



GEDLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

AUGUST 2016

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial grass pitch)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
CC	Cricket Club
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
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GBC	Gedling Borough Council
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
HE	Higher Education
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
NFA	Nottinghamshire Football Association
NCB	Nottinghamshire Cricket Board
NTP	Non-turf pitch
LDF	Local Development Framework
LMS	Last Man Stands
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
PF	Playing Field
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RFC	Rugby Football Club
RLFC	Rugby League Football Club
S106	Section 106
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for Gedling Borough Council and its partners. Building upon the preceding Assessment Report it provides a strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities over the next ten years (2016 and 2026). The PPS covers the following playing pitches:

- ◀ Football pitches
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches
- ◀ Artificial grass pitches (AGPs)
- ◀ Softball
- ◀ Bowling greens
- ◀ Tennis courts
- ◀ Athletics

The Strategy is capable of:

- ◀ Providing adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting playing fields, as appropriate, directing open space contributions secured through development and informing and shaping local planning policy.
- ◀ Inform the protection and provision of sports facilities and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and S106 and CIL schedules.
- ◀ Informing land use decisions in respect of future use of existing outdoor sports areas and playing fields (capable of accommodating pitches) across the Borough;
- ◀ Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of outdoor sports across the Borough;
- ◀ Supporting external funding bids and maximise support for outdoor sports facilities;
- ◀ Providing the basis for on-going monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality and accessibility of outdoor sport.

1.1: Structure

The Strategy has been developed from research and analysis of playing pitch provision and usage within Gedling 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 issues.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommends a number of priority projects for Gedling which should be implemented over the next ten years. It provides a framework for improvement and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, potential partners and possible sources of external funding (see Appendix Three: Funding Plan).

The recommendations that come out of this strategy must be translated into local plan policy so there is a policy mechanism to protect existing provision and secure investment where the opportunity arises.

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1.3 Study area

The Borough covers the mainly affluent north-eastern suburbs of Greater Nottingham including Arnold, Carlton and part of Mapperley and then covers the area north of Nottingham into the rural villages of Calverton, Woodborough, Nottinghamshire, Ravenshead and Newstead extending north to Mansfield.

The Borough is one of contrasts and the area is split into an urban commuter base and rural farmland. In addition there are ten parishes in Gedling, some of which own and/or manage playing pitch facilities including for example, Burton Joyce which has recently received Football Foundation funding for improved facilities.

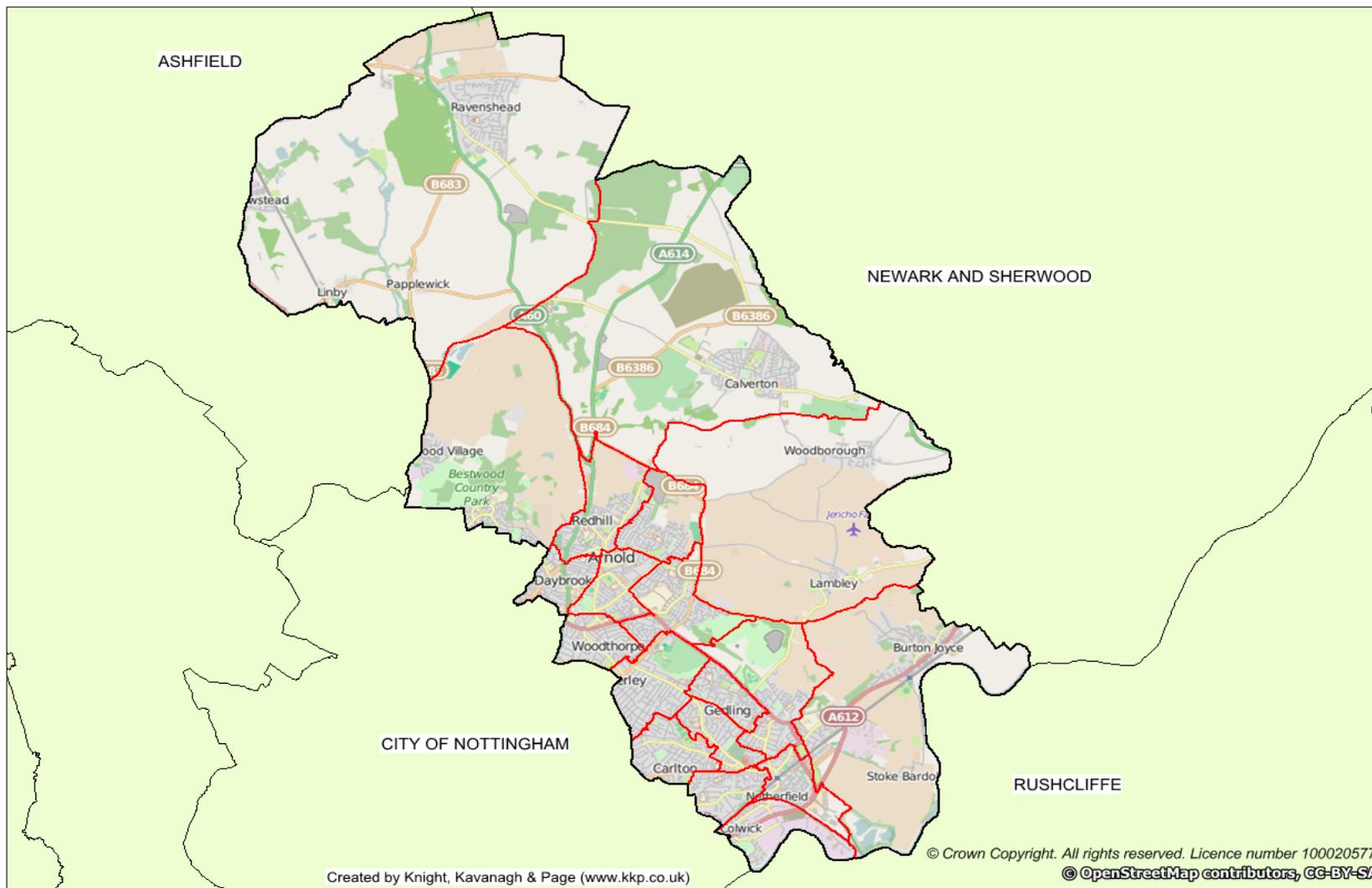
The current resident population in Gedling is 114,600¹. By 2031 the Borough's population is projected to increase to 126,465² an increase of 11,865 (or equivalent to a percentage increase of 10.3%) according to ONS data.

¹Source: ONS Mid-2013 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas in England and Wales by Single Year of Age and Sex and ONS 2012-based projections 2012-2032. Released: 29 May 2014

² Source: ONS 2012-based projections 2012-2037. Released: 29 May 2014

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Figure 1.1: Map of the study area



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1.4 Headline findings

The table below highlights the quantitative headline shortfalls from the Gedling Playing Pitch Assessment Report.

Sport	Current demand shortfall ³	Future demand shortfall (2027) ⁴
Football (grass pitches)	11.25 adult match sessions 1.5 youth 11v11 match sessions Two youth 9v9 match sessions	13.75 adult match sessions Seven youth 11v11 match sessions 6.5 youth 9v9 match sessions
Football (3G AGPs) ⁵	Five full sized 3G pitches with floodlighting	
Cricket	Demand is currently met	Demand can be met
Rugby union	5.25 senior match sessions	7.75 senior match sessions
Hockey (Sand/water based AGPs)	One full sized AGP (given existing pitches are condemned)	One full sized AGP (given existing pitches are condemned)
Bowling greens	Demand is currently met	Demand can be met
Tennis Courts	Demand is currently met	Demand can be met

Conclusions

The existing position for all pitch sports is either demand (with some small levels of spare capacity) is being met or there is a shortfall. The future position shows that for sports with current shortfalls they are exacerbated. Therefore, there is a need to protect all existing provision and create access to new provision or other sites, such as schools or those which are disused and can be brought back into use if feasible.

Key priority should be to increase the level of 3G pitch provision across the Borough whilst bringing back into use the condemned AGPs at Redhill Academy and Carlton Forum Leisure Centre. Careful consideration should be given in order to establish a balance of surface types as the current hockey picture shows decreased available supply and declining quality which is unable to meet future and displaced demand. Key priority should also be to improve quality of the AGP at Goosedale Sports Club through surface replacement in order to prevent it from being condemned as unsafe like other pitches in the Borough as this is the only remaining available hockey pitch.

