 adult men’s, four adult women’s, 119 youth boys’, 14 youth girls’ and 100 mini (mixed) teams.
- ◀ There has been a large increase in demand since 2019, with 38 additional teams now identified.
- ◀ In addition, several futsal, walking football and disability teams field demand within the Borough. This includes one disability team and five futsal teams from Hinckley Borough FC, one team from Hinckley Walking Football and two walking football teams from Sporting Markfield.
- ◀ Eight teams are identified as exporting demand outside of the Borough into neighbouring authorities, with this consisting of one adult, two youth 11v11 and five mini 5v5 teams.
- ◀ A total of four clubs identify latent demand in that they express they could field more teams if they had more capacity and three report that they could field additional demand should ancillary provision improve.
- ◀ Future demand from population growth projects an increase of 47 teams, whilst a total of 15 clubs quantify growth aspirations, with this amounting to 35 teams.

## Scenarios

### Improving pitch quality/reducing overplay

In total, there are 15 pitches across 11 sites overplayed by a combined total of 18.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Improving quality of such provision will increase capacity across the sites and as a consequence reduce both current and future shortfalls across the Borough.

To illustrate the above, Table 4.1 highlights that the large majority of overplay would be alleviated if quality improved to good quality at each site. However, recognising that this may not be fully achievable or required, the impact of improving quality to standard has also been tested in the following scenario.

As a reminder, the capacity rating for each type and quality rating is:

Adult pitch quality	Adult matches per week	Youth pitch quality	Youth matches per week	Mini pitch quality	Mini matches per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

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Table 4.1: Impact of improving pitches to standard or good quality (match equivalent sessions per week)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Standard quality capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating	Actual spare capacity created
1	Alans Way Sports Field	Central	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	4	3	1	0
7	Barlestone St Giles Football Club	Central	Adult	2	Poor	0.5	1.5	3.5	2
22	Clarendon Park	Urban South	Adult	1	Poor	1	0	1	0
27	Dovecote Pavilion	Urban South	Youth (11v11)	1	Good	0.5	0.5	0.5	0
30	Hastings High School	Urban South	Youth (11v11)	2	Poor	4	2	0	0
30	Hastings High School	Urban South	Youth (9v9)	2	Poor	1	1	5	0
62	Ratby Sports Club	North East & Leicester	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	2	1	1	0
63	Redmoor Academy	Urban South	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	1	0	2	0
63	Redmoor Academy	Urban South	Youth (9v9)	2	Poor	1	1	5	0
74	Stoke Golding Recreation Ground	Central	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	0.5	2.5	0
82	Weavers Springs Park	Urban South	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	3	2	0	0

Note, peak time availability (actual spare capacity) is only generated when pitches are not used within peak periods. In most cases above, pitches are already played to capacity within the local peak times.

Table 4.2: Impact of improving pitches to standard or good quality (match equivalent sessions per week)

Pitch type	Current total	Peak time capacity with improvements	Peak time capacity generated
Adult	4	6	2
Youth 11v11	12	12	-
Youth 9v9	1.5	1.5	-
Mini 7v7	5	5	-
Mini 5v5	9.5	9.5	-

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As a result of improving the overplayed pitches to good quality, the existing shortfalls on youth pitches would be eradicated and actual spare capacity would be increased on the adult and mini pitches. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.3: Current supply and demand if quality improved to good at overplayed sites

Pitch type	Current total	Potential capacity with improvements
Adult	4	12
Youth 11v11	12	7.5
Youth 9v9	1.5	15.5
Mini 7v7	5	5
Mini 5v5	9.5	9.5

Further to the above, future shortfalls will be eradicated on youth and mini 7v7 pitches with overall actual spare capacity created.

Table 4.4: Future supply and demand if quality improved to good at overplayed sites

Pitch type	Future total	Potential capacity with improvements
Adult	0.5	8.5
Youth 11v11	18	1.5
Youth 9v9	6.5	7.5
Mini 7v7	0.5	0.5
Mini 5v5	6	6

Whereas improving the overplayed pitches to standard quality, the existing shortfalls on youth 9v9 pitches would be eradicated but shortfalls would remain on the youth 11v11 pitches albeit at a reduced level. Whereas actual spare capacity would be increased on the adult and mini pitches. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.5: Current supply and demand if quality improved to standard at overplayed sites

Pitch type	Current total	Potential capacity with improvements
Adult	4	6
Youth 11v11	12	6
Youth 9v9	1.5	3.5
Mini 7v7	5	5
Mini 5v5	9.5	9.5

Further to the above, future deficits for youth and mini 7v7 pitches would also reduce, although some level of shortfall remains, suggesting that improving quality alone is not sufficient to correct existing capacity issues.

Table 4.6: Future supply and demand if quality improved to standard at overplayed sites

Pitch type	Future total	Potential capacity with improvements
Adult	0.5	2.5
Youth 11v11	18	12
Youth 9v9	6.5	1.5
Mini 7v7	0.5	0.5
Mini 5v5	6	6

Although improving quality can have a positive impact (as shown in the tables above) the potential capacity created will not necessarily be in the peak period and therefore may not

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fully meet demand. It should also be noted that if quality was improved, for this to be sustained over a long term period this will also likely require existing maintenance budgets to be maintained or enhanced.

As seen in Table 4.3 and Table 4.4, the spare capacity generated across the pitch types by improving overplayed pitches to good quality is significantly higher than those improved to standard quality.

Notwithstanding the above, spare capacity would still be generated if overplayed pitches were improved to standard quality across the majority of pitch types, although a shortfall of six match equivalent sessions would still exist on youth 11v11 pitches.

Based on the above, it is recommended that a combination of improving to good and standard is carried out. For example, improving the youth pitches to good quality, given they have current shortfalls and the remaining pitch types to standard quality would be sufficient.

### Priority sites for improved pitch quality

As improving the quality of all overplayed sites may not be feasible from an investment point of view, an alternative approach is to focus on improving specific strategic sites. To that end, the below tables identifies nine sites for grass pitch improvements that would benefit from investment and that are key to the development of football. This improvement should be led by appropriate operators/owners. The CFA and FF can provide support and guidance as well as some potential funding).

Table 4.7: Impact of quality improvements to chosen priority sites

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
12	Bosworth Academy	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	1	1
12	Bosworth Academy	Youth (9v9)	2	Standard	2	2
12	Bosworth Academy	Mini (7v7)	3	Standard	3	3
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	Youth (11v11)	3	Standard	1	3
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	Youth (9v9)	3	Standard	0	3
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	Mini (7v7)	3	Standard	0	3
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	Mini (5v5)	3	Standard	1	3
21	Caterpillar Pitches	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	1
21	Caterpillar Pitches	Adult	1	Poor	0	1
21	Caterpillar Pitches	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	1	1
21	Caterpillar Pitches	Mini (7v7)	1	Poor	1	1
21	Caterpillar Pitches	Mini (5v5)	1	Poor	1	1
22	Clarendon Park	Adult	1	Standard	2	1
22	Clarendon Park	Adult	1	Poor	1	1
62	Ratby Sports Club	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	1
62	Ratby Sports Club	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	2	1
62	Ratby Sports Club	Mini (7v7)	5	Poor	2	5
62	Ratby Sports Club	Mini (5v5)	3	Poor	3	3
64	Richmond Park	Youth (11v11)	1	Good	0	0

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Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
64	Richmond Park	Youth (9v9)	1	Good	0	0
64	Richmond Park	Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	0	1
64	Richmond Park	Mini (7v7)	1	Good	0.5	0.5
64	Richmond Park	Mini (7v7)	1	Standard	0	1
64	Richmond Park	Mini (5v5)	1	Good	0	0
67	Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground	Mini (7v7)	3	Good	0.5	0.5
67	Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground	Mini (5v5)	3	Good	3	3
68	South Charnwood High School	Adult	2	Poor	0	2
82	Weavers Spring Park	Adult	2	Poor	2	2
82	Weavers Spring Park	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	3	0
82	Weavers Spring Park	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	0	1

Improving quality as set out in the table above would create 29 match equivalent sessions of additional capacity per week. The impact the improvements would have on the overall supply and demand balance is shown in the following table. Note the table below is presented on a peak time model, and therefore, improving sites in the table above, may not necessarily generate capacity within the peak periods, albeit it will create an improved quality experience for users.

Based on improvements, actual spare capacity would be created on youth 9v9 pitches, although a shortfall would still remain on youth 11v11 pitches, albeit at a reduced level.

Table 4.8: Impact on current supply and demand if quality improved at chosen sites

Pitch type	Current capacity	Potential capacity with improvements
Adult	4	8.5
Youth 11v11	12	6.5
Youth 9v9	1.5	6.5
Mini 7v7	5	12
Mini 5v5	9.5	11.5

Future shortfalls would remain on youth 11v11 pitches. Youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches would have overall spare capacity rather than a shortfall existing.

Table 4.9: Impact on future supply and demand if quality improved at chosen sites

Pitch type	Future capacity	Potential capacity with improvements
Adult	0.5	5
Youth 11v11	18	12.5
Youth 9v9	6.5	1.5
Mini 7v7	0.5	6.5
Mini 5v5	6	8

In summary, these sites remain a priority for investment as they do have a positive impact upon the supply and demand of the majority of pitch types.

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Linked to the previous scenario of improving pitch quality, Clarendon Park, Ratby Sports Club and Weavers Springs Park all have overplayed pitches and therefore these sites should be a key priority for investment.

## Loss of grass pitches at Caterpillar Pitches

As noted in the Assessment Report, from the 2023/24 season, Caterpillar Pitches is no longer allowing community use. The site has one adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch which are all poor quality.

The impact the loss of grass pitches at Caterpillar Pitches would increase the shortfalls on youth 9v9 pitches, whilst spare capacity would remain on adult and mini pitches, albeit at a reduced level. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.10: Impact on current supply and demand on loss of pitches at Caterpillar Pitches

Pitch type	Current capacity	Potential capacity with access removed from Caterpillar pitches
Adult	4	3
Youth 11v11	12	12
Youth 9v9	1.5	2.5
Mini 7v7	5	4
Mini 5v5	9.5	8.5

## Accounting for club future demand aspirations

During consultation, eight clubs report aspirations to increase the number of teams that they provide, equating to a predicted growth of 35 teams broken down as six adult teams, 10 youth 11v11 teams, seven youth 9v9 teams, seven mini 7v7 teams and three mini 5v5 teams over the next five years. Please note that the Assessment Report only considered future demand from ONS population growth.

Table 4.11: Current supply and demand with club future demand aspirations accounted for

Pitch type	Current total	Future total
Adult	4	1
Youth 11v11	12	17
Youth 9v9	1.5	5
Mini 7v7	5	0.5
Mini 5v5	9.5	8

If realised, the impact of club aspirational growth would significantly worsen shortfalls on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. Spare capacity would still remain on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches but at a reduced level as shown below.

## Future demand through trend based growth

Further to club aspiration demand identified, this scenario examines the effect of future demand based on forecasted growth from historical FA affiliation data.

Using historic Leicestershire FA affiliation data for Hinckley & Bosworth, the graph overleaf plots the forecasted growth for the upcoming 2024/25 season.

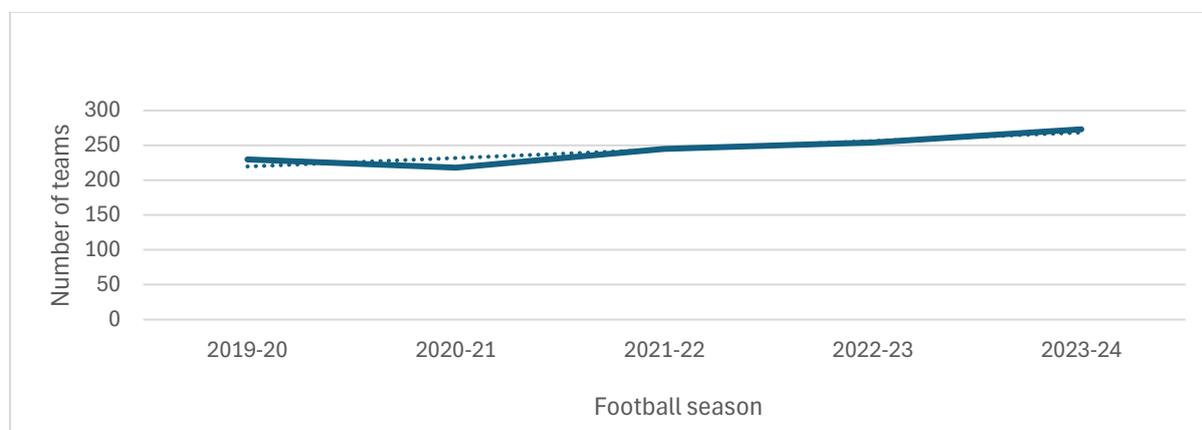
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It considers the following demand from previous seasons:

- ◀ 2019/20- 230 teams.
- ◀ 2020/21- 218 teams.
- ◀ 2021/22- 245 teams.
- ◀ 2022/23- 254 teams.
- ◀ 2023/24- 273 teams.

With an average per season increase in football demand of 3.7%, despite a reduction in teams in the 2020/2021 season, between 2019 and 2024 in Hinckley & Bosworth. Trend forecasting predicts an increase of 10 teams for 2024/25 season. If achieved, this would give a total of 283 affiliated teams playing in Hinckley & Bosworth and equating to the need for a further five match equivalent sessions per week across the Borough.

Figure 4.1: Annual growth in football teams across Hinckley & Bosworth (2019-2024)



If the above future demand through forecasted growth was to be realised over the next five years, this would exacerbate existing shortfalls on youth pitches. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.12: Current supply and demand if future demand through forecasted growth (over five years) realised

Pitch type	Current total	Future total
Adult	4	3
Youth 11v11	12	13.5
Youth 9v9	1.5	2.5
Mini 7v7	5	4
Mini 5v5	9.5	9

Given the further shortfalls on youth pitches, this further evidences the need to improve pitch quality at priority sites and develop more pitches (which could include 3G pitches) to better support this anticipated growth in demand.

## Loss of tenure at education sites

As highlighted in the Assessment Report, most community accessible pitches in Hinckley & Bosworth are managed by education providers. The table below outlines the education sites which are accessed by community clubs.

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Table 4.13: Demand taking place on grass pitches at education sites

School	Security of tenure	Club	Teams
Bosworth Academy	Unsecure	CRG FC Desford & Caterpillar FC	23 teams
Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	Unsecure	Groby Juniors	21 teams
Hastings High School	Secure	FC Burbage	10 teams
Heath Lane Academy	Unsecure	Earl Shilton Town FC Rumour Mill FC	Two teams
Hinckley Parks Primary School	Unsecure	FC Burbage	Five teams
Redmoor Academy	Secure	Stoke Golding FC	Four teams
Westfield Junior School	Unsecure	Hinckley Town Juniors	Six teams

In instances where clubs do not have formal tenure agreements in place, clubs could theoretically be asked to vacate at any time which would result in each requiring alternate provision to service existing levels of demand.

There are 71 teams from eight clubs accessing education sites, which is significant. The impact of community access being removed is highlighted in the table below. Please note the total does not include teams accessing 3G pitches at these sites.

FC Burbage and Stoke Golding FC are clubs which access the grass pitches at Hastings High School for the former and Redmoor Academy for the latter. These sites have binding community use agreements in place with the sports clubs which use its facilities at the sites. Tenure at these sites is considered to be secure and therefore they have been discounted from the scenario.

If community access to the unsecure education sites was to be lost, shortfalls would be created on mini 7v7 pitches and exacerbated on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches.

Table 4.14: Impact on current supply and demand if loss of access to sites without secure tenure

Pitch type	Current capacity	Potential total
Adult	4	2.5
Youth 11v11	12	15
Youth 9v9	1.5	7.5
Mini 7v7	5	2.5
Mini 5v5	9.5	4.5

As shown above, to avoid the risk of the supply and demand balancing worsening, it is necessary to try and ensure that grass pitches at education sites continue to stay open to community use, given the reliance upon school sites across Hinckley & Bosworth. However, it should be noted that in practice this can be difficult to achieve.

Whilst not always possible, particularly at the secondary school sites, creating community use agreements would ensure that such demand continues to be provided for in the long-term. Where there is external investment on sites e.g., by an NGB, Sport England, the Council or through s106 funding, there are opportunities to secure community use as part of the funding or approval agreement.

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This also applies to new schools or for existing schools seeking changes to provision that requires planning permission as, via planning consent, the Council can mandate the implementation of a community use agreement as part of the planning stipulations.

Further to the above, securing access to the grass pitches at Bosworth Academy (seven pitches) and Brookvale Groby Learning Campus (12 pitches) would provide suitable sites to accommodate football demand. This would help to meet some of the current shortfalls identified.

### Bringing disused pitches back into use

Currently, there is one site (Earl Shilton Albion Football Club; sometimes known as Stoneycroft Sport & Social Club) identified as being disused that previously provided an adult pitch in Hinckley & Bosworth. It should be noted that the pitch formerly accommodated a regional feeder league level of football.

Bringing back Earl Shilton Albion Football Club into the sole use of adult football would increase the actual spare capacity on adult pitches. This is shown in the following table.

Table 4.15: Current supply and demand if disused pitches were reinstated

Pitch type	Current capacity	Potential current total
Adult	4	5
Youth 11v11	12	12
Youth 9v9	1.5	1.5
Mini 7v7	5	5
Mini 5v5	9.5	9.5

Notwithstanding the above, as the site has only one pitch, further feasibility should be considered to judge the value in re-instating the adult pitch at Earl Shilton Albion Football Club as ultimately it resembles a poor quality sporting offer in its existing state.

Linked to the above, re-configuring the adult pitch into youth pitches could be considered as a potential option, which would only need limited ancillary provision. Again, further feasibility will need to be undertaken.

### Accommodating exported demand

Currently, there are eight teams across four clubs consisting of one adult, two youth 11v11 and five mini 5v5 teams which have been identified as being exported from Hinckley & Bosworth to play in neighbouring authorities. This is from the following clubs:

- ◀ Conny United FC.
- ◀ Hinckley AFC.
- ◀ Hinckley Town Juniors FC.
- ◀ Sporting Markfield FC.

The level of exported demand is relatively minimal, although due to the Borough's proximity to neighbouring authorities such as Blaby, Charnwood and Oadby & Wigston and less travel time to access provision, this is to be expected and not seen as an issue to the clubs above.

Notwithstanding the above, Hinckley Town Juniors (one youth 11v11 and three mini 5v5 teams) and Sporting Markfield FC (two mini 5v5 teams) indicate, through consultation, that demand is exported out of Hinckley & Bosworth due to a lack of facilities and capacity at sites within the Borough.

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For Sporting Markfield, it reports this being a particular issue as it wishes to field all teams within Hinckley & Bosworth but is currently unable to due to a lack of pitch capacity.

Therefore, the impact of all demand returning is shown in the following table. Shortfalls would be increased on youth 11v11 pitches whilst spare capacity would still remain on adult and mini 5v5 pitches, although at reduced levels.

Table 4.16: Current supply and demand if all exported demand returned to the Borough

Pitch type	Current total	Potential total
Adult	5	4
Youth 11v11	12	14
Youth 9v9	1.5	1.5
Mini 7v7	5	5
Mini 5v5	9.5	4.5

The above illustrates a reason as to why such a level of exported demand exists, however, this is only the case for youth pitches, with the remaining pitch types displaying actual spare capacity, although at reduced levels. Of the clubs identified as exporting demand, only Hinckley AFC and Hinckley Town Juniors FC is impacted by the shortfalls on youth pitches.

Therefore, shortfalls need to be alleviated and spare capacity needs to be created, as set out within the other scenarios (e.g., via quality improvements and securing community use). Additionally, the creation of additional 11v11 3G pitches will also assist as this will enable the transfer of demand from grass pitches, thus creating further spare capacity.

Notwithstanding the above, for the remaining clubs, there may be other factors as to why the clubs are exporting demand and therefore further investigation is required to understand why these teams are playing outside of Hinckley & Bosworth.

### Reconfiguring grass pitch layout

There are currently 18.5 match equivalent sessions per week of overplay on 15 pitches of adult and youth pitches across 11 sites. Shortfalls are most apparent on youth 11v11 pitches where there are 12 match equivalent sessions of overplay identified.

As shown above, through quality improvements and securing community use agreements at unsecure sites, starting with the highest priority sites, actual spare capacity would be created on adult and mini pitches, whilst youth pitches would still suffer from some shortfalls. Therefore, this scenario considers the impact of converting under-utilised adult and mini 7v7 pitches to youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitches respectively.

Starting with adult pitches, a total of eight pitches across seven sites have actual spare capacity equating to five match equivalent sessions per week. This is shown in the table below.

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Table 4.17: Actual spare capacity on adult pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch quality	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES per week)
14	Britannia Road Recreation Ground	Urban South	Adult	1	0.5
20	Burroughs Park	North East & Leicester	Adult	1	0.5
21	Caterpillar Pitches	Central	Adult	1	0.5
27	Dovecote Pavilion	Urban South	Adult	1	1
47	Langdale Park	Urban South	Adult	1	0.5
48	Leicester Road Stadium	Urban South	Adult	2	2
52	Market Bosworth Sports Club	Central	Adult	1	1

Of these sites, most sites are used for adult football but have minimal play. Whilst Dovecote Pavilion is currently unused for match play. This pitch could potentially be converted from adult to youth 11v11 pitches which would reallocate one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity per week.

Table 4.18: Impact of converting adult pitches to youth 11v11

Analysis Area	Pitch type	Current total	Potential capacity
Central	Youth 11v11	4	4
North East & Leicester	Youth 11v11	-	-
Urban South	Youth 11v11	8	7
West	Youth 11v11	-	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	Youth 11v11	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>

As for mini pitches, a total of 21 pitches across 10 sites are identified as having actual spare capacity equating to 14.5 match equivalent sessions per week. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.19: Actual spare capacity on mini pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch quality	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES per week)
2	Ashby Sports Club	Urban South	Mini (7v7)	1	1
27	Dovecote Pavilion	Urban South	Mini (5v5)	2	0.5
35	Hinckley Club for Young People	Urban South	Mini (5v5)	1	1
49	Marina Park	North East & Leicester	Mini (7v7)	2	2
52	Market Bosworth Sports Club	Central	Mini (5v5)	1	0.5
55	Markfield Jubilee Playing Fields	North East & Leicester	Mini (5v5)	1	2
64	Richmond Park	Urban South	Mini (7v7)	1	0.5
67	Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground	Urban South	Mini (7v7)	3	0.5
67	Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground	Urban South	Mini (5v5)	3	0.5
72	Stamford Park	North East & Leicester	Mini (7v7)	1	1
72	Stamford Park	North East & Leicester	Mini (5v5)	3	3

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch quality	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES per week)
75	Swallows Green	Urban South	Mini (5v5)	2	2

Of the pitches listed above, the pitches at Ashby Sports Club, Marina Park, Markfield Jubilee Playing Fields, Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground (mini 5v5 pitches), Stamford Park and Swallows Green are not currently used for mini demand.

