



Kirklees Council

Playing Pitch Strategy – Stage D

2024

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Glossary & Abbreviations

3G	Third generation (artificial grass pitch)
AGP	Artificial grass pitch
CC	Cricket Club
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
CFA	County Football Association
CSP	County Sports Partnership
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FE	Further Education
FF	Football Foundation
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
HE	Higher Education
JFC	Junior Football Club
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
LMS	Last Man Stands
MES	The number of games a playing pitch can accommodate is addressed as match equivalent sessions.
NGB	National Governing Body
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PF	Playing Field
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQA	Pitch Quality Assessment
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFC	Rugby Football Club
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
S106	Section 106
TGR	Team Generation Rate
YCB	Yorkshire Cricket Board

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- Secured Community Use** For pitches that are available to the community the degree of certainty that this availability will continue needs to be recorded (i.e. how secure is the availability to the community?). Unless local information suggests otherwise it can be assumed that the availability of all pitches in Local Authority, town and parish council and sports club ownership will be secure. PPS guidance is 3 years or greater for any agreement e.g, leasehold. Community use agreement in place would be considered as secure.
- Unsecured Community Use** Mainly educational sites where the following should be in place to ensure certainty of secured community use: if not in place, then the site provides unsecured community use.
- A formal community use agreement
 - A leasing or management agreement requiring pitches to be available to the community/a community club
 - A formal policy for community use adopted by the owner and or educational establishment
 - Written confirmation from the owner and or educational establishment.

Note on definitions of artificial pitch surfaces.

Sport England has produced guidance on “Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union” This guidance can be referred to when selecting an artificial surface, but it is worth noting that this is now superseded by new and updated National Governing Body (NGB) technical guidance and you should contact the relevant NGB. The guidance can be found at:

<https://www.sportengland.org/media/4275/selecting-the-right-artificial-surface-rev2-2010.pdf>

Throughout the PPS the following abbreviations are used to describe specific types of playing pitch facility that has an artificial surface rather than natural grass.

NTP or non-turf pitch refers to an artificial turf sports surface designed specifically for cricket.

3G AGP- Third Generation Football Turf Pitch. This pitch type comprises blades of polypropylene supported by a thin base layer of sand and by an infill of rubber crumb. 3G pitches must meet the FIFA Quality Performance Standard up to Step 3 (FA National League System) or the FIFA Quality Pro Performance Standards for Step 1 & 2 level football as well as higher level FA competitions

AGP - stands for an England Hockey recognised Artificial Grass Pitch which is either sand based/dressed or water playing surface

World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant stands for a long pile AGP 3G with an engineered subbase system (of stone base, porous tarmac layer and shock pad) and are accepted by the rugby governing bodies (RFU and RFL).

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council and its partners. It has been developed in accordance with Sport England guidance and under the direction of a steering group led by the Council and including NGBs.
- 1.2 It builds upon the preceding Playing Pitch Assessment Reports and is capable of:
- Providing adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting outdoor sports facilities, as appropriate, directing open space contributions secured through development and informing and shaping local planning policy;
 - Informing the protection and provision of playing pitches;
 - Informing land use decisions in respect of future use of existing playing pitch areas and playing fields (capable of accommodating pitches);
 - Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of playing pitches;
 - Supporting external funding bids and maximising support for playing pitches; and
 - Providing the basis for ongoing monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality, and accessibility of playing pitches.
- 1.3 The PPS builds upon an Assessment Report. The Assessment Report Appendix 1 identifies the quantity and quality of the supply and the demand for each sport and provides an assessment of capacity for each site and playing pitch. The PPS provides a framework and action plan for future provision and management of sports pitches to serve existing and new communities across Kirklees.
- 1.4 The PPS covers the following playing pitches and outdoor pitch sports:
- Football pitches;
 - Rugby Union pitches;
 - Cricket pitches;
 - Rugby League pitches;
 - 3G Artificial Grass Pitches; used by Football, World Rugby 22 Compliant 3G AGPs and Rugby League Approved.
 - Hockey – artificial grass pitches;

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1.5 The objectives of the Playing Pitch Strategy are:

1. Identify changes in how the sports are played and levels of affiliated and unaffiliated participation;
2. Gather evidence to help protect and enhance existing provision;
3. To inform the development and implementation of planning policy;
4. To inform the assessment of planning applications;
5. To understand the supply of provision due to capital programmes e.g. for educational sites;
6. Establish the need to develop a priority list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies, provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work;
7. Prioritisation of internal capital and revenue investment; and
8. The need to provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.

1.6 There is a need to build key partnerships between Kirklees Council, NGBs, Sport England, schools, further education providers, community clubs, private landowners and KAL to maintain and improve playing pitch provision. In the latter instances, the potential for the Council to take a strategic lead is more limited. This document will provide clarity about the way forward and allow key organisations to focus on the key issues that they can directly influence and achieve.

1.7 The PPS has been developed in partnership with a range of agencies and been overseen by a steering group made up of representatives from:

- Sport England;
- Kirklees Council Planning and Development
- Kirklees Council Leisure and Culture
- Kirklees Council Parks and Green Spaces
- England and Wales Cricket Board;
- Yorkshire Cricket Board
- England Hockey;
- Football Foundation on behalf of the FA;
- West Riding County FA and Sheffield & Hallamshire FA
- Rugby Football Union;
- Rugby Football League

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1.8 The aims of the PPS are to provide:

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

1.9 The vision is to:

‘Provide a network of good quality outdoor sports provision, enabling everyone to be physically active and promoting a healthier lifestyle for all.’

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1.10 The PPS covers the timeline between 2023 and 2031 (this aligns to the Kirklees Local Plan). The individual sports and site action plans look at the short and medium timescales. It is advised that the PPS is reviewed annually. If no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the Strategy being signed, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the Strategy and the information on which it is based to be out of date. The nature of the supply and in particular the demand for playing pitches will likely to have changed over the three years. Therefore, without any form of review and update within this time period it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.

1.11 The PPS approach for the sports of Football, Rugby, Hockey and Cricket is based on the Sport England PPS Guidance: An Approach to Developing and Delivering a PPS 2013:
<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-about:blankguidance/playing-pitch-strategy-guidance/>

1.12 The approach comprises of 10 steps (See Figure 1) which are grouped into the following five stages:

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

Figure 1: The 10 steps to delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy



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- 1.13 Figure 1: shows the 10 steps to delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy. Step 10 in Figure 1 identifies the need to ensure that the PPS is regularly updated and reviewed to keep the PPS robust. Arrangements need to be made for the PPS to be updated on a regular basis. and the requirement to update and review the PPS to keep it robust.
- 1.14 The PPS is for the whole Borough not just the Council. However, the Council has a lead role to play in understanding and planning for future demand, including highlighting the need to secure investment. The PPS must consider the context of reducing budgets for local authorities that could, for example, result in a reduction of resources available to maintain playing pitches and ancillary facilities.

Context

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Revised July 2021

- 1.15 The National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF) sets out the Government’s planning policies and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced. The NPPF has a key focus in achieving sustainable development and states that the overarching social objective of the planning system is:

“To support strong, vibrant, and healthy communities...by fostering a well-designed, beautiful and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities’ health, social and cultural wellbeing.”

- 1.16 Paragraphs 98 and 99 of the NPPF outline the planning policies for the provision and protection of sport and recreation facilities:

Paragraph 98: “Access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities, and can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change. 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 99: “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.”

- 1.17 In line with the Government’s National Planning Policy Framework, the PPS assesses existing outdoor sports provision including pitches and infrastructure along with the future need for such provision (irrespective of whether it is in public, private, MoD, or educational ownership and regardless of the nature and level of use).
- 1.18 The future picture of provision has been assessed based on potential changes in supply (both committed and planned projects within Kirklees and its catchment area), forecast changes in the resident population informed by the targets for new housing in Kirklees Council’s adopted Local Plan 2013 to 2031, national trends in participation and the development aspirations of the clubs based in the borough.

Local Context

- 1.19 Kirklees is a blend of urban and rural areas. It is predominately urban in the north and rural in the south, linked together by Huddersfield, a large town of some 167,000 people (Census 2021). Like many authorities it encompasses significant areas of wealth, mostly in the south and areas of high deprivation, mostly in the north. It has a mixed population, predominately white but with significant levels of people from black and minority ethnic groups, notably Asian and British Asian.
- 1.20 The Kirklees Local Plan Strategies and Policies were adopted in February 2019. The Local Plan states that the Council will seek to achieve sustainable housing growth through the delivery of a minimum of 31,140 new dwellings between 2013 and 2031 (1730 new dwellings per annum) through allocation sites and taking account of windfalls, committed housing figures and losses/demolitions.
- 1.21 The 2021 Census identified a population of 433,216 in Kirklees. 220,870 female and 212,346 male. Kirklees Planning Department have provided the following housing growth across the PPS Sub Areas. The table below provided the future population in the sub areas based on the housing growth per sub area multiplied by average household size of 2.3 persons.

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Table 1: Housing growth across the PPS Sub Areas to 2031

PPS Sub-Area	Housing Capacity on Local Plan Allocated Sites Without Planning Permission (Oct 2021)	Population based on average Household size 2.3 persons.
Huddersfield	4,424	10175
Dewsbury & Mirfield	2,777	6387
Batley & Spen	3,837	8825
Rural East	840	1932
Rural West	1,511	3475
Total	13389	30794

- 1.22 The additional population demand from the new housing equates to 30,794. The population growth data for Kirklees and each sub area and sport team numbers have been inserted into Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator tool. Based on the current number of teams for each sport within the PPS assessment, the output from the Sport England calculator tool provides the number of new teams generated from the new population and the future match equivalent sessions required for the future for each sport weekly, except for cricket, which is seasonally.
- 1.23 The PPS recommends that the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator should be used to identify future need for playing pitches as and when planning applications are agreed and to help inform planning decisions as to whether onsite provision is required, or offsite provision/contributions are more appropriate. If offsite, should be guided by the identified needs in the PPS.
- 1.24 Currently the Kirklees Open Space Supplementary Planning Document, adopted on 29 June 2021, provides detailed guidance for applicants and the local community on the requirements for open space, sports and recreation provision to serve new housing developments. It sets out a step-by-step approach to be used to determine the types, amount and location of open space required to serve new housing developments across Kirklees.

Study Area

- 1.25 The study area is the whole of the Kirklees Council area. Further to this, analysis areas have been created to allow for a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch supply and demand. These sub areas have been agreed by the Steering Group and make up the sub areas shown within figure 2 below.

Figure 2: Kirklees Council PPS Sub Areas for Analysis



1.26 The five sub areas identified in blue above in figure 2 are:

- Sub Area 1: Huddersfield.
- Sub Area 2: Batley & Spen.
- Sub Area 3: Dewsbury & Mirfield.
- Sub Area 4: Rural East; and
- Sub Area 5: Rural West.

Monitoring and Review

1.27 It must be understood that the PPS represents a ‘snapshot’ in time based upon the anticipated level of growth planned for Kirklees Council. This means there will be development proposals that will come forward on land not allocated for housing in the Kirklees Local Plan, such as windfall sites, that the PPS has not taken into consideration.

1.28 It will be important for the PPS to be kept live and up to date once it has been endorsed by Kirklees Council and the members of the Steering Group ensuring:

- Progress with the PPS recommendations and action plan;
- Monitoring and evaluating the outcomes of the PPS; and
- Ensure that the PPS is kept up to date.

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- 1.29 Any review should be in accordance with Stage E Step 10 of the Sport England PPS guidance (see Figure 2).
- 1.30 As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being adopted, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date. Ideally the PPS should be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the Steering Group to keep it up-to-date and robust. The Steering Group will wish to see a full Stage E review in the 2023/24 season that updates the 20/21 season data to 2023/24 season data.

Structure of Report

- 1.31 The Evidence Base is provided as an appendix to this report. Appendix 1 Stage C Kirklees PPS Assessment Report.
- 1.32 Section 2 of this report provides the headline findings of the evidence base for each sport.
- 1.33 Section 3 provides the sport specific issues and scenarios.
- 1.34 Section 4 provides the conclusions and strategic recommendations.
- 1.35 The Appendices include:
- Appendix 1: Kirklees PPS Stage C Assessment Report;
 - Appendix 2: Action Plans by site.

2. Headline findings of the evidence base for each sport

2.1 Table 2 highlights the quantitative headline shortfalls for the main pitch sports across Kirklees qualitative findings and site-specific findings are identified in the following sections of this report.

Table 2: Headline Findings Kirklees Council Shortfalls in Demand Football Grass Pitches, 3G AGP, Cricket, Hockey, Rugby Football Union, Rugby Football League

Sport	Current demand 2021		Future Demand 2031	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision (MES)	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision (MES)
3G Football AGPs (Requirement for football training only & includes the new 3G at Lockwood Park)	Huddersfield	3	Huddersfield	4
	Batley & Spen	3	Batley & Spen	4
	Dewsbury & Mirfield	1	Dewsbury & Mirfield	1
	Rural West	2	Rural West	3
	Rural East	3	Rural East	3
	Kirklees Total	12	Kirklees Total	15
Football Natural Grass Pitches	Huddersfield	Adult 11v11 no current shortfall	Huddersfield	Adult 11v11 No future shortfall
		Youth 11v11 1.5		Youth 11v11 4.78
		Junior 9v9 5.5		Junior 9v9 8.28
		Mini Soccer 9.5		Mini Soccer 15.66
	Batley & Spen	Adult 11v11 7	Batley & Spen	Adult 11v11 12.19
		Youth 11v11 2.5		Youth 11v11 8.54
		Junior 9v9 2.5		Junior 9v9 5.61
		Mini Soccer 7		Mini Soccer 10.31
	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Adult 11v11 No current shortfall	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Adult 11v11 11.41
		Youth 11v11 1.5		Youth 11v11 4.62

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Sport	Current demand 2021		Future Demand 2031	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision (MES)	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision (MES)
	Rural West	Junior 9v9 No current shortfall	Rural West	Junior 9v9 1.20
		Mini Soccer No current shortfall		Mini Soccer 4.83
		Adult 11v11 8		Adult 11v11 9.36
		Youth 11v11 Played to capacity		Youth 11v11 1.61
		Junior 9v9 Played to capacity		Junior 9v9 0.93
	Rural East	Mini Soccer 2.5	Rural East	Mini Soccer 4.41
		Adult 11v11 3.5		Adult 11v11 3.97
		Youth 11v11 No current shortfall		Youth 11v11 0.67
		Junior 9v9 No current shortfall		Junior 9v9 No future shortfall
	Kirklees Total	Mini Soccer 6	Kirklees Total	Mini Soccer 7.01
		Adult 11v11 18.5		Adult 11v11 36.93
		Youth 11v11 5.5		Youth 11v11 20.12
		Junior 9v9 8		Junior 9v9 16.02
	Cricket		Mini Soccer 25	Mini Soccer 42.22
Huddersfield		118 per season	Huddersfield	207.70 per season
Batley & Spen		18 per season	Batley & Spen	127.12 per season
Dewsbury & Mirfield		6 per season	Dewsbury & Mirfield	66.02 per season
Rural West		180 per season	Rural West	267.22 per season
Rural East		193 per season	Rural East	224.04 per season
Kirklees Total	391 per season	Kirklees Total	Future shortfall 733.72 per season	
	Huddersfield	Weekly match and training MES 16	Huddersfield	Weekly match and training MES 22

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Sport	Current demand 2021		Future Demand 2031	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision (MES)	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision (MES)
Rugby Football Union	Batley & Spen	Weekly match and training MES 11.75	Batley & Spen	Weekly match and training MES 14.25
	Dewsbury & Mirfield	No current shortfall	Dewsbury & Mirfield	No current shortfall
	Rural West	No current shortfall	Rural West	No current shortfall
	Rural East	No current shortfall	Rural East	No current shortfall
	Kirklees Total	Weekly Training MES 14.25 Weekly match and Training MES 27.75	Kirklees Total	Weekly Training MES 18.75 Weekly match and Training MES 36.25
Hockey (Sand AGPs)	Huddersfield	No current shortfall based on Storthes Hall AGP refurbished by Spring 2023.	Huddersfield	No future shortfall
	Batley & Spen	No current shortfall	Batley & Spen	No future shortfall
	Dewsbury & Mirfield	No current shortfall	Dewsbury & Mirfield	No future shortfall
	Rural West	No current shortfall	Rural West	No future shortfall
	Rural East	No current shortfall	Rural East	No future shortfall
	Kirklees Total	No current shortfall	Kirklees Total	No future shortfall
Rugby Football League	Huddersfield	17.75 Weekly MES	Huddersfield	21.13 Weekly MES
	Batley & Spen	8 Weekly MES	Batley & Spen	10.14 Weekly MES
	Dewsbury & Mirfield	6.75 Weekly MES	Dewsbury & Mirfield	10.44 Weekly MES
	Rural West	5.25 Weekly MES	Rural West	6.90 Weekly MES
	Rural East	2.5 Weekly MES	Rural East	3.61 Weekly MES
	Kirklees Borough Total	40.25 Weekly MES	Kirklees Borough Total	52.22 Weekly MES

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- 2.2 Current demand in Table 2 is calculated from an analysis of overplay and spare capacity at peak time of play. This can be found in the Stage C Assessment Reports for each sport Appendix 1.
- 2.3 Future demand takes into consideration club aspirations and population growth up to 2031 as identified in the Stage C Assessment Report. Population growth is based upon the number of new houses developed, multiplied by 2.3 average persons per household (in line with the Kirklees Local Plan). The new population from housing development and the current team numbers for each playing pitch sport are input into Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator. The workings and output of the Playing Pitch Calculator provides match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required for each playing pitch sport along with the cost of the new pitch and ancillary provision.
- 2.4 From a quantitative perspective, the overall position across Kirklees for all sports is none of the sports or pitch types shown above meet demand. There may be some sub areas for some pitch types that meet demand but generally there is clearly a huge shortfall.
- 2.5 Where demand is being met in some specific sub areas and pitch types i.e. no shortfall this does not equate to a surplus of provision as any spare capacity is instead considered as a solution to overcoming existing shortfalls and accommodating existing or future demand.
- 2.6 As such, there is a clear need to protect all existing outdoor sports provision until all demand is met, or there is a requirement to replace provision to an equal or better quantity and quality to that being lost.
- 2.7 For lower value playing pitch sites, e.g. single pitch sites that are rarely used, of poor quality and are without appropriate ancillary facilities, there could be a case for rationalisation providing that any loss could meet Sport England Playing Fields Policy and would see acceptable and appropriate mitigation into sporting provision elsewhere which would meet this demand.
- 2.8 Some shortfalls can be met by better utilising current provision, such as through improving quality, through the FA’s Pitch Improvement Programme. The Football Foundation has launched PitchPower (<https://footballfoundation.org.uk/pitchpower>) - a really simple digital tool to help individual sites inspect and improve their grass pitches. The site self-inspection will provide regular detailed assessment reports from grounds management experts at the Grounds Management Association, including recommendations on maintaining and improving the quality of the pitches. All key sites should be encouraged to undertake a PitchPower self-assessment and review the report recommendations. Grants are available through the Football Foundation to help fund grass pitch maintenance works, materials and grounds maintenance machinery where appropriate through the Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund, the gateway to which is PitchPower assessment.
- 2.9 PitchPower is being extended to support not only football but cricket, rugby league and rugby union too. It was re-launched in August 2022 and made available to football and rugby league clubs, with rugby union and cricket clubs to begin use of PitchPower with the support of RFU and ECB in the future. Currently the ECB recommends full technical assessments of wickets and pitches available through a Performance Quality Standard Assessment. The Performance Quality Standard assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether it meets the standards that are benchmarked by the IOG.