1.5 Definitions

Match sessions

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

Based on how they tend to be played this unit for football, rugby union and rugby league pitches relate to a typical week within the season for each sport. For cricket pitches it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season.

³ Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay, demand and spare capacity.

⁴ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2031 if the current demand is not met.

⁵ Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training

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Pitch capacity

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

As a guide, each NGB has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its current quality (pitch capacity):

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

Shortfalls

Please note that shortfalls are expressed in match sessions rather than converted to pitches. To convert match sessions into pitches, the number of match sessions should be halved (to take account of teams playing on a home and away basis).

For a full Glossary of terms please refer to Appendix Four.

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PART 2: VISION

2.1 Vision

A vision has been set out to provide a clear focus with desired outcomes for the Gedling Playing Pitch Strategy:

“To ensure that Gedling Borough Council has a robust future proof Playing Pitch Strategy to ensure the appropriate provision of community facilities for active sport providing exercise opportunity for all.”

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PART 3: OBJECTIVES

The following overarching objectives are based on the three Sport England themes (see figure 1 below). Delivery of the Strategy is the responsibility of and relies on, all stakeholders.

It is recommended that the following are adopted by the Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the Playing Pitch Strategy and Sport England planning objectives.

Aim 1

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

Aim 2

To **enhance** playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites

Aim 3

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

Figure 1: Sport England themes- Protect, Enhance and Provide



Source: Sport England 2015

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PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Football pitches

Summary - grass

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 114 grass football pitches in Gedling. Of these, 106 are known to be available, at some level, for community use. There is one small sized 3G pitch at Poplars Sports Ground on which competitive football matches can be played.
- ◀ The majority of pitches (71%) available for community use are standard quality, with 16% rated as good and 13% as poor.
- ◀ Four clubs highlight issues with changing facilities, either with regards to the number or to accommodate girls' football. Changing provision at Lambley Lane North was identified as notably poor.
- ◀ The proposed Gedling Access Road to intersect Carlton-le-Willows Academy may result in the loss of grass playing pitches, though at present it is uncertain how many.
- ◀ Community use of The Sherwood E-Act Academy Sports Centre pitches is expected to cease later this year. Fourteen teams play onsite which may lose access to match pitches.
- ◀ Gedling Southbank Youth FC has no home base and has aspirations for its own site. The Club is keen to explore potential options for asset transfer.
- ◀ A total of 239 teams are identified as playing matches on football pitches within Gedling. Mini soccer teams from Burton Joyce FC were identified as consistently playing home matches on a 3G surface.
- ◀ Calverton Miners Welfare FC reports unmet demand and currently operates a waiting list due to a reported lack of access to floodlit training facilities.
- ◀ Hucknall Sports Youth FC imports demand from neighbouring Ashfield whilst its home ground it under redevelopment. It is uncertain whether any of this demand will remain within Gedling.
- ◀ Clubs report lack of access to affordable floodlit training facilities as a key issue, particularly full sized AGPs of which there is only one 3G pitch and one other available sand based pitch.
- ◀ There is a total of 13 match sessions of actual spare capacity across the Borough, whilst there is a further 13 match equivalent sessions available on pitches which currently have no recorded play.
- ◀ There are 13 pitches overplayed across eight sites, by a total of 31.25 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There is a shortfall of match sessions at adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 formats to accommodate current demand, whilst increases in future demand would cause a shortfall at all formats except mini soccer pitches.

Scenarios - grass

- ◀ **Improving pitch quality** - on overplayed pitches (either through increased maintenance or drainage improvements in order to increase pitch capacity) to either standard or good quality will help to accommodate overplay expressed. For example, improving overplayed pitches to good quality at Calverton Miners Welfare and Linby Colliery Welfare will eliminate overplay and create additional actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions at each site to help reduce shortfalls on adult pitches.

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- ◀ However, significant levels of overplay at some sites such as Breck Hill Recreation Ground, Richard Herrod Centre and Arnold Town FC cannot be addressed solely through increasing capacity by improving pitch quality.
- ◀ **Reducing overmarking** – adult pitches at Poplars Sports Ground exhibit actual spare capacity but are not considered able to accommodate additional use because they are overmarked. Transferring this use and removing the overmarked pitches would eliminate the need to retain spare capacity to protect pitch quality, subsequently not only allowing for use of this available capacity but creating new spare capacity to accommodate existing shortfalls.
- ◀ Removing overmarked use at Calverton Miners Welfare Trust, Ravenshead Leisure Centre, the Riverside ground and The Sherwood E-Act Academy Sports Centre would create one match session on adult pitches to reduce current shortfalls.
- ◀ However, overmarked use cannot be accommodated by existing supply therefore there is a need to create additional pitches or secure access to existing pitches not currently in use. A more feasible alternative may be to transfer this play onto 3G pitches.
- ◀ **Creating new pitches** – increased supply would help to reduce current shortfalls. Lambley Lane North is a large area which has potential for development as a hub site with several grass pitches and could accommodate a full sized 3G pitch.
- ◀ **Reducing training use at Arnold Town FC** - significant overplay caused by Notts County FC training at Arnold Town FC and a long term alternative needs to be sought to address overplay at this site which heavily influences shortfalls across the Borough.

Recommendations – grass

- ◀ Existing quantity of football pitches to be protected (unless a new 3G Pitch can be provided to counteract the reduction in quantity of grass pitches given existing shortfalls). Ensure appropriate re-provision should there be a loss of grass pitches as a result of the Gedling Access Road (GAR) development.
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and assessed as standard or poor quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to improve quality.
- ◀ Look to utilise actual spare capacity expressed on sites in order to cater for displaced/unmet demand and overplay.
- ◀ Seek to remove or reduce the number of pitches overmarked in order to increase capacity available to reduce current shortfalls of match sessions on adult pitches.
- ◀ Work with educational establishments to maximise and secure access to pitches on education sites in order to help address future demand for pitches.
- ◀ Consider asset transfer of sites to stable clubs which are able to feasibly take on management and maintenance, such as Gedling Southbank FC and JFC.
- ◀ Determine future plans for pitches at The Sherwood E-Act Academy Sports Centre. Should these pitches be lost ensure appropriate re-provision and relocation of teams currently using the site.
- ◀ Explore opportunities for investment to develop provision, such as hub sites which could incorporate a mix of grass pitch and 3G provision.
- ◀ Develop and ensure access to sufficient changing provision of the required standard to prevent limitations on capacity able to be used at once such as at the Riverside Ground.
- ◀ Improve quality of changing facilities which are presently not fit for use in order to maximise use of sites.
- ◀ Explore opportunities for access to and increased use of 3G pitches to cater for current and future shortfalls of match sessions and review impact on grass pitches as part of the PPS Annual Review.

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Summary – 3G pitches

- ▶ Playfootball Nottingham is the only full sized 3G pitch in Gedling and is run commercially alongside eight small sized 3G pitches at Arnold Hill Academy.
- ▶ At present the 3G pitches are used heavily by the school because most grass pitch provision is out of use due to building work onsite. Commercial lettings are managed through Playfootball from 5pm - 10pm midweek, from 9am – 5pm Saturday and 9am – 10pm Sunday.
- ▶ The full sized pitch is in poor condition given it is only five years old and several areas evidence rips in the surface, loose sections of the surface which lift and wearing away of the pile.
- ▶ There are no full sized FA, FIFA or World Rugby certified 3G pitches in Gedling, therefore no match play is officially sanctioned to take place on these artificial surfaces other than the small sized 3G pitch at Poplars Sports Ground which is FA certified to host mini soccer matches.
- ▶ The FA estimates that there is a need for six full size 3G pitches to service current football training needs in Gedling. This provides a shortfall of five full size 3G pitches.
- ▶ The lack of 3G pitch provision in Gedling and maintaining sufficient supply of hockey suitable AGPs must be balanced when considering opportunities for pitch development or resurfacing. Academies at Redhill Leisure Centre and Carlton Forum Leisure Centre have both expressed an interest in having 3G surfaces. It is likely that proposed resurfacing will go ahead at Redhill Leisure Centre including extending the dimensions. This would reduce the shortfall to four full sized 3G pitches.