A total of 13 pitches with 11.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity per week have the capacity to be converted. However, this may be difficult in practice to larger pitch types such as youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches.

### Improving ancillary facilities

Across Hinckley & Bosworth the following six sites are accessed for football and provide poor quality ancillary facilities:

- ◀ Britannia Road Recreation Ground (three teams accessing).
- ◀ Colts Close Recreation Ground (three teams accessing).
- ◀ Markfield Jubilee Playing Fields (four teams accessing)
- ◀ Ratby Sports Club (14 teams accessing).
- ◀ Richmond Park (22 teams accessing).
- ◀ Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground (five teams accessing).
- ◀ Weavers Spring Park (10 teams accessing)

These sites all have a multi-sport offering and should be a priority for improvements as to benefit football and other sports.

As noted in the Assessment Report, Weavers Spring Park is subject to the signing of a S106 Agreement for a new four team changing pavilion, car park and improvements to the quality of grass football pitches. Therefore, the site should be monitored through the Stage E process.

In addition to the list above, Leicestershire & Rutland FA has identified Stamford Park as a potential site for the development of ancillary provision. However, in the 2023/2024 season the site was currently unused for match play. Further investigation and monitoring should be undertaken through the Stage E process.

The Action Plan in Part 6 of the report provides greater detail into the need for ancillary provision improvements all of which should also be considered to improve football across Hinckley & Bosworth.

### Summary of scenarios

Although there is value in improving quality, bringing back disused pitches back into use and securing community use, capacity improvements may not offer significant capacity gains in the peak period to meet all shortfalls expressed. Therefore, a more strategic solution is considered to be necessary involving new pitches to address this scale of shortfall. In particular, there is a need for more pitches to meet future demand, given the shortfalls on youth pitches.

An alternative option is increased access to 3G pitches for match play purposes to also help alleviate some shortfalls. In effect, a multi-phased approach is required in Hinckley & Bosworth to alleviate identified shortfalls. Future demand should be monitored through Stage E.

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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### Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality with a focus on overplayed pitches and pitches assessed as poor quality and utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to assist in the improvement and ongoing maintenance of provision.
- ◀ Support eligible organisations to access funding to improve pitches at their sites, such as through the Football Foundation's Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF).
- ◀ Work with education sites to encourage secured community access to sites not currently available, particularly where large quantities of pitches are provided such as Bosworth Academy and Brookvale Groby Learning Campus where multiple teams play.
- ◀ Consider bringing disused pitches back into use, particularly when they reside in areas with existing shortfalls, such as at Earl Shilton Albion Football Club, subject to a sustainable programme of use and appropriate quality being developed.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer, with a particular focus on multi-pitch sites and accommodate high demand, those directly managed by clubs and sites which are priorities for the growth of female participation.
- ◀ Work towards transferring some match play to new 3G pitches and new strategic football sites to provide space for expansion for meeting current needs as well as the needs of the growth.
- ◀ Regularly monitor future growth levels to determine if additional pitches are required, particularly for adult and youth football – this can be done via the Stage E process (see Part 8).
- ◀ Consider reconfiguring adult pitches to a youth 11v11 scale as a means of reducing shortfalls.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning (i.e. via a sports needs assessment/feasibility study/assessment of need) on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site football provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality, with priority placed on priorities and needs identified in the PPOSS Action Plan and the LFFP.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites with community use that reduce existing shortfalls, with accompanying clubhouse provision included given that single pitch sites without appropriate ancillary facilities can be unsustainable.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> See Part 7 of this report for further information

## Third generation turf (3G) pitches

### Assessment Report summary

#### **3G- supply and demand summary**

- ◀ There is a clear shortfall of 3G provision to meet requirements, as evidenced through the unmet demand identified, particularly in respect of football.
- ◀ The FA training model suggest a current shortfall of 3.5 11v11 3G pitches, increasing to five when factoring in future demand.
- ◀ However, as identified in Table 3.13 in the Assessment Report, the shortfall increases to four 11v11 3G pitches when analysed on a local analysis area basis.
- ◀ For rugby union, the 3G pitch at Hinckley RUFC will now be able to better accommodate specific rugby union demand through it being certified for contact rugby union sessions and match play as planning permission has been granted (24/00017/FUL) for the replacement of the pitch with a shock pad to allow rugby union use.
- ◀ No demand for access to 3G provision has been identified from any other sports in Hinckley & Bosworth suggesting that no other demand currently requires consideration.

#### **3G – supply summary**

- ◀ In total, there are four 11v11 3G pitches in Hinckley & Bosworth, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. There are six smaller size 3G pitches, two of these have sports lighting and are available for community use. Whilst the pitch at Bosworth Academy and Alans Way Sports Field are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.
- ◀ The Hinckley & Bosworth LFFP has three outstanding projects for the creation of new 11v11 3G pitches (the 11v11 pitch development at Bosworth Academy has now been delivered, which was completed in 2021). Whilst aspirations also exist across several other sites.
- ◀ Plans and/or aspirations exists regarding establishing provision at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus, Britannia Road Recreation Ground, Leicester Road Stadium and Richmond Park.
- ◀ Three of the 11v11 3G pitches are either FA or FIFA certified and can therefore be used to host competitive matches.
- ◀ No pitches in Hinckley & Bosworth are World Rugby compliant, although the pitch at Hinckley Rugby Football club is used for non-contact activity and there are plans to certify it in the future.
- ◀ For the 11v11 3G pitches, three are assessed as good quality (Barwell Cricket and Sports Club, Bosworth Academy and South Charnwood High School) having all been resurfaced in the last three years. Whilst the pitch at Hinckley Rugby Football Club as standard quality with the carpet starting to show signs of wear and tear as it approaches its lifespan. Consultation with Hinckley RUFC found that funding has been obtained to resurface the carpet to good quality.
- ◀ Three of the smaller size pitches have exceeded their recommended lifespans and have been assessed as poor quality.

#### **3G – demand summary**

- ◀ The 3G pitches currently servicing Hinckley & Bosworth are reported to be operating at or close to capacity at peak times, especially during winter months.
- ◀ This applies not only to midweek capacity but also to weekend capacity on account of three of the 11v11 3G pitches being FIFA/FA approved to host competitive matches.
- ◀ It is considered that most of the community activity is football related, although some rugby union use has been identified on the pitch at Hinckley Rugby Football Club for non-contact activity.
- ◀ Demand is received from football clubs not only for training demand but also for match play, with 38 teams currently using 3G provision for this purpose.
- ◀ Unmet demand for 3G provision is expressed, with six responding football clubs as well as Burbage RUFC identifying that their training requirements are not currently being met.
- ◀ Several football clubs also currently export some training demand outside of Hinckley & Bosworth primarily due to a lack of capacity on the 3G pitches within the Borough.
- ◀ If future demand predications are realised, this will further increase 3G requirements for both football and rugby union.

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## Scenarios

### Accommodating football training demand

In order to satisfy current football training demand (based on the FA's scenario of one 11v11 3G pitch equivalent being able to cater for 38 community football teams) there is a need for 3.5 11v11 equivalent 3G pitches to accommodate all training demand in Hinckley & Bosworth as seen below.

As noted in the Assessment Report, the current demand includes one disability and three walking football as well as the eight exported teams which access 3G pitches in the Borough and have therefore been incorporated into the below table.

Table 4.20: Current demand for 3G pitches in Hinckley & Bosworth (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Analysis area	Current demand	Current 3G requirement <sup>5</sup>	Current number of 11v11 3G pitch equivalents	Current shortfall
Central	76	2	1	1
North East and Leicester	66	2	1	1
Urban South	143	4	2	2
West	-	-	-	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3.5</b>

With 285 teams affiliated to clubs based in Hinckley & Bosworth, there is an overall need for 7.5 11v11 size 3G pitches. Please note the number of 3G pitches required within the sub area modelling is higher than the broader analysis of provision across Hinckley & Bosworth. This is due to how the figures are rounded.

With four pitches currently provided and contributing to community use need, this leaves a shortfall of 3.5 pitches. This not only identifies where the potential need may exist across Hinckley & Bosworth, but it can also be used to guide which areas should be targeted for new provision.

As shown in the table above, three of the four analysis areas show a current shortfall of provision, with shortfalls most apparent in the Urban South Analysis Area (two). As such there is the need to develop additional 11v11 pitches to better support the training needs of clubs across Hinckley & Bosworth.

The Hinckley & Bosworth LFFP (2019)<sup>6</sup> identifies four priority projects to provide four 11v11 size 3G pitches as well as the delivery of one smaller sized pitch at Market Bosworth School:

- ✦ Bosworth Academy (Central)- one 11v11 size 3G pitch.
- ✦ Earl Shilton/Barwell area (Urban South)- one 11v11 3G pitch.
- ✦ Hinckley/Burbage area (Urban South)- one 11v11 3G pitch.
- ✦ Groby area (North East & Leicester)- one 11v11 3G pitch.
- ✦ Market Bosworth School (Central)- one smaller sized 3G pitch.

<sup>5</sup> Rounded to the nearest whole number

<sup>6</sup><https://localplans.footballfoundation.org.uk/local-authorities-index/hinckley-and-bosworth/hinckley-and-bosworth-local-football-facility-planv1/#tab-section-3g-football-turf-pitches-ftps>

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The Central Analysis Area 3G pitch has been delivered with one pitch installed at Bosworth Academy. However, the development of a smaller size pitch at Market Bosworth High School has not been delivered and a shortfall of one remains.

The North Analysis Area project has not been delivered and has a shortfall of two 11v11 size pitches are identified in the PPOSS Assessment Report.

The two pitches identified in the Urban South Analysis Area (Earl Shilton/ Barwell and Hinckley/ Burbage areas) have not been delivered and the shortfall of two 11v11 size pitches as identified in the PPOSS Assessment Report remains.

Similarly, the 11v11 3G pitch identified in the North East & Leicester Analysis Area has not been delivered either.

The aforementioned project list has been compared to the shortfalls to see how it potentially meets these on an area by area basis. As the Bosworth Academy project has been delivered, the project is not included in the table below.

Table 4.21: Impact of delivering remaining LFFP 3G projects on PPOSS shortfalls

Analysis area	Potential 3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall	No. of proposed pitches	Remaining shortfall
Central	2	1	1	0.25	0.75
North East and Leicester	2	1	1	1	-
Urban South	4	2	2	2	-
West	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3.25</b>	<b>0.75</b>

As mentioned above, the number of 3G pitches required within the sub area modelling is higher than the broader analysis of provision across Hinckley & Bosworth. This is due to how the figures are rounded.

Based on the existing portfolio of remaining viable projects identified in the LFFP, if the four 11v11 3G pitch projects were to be delivered, there would still be a shortfall, albeit reduced to 0.75 of 11v11 3G pitch equivalents across the Borough.

When broken down by analysis area, the shortfalls identified in the North East & Leicester and Urban South analysis areas would be eradicated. Although a slight shortfall of 0.75 11v11 3G pitch equivalents would remain in the Central Analysis Area.

### Accommodating future demand

When factoring in future demand of 47 teams (from population growth to 2041), the pitch requirement could increase to a total of five 11v11 3G pitches.

However, future demand ambitions expressed by eight clubs equates to the growth of 35 football teams. If this club ambition growth was to be achieved there would be a total of 320 teams playing within the Borough. As seen in the table below, the total potential future shortfall equates to four 11v11 3G pitches, based on club aspirations.

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.22: Potential football training demand for 3G pitches incorporating club aspirations

Analysis area	Potential future demand	Future 11v11 3G pitch requirement <sup>7</sup>	Current number of 11v11 3G pitch equivalents	Future 11v11 3G pitch shortfall
Central	81	2	1	1
North East and Leicester	76	2	1	1
Urban South	163	4	2	2
West	-	-	-	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

As noted above, participation increases through club aspirations follows a similar pattern to population growth. Therefore, if this is instead considered, the shortfalls will increase much more significantly, as evidenced in the table above. Such aspirations have previously been discounted as they are more aspirational and therefore not necessarily realistic.

For future shortfalls based on club aspirations, this is made up of a shortfall of one each in the Central and Northeast & Leicester analysis areas and two in the Urban South Analysis Area.

Forecasted growth through trends based analysis using historic Leicestershire affiliation data and over a five year period, this would equate to an additional 45 teams and 22.5 match equivalent sessions per week. If this predicted growth were to be achieved there would be a total of 318 teams within Hinckley & Bosworth over a five year period. This would lead to a theoretical need for eight pitches resulting in a shortfall of four 11v11 3G pitches based on the growth trends and FA modelling. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.23: Impact of future demand positions for the overall 3G position in Hinckley & Bosworth

Future demand positions	Future number of teams	11v11 3G requirement <sup>8</sup>	Current number of 11v11 3G pitch equivalents	Future shortfall
Population growth (to 2041)	332	9	4	5
Club aspirations (over the next five years)	320	8	4	4
Trend based growth (over the next five years)	318	8	4	4

As seen in the table above, future demand positions of trend-based growth and participation increases present a similar picture with the same future shortfall of four 11v11 3G pitches. Whilst future demand through population growth demonstrates a slightly smaller increase teams amounting to 332 teams. This would lead to a theoretical requirement of nine 11v11 3G pitches and a slightly larger shortfall of five.

The creation of an 11v11 3G pitch at Britannia Road Recreation Ground is proposed. If this comes to fruition, it could reduce the shortfall in the Urban South Analysis Area to one 11v11 3G pitch. Similarly, a smaller size 3G pitch at Leicester Road Stadium has recently had planning permission granted.

<sup>7</sup> Rounded to the nearest whole number

<sup>8</sup> Rounded to the nearest whole number

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The above facilities link to Table 4.22 and assesses the impact of establishing a 11v11 3G pitch at Britannia Road Recreation Ground and the smaller size 3G pitch at Leicester Road Stadium and how they could contribute to reducing the existing shortfalls in the relevant analysis areas.

### New site options

The table below identifies potential sites which could, in theory, may be suitable for future development to meet known shortfalls for 3G pitches. For the development of any 3G pitch at the sites below (and any other suggested sites in the future) there is a need to ensure that NPPF and Sport England's Playing Field Policy is adhered to if there is any loss of grass provision. The sites listed have been identified by a combination of the findings from the Assessment Report, the 2019 Hinckley & Bosworth LFFP and the basic feasibility for installing a pitch due to having the available land and on-site management options.

Each of these sites will require a full feasibility to be undertaken to determine if they are suitable in meeting known need. Such a full feasibility would include a range of matters including site characteristics, sports, financial, planning and other issues. This should be done in consultation with Leicestershire & Rutland FA, RFU and the Football Foundation as well as Sport England and other relevant NGBs. It is crucial to recognise that this list is a starting point for discussion and should be updated as part of the Stage – E process.

Table 4.24: Potential 3G site options in Hinckley & Bosworth

Analysis area	Current shortfall	Site ID	Site name	Comments
Central	1	-	Central Analysis Area	Given the identified shortfalls in the Central Analysis Area, the development of a 11v11 3G pitch should be targeted within this Analysis Area. Key clubs include AFC Market Bosworth Juniors (18 teams), Desford & Caterpillar FC (20 teams) and Market Bosworth Town Juniors (18 teams).
Central	1	65	Saint Martin's Catholic Academy	Site provides three adult pitches, which are assessed as standard quality. As it is based at a school it has on site management.
North East & Leicester	1	-	Groby area	Given the identified shortfalls in the North East & Leicester Analysis Area, the Groby area is targeted for a 3G pitch to service demand from Groby Juniors (21 teams) who are currently training on the sand based pitch at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus. However, the pitch is currently used by seven hockey teams for match play and some training demand and therefore would not be feasible nor supported by England Hockey/ Sport England to resurface to 3G. Therefore, alternative sites for the development of a 11v11 3G pitch should be sought, given the current hockey use at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus and the need to accommodate both football and hockey usage. In addition, Anstey Nomads (14 teams) are based within the Groby area, playing at Ratby Sports Club which has been identified as a potential location for the development of a 11v11 3G pitch.

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Current shortfall	Site ID	Site name	Comments
Urban South	2	14	Britannia Road Recreation Ground	<p>Site provides one senior rugby pitch, one adult and one youth 11v11 football pitches. The site is accessed by FC Burbage (three teams) and Burbage RUFC (two teams). There is a proposal in place to install an 3G pitch, which could have the potential to be World Rugby compliant. The pitch will replace the grass rugby pitch and could field training demand from FC Burbage and Burbage RUFC.</p> <p>It should be acknowledged that any proposal on this site would need to protect/replace the rugby/football pitches that would be affected.</p>
Urban South	2	48	Leicester Road Stadium	<p>Site provides three adult pitches that is accessed by Hinckley Ladies and Hinckley LRFC, which collectively field five teams. The clubs have long term lease agreements in place at the site. As stated previously, a smaller size 3G pitch at Leicester Road Stadium has recently had planning permission granted. However, it is not currently a site identified for strategic priority for investment.</p>
Urban South	2	64	Richmond Park (Hinckley/ Burbage area)	<p>Site provides one youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch. The site is accessed by Athletico Duke (two teams) and Hinckley Borough FC (24 teams). Both clubs have on-site management from the Council.</p>
Urban South	2	82	Weavers Spring Park (Hinckley/Burbage area)	<p>Site accommodates two adult, one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, which are assessed as poor quality and has on-site management. The site is accessed by Hinckley Borough FC (10 teams).</p> <p>It should be noted that the site is subject to the signing of a S106 Agreement, given the development of Earl Shilton SUE in the vicinity. This includes the development of a new four team changing pavilion, car park and improvements to the quality of grass football pitches. A feasibility study would need to be undertaken to determine if a 11v11 3G pitch could be installed on this site.</p>
Urban South	2	-	Hinckley/Burbage area	<p>Given the identified shortfalls in the Urban South Analysis Area there is the argument to support the development of a 11v11 3G pitch. This would service clubs such as FC Burbage and Hinckley Town Juniors FC who collectively provide 47 teams of varying ages. It should be noted that Hinckley Town Juniors AFC does not currently train on any 3G provision and therefore could benefit</p>

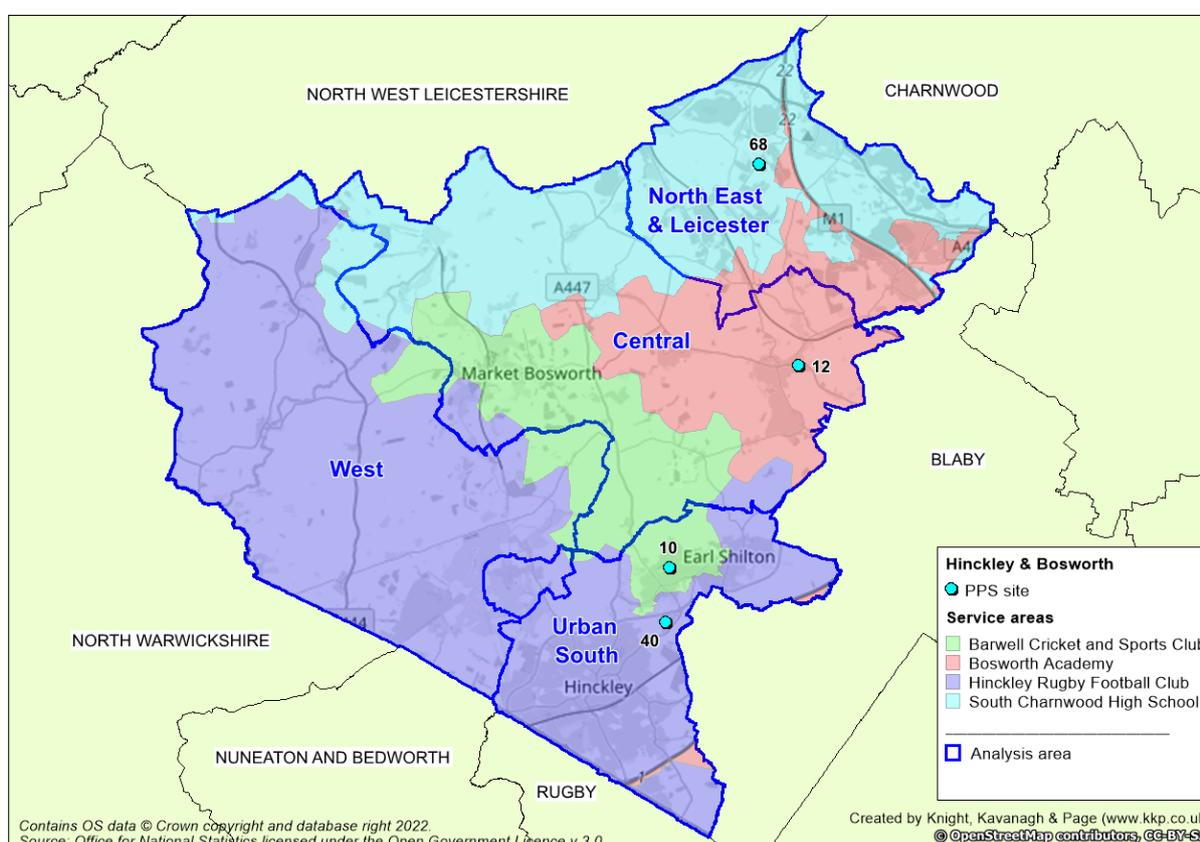
# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

If the above 3G pitch options were to be delivered, this would eradicate shortfalls in three of the four analysis areas. The West Analysis Area has no affiliated teams playing or 3G provision and therefore no potential 3G options have been presented in the above table.

Figure 4.2 below illustrates the service areas of all 11v11 size 3G pitches across Hinckley & Bosworth using the road network to present the catchment area for each pitch. This allows the steering group to visualise which locations should be prioritised for new 3G pitch developments.

As can be seen the pitch at Hinckley Rugby Football Club service a large catchment area and attracts demand from three of the four analysis areas in Hinckley & Bosworth (Central, Urban South and West). The pitch is predominantly accessed by Hinckley Borough FC (anchor club) meaning all remaining clubs in the Urban South Analysis Area have longer drive times to access suitable training provision.