- 2.10 In addition, shortfalls can be met by enabling access to existing unused provision, such as at education sites and unused sites. In some instances where there is new housing development, shortfalls may need to be met through new provision on-site to meet the playing pitch and ancillary needs of the new development, or off- site where developer contributions can improve capacity and quality of existing playing pitch facilities to meet the needs of the new development. The PPS should be used as the document which identifies local need to which offsite contributions should be directed.

3. Sport Specific Issues and Scenarios

- 3.1. To help develop the recommendations/actions and to understand their potential impact, several relevant scenario questions are tested against the key issues in this section for each playing pitch sport, resulting in sport specific recommendations.

Football – Grass Pitch Summary Key Issues

- The 2020/21 audit identifies a total of 373 grass football pitches. Of these 373 pitches, 280 pitches are available and used by community football clubs across 120 sites.
- Available pitches used by community football clubs in the 2020/21 season across Kirklees equates to 168 adult 11 v 11, 15 youth 11 v 11, 30 junior 9 v 9, 35 mini soccer 7 v 7 and 32 mini soccer 5 v 5 pitches.
- Most of the community available and used (secured and unsecured community use) pitches in Kirklees are in the Huddersfield Sub Analysis Area (83 pitches). This is followed by Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub Area with 61 grass pitches, Batley and Spen 60 grass pitches, Rural East Sub Area 44 grass pitches and Rural West Sub Area with 32 grass football pitches.
- In total 44 (16%) pitches are assessed as good quality, 145 (51%) as standard quality and 91 (33%) as poor quality.
- Several stakeholders aspire to improve their pitch quality and or provide 3G pitches,
- Across Kirklees, 36 sites actively used for football are not serviced by any sort of clubhouse or changing rooms. In addition, a further 15 sites are serviced by poor quality provision. As a result, there are several stakeholders who indicate aspirations to improve the quality of ancillary provision on the sites they use.
- 718 teams have been identified as playing within Kirklees. This consists of 204 adult men's, 16 adult women's, 140 youth 11 v 11 boys', 15 youth 11 v 11 girls', 100 junior boys' 9 v 9, 11 junior girls' 9 v 9, and 232 7 v 7 and 5 v 5 mini soccer teams. Adult men's football is the most prominent format of play. In addition, there are 5 Futsal teams (West Yorkshire Futsal Club U13, U14 and U15; Ossett Albion Juniors U14 and White Rose All Stars U8).
- Football in Kirklees is played predominantly in the Huddersfield Sub Area (266 teams – 37% of demand) which corresponds with the area also accommodating the most amount of provision. This is followed by Batley and Spen (142 teams), Rural East (112 teams), Rural West (110 teams) and Dewsbury and Mirfield (88 teams).

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- Golcar FC and Emley FC are Step 6 clubs in the National League System with ambitions to progress to Step 5 and Howden Clough FC and Huddersfield LH have ambitions to progress through the National League System. Liversedge FC are a Step 4 club.
- Actual spare capacity across Kirklees totals 52.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
- 74 pitches across 45 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 74.5 match equivalent sessions per week at peak time of play.
- There are shortfalls currently and in the future across all football pitch types across Kirklees.
- After factoring in future demand (Local Plan population increases from new dwellings and future team demands from Clubs), shortfalls become evident across all pitch typologies.

Scenario - Improving pitch quality.

- 3.2. Improving poor quality pitches (either firstly through increased maintenance, or drainage improvements in order to increase pitch quality and thus capacity) on secure sites by two quality increments to good quality and standard quality pitches by one quality increment to good quality will help to reduce overplay expressed. Table 3 below shows the pitches that are poor and standard quality pitches on secure sites, currently over played on a weekly basis and the impact on capacity by raising the quality of these pitches to good.
- 3.3. There are 28 community available poor quality pitches and 6 standard quality pitches in Kirklees that are overplayed on a weekly basis. Table 3 below shows the impact on capacity if the quality of the weekly overplayed pitches was raised to good.

Table 3: Poor and Standard quality pitches on secure sites, currently over played on a weekly basis and the impact on capacity by raising the quality of these pitches to Good

	Security of Site	Quality Pitches - Poor	Pitch Type	Pitch Nos	Current Weekly Capacity Demand	Improve Quality to Good - Increased Capacity	Additional Capacity Created
Huddersfield Sub Area							
Fern Lea Playing Fields	Secured	Poor	Adult	1	1.5	0.5	2

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	Security of Site	Quality Pitches - Poor	Pitch Type	Pitch Nos	Current Weekly Capacity Demand	Improve Quality to Good - Increased Capacity	Additional Capacity Created
Greenhead College	Secured	Poor	Adult	3	0.5	5.5	6
Hawkroyd Bank	Secured	Standard	Adult	1	0.5	0.5	1
Lindley Swifts	Secured	Standard	Adult	1	0.5	0.5	1
Paddock Cricket Club	Secured	Poor	Adult	1	0.5	1.5	2
Standiforth Recreation Ground (Dalton Playing Fields)	Secured	Poor	Adult	3	1.5	4.5	6
Warrenside Football Club	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	7	3	4
Warrenside Football Club	Secured	Poor	Mini 5v5	1	3	1	4
Totals				13	15	11	26
Batley and Spen Sub Area							
King George V	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	2	2	4
West End Park	Secured	Poor	Adult	1	0.5	1.5	2
Totals				3	2.5	3.5	6
Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub area							
Wakefield Road Recreation Ground	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	3	1	4
Totals				2	3	1	4
Rural East Sub Area							
Crown Fields/Birdsedge	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	0.5	3.5	4
Gregory Fields	Secured	Poor	Adult	1	1	1	2
Lepton Highlanders Sports Club	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	1	3	4
Lepton Highlanders Sports Club	Secured	Poor	5v5	1	1	3	4
Totals				6	3.5	10.5	14

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	Security of Site	Quality Pitches - Poor	Pitch Type	Pitch Nos	Current Weekly Capacity Demand	Improve Quality to Good - Increased Capacity	Additional Capacity Created
Rural West Sub Area							
Broadlands Recreation Ground	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	2.5	1.5	4
Cartworth Moor	Secured	Standard	Adult	2	2.5	1.5	1
Flowery Fields	Secured	Standard	Adult	2	1.5	0.5	1
Hepworth United FC	Secured	Poor	Adult	1	1.5	0.5	2
Jagger Lane	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	1	3	4
Marsden Football Club	Secured	Poor	Adult	1	0.5	1.5	2
			Totals	10	9.5	4.5	14

- 3.4. With the exception of 2 5v5 pitches, the remainder of overplayed pitches are adult 11v11 pitches. The main reason for overplaying of the adult pitches is the lack of youth 11v11 pitches that leads to the overplay of adult pitches due to several being used for both formats of 11v11 play at different times.
- 3.5. There are nineteen sites across Kirklees with adult pitches which are overplayed by a total of 29.5 MES per week. By improving the pitch quality to good would create additional weekly capacity but not peak time capacity.
- 3.6. Raising the quality of weekly overplayed pitches from poor or standard quality to good eliminates overplay on most pitches, except for Warrenside home to Norristhorpe Football Club (Huddersfield sub area), Cartworth Moor (Rural West sub area) and Flowery Field (Rural West sub area). These pitches are overplayed beyond qualitative improvements and other solutions would be required, such as transfer of play to additional pitches.
- 3.7. There is no overall improvement on peak time use with this scenario. It only improves weekly capacity.

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Scenario - Improvement of previously identified Local Football Facilities Plan grass pitch improvement project sites to good and effect on overall capacity. Test of validity of these projects and question whether any others should be considered within the LFFP update

- 3.8. The 2018 Kirklees Local Football Facilities Plan (LFFP) identified 13 sites across Kirklees for quality grass pitch improvements. All 13 sites are considered as valid sites to receive quality improvements. The previous scenario contains some pitch sites within this scenario. These sites include: Standiforth Recreation Ground, Hawkroyd Bank, Wakefield Recreation Ground, Crown Fields, Hepworth United and Jagger Lane.
- 3.9. The table below looks at the above sites and identifies the existing quality of the pitches on site and the current weekly capacity demand. The quality has been improved to good to identify the impact on capacity at each site. The table also identifies where sites have no capacity at peak time.

Table 4: Improvement of previously identified Local Football Facilities Plan grass pitch improvement project sites

	Security of Site	Quality Pitches - Poor	Pitch Type	Pitch Nos	Current Peak Capacity Demand	Current Weekly Capacity Demand	Improve Quality to Good - Increased Capacity	Increased Weekly MES Capacity
Huddersfield Sub Area								
Standiforth Recreation Ground (Dalton Playing Fields)	Secured	Poor	Adult	3	0.5	1.5	4.5	6
Longfield Avenue	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	1	0.5	4.5	4
Longfield Avenue	Secured	Standard	Youth 11v11	1	0.5	0.5	1.5	1
Hawkroyd Bank	Secured	Standard	Adult	1	1	0.5	3.5	4
Hawkroyd Bank	Secured	Standard	9v9	1	0.5	0	1.5	1.5
Hawkroyd Bank	Secured	Standard	7v7	1	1	2	4	2
Hawkroyd Bank	Secured	Standard	5v5	1	1.5	1	3	2
North Huddersfield Trust School	Unsecured	Standard	Adult	2	3	2	5	3
North Huddersfield Trust School	Unsecured	Standard	7v7	1	1	2	4	2
Bankfield Recreation Ground	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	1	1.5	5	3.5
Bankfield Recreation Ground	Secured	Standard	Youth 11v11	2	1	2.5	4.5	2
Bankfield Recreation Ground	Secured	Standard	9v9	1	0.5	0.5	1.5	1

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	Security of Site	Quality Pitches - Poor	Pitch Type	Pitch Nos	Current Peak Capacity Demand	Current Weekly Capacity Demand	Improve Quality to Good - Increased Capacity	Increased Weekly Capacity
Bankfield Recreation Ground	Secured	Standard	7v7	1	1	2	4	2
Bankfield Recreation Ground	Secured	Standard	5v5	1	0	3	5	2
Total MES					0.5	15.5	51.5	36
Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub area								
Crawshaw Street	Secured	Poor	Adult	3	2	1.5	7.5	6
Crawshaw Street	Secured	Poor	5v5	1	0	1	5	4
Sands Lane Playing Field	Secured	Standard	Adult	5	3	8	13	5
Wakefield Road Recreation Ground	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	0.5	3	1	4
Wakefield Road Recreation Ground	Secured	Poor	9v9	1	0.5	0.5	2.5	2
Wakefield Road Recreation Ground	Secured	Poor	7v7	2	0	2	10	8
Wakefield Road Recreation Ground	Secured	Poor	5v5	2	0.5	2.5	10.5	8
Total MES					5.5	12.5	49.5	37
Rural East Sub Area								
Crown Fields	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	0	0.5	3.5	3
Cross Lane Recreation Ground	Secured	Standard	Adult	1	1	0	2	2
Totals					1	0.5	5.5	5
Rural West Sub Area								
Hepworth United FC	Secured	Poor	Adult	1	0.5	1.5	0.5	2
Hepworth United FC	Secured	Poor	7v7	2	1.5	0.5	8.5	8
Jagger Lane	Secured	Poor	Adult	2	1	1	3	2
Totals					3	3	12	12

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- 3.10. 13 sites in Table 4 above are multi pitch sites (2 or more pitches). 10 of these 13 sites are of poor quality and if improved will provide additional weekly match equivalent sessions to support the demand of adult, youth and women's and girl's football.
- 3.11. Beck Lane in the Batley and Spennings Dale Sub Area was identified in the Local Football Facilities Plan as a site for improvement. This is a single pitch site of good quality and therefore cannot be improved. However, the site is recommended for inclusion within the LFFP for improvement of the playing field to the south, on which the club hopes to establish either 2 x 7v7 or 1 9v9 pitch.
- 3.12. It is the intention of Kirklees Council to work in partnership with West Riding County Football Association, Sheffield and Hallamshire County Football Association and the Football Foundation to try to use multi-pitch and multi -sport sites more effectively going forward and move teams away from single pitch sites, if deemed feasible. However, the Council will require investment into pitch quality and changing facilities to facilitate this. The Council are keen to work with the relevant sporting NGB's to understand priority sites at any given time.
- 3.13. The following sites have all been assessed as poor or standard quality pitches:
- Reinwood Recreation Ground – Huddersfield Sub Area
 - Lindley Recreation Ground – Huddersfield Sub Area
 - Batley Girl's School – Batley and Spennings Dale Sub Area
 - Carters Field – Batley and Spennings Dale Sub Area
 - King George V – Batley and Spennings Dale Sub Area
 - Leeds Road/Paul Hynchcliffe – Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub Area
 - West Mills – Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub Area
 - Broadlands Recreation Ground – Rural West Sub Area
 - Sands Recreation Ground – Rural West Sub Area
 - Linthwaite Recreation Ground – Rural West Sub Area

Scenario – Loss of Access to School Sites & Providing security of tenure

- 3.14. There are 81 pitches across the 5 sub areas where tenure is considered unsecure and there is current community use by clubs of school sites. If these unsecured community use pitches were to fall out of use, shortfalls would be significantly exacerbated as the demand would have to relocate to other sites, thus increasing overplay or potentially resulting in exported demand.
- 3.15. The tables below considers current spare capacity, shortfalls and the loss of MES of unsecured sites.

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Table 5: Impact on Peak Time MES if Current Education sites Were Lost

Huddersfield Sub Area Pitch type	Actual Spare Capacity	Loss of Unsecured Use Capacity @ Peak time	Total Less Unsecured MES
Adult	12.5	10.5	2.5
Youth 11v11	0	4	4
Junior 9v9	0	10	10
Mini Soccer	0	5	5

Batley & Spen Sub Area Pitch type	Actual Spare Capacity	Loss of Unsecured Use Capacity @ Peak time	Total Less Unsecured MES
Adult	0.5	10	9.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	6.5	6
Junior 9v9	0	6.5	6.5
Mini Soccer	1.5	0	1.5

Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Pitch type	Actual Spare Capacity	Loss of Unsecured Use Capacity @ Peak time	Total Less Unsecured MES
Adult	16	0.5	15.5
Youth 11v11	0	0	0
Junior 9v9	4	0	4
Mini 7v7	8	0	8

Rural East Sub Area Pitch Type	Actual Spare Capacity	Loss of Unsecured Use Capacity @ Peak time	Current Total
Adult	2	5.5	3.5
Youth 11v11	1.5	0	1.5
Junior 9v9	3.5	1	2.5
Mini Soccer	0.5	6.5	6

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Rural West Sub Area Pitch type	Actual Spare Capacity	Loss of Unsecured Use Capacity @ Peak time	Current Total
Adult	0	5.5	5.5
Youth 11v11	0	1.5	1.5
Junior 9v9	0.5	1.5	1
Mini Soccer	0.5	1.5	1

3.16. The loss of access to these pitches would generate a need to re-accommodate the following demand:

- 18.5 adult MES per week.
- 11.5 youth 11v11 MES per week.
- 17.5 junior 9v9 MES per week.
- 12 mini soccer MES per week.

3.17. As there are already current and future shortfalls identified across Kirklees for each pitch type. The above loss of MES per week for each pitch type would increase the existing shortfall for each of the pitch types.

3.18. Whilst not always possible, creating community use or lease agreements between providers and users would help to ensure that such demand continues to be provided for in the long-term.

3.19. Where there is external investment on school sites, there are opportunities to secure community use as part of the funding or approval agreement. For such agreements, it is important to ensure that provision is both accessible at peak time and affordable.

3.20. There are a number of single pitch sites that could be brought back into use on Local Authority land that is not currently used. However, Kirklees Council has purposely not maintained these pitches as they are not of strategic value. These sites include 6 adult pitches, 5 youth 11v11 pitches, 1 9v9 pitch, 2 7v7 pitches and 1 5v5 pitch.

3.21. There are a number of education sites which are not currently available for community use. These are broken down by sub area in the table below.