Scenarios – 3G pitches⁶

- ▶ **Converting disused AGPs to 3G** – resurfacing one or both of the AGPs at Redhill Leisure Centre and Carlton Forum Leisure Centre would help to increase 3G provision. Doing so would bring these pitches back into use as the surfaces would no longer be unsafe, nor would it impact on provision currently used for hockey.
- ▶ **Moving all mini teams to play on 3G pitches⁷** – there are currently 25 mini 5v5 teams and 36 mini 7v7 teams which would require a total of four full size 3G pitches to accommodate all mini teams. This is on the basis that both playing formats can be accommodated on one day using staggered kick off times.
- ▶ **Reducing overplay on grass pitches** – transferring mini soccer play from overmarked pitches would help to reduce levels of overplay and create additional spare capacity. For example, doing so at Lambley Lane North and from the overmarked youth 9v9 pitch at Breck Hill Recreation Ground would eliminate overplay.

Recommendations – 3G pitches

- ▶ Increase provision of 3G pitches in Gedling to meet training and competitive demand including teams currently exporting demand due to shortfalls. In the longer term, maximise use for competitive play to relieve overuse and overmarking of grass.
- ▶ Seek to improve pitch quality at Playfootball Nottingham to sustain future use and look to improve standards of maintenance and repair.
- ▶ In partnership with England Hockey and RFU look to convert at least one full sized sand based AGPs to a 3G surface whilst maintaining adequate hockey provision (one AGP).
- ▶ Encourage providers to have a mechanism in place which ensures the long term sustainability of provision including a sinking fund (formed by periodically setting aside money over time ready for surface replacement when required).
- ▶ Nottinghamshire FA (NFA) to carry out consultation with leagues/clubs to gauge acceptance/buy in of moving competitive play to 3G pitches in the future.
- ▶ Consider World Rugby compliant AGPs in the Area to address levels of overplay, whether at club sites or shared sites.

⁷ Figures are rounded up to the nearest full size pitch.

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Cricket pitches

Summary

- ◀ In total, there are 15 grass cricket squares in Gedling all of which are available for community use. No schools have grass cricket squares.
- ◀ There is also a grass cricket square at Lambley Lane South which now lies unused since Lambley CC folded at the end of the 2015 season.
- ◀ There are 14 non-turf wickets though only ten are of suitable quality and dimensions for use.
- ◀ The non-technical assessments carried out on cricket squares in Gedling found five squares to be of good quality and eight were of standard quality, with two poor quality squares at Burnstump Country Park and Newstead Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Several clubs highlight quality issues at Council maintained sites, citing a lack of regular maintenance as required. Rolling of wickets is reported to be too infrequent and playing surfaces generate irregular and dangerous bounce.
- ◀ Some clubs with high levels of junior demand report difficulty in sustaining pitch quality because the number of midweek junior games restrict the amount time available to access the square for maintenance.
- ◀ All clubs are considered to have secure tenure of pitches they use, either through ownership or as part of the Council's sporting offering.
- ◀ There are 41 senior teams playing competitive matches on pitches within Gedling and 22 junior teams. There is one ladies team and one girls' team, both at Notts & Arnold Amateur CC.
- ◀ MADNI CC exports demand to neighbouring Newark & Sherwood where it plays at Caythorpe CC on Sundays.
- ◀ Papplewick & Linby CC reports unmet demand, enough to create two new junior boys' teams.
- ◀ Future and unmet demand equate to a total requirement for a further 30 match sessions for midweek junior matches.
- ◀ Of those sites with existing community use, there are seven which show potential spare capacity on grass wickets in Gedling, totalling 253 match sessions per season. Only three of these sites have capacity at senior peak time with availability of three match sessions.
- ◀ Three sites in Gedling are considered to be overplayed. Goosedale Sports Club exhibits the highest level of overplay, by a total of 22 match sessions per season.
- ◀ Further to this, Mapperley Plains Sports & Social Club is considered as being played to capacity and no further play is recommended.
- ◀ Overall there is sufficient capacity within Gedling to accommodate current and future demand on existing squares a both senior and junior peak times.

Scenarios

- ◀ **Developing secondary provision** – securing long term tenure for Papplewick & Linby CC at Burnstump Country Park will enable the Club to improve the quality of facilities onsite, particularly the standard of the pavilion. Improvements to ancillary provision and wicket quality would enable the site to be used for junior matches and to accommodate unmet demand current expressed.
- ◀ Lambley Lane South is currently unused but has spare capacity of 45 matches and is available at peak time. Greater use of the site would address the level of overplay at Goosedale Sports Club which is not sustainable through increases in pitch quality and maintenance. However, the two sites are over ten miles apart and instead it may be better placed as a secondary pitch to facilitate further growth from clubs, such as

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Gedling Colliery CC which is considered to be played to capacity less than two miles away.

- ◀ **Improving pitch quality** – club management and maintenance of squares is likely to improve pitch quality through greater time and cost able to be invested in relation to current regimes. A renegotiated lease agreement for Papplewick & Linby CC at Burnstump Country Park at a reasonable rate but which allowed the Club to invest more time and funds into maintenance of the square would help to improve pitch quality.
- ◀ Improvement of pitch quality at Calverton Cricket Club through increased maintenance, remedial and preparatory work would enable the square to sustain the current level of overplay.
- ◀ **Utilising spare capacity** – there are no shortfalls at present and there is actual spare capacity to accommodate further play at Burton Road Recreation Ground, Byron Abbey Cricket Club and Newstead Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Of the seven sites with potential spare capacity, only Poplars Sports Ground is currently used for junior cricket midweek. Therefore, the other six sites are available for midweek junior games or short format senior matches.

Recommendations – cricket

- ◀ Existing quantity of cricket pitches to be protected.
- ◀ Seek to improve square quality and ancillary provision at Burnstump Country Park to ensure sufficient quality to accommodate junior matches.
- ◀ Secure tenure for Papplewick & Linby CC at Burnstump Country Park through long term lease agreement.
- ◀ Seek to address the level of overplay at Goosedale Sports Club through access to local secondary provision.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at Calverton Cricket Club to sustain current level of overplay.
- ◀ Improve standard of maintenance at Council managed sites to address reported quality issues which may limit otherwise spare capacity from being used for league matches.
- ◀ Utilise spare capacity to accommodate possible future demand, particularly development of junior and women's and girls' cricket.
- ◀ Continue to develop cricket within local schools in conjunction with Nottinghamshire Cricket Board (NCB) development coaches, linking to clubs to develop junior participation.

Rugby union pitches

Summary

- ◀ In total there are 17 rugby union pitches in Gedling, consisting of 12 senior and five mini union pitches located across seven sites. Twelve pitches are available for community use and presently used, whilst four pitches at school sites are reported to be available but unused.
- ◀ Rugby union in Gedling is heavily focused around two club sites (Mellish RFC and Paviers RFC) with limited use of the 3G pitch at Calverton Leisure Centre for training. Tenure of both sites is considered to be secure.
- ◀ There are five standard quality pitches at Mellish RFC and seven standard quality pitches at Paviers RFC; otherwise all other pitches within the Borough are assessed as poor quality with the cost of maintenance highlighted as an issue for clubs.
- ◀ Mellish RFC highlights a growth in female rugby and highlights the need for a segregated and exclusive female changing and shower area as a key priority when balancing the logistics of mixed sex and age participation on Sundays.

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- ◀ Both clubs typically train on match pitches in the case of full or partial floodlighting. There is some use of the small sized AGP at Calverton Leisure Centre during the winter by Pavors RFC junior section.
- ◀ Two rugby union clubs play in Gedling, providing a total of 33 teams. There are seven senior teams, of which, there is just one women's team. There are ten junior boys' teams, three junior girls' teams and 13 mini age groups. Both clubs field specific girls' teams.
- ◀ There is actual spare capacity of just 0.5 match equivalent sessions on senior rugby union pitches at senior peak time and none available at junior peak time. There are no match sessions available on mini pitches.
- ◀ Although there is some availability at school sites pitch quality is poor and in practice school pitches may not be desirable for use by clubs if there is no access to onsite changing facilities, whilst additional cost of hiring offsite facilities may also influence the lack of club use.
- ◀ Three pitches currently used by community clubs in some capacity are overplayed by a total of 6.25 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ Overplay is generally due to excessive training use of pitches, sustained weekly junior use and limited capacity on pitches due to poor quality.
- ◀ Overall there are insufficient senior pitches in Gedling to service current and future demand, totalling a future requirement for a further 7.75 match equivalent sessions. This can be accommodated with access to an additional 4 floodlit senior pitches on which training can take place.