Figure 4.2: Hinckley & Bosworth 3G service area map



The recommended dimensions for an 11v11 3G artificial grass pitch for football are 100 x 64 metres. This extends to an area of 106 x 70 metres with the recommended minimum three metre run off area included. It should be noted that pitches measuring 91 x 55 metres is the standard size for investment by the County FA and Football Foundation.

The above dimensions allow for all age group match play to take place including adults, youth under 17/18 and younger age groups via overmarked pitches, e.g., the marking out of two 9v9 pitches for under 11/12s.

For rugby union, a 3G pitch must measure 106 x 68 metres for senior match play, with a 5-metre run off around the full perimeter.

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

If a new pitch is proposed to measure below the recommended dimensions, then justification must be provided for this in relation to the identified needs it will provide for and/or site constraints. In doing so, the impacts of a reduced pitch size in meeting current and future needs must be considered, e.g., a pitch not providing the recommended dimensions for adult match play and/or only being able to accommodate one rather than two overmarked 9v9 pitches. This justification needs to be included in the planning application details submitted to the relevant Local Planning Authority for the new pitch.

Unless otherwise stated and justified for an individual pitch, proposals in this PPOSS for any new 3G artificial grass pitches are based on providing them to the recommended dimensions.

### Moving football match play demand to 3G pitches

Moving match play to 3G pitches in addition to training demand is supported by the FA, which is particularly keen to work with local authorities to understand the potential demand for 11v11 3G pitches should all competitive matches that are presently played on council pitches be transferred. This is due to a recognition that councils often have budget restraints, with improving and maintaining pitches to an appropriate standard not always possible. Within Hinckley & Bosworth, there are currently 101 teams playing at Council sites at peak time across the formats of play.

Table 4.25: Number of teams currently using council pitches in Hinckley & Bosworth<sup>9</sup>

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Adult	11v11	Sunday AM	8
Youth	11v11	Sunday AM	37
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	23
Mini	7v7	Sunday AM	21
Mini	5v5	Sunday AM	12
<b>Total</b>			<b>101</b>

The FA suggests an approach for estimating the number of 11v11 3G pitches required to accommodate the above demand for competitive matches, as seen in the table below.

Table 4.26: 11v11 3G pitches required for the transfer of council pitch demand

Format	No. of teams at peak time	No. of matches at peak time	No. of 3G units required per match <sup>10</sup>	Total 3G units required	No. of 3G pitches required
Adult	8	4	32	128	2
Youth 11v11	37	18.5	32	592	9.25
Youth 9v9	23	11.5	10	115	1.80
Mini 7v7	21	10.5	8	84	1.31
Mini 5v5	12	6	4	24	0.38

In total, 15 (rounded up from 14.74) 11v11 3G pitches would be required to accommodate all matches played on council pitches. In Hinckley & Bosworth, there are currently four 11v11 3G pitches provided and a shortfall of 3.5 pitches identified to meet training requirements.

<sup>9</sup> Includes town and parish council pitches

<sup>10</sup> Based on how pitches are split within a full size 3G pitch

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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However, as this is significantly more than the number of pitches required for training demand, it is not considered practical to provide this many as sustainability would then become questionable. Pitches generally need high levels of midweek usage to be operationally viable.

An alternative approach to consider is the transfer of all mini football from grass to 3G pitches. The FA has an ambition to transfer 50% of mini play on to 3G pitches nationally. Thus, a programme of play has been created for Hinckley & Bosworth to determine how many 3G pitches would be required to accommodate this. As such, the table below tests a scenario that would enable all mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 football to transfer based on a programme of play at current peak time (Sunday AM).

Table 4.27: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

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

Based on the above programming and separate start times for the formats, the overall need is for four 11v11 3G pitches (rounded up from 3.88) to accommodate all current mini match play demand. This is calculated based on 55 teams playing 7v7 football and 31 teams playing 5v5 football at peak time.

As such, it is considered all current mini football demand could be accommodated on the current supply of 3G pitches, with four already provided within the Borough. Given there is currently a need for four (up from 3.5) 3G pitches to accommodate football training demand, it is considered that the above can be achieved if the shortfall of 3G pitches were delivered.

### 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.

The RFU generally support the development of 3G pitches which support rugby union where grass rugby pitches are over capacity and where a pitch would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local clubs and education establishments.

Given the level of shortfall on grass rugby union pitches in Hinckley & Bosworth (currently 2.5 match equivalent sessions currently and four match equivalent sessions when factoring in future demand from population growth), the creation of World Rugby compliant provision would be warranted as a means to reducing the shortfalls.

Where new pitches are to be sought, focus should therefore be placed on accommodating demand from Market Bosworth RFC (which has 5.5 match equivalent sessions per week of overplay). A pitch could be developed in situ for the host clubs, or nearby providing sufficient access was enabled. This is to improve the supply and not to enable the dispersal of existing pitches.

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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When establishing the creation of World Rugby compliant 3G pitch provision, this could be through developing provision primarily for rugby union. Alternatively, the provision could be established in conjunction with reducing 3G shortfalls for football, although this may necessitate the need for more pitches as the outcomes for football would be reduced.

Developing a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch would be welcomed from a multi-sport perspective. Across the overplayed grass pitches in Hinckley & Bosworth, 5.5 match equivalent sessions of training demand are currently received that could be transferred to 3G provision to relieve grass pitch capacity issues.

For Market Bosworth RFC, 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week of training demand is received. As such, any 3G provision delivered at the sites would likely require this much rugby union capacity, as a minimum.

For the development of any 3G pitch at the sites above (and any other suggested sites in the future) there is a need to ensure that Sport England's Playing Field Policy is adhered to. Furthermore, it should be acknowledged that any 3G pitch proposal on this site would need to protect/replace any rugby union pitches that would be affected.

Notwithstanding the above, the 11v11 3G pitch at Hinckley Rugby Football Club has recently had planning permission granted (24/00017/FUL) for the replacement of the pitch with a shock pad to allow for rugby union use. The pitch is frequently accessed for training demand by Hinckley RUFC.

### Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Seek to resurface provision when it is required and ensure suitable infill containment is retro-fitted (there are various infills for 3G pitches and alternatives to rubber crumb should be explored).
- ◀ Work with relevant partners to deliver additional 3G pitches to alleviate identified shortfalls, with priority placed on establishing pitches in the Urban South Analysis Area.
- ◀ Explore creation of 3G pitches that are both football and rugby union compliant when alleviating shortfalls if they can cater for demand from Market Bosworth RFC or support the creation of additional 3G pitches above and beyond football training shortfalls if they can be sustainable.
- ◀ Carry out further feasibility work to identify the best possible locations for new 3G pitches and ensure this is done in consultation with the relevant stakeholders including Sport England and the appropriate NGBs.
- ◀ Any new 3G pitches should be based on the recommended dimensions for the sports that they will be established to cater for (as detailed earlier).
- ◀ 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.
- ◀ Seek FIFA/FA testing of all existing and new 3G pitches and ensure they are on the FA 3G Pitch Register so that they can be used for competitive football matches and ensure re-testing is carried out when it is required.
- ◀ Ensure all current and future 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability and seek to resurface provision when it is required.
- ◀ Encourage more football match play demand to transfer to 3G pitches, where possible, particularly for mini demand.
- ◀ For any pitches built to RFU specifications, seek World Rugby compliancy so that they can be used for full contact activity and ensure re-testing when it is required (every two years).

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- ◀ Ensure all operators of new 3G pitches have a sinking fund in place for carpet replacement and recycling of the carpet and infill via planning conditions.
- ◀ Support all 3G pitch providers where possible to improve the sustainability of running the facility, e.g. conversion to LED sports lighting.
- ◀ Update the Hinckley & Bosworth LFFP so it aligns to the findings of the PPOSS and further explores potential site options.

### Rugby union - grass pitches

#### Assessment Report summary

##### Rugby union – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Five pitches are considered to have actual spare capacity at peak time for an increase in senior rugby, with this totalling 3.5 match equivalent session per week.
- ◀ There are three senior pitches across two sites that are overplayed by a total of six match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ There is a current capacity shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week on rugby union pitches, increasing to four when accounting for future demand.

##### Rugby union - supply summary

- ◀ There are 24 grass rugby union pitches identified across nine sites, with 22 pitches available for community use across seven sites.
- ◀ Of the 24 pitches provided, seven are operated by education providers, with five of these available to the community. The remaining pitches are all available, with 16 supplied at sports club sites, and the remaining one pitch provided by Burbage Parish Council.
- ◀ All three clubs in Hinckley & Bosworth have secure site tenure either via direct ownership or being part of a wider entity that has ownership or a long-term lease agreement.
- ◀ Of pitches that are available for community use in Hinckley & Bosworth, there are 11 assessed as good quality, four as standard and five as poor.
- ◀ Poor quality pitches are provided at Britannia Road Recreation Ground, Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre and The Market Bosworth High School.
- ◀ The poor quality ancillary facilities are identified at Britannia Road Recreation Ground.

##### Rugby union - demand summary

- ◀ There are three rugby clubs considered to be based in Hinckley & Bosworth, collectively providing 35 teams collectively. As a breakdown, this consists of seven senior men's, two senior women's, 9 age grade boys', three age grade girls' and 13 age grade mixed teams.
- ◀ Since the 2019 study, five additional teams are now registered, with a particular increase at youth and mini level. There are four additional age grade teams and one additional age grade mixed teams.
- ◀ All three clubs currently use match pitches to accommodate training demand.
- ◀ Burbage RUFC reports latent demand in that they could field more teams if it had access to increased pitch provision and links this to a need for a 3G pitch for training activity.
- ◀ Three clubs (Burbage, Hinckley and Market Bosworth rugby clubs) report future aspirations for additional teams, whilst population projections predict a growth of one senior men's, one age grade boys and one age grade mixed teams.

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## Scenarios

### Improving pitch quality

Maintenance and drainage solutions are an integral method in improving pitch quality at rugby union sites, ensuring that pitches can accommodate demand throughout the season. Locally, there are two sites which are identified as being overplayed and the following scenario explores what impact improving both the level of maintenance and installation of drainage solutions would have on the capacity of provision. It would alleviate overplay on four of the eight overplayed pitches across Hinckley & Bosworth.

The table below illustrates the RFU pitch quality scoring methodology which ascertains the capacity of pitches based on the scoring criteria.

Table 4.28: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

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

The table below looks at what capacity benefits would be ascertained through improvement of both maintenance and drainage solutions to good quality (M2/D3) improvements to both drainage and maintenance to explore maximum benefits.

Table 4.29: Capacity of overplayed pitches if quality was maximised (M2/D3)

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Sports-lit?	Current capacity rating (match equivalent sessions)	Good quality rating (match equivalent sessions)
14	Britannia Road Recreation Ground	Senior	1	Poor	No	0.5	1.5
51	Market Bosworth RFC	Senior	1	Standard	Yes	2.5	1
51	Market Bosworth RFC	Age grade	1	Good	No	3	2.5

Overall, this would eradicate current shortfalls from 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week to 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week of spare capacity across Hinckley & Bosworth, whilst future shortfalls would be eradicated from four match equivalent sessions to pitches playing at capacity.

Table 4.30: Supply and demand balance with quality improvements

Demand	Current capacity balance	Potential total
Current	2.5	1.5
Future	4	0

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Although overall in Hinckley & Bosworth there would be actual spare capacity, the pitches located at Market Bosworth RFC would still remain overplayed even if quality was maximised, although at reduced levels. This is predominately due to high levels of training demand on the provision. Therefore, there is a need to provide additional provision as a means of reducing overplay.

### Increasing access to training provision (sports-lit grass pitches)

An alternative method of addressing capacity issues is through increasing the number of sports lit pitches.

Of the pitches that would remain overplayed despite quality improvements, Market Bosworth RFC has four senior pitches and one age grade pitch with one senior pitch serviced by sports lighting. The Club has 4.5 match equivalent sessions of training demand per week on the fully sports lit pitch (no match play demand takes place).

If the Club was to have the two of the three senior pitches serviced by sports lighting, this would allow training demand to be evenly dispersed across the pitches whilst also improving the user experience. Three match equivalent sessions of overplay could be transferred to the pitches and make them to at capacity, which have a significant benefit on overplay across the site.

The table below further explores this and potential capacity impact it could have if training demand was to be evenly dispersed.

Table 4.31: Capacity if training demand was evenly dispersed across two of the senior pitches

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Capacity rating	Capacity balance if sports lighting installed
51	Market Bosworth RFC	Senior	1	Standard (M1/D1)	2.5	0

Table 4.32: Capacity if quality was maximised and training demand was evenly dispersed across two of the senior pitches

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Capacity rating	Capacity balance with quality improvements and sports lighting installed
51	Market Bosworth RFC	Senior	1	Standard (M1/D1)	2.5	1.5

As the above tables show, the shortfalls on the senior pitch would be alleviated through quality improvements and sports lighting installed on two of the three senior pitches.

### Increasing pitch stock

In addition to maximising pitch quality and sports lighting, additional pitch provision could be considered to fully alleviate identified shortfalls at Market Bosworth RFC. The table below therefore explores how many pitches are needed.

At Market Bosworth RFC, one additional pitch would be needed, provided it is to a good quality to service the Club's demand (and that existing pitches are also improved).

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.33: Number of new pitches required to alleviate overplay

Site ID	Site name	Current capacity rating	Good quality rating	Club users	No. of pitches required
51	Market Bosworth RFC	5.5	3.5	Market Bosworth RFC	1

An alternative to creating new pitches is the creation of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches, as previously set out. Similarly, although shortfalls could be alleviated via improving quality and establishing additional sports lighting. However, this is not clear as to whether this would be possible from a planning perspective.

Linked to the above, Market Bosworth RUFC is in the process of purchasing mobile lighting to test the third senior pitch. This should be monitored throughout the Stage E process and the potential impact on training demand going forward.

### Accommodating future demand from club aspirations

Future demand expressed through club aspirations and by the RFU based on its own targets projects the number of rugby union teams to grow by seven teams across Hinckley & Bosworth, which broken down equates to six teams in the Central Analysis Area and one team in the Urban South Analysis Area. This has previously been discounted from calculations as it is considered to be more aspirational than future growth predicted via population growth; however, if such demand is realised, it will increase shortfalls throughout the Borough, as shown in the following table.

Table 4.34: Supply and demand balance with future demand aspirations accounted for

Analysis area	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Future supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
Central	3	6
North East and Leicester	0	0
Urban South	0.5	0
West	0	0
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>6</b>

This growth would further amplify the need to action other scenarios featured and in particular the need for additional pitches and/or access to World Rugby compliant 3G pitch provision.

The table explores the impact of the future demand on a club-by-club basis and how it can be sufficiently accommodated.

In addition, especially for clubs with future demand for women's and girls' activity, it is imperative that the accompanying ancillary facilities are adequate in quality and inclusive. All rugby clubs which have a target to create female teams yet are currently serviced by only standard quality or poor quality provision.

The table explores the impact of the future demand on a club-by-club basis and how it can be sufficiently accommodated.

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.35: Summary of provision required to accommodate future demand aspirations

Club	Future team aspirations	Future demand (match equivalent sessions)	Comments
Burbage RUFC	1 x senior men's	0.5	To accommodate current demand, the Club needs to improve its current pitch stock.
Hinckley RUFC	1 x senior women's 1 x age grade boys 2 x age grade girls	2	This demand could be accommodated on existing stock.
Market Bosworth RUFC	1 x senior men's 1 x age grade girls	1	To accommodate current demand, the Club needs to improve its current pitch stock and access an additional pitch. This future demand would therefore entail a further pitch being required.

### World Rugby (WR) compliant 3G pitches

Alternatively, as previously set out, creating new pitches is the creation of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches. Although, the pitch at Hinckley Rugby Football Club has been accredited to enable use for contact rugby and therefore can be used for training demand and some match play demand.

However, for Market Bosworth, if a pitch was provided that they could access, this could offer a solution to the overplay experienced by the club. The following table further explores this and potential capacity impact it could have if all training demand from the clubs was to be transferred to a 3G pitch in addition to maximising quality.

Table 4.36: Capacity if training demand was transferred onto a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Capacity rating	Capacity balance with training demand moved to 3G pitch
51	Market Bosworth RFC	Senior	1	Standard (M1/D1)	2.5	2
51	Market Bosworth RFC	Age grade	1	Good (M2/D1)	3	3

Table 4.37: Capacity if quality was maximised and all training demand transferred onto a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Capacity rating	Capacity balance with quality improvements and training demand moved to 3G pitch
51	Market Bosworth RFC	Senior	1	Standard (M1/D1)	2.5	3
51	Market Bosworth RFC	Age grade	1	Good (M2/D1)	3	2.5

As the above tables show, the shortfalls on the senior pitch would be alleviated through quality improvements and training demand moved to a 3G pitch.

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However, 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week of overplay would still exist on the age grade pitches, due to the match play demand that takes place.

It should however be referenced that some rugby clubs can be reluctant to access World Rugby compliant 3G provision, particularly if provided off-site (e.g., because of financial implications). Further engagement may therefore be required, and it should be ensured that only appropriate locations are sought.

### Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ 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.
- ◀ Support clubs in taking part in the GMA pitch advisory service to explore technical requirements to improve pitch quality to address overplay.
- ◀ Increase the level of sports lighting used by clubs to further alleviate overplay and to better accommodate training demand, such as at Market Bosworth RFC.
- ◀ Where pitch quality improvements and increased sports lighting cannot fully alleviate overplay, explore opportunities to supply Market Bosworth RFC with increased pitch provision and/or World Rugby compliant 3G provision.
- ◀ Where World Rugby compliant 3G provision is provided, seek the transfer of demand from overplayed grass pitches.
- ◀ Ensure future demand can be adequately accommodated, particularly in regard to women's and girls' demand.
- ◀ Improve the ancillary facilities servicing the clubs and ensure facilities are inclusive and have appropriate segregation.
- ◀ Seek to provide increased security of tenure for clubs at their home grounds where it is required.
- ◀ Retain the stock of pitches at education sites for continued curricular and extra-curricular usage and encourage improved club links where possible.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

## Hockey - artificial grass pitches

### Assessment Report summary

#### Hockey – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Although there appears to be a sufficient current supply of hockey suitable AGPs in Hinckley & Bosworth, some capacity pressures coupled with quality issues means there are issues to be resolved to adequately cater for existing demand.
- ◀ In addition, Panthers HC and Half Century HC currently imports some senior match play demand into the Borough to Brookvale Groby Learning Campus, due to the Soar Valley Academy 3G resurfacing and lack of slots at St Margarets Sports Centre, with sites located in Leicester.

#### Hockey – supply summary

- ◀ There are four full size suitable AGPs in Hinckley & Bosworth across four sites. Three of the pitches are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.
- ◀ In addition to the full size AGPs, there are two smaller size hockey suitable pitches at Markfield Community Sports Centre and Twycross House School. However, the pitches are not suitable for purposeful hockey demand.
- ◀ As identified in the emerging Leicester PPS, the sand-based pitch at Soar Valley Academy has now been confirmed as resurfaced to a 3G surface, which is not suitable for hockey use. The pitch was previously used by Half Century Ladies and Panthers hockey clubs. Both clubs now utilise the sand-based pitch at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus in Hinckley & Bosworth for match play on Saturdays. Consultation with Active Together reported that the School has implied they want a hub for hockey and as such the pitch will require fencing in the future.
- ◀ A planning application has been submitted for a sand-dressed AGP (24/00403/FUL) for multi-sports use at Market Bosworth School.
- ◀ All five of the full size AGPs are managed internally by the schools themselves.
- ◀ Limited security of tenure is provided, this is an issue, to some extent, for the unaffiliated clubs who utilise the pitch at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus (Bedouins HC, Horizon HC and South Wigston HC).
- ◀ Most of the full size pitches have relatively good availability during the peak period, with the pitches at Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre and Twycross House School are unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Of the full size pitches, one is assessed as good quality (Twycross House School, two as standard quality and two as poor quality.

#### Hockey – demand summary

- ◀ There are no affiliated community hockey clubs within Hinckley & Bosworth.
- ◀ It is believed that there is significant exported demand out of the Borough for individual residents wanting to compete in competitive hockey activity. Due to there being no hockey clubs in the Borough these individuals will be members of clubs which play in neighbouring boroughs such as Nuneaton and Bedworth, North Warwickshire and North West Leicestershire.
- ◀ In terms of imported demand, the sand-based pitch at Soar Valley Academy has been lost and been converted to a 3G surface. Both Half Century HC and Panthers HC use the site as a home venue. The Clubs are both utilising the sand-based pitch at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus in the Borough, due to the Soar Valley Academy 3G resurfacing and lack of slots at St Margarets Sports Centre, with sites located in Leicester. Half Century HC fields one senior women's team and Panthers HC fields three senior men's teams.

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## Scenarios

### Accommodating match play demand

One full size hockey pitch with sports lighting is able to accommodate four match equivalent sessions on one day, which equates to one pitch being able to cater for eight 'home' teams at peak time based on them playing on a home and away basis (one team requires 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on its 'home' pitch).

Using the above calculations, on the basis that there are currently five full size AGPs in Hinckley & Bosworth, this provides a theoretical opportunity to accommodate up to 32 senior teams at peak time across the Borough (on Saturdays).

However, the provision at Heath Lane Academy and Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre is discounted from this given the pitches are unavailable for community use and limited availability at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus reduces the overall capacity further due to its poor quality. This results in the overall capacity in Hinckley & Bosworth being reduced to 14 teams and seven match equivalent sessions.

Table 4.38: Summary of hockey pitch capacity for match play

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Potential capacity in teams	Actual capacity in teams	Comments
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	North East & Leicester	1	8	6	Availability is slightly reduced.
31	Heath Lane Academy	Urban South	1	8	0	Unavailable to the community
33	Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre	Urban South	1	8	0	Unavailable to the community
76	The Dixie Grammar School Sports Ground	Central	1	8	8	Full peak time availability at weekends.
-	-	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>14</b>	-

As seen, it is determined that current provision can potentially accommodate up to 14 senior teams on a Saturday, with this equating to seven match equivalent sessions per week (where teams play on a home and away basis). With seven senior teams (including three unaffiliated clubs fielding one senior team, Panthers HC and Half Century HC) currently provided (equating to 14 match equivalent sessions per week) and requiring access, the provision on Saturdays is used to capacity for match play demand. However, The Dixie Grammar School Sports Ground does not receive any hockey demand due to it being heavily used for football demand. This therefore detracts from the capacity available to hockey clubs.