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Table 6: Education Pitches by sub area not currently available for community use

Site name	Secured/ Unsecured	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Peak Time MES
All Saints Catholic College	Unsecured	Education	Huddersfield	Adult	11 v 11	Good	2	2
All Saints Catholic College	Unsecured	Education	Huddersfield	Youth	9 v 9	Good	2	2
Colne Valley High School	Unsecured	Education	Rural West	Adult	11 v 11	Standard	2	2
Lepton C of E Voluntary Junior Infants and Nursery	Unsecured	Education	Rural East	Youth	11 v 11	Poor	2	2
Lindley Junior School	Unsecured	Education	Huddersfield	Mini	7 v 7	Poor	2	2
Moorend Academy	Unsecured	Education	Huddersfield	Youth	11 v 11	Poor	2	2
Newsome High School	Unsecured	Education	Huddersfield	Adult	11 v 11	Poor	1	1
Newsome High School	Unsecured	Education	Huddersfield	Youth	11 v 11	Poor	2	2
Ravensthorpe CE Junior School	Unsecured	Education	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Youth	11 v 11	Poor	1	1
Royds Hall High School	Unsecured	Education	Huddersfield	Adult	11 v 11	Poor	2	2
Upper Batley High School	Unsecured	Education	Batley and Spen	Adult	11 v 11	Poor	2	2
Upper Batley High School	Unsecured	Education	Batley and Spen	Youth	11 v 11	Poor	1	1
Westborough High School	Unsecured	Education	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Adult	11 v 11	Poor	2	2
Totals: 11 sites							23	23

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Table 7: Number of Peak Time and Weekly MES Capacity if Non Available Education Pitches come into use with 1 MES allocated per pitch for school weekly use

Site name	Pitch Rating	Pitch Type	Number of Pitches	Pitch Capacity	Demand (Match Equivalent Sessions weekly) Including 1 School MES per pitch and peak time use	Difference Between Capacity & Demand Match Equivalent Sessions Weekly	Demand Match Equivalent Sessions Peak Period	Match Equivalent Sessions Actual Spare Capacity in The Peak Period
All Saints Catholic College	Good	Adult 11v11	2	6	4	2	2	0
All Saints Catholic College	Good	Youth 9v9	2	8	4	4	2	0
Lindley Junior School	Poor	Mini 7v7	2	4	4	0	2	0
Moorend Academy	Poor	Youth 11v11	2	2	4	-2	2	0
Newsome High School	Poor	Adult 11v11	1	1	2	-1	1	0
Newsome High School	Poor	Youth 11v11	2	2	4	-2	2	0
Royds Hall High School	Poor	Adult 11v11	2	2	4	-2	2	0
Huddersfield Total			13	25	26	-1	13	0
Lepton C of E Voluntary Junior Infants and Nursery	Poor	Youth	2	2	4	-2	2	0
Rural East Total			2	2	4	-2	2	0
Colne Valley High School	Standard	Adult	2	4	4	0	2	0
Rural West Total			2	4	4	0	2	0
Ravensthorpe CE Junior School	Poor	Youth	1	1	2	-1	1	0
Westborough High School	Poor	Adult	2	2	4	-2	2	0
Dewsbury & Mirfield Total			3	3	6	-3	3	0
Upper Batley High School	Poor	Adult	2	2	4	-2	2	0
Upper Batley High School	Poor	Youth	1	1	2	-1	1	0
Batley & Spen Total			3	3	6	-3	3	0

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- 3.22. Most of these pitches are poor quality. The overall capacity equates to 23 MES that could be called upon if community use agreements can be established with the individual sites for peak time play. However, these are school pitches and are used by the schools. The table above allocates 1 MES per pitch weekly to accommodate school use and community use weekly and at peak time. By improving the quality of poor pitches to standard quality where there is weekly overplay in the table above (highlighted red) would provide balanced weekly and peak time play.
- 3.23. This means that capacity for community use will be restricted without prior investment to make them standard or good. An investment funding agreement into these facilities would need to include a community use agreement to safeguard community use.
- 3.24. The potential impact with investment in quality to raise weekly capacity on peak time use is shown in table 8 below:

Table 8: Impact on sub area and Kirklees current capacity by providing community use agreements with education establishment sites with pitches that are currently not available for community use

Football Current demand 2021		Impact of Establishing community Use agreements at Current Non available school Pitches	Demand including Current non available School Pitches brought into use
Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	Increased Provision Peak Time (MES)	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)
Huddersfield	Adult 11v11 no current shortfall	5	Adult 11v11 no current shortfall
	Youth 11v11 1.5	4	Youth 11v11 no current shortfall
	Junior 9v9 5.5	2	Youth 3.5
	Mini Soccer 9.5	2	Mini soccer 7.5
Batley & Spen	Adult 11v11 7	2	Adult 11v11 5
	Youth 11v11 2.5	1	Youth 11v11 1.5
	Junior 9v9 2.5		Junior 9v9 2.5
	Mini Soccer 7		Mini Soccer 7
Dewsbury & Mirfield	Adult 11v11 No current shortfall	2	Adult 11v11 no current shortfall
	Youth 11v11 1.5	1	Youth 11v11 0.5
	Junior 9v9 No current shortfall		Junior 9v9 no current shortfall
	Mini Soccer No current shortfall		Mini Soccer No current shortfall

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Football Current demand 2021		Impact of Establishing community Use agreements at Current Non available school Pitches	Demand including Current non available School Pitches brought into use
Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	Increased Provision Peak Time (MES)	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)
Rural West	Adult 11v11 8	2	Adult 11v11 6
	Youth 11v11 Played to capacity		Youth 11v11 Played to capacity
	Junior 9v9 Played to capacity		Junior 9v9 Played to capacity
	Mini Soccer 2.5		Mini Soccer 2.5
Rural East	Adult 11v11 3.5	2	Adult 11v11 1.5
	Youth 11v11 No current shortfall		Youth 11v11 No current shortfall
	Junior 9v9 No current shortfall		Junior 9v9 No current shortfall
	Mini Soccer 6		Mini Soccer 6
Kirklees Total	Adult 11v11 18.5	11	Adult 11v11 7.5
	Youth 11v11 5.5	8	Youth 11v11 2.5
	Junior 9v9 8	2	Junior 9v9 6
	Mini Soccer 25	2	Mini Soccer 23

- 3.25. By establishing community use agreements with school sites not open for community use can potentially currently reduce overplay at peak time for adult 11v11 from 18.5 MES to 7.5 MES, provided underplay of 2.5MES for youth 11v11 and reduce overplay of junior 9v9 from 8 to 6 MES and mini soccer from 25 to 23 MES per week.

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Scenario – If Disused Sites are Brought Back into use,

- 3.26. Playing fields which have previously accommodated formal pitch provision are categorised as disused. A disused site is a playing field which is not being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either. Table 9 provides a list of disused sites across Kirklees:

Table 9: Disused Sites Across Kirklees

Site name	Available for community use?	Secured/Unsecured	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches
Former Birkdale High School Playing Fields Not used since 2014	No use Identified	Secured	Council	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Adult	11v11	1
Former Birkdale High School Playing Fields Not used since 2014	No use Identified	Secured	Council	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Youth	11 v 11	1
High Burton Recreation Ground Not used since 2014	No use Identified	Secured	Council	Huddersfield	Youth	9 v 9	1
Lees Holme Park Not used since 2104	No use Identified Since 2014	Secured	Council	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Adult	11 v 11	1
Sycamore Recreation Ground Not used since 2014	No use Identified since 2014	Secured	Council	Rural West	Adult	11 v 11	1
Sycamore Recreation Ground Not used since 2014	No use Identified since 2014	Secured	Council	Rural West	Mini	7 v 7	1
Bar Croft (Stoney Ford) was used in 2014	Yes	Secured	Unknown	Huddersfield	Adult	11 v 11	1
St Patricks Mill Street was once used by Birstall St Patricks FC – Development Site Local Plan	Yes	Secured	Unknown	Batley & Spen	Adult	11 v 11	1
White Lee Football Ground	Yes	Secured	Local Authority	Batley & Spen	Adult	11 v 11	1
Bradley Mills Cricket Club Barr Street – A members club no sport played – Cricket club folded 1995 has goal posts in position and a bowls green disused. Fields are currently used for paying parking at Huddersfield Town and Giants home games.	No use identified	Secured Sports Club	Unknown	Huddersfield	Adult	11 v 11	1

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Site name	Available for community use?	Secured/ Unsecured	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches
Brook Motors Sports Club	No use identified	Previously Secured Sports Club	Unknown	Rural West	Adult	11v11	1
Totals							11

- 3.27. There are nine disused sites. 2 of these sites the former Birkdale High School Playing Fields and Sycamore Recreation Ground provided 2 pitches the remainder are all one pitch sites.
- 3.28. Sycamore Recreation Ground – Rural West Sub Area has a drain crossing the adult 11v11 and mini 7v7 and has flooding issues. The drain issue is unlikely to be resolved as the drain causes safety concerns for football play.
- 3.29. If the remaining 8 sites were brought back into use and were of poor quality, they would provide the following additional MES at peak time of play in the sub areas:
- Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub Area - 2 adult 11v11 MES and 1 youth 11v11 MES
 - Huddersfield Sub Area – 2 adult 11v11 MES and 1 youth 11v11 MES
 - Batley and Spennings Sub Area - 2 adult 11v11 MES
 - Rural West Sub Area – 1 adult 11v11 MES
- 3.30. The majority of these pitches are poor quality. The overall capacity equates to 7 adult 11v11 MES and 2 youth 11v11 MES weekly that could be called upon.

Table 10: Impact of bringing back into use disused sites and Education sites not currently available for use.

Football Current demand 2021		Impact of Establishing community Use agreements at Current Non available school Pitches	Demand including Current Non-Available School Pitches brought into use	Bring Back into use Disused Sites	Total Football Demand with Non-Available School Pitches and Disused sites in Use
Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	Increased Provision Peak Time (MES)	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	
Huddersfield	Adult 11v11 no current shortfall	5	Adult 11v11 no current shortfall	2	Adult 11v11 no current shortfall

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Football Current demand 2021		Impact of Establishing community Use agreements at Current Non available school Pitches	Demand including Current Non-Available School Pitches brought into use	Bring Back into use Disused Sites	Total Football Demand with Non-Available School Pitches and Disused sites in Use
Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	Increased Provision Peak Time (MES)	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	
Batley & Spen	Youth 11v11 1.5	4	Youth 11v11 no current shortfall	1	Youth 11v11 no current shortfall
	Junior 9v9 5.5	2	Junior 9v9 3.5		Junior 9v9 3.5
	Mini Soccer 9.5	2	Mini soccer 7.5		Mini soccer 7.5
	Adult 11v11 7	2	Adult 11v1 1.5	2	Adult 11v1 No current shortfall
	Youth 11v11 2.5	1	Youth 11v11 1.5		Youth 11v11 1.5
	Junior 9v9 2.5		Junior 9v9 2.5		Junior 9v9 2.5
	Mini Soccer 7		Mini Soccer 7		Mini Soccer 7
Dewsbury & Mirfield	Adult 11v11 No current shortfall	2	Adult 11v11 no current shortfall	2	Adult 11v11 no current shortfall
	Youth 11v11 1.5	1	Youth 11v11 0.5	1	Youth 11v11 no current shortfall
	Junior 9v9 No current shortfall		Junior 9v9 no current shortfall		Junior 9v9 no current shortfall
	Mini Soccer No current shortfall		Mini Soccer No current shortfall		Mini Soccer No current shortfall
Rural West	Adult 11v11 8	2	Adult 11v11 6	1	Adult 11v11 5
	Youth 11v11 Played to capacity		Youth 11v11 Played to capacity		Youth 11v11 Played to capacity
	Junior 9v9 Played to capacity		Junior 9v9 Played to capacity		Junior 9v9 Played to capacity
	Mini Soccer 2.5		Mini Soccer 2.5		Mini Soccer 2.5
Rural East	Adult 11v11 3.5	2	Adult 11v11 1.5		Adult 11v11 1.5
	Youth 11v11 No current shortfall		Youth 11v11 No current shortfall		Youth 11v11 No current shortfall

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Football Current demand 2021		Impact of Establishing community Use agreements at Current Non available school Pitches	Demand including Current Non-Available School Pitches brought into use	Bring Back into use Disused Sites	Total Football Demand with Non-Available School Pitches and Disused sites in Use
Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	Increased Provision Peak Time (MES)	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	Shortfall in Provision Peak time (MES)	
	Junior 9v9 No current shortfall		Junior 9v9 No current shortfall		Junior 9v9 No current shortfall
	Mini Soccer 6		Mini Soccer 6		Mini Soccer 6
Kirklees Total	Adult 11v11 18.5	11	Adult 11v11 7.5	7	Adult 11v11 0.5
	Youth 11v11 5.5	8	Youth 11v11 2.5	2	Youth 11v11 4.5
	Junior 9v9 8	2	Junior 9v9 6		Junior 9v9 6
	Mini Soccer 25	2	Mini Soccer 23		Mini Soccer 23

3.31. Bringing back into use disused sites and establishing community use agreements with schools not currently providing community use, currently reduces overplay of adult 11v11 pitches at peak time from 18.5 MES to 0.5 MES. Youth 11v11 overplay is reduced from 5.5 to an underplay of 4.5 MES, junior 9v9 overplay is reduced from 8 MES to 6 MES and mini soccer from 25 MES to 23 MES. Brining back disused sites has no impact on peak time play for junior 9v9 or mini soccer 7v7.

Scenario – Housing Growth

3.32. Kirklees Council has supplied the following housing growth and population to 2031.

Table 11: Housing growth across the PPS Sub Areas to 2031

PPS Sub-Area	Housing Capacity on Local Plan Allocated Sites Without Planning Permission (Oct 2021)	Population based on average Household size 2.3 persons.
Huddersfield	4,424	10175
Dewsbury & Mirfield	2,777	6387
Batley & Spen	3,837	8825
Rural East	840	1932
Rural West	1,511	3475
Total	13389	30794

3.33. Using Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator the table below indicates the number of match equivalent sessions that would be required.

Table 12: Housing growth across the PPS Sub Areas to 2031

Age group	Kirklees Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Kirklees Number of home matches per team per week	Huddersfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Huddersfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Batley & Spen sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Batley & Spen Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural East Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural East Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural West Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural West Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week
Senior Men 11 v 11	14.17	7.08	4.68	2.34	4.06	2.03	2.94	1.47	0.89	0.44	1.60	0.80
Senior Women 11 v 11	1.11	0.56	0.37	0.18	0.32	0.16	0.23	0.12	0.07	0.03	0.13	0.06

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Age group	Kirklees Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Kirklees Number of home matches per team per week	Huddersfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Huddersfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Batley & Spen sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Batley & Spen Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural East Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural East Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural West Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural West Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week
Youth Boys 11 v 11	9.72	4.86	3.21	1.61	2.79	1.39	2.02	1.01	0.61	0.30	1.10	0.55
Youth Girls 11 v 11	1.04	0.52	0.34	0.17	0.30	0.15	0.22	0.11	0.07	0.03	0.12	0.06
Junior Boys 9 v 9	6.95	3.47	2.29	1.15	1.99	1.00	1.44	0.72	0.44	0.22	0.78	0.39
Junior Girls 9 v 9	0.76	0.38	0.25	0.13	0.22	0.11	0.16	0.08	0.05	0.02	0.09	0.04
Mini-Soccer	16.11	8.05	5.32	2.66	4.62	2.31	3.34	1.67	1.01	0.51	1.82	0.91
Total	49.86	24.92	16.46	8.24	14.3	7.15	10.35	5.18	49.86	24.92	16.46	8.24

- 3.34. In total it is projected a further 50 (49.86 rounded up) teams will be created by housing growth by 2031 across Kirklees, requiring an additional 8 MES for Adult 11v11, 6 MES for youth 11v11, 3 MES for Junior 9v9 and 8 MES for mini soccer. It would also require an additional 2 (1.43 rounded up) 3G AGPs to meet training needs. Huddersfield and Batley and Spen have the highest rise in team numbers c16 and c14 respectively by 2031. This is nearly equivalent to half a 3G AGP in both sub areas increasing the future 3G demand for football training to 8 3G AGPs in the Huddersfield sub area and 5 3G AGPs in the Batley and Spen sub area. The future provision of 3G AGPs has taken into account the new 3G pitch at Lockwood Park.
- 3.35. In summary there is a need to protect all existing football playing field sites including unused sites as there is a shortfall of supply across all football formats. There is a need to offer clubs with overplay sites that have spare capacity and ensure all teams are playing on the pitches of the correct size and, where possible explore reconfiguration of adult pitches to accommodate youth 11v11 teams.
- 3.36. Where pitches are overplayed and/or assessed as 'Poor' or 'Standard' quality. There is a need to prioritise investment and review the delivery model of maintenance. This is to ensure pitches are of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality to a 'good' standard.

- 3.37. There is a need to consider the tenure of clubs and consider the potential and feasibility for asset transfer or long term leaseholds to clubs that are considered realistically able to sustain and maintain sporting provision as required, allowing for greater opportunities to access external funding streams.
- 3.38. Ancillary facilities need to consider the needs of women, girls and disability access. New or upgraded provision of ancillary facilities should be prioritised at multi pitch sites and the provision of toilet facilities as a minimum at all sites.

Football Recommendations

- 1.** Protect existing quantity of pitches unless replacement provision is able to meet Sport England Playing Fields Policy and suitable mitigation or replacement provision is agreed and delivered.
- 2.** Where pitches are overplayed and/or assessed as ‘Poor’ or ‘Standard’ quality, prioritise investment and review delivery model of maintenance.
- 3.** To ensure maintenance is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality to a ‘good’ standard.
- 4.** Encourage use of PitchPower to assess pitch quality across all providers, especially local authority-maintained provision to maintain a current technical understanding of pitch quality and to evidence need for increased investment at priority sites.
- 5.** Support clubs and other eligible organisations to access funding through the likes of Football Foundation to improve quality of grass pitches and to sustain good quality once improved.
- 6.** Consider the potential and feasibility for asset transfer or long-term leasehold to clubs which express interest and are considered realistically able to sustain and maintain sporting provision as required, allowing for greater opportunities to access external funding streams for facility development.
- 7.** Work to accommodate future demand as well as unmet and latent demand at sites which are not operating at capacity, or at sites not currently available for community use that could become so, moving forward.
- 8.** Provide security of tenure for clubs using remaining unsecured sites through community use agreements or through conditions of external investment, particularly at key education sites used by community clubs and teams.
- 9.** Ensure all teams are playing on the pitches of the correct size and, where possible, explore reconfiguration of adult pitches to accommodate youth 11v11 teams.