World rugby compliant AGPs

- ◀ It is the intention of the RFU investment strategy into AGPs to invest in communities across the country where grass rugby pitches in the local community are over capacity and where the installation of an AGP would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local rugby clubs and other organisations within the Local Authority. The RFU is keen to work with partners such as the Council and the FA to look at sites of mutual interest for future AGP provision.

Scenarios

- ◀ **Improving pitch quality** – improving pitch quality to good (M2/D1) would create additional capacity of 2.5 match sessions on senior pitches at Mellish RFC and one match on the mini pitch. However, the fully floodlit training pitch would still be overplayed by two match sessions.
- ◀ Doing so at Pavors RFC would create additional capacity of two match sessions on senior pitches and four matches on mini pitches. However, the fully floodlit training pitch would still be overplayed by 1.75 match sessions.
- ◀ **Training away from match pitches** – a more effective alternative may be to transfer some or all training use away from match pitches. This would not only eliminate overplay at both club sites but create additional capacity for match play.
- ◀ **Increased use of 3G pitches** – removing training demand from match pitches through greater use of 3G pitches would help to alleviate overplay of floodlit pitches at both club sites. For example, transferring the three match sessions of midweek training for mini and junior teams onto 3G pitches where appropriate (given the absence of a World Rugby certified AGP) would eliminate overplay at Mellish RFC.
- ◀ **Use of secondary sites** – improvements in quality cannot address the shortfalls in peak time capacity and requirements for additional pitch space. Access to other pitches at school sites such as Colonel Frank Seely Comprehensive School would help to alleviate existing shortfalls, however, please note that all pitches at school sites are deemed to be of a poor standard, therefore for this to be a viable option to clubs, the quality of pitches at these sites would need to be improved.

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- ◀ **Creation of new pitches** – some existing school provision is not currently available in practice given the cessation of community use at Carlton-le-Willows Academy and redevelopment at Arnold Hill Academy. Therefore, creation of new pitches may be required to address shortfalls. Neither club site has potential for site expansion so new pitches would likely be located at other sites.
- ◀ **Development of ancillary provision** – improvements made to changing provision at Mellish RFC to ensure it can adequately accommodate mixed sex and female rugby may lead to further growth of female participation and in turn increased demand for pitches.

Recommendations – rugby union

- ◀ Existing quantity of rugby pitches to be protected.
- ◀ Improve quality at both club sites in order to improve quality for play and increase available capacity for further use, particularly at Paviers RFC given recent issues with change of subcontractors. Given the club based nature of participation and lack of potential for site expansion, reducing shortfalls through improved maintenance and pitch quality to increase capacity should be prioritised at both sites.
- ◀ Develop changing provision at Mellish RFC to adequately accommodate increased participation by women and girls including within mixed teams at mini level.
- ◀ Support Paviers RFC in resolving legal limitations on use of the facilities onsite so that it may provide a wider community benefit and increase revenue generation.
- ◀ Seek to transfer training use off match pitches in order to alleviate overplay and increase capacity available for match play.
- ◀ Explore feasibility of access to spare capacity at available school sites given the availability of suitable changing and toilet facilities where required.

World Rugby compliant AGPs

- ◀ Consider additional rugby world rugby compliant AGPs in the Area to address levels of overplay, whether at club sites or shared sites such as Carlton-le-Willows Academy which has a number of school rugby teams.

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Hockey pitches (AGPs)

Summary

- ◀ There are three full size sand filled AGPs in Gedling. Only the pitch at Goosedale Sports Club is currently used for community club hockey. The loss of floodlighting and poor quality at Redhill Leisure Centre and poor quality at Carlton Forum Leisure Centre led to use being withdrawn at each.
- ◀ All full size AGPs in Gedling were found to be poor quality are ten years old or over; some at least double the recommended lifespan of an AGP surface. Therefore, all pitches are considered to require urgent replacement.
- ◀ Goosedale Sports Club is shared by the two hockey clubs playing in the Borough; Nottingham HC and Ashfield Aztecs HC.
- ◀ Nottingham HC has five regular senior teams playing on Saturday afternoons and a junior section of over 30 players.
- ◀ Ashfield Aztecs HC rents Goosedale Sports Club for its two senior ladies' teams. Further to this it links to a junior section which plays and trains in Ashfield.
- ◀ Neither team highlights a specific lack of access to capacity for training or match play (albeit Ashfield Aztecs HC would prefer alternative timeslots), however, poor pitch quality is the key issue currently facing both clubs as the site is at risk of becoming unusable for competitive hockey.
- ◀ Redhill Ladies HC exports demand to nearby Nottingham where it has three teams playing and training at Southglade Leisure Centre and a junior section. The Club would like to return to play in Redhill/Gedling.
- ◀ A full size floodlit hockey AGP is able to accommodate up to four hockey matches at senior peak time (Saturday). Given that there are seven senior teams currently playing in Gedling, a minimum of one pitch is required at present. If displaced demand from Redhill Ladies HC was also to be satisfied in Gedling (three senior teams) the current requirement would be for two AGPs.
- ◀ Current quality of provision is not adequate to accommodate Redhill Ladies HC in the Borough at present. Retention and improvement of Carlton Forum Leisure Centre as a hockey suitable surface would, however, allow for this as there is available capacity.
- ◀ Further to this, the lack of 3G pitch provision in Gedling and maintaining sufficient supply of hockey suitable AGPs must be balanced when considering opportunities for pitch development or resurfacing. Academies at Redhill Leisure Centre and Carlton Forum Leisure Centre have both expressed an interest in having 3G surfaces, both of which are managed by the Redhill Academy Trust.

Scenarios

- ◀ **Resurfacing aged AGPs** – retaining and resurfacing Goosedale Sports Club as a hockey suitable AGP would provide a better quality pitch for match play and training for both resident clubs. In the longer term, to meet future/displaced demand this site could offer the potential to accommodate a second hockey suitable AGP (albeit this would require a full feasibility study to determine sustainability).
- ◀ **Increasing the number of 3G pitches** – given the shortfall of full sized 3G pitches in Gedling and use of sand AGPs for football training there is a likely impact on the future sustainability of hockey suitable AGPs as some football demand is likely to transfer onto 3G pitches as more are provided. This may be the case at Goosedale Sports Club should a proposed new 3G pitch be built in nearby Hucknall, as it is likely that the pitch would prove attractive to Hucknall Sports Youth FC. This would create spare capacity for hockey but may impact on revenue generation.

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- ◀ **Converting pitches to 3G** – given the shortfall of 3G pitches, England Hockey, Nottinghamshire FA, RFU and should work together to identify the feasibility of converting sand based pitches that are surplus to requirements for hockey (most likely Redhill Leisure Centre and Carlton Forum Leisure Centre). Consideration must be given to maintaining a balance of increasing 3G provision whilst maintaining a range of surfaces to continue to sufficiently accommodate hockey demand.

Recommendations – hockey

- ◀ Retain a sufficient level (two) of full sized sand based pitch provision to accommodate current demand and allow for increases in future demand including club growth and the re-accommodation of displaced demand from Redhill Ladies HC.
- ◀ Moving forward key priority should be to resurface the pitch at Goosedale Sports Club given its age and quality, retaining it as a hockey suitable surface and key venue for hockey in Gedling. with future potential as a double pitch site.
- ◀ Maximise use of Goosedale Sports Club to accommodate hockey and further growth of both resident clubs.
- ◀ Encourage providers to put sinking funds (formed by periodically setting aside money over time ready for surface replacement when required) in place to maintain AGP pitch quality in the long term.
- ◀ Establish feasibility of converting the disused pitches at Redhill Leisure Centre and Carlton Forum Leisure Centre to 3G in order to bring them back into use, giving consideration as to whether both need to be retained as hockey suitable surfaces in light of 3G shortfalls.