It is worth noting that only the pitch at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus is in use for community hockey activity. The pitch is operating at capacity for match play through demand from the three unaffiliated teams (Bedouins HC, Horizon HC and South Wigston HC) as well as the imported demand from Half Century HC and Panthers HC. In addition, it is played to capacity for midweek training by Groby Juniors (football demand).

## **HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

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Furthermore, the pitch at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus has limited availability (as noted in Table 4.38) due to a combination of quality and restrictions on usage. The pitch was last resurfaced in 2010 and has therefore passed its recommended lifespan. In addition, it is only available for 26 hours in the peak period for community use. If the school was able to increase its opening hours on weekends (it is closed on Sundays), the site would be able to accommodate more hockey demand across the Borough.

### **Accommodating training demand**

In terms of capacity for training, there is only minimal spare capacity for an increase in demand, however, there is some pressure in respect of midweek training (see Table 6.6 in the Assessment Report) accessibility for hockey on the pitch at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus, as football and other sports activity that takes place at the site. The other hockey suitable pitches in the Borough are not currently utilised for any hockey activity. Although, it wouldn't necessarily result in a shortfall and no requirement for additional pitch stock.

### **Securing tenure for hockey clubs**

Security of tenure refers to the rights of occupation on playing field and infrastructure. Clubs generally fall into the bracket of owner-occupier, tenant or licensee. In most cases in the Borough, clubs are tenants at education sites as opposed to asset holding clubs with freehold of provision.

The hockey demand in the Borough currently rent the pitch at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus from the School for senior matches. Therefore, it is important to try to secure community use for the clubs to sustain their current demand and not establish shortfalls. This should be established through a community use agreement where possible to help protect long term access.

### **Protecting sand-based AGPs for hockey**

The AGP at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus must be protected for hockey usage and therefore cannot be converted to 3G. This is because the provision is accessed on a Saturday for match play by the three unaffiliated teams (Bedouins HC, Horizon HC and South Wigston HC) as well as the imported demand from Half Century HC and Panthers HC.

Of the remaining pitches, the pitches at Heath Lane Academy, Hinckley Academy John Cleveland College & Sixth Form Centre and Twycross House School are unavailable for community use. Whilst the pitch at Dixie Grammar School Sports Ground is unused for hockey activity and only is used for football midweek training. However, EH's current stance in relation to the site is that it should also be protected for hockey, with this linked to the School's own curricular and extra-curricular requirements. However, the NGB notes that this can be continually reviewed as part of the Stage E process of the PPS.

Any conversion of a sand based AGP to 3G should not take place unless consultation with EH identifies the AGP is not required to meet existing or future predicted demand. This PPS only provides a snapshot in time which may change as other supply and demand alterations take place.

### Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure the full size hockey suitable AGP at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus is protected for continued hockey use.
- ◀ Encourage football users to transfer to 3G pitch provision as and when new 3G pitches are provided to free up capacity for hockey.
- ◀ Resurface the pitch at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus as it has reached the end of its recommended lifespan.
- ◀ Ensure an adequate maintenance programme is in place at all sites with a hockey suitable AGP.
- ◀ Ensure all providers of new AGPs have a sinking fund in place for the carpet replacement and recycling of the carpet and infill through planning conditions.
- ◀ Look to secure long term tenure for hockey usage at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus through a community use agreement. In conjunction look to develop the management and accessibility of provision to ensure its accessibility based on club requirements to allow demand to grow.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where required.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Ensure all new AGPs have an appropriate infill containment measures in place, with existing AGPs to be retro-fitted (when resurfaced), where possible.
- ◀ Support upgrade of LED lighting of all multi-sport AGPs where necessary.

## Cricket – grass pitches

### Assessment Report summary

#### Cricket – supply and demand summary

- Actual spare capacity is identified at peak time for senior men's cricket (Saturday and Sunday) and midweek cricket. This amounts to 48 match equivalent sessions on a Saturday, 60 match equivalent sessions on a Sunday and 213 match equivalent sessions exist midweek.
- In total, four sites are overplayed by a total of 76 match equivalent sessions a season.
- Overall, there is insufficient capacity for current demand across Saturday and Sunday cricket. There is, however, a sufficient amount of provision to accommodate all current midweek demand that has been identified.

#### Cricket – supply summary

- In total, there are 15 grass wicket squares in Hinckley & Bosworth across the same number of sites. All squares are available for community use.
- One square is currently unused by the community, with this located at Stoke Golding Recreation Ground.
- In addition to the grass wicket supply, there are 12 non-turf pitches (NTPs). Of these, five accompany grass wicket squares and the remaining eight are standalone wickets.
- There are no disused cricket squares. However, as previously mentioned, there are two educational sites (Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre and Dixie Grammar School Sports Ground) that are still in use recreationally that previously provided formal grass wicket squares but no longer do so. These are not classified as disused as they are still being accessed, although they are no longer marked out for affiliated cricket.
- The audit of community available grass wicket cricket squares in Hinckley & Bosworth found three (20%) to be good quality, 10 (67%) of standard quality and two (13%) as poor quality.
- The audit of ancillary facilities at community available grass pitch cricket sites in Hinckley & Bosworth determines that five (33%) are accompanied by good quality provision and five squares (33%) are accompanied by standard quality provision and five (33%) are serviced by poor quality provision.
- There are seven sites supplying 15 bays, whilst five clubs report demand for new, improved and/or additional training facilities.

#### Cricket – demand summary

- There are 10 clubs in Hinckley & Bosworth which collectively provide 41 teams. This equates to 22 senior men's, two senior women's and 17 junior boys' teams.
- There has been a slight decrease in demand over recent years.
- For female cricket to grow further in Hinckley & Bosworth, it is imperative that existing provision adapts to better accommodate women's and girls' demand. For example, no cricket site currently provides dedicated female changing facilities, which will deter any future demand that may exist. Many existing clubhouses are dated and provide unsegregated changing areas as well as communal showers that are unsuitable for mixed gender access.
- A total of six clubs undertake All Stars cricket, whilst four host Dynamos and two have women's softball demand.
- Future demand from population forecasts equates to the predicted growth of four senior men's and three junior boys' (up to 2041), whereas five clubs indicate aspirations to increase levels of participation amounting to a total predicted growth of eight teams.
- Linked to future demand from population projections, it must be noted that the ECB has recently established a target of trebling the number of female teams across the Country by 2026, with this therefore likely to further increase in demand in Hinckley & Bosworth. Based on this, one senior woman's and one junior girls' team has been incorporated into the overall supply and demand analysis.

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## Scenarios

### Improving quality/addressing overplay

Although a regular, sufficient maintenance regime can sustain sites with minimal levels of overplay (e.g., at Markfield Jubilee Playing Field) a reduction in play is recommended to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.

As such, attempts should be made to reduce identified overplay, although it is recognised that many clubs do not necessarily believe that there are capacity issues and are able to accommodate such excess demand. This means that they are not always open to potential solutions (e.g., NTP installation).

In Hinckley & Bosworth, overplay is identified at four sites across the same number of squares. The scenario below looks at the impacts of quality improvements as a solution to reducing or alleviating overplay. As a reminder, for good quality squares, capacity is five matches per grass wicket per season, whilst for a standard quality square, capacity is four matches per wicket per season. For poor quality squares, no capacity is considered to exist as such provision is not deemed safe for play. The squares at Langdale Park and Markfield Jubilee Playing Field are assessed as poor quality.

It should be noted two large clubs (Earl Shilton CC and Hinckley Town CC) did not respond to consultation requests (see Table 4.1 in the Assessment Report). Therefore, the supply and demand analysis picture is not wholly accurate but has been agreed to a point between LCRF and ECB.

Please note Pitch Power Assessments are now in place across the Country. In due course, the assessments will be able to replace/update the non-technical assessments as and when they come on board over the next few years as part of the Stage E process.

Of the overplayed squares, none are assessed as good quality. The impact of improving quality at all the remaining sites, to good, where each wicket has a theoretical capacity of five match equivalent session per season is considered in the table below.

Table 4.39: Overplay if all squares were good quality (match equivalent sessions)

Site ID	Site name	Club	No. of squares	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
2	Ashby Road Sports Club	Hinckley Amateur CC	1	Standard	21	12
47	Langdale Park	Bombay United CC	1	Poor	22	18
55	Markfield Jubilee Playing Field	Cropston CC	1	Poor	8	12
62	Ratby Sports Club	Ratby Town CC	1	Standard	25	20

As seen in the table above, the squares at Ashby Road Sports Club (standard) and Ratby Sports Club (standard) would remain overplayed albeit with shortfalls slightly reducing, which may then be more manageable if the squares are good quality.

By increasing quality, Langdale Park and Markfield Jubilee Playing Field would see overplay eradicated and spare capacity of 18 match equivalent sessions per season would be created for the former and 12 match equivalent sessions per season for the latter.

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The poor quality squares at Langdale Park and Markfield Jubilee Playing Field are contributing to 30 match equivalent sessions of overplay per season, which would be removed if quality was improved, even to standard. Therefore, this would be an achievable recommendation and should be prioritised.

In total, 60 match equivalent sessions of overplay would be alleviated. This would eradicate current shortfalls for Saturday and Sunday cricket, equating to 32 match equivalent sessions per season of actual spare capacity for Saturday and 44 match equivalent sessions per season for Sunday. Whilst 205 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity would exist for midweek cricket.

Table 4.40: Current supply and demand balance if overplayed squares improved to good

Playing format	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Saturday	28	32
Sunday	16	44
Midweek	145	205

Although improving quality can have a positive impact, the potential capacity created will not necessarily be in the peak period and therefore may not fully meet demand. It should also be noted that if quality was improved, for this to be sustained over a long term period this will likely require existing maintenance budgets to be maintained or enhanced.

When factoring in future demand, current shortfalls for Saturday cricket would still remain but at a reduced level. For Sunday cricket, 44 match equivalent sessions per season of actual spare capacity would be established, whilst for midweek cricket this would be increased to 187 match equivalent sessions.

Table 4.41: Future supply and demand balance if overplayed squares improved to good

Playing format	Future total	Potential total
Saturday	76	16
Sunday	16	44
Midweek	127	187

Cricket squares can be accompanied by non-turf pitches (NTPs), made of a synthetic material that allows users to play on a usable wicket all year round whilst not contributing towards playing demand on natural turf wickets (grass wickets). By the nature of its design, an NTP is able to accommodate significantly more demand than a natural cricket wicket, meaning it can contribute towards addressing overplay issues on grass cricket squares.

Most of the overplayed sites do not have an NTP, and thus could theoretically benefit from such provision as a way of reducing identified overplay and allow the transfer of junior demand away from the grass wickets, providing sufficient space exists (further investigation is required to determine suitability). The following overplayed sites are without an NTP:

- ◆ Ashby Road Sports Club.
- ◆ Langdale Park.
- ◆ Markfield Jubilee Playing Field.

Only the square provided at Ratby Sports Club has recorded overplay with an existing NTP.

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Therefore, greater utilisation of the artificial provision should be encouraged for junior teams as to reduce overplay. For the remaining above sites, installing NTP's to enable the transfer of demand from the grass wickets could therefore further relieve any capacity issues.

The ECB highlights that non-turf pitches which follow its TS6<sup>11</sup> guidance on performance standards are suitable for high level, senior play and are considered able to take 60 matches per season, although this may include training sessions via the use of mobile nets. Typically, however, play would be more suited to junior teams as senior leagues typically stipulate the use of natural turf wickets.

Notwithstanding the above, please note that for NTPs to reduce the level of overplay set out above, this could be subject to league rules allowing usage, particularly for senior fixtures where play is generally not allowed. They can, however, potentially be used for lower league matches as well as junior cricket.

### **Unused provision**

One grass wicket square (Stoke Golding Recreation Ground) is currently unused by the community.

The square is located in the Central Analysis Area which currently has no identified overplay and actual spare capacity exists for all formats of cricket. As such, there is no clear requirement for the square at Stoke Golding Recreation Ground to be brought back into use for cricket, although it could be retained as strategic reserve.

### **Accommodating future demand**

Population growth over the Local Plan period to 2041 is expected to see the population of the Borough rise from 113,591 to 137,765. This will lead to the creation of four senior men's teams and three junior boys' teams. Although no women and girls' teams are predicted to be created via population growth alone, consultation with the ECB and LRCF suggests that further development of female cricket in Hinckley & Bosworth is likely as it is currently a national priority to increase women and girls' participation.

This future demand cannot be attributed to any one analysis area or club but is important to understand how this can be accommodated across Hinckley & Bosworth.

The Assessment Report demonstrated that for men's Saturday cricket and senior women's there is insufficient capacity.

For senior men's cricket on Saturdays, there is a current shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions per season. This will be exacerbated to a shortfall of 76 match equivalent sessions per season if all future demand is realised. However, dependent on where demand aligns itself to (i.e. club specific and analysis area specific) they may well be instances of pressure at certain clubs which have high levels of existing demand (i.e. Ratby Town CC).

In total, five cricket clubs in Hinckley & Bosworth express future demand, which if realised will further exacerbate existing shortfalls for all formats of play. The table below therefore studies the future demand on a club-by-club basis to better understand what can and cannot be accommodated on the existing level of supply.

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<sup>11</sup> <http://www.cag.org.uk/docs/ecb-non-turf-pitches-ts6-final-328.pdf>

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Table 4.42: Accommodating future demand

Club	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior	Comments
Barwell CC	1	-	2	Spare capacity exists midweek so junior demand can be accommodated.
Bombay United CC	1	-	-	Existing site is overplayed so demand cannot be accommodated.
Burbage & Stoke Golding CC	1	1	2	Spare capacity exists Sunday and midweek so women's and junior demand can be accommodated.
Newbold Verdon CC	-	-	2	Spare capacity exists midweek so junior demand can be accommodated.
Stapleton CC	1	-	-	No capacity for an increase in Saturday cricket.

As seen, three of the clubs (Barwell CC, Burbage & Stoke Golding CC and Newbold Verdon CC) could accommodate future demand at the sites they currently use. Although this would only be the case for women's cricket (Sunday) and midweek cricket and none of the sites have sufficient capacity for an increase in the peak period (Saturday). For Hinckley Road Recreation Ground (Burbage & Stoke Golding CC, the site is overplayed so future demand cannot be accommodated. Therefore, increased provision is required, through accessing currently unavailable or through new pitches being established.

## Accommodating girls' demand

The Assessment Report has accounted for future demand by using team generation rates applying population projections to 2041. It identifies that there shall be the growth of four senior men's teams and three junior boys' teams. Although, as noted in the Assessment Report, no women and girls' teams are predicted to be created via population growth alone, consultation with the ECB and LRCF suggests that further development of female cricket in Hinckley & Bosworth is likely as it is currently a national priority to increase women and girl's participation.

Linked to the above, the team generation rates method of measuring future demand does not capture the anticipated growth for women's and girls' cricket that is expected to take place over the next five years.

The ECB has recently established a target of trebling the number of female teams across the Country by 2026/2027, with this therefore likely to further increase in demand across the Borough. Although there are no junior girl's teams currently fielded in Hinckley & Bosworth, it is thought this will be established and could increase to three teams by 2026/2027.

## Improving ancillary provision

For women and girl's cricket to grow within Hinckley & Bosworth, it is imperative that existing provision adapts to better accommodate women's and girls' demand. For example, no site in the Borough currently provides dedicated female changing facilities, which will negate any future demand that may exist. Many existing clubhouses are dated and provide unsegregated changing areas as well as communal showers that are unsuitable for mixed gender access.

This could affect the growth of girl's cricket moving forward if it is not addressed. Therefore, it is imperative that existing provision adapts to better accommodate women's and girls' demand.

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The table below outlines four sites which are serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.

Table 4.43: Poor quality ancillary provision within Hinckley & Bosworth

Site ID	Site	Club	Analysis area	Ancillary provision quality
55	Markfield Jubilee Playing Field	-	North East & Leicester	Poor
62	Ratby Sports Club	Ratby Town CC	North East & Leicester	Poor
74	Stoke Golding Recreation Ground	-	Central	Poor
75	Swallows Green	Hinckley Amateur CC	Urban South	Poor

Hinckley Amateur CC is a large club with a large senior and junior boys' section. The Club utilises Swallows Green as a secondary venue and report it does not have access to a clubhouse, although it does have access to two changing rooms and toilets. However, these are in poor condition and are outdated and in need of refurbishing. Given the multisport use of the pavilion the site should also be prioritised for enhancement.

Ratby Town CC fields three senior men's and three junior boys' teams. It utilises Ratby Sports Club for home fixtures and the ancillary facilities are reported to be in poor condition and not fit for purpose to service its club demand. There is a small portacabin on site but it is unusable and only provides one shower and toilet. From October 2024, significant work has begun to improve the ancillary provision at Ratby Sports Club. The site should continue to be monitored through the Stage E process (see Part 8 of this report for further information).

The clubhouse at Markfield Jubilee Playing Fields (maintained by Markfield Parish Council) is currently poor quality and is outdated. The site is currently unused by any of the 10 affiliated cricket clubs in the Borough, however, Cropston CC imports demand into the Borough and utilises the provision.

Despite being unused by an affiliated cricket club, the ancillary provision at Stoke Golding Recreation Ground is assessed as poor quality. This is due to it showing signs of age and becoming outdated.

If funding is to be invested into ancillary provision, improvements to poor quality sites such as Ratby Sports Club would be appropriate priority projects given the site accommodates a greater level of demand.

## Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares.
- ◀ Improve quality at sites assessed as poor and standard quality and ensure quality is sustained at sites assessed as good through partnership working with LRCF.
- ◀ Install additional NTPs to accompany grass wicket squares (where space allows), particularly where overplay is present, such as at Langdale Park, and where it cannot be eradicated via quality improvements and to support the recreational and informal game.
- ◀ In order to address the level of overplay at Langdale Park, explore options to increase the number of wickets.
- ◀ Encourage facility operators to provide improved security of tenure for clubs without ownership or a long-term lease arrangement in place such as Hinckley Amateur CC.
- ◀ Encourage usage to transfer to currently unused sites, subject to quality improvements, where overplay remains an issue.

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- ◀ Continue to support ECB initiatives such as All Stars and Dynamos and ensure unaffiliated demand and recreational cricket is adequately provided for.
- ◀ Continue to support the growth of women's and girl's cricket, which includes the new partnership between the ECB and Metro Bank with the purpose of increasing participation nationally by 2,000 clubs and 6,000 teams.
- ◀ Improve the changing facilities where there is a need to do so with a priority on supporting women and girls' growth, with sites such as Markfield Jubilee Playing Field, Ratby Sports Club, Stoke Golding Recreation Ground and Swallows Green.
- ◀ Consider options to increase and improve stock of suitable practice facilities where demand exists to do so and consider the creation of additional practice nets at publicly open sites (e.g., parks and recreation grounds) to encourage and increase recreational demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing cricket sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning (i.e. via a sports needs assessment/feasibility study/assessment of need) on an individual basis.
- ◀ Review changes in participation over Stage E in case some of the recommendations need revising to account for growth in the women and girls' game and new PitchPower reports.

## Tennis courts

### Assessment Report summary

#### Tennis – supply and demand summary

- ◀ For club-based tennis, there is sufficient capacity in Hinckley & Bosworth to facilitate demand. In actuality, no clubs report any issues, suggesting that there is no requirement for additional court space. This should, however, be closely monitored, and improvements to the existing stock should be sought to ensure it remains the case.
- ◀ It should be noted that within the Borough, the West Analysis Area does not have any community accessible provision. Therefore, on this basis, no residents have immediate access to tennis court provision within their respective areas and have to travel further afield to participate in the sport.
- ◀ For non-club courts, whilst no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, it cannot be said that supply is sufficient to meet demand due to the amount of unmet and latent demand evidenced both nationally and in the Borough. There is instead a clear need to improve the supply in ways that can attract and better accommodate more users. This should include improving the current quality at sites and ensure future sustainability. In addition, a lack of sports lighting and covered courts at venues presents a clear problem as this will be limiting demand, especially outside of summer months.

#### Tennis – supply summary

- ◀ A total of 45 traditional tennis courts identified in Hinckley & Bosworth across 13 sites.
- ◀ Of the courts, 33 are categorised as being available for community use at nine sites compared to 12 that are unavailable at four sites.
- ◀ Of the courts, 12 are provided at club sites, four are provided at local authority/parish council sites, 24 by education sites.
- ◀ All clubs have security of tenure, either via freehold for their sites or long term lease agreements.
- ◀ Most outdoor tennis courts have a macadam surface; there are 42 of this type compared to three artificial courts.
- ◀ 21 courts are serviced by sports lighting, with all of these are available for community use.
- ◀ 16 are assessed as good quality, 10 assessed as standard quality and 19 assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ The Parks Investment Project is currently taking place in Hinckley & Bosworth, with this incorporating provision at Hollycroft Park.

#### Tennis – demand summary

- ◀ There are three clubs across Hinckley & Bosworth, with membership equating to 493, where known through consultation.
- ◀ Club-based demand has seemingly increased in recent years, aligned to national trends.
- ◀ Future demand is expressed by two clubs amounting to 140 potential additional members (70 senior and 70 junior).
- ◀ The LTA also predicts future growth via its insight tools, with much of this demand likely to include participation outside of the club-environment.

## Scenarios

### Improving the recreational tennis offer

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, Play and Gate Access and can be used individually or in combination. The products are used to provide a remote booking and access system.

Instead of providing free access, some local authorities are now securing their courts as per a membership scheme that allows members access through the use of pay and play with annual passes available utilising gate access technology.

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In Hinckley & Bosworth, local authority sites providing tennis courts is minimal. However, the courts at Hollycroft Park (Bosworth) were recently invested in, with this in partnership between the Council and the LTA. The courts were re-painted, new nets & posts, and a new entry system in 2023. There is a relationship with Hinckley Town TC who uses the courts for some outreach/community coaching activities.

Based on the findings of this study, quality requires improving at Bosworth Road Recreation which is managed by Market Bosworth Parish Council. Sports lighting should also be installed at the site, as a lack of sports lighting is currently a significant barrier to participation.

However, only two courts are provided at Bosworth Road Recreation Ground and there may be an opportunity to develop more courts as part of the investment. The LTA identifies that those sites with a minimum of three courts and suitable ancillary facilities are more likely to deliver a sustainable tennis programme.

### **Accommodating current and future club-based demand**

The LTA suggests that a court without sports lighting can accommodate a maximum of 40 members, whereas a court with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members.