- 10.** Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer. Ensure any works provide suitability for female and disability access to facilitate increased football formats. Prioritise multi - pitch sites and key sites for female participation and development, seek to provide access to toilet facilities as a minimum requirement at all sites.
- 11.** Where a residential development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, (2 pitches or more) focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that meet the new demand created by the development and existing shortfalls where possible, with accompanying clubhouse, access and car parking provision included given that single pitch sites without appropriate ancillary facilities can be unsustainable.
- 12.** Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site football provision, secure contributions to improve existing sites within the locality, guided by the priorities identified within the PPS Action Plan and Kirklees Local Football Facility Plan
- 13.** Update the Kirklees Local Football Facility Plan based on the key findings of the PPS to focus plans for investment into Football Foundation investment into the improvement of facilities with partners.

3G Pitches

3G Pitch Summary Key Issues

1. There is an insufficient supply of full size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future demand for football in Kirklees. Although currently there is no World Rugby 22 Regulation compliant full size 3G provision in Kirklees construction of one is taking place at Laund Hill Community Club this will also be used for football. Lockwood Park has a new full-size football 3G pitch with line markings although not full senior rugby union size it has rugby union line markings and is registered with the FA and RFU. This creates opportunities for adult training and junior and mini rugby match play at Lockwood Park. The Football Foundation and Rugby League are currently working with the East Bierley Community Association to develop a project for a football/rugby league compliant 3G pitch.
2. There are currently 7 full size 3G pitches across Kirklees available for community use, (Batley Sports and Tennis Centre, Leeds Road Sports Centre, Huddersfield New College, St John Fisher Catholic Academy, Moorend Academy, Tetley Stadium and the recent Lockwood Park 3G pitch) and 8 once Laund Hill is completed. 5 of the current 7 3G AGPs available for community use are currently FA Registered. These are Batley Sports and Tennis Centre, Leeds Road Sports Centre, Huddersfield New College, St John Fisher Catholic Academy, and the recent Lockwood Park 3G pitch.
3. Several stakeholders have shown an interest in 3G pitch provision, where potential planning permission may be explored, provided that any project would have no potential negative impact on other sports
4. There is an existing need for 19 x 3G pitches and a current shortfall of 12 x 3G pitches. Without knowing the programmes for Lockwood Park and Laund Hill it is expected at least half will be rugby union so each 3G AGP will only account for 0.5 of a AGP each so the need from the PPS and LFFP will still be 12 3G AGPs for football.
5. Considering future demand. Demand modelling predicts a need for a further 3 x 3G pitches in addition to the current shortfall of 12 x 3G pitches, making a total projected shortfall of 15 x 3G pitches

3G Pitches - Accommodating Football Training Demand

- 3.39. To satisfy current football training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size 3G pitch being able to cater for 38 teams), Table 10 identifies a current need for 19 full size 3G AGPs. There is currently 7 full size 3G AGPs across Kirklees available for community use (including Lockwood Park 0.5 pitch and the pitch under construction at Laund Hill 0.5 pitch, plus an 80m pitch at Moor End Academy (Not included). There is a current shortfall of 12 full size 3G AGPs across Kirklees.

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- 3.40. These 3G shortfall projections are based on football training need only. Providing access opportunities to rugby union and rugby league would mean more pitches may be required and sustained.
- 3.41. When accounting for future demand, the need is 23 full size AGPs. There are currently 7 available for community use, plus an 80m pitch at Moor End Academy. The future shortfall is 15 full size 3G AGPs. The future need increases from the current shortfall of 12 to a future shortfall of 15 full size 3G AGPs.
- 3.42. Table 13 identifies that the Huddersfield sub area has a current shortfall of 3 full size 3G AGPs and this rises further to 4 in the future.
- 3.43. The Batley and Spen sub area has a current shortfall of 3 full size 3G AGPs, and this rises further to 4 in the future.
- 3.44. The Dewsbury and Mirfield sub area has a current shortfall of 1 full size 3G AGP, and the shortfall remains at 1 in the future.
- 3.45. The Rural East sub area has a current shortfall of 3 full size 3G AGPs, and this remains at 3 required in the future.
- 3.46. The Rural West sub area has a current shortfall of 3 full size 3G AGPs, and this rises further to 3 required in the future.

Table 13: Demand for full size 3G pitches in Kirklees – Training Demand (Including the new Lockwood Park 3G)

Analysis Sub Area	Current No. of Teams	Current Requirement	Current No. of Full size 3G	Current Shortfall	Future Number of Teams	Future Requirement	Future Shortfall
Huddersfield Sub Area (Current includes 0.5 each for Lockwood Park and Laund Hill but excludes Moorend Academy)	266	7.0	4	3	298	8 (7.8 rounded up)	4
Batley and Spen Sub Area	142	3.7	1	2.7	169	5 (4.4 rounded up)	4
Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area	88	2.3	2	0.3	111	3 (2.9 rounded up)	1
Rural East Sub Area	112	2.9	0	2.9	117	3	3
Rural West Sub Area	110	2.8	0	2.9	124	3 (3.3 rounded down)	3
Kirklees Total	718	19 (18.9)	7	12 (11.8)	819	23	15

3G Pitches – Accommodating Match Play

- 3.47. The alternative to grass pitches is the use of AGPs for competitive matches and this is something that the FA is supporting, particularly for mini football. In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches the pitch must be FA tested and approved (to either FA or FIFA standard) and it will then appear on the FA Pitch Register.

Scenario - Moving All Mini Soccer 5v5 and 7v7 Match Play Demand to 3G Pitches

- 3.48. There are currently 232 x 7v7 and 5v5 mini soccer teams. This total is broken down into peak time of play for each typology:
- 5v5 mini soccer - 2 midweek teams, 29 Saturday teams and 71 Sunday teams
 - 7v7 mini soccer – 1 midweek team, 47 Saturday teams and 82 Sunday teams
- 3.49. The peak time of play for 5v5 mini soccer is a Sunday with 71 teams playing and the peak time of play for 7v7 teams is also Sunday with 82 teams playing.
- 3.50. The FA is keen to work with LAs to understand the potential demand for full size floodlit 3G AGPs should all competitive matches, currently played on LA managed natural grass pitches, be transferred to one.
- 3.51. Based on the FA model for competitive football, 8 full sized FA/FIFA certified 3G pitches (rounded up from 7.34) would be required to accommodate all mini soccer teams, inclusive of those already playing on 3G pitches. This is on the basis that both playing formats can be accommodated on one day using staggered kick off times.
- 3.52. The 8 full size pitches could accommodate 8 adult 11v11 match equivalent sessions on a Saturday afternoon.

Scenario – Firstly Moving All Mini Soccer 5v5 and 7v7 Match Play Demand to 3G Pitches with all 9v9 match Play and Secondly 50% of 9v9 Match Play.

- 3.53. There are 111 x 9v9 teams. Match play takes place on a Saturday 27 teams and Sundays 84 teams. Peak time of play is a Sunday with 84 teams.
- 3.54. Based on the FA model for competitive football, 14 full sized FA/FIFA certified 3G pitches (rounded up from 13.89) would be required to accommodate all mini soccer teams, and all 9v9 teams inclusive of those already playing on 3G pitches. This is on the basis that both playing formats can be accommodated on one day using staggered kick off times.

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- 3.55. The 14 full size pitches could accommodate 14 adult 11v11 match equivalent sessions on a Saturday afternoon and 14 women match equivalent sessions on a Sunday afternoon.
- 3.56. If all mini soccer and only 50% of 9v9 match play was played on 3G pitches, 11 full sized FA/FIFA certified 3G pitches (rounded up from 10.61) would be required to accommodate all mini soccer teams, and 50% of all 9v9 teams inclusive of those already playing on 3G pitches. This is on the basis that both playing formats can be accommodated on one day using staggered kick off times.
- 3.57. The 11 full size pitches could accommodate 11 adult 11v11 match equivalent sessions on a Saturday afternoon and 11 women match equivalent sessions on a Sunday afternoon.
- 3.58. Should new 3G pitches be created, there is a likely impact on the sustainability of hockey suitable AGPs as football demand is likely to transfer to 3G. Access to this capacity should be sought for hockey use to accommodate and facilitate participation growth and access for clubs.
- 3.59. Conversion of sand based AGPS to 3G should not take place unless consultation with England Hockey identifies the AGP is not required to meet existing or future predicted demand. Kirklees Council should consider how through the planning process it can prevent inappropriate conversion that has a detrimental impact on the existing sport.

Scenario - Creating additional full size 3G pitches for football

- 3.60. First and foremost, the development of additional full size 3G pitches should work towards alleviating the shortfall for training Monday – Friday and then consider match play on a Saturday and Sunday as well as providing recreational and informal opportunities. This will ensure sustainability of the pitch.
- 3.61. Across Kirklees the PPS has identified an existing shortfall of 12 3G AGPs and a future shortfall of 15 3G AGPs.

3G Pitch Provision

Huddersfield Sub Area

- 3.62. The Huddersfield Sub Area requires 4 x full size 3G pitches in the future. This takes into consideration the new 3G AGP at Lockwood Park. However, it is unclear what the ratio of take up for football and rugby will be. Laund Hill Community Park 3G AGP is under construction and again it is not known what the programme will be. In both cases 0.5 has been put against these 3G AGPs for football use currently. The use of these 2 AGPs needs to be identified as part of the Stage E review for the 23/24 season.
- 3.63. The Kirklees Local Plan requires that housing development proposed on land north of Bradley Road, Bradley must allow for a repurposed 9-hole golf course, clubhouse and two full sized 3G AGPs and the provision of these pitches is likely to be a few years away.

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- 3.64. The Bradley Road 2 x 3G AGP development reduces the future need to 2 x full size 3G AGPs in the Huddersfield sub area and leaves a requirement for 2 additional 3G AGPs. This will be dependent on how much football training takes place at Lockwood Park and Laund Hill Community Park.

Batley and Spenningsdale Sub Area

- 3.65. The Batley and Spenningsdale Sub Area requires an additional 4 x full size 3G pitches in the future.
- 3.66. East Bierley Community Sports Association has planning permission for a 3G pitch and is working with the Football Foundation on this project. If the project is successful this would reduce the future need to 3 x 3G AGPs.
- 3.67. Discussions should be held with England hockey over the future of Hyrstmount AGP. The carpet could be changed to 3G in the future. This site has multi sports opportunities for football and rugby football league.
- 3.68. Liversedge FC would like to develop a 3G pitch in the Spenningsdale Valley that can be used by themselves, the local community and schools.
- 3.69. There are possible developer contributions for facilities at BBG Grammar School that could contribute to 3G pitch provision.
- 3.70. Provision of a 3G AGP at the above sites could meet the Batley and Spenningsdale sub area requirement for 4 future additional 3G AGPs, subject to the level of football use where there is shared programming of the pitch with other sports.

Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub Area

- 3.71. The Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub Area has a future shortfall of 1 x full size 3G pitch.

Rural East Sub Area

- 3.72. The Rural East Sub Area has a future shortfall of 3 x full size 3G pitches.
- 3.73. Lepton Highlanders, Shelley College and Scissett FC (Scisset Middle School) have aspirations for 3G pitch provision.

Rural West Sub Area

- 3.74. The Rural West Sub Area has a future shortfall of 2 x full size 3G pitches.

- 3.75. Holmfirth High School has planning permission for a full size 3G pitch. The planning approval has conditions, which restrict the use of sports lighting and therefore substantially limits the level of capacity a pitch could contribute to meeting community use demand in the evening's midweek. The school are looking to self-finance the development.
- 3.76. Meltham Athletic has aspirations to provide a 3G pitch at Broadlands Recreation Ground.

3G Pitch Recommendations

1. Protect the existing stock of 3G pitches.
2. Explore opportunities to create multi-pitch (potentially multi-sport) hub sites where 3G provision is able to support grass pitches
3. Retain all certified 3G pitches on the respective sporting registers and ensure certification of each is renewed through performance standard testing.
4. Maximise use of capacity where available at weekends to accommodate match play, so as to reduce grass pitch shortfalls.
5. Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet NGB compliant dimensions that are appropriate for that sport, format of play and the appropriate quality performance standards that meet the performance testing criteria.
6. Ensure that any new 3G pitches have community use agreements in place.
7. Ensure all 3G pitch providers put in place a sinking fund to meet the cost of carpet and sports lighting replacement/refurbishment to ensure long-term pitch sustainability.
8. Encourage more match play on 3G AGPs for football by providing multi line-marking solutions to allow for match-play across all formats of football (5v5, 7v7, 9v9 and 11v11). This will enable significant levels of match-play to be transferred from grass to 3G, particularly mini soccer and junior 9v9, this will help to alleviate over play of existing grass pitches and allow for the grass pitches where transfer of play occurs to be reconfigured for alternative football play if necessary and ensure that 3G pitches remain suitable to accommodate such demand through appropriate 3G AGP Registration.
9. Where a residential development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, consider the potential for 3G provision on multi-pitch sites, and as a minimum requirement, design new sites so that they could accommodate 3G provision later, if required.

10. Kirklees Council should investigate opportunities to increase operating hours at existing 3G pitches where lighting restrictions exist because of existing planning conditions and hold discussions with NGBs and Sport England to understand the improvements made to sports lighting that have eliminated past environmental issues. Kirklees Council should seek to ensure that local policy and judgement of sports lighting is reflective of modern sports lighting and the advancements in technology which now reduce ecological impact. However, poorly located 3G pitches near housing may not be able to have lighting and noise restrictions lifted.
11. Partners should explore demand for 3G pitches for all sports collaboratively at a strategic level in order to determine where compliant facilities are required for different pitch sports across the Borough and to inform future design and programming.

Rugby Union – Grass Pitch Summary Key Issues

1. The community use rugby club sites provide 9 adult and 1 junior secured community use pitches.
2. In addition to the above there are 4 senior and 2 junior rugby pitches provided on education sites across Kirklees. These pitches are used by schools and are all overplayed.
3. There is no actual spare capacity at any of the community clubs after considering current training and match play.
4. There is overplay at peak time for junior youth and mini match equivalent sessions on Sundays AM at Cleckheaton RUFC (Cleckheaton Sports Club). Balanced play at Whitcliffe Mount School Playing Fields and Huddersfield RUFC and capacity at Huddersfield Laund Hill Rugby Club (Formerly Huddersfield YMCA).
5. Cleckheaton RUFC are at capacity on their existing home ground site (1 pitch) and must use Whitcliffe Mount School Playing Fields and are struggling to accommodate all their teams.
6. Overall, there is a current shortfall of 27.75 match and training equivalent sessions per week on community club rugby union pitches to meet current demand. Shortfalls are further exacerbated when considering future demand, equating to 36.25 match and training equivalent sessions.
7. Cleckheaton RUFC (Cleckheaton Sports Club) pavilion and changing accommodation is of 'Poor' quality.
8. Huddersfield RUFC - Ideally there would be an additional match official changing room due to the number of pitches and to accommodate female match officials. The site has access for the disabled, a clubroom and kitchen. There is car parking, however, this is not adequate for all pitches. Users rate showers and changing accommodation as good quality.
9. Huddersfield RUFC – Has floodlights on 3.5 pitches. However, the floodlights all require rewiring, and the club are currently seeking funding for this works.
10. Huddersfield LH RUFC changing rooms are rated as standard quality.
11. There may be opportunities to discuss future access to World Rugby 22 Compliant AGPs at Laund Hill Community Park and East Bierley Community Sports Association.

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12. Priority should be placed first and foremost on alleviating overplay. Given that the majority of overplay is a result of training demand on grass pitches, it is considered that there is a potential need for additional sports lighting, pitch quality improvements and/or access to World Rugby compliant AGP. The provision of a World Rugby Compliant pitch at Lockwood Park, although too small for adult match play for senior teams. some Juniors, minis and midis will be able to use the pitch for match play and training.

Scenario - Scenario - Improving pitch quality.

3.77. Improving pitch quality and drainage of existing rugby union pitches and the impact on weekly capacity is considered in the table below.

Table 14: Improving Quality and Drainage of Rugby Pitches and impact on weekly capacity.