Bowling greens

Summary

- ◀ There are nine bowling greens in Gedling provided across eight sites with just one double green site at Conway Road Recreation Ground. All are flat greens and there are no crown greens.
- ◀ The green at Onchan Drive is no longer used and therefore has not been included in the analysis. It was previously used by Carlton BC but was subject to vandalism, riding bikes on the green and occupation by youths who prevented the Club from accessing it to play.
- ◀ Six greens in the Borough were rated as good quality, with the other three assessed as standard quality. No greens were assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ There are three Council managed bowling greens and the majority of sites are operated by either the Council or parish councils. Only Daybrook BC is considered to have secure tenure as it has ownership of the home site.
- ◀ There is a general perception that the maintenance of Council managed greens is of a poor standard. Prominent issues include a lack of sport specific turf knowledge, lack of grass cutting and overwatering of surfaces by automatic sprinkler systems.
- ◀ Inappropriate public access is impacting on green quality and ultimately caused Carlton BC to abandon use of Onchan Drive.
- ◀ There are 11 clubs using bowling greens in Gedling and membership of responding clubs ranges from 12 to 40 members.
- ◀ No greens are overplayed and all are considered to have capacity to accommodate additional play.
- ◀ There is sufficient supply of outdoor bowling greens to accommodate current demand across the Borough. However, sustaining or improving green quality is of greater concern at Council sites.

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- ◀ Club requirements for better quality maintenance balanced with Council requirements to make cost savings prompt the need for a revised mechanism for the maintenance of bowling sites. Potential opportunities for asset transfer or for clubs to take on greater responsibility for green maintenance should be explored where appropriate.

Scenarios

- ◀ **Loss of greens** – As part of the budget process, the Council has been considering the viability of continuing to fund bowling clubs in the Borough. In the current economic climate, it is having to reappraise outdoor bowls provision.
- ◀ The Council reports that it costs about £8500 per year to keep a green in good condition and available funding only stretches so far. As a result a 'revised scheme' is likely see the closure of one disused green and one existing green. This will leave three council maintained greens for clubs to play on.
- ◀ The Council supports bowling but needs to ensure that the facilities that are used are viable, particularly as costs have risen and numbers playing the sport have fallen.
- ◀ Should the Council budget pressures present a need to rationalise bowling green provision it would displace one or more clubs or could potentially cause them to fold.
- ◀ These clubs would need to be relocated at suitably accessible sites given that most players are based local to greens they currently use and many use public transport links to access them.
- ◀ All sites are considered likely to have spare capacity however whether they would be able to accommodate additional demand is dependent on which clubs if any would require relocation and how many members they have.
- ◀ **Asset transfer** – The Council is additionally looking into the feasibility of asset transfer, which may see clubs taking on maintenance costs if they so wish. By relinquishing running of the bowling greens to clubs the Council hopes to give ownership of the sport back to them.
- ◀ Transfer of greens to strong and stable local clubs such as Porchester BC would reduce costs incurred by the Council and allow for protection of greens despite pressures to reduce Council maintenance budgets.
- ◀ **Maximising use of spare capacity** – increasing membership and participation through club development is able to be accommodated by current provision which exhibits spare capacity.

Recommendations – bowling greens

- ◀ Retain a sufficient level of green provision to accommodate current and future demand. Based on 154 recorded members using Council managed greens there is a need to retain a minimum of three greens (rounded from 2.57) to meet this demand.
- ◀ Improve green quality through increased maintenance at Council managed sites, including addressing quality issues such as excessive watering of greens.
- ◀ Determine whether there is a need to rationalise Council managed bowling greens amidst budget pressures.
- ◀ Establish security of tenure for clubs using Council or Parish Council managed greens through formal agreement.
- ◀ Establish feasibility for asset transfer of greens where appropriate to stable and proactive clubs. Such action should be costed to realistically enable clubs to take on responsibilities for maintenance and invest sufficient funds towards keeping a green of the required quality.
- ◀ Determine suitable relocation and re-provision for clubs should greens be lost and work to ensure clubs have good relations should they have to share greens as a result.
- ◀ Maximise use of spare capacity by increasing membership and developing participation in order to ensure sustainability of greens.

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Tennis

Summary

- ◀ There are a total of 48 tennis courts identified in Gedling, of which 16 courts at school sites are not available for community use.
- ◀ Nineteen courts in Gedling are floodlit, spread across five sites. Twelve of these courts are currently used by community clubs whilst the other seven at Carlton Forum Leisure Centre represent the only Council managed tennis courts made available to hire.
- ◀ A total of 16 courts (33%) were assessed as good quality and 14 courts (29%) as poor quality. However, most courts (38%) were assessed as standard quality.
- ◀ There are 35 macadam courts, seven shale, three artificial grass and three all-weather courts.
- ◀ Tenure of all four club sites is considered to be secure, either through direct ownership or based on the continued provision of tennis courts at parish council sites as part of the local community recreational offer.
- ◀ The LTA has targeted north east Nottingham for 2016 and hopes that some of its development work will have a greater impact into neighbouring areas of Gedling.
- ◀ Woodthorpe TC is the largest tennis club in the Borough. It has 20 teams and over 200 playing members.
- ◀ Burton Joyce TC reports it is playing to capacity with regards to coaching and match play but there is no available space to expand facilities; the site has two courts.
- ◀ It is likely that demand for recreational play increases annually following events such as Wimbledon and publicly accessible Council managed sites are generally assumed to be busier during the summer when the light allows for more evening play.
- ◀ Participation is largely club based and club sites are generally self serving. Club access to floodlit courts does not appear to be an issue and court quality at club sites is generally good.
- ◀ In general there are enough tennis courts in Gedling to cater for current demand and casual use. However, Burton Joyce TC report demand for access to additional courts.

Scenarios

- ◀ **Improving court quality** – improving poor quality courts at Bestwood Country Park, Oakdale Recreation Ground and Redhill Leisure Centre would increase attractiveness for social play and commercial lets in the case of the latter.
- ◀ **Maximising underused sites** – spare capacity exists to maximise use at some sites. For example, Carlton Forum Leisure Centre is reported to be underused yet has seven floodlit courts which are affordably priced. This spare capacity could be effectively used as a secondary venue for Burton Joyce TC or for the potential creation of a satellite club at Carlton Academy to develop school participation.
- ◀ Underused sites could also be used to host LTA community initiative or participation programmes to develop tennis across the Borough. For example courts at park sites may be suitable to host midweek parks tennis leagues or cardio tennis sessions throughout the summer.
- ◀ **Increased floodlighting** – improving surface and net quality at Conway Road Recreation Ground alongside installation of floodlighting would create additional spare capacity of the required quality for Burton Joyce TC.
- ◀ This site has six courts yet has little club or social use because there is no longer a parks warden to manage the courts. Improvements to create a secondary club site would create additional capacity for growth of the club which already makes use of the courts.

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Recommendations – tennis

- ◀ Retain a sufficient level of tennis provision to accommodate current and future demand for both club play, coaching and social or recreational play.
- ◀ Establish security of tenure for clubs using Parish Council managed courts through formal agreement.
- ◀ Improve surface and equipment quality at Conway Road Recreation Ground to the required standard for club use by Burton Joyce TC.
- ◀ Explore potential for greater use of Conway Road Recreation Ground by Burton Joyce TC as a genuine secondary site to create additional floodlit capacity to accommodate growth.
- ◀ Maximise use of Carlton Forum Leisure Centre as a secondary club site, potential satellite club venue or through programming of participation schemes such as cardio tennis.
- ◀ Seek to increase use of community and parks courts for recreation and social play. Explore potential to host LTA schemes and participation programmes which may link in to LTA activity in north east Nottingham.

Athletics

Summary

- ◀ There is one athletics track in Gedling at Carlton-le-Willows Academy.
- ◀ The track has a poor quality cinder surface with faded line markings and loose gravel on the surface. Accompanying it beside the football pitch on the grass area inside the track is a long jump pit and a shotput throwing area.
- ◀ The track is mainly used for school athletics during the summer but there is community access once a week by a satellite club run in partnership with Notts Athletic Club.
- ◀ The academy is uncertain as to the final plans for the Gedling Access Road (GAR) but believes that the area inside the grass track would be a good location for an AGP with the track being retained around it.