On this basis, when reviewing club demand in Hinckley & Bosworth, it is evident that all three clubs are operating well below the LTA recommended capacity guidelines both now and in the future. To confirm, all three clubs are fully serviced by sports lighting on all its courts.

The clubs should be monitored through the Stage E process as it is in a position where it may become unsustainable to operate.

### **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 (could be) well used for recreational demand.
- ◀ Linked to the above, improve park courts as a priority to create a year-round recreational tennis option to meet local demand.
- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via utilisation of technology provided by the LTA (e.g., Clubspark) to support the customer journey and through investment into facilities and accompanying ancillary provision.
- ◀ Consider development of additional courts for recreational demand, potentially through adding more courts to existing sites such as Hollycroft Park (Bosworth) and Bosworth Road Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Where local authority courts are improved/established, ensure the operation of the provision is sustainable and in line with other recommendations.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of formalising community use of educational sites in order to increase capacity for informal/recreational demand.
- ◀ Support opportunities to provide padel courts at suitable sites (e.g., leisure centres) given its growing demand (separate to existing tennis courts) and seek to maximise activity.

## Bowling greens

### Assessment Report summary

#### **Bowls – supply and demand summary**

- ◀ Seven clubs are operating at or above the recommended capacity levels (more than 60 members) and therefore need to be monitored to ensure that supply remains adequate.
- ◀ At the other end of the spectrum, Barlestone BC is currently operating below the capacity limit, with just 10 members. However, the club expresses future demand sufficient to take it above the membership required to ensure sustainability.
- ◀ Future demand expressed can be accommodated on existing greens. However, where future demand is expressed at sites which are already over capacity, these will need to be monitored as part of Stage E to ensure this position remains the same.

#### **Bowls – supply summary**

- ◀ There are 11 flat bowling greens in Hinckley & Bosworth across the same number of sites. All are available for community use. The Urban South Analysis Area provides seven greens, whilst there is three greens in the Central and one in the North East & Leicester analysis areas. There are no flat bowling greens in the West Analysis Area.
- ◀ Most bowling greens are owned and managed by the Local Authority, parish council or respective sports club.
- ◀ Across Hinckley & Bosworth, three (27%) are assessed as good quality and eight (73%) as standard quality. None are assessed as poor quality.

#### **Bowls – demand summary**

- ◀ There are 12 bowling clubs as playing within Hinckley & Bosworth, with 10 responding to consultation requests to date and given membership figures. Membership of the responsive clubs where known totals 563 members, resulting in an average membership of 56 members.
- ◀ The largest club is Kingscroft BC with 103 members, whilst the smallest is Barlestone BC with just 10 members.
- ◀ Two greens are available for pay and play usage, although take-up is reportedly minimal.
- ◀ Of responding clubs in Hinckley & Bosworth, seven clubs highlight plans to increase membership. These aspirations total 67 additional members.

### Impact of 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 over 60 may need additional resource to ensure that it is meeting its required level of demand.

In Hinckley & Bosworth, where membership is known, only two clubs (Bagworth BC and Hollycroft Park BC) are currently operating within a 'sustainable' capacity range within the Borough.

At the other end of the spectrum, Barlestone BC is currently operating below the capacity limit with just 10 members. However, the Club expresses future demand sufficient to take it above the membership required to ensure sustainability.

The remaining seven clubs, where membership is known, are operating above the recommended capacity limit, with these being at Barwell BC, Burbage Crusaders BC, Burgess BC, Hinckley BC, Hinckley Sweet Pea BC, Kingscroft BC and Market Bosworth BC. However, these clubs didn't specifically mention a need for an additional bowling green to accommodate existing or further demand. As such, despite high levels of demand, there is no identified requirement for additional green space, although support is required to ensure that this remains the case.

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Similarly, none of the other clubs report any capacity issues and none report any latent or unmet demand. As such, no action is currently required, other than to continue monitoring the clubs to ensure that their demand is met.

### Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of currently used greens, and, as a minimum, sustain quality.
- ◀ Ensure that any proposed development of currently used greens is done in line with NPPF.
- ◀ 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 e.g. at Hollycroft Park in terms of improvement to the pavilion and storage.
- ◀ Support clubs operating with a high membership to ensure demand continues to be met on their existing provision.
- ◀ Support the implementation of new products to increase participation within the Borough i.e., Bowls Bash (a shortened format) and Play Bowls (pay and play participation).

### Netball courts

#### Assessment Report summary

##### Netball – supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is a clear lack of provision which is of a good quality or provides sports lighting. Competitive netball on outdoor courts will continue to be played at the Leicester Netball League but the existing landscape is not conducive to promoting opportunities for recreational programming or England Netball led initiatives.

##### Netball – supply summary

- ◀ There are 27 netball courts have been identified in Hinckley & Bosworth across 10 sites. Of the courts, 24 at eight sites are available for community use.
- ◀ Most outdoor netball courts in Hinckley & Bosworth are operated by education providers, with 23 courts falling under this management type. 20 courts (87%) of these are available to the community. Of the remaining four courts they are managed by sports clubs (at Hinckley Netball Club and Sport in Desford).
- ◀ A total of three sites Hinckley Netball Club, Heath Lane Academy and Sport in Desford) are reported as being in use for netball activity across the Borough.
- ◀ All but two of the outdoor netball courts in Hinckley & Bosworth have a macadam surface, with 25 being of this type and 22 (88%) of these being available for community use (the remaining two courts have an artificial surface located at Hinckley Netball Club).
- ◀ Nine (33%) are serviced by sports lighting across three sites.
- ◀ 20 netball courts are overmarked (e.g., by tennis courts) compared to only seven that are dedicated for netball use (standalone).
- ◀ Of the courts in Hinckley & Bosworth, seven are assessed as good quality, six as standard quality and 14 as poor quality. Of those available to the community, seven courts are assessed as good quality, six are standard quality and 11 are poor quality.

##### Netball – demand summary

- ◀ There are two netball clubs in Hinckley & Bosworth (Desford NC and Hinckley Town Ladies NC).
- ◀ All affiliated match play demand takes place outside of Hinckley & Bosworth, in Leicester, via the use of central venues by the Leicester Netball League (exported demand).

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### Scenarios

#### Increasing sports-lit provision

The presence of sports lighting is considered to be key for outdoor netball court access as it can provide additional capacity, especially during winter months. Of the sites currently used, the following are not serviced:

- ◀ Brookvale Groby Learning Campus (one court).
- ◀ Hastings High School (four courts).
- ◀ Heath Lane Academy (five courts).
- ◀ Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre (two courts).
- ◀ Saint Martin's Catholic Academy (one court)
- ◀ South Charnwood High School (two courts).
- ◀ The Market Bosworth High School (three courts)

Of the above sites, only Hastings High School, Heath Lane Academy and The Market Bosworth High School should be considered of providing sports lighting for recreational demand, given the other sites only provide one or two courts and would not be financially feasible.

Therefore, providing sports lighting at Hastings High School, Heath Lane Academy and The Market Bosworth High School, with all sites available for community use, would better accommodate demand and potentially encourage more usage, particularly in terms of midweek training and commercial league activity.

#### Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing courts in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Secure community use at sites that are currently in use or that could be used in the future.
- ◀ 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 sports lighting at venues in use for netball or at venues that could attract netball demand following installation. However, this is not clear as to whether this would be possible from a planning perspective.
- ◀ Seek to improve access to educational sites, particularly where quality is good quality and sports lighting is or could be provided.
- ◀ Ensure demand can continue to be accommodated outside of Hinckley & Bosworth (e.g., in Leicester) where this is the case through choice.

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## Athletics

### Assessment Report summary

#### **Athletics – supply and demand summary**

- Based on four running clubs identified above in the Borough it is suggested that opportunities to install both a NewGen, MiniTrack & ActiveTrack should be explored to benefit Desford Striders, Hinckley Running Club and 1485 Triathlon Club as these clubs have active junior sections.
- In addition, an informal grass 400m track has recently been installed located at Clarendon Park to cater for recreational and/or informal demand and is used by the public, albeit on an informal basis. Although, the track can only be used in the summer months as it is not serviced by sports lighting.
- Away from track and field activity, emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other activities identified in Hinckley & Bosworth with a focus on retaining and increasing participation and growing the various initiatives that are in place. In effect, any demand for formal athletics provision should be directed to Nuneaton Harriers Athletics Club.

#### **Athletics – supply summary**

- There are no permanent outdoor athletics tracks in Hinckley & Bosworth.
- The closest track is located at Pingles Leisure Centre (Nuneaton Harriers Athletics Club) in Nuneaton, which is a 15 minute drive (5 miles) from Clarendon Park. It is a eight lane, synthetic 400 metre track.
- The track is fully floodlit and provides a dedicated grass area for field events (including a throwing cage), a throwing circle for shotput, and two sand pits for triple jump and long jump.

#### **Athletics – demand summary**

- There are four clubs in Hinckley & Bosworth affiliated to England Athletics.
- Barlestone St Giles RC is a local running club that caters for all levels of fitness and running experience. It utilises the local road network around the Borough and into neighbouring authorities such as Charnwood and Nuneaton & Bedworth.
- Desford Striders is a road running club and has 100 members, made up of approximately 60 male and 40 female members.
- Hinckley Running Club is a friendly running and athletics club and welcomes runners of all ages and abilities. It runs sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for seniors as well as a long Sunday morning run. Juniors meet on Wednesday evenings with Hastings High School as its main meeting point.
- There are no Run Together groups in Hinckley & Bosworth, with the nearest located at Longford Park in Coventry.
- There are two Park Run events in Hinckley & Bosworth held on a weekly basis. These are located at Hastings High School and Market Bosworth Country Park. The former has run 108 events and 89 events for the latter.
- None of the clubs identify any exported or imported demand, although it is likely that some members of Hinckley & Bosworth-based clubs will come from outside of the Borough just as nearby clubs from outside of the Borough will likely attract some members from Hinckley & Bosworth.
- Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies significant latent demand amounting to 2,411 people in Hinckley & Bosworth which works out at around 2% of the population compared to a national average of 1.9%.

## Scenarios

As identified in the Assessment Report, England Athletics is currently exploring alternative approaches in designing new athletics provision. Focus is on the development of new, innovative, entry level facilities such as mini tracks and endurance loops, particularly if they can be provided as part of sports-lit, multi-sport developments. As such, four alternative approaches have been developed in designing new athletics provision, with these

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presenting alternative approaches to development via more affordable and feasible means. The designs are known as Play Track, Compact Track, Mini Track and Active Track.

### Track & Field (run/jump/throw)

- ◀ **Play Track:** The simple animation of dated playground surfaces using colourful painted lines and markings to (KS1 & KS2) – encouraging participation in run/jump/throw activities by creating challenging and inspiring environments.
- ◀ **CompactTrack:** A sports-lit, multiple lane, synthetic sprint straight with optional jumps and throws provision.
- ◀ **MiniTrack:** A sports-lit synthetic “mini” running oval, with sprint straight, multi-sport “infield” and optional jumps and throws provision.

### Recreational running/endurance running/multi sport

- ◀ **Active Track:** A free to access, macadam running / cycling circuit designed to be sympathetic to the local environment and support the recreational needs of local communities.
- ◀ Ideally lit by low level lighting / solar columns, ActiveTracks can be introduced to existing parks, open spaces and playing fields or integrated into the masterplanning of new housing developments.
- ◀ Sport England Case Study: ActiveTrack: [Sowerby Sports Village](#).

It should be noted that due to the lack of any formal track & field/running provision in the local authority, England Athletics has identified Maldon as a priority area for the development of a NewGen facility(ies).

Using mapping data to understand optimal locations for NewGen facilities EA identifies that 34% (40,000) of the population of Hinckley & Bosworth are not within a 20-minute drive time to a dedicated 400 metre track. Further details on this can be found here:

<https://www.englandathletics.org/clubs-and-facilities/facilities/newgen-tracks/>

Of these, an ‘active track’ and ‘mini track’ may be most appropriate for consideration in Hinckley & Bosworth, where opportunity presents, particularly in relation to strategic housing allocations to provide a health and wellbeing offer on site.

### Recommendations

- ◀ Consider the installation of active and mini tracks in the Borough, where opportunity presents, particularly in relation to strategic housing allocations to provide a health and wellbeing offer on site.
- ◀ Carry out additional consultation to inform provision requirements at the site.
- ◀ Support clubs, running groups, events and England Athletics initiatives such as Parkrun and pursue increased participation, where possible.
- ◀ Ensure all clubs/groups continue to have home bases to operate from and pursue improved security of tenure where it is required.

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## Golf courses

### Assessment Report summary

#### Golf – supply and demand summary

- ◀ With only two golf courses currently provided in Hinckley & Bosworth, there is a low level of supply servicing the Borough. This is illustrated by both sites having a particularly high membership, well in excess of average levels.
- ◀ Furthermore, there is also a distinct lack of variety in that both courses currently provide standard hole provision at a relatively high price point, with no cheaper offerings available or shorter, traditional offerings, due to all existing provision located to the north and south.
- ◀ No existing sites can be deemed surplus to requirements and avenues to improve the variety and spatial distribution of facilities should be explored in order to ensure that all types of golfers from across the Borough have somewhere suitable to play.

#### Golf – supply summary

- ◀ There are currently two golf sites in operation.
- ◀ An additional golf venue was also previously provided located at Kyngs Golf and Country Club; however the site closed in 2016.
- ◀ Forest Hill Golf Club and Hinckley Golf Club provide one 18-hole course.
- ◀ One of the two golf sites in Hinckley & Bosworth supply a traditional driving range, in addition to their standard hole courses, with 20 bays provided at Forest Hill Golf Club. The site is serviced by sports lighting and available for pay and play usage.
- ◀ In Hinckley & Bosworth, there is one members club, with this provided at Hinckley Golf Club and one proprietary venue (Forest Hill Golf Club).
- ◀ Membership costs at Forest Hill Golf Club and Hinckley Golf Club are currently operating above the national average, with membership costing £1,345 for the latter and £1,206 for the former.
- ◀ Quality across the sites is good, with no issues reported.

#### Golf – demand summary

- ◀ The current average membership across the sites is 567, suggesting that demand is substantially higher than national rates (the average is 386).
- ◀ In line with a national trend of increasing membership, demand across Hinckley & Bosworth has increased significantly between 2015 and 2017, then reduced slightly in 2018 and decreasing further in 2022 (no data was collected by England Golf from 2018 until 2022).
- ◀ Whilst pay and play usage is not known, it would be expected that demand would be higher at the municipal and propriety courses due to other on-site amenities and the operational structures in place.
- ◀ Cross-boundary demand is likely to be high given the location of some sites both in and out of Hinckley & Bosworth, whilst the lack of variety of the sites within the Borough is also likely to lead to higher than normal levels of exported demand.
- ◀ Unmet demand could also be high given the lack of variety in what is provided, particularly from those wanting or needing shorter provision or cheaper access.
- ◀ Unmet demand is also expressed by Hinckley Golf Club, which has a waiting list in place.
- ◀ An England Golf mapping tool identifies significant potential demand for access to golf provision in the Borough.

## Scenarios

No required scenarios have been identified, with the following recommendations instead considered necessary based on the supply and demand findings.

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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## Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing golf provision unless appropriate mitigation is secured in line with planning policy, or an independent needs assessment identifies a course as being surplus to requirements.
- ◀ Sustain course and ancillary facility quality and seek improvements where necessary.
- ◀ Support clubs in membership retention and potential growth and encourage clubs and providers to work more collaboratively in terms of creating pathways for players.
- ◀ Explore opportunities to provide other forms of golf provision, such as Par 3 courses and standalone driving ranges.

## Other grass pitch sports

### Assessment Report summary

#### **Other grass pitch sports – supply and demand summary**

- ◀ Supply for the remaining sports is adequate to meet current – or there is no identifiable local demand.
- ◀ Where sports are not currently catered for, it is imperative that any localised demand is signposted to neighbouring authorities to ensure that it can be accommodated.

#### **Other grass pitch sports - supply summary**

- ◀ There are no baseball/softball, American football, rugby league or lacrosse pitches in the Borough. Provision for these sports is made in neighbouring authorities.

#### **Other grass pitch sports - demand summary**

- ◀ There is no baseball/softball, rugby league or American football taking place in the Borough. Some residents are likely to be being accommodated in neighbouring authorities where clubs are present.

No suitable scenarios have been identified, with the following recommendations instead considered necessary based on the supply and demand findings.

## Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure continued access to existing sites and pitches to enable continued access for all relevant sports.
- ◀ Any demand that does exist for baseball/softball should be directed to clubs in nearby authorities such as Oadby & Wigston to ensure that it is catered for (e.g., Leicester Royals Softball Club).
- ◀ Any demand that does exist for American football should be directed to clubs in neighbouring authorities such as Leicester to ensure that it is catered for (e.g., Leicester Panthers).
- ◀ Any demand that does exist for rugby league should be directed to clubs in neighbouring authorities to ensure it is catered for (e.g., Nottingham Outlaws RLFC).

## 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 an assessment report, as well as key drivers identified for the Strategy. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed, which apply across playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.

### OBJECTIVE 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sport provision and ancillary 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 sport facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.
- b) Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c) Maximise community use of education facilities where needed.

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

The PPOSS shows that all existing playing field and outdoor sport sites cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. As such, all provision requires protection or replacement until all identified shortfalls have been overcome. This includes disused (including any which may not have been identified in this document) underused and poor quality sites as there is a requirement for such provision to help meet and alleviate the identified shortfalls.

When shortfalls are evident, provision can only be permanently lost when the current picture changes to the extent that the site in question is no longer needed as a result of no shortfalls existing, or unless appropriate mitigation is provided and agreed upon by all stakeholders, in line with national planning policy. NPPF paragraph 104 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.

The PPOSS should be used to help inform development management decisions that affect existing or new playing pitch provision and accompanying ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case-by-case basis taking into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing field used within the last five years.

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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They will use the PPOSS to help assess the planning application against its Playing Fields Policy.

### 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.

### 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 should also be protected from development or replaced in accordance with Sport England's policy exceptions as they currently provide a solution to reducing identified shortfalls. Disused playing fields are included within this Action Plan together with a recommendation in relation to bringing the site back into use or to mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified.

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It may be appropriate to consider rationalisation of certain low value playing pitch sites (i.e. one or two pitch sites with no changing provision) to generate investment and focus resources towards creating bigger and better quality venues (hub sites). Such sites could then be re-purposed to meet other recreational needs or, if appropriate and agreed could be developed for other uses. It is vital, however, that there is no net loss of facilities and that replacement provision is in place and available for use prior to existing provision being lost.

## Disused sites

Disused sites that have been unused for more than five years should also be protected from development or replaced in accordance with Sport England’s policy exceptions as they currently provide a solution to reducing identified shortfalls. As such, any disused sites are included within the Action Plan together with a recommendation in relation to bringing the site back into use or to mitigate permanent loss to address the shortfalls identified. Disused sites are still protected from development in the NPPF.

The lawful use of a disused playing field is still that of a playing field until such time that its use is formally changed through the planning system. There is no positive obligation, under planning law, for a playing field to be actively used as such. The below lists known disused playing pitch sites currently within the Borough:

- ◀ Earl Shilton Albion Football Club - last marked out circa 2022.

For information regarding what was supplied at Earl Shilton Albion Football Club, please see the Action Plan within this document.

In addition to above, there are some existing playing field sites which may be able to or have previously accommodated more pitches than are presently marked. There may also be sites which are no longer prepared and used for formal sport but that still serve another function, such as a public open space or park. These sites should therefore not be considered disused as they continue to operate as part of the green infrastructure typology.

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

Much like some authorities nationally, there is reliance on the education sector to provide for an element of demand for playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities. However, where this is the case, particularly for the likes of hockey, it is imperative that future opportunities to secure tenure for clubs is explored and progressed where possible. The following schools provide community use to clubs for match play purposes.

Table 5.1: Known use of education sites

School	Security of tenure	Club	Sport
Bosworth Academy	Unsecure	CRG FC Desford & Caterpillar FC	Football Football (3G)
Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	Unsecure	Groby Juniors Bedouins HC Horizon HC South Wigston HC Panthers HC (imported) Half Century HC (imported)	Football (sand-based AGP) Hockey
Hastings High School	Secure	FC Burbage	Football

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School	Security of tenure	Club	Sport
Heath Lane Academy	Unsecure	Earl Shilton Town FC Rumour Mill FC	Football
Hinckley Parks Primary School	Unsecure	FC Burbage	Football
Redmoor Academy	Secure	Stoke Golding FC	Football
South Charnwood High School	Unsecure	Glenfield United Sporting Markfield	Football (3G)
Westfield Junior School	Unsecure	Hinckley Town Juniors	Football

In instances where clubs do not have formal tenure agreements in place, clubs could theoretically be asked to vacate at any time which would result in each requiring alternate provision to service existing levels of demand.

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

Further partnership working with NGBs should be carried out to encourage schools to put in place CUA's including access to changing provision where required.

For unsecure sites, NGBs, Sport England and other appropriate bodies such as England Hockey, FF, Leicestershire & Rutland FA 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 any agreement. It is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations to enable them to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities.

To facilitate this, where practical, the Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds, providing this is to the benefit of sport.

In the context of the which announced significant 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, the Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds, providing this is to the benefit of sport.

The Council (including parish and town councils) and private landlords (as relevant) should further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted via lease agreements (minimum 25 years as 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 sites, possibly with inadequate or no ancillary facilities, so that quality can be improved and sites developed.

Local sports clubs should continue to be supported by partners including the Council (where relevant) and NGBs to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership work. For example, club development should be support and 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)<sup>12</sup>. They should also be encouraged to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies or local businesses.

Each club interested in leasing a council site (including those from parish and town councils) 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 5.2: Recommended criteria for lease of sport sites to clubs/organisations

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

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

- ◀ Increasing participation, particularly in target areas such as women's and girls' activity.
- ◀ 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 sites remain available for other purposes and for other users.

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

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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

To maximise community use of education facilities 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 Hinckley & Bosworth, pricing policies at facilities can be a barrier to access at some education sites but physical access, poor quality and resistance from providers to open up provision is also an issue, especially at academies and independent schools.

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.

Whilst community sport should ultimately be sought at all educational sites, priority should be placed on firstly exploring community use options at larger venues offering several pitches (e.g., at The Dixie Grammar School Sports Ground). Securing access to this site could help to reduce shortfalls. However, it is also noted that smaller sites and particularly primary schools can also serve a significant purpose as they can be at the heart of local communities, particularly in more rural areas.

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 providers 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 adult and/or youth 11v11 grass football pitches, 11v11 3G pitches or multi-use provision such as sports lit courts that can accommodate both tennis and netball activity given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students.