Site	Match & Training Capacity Weekly	Overplayed MES Weekly	Improve Quality of Maintenance/ Drainage	Overplay/Spare Capacity after improving quality of Drainage and Maintenance Weekly
Cleckheaton Sports Club – Cleckheaton Rugby Club	2 MES (Maintenance M2/ Drainage DO)	11 MES	Maintenance at highest. M2 (2 MES) Improve drainage to pipe and slit increase to D3/M2 MES (3.5 MES) from DO/M2 (2 MES) weekly improvement = 1.5 MES Total weekly increased capacity equates to 1.5 MES.	9.5 MES
Whitcliffe Mount School – Cleckheaton Rugby Club	3 MES (Maintenance both pitches M1 / Drainage D0)	5 MES	Improve maintenance to M2 and drainage to pipe and slit D3 = M2/D3 (2 x 3.5 MES) = 7 MES from M1/D0 (2 x 1.5 MES) = 3 MES Total weekly increased capacity equates to 4 MES	1 MES
Lockwood Park - Huddersfield RUFC	9.75 MES 1 st Pitch (floodlit) D2 M2 2 nd Pitch D2 M1 3 rd Pitch D2 M1	6 MES	Pitch 2 and 3 Improve maintenance to M2/D2 (2 x 3.25 MES = 6.5 MES) from M1/D2 (2 x 2.5 MES = 5 MES) weekly improvement = 1.5 MES. Improve maintenance of junior pitch.to M2/D0 (2 MES) from M1\D0 (1.5 MES) weekly improvement = 0.5 MES. 1 st pitch (floodlit) maintenance is currently good M2 and drainage D2 (3.25 MES) - improve drainage to D3/M2 (3.5 MES) weekly improvement = 0.25 MES.	1.75 MES

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Site	Match & Training Capacity Weekly	Overplayed MES Weekly	Improve Quality of Maintenance/ Drainage	Overplay/Spare Capacity after improving quality of Drainage and Maintenance Weekly									
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Junior/ Mini pitch</td> <td>D0</td> <td>M1</td> </tr> </table>	Junior/ Mini pitch	D0	M1		<p>2nd and 3rd pitch with maintenance improvement to M2/D2 (3.25 MES x 2 pitches = 6.5 MES) considered above. Improve drainage to pipe and slit increase to D3/M2 MES (2 x 3.5 MES = 7 MES) from D2/M2 (2 x 3.25 MES = 6.5 MES) weekly improvement = 0.5 MES</p> <p>Junior mini pitch with maintenance improvements to M2 /D0 (2 MES) considered above improve drainage to pipe and slit to D3/M2 MES (3.5 MES) from D0/M2 (2 MES) weekly improvement 1.5 MES.</p> <p>.</p> <p>Total weekly increased capacity equates to 4.25 MES.</p>							
Junior/ Mini pitch	D0	M1											
Huddersfield Laund Hill RUFC	<p>7 MES</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1st Pitch (Floodlit)</td> <td>D3</td> <td>M1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd Pitch</td> <td>D1</td> <td>M1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3rd Pitch</td> <td>D1</td> <td>M1</td> </tr> </table>	1 st Pitch (Floodlit)	D3	M1	2 nd Pitch	D1	M1	3 rd Pitch	D1	M1	5.75 MES	<p>Improve quality of maintenance – floodlit pitch M1/D3 (3 MES) to M2/D3 (3.5 MES) weekly improvement 0.5 MES</p> <p>.</p> <p>2nd and 3rd pitch increase maintenance from M1/D1 (2 x 2 MES = 4 MES) to M2 and provide pipe and slit drainage D3 (2 x 3.5 MES = 7 MES) weekly improvement 3 MES</p> <p>Total weekly increased capacity equates to 3.5 MES.</p>	2.25 MES
1 st Pitch (Floodlit)	D3	M1											
2 nd Pitch	D1	M1											
3 rd Pitch	D1	M1											
Totals	21.5 MES	27.75 MES	13.25 MES	14.5 MES									

3.78. By improving the maintenance to good M2 and providing pipe and slit drainage D3 across all sites and pitches still leaves a shortfall of 14.5 MES. Lockwood Park is overplayed by 1.75 MES weekly. Huddersfield Laund Hill RUFC has overplay of 2.25 MES weekly and Cleckheaton Sports Club and Whitcliffe School used by Cleckheaton Rugby Club has overplay of 9.5 MES and 1 MES respectively.

3.79. This indicates that there is a need for additional pitches or access to a World Rugby Regulation 22 Compliant pitch to alleviate this overplay.

Scenario - Increasing Access to Rugby Union Floodlit Training Provision

- 3.80. Increasing access to training on a World Rugby Regulation 22 pitch is the best way to reduce overplay and improve access to floodlit training.
- 3.81. Cleckheaton Rugby Club currently has weekly training overplay of 7 MES. If the club had access to floodlights on the Whitcliffe School playing fields, both pitches. The current weekly training overplay would reduce by 3 MES to 4MES. Pitch quality improvements to both pitches, raise drainage - D3 and maintenance - M2, would increase weekly training capacity by 4 MES and provide balanced mid-week MES training for the club. However, the school use would still mean there will be overplay per week.

Lockwood Park – Huddersfield Rugby Union Club

- 3.82. The AGP surface at Lockwood Park has been changed to World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant. This will allow for training and junior and mini match play to be played on the 3G. However, the 3G will be too small to accommodate senior match play. The 3G pitch is on the FA 3G Pitch Register.
- 3.83. Weekly training excluding Sunday morning for minis and Sunday afternoons girls equates to 7.5 MES. There is currently weekly training capacity for 2.5 MES. The natural grass pitches are currently overplayed by 5 MES weekly.
- 3.84. If all mid-week and Sunday junior girls and minis training was allocated to the World Rugby Regulation 22 pitch, then current weekly match play 5.25 MES would be accommodated within the current natural grass pitch weekly capacity of the site 9.75 MES. This would provide 4.50 MES capacity to accommodate future increases in match play.

Laund Hill Community Club – Huddersfield LH Rugby Club

- 3.85. Laund Hill Community club have planning permission for a 3G pitch. It is proposed that the pitch will meet the requirements for training and match play for football, rugby union and rugby league.
- 3.86. Huddersfield LH Rugby Union Club along with Huddersfield University Women's Rugby Union Club have a current mid-week training demand for 7 MES. If the 7 weekly training MES can be transferred from natural grass to 3G. The 4.50 weekly match equivalent sessions can be met by the existing site capacity of 7 weekly MES. This would allow 2.50 weekly MES for future growth.

Cleckheaton Sports Club and Whitcliffe Mount School Playing Fields – Cleckheaton Rugby Union Club

- 3.87. Cleckheaton Rugby Union Club access 1 natural grass pitch at Cleckheaton Sports Club with capacity for 2 weekly match and training MES. The match and training MES equate to 13 MES. The club accesses Whitcliffe School Playing Fields 2 pitches for match play at weekends. The site capacity at Whitcliffe School Playing Fields equates to 3 weekly MES.

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- 3.88. The school's use and the club use equates to 8 weekly training and match equivalent sessions. There is overplay of 19 MES across the two sites. If the rolling annual contract of use of the school site ceased the club would currently need to find alternative facilities to provide for 3 MES per week. Overplay at Cleckheaton Rugby Clubs ground (Cleckheaton Sports Club) would increase to 14 MES from 11 MES per week.
- 3.89. A solution would be to provide a World Rugby Regulation 22 3G pitch at Cleckheaton Sports Club. This could negate the current overplay of 11 MES at Cleckheaton Sports Club and cater for the 13 weekly match and training MES. Alternatively by raising the maintenance to M2 and the drainage to D3 on both rugby pitches at Whitcliffe Mount School and the provision of floodlights on both pitches, would reduce overplay 4 MES per week. Investment on the school site could lead to a formal community use agreement instead of the current one year contract.
- 3.90. Options for provision of a World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitch should be explored in partnership with the FA Football Foundation. The Football Foundation are currently working on a project with East Bierley Community Association which has planning permission for a 3G pitch.

Housing Growth Scenarios

- 3.91. Kirklees Council have supplied the following housing growth and population to 2031.

Table 15: Housing growth across the PPS Sub Areas to 2031

PPS Sub-Area	Housing Capacity on Local Plan Allocated Sites Without Planning Permission (Oct 2021)	Population based on average Household size 2.3 persons.
Huddersfield	4,424	10175
Dewsbury & Mirfield	2,777	6387
Batley & Spen	3,837	8825
Rural East	840	1932
Rural West	1,511	3475
Total	13,389	30,794

- 3.92. Using Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator the number of future match equivalent sessions that would be required for Rugby Union predict an increase in 0.48 adult men's and women's match equivalent sessions, 0.69 boys and girls 7 – 18 years match equivalent sessions, 0.52 mixed 7 – 12 years match equivalent sessions by 2031.
- 3.93. In summary the provision of two World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitches 1 at Lockwood Park and 1 at Laund Hill Community Park will provide sufficient capacity to meet the current overplay at Huddersfield Rugby Club and Huddersfield LH Rugby Club.

- 3.94. There is a need to undertake pitch quality and drainage improvements at Cleckheaton Sports Club and Whitcliffe School rugby pitches to reduce the current overplay. Consideration could also be given to providing sports lighting on the two Whitcliffe Mount School pitches to assist in reducing midweek training overplay at Cleckheaton Rugby Club. In addition, additional pitches should be considered or dedicated, floodlit training areas for clubs to utilise midweek would be the most suitable action.

Rugby Union - Recommendations

- 1.** Work with clubs to review quality issues on those pitches assessed as standard and poor quality in order to help reduce overplay and provide increased capacity.
- 2.** Work to reduce training on match pitches through access to dedicated floodlit training areas, including options to provide full size World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitches in partnership with the FA and Football Foundation to help address shortfalls.
- 3.** There is a need to improve changing facilities at Cleckheaton Rugby Union Club and improve the quality of pitches at Whitcliffe Mount School to improve capacity.

Cricket – Grass Pitch Summary key issues

1. New population growth will lead to an increase in the need for new cricket facility provision either within new housing developments (on-site) or enhancements to existing off-site cricket facilities nearby to improve playing capacity and the quality of ancillary facilities for new residents.
2. There are 69 community cricket clubs based in the borough. Between them, the 69 clubs support 171 adult male open age teams either playing on a Saturday (109 teams), Sunday (27 teams), or midweek (35 teams). The peak time of play is a Saturday.
3. There are 10 Women's teams and 14 girl's teams. There are 194 boy's teams U17 – U9 inclusive. The junior boy's generally play midweek.
4. There is a growing demand for women and girl's cricket and a need to ensure correct pavilion changing facilities are in place.
5. In the 2019 season, there were 57 maintained fine turf cricket squares providing 477 pitches across Kirklees used by community cricket clubs. Providing a total capacity for 3,025 match equivalent sessions per season.
6. All 57 cricket ground sites are classed as secured community use and there are 22 non turf pitches at 22 secured community use sites.
7. There are issues with leases that need to be resolved – Clayton West Cricket Club, Mount Cricket Club, Mirfield Cricket Club and Moorlands Cricket Club.
8. There are issues with new housing development that need to be resolved at:
 - Holmbridge Cricket Club – Ball Stop netting,
 - Clayton West Cricket – loss of land.
 - Denby Dale Cricket Club – Ball stop netting may be required if planning appeal is successful.
 - Emley Clarence Cricket Club – Ball stop netting may be required if adjacent housing development progresses.
9. Across Kirklees there are 3,025 available match equivalent sessions per season on grass pitches. The demand in 2019 is for 3,166 match equivalent sessions per season, with a theoretical overplay of 91 match equivalent sessions per season across the whole of Kirklees. In addition, there are 1,320 non-turf pitch match equivalent sessions available across Kirklees.
10. 30 of the 57 sites are over played.

11. Peak time of play is Saturday. There is no spare capacity on a Saturday to increase play. Sunday has 8.5 matches of spare capacity.
12. 27 sites have spare capacity mid-week with 5 sites with over play.
13. Pre pandemic there were discussions with Kirklees Council and the ECB about possible ECB investment of non turf pitches at a number of community/park locations (subject to compliance). Some of the disused sites in Kirklees have been identified with regards to casual usage and aligned to the ECB Core cities programme. The discussions have been disrupted during the pandemic.
14. It is likely that there will be increased demand/pressure on a number of clubs with regards to the ECB's plans to develop women's and girl's teams and play opportunities in the coming years, especially with regards to All Stars/Dynamos linking into girl's cricket and the expansion of both women's softball and hardball teams and festivals/competitions.

Scenario - Addressing overplay Quality Improvements

- 3.95. The capacity of a cricket square to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. For good quality squares, capacity is set at five matches per 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 provision is not safe for play.
- 3.96. Improved maintenance regimes can improve the quality of a pitch and enable increased capacity and reduce overplay. A reduction in play is recommended at a site where quality cannot be raised to ensure that there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.
- 3.97. Table 16 looks to identify if qualitative improvements to existing cricket squares would alleviate identified overplay. There are twenty-four sites that can improve their quality ratings to good.
- 3.98. Clayton West Cricket Club, Shepley Cricket Club and Thurstonland Cricket Club, need to undertake a Performance Quality Standard Assessment and consult with Yorkshire Cricket Board, ECB and the Grounds Maintenance Association to potentially improve the grounds maintenance to enhance wicket quality; thus, increasing site capacity and eliminating overplay and potentially creating balanced play on each site.
- 3.99. Hall Bower CC, Lascelles Hall CC, Leymoor CC, Outlane CC, Batley CC, Crossbank Methodists CC, Clarence CC, and Slaithwaite CC need to undertake a Performance Quality Standard Assessment and consult with Yorkshire Cricket Board, ECB and the Grounds Maintenance Association to potentially improve the grounds maintenance. To enhance wicket quality; thus, increasing site capacity and eliminating overplay and creating potential spare capacity generated on each site.

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Table 16: Cricket – Addressing Overplay via quality Improvements.

Site name	Analysis area	No. of squares	Quality of Pitch	Current capacity Rating	Good Quality Capacity Rating
Almondbury Wesleyans Cricket Club HD5 8XT	Huddersfield	1	Standard	38	29
Birkby Rose Hill CC HD2 2BL	Huddersfield	1	Standard	18	8
Hall Bower Cricket Club Ground	Huddersfield	1	Standard	9	3
Lascelles Hall Cricket Club - Highfield Lane HD5 0BB	Huddersfield	1	Standard	12	4
Leymoor Cricket Club Parkwood Road HD7 4QW	Huddersfield	1	Standard	4	10
Outlane Cricket Club HD3 3TE	Huddersfield	1	Standard	2	6
Batley Cricket Club (Far Town) WF17 7NN	Batley & Spen	1	Standard	5	7
Crossbank Methodists Cricket Club (The Rumbolds, Birstall) WF17 8BB	Batley & Spen	1	Standard	5	5
Clayton West Cricket Club Back Lane HD8 9PP	Rural East	1	Standard	12	0
Denby Dale Cricket Club Wakefield Road HD8 8RX	Rural East	1	Standard	48	36
Kirkburton Cricket Club Riley Lane HD8 0SX	Rural East	1	Standard	21	9
Shelley Cricket Club Westerly Lane HD8 8HW	Rural East	1	Standard	16	4
Shepley Cricket Club Marsh Lane HD8 8AS	Rural East	1	Standard	22	0
Skelmanthorpe Cricket Club Lidgett Lane HD8 9AQ	Rural East	1	Standard	13	1
Welfare Ground Emley Clarence CC Upper Lane HD8 9RE	Rural East	1	Standard	7	3
Thurstonland Cricket Club Marsh Hall Lane HD4 6XD	Rural East	1	Standard	12	0
Broad Oak Cricket Club Cowersley Lane HD7 5TE	Rural West	1	Standard	22	6
Holmbridge Cricket Club Ground Woodhead Road HD9 2NQ	Rural West	1	Standard	11	1
Holmfirth Cricket Club Bridge Fold	Rural West	1	Standard	17	5
Honley Cricket Club Far Lane HD9 6NS	Rural West	1	Standard	48	38
Scholes Cricket Club Chappelgate HD9 1SX	Rural West	1	Standard	17	7
Slaithwaite Cricket & Bowling Club Racton Street HD7 5DQ	Rural West	1	Standard	10	2

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Site name	Analysis area	No. of squares	Quality of Pitch	Current capacity Rating	Good Quality Capacity Rating
Upperthong Cricket Club Dean Road HD9 3XB	Rural West	1	Standard	25	12
Thongsbridge Cricket Club Miry Lane HD9 7SA	Rural West	1	Standard	30	18

3.100. After raising the quality from standard to good thirteen sites are still overplayed. These are:

- Almondbury Wesleyans CC – overplay 29 MES per season
- Birkby Rose Hill CC – overplay 8 MES per season
- Denby Dale CC – overplay 36 MES per season
- Kirkburton CC – overplay 9 MES per season
- Shelley CC – overplay 4 MES per season
- Skelmanthorpe CC – overplay 1 MES per season
- Broadoak CC – overplay 1 MES per season
- Homlbridge CC – overplay 1 MES per season
- Holmfirth CC – overplay 5 MES per season
- Honley CC – overplay 38 MES per season
- Scholes CC – overplay 2 MES per season
- Upperthomh CC – overplay 12 MES per season
- Thongsbridge CC – overplay 18 MES per season

3.101. Improvements to quality from standard to good does reduce overplay. In some instances such as Honley CC, Denby Dale CC, Almondbury Wesleyans CC, and Thongsbridge CC, where even after improvements, the overplay is still high. The clubs will need to consult with Yorkshire Cricket Board on possible ground options. The Yorkshire Cricket Board and ECB would be able to support the process if required.

Addressing Overplay - Good Quality Squares

3.102. There are 7 grounds with good quality squares that are overplayed:

- Almondbury Cricket Club – overplayed by 8 MES per season
- Golcar Cricket Club – overplayed by 31 MES per season
- Cleckheaton Cricket club – overplayed by 8 MES per season
- Cumberworth United Cricket Club – overplayed by 5 MES per season

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- Denby Cricket Club – overplayed by 37 MES per season.
- Hopton Mills Cricket Club – overplayed by 2 MES per season,
- Moorland Cricket Club – overplayed by 4 MEs per season

3.103. It could be argued that the sites with 8 or lower MES overplay per season could be sustainable. However, Golcar Cricket Club (31 MES) and Denby Cricket Club (37 MES), both need to consult with Yorkshire Cricket Board on possible ground options. The Yorkshire Cricket Board and ECB would be able to support the process if required.

Scenario – Improvement to Local Authority Cricket Sites

3.104. Leeds Road and Sands Lane, provide a total of 7 squares. These squares are currently only played on a Sunday. The Council recognises the importance of cricket at Leeds Road and Sands Lane and are keen to work with the NGB's to explore the greatest potential at these sites. However, any practical solutions for either site should be mindful that there is a ball strike consideration at Leeds Road, and Sands Lane is within a flood risk area. There is an opportunity to improve the quality at these two sites, to meet the Huddersfield and District Cricket League quality guidelines. If this was to happen, 7 additional squares would be available on a Saturday creating 7 MES weekly.

Scenario – Security of Tenure and Ball Strike

3.105. There are a number of cricket clubs that have existing issues with leases and have ball strike issues. There is a need to safeguard and resolve lease issues for these clubs. As there is a need to protect any new development adjacent to cricket clubs with Ball Strike protection measures.