Recommendations – athletics

- ◀ Protect athletics provision to accommodate current and future demand for both athletics and community use.
- ◀ Retain accessibility and community use onsite amidst uncertainty regarding the proposed GAR development.
- ◀ Improve track quality to increase performance for school use and community use.

Softball

Summary

- ◀ Slowpitch is the preferred format of softball generally played in the Gedling and Nottinghamshire area, played in mixed sex teams.
- ◀ The East Midlands Softball League (EMSL) has 13 teams and operates from April until September. Matches are generally played on Thursday evenings and Sundays across four venues including Bestwood Lodge Fire HQ in Gedling.
- ◀ Use of Bestwood Lodge Fire HQ is available through personal relationship and is not widely available for community use. Tenure of the site is therefore not considered to be secure as any change in personal circumstances or employment of that one particular person would see use of the pitches withdrawn.

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- ◀ The EMSL requires three diamonds for each league event but has to use multiple venues at once because the currently used sites are each only able to accommodate two diamonds.
- ◀ Plans are to raise funds to apply for grant funding so that it may work towards acquiring a site to become a dedicated softball facility.
- ◀ There is reported demand for access to changing facilities at Bestwood Lodge Fire HQ as many players come straight from work to play on Thursday nights throughout the summer.
- ◀ The EMSL has Sunday start times of 10am, 11.30am and 1pm and believes that there is good potential to generate bar revenue as a result of several teams which would use a facility throughout the day.
- ◀ The league is keen to run more development programmes and open entry competitions in the future to encourage new players to take up the sport, focusing on the Nottingham, Leicester, Derby and surrounding areas.

Recommendations – softball

- ◀ Establish security of tenure at Bestwood Lodge Fire HQ
- ◀ Explore options to mark diamonds at other sites where tenure is able to be secured, for example larger football club sites like Richard Herrod Centre or Arnold Town FC.
- ◀ Seek access to changing facilities to accompany diamond provision.
- ◀ Determine potential for a softball hub site where three diamonds can be accommodated to accommodate all matches at once, possibly as part of any development which may potentially take place at Lambley Lane North.

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PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The strategic recommendations for the Strategy have been developed from the key issues cutting across all playing pitch sports and categorised under each of the Strategy Aims. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed which apply across outdoor sports facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.

Aim 1

To **protect** the existing supply of playing pitch facilities where it is needed for meeting current or future needs

Recommendations:

- a. Protect playing field sites through local planning policy
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. Maximise community use of education facilities where there is a need to do so.

Recommendation a – Protect playing field sites through local planning policy

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used playing field sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. Therefore, based on the outcomes of the PPS, local planning policy should reflect this situation.

NPPF paragraph 74 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

Lapsed and disused – playing field sites that formerly accommodated playing pitches but are no longer used for formal or informal sports use within the last five years (lapsed) or longer (disused).

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used playing field sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. Lapsed, disused, underused and poor quality sites should also be protected from development or replaced as there is a requirement for playing field land to accommodate more pitches to meet the identified shortfalls.

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New housing development - where proposed housing development is located within access of a high quality playing pitch, this does not necessarily mean that there is no need for further pitch provision or improvements to existing pitches in that area in order to accommodate additional demand arising from that development. The PPS should be used to help determine what impact the new development will have on the demand and capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for improvements to increase capacity or if new provision is required.

The PPS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis taking into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England as statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing field will use the PPS to help assess that planning application against their Playing Fields Policy

Sport England's playing field policy exception E1 only allows for development of lapsed or disused playing fields if a PPS shows a clear excess in the quantity of playing pitch provision at present and in the future across all playing pitch sports types and sizes.

Policy Exception E1:

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

Where the PPS cannot demonstrate the site, or part of a site, is clearly surplus to requirements then replacement of the site, or part of a site, will be required to comply with Sport England policy exception E4.

Policy Exception E4:

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

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

Further to this, all playing fields should be protected or replaced up until the point where all satisfied demand has been met within the study area or each individual sports catchment areas within a sub area.

Each currently disused/lapsed site is included within the action plan together with a recommendation in relation to the need to bring the site back into use or mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified with the Assessment.

Local authorities wanting to dispose of school playing field land need consent under Section 77 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998, but consent is now also required for disposal of any land used by a school or academy under Schedule 1 to the Academies Act 2010. Academies also need consent to any leases or disposals under their Funding Agreement.

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It should be noted that consent under Section 77 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act does not necessarily mean subsequent planning approval will be granted. Therefore, any application for planning permission must meet the requirements of the relevant policy, in this case paragraph 74 of NPPF, Local Plan Policy and Sport England policy. Indeed, applicants are advised to engage Sport England before submitting applications. Robust implementation of the statutory obligation will ensure protection of school playing fields for use by pupils (and sometimes the community as a whole) to ensure receipt is ploughed back into sports education.

Recommendation b – Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs through a range of solutions and partnership agreements

A number of school sites are being used in Gedling for competitive play, predominately for football. In all cases use of pitches has not been classified as unsecure, however, use is not necessarily formalised and further work should be carried out to ensure an appropriate Community Use Agreement (CUA) is in place (including access to changing provision where required).

NGBs can often help to negotiate and engage with schools, particularly academies where the local authority may not have direct influence.

Sport England has also produced guidance, online resources and toolkits to help open up and retain school sites for community use and can be found at:
<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/accessing-schools/>

Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council, NGBs or the County Sports Partnership (CSP) to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership working. For example, support club development and encourage clubs to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate an income through their facilities. All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)⁸. Clubs should also be encouraged to work with partners locally whether volunteer support agencies or linking with local businesses.

As well as improving the quality of well-used, local authority sites, there are a number of sites which have poor quality (or no) ancillary facilities. **The Council should further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted to the clubs playing on these sites (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs) so the clubs are in a position to apply for external funding to improve the ancillary facilities.**

Further to this there could be examples in Gedling where long term leases could be put into place for the continued use of a site. Each club should be required to meet service and/or strategic recommendations. However, an additional set of criteria should be considered, which takes into account the quality of the club, aligned to its long term development objectives and sustainability.

In the context of the Comprehensive Spending Review, which announced public spending cuts, it is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations in order that they may be able to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities.

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

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To facilitate this, the Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds to allow this.

Recommended criteria for lease of sport sites to clubs/organisations

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

The Council can further recognise the value of NGB club accreditation by adopting a policy of prioritising the clubs that are to have access to these better quality facilities. This may be achieved by inviting clubs to apply for season long leases on a particular site as an initial trial.

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

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

In addition, clubs should be made fully aware of the associated responsibilities/liabilities when considering leases of multi-use public playing fields.

Community asset transfer

The Council should continue to work towards adopting a policy which supports community management and ownership of assets to local clubs, community groups and trusts. This presents sports clubs and national governing bodies with opportunities to take ownership of their own facilities; it may also provide non-asset owning sports clubs with their first chance to take on a building.

The Sport England Community Sport Asset Transfer Toolkit is a bespoke, interactive web based tool that provides a step by step guide through each stage of the asset transfer process: http://archive.sportengland.org/support_advice/asset_transfer.aspx

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Recommendation c – Maximise community use of education sites where there is a need to do so

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

A large number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the school/college and the local clubs. The Council and other key partners must work with schools and colleges to develop an understanding of the issues that restrict or affect community access. Support should be provided, where appropriate, to address underlying problems. Consideration should be given to a centralised booking system for community use of schools and colleges to minimise administration and make access easier for the users.

It is not uncommon for school pitch stock not to be fully maximised for community use. Even on established community use sites, access to grass pitches for community use is limited.

In some instances grass pitches are unavailable for community use due to poor quality and therefore remedial works will be required before community use can be established.

As detailed earlier, Sport England has also produced guidance, online resources and toolkits to help open up and retain school sites for community use and can be found at:

Community use: <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/accessing-schools/>
Use our schools toolkit: <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/use-our-school/>

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

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Aim 2

To **enhance** playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites

Recommendation:

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

Recommendation d – Improve quality

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality, including for example, addressing overplay and improving maintenance. These are explored in more detail below.