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

### **OBJECTIVE 2**

To enhance outdoor sport provision and ancillary 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.

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

#### **Pitch Advisory Service (PAS)**

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.

Pitch providers are encouraged to complete a self-assessment of pitches using the Football Foundation PitchPower app. In August 2022, PitchPower was re-launched, with enhanced capability to support use beyond football pitches and is now accessible for the assessment of natural turf pitches for cricket, rugby league and rugby union.

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 PitchPower Assessment**

The Premier League, The FA and the Football Foundation are increasing efforts to improve the quality of grass pitches in England with the launch of the PitchPower app. Launched in 2020 alongside the Football Foundation Pitch Preparation Fund, The app is a new digital self-assessment tool to allow reports and recommendations to be made more quickly and easily once submitted for review by GMA regional pitch advisors.

The tool across mobile app and desktop is open to access by all providers, for example clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower Assessment Report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches.

In addition to non-technical assessments, clubs and education sites across Hinckley & Bosworth continue to undertake PitchPower assessments as a means of improving the quality of provision. Consequently, it should be recommended through the PPOSS process for the local authority to support delivering any improvement to new sites that undertake PitchPower assessments.

## **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 funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund<sup>13</sup>, 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 good quality grass pitches by 2030. Clubs with good or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding to improve and sustain quality.

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, town and parish councils, education sites and charities. Local authorities are not currently eligible applicants, however, clubs, leagues and charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have permission from the landowner. Applicants are not required to have security of tenure to secure GPMF.

The Local Authority 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.

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<sup>13</sup> <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/grass-pitch-maintenance-fund>

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## 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).

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

Table 5.3: Capacity of pitches

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

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

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, to transfer to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity. Alternatively quality, 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 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). For bowls, a green is considered at capacity if it has over 80 members, whilst a membership of under 20 could be unsustainable.

For cricket, an increase in the usage of NTPs (or hybrid wickets when suitable) is key to alleviating overplay as this allows for the transfer of junior demand from grass wickets.

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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It also does not require any additional playing pitch space as NTPs can be installed adjacent to existing squares.

For rugby union, overplay can be reduced but not resolved through improvements to pitch maintenance or via capital drainage solutions. Market Bosworth RFC has a need for options outside of enhancing existing provision.

Specifically for tennis, the LTA has secured a £22 million investment fund to be put into public tennis courts across Britain, together with an £8.5 million investment from the LTA. This will see thousands of public park tennis courts that are in poor or unplayable condition improved for the benefit of the local communities.

For the improvement/replacement of 3G and hockey provision, this is most commonly linked to age, with any surfaces older than 10 years generally requiring replacement. Where pitches are provided, sinking funds should be put into place to ensure that refurbishment can take place when it is required. This is a requirement of Football Foundation funded pitches, as per its terms and conditions.

As mentioned earlier, there are also sites that are poor quality that 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 were 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 Hinckley & Bosworth, these are generally centred at either club or council managed sites.

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

The following sites are identified locally as ones where improvements are needed:

- ◀ Britannia Road Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Colts Close Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Markfield Jubilee Playing Field.
- ◀ Ratby Sports Club.
- ◀ Richmond Park.
- ◀ Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Stoke Golding Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Swallows Green.

It is worthy of note that providing dedicated facilities for one team clubs, unless competing at a high competitive level is not typically a worthwhile investment.

In addition, without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, good quality provision may be underutilised, especially by adults and female users who have more of a requirement. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer (although other provision can be key for income generation) and therefore key sites should be given priority for improvement. For the majority of sports, no senior league matches can take place without appropriate changing facilities and the same also applies to women's and girls' demand.

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

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

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

Partners, in collaboration with the Council, should ensure that appropriate funding is secured for improved sports provision and directed to areas of need. This should be underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in outdoor sport provision and accompanying ancillary facilities, with the PPOSS able to be used as an evidence base for attracting investment.

Furthermore, to address community need, target priority areas and reduce provision duplication, a coordinated approach to strategic investment is required. In delivering this recommendation, the Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners through the PPOSS Steering Group as well as with neighbouring local authorities. Cross-boundary developments can accommodate demand from within Hinckley & Bosworth (and vice versa) and lessen requirements within the Borough.

To attract investment, the Council should stay informed in relation to relevant and appropriate funding pots, both in regard to what it can directly attract as well as to what clubs could attract independently (with the Council able to assist with this process). This can also be helped through the PPOSS Steering Group signposting partners to what could be available.

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. This includes delivery from education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector and can be informed via the Stage E process, with the Steering Group to continue to meet following adoption of this study (see Part 8 for further details).

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

### **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 contributions. For housing developments, see Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios for further information, which uses the increase in population derived from housing growth and gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision.

For playing pitches, it is recommended the Council continue to 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 Local Authority working with Sport England to develop a process and guidance for obtaining developer contributions.

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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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.

For tennis, Sport England has been working with the LTA to add outdoor tennis courts to its Sports Facilities Calculator (SFC). The SFC helps quantify additional demand for community sports facilities generated by new growth populations, development, and regeneration areas. It is used to estimate facility needs for whole area populations but should not be applied for strategic gap analysis as it has no spatial dimension and does not take account of:

- ◀ Facility location compared to demand.
- ◀ Capacity and availability of facilities – opening hours.
- ◀ Cross boundary movement of demand.
- ◀ Travel networks and topography.
- ◀ Attractiveness of facilities.

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.

The preference from the Council, Sport England and the NGBs is generally for multi-pitch (or multi-facility) and potentially multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for further development in the future. This is because single pitches/facilities are more likely to become under-used (or unused), unviable and unsustainable, although it should be noted that there are certain circumstances in which they can be acceptable. An example of this is in rural areas whereby insufficient demand could exist to support a larger development.

Where new provision is agreed as inappropriate but where contributions to existing sites are instead to be sought, the PPOSS Action Plan should be used to identify suitable sites within the locality that should receive the funding. This may involve directing investment into provision most likely to receive demand from the housing development, or into provision that is most in need (e.g., due to quality issues).

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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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 in order to increase pitch capacity to accommodate more matches.

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 Service 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.

## OBJECTIVE 3

To provide new outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities where there is current or future demand to do so

### Recommendations:

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

### Recommendation (h) - 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 both for now and in the future. Maximising use of existing provision 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 pitch (or pitch type) for one sport to instead cater for another sport (or another pitch type).
- ◀ Securing community use at school sites including those currently unavailable.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.
- ◀ Exploring lease/management arrangements with appropriate clubs/organisations.
- ◀ Establishing additional sports lighting.
- ◀ Installing artificial surfaces (e.g., 3G pitches and NTPs).

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

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

The PPOSS identifies priority sites that should be focused upon, including those that are presently overplayed and/or poor quality as well as unused and unsecure sites that are particularly large. It also advises how issues can be overcome, typically through pitch quality improvements to increase the carrying capacity of pitches, securing community use agreements for sites that do not provide security of tenure to ensure spare capacity can be fully utilised, and gaining access to unavailable sites to increase the pitch stock available to the community.

### **Recommendation (i) - 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. The Action Plan lists recommendations for each site, focused upon qualitative improvements. However, as evidenced in Part 4, although there is value in improving quality, installing additional sports lighting, improving ancillary facilities, and enabling access to existing unused provision, capacity improvements may not offer significant capacity gains in the peak period to meet all shortfalls expressed, particularly for football. A strategic solution is considered to be necessary involving new pitches to address this scale of shortfall.

However, for rugby union Table 4.28 shows that given the amount of demand at Market Bosworth RFC, if maximum level quality improvements were to take place, shortfalls at the site would still be present. In this instance, other methods of addressing overplay should be explored such as the installation of additional provision, increased sports lighting or the creation of WR 3G pitches to move training demand away from the grass pitches.

Notwithstanding the above, large scale housing developments and the establishment of new schools may also necessitate the need for new provision. For housing developments see Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios for further information, which uses the increase in population derived from housing growth and gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision. Where new schools are developed, there is an opportunity to combine the building of the school to the development of a new multi-sport site that will be of a benefit to the school as well as the wider community, subject to any design issues and providing that long-term security of tenure can be provided.

For housing developments, as outlined in Recommendation (g), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can be used as a guide to inform requirements. See Part 7 for further information.

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## PART 6: ACTION PLAN

The site-by-site action plan seeks to address key issues identified in the preceding Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement. It 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. This is done via classifying sites as hub sites, key centres or local sites.

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

Table 6.1: Proposed tiered site criteria

Criteria	Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Site location	Strategically located in the Borough. 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 such as town or parish councils
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.

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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**Hub sites** are of an Borough 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 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 in the Action Plans below refers to the main organisations that the Local Authority (or the relevant provider) 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 Local Authority is considered to be a partner for each identified action (as the column indicates partners for the Local Authority) 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** level actions, as they have wide importance, high priority sites have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the key issues identified in the assessment. Therefore, some key centres and local sites are also identified as having a high priority level. It is these projects/sites which should generally, if possible, be addressed within the short term (1-2 years).

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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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. 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 £150k
- ◀ (M) - Medium - £150k-£750k
- ◀ (H) - High £750k and above

These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at: [Facility cost guidance | Sport England](#)

### 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.**

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

### Summary pitch sports (Central Analysis Area)

Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES (2041) <sup>14</sup>
<b>Football – grass pitches</b>	-	-	-
Central	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week
Central	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 4 MES per week	Shortfall of 6 MES per week
Central	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Central	Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week
Central	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
<b>Football – 3G pitches</b>	-	-	-
Central	11v11, floodlit	Shortfall of 1 pitch	-
<b>Rugby union</b>	-	-	-
Central	Senior	Shortfall of 3 MES per week	-
<b>Hockey</b>	-	-	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Full size, floodlit</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>
<b>Cricket pitches</b>	-	-	-
Central	Saturday	Actual spare capacity of 48 MES per week	-
Central	Sunday	Actual spare capacity of 36 MES per week	-
Central	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 102 MES per week	-

### Area recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
<b>Football</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> <li>◀ Improve pitch quality to reduce/alleviate overplay at sites (e.g. at Alans Way Sports Field)</li> <li>◀ Improve ancillary facilities where required and at key sites for the growth of female and adult participation (e.g. at Market Bosworth Sports Club).</li> <li>◀ Seek to provide security of tenure for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity.</li> </ul>
<b>3G pitches</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> <li>◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability and pitch resurfacing when required (e.g. at Bosworth Academy)</li> <li>◀ Explore creation of 3G pitches that are both football and rugby compliant when alleviating shortfalls (e.g. Market Bosworth RFC).</li> </ul>
<b>Rugby union</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> <li>◀ Improve quality to reduce overplay and consider installing sports lighting to allow for training demand to be dispersed (e.g. at Market Bosworth RFC).</li> </ul>
<b>Hockey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> </ul>

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

<sup>14</sup> Future demand (2041) is determined via Local Plan forecasts and club aspirations identified in PPOSS Assessment Report (2024).

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Encourage football users to transfer to 3G pitch provision as and when new 3G pitches are provided to free up capacity for hockey (e.g. at Bosworth Academy).</li> <li>◀ Resurface pitch at Market Bosworth School Sports Ground to improve quality and ensure sinking fun is in place for long-term sustainability.</li> </ul>
<b>Cricket</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> <li>◀ Sustain quality of squares through dedicated maintenance regimes.</li> <li>◀ Improve changing facilities where required.</li> </ul>
<b>Netball</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> <li>◀ Improve changing facilities where required.</li> </ul>
<b>Tennis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> <li>◀ Seek to improve park courts such as Bosworth Road Recreation Ground.</li> </ul>
<b>Bowls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision and sustain quality to adequately meet demand.</li> </ul>
<b>Golf</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ N/A.</li> </ul>
<b>Athletics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ N/A.</li> </ul>
<b>Other grass pitch sports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ N/A.</li> </ul>

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

**CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Alans Way Sports Field	LE9 9LB	Football	Parish Council	One youth 11v11 and one mini 5v5 pitches are assessed as poor quality. Two youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 are assessed as standard quality. The youth 11v11 pitches are overplayed. The youth 9v9 pitches have actual spare capacity. Both the mini 7v7 and 5v5 pitches have spare capacity discounted due to poor quality. Serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay to create actual spare capacity. Improve quality of ancillary provision.	FA FF	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Provide Enhance
1	Alans Way Sports Field	LE9 9LB	3G	Parish Council	One good quality smaller sized 3G pitch which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting. It was installed in 2021.	Sustain quality and retain for continued recreational demand.	FA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Provide
1	Alans Way Sports Field	LE9 9LB	Cricket	Parish Council	One standard quality cricket square with an accompanying NTP, accessed by Newbold Verdon CC. The square has eight match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Serviced by standard quality ancillary provision. The Club wants permanent non-turf nets to enable training away from the square and outfield.	Seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Improve quality of ancillary provision. Support aspirations for the creation of non-turf nets on site.	LRCF ECB	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
5	Barlestone Bowls Club	CV13 0JE	Bowls	Parish Council	One standard quality bowling green, used by Barlestone BC.	Improve green quality.	Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide Enhance
6	Barlestone C of E Primary School	CV13 0EP	Football	Education	One poor quality 11v11 pitch, which is available for community use.	Improve pitch quality.	Education FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
7	Barlestone St Giles Football Club	CV13 0EP	Football	Sports Club	Two adult pitches and one mini 7v7 pitch, all assessed as poor quality. The adult pitches are overplayed and the mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity discounted due to poor quality. Serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay and/or create actual spare capacity. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	Club FA FF	Local	L	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
12	Bosworth Academy	LE9 9JL	Football	Education	One youth 11v11, two youth 9v9 and three mini 7v7 pitches, all assessed as standard quality. The pitches have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. Identified for grass improvements in LFFP.	Improve quality to create actual spare capacity and seek to establish a community use agreement for club users to provide security of tenure. Retain in updated LFFP given standard quality.	Education FA FF	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Provide Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
12	Bosworth Academy	LE9 9JL	3G	Education	One good quality 11v11 3G pitch, which is available for community use and FA approved, but not serviced by sports lighting. The pitch was installed in 2021. One poor quality smaller sized 3G pitch (covered) which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting. The pitch was last resurfaced in 2011.	Sustain quality and ensure sinking funds are in place for long term sustainability that FA testing takes place every three years.	Education FA FF	Key centre	H	S	L	Protect Provide
12	Bosworth Academy	LE9 9JL	Rugby Union	Education	One standard quality senior pitch, which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for continued curricular usage and for community use should club demand exist in the future.	Education RFU	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
12	Bosworth Academy	LE9 9JL	Tennis	Education	Three good quality macadam courts, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain court quality.	Education LTA	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Provide
12	Bosworth Academy	LE9 9JL	Netball	Education	Five good quality macadam courts, with three serviced by sports lighting and all are available for community use.	Sustain court quality.	Education EN	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Provide
13	Bosworth Road Recreation Ground	CV13 0HU	Tennis	Parish Council	One poor quality macadam court, which are available for community use but is not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve court quality to better accommodate demand and explore providing sports lighting to better accommodate recreational demand and to increase capacity.	LTA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
21	Caterpillar Pitches	LE9 9JT	Football	Commercial	One standard quality and one poor quality adult pitch. One youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, which are all assessed as poor quality. Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality and unsecure tenure. Identified for grass pitch improvements in LFFP. Allocated in the development plan as an Outdoor Sports Facility (DES26) which seeks to protect playing fields from being built on.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity. Retain in updated LFFP given standard quality. Ensure continued protection of the provision as playing fields for wider community use, should development proposals proceed, ensure appropriate mitigation in accordance national planning policy.	FA FF	Hub site	H	L	H	Protect
24	Desford Bowling Club	LE9 9JU	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality bowling green, which is used by Desford BC.	Improve green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
46	Kirkby Road Playing Fields	LE9 9JG	Football	Parish Council	One good quality adult and one youth 11v11 pitch, which have actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality.	FA FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
50	Market Bosworth Bowling Club	CV13 0AX	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality bowling green, which is used by Market Bosworth BC.	Improve green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
51	Market Bosworth RFC	CV13 0BA	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Three standard quality senior pitches, one good quality senior pitch and one good quality age	Improve quality to reduce overplay and consider the installation of additional sports lighting to further	Club RFU	Hub site	H	L	M	Protect Provide Enhance

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					grade pitch. Only one of the senior standard quality pitches is serviced by sports lighting, which is overplayed along with the age grade pitch. The remaining pitches have actual spare capacity. Serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	reduce it. However, this is not clear as to whether this would be possible from a planning perspective. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.						
52	Market Bosworth Sports Club	CV13 6PD	Football	Sports Club	One adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9, mini 7v7, 5v5, all assessed at good quality. The adult and mini 5v5 pitch have actual spare capacity. The youth 11v11, 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches are played to capacity at peak time. Serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality and seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Sustain quality of ancillary facilities.	Club FA FF	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Provide Enhance
52	Market Bosworth Sports Club	CV13 6PD	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality cricket square which is accessed by Atherstone Town CC (imported). The square has 19 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.	Seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Sustain quality of ancillary facilities.	Club LRCF ECB	Key centre	H	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
53	Market Bosworth Tennis Club	CV13 6PD	Tennis	Sports Club	Three good quality macadam and three good quality artificial courts, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	Club LTA	Local	M	L	L	Protect
59	Newbold Verdon Primary School	LE9 9NG	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches, which are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	Education FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
65	Saint Martin's Catholic Academy	CV13 6BF	Football	Education	Three standard quality adult pitches, which are available for community use but have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve quality to create actual spare capacity and seek to establish a community use agreement to club users to provide security of tenure.	Education FA FF	Local	L	M	M	Protect Provide Enhance
65	Saint Martin's Catholic Academy	CV13 6BF	Cricket	Education	One standalone NTP, which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	Education LRCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
65	Saint Martin's Catholic Academy	CV13 6BF	Netball	Education	One poor quality macadam court, which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use.	Education EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
69	Spindles Health & Leisure (Warwickshire)	CV13 0LP	Tennis	Industry Sports Club	Three poor quality macadam courts, which are not available for wider community use but is serviced by sports lighting.	Improve court quality to better accommodate demand and explore providing sports lighting to better accommodate demand and to increase capacity.	Club LTA	Local	M	S	M	Protect
70	Sport in Desford	LE9 9JU	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch, which has actual spare capacity.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites.	Club FA FF	Hub site	H	L	H	Protect Enhance

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					Ancillary facilities are not currently adequate and insufficient to progress its senior men's team.	Improve quality of ancillary facilities. Ensure continued protection of the provision as playing fields for wider community use, should development proposals proceed, ensure appropriate mitigation in accordance national planning policy.						
70	Sport in Desford	LE9 9JU	Tennis	Sports Club	Three good quality macadam and two standard quality macadam courts, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Improve court quality to better accommodate demand and explore providing sports lighting to better accommodate demand and to increase capacity.	Club LTA	Hub site	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
70	Sport in Desford	LE9 9JU	Netball	Sports Club	Two standard quality macadam courts, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate club demand.	Club EN	Hub site	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
71	St Peter's CE Primary Academy	CV13 0NP	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches, which are unavailable for community use	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	Education FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
73	Stapleton Village Cricket Club	LE9 8JJ	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass cricket square, which is accompanied by an NTP and used by Stapleton CC and Newbold Verdon CC. The square has 17 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities. The club requires practice nets.	Seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Support club aspirations to install practice nets.	Club LRCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
74	Stoke Golding Recreation Ground	CV13 6EA	Football	Parish Council	One youth 11v11, one mini 7v7, and two mini 5v5 pitches, all assessed as poor quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed, the mini 7v7 pitch is played at capacity and the mini 5v5 pitches spare capacity discounted due to poor quality. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	FA FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
74	Stoke Golding Recreation Ground	CV13 6EA	Cricket	Parish Council	One standard quality cricket square which is unused by an affiliated cricket club. The square has 32 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	LRCF ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
76	The Dixie Grammar School Sports Ground	CV13 0LQ	Football	Education	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9, both assessed as good quality. The pitches are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls. If provided, seek long term security of tenure for users.	Education FA FF	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
76	The Dixie Grammar School Sports Ground	CV13 0LQ	Rugby Union	Education	One good quality senior pitch, which is not available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for curricular demand.	Education RFU	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
76	The Dixie Grammar School Sports Ground	CV13 0LQ	Hockey	Education	One sand-based standard quality pitch, which is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. The pitch was last resurfaced in 2014.	Protect the pitch for continued internal hockey use and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	Education EH	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
76	The Dixie Grammar School Sports Ground	CV13 0LQ	Cricket	Education	One standalone NTP, which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	Education LRCF ECB	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
77	The Market Bosworth High School	CV13 0JT	Football	Education	Two poor quality 11v11 youth pitches, which are available for community use but have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to establish actual spare capacity and seek to establish a community use agreement for club users to provide security of tenure.	Education FA FF	Local	M	L	L	Protect
77	The Market Bosworth High School	CV13 0JT	Rugby Union	Education	One poor quality senior pitch, which is community use but serviced by sports lighting. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure, with school usage also likely to limit capacity.	Improve quality for curricular demand and retain as community available should club demand exist in the future.	Education RFU	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
77	The Market Bosworth High School	CV13 0JT	Cricket	Education	One standalone NTP, which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	Education LRCF ECB	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
77	The Market Bosworth High School	CV13 0JT	Tennis	Education	Three poor quality macadam courts, which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve court quality and explore opportunities to install sports lighting to increase capacity and help attract demand.	Education EN	Local	L	M	M	Protect Enhance
91	The Dixie Grammar School	CV13 0LE	Tennis	Education	One poor quality macadam court, which is neither available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use.	Education LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## NORTH EAST & LEICESTER ANALYSIS AREA

### Summary pitch sports (North East & Leicester Analysis Area)

Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES (2041) <sup>15</sup>
<b>Football – grass pitches</b>	-	-	-
North East & Leicester	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week	Played to capacity
North East & Leicester	Youth 11v11	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1 MES per week
North East & Leicester	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 2.5 MES per week
North East & Leicester	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week
North East & Leicester	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week	Played to capacity
<b>Football – 3G pitches</b>	-	-	-
North East & Leicester	11v11, floodlit	Shortfall of 1 pitch	-
<b>Rugby union</b>	-	-	-
North East & Leicester	Senior	Played to capacity	-
<b>Hockey</b>	-	-	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Full size, floodlit</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>
<b>Cricket pitches</b>	-	-	-
North East & Leicester	Saturday	Shortfall of 33 MES per week	-
North East & Leicester	Sunday	Shortfall of 33 MES per week	-
North East & Leicester	Midweek	Shortfall of 33 MES per week	-

### Area recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
<b>Football</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⚡ Protect provision.</li> <li>⚡ Improve quality to eradicate overplay (e.g. at Ratby Sports Club).</li> <li>⚡ Improve ancillary facilities at sites where to lack of changing facilities is affecting growth of clubs (e.g. at Ratby Sports Club).</li> <li>⚡ Seek to provide community use for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity (e.g. at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus).</li> <li>⚡ Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity (e.g. at Marina Park).</li> </ul>
<b>3G pitches</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⚡ Protect provision.</li> <li>⚡ Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long term sustainability (e.g. at South Charnwood High School).</li> <li>⚡ Support 3G aspirations to meet area shortfalls (e.g in the Groby area).</li> </ul>
<b>Rugby union</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⚡ Protect provision.</li> <li>⚡ Improve pitch quality to better accommodate curricular usage and retain as community available (e.g. at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus).</li> </ul>
<b>Hockey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⚡ Protect provision.</li> <li>⚡ Encourage football users to transfer to 3G pitch provision as and when new 3G pitches are provided to free up capacity for hockey (e.g. at South Charnwood High School).</li> </ul>

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

<sup>15</sup> Future demand (2041) is determined via Local Plan forecasts and club aspirations identified in PPOSS Assessment Report (2024).