3.106. Cricket clubs with lease issues:

- Mount CC have issues with securing a lease (also security issues with the venue being public open land, they are plagued with vandalism);
- Mirfield CC have an ongoing lease issue. This impacts on plans to develop their clubhouse.
- Moorlands CC have lease issues on the same site as Mirfield CC that need to be resolved.
- Clayton West Cricket Club. The Club currently rent approximately one third of the cricket ground from a local farmer. The club may be asked to return the land to the farmer. The cricket outfield is not of sufficient size to meet the ECB minimum size requirements for cricket to continue to be played should the Cricket Club be left with the remaining 2/3 of the outfield.

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3.107. Cricket clubs with ball strike issues:

- Holmbridge Cricket Club – there has been a housing development on land adjacent to the cricket ground, there was no prior consultation with the cricket club or ECB and there is now a ball strike issue as a result. Talks are ongoing between the Council, Sport England and the ECB to determine a way forward.
- Denby Dale Cricket Club, where there is a proposed development alongside the pitch. This would require ball strike risk assessment and mitigation. This will require discussions with the developer.
- Leeds Road has a ball strike issue on the pitch closest to the neighbouring houses.
- Emley Clarence CC – Welfare Ground will require ball stop fencing if adjacent housing development goes ahead. There are also issues with a playground being developed with new housing.

Scenario – Protection of Disused sites

3.108. There are several disused sites across Kirklees. These are shown below:

- **Huddersfield Sub Area**
 - Birchencliffe Cricket Club HD3 3QL - Cricket club folded to make way for summer rugby league
 - Paddock Cricket Bowling and Athletic Club HD1 4UB - No longer in use for cricket - football played but the sports club would like to see the cricket club reformed in the future.
 - Bradley Mills Cricket Club Huddersfield HD6 6PB - Cricket club ceased in 1995 believed to be used for football up to 2011.
 - Primrose Hill Cricket Club Cross Lane – now used for football.
 - Woodfield Park – no longer in use for cricket.
- **Batley and Spen Sub Area**
 - Chapel Lane Heckmondwike - for over 10 years. Former cricket ground. Club relocated and site became disused. Site potentially too small for full size cricket outfield.
- **Dewsbury and Mirfield**
 - Bridge Street Playing Fields - Local authority site had 9 pitches previously
 - Lees Hall Road Dewsbury - Disused site over 10 years
 - Thornhill Cricket and Bowls Club - Disused for cricket since 2014 now used for football
 - Crawshaw Street Playing fields – No longer used for cricket
 - Ellis Playing Fields (Healds Road) – no longer used for cricket

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- **Rural East**
 - Nortonthorpe Sports Association – disused since 2021.

3.109. There is a need to protect all disused cricket sites. with peak time of play being a Saturday and availability stretched it may require that some of these disused sites are brought back into use or provide mitigation for improvements to nearby cricket facilities.

Housing Growth Scenarios

3.110. Kirklees Council have supplied the following housing growth and population to 2031.

Table 17: Housing growth across the PPS Sub Areas to 2031

PPS Sub-Area	Housing Capacity on Local Plan Allocated Sites Without Planning Permission (Oct 2021)	Population based on average Household size 2.3 persons.
Huddersfield	4,424	10175
Dewsbury & Mirfield	2,777	6387
Batley & Spen	3,837	8825
Rural East	840	1932
Rural West	1,511	3475
Total	13389	30794

3.111. Using Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator. The table below indicates the number of match equivalent sessions that would be required

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Table 18: Kirklees Wide and Sub Area Team Generation Rates (TGRs) and Match Equivalent Sessions to 2031.

Age group	Kirklees Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Kirklees Number of home matches per team per week	Huddersfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Huddersfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Batley & Spen sub–Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Batley & Spen Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural East Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural East Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural West Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural West Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week
Men 19 - 45	11.88	118.75	3.92	39.24	3.40	34.03	2.46	24.63	0.75	7.45	1.34	13.40
Women 19 - 45	0.77	6.95	0.23	2.30	0.20	1.99	0.14	1.44	0.04	0.44	0.08	0.78
Boys 7 - 18	13.47	107.72	4.45	35.59	3.86	30.87	2.79	22.34	0.84	6.76	1.52	12.16
Girls 7 - 18	0.97	7.79	0.32	2.57	0.28	2.23	0.20	1.61	0.06	0.49	0.11	0.88

3.112. By 2031 adult match equivalent sessions are predicted to increase across Kirklees by 125.70 and junior match equivalent sessions by 115.51 per season due to population growth from new housing development. The highest increase will be in the Huddersfield sub area 41.54 adult match equivalent sessions and 38.16 junior match equivalent sessions per season. Next is Batley and Spen sub area 36.02 match equivalent sessions and 33.10 junior match equivalent sessions per season. Dewsbury and Mirfield sub area are next 26.07 adult match equivalent sessions and 23.95 junior match equivalent sessions per season. Rural West equates to 14.18 adult match equivalent sessions and 13.04 match equivalent sessions per season. Rural East 7.89 adult match equivalent sessions and 7.25 junior match equivalent sessions per season.

Cricket Recommendations

1. Protect existing quantity of cricket squares, including protection from development that may prejudice the use of a cricket square such as residential development near a cricket outfield (ball strike issues). **Also protect those sites that are currently disused.**
2. Through the Yorkshire Cricket Board, ECB, and Ground Maintenance Association support can be given to clubs around supporting grounds staff to review quality issues on squares to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and poor, and sustained at sites assessed as good.
3. Explore options of alleviating overplay at sites identified with overplay.

4. Seek new or refurbishment of training facilities at clubs where required. Discussions between ECB, Yorkshire Cricket Board and Kirklees Council should be undertaken at Stage E to identify future sites for provision of non turf pitches.
5. Explore options of refurbishment of ancillary facilities where provision is assessed as poor quality.
6. Ensure that any large housing developments provide for cricket and need is assessed by use of Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator Tool. Ensure that new facilities are provided through either on site developments or if required off-site improvements to existing cricket facilities.
7. Where a development is of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, ensure that any proposals for new squares will attract adequate demand. A six-pitch square of 'good' quality will provide 30 match equivalent sessions per season. A home club will be required and promotion of the new ground to new residents will be required. Justification of on site cricket should be tested through use of Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator that can identify the need for cricket facilities for each new housing development.
8. Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using developer contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Hockey Pitch Summary – Key Issues

1. There are four AGPs suitable for hockey within Kirklees – Storthes Hall Park, Heckmondwike Grammar School, Mirfield Free Grammar School and Hyrstmount.
2. Storthes Hall Park AGP has had a new carpet and shock pad installed and this was completed in Spring 2023, The refurbishment of the AGP has been essential to ensure future playing facilities for Huddersfield Dragons Hockey Club.
3. Due to flooding Lockwood Park AGP was no longer usable and has now been changed to 3G.
4. Heckmondwike Grammar School does not have sports lighting and Hyrstmount is unavailable at weekends which is peak time for match play.
5. Storthes Hall Park AGP is currently rated as ‘poor’ quality although the carpet is being replaced along with the sports lighting. The remainder are ‘standard’ quality.
6. There are 7 community hockey clubs fielding a total of 22 teams in Kirklees.
7. The University of Huddersfield fields a men’s team and women’s team midweek and Greenhead College field a midweek men’s, women’s and mixed team. There is potential for conflict of use of an AGP between the University of Huddersfield and Greenhead College on Wednesday afternoons for match play. Both establishments have conflicting schedules but have a good working relationship with each other, alongside BUCS and Colleges Hockey to overcome any fixture clashes.
8. Consultation shows that there is a decline in hockey club membership across Kirklees.
9. Based on 15 adult teams from Kirklees requiring a pitch at peak time (Saturday) there is a requirement for 7.5 match equivalent sessions. Storthes Hall Park once refurbished will accommodate 5 match equivalent sessions on a regular basis on a Saturday from 10.00am. This will leave 2.5 match equivalent sessions to be accommodated at Mirfield Grammar School.
10. Any changes of use of sand dressed and sand filled AGPs to 3G AGPs need to be agreed between NGBs, England Hockey, the Football Association and Football Foundation, Rugby Football Union, Rugby Football League, and Kirklees Council. Due to the impact on hockey, it is appropriate to ensure that sufficient sand based AGPs are retained for the playing development of hockey within the local authority administrative area.

11. It should also be noted that if a surface is changed, it could require the existing sports lighting to be changed and in some instances noise attenuation measures may need to be put in place.
12. In line with Sport England guidance, Kirklees Council should consider a planning application where any playing pitch surface is being changed from one type to another, such as sand based AGPs to 3G or grass playing pitches (football, cricket, rugby league, or rugby union) to 3G as this would constitute an engineering operation. (There are some exceptions to this, but the advice would always be to check with the Local Planning Authority first.) This is to enable consideration of potential issues including those relating to surface drainage, noise, lighting, and to allow consultation to take place with Sport England to ensure that any impact on sports provision is assessed.

Scenario - Accommodating Current and Future Demand

- 3.113. With the development of a new carpet at Storthes Hall, there is currently no need for any additional full size, hockey suitable AGPs within Kirklees to meet current and future demand. The Storthes Hall AGP is a long way from the changing rooms. A prefabricated shelter would be good if provided near the pitch to provide shelter.
- 3.114. Hyrstmount AGP is currently not available for match play. Discussion should be held amongst the PPS Steering Group to decide the best use of this AGP in the future. The AGP although adjacent to a junior school is managed by Kirklees Council. There is interest to convert the carpet to 3G for football and rugby league use.
- 3.115. There is a need to replace the carpets at Heckmondwike and Mirfield Schools in the next 3 years.
- 3.116. The University of Huddersfield is considering a multi-sports facility in the future. Hockey should be included in any future discussions.

Housing Growth Scenarios

3.117. Kirklees Council have supplied the following housing growth and population to 2031.

Table 19: Housing growth across the PPS Sub Areas to 2031

PPS Sub-Area	Housing Capacity on Local Plan Allocated Sites Without Planning Permission (Oct 2021)	Population based on average Household size 2.3 persons.
Huddersfield	4,424	10175
Dewsbury & Mirfield	2,777	6387
Batley & Spen	3,837	8825
Rural East	840	1932
Rural West	1,511	3475
Total	13389	30794

3.118. Using Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator the table below indicates the number of match equivalent sessions that would be required.

3.119. The overall increase in team numbers from projected population growth is small. There will be less than 1 men’s and 1 women’s team and small number increases in junior players. The appropriate way forward would be to ask for developer contributions towards the development or improvements of existing carpets.

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Table 20: Kirklees Wide and Sub Area Team Generation Rates (TGRs) and Match Equivalent Sessions to 2031.

Age group	Kirklees Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Kirklees Number of home matches per team per week	Huddersfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Huddersfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Batley & Spennethorpe Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Batley & Spennethorpe Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural East Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural East Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural West Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural West Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week
Men 17 - 55	0.42	0.21	0.14	0.07	0.12	0.06	0.12	0.09	0.03	0.01	0.05	0.02
Women 17 - 55	0.76	0.38	0.25	0.13	0.22	0.11	0.22	0.16	0.05	0.02	0.09	0.04
Boys 14 – 16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Girls 14 - 16	0.49	0.24	0.05	0.16	0.14	0.07	0.04	0.10	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.03
Boys 11 - 13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Girls 11 – 13	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00
Mixed 5 - 10	0.07	0.03	0.09	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.08	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00

3.120. In summary there is a need to consider a prefabricated shelter adjacent to the Storthes Hall AGP to provide shelter.

3.121. Further discussions are needed with the steering Group as to the future of Hyrstmount AGP. Mirfield and Heckmondwike School AGPs will require carpet replacements in the next three years.

Hockey Recommendations

1. There is a need to provide a prefabricated shelter near to the refurbished AGP at Storthes Hall due to the distance between the clubhouse and the AGP.
2. There will be a need to replace the carpets at Mirfield and Heckmondwike School AGPs in the next 3 years.
3. There is a need to protect sand based AGPs from being converted to 3G. it is recommended that the following condition or similar legal agreement be attached to any granting of planning permission for a new sand based AGP:

“Notwithstanding the provision of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) (or any order amending or re-enacting that order) the surface of the artificial grass pitch shall not be replaced until details of the replacement surface are submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority for consideration.

The assessment shall include consultation with Sport England, having regard to Sport England's guidance note on Selecting the Right Artificial Surface (as amended from time to time), the relevant local authority's up to date Playing Pitch Strategy and the protection of current sporting usage of the artificial grass pitch. Works to replace the surface will be undertaken and completed in accordance with the details as approved in writing before it is brought into use. The completed works shall be retained in accordance with the approved details for the duration of the development hereby permitted.”

4. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability of the pitches.

Rugby Football League Summary – Key Issues

1. There are 62 dedicated rugby league pitches in Kirklees (3 stadia pitches, 47 adult, 10 junior and 2 primary) across 44 sites. The break down is shown below:
 - Secured and unsecured community use provision, the assessment identified 25 sites providing 3 stadia pitches, 27 adult pitches, 8 junior pitches and 2 primary pitches.
 - Education pitches (school use only/no community use), the assessment identified 13 sites that accommodate 14 adult pitches and 1 junior pitch.
 - Sites that have been used for Rugby League in the past but have no existing use identified, the assessment identified 6 sites that have in the past provided 6 adult pitches and 1 junior pitch.
2. The vast majority of clubs lease or rent pitches from Kirklees Council.
3. The only good quality pitches are located at the professional club - Huddersfield Giants and the two semi-professional clubs - Tetley's Stadium and Foxes Biscuit Stadium (10% of the 40 pitches). 5 of the 40 Rugby League pitches in Kirklees used for community use are rated as 'Standard' quality (12.5%) and 31 of 40 (77.5%) are rated as 'Poor' quality.
4. Changing facilities where present are generally rated as poor quality. Several teams do not have access to onsite changing provision and in some cases make use of local community buildings and halls, which may not be appropriate.
5. There are 25 clubs in Kirklees fielding 149 teams. This is made up of 37 senior teams, which 4 are women's teams. 47 junior teams (U13-U18) and 69 primary (U7-U12) teams.
6. There is a current shortfall of 40.25 match equivalent sessions. The highest level of overplay comes from the Huddersfield Sub Area, and Batley and Spenningsdale Sub Areas both have high levels. Club aspirations to increase team participation highlight a need for an additional 5.25 match equivalent sessions, increasing the shortfall to 45.5 match equivalent sessions. Future demand is increased further with population projections to show a shortfall of 50.41 match equivalent sessions.

Scenario - Transfer of Training from Match Pitches

- 3.122. The situation for training is exacerbated in Kirklees because rugby league is being played throughout the whole year. In addition to this, in terms of sports development, indoor training in sports halls and gyms is not ideal, due to restricted space and hard surfaces, and is not the recommended option by the RFL.
- 3.123. It is estimated that 65% of MES on senior pitches are training sessions, which is equivalent to 41 MES. A 50% reduction of training on match pitches applied on a Kirklees wide basis would reduce the weekly overplay of 45.5 MES to 25 MES per week.
- 3.124. Concern is The Cross Grounds, which is overplayed by 5.5 MES per week due to heavy usage for training by Underbank Rangers ARLC.

Scenario – Loss of Access to Education Provision

- 3.125. Tenure for these sites is deemed unsecure as they are education sites:
- Co-op Academy Smithies Moor School fields 2.5 MES,
 - King James School 1 MES,
 - Scissett School 3 MES
- 3.126. If these sites were lost there would be a need to relocate 6.5 weekly MES.

Addressing overplay Quality Improvements

- 3.127. The only good quality pitches are located at the professional club - Huddersfield Giants and the two semi-professional clubs - Tetley’s Stadium and Foxes Biscuit Stadium (10% of the 40 pitches). 31 of the 40 Rugby League pitches in Kirklees used for community use are rated as ‘Poor’ quality 77.5% and 12.5% are rated as ‘standard’ quality.

Table 21: Summary of pitch quality Kirklees Sub Area Secured and Unsecured community Use Pitches.

Sub Area	Quality of pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor
Huddersfield	1	2	11
Batley and Spen	2	0	4

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Sub Area	Quality of pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor
Dewsbury & Mirfield	1	3	12
Rural East	-	-	2
Rural West	-	-	2
KIRKLEES	4	5	31

3.128. The table below shows overplay of 37 MES per week across Kirklees currently. With all pitch quality raised to good, capacity improves to 30 MES spare capacity across Kirklees. There is still overplay at East Bierley Recreation Ground, Taylor Street, King James School and the Cross Ground.