Addressing quality issues

Generally where pitches are assessed as standard or poor quality and/or overplayed, review/improve maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring existing maintenance of good quality pitches continues is also important.

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

For the purposes of the Quality Assessments, this Strategy will refer to pitches and ancillary facilities separately as Good, Standard or Poor quality. In Gedling, for example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements i.e. changing rooms or a specific pitch.

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

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

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Poor quality refers to pitches that have, for example, poor levels of maintenance coupled with inadequate grass cover, uneven surface and damage. In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate size of changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old dated interior. For rugby union, drainage is natural and inadequate.

Please refer to the Sport England/NGB quality assessments. Sites played beyond capacity may require remedial action to help reduce this.

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

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

For improvement/replacement of AGPs refer to Sport England and the NGBs 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' document for a guide as to suitable AGP surfaces:

www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/

Addressing overplay

In order to improve the overall quality of the playing pitches stock; it is necessary to ensure that pitches are not overplayed beyond recommended weekly carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing pitch quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a weekly match limit to each. Each NGB recommends a number of matches that a good quality grass pitch should take:

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

* Please note that the RFU believes that it is most appropriate to base the calculation of pitch capacity upon an assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme afforded to a site.

There are also a number of sites that are poor quality but are not overplayed. These sites should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than other sites but demand could increase if the quality was to increase. Improving pitch quality should not be considered in isolation from maintenance regimes.

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Whilst it works both ways in so much as poor pitch condition is a symptom of pitches being over played, potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular.

There is also a need to balance pitch improvements alongside the transfer of play to alternative pitch sites. Therefore, work with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity and encourage play, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues which are not operating at capacity.

Increasing pitch maintenance

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

For example, the FA, ECB and RFL in partnership have recently introduced a Pitch Advisor Scheme and have been working in partnership with Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG) to develop a Grass Pitch Maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots football clubs with the simple aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide football clubs with advice/practical solutions on a number of areas, with the simple aim of improving the club's playing surface.

At local authority sites in Gedling, maintenance of grass pitches is deemed to be basic and for football covers grass cutting and seeding only, resulting in many pitches being assessed as poor quality. Where local authority pitches are recommended for improvement within the action plan, carrying out additional regular work such as aerating, sand dressing, fertilising and/or weed killing will all improve quality. An improvement in post season remedial work is also recommended. It is recommended that the Council works with users and Nottinghamshire FA to fully determine the most appropriate pitch improvements on a site by site basis.

In relation to cricket, maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. 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 the pitch meets the Performance Quality Standards that are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship. Please note that PQS assessments are also available for other sports.

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

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 7: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

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Recommendation f – Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding

Partners, led by the Council, should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision is directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in playing pitch facilities.

In order 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 Playing Pitch Steering Group.

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

Please refer to Appendix Three for further funding information which includes details of the current opportunities, likely funding requirements and indicative project costs.

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. However, one of sport's greatest contributions is its positive impact on public health. It is therefore important to lever in investment from other sectors such as health and wellbeing for example.

Aim 3

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

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation g - Rectify quantitative shortfalls in the current pitch stock

The Council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the Assessment Report and the sport by sport specific recommendations.

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

- ◀ Improving pitch quality in order to improve the capacity of pitches to accommodate more matches.
- ◀ The re-designation of pitches for which there is an oversupply.
- ◀ Securing long term community use at school sites.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.

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While maximising the use of existing pitches offers scope to address the quantitative deficiencies for most sports, new or additional cricket squares on public or private fields, as well as improving existing wickets is required to meet the levels of demand identified for cricket both now and in the future.

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

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

Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends

Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
Football	As a result of the FA Youth Development Review pitch demands are changing. This could also see changes in the seasonal demand of pitches (youth football).	Consider re-allocating leases to Community Charter Standard clubs with a large number of teams. Work with clubs to identify facility development opportunities. Work with clubs in relation to their pitch demands as a result of the FA Youth Development Review.
	Demand for senior football is likely to be sustained based on current trends and the move to small sided football. County FA focus to maintain growth of youth football through to adults.	Sustain current stock but consideration given to reconfigure pitches if required.
	An increase in women and girls football following £2.4m investment over the next two years (2014-2016) from Sport England to increase the number of women and girls taking part in football sessions.	A need to provide segregated ancillary facilities and the potential need for more pitches.
Cricket	Demand is likely to remain static in Gedling for grass wickets for both junior and adult participation.	Isolated pockets of demand for access to additional facilities where pitches are operating at capacity. A need to encourage greater use of non turf wickets particularly for junior use to help meet shortfalls.
	Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish two girls' and one women's team in every local authority over the next five years.	Support clubs to ensure access to segregated changing and toilet provision and access to good quality cricket pitches to support growth.

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Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
Rugby union	Locally, the RFU wants to ensure access to pitches in Gedling that satisfies existing demand and predicted growth. It is also an aim to protect and improve pitch quality, as well as ancillary facilities including changing rooms and floodlights.	Clubs are likely to field more teams in the future. It is important, therefore, to work with the clubs to maintain the current pitch stock, support facility development where appropriate and increase the number of floodlit pitches where necessary.
Hockey	Potential increase of participation particularly junior teams.	Sinking funds in place to improve quality and ensure continued use of provision for current and future hockey demand.
AGPs	Demand for 3G pitches for competitive football will increase. It is likely that future demand for the use of 3G pitches to service competitive football, particularly mini and youth will result in some reduced demand for grass pitches. Provision of 3G pitches which are World Rugby compliant will help to reduce overplay as a result of training on rugby pitches.	Ensure that access to new AGP provision across the Borough is maximised and that community use agreements are in place. Utilise Sport England/NGB guidance on choosing the correct surface: http://www.sportengland.org/media/30651/Selecting-the-right-artificial-surface-Rev2-2010.pdf
Bowls	No expected increase in memberships.	Likely that any future increase could be accommodated on existing greens.
Tennis	No latent or unmet demand	Likely that any future increase could be accommodated on existing courts.

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

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

Furthermore any potential school sites which become redundant over the lifetime of the Strategy may offer potential for meeting community needs on a localised basis. Where schools are closed their playing fields may be converted to dedicated community use to help address any unmet community needs.

Some sites (or adjacent land) in Gedling also have the potential to accommodate more pitches which may be a solution to meeting shortfalls identified as is further explored within the action plan.

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

PART 6: ACTION PLAN

Introduction

The site-by-site action plan list seeks to address key issues identified in the accompanying Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement.

It should be reviewed in the light of staff and financial resources in order to prioritise support for strategically significant provision and provision that other providers are less likely to make. Recommendation e below explains the hierarchy of priorities on the list. It is imperative that action plans for priority projects should be developed through the implementation of the strategy.

The Council should make it a high priority to work with NGBs and other partners to comprise a priority list of actions based on local priorities, NGB priorities and available funding.

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

To allow for facility developments to be prioritised and programmed within a phased approach a tiered model to for the improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities is useful.

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

Recommended tiered site criteria:

Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Strategically located. Priority sites for NGB.	Strategically located within the analysis area.	Services the local community. Likely to include education sites.
Accommodates three or more good quality grass pitches. Including provision of at least one AGP.	Accommodates two or more good quality grass pitches.	Accommodates more than one pitch.
Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.
Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime either by the club or in house maintenance contract.
Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Appropriate access changing to accommodate both senior and junior use concurrently (if required).

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

The financial, social and sporting benefits which can be achieved through development of strategic sites (also known as hub sites) are significant. Sport England provides further guidance on the development of community sports hubs at:

http://www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/planning_tools_and_guidance/sports_hubs.aspx

Where development of Strategic Sites includes provision of 3G pitches for football it is recommended that further modelling/feasibility work is carried out to ensure sustainability of new 3G pitches to accommodate competitive fixtures. However, as a priority consultation should be carried out with leagues/clubs to gauge acceptance/buy in of moving competitive play to 3G pitches in the future.

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

It is considered that some financial investment will be necessary to improve the ancillary facilities at both Hub sites and Key Centres to complement the pitches in terms of access, flexibility (i.e. single-sex changing if necessary), quality and that they meet the rules and regulations of local competitions.