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Resurface pitch at Brookvale Broby Learning Campus to improve quality and ensure sinking fun is in place for long-term sustainability.</li> </ul>
<b>Cricket</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> <li>◀ Sustain quality of squares through dedicated maintenance regimes.</li> <li>◀ Reduce overplay at Markfield Jubilee Playing Fields and Ratby Sports Club.</li> <li>◀ Improve changing facilities where required.</li> </ul>
<b>Netball</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> <li>◀ Improve changing facilities where required.</li> </ul>
<b>Tennis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> </ul>
<b>Bowls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> </ul>
<b>Golf</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Protect provision.</li> </ul>
<b>Athletics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ N/A</li> </ul>
<b>Other grass pitch sports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ N/A</li> </ul>

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

**NORTH EAST & LEICESTER ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
3	Bagworth Bowling Club	LE67 1BH	Bowls	Parish Council	One standard quality bowling green, which is used by Bagworth BC.	Improve green quality.	Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect
4	Bagworth Colliery Sports Ground	LE67 1BJ	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch, which is played at capacity. Serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	LE6 0GE	Football	Education	Three youth 11v11, three youth 9v9, three mini 7v7 and three 5v5 pitches and are all assessed as standard quality. Spare capacity either discounted due to unsecure tenure or played to capacity. Identified for grass pitch improvements in LFFP.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and seek to establish a community use agreement for club users to provide security of tenure. Retain in updated LFFP given standard quality.	Education FA FF	Key site	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	LE6 0GE	Rugby Union	Education	One poor quality senior pitch, which is available for community use but is not serviced by sports lighting. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure, with school usage also likely to limit capacity.	Improve quality and retain as community available should club demand exist in the future.	Education RFU	Key site	M	M	L	Protect Provide Enhance
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	LE6 0GE	Hockey	Education	One sand-dressed poor quality pitch, which is community use and serviced by sports lighting. The pitch was installed in 2012. Used by Bedouins HC, Horizon HC, South Wigston HC, Panthers HC	Resurface pitch for hockey usage and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Ensure community use agreement is secured for club users to continue to provide security of tenure.	Education EH	Key site	H	L	H	Protect Enhance Provide
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	LE6 0GE	Cricket	Education	One standalone NTP, which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	Education LRCF ECB	Key site	L	L	L	Protect
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	LE6 0GE	Tennis	Education	One poor quality macadam court, which is neither available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use and then explore community use options.	Education LTA	Key site	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
15	Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	LE6 0GE	Netball	Education	One poor quality macadam court, which is neither available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use and then explore community use options.	Education EN	Key site	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
20	Burroughs Park	LE6 0XZ	Football	Local Authority	One standard quality adult pitch, which has actual spare capacity	Improve pitch quality and utilise capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
28	Forest Hill Golf Club	LE9 9FH	Golf	Private	One standard 18-hole course.	Retain course and ensure quality is maintained appropriately.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
49	Marina Park	LE6 0EE	Football	Local Authority	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches, which have actual spare capacity.	Improve pitch quality and utilise capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
54	Markfield Community Sports Centre	LE67 9ST	Hockey	Local Authority	One poor quality smaller sized sand-based pitch, which is community use and is serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality and retain for continued recreational demand.	EH	Local				Protect Enhance
55	Markfield Jubilee Playing Fields	LE67 9PX	Football	Parish Council	One youth 11v11 and one mini 5v5 pitch assessed as good quality. One youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 pitch, assessed as standard quality. The youth 9v9 and good quality mini 5v5 pitch has actual spare capacity. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality and seek to utilise capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	FA FF	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Provide
55	Markfield Jubilee Playing Fields	LE67 9PX	Cricket	Parish Council	One standard quality grass wicket square, which is accessed by Cropston CC (imported). The square has is overplayed by eight match equivalent sessions. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve square quality to reduce overplay and install an NTP to eradicate it through the transfer of demand away from the grass wickets. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	LRCF ECB	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect Provide
56	Mercenfield Primary School	LE67 9WG	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, which is unavailable for community use.	Improve pitch quality for curricular and extra-curricular usage.	Education FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
62	Ratby Sports Club	LE6 0LE	Football	Sports Club	One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, five mini 7v7, and three mini 5v5 pitches assessed as poor quality. The youth 11v11, mini 7v7 and 5v5 pitches have spare capacity discounted due to poor quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed. Identified for grass pitch improvements in LFFP. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and/or reduce overplay. Retain in updated LFFP. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	Club FA FF	Key centre	H	M	M	Protect Provide
62	Ratby Sports Club	LE6 0LE	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass cricket square, which is accompanied by an NTP and accessed by Ratby Town CC. The square is overplayed by 25 match equivalent sessions. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and utilise the NTP better for junior cricket. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	Club LRCF ECB	Key centre	H	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
68	South Charnwood High School	LE67 9TB	Football	Education	Two poor quality adult pitches, which are available for community use and played to capacity. Identified for grass pitch improvements in LFFP.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity. Seek to establish a community use agreement for club users to provide security of tenure. Retain in updated LFFP given poor quality pitches.	Education FA FF	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
68	South Charnwood High School	LE67 9TB	3G	Education	One good quality 11v11 3G pitch, which is available for community use, serviced by sports lighting and FA approved. The pitch was installed in 2021.	Sustain quality and ensure sinking funds are in place for long term sustainability that FA testing takes place every three years.	Education FA FF	Key centre	H	S	L	Protect

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
68	South Charnwood High School	LE67 9TB	Cricket	Education	One standalone NTP, which is available for community use but unused.	Retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	Education LRCF ECB	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
68	South Charnwood High School	LE67 9TB	Tennis	Education	Two poor quality macadam courts, which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore options of installing sports lighting to increase capacity and attract demand.	Education LTA	Key centre	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
68	South Charnwood High School	LE67 9TB	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam courts, which are available for community use which are not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore options of installing sports lighting to increase capacity and attract demand.	Education LTA	Key centre	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
72	Stamford Park	LE6 0YD	Football	Parish Council	One mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 which are assessed as standard quality. The pitches have actual spare capacity.	Improve pitch quality and seek to utilise capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand.	FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
78	The Old Quarry Playing Fields	LE6 0BX	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch, which has spare capacity is discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## URBAN SOUTH ANALYSIS AREA

### Summary pitch sports (Urban South Analysis Area)

Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES (2041) <sup>16</sup>
<b>Football – grass pitches</b>	-	-	-
Urban South	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 MES per week
Urban South	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 8 MES per week	Shortfall of 11 MES per week
Urban South	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 3.5 MES per week
Urban South	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Urban South	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week
<b>Football – 3G pitches</b>	-	-	-
Urban South	11v11, floodlit	Shortfall of 2 pitches	-
<b>Rugby union</b>	-	-	-
Urban South	Senior	Played to capacity	-
<b>Hockey</b>	-	-	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Full size, floodlit</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>
<b>Cricket pitches</b>	-	-	-
Urban South	Saturday	Shortfall of 43 MES per week	-
Urban South	Sunday	Shortfall of 28 MES per week	-
Urban South	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 33 MES per week	-

### Area recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
<b>Football</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⚡ Protect provision.</li> <li>⚡ Improve pitch quality to reduce/alleviate overplay at sites (e.g. at Clarendon Park).</li> <li>⚡ Seek to provide community use for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity (e.g. at Barwell C of E Academy).</li> <li>⚡ Improve ancillary facilities where required and at key sites for the growth of female and adult participation (e.g. at Richmond Park and Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground).</li> </ul>
<b>3G pitches</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⚡ Protect provision.</li> <li>⚡ Look to improve 3G pitches which has exceeded the recommended ten-year life span (e.g. at Hinckley Rugby Football Club and Hinckley Club for Young People).</li> <li>⚡ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability at sites providing existing or new 3G pitches.</li> </ul>

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

<sup>16</sup> Future demand (2041) is determined via Local Plan forecasts and club aspirations identified in PPOSS Assessment Report (2024).

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Headline findings</b>
<b>Rugby union</b>	◀ Protect provision.
<b>Hockey</b>	◀ N/A.
<b>Netball</b>	◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve changing facilities where required.
<b>Tennis</b>	◀ Protect provision. ◀ Seek to improve park courts such as Hollycroft Park (Bosworth).
<b>Bowls</b>	◀ Protect provision.
<b>Golf</b>	◀ Protect provision.
<b>Athletics</b>	◀ N/A.
<b>Other grass pitch sports</b>	◀ N/A.

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

**URBAN SOUTH ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
2	Ashby Road Sports Club	LE10 1SU	Football	Sports Club	One adult and one mini 7v7 pitches, assessed as standard quality. The adult pitch is played to capacity at peak time. The mini 7v7 has actual spare capacity. Serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	Club FA FF	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
2	Ashby Road Sports Club	LE10 1SU	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass wicket square, which is accessed by Hinckley Amateur CC. The square is overplayed by 21 match equivalent sessions. Identified by LRCF to increase women/girls' cricket offering.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and/or install an NTP through the transfer of demand away from the grass wickets. Alternatively (or additionally), explore creation of hybrid provision on site. Work with the Club to grow its women's/girls cricket offering.	Club LRCF ECB	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
8	Barwell Bowling Club	LE9 8FQ	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality bowling green, which is used by Barwell BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
9	Barwell C of E Academy	LE9 8DS	Football	Education	One youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitches, which are available for community use and assessed as standard quality. The pitches have spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve pitch quality and seek to establish a community use agreement for club users to provide security of tenure.	Education FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
10	Barwell Cricket and Sports Club	LE9 8FG	3G	Sports Club	One good quality 11v11 3G pitch, which is available for community use, serviced by sports lighting and FA approved. The pitch was installed in 2022.	Sustain quality and ensure sinking funds are in place for long term sustainability that FA testing takes place every three years.	Club FA FF	Key centre	H	S	L	Protect
10	Barwell Cricket and Sports Club	LE9 8FG	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality grass wicket square, which is accessed by Barwell CC. The square has 36 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Serviced by good quality ancillary facilities. Identified by LRCF to increase women/girls' cricket offering.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Sustain quality of ancillary facilities. Work with the Club to grow its women's/girls cricket offering.	Club LRCF ECB	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
11	Battling Brook Primary School	LE10 0EX	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is available for community use and played to capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity.	Education FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
11	Battling Brook Primary School	LE10 0EX	3G	Education	One poor quality smaller sized 3G pitch which is neither available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting. It was installed in 2006.	Improve surface quality for curricular use.	Education FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
14	Britannia Road Recreation Ground	LE10 2HF	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch and one youth 11v11 pitch, both assessed as good quality. The pitches have actual spare capacity. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality and seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	FA FF	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect
14	Britannia Road Recreation Ground	LE10 2HF	Rugby Union	Parish Council	One poor quality senior pitch, which is not serviced by sports lighting. Pitches are accessed by Burbage RUFC and overplayed. Serviced by poor ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay and consider installing sports lighting. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	RFU	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
17	Burbage & District Constitutional Club	LE10 2DE	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality bowling green, which is used by Burbage & District Constitutional BC.	Improve green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect
18	Burbage Crusaders Bowls Club	LE10 2UE	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality bowling green, which is used by Burbage Crusaders BC and Burgess BC.	Improve green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect
19	Burbage Junior School	LE10 2AD	Football	Education	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular use.	Education FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
19	Burbage Junior School	LE10 2AD	Cricket	Education	One standalone NTP, which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	Education LRFC, ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
22	Clarendon Park	LE10 0UE	Football	Local Authority	One standard quality adult pitch and one poor quality adult pitch. The standard quality is played to capacity at peak time and the poor quality adult pitch is overplayed. Identified for grass pitch improvements in LFFP. Serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and/or reduce overplay. Retain in updated LFFP improvements given overplay. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	FA FF	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
22	Clarendon Park	LE10 0UE	Athletics	Local Authority	Informal grass 400m track to cater for recreational and/or informal demand and is used by the public, albeit on an informal basis.	Sustain provision to continue to accommodate recreational demand.	England Athletics	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
23	Colts Close Recreation Park	LE10 2HH	Football	Parish Council	Two good quality youth 9v9 pitches, which have actual spare capacity. Serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
27	Dovecote Pavilion	LE9 8EX	Football	Sports Club	One adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and two 5v5 pitches, all assessed as good quality. The adult and mini 5v5 pitch have actual spare capacity. The youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and	Sustain quality and seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Club FA FF	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					mini 7v7 pitches are played to capacity at peak time.							
30	Hastings High School	LE10 2QE	Football	Education	One adult, two youth 11v11, and two youth 9v9, which are available for community use and assessed as poor quality.  The adult pitch is played to capacity, whereas the youth 11v11 and 9v9 pitches are overplayed.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and/or eradicate overplay.	Education FA FF	Local	L	M	M	Protect Provide Enhance
30	Hastings High School	LE10 2QE	Tennis	Education	Six poor quality macadam courts, which are neither available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use.	Education LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
30	Hastings High School	LE10 2QE	Netball	Education	Four poor quality macadam courts, which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Education EN	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
31	Heath Lane Academy	LE9 7PD	Football	Education	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches, which are available for community use and played to capacity at peak time.	Improve quality to create actual spare capacity and seek to establish a community use agreement for club users to provide security of tenure.	Education FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
31	Heath Lane Academy	LE9 7PD	Hockey	Education	One standard quality full size sand-based pitch, which is community use and serviced by sports lighting. The pitch was installed in 2015.	Resurface pitch for hockey usage and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	Education EH	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
31	Heath Lane Academy	LE9 7PD	Tennis	Education	Four standard quality macadam and three poor quality macadam courts, which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and explore options of providing additional sports lighting on the poor quality courts to increase capacity.	Education LTA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
31	Heath Lane Academy	LE9 7PD	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam and three poor quality macadam courts, which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and explore options of providing additional sports lighting on the poor quality courts to increase capacity.	Education LTA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
33	Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre	LE10 1LE	Football	Education	Two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches, which are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options with the school given shortfalls.	Education FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
33	Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre	LE10 1LE	Rugby Union	Education	One poor quality senior pitch, which is neither available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting.  Two disused senior rugby union pitches last used circa 2019. This is mainly due to the pitches being located a distance from the main building.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular demand.  Consider re-instating the senior pitches to better accommodate school usage.	Education RFU	Local	M	S	M	Protect

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
33	Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre	LE10 1LE	Hockey	Education	One poor quality full size sand-based pitch, which is unavailable for community use but is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch was installed in 2008.	Resurface pitch for internal hockey usage and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	Education EH	Local	L	L	H	Protect
33	Hinckley Academy & John Cleveland Sixth Form Centre	LE10 1LE	Tennis	Education	Two poor quality macadam courts, which are neither available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use.	Education LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
34	Hinckley Bowling Club	LE10 1EX	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality bowling green, which is used by Hinckley BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
35	Hinckley Club for Young People	LE10 0DZ	Football	Trust	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch which has actual spare capacity.	Improve quality and seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	Trust FA FF	Key centre	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
35	Hinckley Club for Young People	LE10 0DZ	3G	Trust	One standard quality and one poor quality smaller sized 3G pitches, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. The standard quality pitch was installed in 2019 and the poor quality was last resurfaced in 2008.	Improve quality to better accommodate community demand.	Trust FA FF	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
37	Hinckley Golf Club	LE10 3DR	Golf	Private	One standard 18-hole course.	Retain course and ensure quality is maintained appropriately.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
38	Hinckley Parks Primary School	LE10 1LP	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitches, both assessed as poor quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is played to capacity, whereas the mini 7v7 pitch has spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and seek to establish a community use agreement for club users to provide security of tenure.	Education FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
38	Hinckley Parks Primary School	LE10 1LP	Cricket	Education	One standalone NTP, which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	Education LRCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
39	Hinckley Road Recreation Ground	LE10 2AF	Cricket	Local Authority	One standard quality grass wicket square, which is accessed by Burbage & Stoke Golding CC. The square has 29 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Serviced by good quality ancillary facilities. The Club wishes to have a mobile cage.	Seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Sustain quality of ancillary provision. Support aspirations for the installation of a mobile cage.	LRCF ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
40	Hinckley Rugby Football Club	LE10 3DR	3G	Sports Club	One standard quality 11v11 sized 3G pitch and is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is not	Improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Also look to undertake FA testing to	Club FA FF	Hub site	H	M	H	Protect Provide Enhance

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					currently FA approved. The pitch was installed in 2014. The pitch has recently had planning permission granted (24/00017/FUL) for the replacement of the pitch with a shock pad to allow for rugby union use.	allow the pitch to be used for match play. Explore the feasibility of testing the pitch for World Rugby compliancy to allow for contact training.						
40	Hinckley Rugby Football Club	LE10 3DR	Rugby union	Sports Club	Two good quality senior pitches, which are both serviced by sports lighting. Two good quality age graded pitches, which are not serviced by sports lighting. Seven unposted good quality age graded pitches which are not serviced by sports lighting. Serviced by good ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality and consider installing additional sports lighting to further increase capacity. Sustain quality of ancillary facilities.	Club RFU	Hub site	H	M	M	Protect Provide Enhance
41	Hinckley Sweet Pea Bowling Club	LE10 0PN	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality bowling green, which is used by Hinckley Sweet Pea BC.	Improve green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect
42	Hinckley Town Cricket Club	LE10 3DR	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality grass wicket square, which is accompanied by an NTP and accessed by Hinckley Town CC and Barwell CC. The square has 19 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Serviced by good quality ancillary facilities. Identified by LRCF to increase women's and girl's cricket offering.	Seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Sustain quality of ancillary provision. Work with the Club to grow its women's/girls cricket offering.	Club LRCF ECB	Hub site	H	M	L	Protect Provide Enhance
43	Hollycroft Park (Bosworth)	LE10 0BG	Bowls	Local Authority	One standard quality bowling green, which is used by Hollycroft Park BC.	Improve green quality.	Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	Protect
43	Hollycroft Park (Bosworth)	LE10 0BG	Tennis	Local Authority	Two standard quality macadam courts, which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve court quality to better accommodate demand and explore the option of providing sports lighting to increase capacity.	LTA	Key site	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
44	Keats Lane Playing Field	LE9 7DS	Cricket	Sports Club	A good quality grass wicket square, which is accompanied by an NTP and accessed by Earl Shilton CC. The square has 37 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Serviced by good quality ancillary facilities. Identified by LRCF to increase women/girls' cricket offering.	Seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Sustain quality of ancillary provision. Work with the Club to grow its women's/girls cricket offering.	Club LRCF ECB	Key site	M	M	L	Protect Enhance

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
45	Kingscroft Bowls Club	LE9 7NL	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality bowling green, which is used by Kingscroft BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
47	Langdale Park	LE10 0TX	Football	Local Authority	One standard quality adult pitch, which has actual spare capacity.	Improve quality and seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
47	Langdale Park	LE10 0TX	Cricket	Local Authority	One poor quality grass wicket square, which is accessed by Bombay CC. The square is overplayed by 22 match equivalent sessions. Serviced by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and/or install an NTP through the transfer of demand away from the grass wickets. Alternatively (or additionally), explore creation of hybrid provision on site. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	LRCF ECB	Local	L	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
48	Leicester Road Stadium (stadia pitch)	LE10 3DR	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch, which has spare capacity discounted due to being a stadia pitch. The site is home to Hinckley AFC. Serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality. The Club should be supported with improving the stadia site to meet the stadium to meet FA Ground Grading requirements should also be supported to allow its progression in the football pyramid. Sustain quality of ancillary facilities.	Club FA FF	Key centre	M	S	H	Protect Provide Enhance
54	Markfield Community Sports Centre	LE67 9ST	Hockey	Local Authority	One sand-based smaller sized pitch, which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for continued recreational demand.	EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
63	Redmoor Academy	LE10 0EP	Football	Education	One youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, and one mini 7v7 pitches, which is available for community use and all assessed as poor quality. The youth 11v11 and 9v9 pitches are overplayed. The mini 7v7 spare capacity is discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and/or alleviate overplay.	Education FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
63	Redmoor Academy	LE10 0EP	Cricket	Education	One standalone NTP, which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	Education LRCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
63	Redmoor Academy	LE10 0EP	Tennis	Education	Three standard quality macadam courts, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Improve court quality for curricular usage.	Education LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
63	Redmoor Academy	LE10 0EP	Netball	Education	Three standard quality macadam courts, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Improve court quality for curricular usage.	Education LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
64	Richmond Park	LE10 0DZ	Football	Local Authority	One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitches, all assessed as good	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity.	FA FF	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					quality. One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitches, both assessed as standard quality. The youth 11v11, the youth 9v9, the standard quality mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches, are all played to capacity at peak times. The good quality mini 7v7 has actual spare capacity. Identified for grass pitch improvements in LFFP.	Retain in updated LFFP given quality of pitches.						
66	Sketchley Hill Primary School	LE10 2DY	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch, which is played to capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and seek to establish a community use agreement for club users to provide security of tenure.	Education FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
67	Sketchley Hill Recreation Ground	LE10 2PP	Football	Parish Council	Three mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 pitches, all assessed as good quality and have actual spare capacity. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities	Sustain pitch quality and seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
75	Swallows Green	LE10 1UH	Football	Parish Council	Two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches, which are assessed as standard quality. The mini 7v7 pitches are played to capacity at peak time. The mini 5v5 pitch has actual spare capacity.	Improve pitch to create actual spare capacity.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
75	Swallows Green	LE10 1UH	Cricket	Local Authority	One standard quality grass cricket square accessed by Hinckley Amateur CC. The square has eight match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	LRCF ECB	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
82	Weavers Springs Park	LE9 7AE	Football	Parish Council	Two adult, one youth 11v11, and one youth 9v9 pitches all assessed as poor quality. The adult pitch spare capacity has spare capacity discounted due to poor quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed. Serviced by poor quality ancillary provision. S106 monies is in the process of being secured for pitch improvements work and a new clubhouse building.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity and/or alleviate overplay. Improve quality of ancillary provision.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide Enhance