Table 22: Summary of Overplay Peak Time of Play

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Peak season usage	Match equivalent sessions (Per week*)	Site capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity – Spare capacity or shortfall	Capacity MES if Pitch Quality is improved to Good	
RFL1	East Bierley Recreation Ground	Batley & Spen	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	5.25	1	4.25	3	2.25
RFL2	Co-op Academy Smithies Moor School Fields	Batley & Spen	Junior	Poor	1	Summer	2	1	1	3	1
RFL2	Co-op Academy Smithies Moor School Fields	Batley & Spen	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	0.5	1	0.5	3	2.5
RFL3	Taylor Street	Batley & Spen	Junior	Poor	1	Summer	4.25	1	3.25	3	1.25
RFL4	Crow Nest Park	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Junior	Poor	1	Summer	2	1	1	3	1
RFL5	Crow Nest Park	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Primary	Poor	1	Summer	1.75	1	0.75	3	2.75
RFL5	Crow Nest Park	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	1	1	0-	3	2
RFL6	Dewsbury Moor ARLFC	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Junior	Standard	2	Summer	3.25	4	0.75	6	2.75

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Peak season usage	Match equivalent sessions (Per week*)	Site capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity – Spare capacity or shortfall	Capacity MES if Pitch Quality is improved to Good	
RFL6	Dewsbury Moor ARLFC	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Senior	Standard	1	Winter	2	2	0	6	4
RFL7	Mirfield Stags ARLFC Hilrich Park Slipper Lane	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	0.5	1	0.5	3	2.5
RFL8	Bywell Playing Fields	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	0	1	1	3	3
RFL8	Bywell Playing Fields	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Senior	Poor	1	Winter	0.5	1	0.5	3	2.5
RFL9	Overthorpe Park Playing Fields	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Senior	Poor	2	Summer	4.75	2	2.75	6	1.25
RFL10	Shaw Cross Sharks ARLFC	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Junior	Poor	1	Summer	2.25	1	1.25	3	0.75
RFL10	Shaw Cross Sharks ARLFC	Dewsbury & Mirfield	Senior	Poor	2	Summer	6	2	4	6	0
RFL11	Newsome Panthers JARLFC - Hall Bower	Huddersfield	Senior	Poor	3	Summer	7	3	4	9	2
RFL12	Dram Sports and Community Centre	Huddersfield	Junior	Poor	1	Summer	2	1	1	3	1
RFL12	Dram Sports and Community Centre	Huddersfield	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	2.5	2	0.5	3	0.5
RFL13	Fartown Arena	Huddersfield	Junior	Poor	1	Summer	0.25	1	0.75	3	2.25
RFL13	Fartown Arena	Huddersfield	Senior	Poor	1	Winter	1	1	0	3	2
RFL14	Greenhead College	Huddersfield	Senior	Standard	1	Summer	0.5	2	0.5	3	2.25
RFL15	Huddersfield New College	Huddersfield	Senior	Poor	1	Winter	0.5	1	0.5	3	2.25
RFL16	Laund Hill Community Park Used	Huddersfield	Senior	Standard	1	Summer	2	2	0	3	1
RFL17	King James' School	Huddersfield	Senior	Poor	1	Winter	1 + 3	1	3	3	1
RFL18	Leeds Road Sports Complex	Huddersfield	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	11	1	10	3	8

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Peak season usage	Match equivalent sessions (Per week*)	Site capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity – Spare capacity or shortfall	Capacity MES if Pitch Quality is improved to Good	
RFL19	Lockwood Park – Huddersfield University.	Huddersfield	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	1	1		3	2
RFL20	Birchcliffe Sport and Social Club	Huddersfield	Senior	Standard	1	Summer	3	2	1	3	0
RFL21	Lepton Highlanders – Kirkburton cougars	Rural East	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	0.5	1	0.5	3	2.5
RFL22	Scisset Middle School	Rural East	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	3	1	2	3	0
RFL23	Slaithwaite Spa	Rural West	Senior	Poor	1	Summer	0.75	1	0.25	3	2.25
RFL24	The Cross Grounds	Rural West	Senior	Poor	1	Winter	6.50	1	5.50	3	3.50
Totals									37		30

- 3.129. Leeds Road Sports Complex has in the past been overplayed by Huddersfield Giants RLFC to the total of 10 match equivalent sessions due to the frequency of training on the pitch daily Monday to Friday, as is required of a professional elite level team. The club has now moved from the site and this will need to be addressed in the review of PPS in 2023/24 season.
- 3.130. Overplay can only be alleviated by improving pitch quality. Whilst this would address current levels of overplay, it may be more cost-effective and more beneficial in the longer term if alternative strategies were considered, such as transferring training demand from match pitches. A 50% reduction of training on match pitches applied on a Kirklees wide basis would reduce the overplay of 45.5 match equivalent sessions to 25 match equivalent sessions per week.
- 3.131. Attention needs to be given to Cross Banks, Taylor Street. King James School and East Bierley where overplay still occurs after raising pitch quality to good. Alternative pitches or AGPs are required.

Scenario – Housing Growth

- 3.132. The Sport England New Development Playing Pitch Calculator Tool should be used to identify team generation rates and need for playing pitches as and when planning applications are agreed.
- 3.133. Kirklees Planning Department have provided the following housing growth across the PPS Sub Areas. The table below provided the future population in the sub areas based on the housing growth per sub area multiplied by an average household size of 2.3 persons.

Table 23: Housing growth across the PPS sub areas

PPS Sub-Area	Housing Capacity on Local Plan Allocated Sites Without Planning Permission (Oct 2021)	Population based on average Household size 2.3 persons.
Huddersfield	4,424	10175
Dewsbury & Mirfield	2,777	6387
Batley & Spen	3,837	8825
Rural East	840	1932
Rural West	1,511	3475
Total	13389	30794

- 3.134. The additional population demand from the new housing equates to 30,794. The population growth data for Kirklees and each sub area has been inserted into Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator tool as has the Rugby League team numbers for each age typology.

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3.135. The output from the Sport England Calculator tool provides the team generation rates for Rugby League, the new teams generated from the new population and the future match equivalent sessions required for the future for each typology.

Table 24: Kirklees Wide and Sub Area Team Generation Rates (TGRs) and Match Equivalent Sessions to 2031.

Age group	Kirklees Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Kirklees Number of home matches per team per week	Huddersfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Huddersfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Dewsbury & Mirfield Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Batley & Spennings Dale Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Batley & Spennings Dale Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural East Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural East Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week	Rural West Sub Area Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Rural West Sub Area Number of home matches per team per week
Men 19 - 45	2.29	1.15	0.76	0.38	0.48	0.24	0.66	0.33	0.14	0.07	0.26	0.13
Women 19 - 45	0.28	0.14	0.09	0.05	0.06	0.03	0.08	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.02
Boys 12 – 18	3.54	1.77	1.17	0.58	0.73	0.37	1.01	0.51	0.22	0.11	0.40	0.20
Girls 12 – 18	0.49	0.24	0.16	0.0	0.10	0.05	0.14	0.07	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.03
Mixed 7 – 11	4.79	2.40	1.58	0.69	0.99	0.50	1.37	0.69	0.30	0.15	0.54	0.27

3.136. The overall increase in team numbers from projected population growth is small. There will be 1.15 MES for men, 0.14 women, boys and girls 2.01 and mixed 7 -11 2.40 MES per week.

Rugby Football League Recommendations

1. Improve pitch quality where possible to increase weekly MES capacity across Kirklees and reduce overall shortfalls.
2. Where possible, encourage teams to utilise areas off match pitches for training demand; on some sites this may mean installing floodlighting to encourage use during pre-season in the winter months.
3. Secure access to each site through long term community use agreements to give each club security of tenure.
4. Consider additional pitches for Underbank- ARLFC to reduce overplay or a new site in the future,
5. Review the use of Leeds Road as part of the 2023/24 PPS Review.
6. Work with the Football Foundation and RFU to identify 3G AGP pitch sites and multi pitch sites for future use.

4. Strategy Objectives & Recommendations

- 4.1. 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 facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.
- 4.2. The objectives of the PPS are:

- **Objective 1:** To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sports facilities to meet current and future needs.
 - **Recommendation 1:** Ensure that all existing outdoor sports facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy;
 - **Recommendation 2:** Secure tenure and access to sites for clubs focused on increasing participation through a range of solutions and partnership agreements; and
 - **Recommendation 3:** Ensure continued use of education facilities where there is a need. Several schools are being used in Kirklees for competitive play, predominantly for football. In some cases, use of pitches has been classified as secure, however, use is not necessarily formal and further work should be carried out to ensure an appropriate community use agreement is in place (including access to changing provision where required).

The Department for Education in February 2021 announced an investment of £10.1 million of funding to enable schools to open their sports facilities outside of school hours, to be distributed through Active Partnerships working with Sport England. This funding will help Active Partnerships to support their local schools to understand the challenges in opening their facilities

- 4.3. Sites which are currently classified as being unsecure in Kirklees Borough include:

- Almondbury Sports Centre
- Batley Girls High School
- Batley Grammar School
- BBG Academy
- Birdsedge First School
- Castle Hall School

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- Golcar Junior & infants School
- Gomersal Primary School
- Greenhead College (Subject to a new Community Use Agreement)
- Heckmondwike Grammar School
- Holmfirth High School
- Holmfirth High School (Little Wembley)
- Honley C of E School
- Meltham C of E School
- Huddersfield New College
- Co-op Academy Smithies Moor School Playing Fields
- King James School
- Kirkburton Middle school
- Manor Croft Academy
- Neilley Pavilion
- New Huddersfield Trust School
- Rowley Lane Junior & Infants School
- Salendine Nook High School
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
- Scissett Middle School
- Shelley College
- Whitechapel Church of England Primary School
- Whitcliffe Mount School Playing Fields

- 4.4. The Council should explore opportunities with interested clubs and parties to provide appropriate security of tenure to meet their needs. This is particularly the case at poor quality local authority sites, possibly with inadequate ancillary facilities, so that quality can be improved, and sites developed.
- 4.5. Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council and NGBs to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers, and partnership work.
- 4.6. Each club interested in securing tenure at a site should be required to meet criteria set by the Council in partnership with NGBs regarding service and/or strategic recommendations. Additional criteria, which considers club quality, aligned to its long-term development objectives and sustainability, will also be required.

Tenure

- 4.7. The Council should continue to work with clubs to provide appropriate security of tenure to support the development and sustainability of sports provision and facilities towards adopting a policy which supports community management and ownership of assets to local clubs, community groups and trusts. This presents sports clubs and NGBs with opportunities to take ownership of their own facilities; it may also provide non-asset owning sports clubs with their first opportunity to take on a building.

- **Objective 2:** To **enhance** outdoor sports provision and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites.
 - **Recommendation 4:** Improve quality of playing pitches and ancillary facilities; for football the focus on ancillary should be providing changing pavilions at multi pitch sites and minimum requirement for access to toilets at all sites.
 - **Recommendation 5:** Enhance and improve facilities where there are 2 or more playing pitches and provide sustainability of provision.
 - **Recommendation 6:** Secure external funding in partnership with other stakeholders; and
 - **Recommendation 7:** Secure developer contributions.

Improve quality of Pitches

4.8. The following poor-quality sites that are overplayed should be prioritised for improvement:

Table 25: Football: Pitch quality/overplay improvements sites

Huddersfield Sub Area
Fern Lea Playing Fields
Greenhead College
Hawkroyd Bank
Lindley Swifts
Paddock Cricket Club
Standiforth Recreation Ground (Dalton Playing Fields)
Warrenside Football Club
Batley and Spennings Sub Area
King George V
West End Park
Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub area
Wakefield Road Recreation Ground
Rural East Sub Area
Crown Fields/Birdsedge
Gregory Fields
Lepton Highlanders Sports Club

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Rural West Sub Area
Broadlands Recreation Ground
Cartworth Moor
Flowery Fields
Hepworth United FC
Jagger Lane
Marsden Football Club

Table 26: Cricket: Pitch quality improvement sites with over play

Site name	Analysis area
Almondbury Wesleyans Cricket Club HD5 8XT	Huddersfield
Birkby Rose Hill CC HD2 2BL	Huddersfield
Hall Bower Cricket Club Ground	Huddersfield
Lascelles Hall Cricket Club - Highfield Lane HD5 0BB	Huddersfield
Leymoor Cricket Club Parkwood Road HD7 4QW	Huddersfield
Outlane Cricket Club HD3 3TE	Huddersfield
Batley Cricket Club (Far Town) WF17 7NN	Batley & Spennings
Crossbank Methodists Cricket Club (The Rumbolds, Birstall) WF17 8BB	Batley & Spennings
Clayton West Cricket Club Back Lane HD8 9PP	Rural East
Denby Dale Cricket Club Wakefield Road HD8 8RX	Rural East
Kirkburton Cricket Club Riley Lane HD8 0SX	Rural East
Shelley Cricket Club Westerly Lane HD8 8HW	Rural East
Shepley Cricket Club Marsh Lane HD8 8AS	Rural East
Skelmanthorpe Cricket Club Lidgett Lane HD8 9AQ	Rural East
Welfare Ground Emley Clarence CC Upper Lane HD8 9RE	Rural East

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Site name	Analysis area
Thurstonland Cricket Club Marsh Hall Lane HD4 6XD	Rural East
Broad Oak Cricket Club Cowersley Lane HD7 5TE	Rural West
Holmbridge Cricket Club Ground Woodhead Road HD9 2NQ	Rural West
Holmfirth Cricket Club Bridge Fold	Rural West
Honley Cricket Club Far Lane HD9 6NS	Rural West
Scholes Cricket Club Chappelgate HD9 1SX	Rural West
Slaithwaite Cricket & Bowling Club Racton Street HD7 5DQ	Rural West
Upperthong Cricket Club Dean Road HD9 3XB	Rural West
Thongsbridge Cricket Club Miry Lane HD9 7SA	Rural West

Rugby Union – Pitch Quality improvements

Table 27: Rugby Union pitch quality improvement sites

Site Name	Analysis Area
Cleckheaton Sports Club	Batley & Spen
Whitcliffe Mount School Playing Fields	Batley & Spen
Lockwood Park	Huddersfield
Huddersfield Laund Hill Community Club	Huddersfield

Rugby League Pitch Quality Improvements

Table 28: Rugby League pitch quality Improvement Sites

Site name	Analysis area
East Bierley Recreation Ground	Batley & Spen
Co-op Academy Smithies Moor School Fields	Batley and Spen

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Site name	Analysis area
Taylor Street	Batley & Spen
Crow Nest Park	Dewsbury & Mirfield
Crow Nest Park	Dewsbury & Mirfield
Overthorpe Park Playing Fields	Dewsbury & Mirfield
Shaw Cross Sharks ARLFC	Dewsbury & Mirfield
Shaw Cross Sharks ARLFC	Dewsbury & Mirfield
Newsome Panthers JARLFC - Hall Bower	Huddersfield
Dram Sports and Community Centre	Huddersfield
Dram Sports and Community Centre	Huddersfield
King James' School	Huddersfield
Leeds Road Sports Complex	Huddersfield
Birchcliffe Sport and Social Club	Huddersfield
Lepton Highlanders – Kirkburton cougars	Rural East
Scisset Middle School	Rural East
The Cross Grounds	Rural West

Pitch Improvements

- 4.9. For hockey Storthes Hall requires a prefabricated build by the AGP. The reason is that the AGP is a distance from the changing rooms to the AGP. The AGP carpets at Heckmondwike and Mirfield Free School Will require replacing in the next 3 years.
- 4.10. To improve the overall quality of the outdoor facility stock it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity.

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- 4.11. It is imperative to engage with football clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity. Play should therefore be encouraged, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity. This may include transferring play to 3G pitches or to sites not currently available for community use, but which may be in the future.
- 4.12. For cricket, an increase in the quality of the square and outfield, additional wickets and usage of non-turf pitches (NTPs) is key to alleviating overplay.
- 4.13. For rugby union and rugby league, additional sports lighting can mitigate some of the overplay as it allows training demand to be spread across a greater number of pitches or unmarked areas. If permanent floodlighting is not possible, portable floodlighting is an alternative, as is the installation of a World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitch Rugby Football League Standard 3G pitch.

Improve Quality – Ancillary Facilities

Football – Ancillary Facilities

- 4.14. Across Kirklees, 36 sites actively used for football are not serviced by any sort of clubhouse or changing rooms. In addition, a further 15 sites are serviced by poor quality provision. As a result, there are several stakeholders with aspirations to develop or improve the quality of ancillary provision on the sites they use.

Table 29: Football Changing rooms identified for replacement or improvement are:

Site & Sub Area	Requirements
Bankfield Recreation Ground - Huddersfield	Planning Approved
Beck Lane Football Club – Batley & Spen	Planning permission approved March 2019
Carters Field – Batley & Spen	Changing room needed
Crawshaw Street – Dewsbury & Mirfield	Requires refurbishment
Cross Lane Recreation Ground – Rural East	Requires refurbishment
Dram Centre - Huddersfield	Showers need attention
Hawkroyd Bank - Huddersfield	Requires new changing
Lighthenfield Lane - Huddersfield	Changing Rooms Needed
Longfield Avenue - Huddersfield	Changing rooms needed
Sands Recreation Ground Holmfirth – Rural West	Changing rooms condemned need replacing

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Site & Sub Area	Requirements
Savile Playing Fields – Dewsbury & Mirfield	Require refurbishment
Howden Clough FC – Batley & Spen	Raising funds for a new clubhouse
Liversedge FC – Batley & Spen	Improved hospitality facilities for spectators and officials and changing facilities for female football officials to meet Football League Standards
Emley FC – Rural East	Need to meet Football League standards for team and officials changing

Rugby Union – Ancillary Improvements

4.15. Changing rooms identified for replacement or improvement are identified in the table below:

Table 30: Rugby Union Changing rooms identified for replacement or improvement are:

Site & Sub Area	Ancillary Requirements
Huddersfield RUFC - Huddersfield	Ideally require an additional match officials changing room and accommodate female match official's, car parking is in adequate for all pitches.
Cleckheaton RUFC – Batley & Spen	The current pavilion is aged and requires upgrading.

Cricket – Ancillary Improvements

4.16. The following ancillary facilities have been identified as required by cricket clubs.

Huddersfield Sub Area

4.17. 'Poor' quality changing, and pavilion facilities have been identified Edgerton & Dalton Cricket Club, Kirkheaton Cricket Club, Lascelles Hall Cricket Club and Leymoor Cricket Club and there is a need to refurbish or replace. The table below identifies cricket club's comments and additional development requirements as per consultation:

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Table 31: Huddersfield Sub Area - Cricket club's comments and additional development requirements

Almondbury Cricket Club HD5 8PF	Club looking to fund a new cricket net practice facility.
Almondbury Wesleyans Cricket Club HD5 8XT	Want to extend club house facility and provide a new net facility. Club has a current planning application approved for a stone-built building to house score board.
Armitage Bridge Cricket Club HD4 7PB	Require fixed nets
Birkby Rose Hill CC HD2 2BL	Completing an extension to the existing pavilion.
Bradley & Colneridge Cricket Club Warrenside HD2 1LP	Need movable nets
Edgerton & Dalton Cricket Club Fold Road HD5 9NL	Need to refurbish or replace changing rooms and need moveable cricket nets
Golcar Cricket Club Swallow Lane - HD7 4NB	The club are looking at refurbishing/renovating the club house.
Kirkheaton Cricket Club Bankfield HD5 0JW	Need to replace changing room roof, and repair ride on mower. Need dog excreta bins around the ground.
Lascelles Hall Cricket Club - Highfield Lane HD5 0BB	Need a new club house and fixed nets. Existing modular pavilion building was a temporary build. Club have been fund raising and applied for planning permission to replace. Also require fixed cricket nets and moveable nets.