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
83	Westfield Junior School	LE10 0LT	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5, both assessed as standard quality. They are played to capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity. Seek to establish a community use agreement for club users to provide security of tenure.	Education FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
86	Dorothy Goodman School	LE10 1SS	3G	Education	One standard quality smaller sized 3G pitch which is neither available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting. It was installed in 2019.	Retain for continued curricular usage.	Education FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
87	Hinckley Town Tennis Club	LE10 3DR	Tennis	Sports Club	Four standard quality macadam courts, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Improve court quality to better accommodate club demand.	Club LTA	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
90	Hinckley Netball Club	LE10 3DR	Netball	Sports Club	Two good quality macadam courts, which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain court quality.	Club EN	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
-	Land West of Hinckley, West	LE10 3BZ	Football Tennis Netball	Local Authority	The Council has a planning application submitted to create three adult football pitches as part of the Land West of Hinckley development.	Progress site development relative to on-going work with partners.	Council	-	-	-	-	-

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## WEST ANALYSIS AREA

### Summary pitch sports (West Analysis Area)

Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES (2041) <sup>17</sup>
<b>Football – grass pitches</b>	-	-	-
West	Adult	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
West	Youth 11v11	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
West	Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
West	Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
West	Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
<b>Football – 3G pitches</b>	-	-	-
West	11v11	Played to capacity	-
<b>Rugby union</b>	-	-	-
West	Senior	Played to capacity	-
<b>Hockey</b>	-	-	-
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	<b>Full size, floodlit</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>	<b>Played to capacity</b>
<b>Cricket pitches</b>	-	-	-
West	Saturday	Played to capacity	West
West	Sunday	Actual spare capacity of 12 MES per week	West
West	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 23 MES per week	West

### Area recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
<b>Football</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⚡ Protect provision.</li> <li>⚡ Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity (e.g. at Witherley Memorial Playing Field and Ywans The Kings Lodge).</li> </ul>
<b>3G pitches</b>	⚡ N/A.
<b>Rugby union</b>	⚡ N/A.
<b>Hockey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⚡ Protect provision.</li> <li>⚡ Resurface pitch at Twycross House School to improve quality and ensure sinking fun is in place for long-term sustainability.</li> </ul>
<b>Cricket</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⚡ Protect provision.</li> <li>⚡ Sustain quality of squares through dedicated maintenance regimes.</li> </ul>
<b>Netball</b>	⚡ N/A.
<b>Tennis</b>	⚡ Protect provision.
<b>Bowls</b>	⚡ N/A.
<b>Golf</b>	⚡ N/A.
<b>Athletics</b>	⚡ N/A.
<b>Other grass pitch sports</b>	⚡ N/A.

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

<sup>17</sup> Future demand (2041) is determined via Local Plan forecasts and club aspirations identified in PPOSS Assessment Report (2024).

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
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**WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
25	Dixie Grammar Junior School	CV13 6PA	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7, which are unavailable for community use and assessed as standard quality.	Improve pitch quality and explore community use options given local shortfalls.	Education FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
84	Witherley Memorial Playing Field	CV9 3NA	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch, which has spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
85	Ywans The Kings Lodge	CV10 0TZ	Football	Commercial	One poor quality adult pitch with spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
81	Twycross House School	CV9 3PL	Hockey	Education	One smaller sized sand-based pitch, which is unavailable for community use but is serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for curricular demand.	Education EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
81	Twycross House School	CV9 3PL	Tennis	Education	Two standard quality macadam courts, which are neither available for community use nor serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality and retain for continued curricular use.	Education LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
88	Twycross Cricket Club	CV9 3HA	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass wicket square, which is accessed by Twycross CC. The square has 23 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity.	Seek to utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Sustain quality of ancillary provision.	Club LRFC ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
89	Higham Village Cricket Club	CV13 6AD	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass wicket square, accessed by Ambleside CC (imported). It has seven match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Accompanied by standard quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality and utilise capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand. Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	Club LRFC ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide

## PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

As identified in the Strategic Recommendations section under 'Recommendation (g): Secure developer contributions, for playing pitches', the Council should use the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC)<sup>18</sup> as a tool for helping to determine developer contributions for playing pitch facilities linking to sites within the locality.

The Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan will make allocations for housing growth, and its policies will also be used to determine proposals for any housing proposals over the plan period. In order to understand how the Hinckley & Bosworth Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy (PPOSS) can be used alongside the PPC to determine the demand for pitches, this section sets out an example from the Regulation 18 Proposed Site Allocations. For the purpose of this section, the Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension has been used as the example (1,581 dwellings).

To support the Local Plan, the Council intend that the following objectives are enshrined within the PPOSS:

- ◀ Provide a robust evidence base and to provide parameters for developing a toolkit for the Council/developers.
- ◀ Help direct expenditure of any future Section 106 monies or other planning contributions (including CIL should this become relevant)
- ◀ Provide a robust, transparent, and effective means of justifying requirements so that they can be successfully defended in respect of significant housing development or at future reviews of the emerging local plans - and to make strategic decisions on investment, ensuring that any planning gain monies are focused on the relevant local authority areas in which they are collected.

The PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sports based on population forecasts (2018 ONS population data) and club consultation to 2041 (in line with the emerging Local Plan period).

Experience shows that housing sites with 600 dwellings or more are likely to generate demand in their own right. For such large scale developments, consideration should be given to providing multi-pitch sites with suitable ancillary provision, including appropriate clubhouse/changing facilities and car parking. Single pitch sites which have been provided traditionally by developers are not considered to provide long term sustainable provision for the relevant sports.

The future demand in the Assessment Report (to 2041) is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required. The PPC adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing and population 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.

For tennis, Sport England has been working with the LTA to add outdoor tennis courts to its Sports Facilities Calculator (SFC)<sup>19</sup>.

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<sup>18</sup><https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/playing-pitch-calculator>

<sup>19</sup><https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/sports-facility-calculator>

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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The SFC is a modelling tool designed to assist local planning authorities to quantify how much additional demand is generated by increasing populations and new housing areas. The model has no spatial qualities or dimension and can only be used to estimate the facility needs for whole area populations.

The SFC includes tennis courts, however, it does not calculate a need for netball, athletics, and bowling greens which are also covered in the scope of the PPOSS. Recommendations on need for this type of provision is provided using the evidence base collated within the PPOSS.

Where demand does not warrant new outdoor sports provision as part of the scheme, the Action Plan in the Strategy 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, developer contributions should be sought to improve existing sites for community sport within the locality of the scheme to accommodate the increased demand. This can be through, for example, improving quality, or providing new or improved ancillary provision. Consultation with appropriate national governing bodies of sport (NGBs) should also assist in the selection of suitable sites and suitable enhancements.

The example housing growth scenario below uses the PPC to 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 (rugby).

The PPC and SFC results below provide the Council with a starting point position on the required facility mix. It is highly recommended that further consultation is undertaken with Sport England and the NGBs to further align this facility mix to the findings of the PPOSS through the master planning process for the scheme.

The calculations in the following housing scenario is presented as an example and should also be used alongside the PPOSS overarching strategic recommendations and combined with the application of the Developer Contributions Toolkit (see Appendix 1) when arriving at investment decisions.

For reference, the indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.4 people per dwelling, which is based on the 2021 Census and on the current average occupancy rate in the Authority.

### **Scenario One– Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension (1,581 dwellings)**

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from the Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension (total 1,581 dwellings) is 3,794 people. This population increase equates to 4.96 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.11 match equivalent sessions on a hockey suitable AGP and 11.98 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket. Training demand equates to 8.63 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.33 hours on a hockey suitable AGP.

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 7.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,581 dwellings<sup>20</sup>

Pitch sport	Match demand per week <sup>21</sup>	Training demand <sup>22</sup>
Adult football	0.63	8.63 hours
Youth football	2.1	As above
Mini soccer	1.58	As above
Rugby union	0.38	0.43 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.00	0.00 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.11	0.33 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.00	0.00 hours
Cricket	11.89	-

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

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>23</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>24</sup>	Number of changing rooms	Capital cost
Adult football	0.63	£70,282	£13,846	1.27	£258,765
Youth football	2.1	£201,630	£40,729	2.21	£452,447
Mini soccer	1.58	£47,858	£9,476	0	£0
Rugby union	0.38	£65,831	£12,179	0.77	£156,833
Rugby league	0.00	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.27	£95,560	£17,583	0.53	£109,019
Sand based AGPs	0.03	£27,250	£709	0.06	£11,319
3G	0.23	£269,422	£8,003	0.45	£92,865
Tennis courts	0.48 courts	£54,236	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.22 and 0.48 courts</b>	<b>£832,069</b>	<b>£102,524</b>	<b>5.29</b>	<b>£1,081,247</b>

Overall, an additional 5.22 pitches would be required to meet additional demand arising from the 1,581 dwellings in the Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension. This consists of 4.96 grass pitches, 0.25 of access to artificial pitches and 0.48 tennis courts. This would require an expected capital cost of £832,069 and a lifecycle cost per annum of £102,524. To facilitate the increased provision, 5.29 changing rooms would need to be provided at a capital cost of £1,081,247.

The indicative position based on the results of the PPC is that there would be a need for new provision to be provided on-site as part of the Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension. The most evident need is for a four pitch football site with suitable ancillary provision provided to meet the scale of the site. For the remaining grass pitch sports, developer contributions would be better sought to improving existing provision, particularly at rugby union and cricket sites.

<sup>20</sup> For reference, the indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.4 per dwelling

<sup>21</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>22</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size sports lit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance>

<sup>24</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

As there are current shortfalls for rugby union, opportunities to expand existing rugby union club sites in the locality of the development (where it is possible to do so) should be considered, if viable, alternatively site improvements to existing infrastructure should take place.

Likewise, for cricket, existing shortfalls are apparent so in tandem with the local county cricket board (Leicester & Rutland Cricket Foundation) and the ECB opportunities to increase capacity at clubs (considering opportunities with hybrid wickets) or to support any clubs with expansion plans they may have in the future.

For 3G pitches, contributions should be sought to enable the future delivery of projections (preferably in tandem with the Football Foundation) and a further contribution should be sought for the improvement of artificial grass pitches within the locality.

### **The most appropriate way to meet the estimated demand**

It is important that the above calculations 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 PPOSS Assessment Report and Strategy & Action Plan document to understand the nature of the outdoor sports 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 to current sites.
  - ◀ Providing new (natural and/or artificial grass pitches).

If the decision is taken to provide new pitches, then the PPC 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.

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

The section below is a generalised approach on how to deliver a PPS whilst also keeping it robust and up-to-date. However, a more tailored approach should also be considered and designed for Hinckley & Bosworth based on the requirements and priorities of the Steering Group.

#### Delivery

The PPS seeks to provide guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across Hinckley & Bosworth. 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 the Borough can be satisfied. The Strategy identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and recommends how best to resolve this in the future.

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

The creation of this document should be regarded as part of the planning process. The success of this Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach. Each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPOSS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence.

To help ensure 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 sport provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on the how the current demand is met and what actions are needed to improve the situation and meet future demand. 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

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

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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It is agreed that the Local Authority (potentially via consultants e.g., KKP) is responsible for keeping the database and background supply and demand information up-to-date in order that area-by-area action plans can be updated. This should be carried out in consultation with the NGBs, particularly around affiliation time when information is updated.

As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPOSS being signed off by the steering group, 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, meaning that 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.

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

- ◀ How the delivery of the recommendations and action plan has progressed and any changes required to the priority afforded to each action (e.g., the priority of some may increase following the delivery of others).
- ◀ How the 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.

Alongside regular steering group meetings a good way to keep the strategy up-to-date and maintain relationships is to hold sport specific meetings with the NGBs and other relevant parties. These meetings 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.

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

The NGBs are also able to indicate any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area.

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## Checklists

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

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

## HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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

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

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

# HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## APPENDIX 1: PPOSS DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS TOOL KIT

### Introduction

This is a step by step guide to securing developer contributions for playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities in Hinckley & Bosworth using the Hinckley & Bosworth Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy (PPOSS).

For any application warranting a developer contribution the following processes should be followed in order to help inform the potential needs a new housing development may require and/or should look to consider.

In accordance with National Planning Policy Guidance, contributions should not be sought from developments of 10 units or less, and which have a maximum combined gross floor space of no more than 1,000 square metres (gross internal area).

Any obligations sought should be based on a tailored approach to each development, using the robust evidence base provided as part of the PPOSS to help with clearly justifying the needs arising and how they are to be met.

### Step by step guide

Step 1	Determine the playing pitch requirement resulting from the development	Navigation
	The main tool for determining this is the Playing Pitch Calculator which is a Sport England tool provided on completion of the Strategy. This has been populated with the current demand data from the Playing Pitch Assessment Report.	Accessed via: <a href="https://www.activeplacespower.com/">https://www.activeplacespower.com/</a> You will need to register if you are not already and you will need to gain access to the Calculator by seeking permission from the Sport England Regional Planning Manager.

The PPOSS Assessment Report provides an estimate of future demand for key pitch sports (football, rugby, hockey and cricket) based on population forecasts and club consultation. This demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required.

The Playing Pitch Calculator 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 by taking the current demand/team generation rates (TGRs) and population in the PPOSS Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth. This also gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision.

Part 5 of the Playing Pitch Calculator provides an estimation of the number of new pitches that would be required to meet the match equivalent sessions presented in Part 3. Part 5 also presents an estimate of the associated costs for providing these new pitches. Please note that these are indicative costs only and appropriate local work should be undertaken to determine the true costs of any new pitches.

As identified within the Strategy, the longer term aim is to move towards increasing use of 3G pitches to accommodate competitive football fixtures. Therefore, there is a case to suggest that contributions towards football provision (and in some cases rugby union) could be made.

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Such provision would, however, require a business plan for the facility which aligned to FA programming and pricing and to encourage use of the facility on weekday evenings for training and for fixtures at weekends.

Step 2	Determine the other pitch and non-pitch requirements resulting from the development	Navigation
	Use the PPOSS to identify level of need that may be generated from new development(s) for outdoor sporting provision not included within the Playing Pitch Calculator.	◀ PPOSS (Part 4 & 6)

The Playing Pitch Calculator does not calculate demand for other types of pitches or non-pitch provision which may be played in the Area. However, the PPOSS identifies (where relevant) current and future demand for the following additional types of outdoor sporting provision; bowling greens, tennis courts and netball courts

Where there is no identified shortfall in provision or future demand for new provision within an area relevant to the development (e.g. an analysis area or settlement), consideration should be given to the nearest site to the development containing that type of pitch provision. This should consider if the site could benefit from a contribution towards increasing capacity to meet likely need generated from the development. For example, this could include increasing quality, addition of ancillary facilities such as floodlighting, changing rooms or car parking. Use the PPOSS action plan to identify site by site recommendations.

Step 3	Determine whether new provision is required and whether this should be on or off site	Navigation
	Consider if the nearest site/s to the development containing that type of provision could benefit from a contribution towards increasing capacity to meet likely need generated from the development. If there are no potential options to improve existing, or extend planned provision to create additional capacity then new provision will be required.  Where the calculator does not create demand for a whole pitch, which is often the case for smaller size developments, it is recommended to make a contribution to increasing the capacity of an existing site to meet demand generated from the development.	◀ PPOSS Action Plan (Part 6)

When identifying a site for off site contributions, consider the proximity and location of existing playing pitch sites and whether it could help serve the new development. Identify the analysis area in which the development sits and identify if there are any Hub sites or Key centres within the Area.

If there are no analysis areas or the development site is close to the local authority boundary, apply an initial one mile radius around the site in order to help identify the nearest priority sites. This may require consultation with neighbouring authorities.

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

**Key centres** although these sites are more community focused, 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.

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Step 4	Determine how best to satisfy demand through new onsite provision	Navigation
	To further help determine how best to satisfy demand for new onsite provision, use the PPOSS to identify existing shortfalls and consult with local clubs/groups to identify local issues.	◀ PPOSS (Part 3 Headline Findings)

Although the PPOSS will help to identify existing shortfalls (and in doing so provide a guide as to how best to meet demand generated from the new development), local clubs/groups should be consulted to further update the most recent local situation. Useful questions to answer may include, for example:

- ◀ Are there any teams/clubs playing outside of the local area (displaced demand) which could utilise provision at the site?
- ◀ Do any local clubs identify existing plans/demand for access to new provision?
- ◀ Are there any overplayed sites in the local area where existing demand could be transferred to a new site?
- ◀ Do any local clubs identify any latent demand (i.e. if they had access to more pitches they could they field more teams?)

Step 5	Determine how best to satisfy demand through new offsite provision	Navigation
	Identify the potential sites for investment within the PPOSS Action Plan to help determine how best to meet demand generated from the new development.	◀ PPOSS Action Plan (Part 6)

Consider the location of the new population (e.g. the location of the development site) alongside the results of the PPOSS assessment work. This will enable you to understand the nature of the current playing pitch sites within an appropriate catchment of the new population and the issues in the area. This may lead to suggestions of one or more ways of meeting the estimated demand, such as:

- ◀ Enhancing existing pitches to increase their capacity and ensure adequate maintenance to maintain the higher level of use
- ◀ Securing greater community access to currently restricted provision and undertaking necessary works to allow such use to occur (e.g. enhanced changing provision)
- ◀ Providing new playing pitches on existing sites.

This decision should be based on the potential to improve existing facilities within an appropriate catchment of a development to create additional capacity, and how realistic it is given the nature of the local area to provide new provision. For example, there may be some poor quality playing fields that could potentially be improved with additional drainage and long-term maintenance works, along with enhanced changing provision, to enable their use to be increased, thereby creating additional capacity to meet the increased demand generated from the development.

Discussions should be held with relevant parties (e.g. landowners, facility operators and user groups), and any further necessary evidence gathered (e.g. a feasibility study), to help identify the specific works that are required, and to ensure they will provide the necessary additional capacity to meet the needs. It will also be important to demonstrate that the specific works can be delivered within an appropriate timescale in relation to the occupation of the development site.

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Step 6	Consider design principles for new provision	Navigation
	The exact nature and location of provision associated with onsite developments should be fully determined in partnership with each relevant NGB. Further to this, each pitch sport NGB provides national guidance in relation to provision of new pitches.	<a href="https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/outdoor-surfaces">https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/outdoor-surfaces</a>

There is also a need to ensure that the location of outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities are appropriately located in the context of indoor sports provision (if also being provided onsite) to ensure a cohesive approach to the whole sporting offer.

Step 7	Calculate the financial contribution required	Navigation
	After using the Playing Pitch Calculator as a starting point for cost, the local cost of provision should be fully determined in order to calculate the financial contributions.	N/A

A clear and transparent methodology for calculating up to date costs for the specific works, including appropriate ancillary provision, should be presented. Where appropriate, depending on how the needs are to be met, the cost of any required land purchase should be included in the financial contribution. If an obligation will be directed to an off site project it should be ensured the costs are limited to meet the needs of the individual development.

Along with any capital costs for the works, an obligation should ensure an appropriate level of lifecycle costs towards the new or enhanced provision. This is required to cover the day to day maintenance for an agreed long term period and to help ensure a sinking fund exists for any major replacement work, e.g. the future resurfacing of an artificial grass pitch.

Wherever possible, specific local costs should be used, especially if the works are to improve the existing quality of a site to increase capacity as there may be a number of site specifics to take into account. Sport England does provide indicative costs for new provision:

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

For all developments community use agreements between providers and users would ensure that such demand continues to be provided for in the long-term.

Step 8	Identify potential management options for new provision	Navigation
	To further help determine the sustainability of establishing new provision, consideration should be given to the potential management opportunities which may be available.	N/A

To further help determine the sustainability of establishing new provision, consideration should be given to the potential management opportunities which may be available onsite:

- ◀ Is the local authority (or town/parish council) in a position to take on further outdoor sports facilities from a financial point of view?
- ◀ Is an education establishment to be provided as part of the development which offers a potential management option of outdoor sports facilities?
- ◀ Is there a leisure trust in place which has the capacity to take on the management of outdoor sports facilities?

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- ◀ Is there an opportunity for a trust based model of management, for example, by formation of a Community Interest Company (CIC) or Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)?
- ◀ Is there an existing sports club that has the capacity to take on the management of another site?

At this point, further dialogue with the relevant NGB may be required to help determine options available.

## Checklist summary (to be completed for each development)

Prompt	Evidence	Navigation
<b>Step 1:</b> Determine the playing pitch requirement resulting from the development <b>Use Playing Pitch Calculator</b>		◀ Playing Pitch Calculator
<b>Step 2:</b> Determine the other pitch and non-pitch requirements resulting from the development <b>Use the PPOSS</b>		◀ PPOSS (Part 4 & 6)
<b>Step 3:</b> Determine whether new provision is required and whether this should be on or off site <b>Consider the nearest site/s</b>		◀ PPOSS Action Plan (Part 6)
<b>Step 4:</b> Determine how best to satisfy demand through new onsite provision <b>Identify existing shortfalls and consult with local clubs/groups to identify local issues.</b>		◀ PPOSS (Part 3 Headline Findings)
<b>Step 5:</b> Determine how best to satisfy demand through new offsite provision <b>Identify existing shortfalls and consult with local clubs/groups to identify local issues.</b>		◀ PPOSS (Part 3: Headline Findings)
<b>Step 6:</b> Consider design principles for new provision <b>Consult with NGBs</b>		See NGB technical guidance
<b>Step 7:</b> Calculate the financial contribution required		N/A

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Prompt	Evidence	Navigation
<b>Establish local costs to assist in calculation</b>		
<b>Step 8:</b> Identify potential management options for new provision <b>Consult with NGBs</b>		N/A