Batley and Spenningsdale Sub Area

- 4.18. 'Poor' quality changing, and pavilion facilities have been identified at Batley Cricket Club, and Spenningsdale Victoria Cricket Club and are in need of refurbishment..
- 4.19. The table below identifies cricket club's comments and additional development requirements as per consultation:

Table 32: Batley and Spenningsdale Sub Area - Cricket club's comments and additional development requirements

Batley Cricket Club (Far Town) WF17 7NN	Social Area urgently needs refurbishment to extend the space and include two old, dilapidated changing areas that can be repurposed changing rooms. Need a new Roller and new fixed nets.
Birstall Cricket Club (Leeds Road Birstall) WF17 0EJ	The Club wish to expand pavilion.

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Cleckheaton Sports Club - Cleckheaton Cricket Club (Moorend) BD19 3UD	It is intended to refurbish the club's changing rooms in the next three years. Should be re roofed soon. Funding is currently being sought for the remainder of the refurbishments. Fixed nets -non turf is required. Planning permission obtained in 2019 for nets and security fencing.
Crossbank Methodists Cricket Club (The Rumbolds, Birstall) WF17 8BB	Require a replacement scoreboard. Would like to extend the pavilion.
East Bierley Cricket Club BD4 6PJ	Funds raised for a 2-lane net facility to be in place for next season. There is a need to carry out – Scoreboard repairs and – Sightscreen repair and upgrade
Gomersal Cricket Club (Oxford Road) BD19 4RQ	Planning application to erect Ball stop Netting approved.
Hartshead Moor Cricket Club Highmoor Lane BD19 6LW	Need a cellar extension and new roof
Heckmondwike Sports Club - Hermondwike and Carlinghow CC WF16 9ED	Improved Sightscreens.
Spennithorne Victoria Cricket Bowling & Athletic Club BD19 4PJ	Changing rooms/tearoom requires refurbishment subject to funding and new sight screens
Mount CC Staincliffe Playing Fields & Cricket Ground WF17 7BA	The club have had a feasibility study funded by the ECB and with support from Yorkshire Strategy. The pitch strategy update is important in establishing need, provision, and gaps in investment for clubs like ours. We require security measures, fencing (planning application submitted for security fencing), more pitches on the square and fixed nets.

Rural East Sub Area

4.20. There are no 'Poor' quality changing, and pavilion facilities.

4.21. The table below identifies cricket club's comments and additional development requirements as per consultation:

Table 33: Rural East Sub Area - Cricket club's comments and additional development requirements

Clayton West Cricket Club Back Lane HD8 9PP	Club requires a new roller and Side screens.
Cumberworth United Cricket Club Cumberworth Lane HD8 8PR	Need for new signage, improvements to car parking and net facilities and a need to increase security measures.
Denby Cricket Club Upper House Fold Club HD8 8UN	Need a building for scorebox and an umpires' room.
Denby Dale Cricket Club Wakefield Road HD8 8RX	Require off field fixed cricket nets,

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Flockton Cricket Club Hill Top Field WF4 4AF	Need a new pavilion building
Kirkburton Cricket Club Riley Lane HD8 0SX	Need practise nets
Shelley Cricket Club Westerley Lane HD8 8HW	Sight screens are damaged and need replacing.
Shepley Cricket Club Marsh Lane HD8 8AS	The completion of the new clubhouse which is currently 95% complete is required, there is a need for moveable cricket nets and a new score board
Skelmanthorpe Cricket Club Lidgett Lane HD8 9AQ	Planning permission for access ramp and accessible toilet facilities approved.

Rural West Sub Area

4.22. There are no 'Poor' quality changing, and pavilion facilities.

4.23. The table below identifies the cricket club's comments and additional development requirements as per consultation:

Table 34: Rural West Sub Area - Cricket club's comments and additional development requirements

Broad Oak Cricket Club Cowersley Lane HD7 5TE	Possible need for ball stop netting if or when development of new housing takes place adjacent to the ground.
Holmbridge Cricket Club Ground Woodhead Road HD9 2NQ	Club requires an accessible pathway round the perimeter of the ground. Urgently needs to resolve ball stop netting issues with adjacent development.
Holmfirth Cricket Club Bridge Fold	Full Clubhouse and changing room renovation/rebuild required
Honley Cricket Club Far Lane HD9 6NS	Recently improved drainage and the drive. Plans include replacing the heavy roller, side screens and score box.
Marsden Cricket & Bowling Club Hemplow HD7 6NN	Permanent non-turf practise nets are required and a tarmac track around the ground. There is a need for new mowers & other ground equipment and an electronic scoreboard.
Upperthong Cricket Club Dean Road HD9 3XB	Planning permission granted to extend changing rooms. Need a new roller
Thongsbridge Cricket Club Miry Lane HD9 7SA	Upgrade and extension of clubhouse Planning applied for and approved. We are looking to create a community outdoor space.

Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub Area

4.24. There are ‘Poor’ quality changing and pavilion facilities at Sands Lane.

4.25. The table below identifies cricket club’s comments and additional development requirements as per consultation:

Table 35: Dewsbury and Mirfield Sub Area - Cricket club’s comments and additional development requirements

Hanging Heaton Cricket Club WF17 6DB	Club would like to redevelop the changing rooms, players toilet and shower facilities. Plus, we would like to have an outdoor permanent net facility to be used by juniors, seniors, and other teams.
Hopton Mills Cricket Club Ground WF14 0PT	Recently provided a new equipment store and Scoreboard
Mirfield Memorial Ground - Mirfield Cricket Club WF14 9NE	Require funds to repair the roof.
Mirfield Parish Cavaliers Cricket Club Wellhouse Lane WF14 0PN	Require additional mobile nets

Rugby League

4.26. The table below identifies rugby football league club’s comments and additional development requirements as per consultation:

Table 36: Rugby League - comments and additional development requirements

Site	Comments
Scissett Middle School	Emley Moor ARLFC who use the pitch at Scissett School are currently fundraising to build a new club facility, which would include 6 changing rooms plus a kitchen and function room. These facilities will also be open to, and available for, the local business community as well as schools and other sports clubs.
Dewsbury Moor ARLFC	The club has refurbished their clubhouse but still need to finish shower areas with fixtures and fittings. This will provide for female changing
Almondbury Spartans ARLFC	New club that aspires to improve clubhouse facilities in the future.
Dram Centre	Showers need repairing

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Site	Comments
Shaw Cross Sharks ARLFC	Refurbishment of gym flooring, clubhouse hot water system, and lift.
Dewsbury Rams	Provide changing facilities to support the use of the 3G pitch and MUGAs and provide ball stop netting.
Underbanks ARLFC	Would like to move or have new enhanced facilities.

- 4.27. Most clubs need to purchase additional new equipment, balls, tackle bags, post protectors etc, in some instances there is a need at least double the amount of equipment due to COVID-19 requirements.

Hockey

- 4.28. Storthes Hall Park has an issue with the distance to the pitch from the changing rooms, which can be counteracted by having a prefab building at pitch side.

Addressing Overplay

- 4.29. To improve the overall quality of the outdoor facility stock it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity.
- 4.30. It is imperative to engage with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity. Play should therefore be encouraged, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity. This may include transferring play to 3G pitches or to sites not currently available for community use, but which may be in the future.
- 4.31. For cricket, an increase in the quality of the square and outfield, additional wickets and usage of non-turf pitches (NTPs) is key to alleviating overplay as is bringing back into use cricket grounds no longer used.
- 4.32. For rugby union, additional floodlighting can mitigate some of the overplay as it allows training demand to be spread across a greater number of pitches or unmarked areas. If permanent floodlighting is not possible, portable floodlighting is an alternative, as is the installation of a World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitch.

Increasing Maintenance

- 4.33. Standard or poor grass pitch quality may not be just a result of poor drainage. In some instances, ensuring there is an appropriate maintenance for the level/standard of play can help to improve quality and therefore increase pitch capacity. Each NGB can help with reviewing pitch maintenance regimes.
- 4.34. The FA has the Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP) The FA and Football Foundation have launched PitchPower (<https://footballfoundation.org.uk/pitchpower>) - a really simple tool to help individual sites inspect and improve their grass pitches. The site self-inspection will provide regular detailed assessment reports from grounds management experts at the Grounds Management Association, including recommendations on maintaining and improving the quality of the pitches. All key sites should be encouraged to undertake a PitchPower self-assessment and review the report recommendations. Grants are available through the Football Foundation to pay for enhanced grass pitch maintenance works, materials and grounds maintenance machinery where appropriate.
- 4.35. For cricket and the ECB, the equivalent is the Pitch Advisory Service (PAS). This is in partnership with the GMA (Grounds Management Association), ECB, FA, RFU and RFL.
- 4.36. In relation to cricket specifically, maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of the sport. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and, in some instances, become dangerous. The ECB recommends full technical assessments of wickets and pitches available through a Performance Quality Standard Assessment (PQS). The PQS assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether it meets the standards that are benchmarked by the IOG.

Secure External Funding in Partnership with Other Stakeholders

- 4.37. Partners, led by the Council, should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision is directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in outdoor sports facilities.
- 4.38. To address the community's needs, to target priority areas and to reduce duplication of provision, there should be a coordinated approach to strategic investment. In delivering this recommendation the Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners and through the Steering Group.
- 4.39. Although some investment in new provision will not be made by the Council directly, it is important that the Council seeks to direct and lead a strategic and co-ordinated approach to facility development by education, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector to address community needs whilst avoiding duplication of provision.
- 4.40. One of sport's greatest contributions is its positive impact on public health and it is therefore important to lever in investment from other sectors such as health and wellbeing, for example. 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.

Secure Developer Contributions

- 4.41. Kirklees has a current policy of securing c£355per new home, rather than using the following sport specific approach informed by the PPS and Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator. It is important that the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) informs policies and supplementary planning documents by setting out the approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development.
- 4.42. For playing pitches, the Council should use Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator as a tool for determining developer contributions linking to sites within the locality. This uses team generation rates (TGRs) from the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth. It then converts this into pitch requirements and gives the associated costs (both for providing the provision and for its life cycle).
- 4.43. Sport England is a recommended consultee on residential developments of 300 or more units. It is however up to the Council what scale of development it seeks planning contributions into sport from. The mechanism the Council puts in place can operate independent of non-statutory consultation on housing developments with Sport England, whether the Council chooses to run with the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator or not. The following processes should be followed to help inform the potential needs required/those that should be considered for a new housing development small or large.

Stage A: Determine the playing pitch requirement from the development.

- 4.44. Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator updates 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. Based on current demand and team generation rates the calculated number of new residents needs to be put into the calculator which identifies in turn associated costs for providing the required pitches.
- 4.45. In Kirklees for every 1,000-population increase, the Playing Pitch Calculator identifies that the following match equivalent sessions will be required weekly except for cricket which is per season:
- Adult football = 0.25
 - Youth = 0.30
 - Mini Soccer = 0.26
 - Rugby Union = 0.04
 - Rugby League = 0.11
 - Hockey Adult = 0.02
 - Hockey Junior & mixed U10s = 0.01
 - Cricket = 7.82 per season

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- 4.46. The table below shows the effect the development of 13,389 new houses planned for Kirklees will have on pitch demand and the level of contribution required to meet that demand. The new population equates to 2.3 persons per household and equals 30,794.

Table 37: Playing Pitch Calculator Results for increased Kirklees Population to 2031 30.794

	Number of pitches required to meet the estimated demand	Capital Cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Changing rooms (number)	Changing rooms (capital cost)
Total	36.33	£5,252,373	£859,454	48.90	£8,399,246
Natural Grass Pitches	34.88	£3,856,622	£803,817	45.99	£7,898,994
Adult Football	7.62	£728,229	£153,656	15.24	£2,618,155
Youth Football	9.21	£712,213	£149,565	10.73	£1,843,186
Mini Soccer	8.04	£219,540	£46,103	0.00	£0
Rugby Union	1.31	£190,366	£40,738	2.61	£449,146
Rugby League	3.51	£446,671	£98,714	7.01	£1,204,416
Cricket	5.19	£1,559,602	£315,040	10.39	£1,784,090
Artificial Grass Pitches	1.46	£1,395,751	£55,637	2.91	£500,252
Sand Based	0.15	£115,228	£3,572	0.29	£50,580
3G	1.31	£1,280,523	£52,065	2.62	£449,672

- 4.47. The cost of providing the pitch provision to meet future population demand is estimated at £5,252,373 for pitches and lifecycle costs per annum of £859,454 and capital costs for changing rooms £8,399,246.
- 4.48. Consideration should be given to whether 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.
- 4.49. If there are no potential options to improve or extend existing provision to create additional capacity, or if capacity cannot be increased to a sufficient level, then new provision is likely to be required.

- 4.50. Where the calculator does not create demand for a whole pitch, which is often the case for smaller sized developments, it is recommended to contribute to increasing the capacity of an existing site to meet demand generated from the development.
- 4.51. Discussions should be held with relevant parties (e.g. NGBs, 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 identified 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.
- 4.52. When on site provision is required, priority should be placed on the creation of a minimum of two football pitches and ancillary accommodation or two rugby pitches and ancillary accommodation and 1 8 wicket cricket square and outfield with ancillary accommodation or two rugby league pitches and ancillary accommodation. This will ensure that the provision is sustainable and attractive to potential users. Emphasis should also be on ensuring the site can accommodate an AGP or non turf cricket pitch given current sporting trends.

Summary New Developments

- 4.53. The Playing Pitch Calculator and PPS 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.
- 4.54. 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).
- 4.55. 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 PPS findings are taken into consideration and that consultation takes place with the relevant NGBs. This is due to the importance of ensuring that the stock of facilities provided is correct to avoid provision becoming unsustainable and unused, such as single grass pitch football sites without adequate ancillary facilities or new cricket/rugby grounds located away from existing clubs. Instead, multi-pitch and multi-sport sites should be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for future AGP development.
- 4.56. The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate playing fields and subsequent maintenance. Section 106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes of the pitches to increase pitch capacity to accommodate more matches.

4.57. Several planning objectives should be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to specific planning obligations. Where developer contributions are applicable, a Section 106/CIL 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. NGBs and Sport England can provide further and up to date information on the associated costs;
- External funding should be sought/secured to achieve maximum benefit from the investment into appropriate playing pitch facility enhancement and its subsequent maintenance;
- Any development of a site close to a cricket pitch can raise issues of risk of ball strike from balls leaving the field of play. Indeed any site within 80 metres of a cricket wicket is at risk from ball strike and ball strike must be considered as part of the planning process. Any mitigation package that a ball strike risk assessment advised should be built into the scheme by the developer; and be constructed and maintained in perpetuity at the developer’s expense. It is good practice for the requirement for mitigation to be built into any policy for a site in this position.
- Where new multiple pitches are provided, appropriate changing rooms and associated car parking should be located on site; and
- All new or improved outdoor sports facilities on school sites should be subject to community use agreements.

- **OBJECTIVE 3:** To **provide** new outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so.
 - **Recommendation 8:** Identify opportunities to add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand; and
 - **Recommendation 9:** Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current stock.

4.58. The Sub Area Site-Specific Action Plans Appendix 2 provide individual site recommendations by geographic area and reflect the outcomes of the scenarios and identified quantitative and quality improvements identified in Section 3 and in Section 4 of this report.

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4.59. The Sub Area Individual Site Action Plans are given timescales to deliver:

Short Term Delivered against or worked towards within three years (ahead of the first full review of the PPS);	Medium Term. Delivered within 6 years; and	Long Term. No specific date – In many instances the action is an aspiration and is general support for clubs or other bodies to progress with and is not an action the Council or the Playing Pitch Steering Group have control over.
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4.60. The strategic actions within Appendix 2 have also been ranked as low, medium, or high based on cost. These are based on Sport England’s estimated facility costs. The range in which these sit at are:

(L) - Low - less than £50k	(M) - Medium - £50k-£250k	(H) - High £250k and above
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4.61. In addition to using the planning system to lever in developer contributions, it is recognised that external partner funding will need to be sought to deliver much of the action plan. Although seeking developer contributions in applicable situations and other local funding/community schemes could go some way towards meeting deficiencies and/or improving provision, other potential/match sources of funding should be investigated e.g. look to apply for grants and work with NGBs and Sport England to seek partnership funding for several projects.

4.62. It is important that the PPS Steering Group keep this strategy alive. This will be achieved by:

- Monitoring the delivery of the recommendations and actions;
- Providing up to date annual supply and demand for pitch stock; and
- Addressing changing trends and formats for the different pitch sports as they develop and monitoring participation of these changes and trends.

Summary of Recommendations

Table 38: Summary of Recommendations

Objective	Recommendation
<p>OBJECTIVE 1: To protect the existing supply of outdoor sports facilities to meet current and future needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 1: Ensure, that all existing outdoor sports facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy; • Recommendation 2: Secure tenure and access to sites for participation-focused development clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements. • Recommendation 3: Ensure continued use of education facilities where there is a need.
<p>OBJECTIVE 2: To enhance outdoor sports provision and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 4: Improve quality of playing pitches and ancillary facilities; • Recommendation 5: Adopt a sports hub approach when providing 2 or more playing pitches; • Recommendation 6: Secure external funding in partnership with other stakeholders; and • Recommendation 7: Secure developer contributions.
<p>OBJECTIVE 3: To provide new outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 8: Identify opportunities to add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand possibly at multi sports sites; and • Recommendation 9: Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current stock.

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