Local sites refer to those sites which are generally one and two pitch sites and may be Council owned hired to clubs for a season or are sites which have been leased on a long-term basis. However, they are also likely to be private club sites serving one particular sport.

The level of priority attached to them for Council-generated investment may be relatively low and consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking a long-term lease on the site (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought.

It is possible that sites could be included in this tier which are not currently hired or leased to a club, but have the potential to be leased to a suitable club. NGBs would expect the facility to be transferred in an adequate condition that the club can maintain. In the longer term, the Club should be in a position to source external funding to improve/extend the facilities.

Management and development

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

- ◀ Financial viability.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ◀ Adequacy of existing finances to maintain existing sites.
- ◀ Business Plan/Masterplan – including financial package for creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ◀ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ◀ The availability of opportunities to lease sites to external organisations.

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- ◀ Options to assist community groups to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ◀ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.
- ◀ Availability of funding for hub site development.
- ◀ Impact on all sports that use a site regardless of the sport that is the subject of enhancements.

Action plan columns

Partners

The column indicating Partners refers to the main organisations that the Council will liaise with in helping to deliver the actions. The next stage in the development of the action plan will be to agree a Lead Partner to help deliver the actions.

Site hierarchy tier and priority level

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

It is recommended that as the Steering Group reviews and updates the action plan that medium and low priority sites are then identified as the next level of sites for attention. As a guide it is recommended that:

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

Low priority sites are club or education sites with local specific importance and have been identified on a site by site basis as issues appertaining to individual sites but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment

Costs

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

(L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above. These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at www.sportengland.org/media/198443/facility-costs-4q13.pdf

Timescales

The action plan has been created to be delivered over a ten year period. The information within the Assessment Report, Strategy and Action Plan will require updating as developments occur. The timescales relate to delivery times and are not priority based.

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

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Aim

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

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ⁹	Cost ¹⁰	Aim
5	Arnold Hill Academy	Football	Trust/ Academy	Two adult football pitches on different levels of the two tiered site. One pitch has been unused following Sport England investment towards pitch improvement work but is due to be operational for the beginning of the next school year. The other standard quality pitch is on the lower level and is used mainly for school fixtures given most curricular sport takes place on the Playfootball Nottingham 3G pitches on the shared site. This pitch is likely to be overplayed. The school is currently undergoing redevelopment which includes the provision of new pitches.	Maximise use of the newly improved for use by school teams supported by continued use of the 3G pitches. Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce likely overplay on the bottom pitch. Explore potential to access newly developed provision for community use to increase capacity and reduce shortfalls.	Academy NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Poor (M0/D1) quality senior pitch unavailable for use due to ongoing construction work onsite. New school build in progress to include the re-provision of lost grass pitches. Intentions to make grass pitches available for use again when building work is completed in two or three years time.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce likely overplay on the bottom pitch. Explore potential to access newly developed provision for community use to increase capacity and reduce shortfalls at club sites.	Academy RFU		Short		
6	Arnott Hill Park	Bowls	GBC	Standard quality green used by Arnold Park BC. The Club has around 30 members, therefore the green is considered to have spare capacity to accommodate additional members and play.	Improve standard of maintenance to improve green quality. Determine future plans for sporting use of the site given potential need to rationalise supply amidst budget pressures. Consider potential for asset transfer and club management mechanism where viable.	GBC	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
7	Bestwood Country Park	Football	County Council	Mini 7v7 pitch and two adult pitches, one of which is overmarked with a youth 9v9 pitch. Pitches are standard quality and used by six teams from Bestwood Park Rangers Youth FC. Pavilion building is too small and the Club has to use all available space including changing rooms as storage space which becomes dangerous. Actual spare capacity of one mini 7v7 match per week.	Remove overmarked youth 9v9 pitch and seek to make greater use of spare capacity elsewhere or on certified 3G pitches to re-accommodate this competitive demand. Consider installation of an external storage container so that equipment is not obstructing pavilion facilities.	GBC NFA	Local site	Medium	Low	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Two poor quality courts without floodlighting. Available for community use but no recorded club use. Likely used for social and recreational tennis.	Improve quality to increase attractiveness and performance for play. Seek to maximise use for participation activities such as parks leagues or cardio tennis.	GBC LTA		Short		

⁹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁰ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹¹	Cost ¹²	Aim
8	Bestwood Miners Welfare Sports Ground	Football	CISWO/Trust	Standard quality adult pitch used by just one team from Bestwood Miners Welfare FC. The Club has aspirations to play in the football pyramid at Step 7. Site demand will increase next season by one adult team, whilst the Club also has ambitions for a junior section. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce shortfalls. Maximise use of spare capacity to reduce existing shortfalls. Support the Club in developing facilities to meet Step 7 requirements.	CISWO/Trust Sports Club NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
9	Bestwood Village Community Centre	Bowls	Parish Council	Good quality green used by Bestwood Workshops BC and Star BC. Membership unknown, however, the green is considered to have spare capacity for additional membership and play.	Maximise use of spare capacity through club development and increasing participation.	Parish Council Parish Council NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Two small sized sand based pitches with floodlighting which are now disused. The pitches are partly dismantled and cannot be played on but Bestwood Miners Welfare FC states that it would like to be a part of any community scheme that could bring these pitches back into use and is investigating possible funding opportunities that might enable them to be.	Support the Club as appropriate and consider potential for resurfacing to 3G as a more appropriate surface to accommodate football use and to meet shortfalls.			Medium	Medium	
10	Oakwood Academy	Football	Trust/ Academy PFI	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches available for community use. No recorded community use at present but likely to be overplayed given the extent of academy use for lessons and fixtures throughout the week.	Retain for school use and explore potential for increased future community use to help reduce shortfalls.	Academy PFI NFA Academy PFI RFU Academy PFI NCB Academy PFI	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Poor (M0/D1) quality pitch maintained by Carillion to a basic standard. Available for community use and previously well used before PFI but the academy believes that community use would require covering of staffing costs which is cost prohibitive for most teams. Likely to be overplayed given the level of weekly academy use.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity for school use. Work to resolve barriers to community use, particularly cost of hire and access to changing provision.			Short	Low	
		Cricket		Non turf pitch situated between football pitches which has now become disused.	Maximise school use and resurface if required for school use given no demand for community use.			Short	Low	
		AGP		Small sized sand filled AGP rated as standard quality with floodlighting. Available for community use but not recorded as being used. Marked with three tennis courts and used for tennis and small sided football.	Maximise community use to accommodate demand for team training.			Short	Low	

¹¹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹² (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹³	Cost ¹⁴	Aim
11	Breck Hill Recreation Ground	Football		One adult pitch overmarked with three mini 5v5 pitches and one youth 9v9 pitch overmarked with two mini 7v7 pitches. All pitches are standard quality but are located at the bottom of a large slope which carries water onto the pitches causing them to waterlog, whilst also preventing emergency ambulance access. Pitches are overplayed by a total of 3.75 match sessions. Pavilion is insufficient with not enough rooms, no changing area for girls and being used to store equipment.	Remove overmarked mini pitches to retain adult and youth 9v9 pitches. Seek to make greater use of spare capacity elsewhere or on certified 3G pitches to re-accommodate this competitive demand. Consider installation of an external storage container.	GBC NFA	Local site	Medium	Low	Protect Enhance
12	Burnstump Country Park	Cricket	GBC Sports Club	Poor quality square with 11 wickets, used by Papplewick & Linby CC and Ravenshead CC. Lease agreement expired in April 2015 and is currently being renegotiated. Wicket is uneven and requires improved maintenance, particularly increased and more regular rolling. No spare capacity at peak time.	Improve square quality through increased maintenance in order to produce wickets suitable and safe to accommodate and develop junior play. Renegotiate the lease with Papplewick & Linby CC to establish security of tenure. Ensure the lease enables the Club to invest enough financially into square maintenance to improve quality.	GBC Sports Club NCB	Local site	Short	Low-Medium	Protect Enhance
14	Burton Joyce Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Three good quality all weather courts with floodlighting. The courts are used significantly and the Club reports a need for access to additional capacity. It already makes occasional use of Conway Road Recreation Ground when matches are taking place.	Sustain court quality and seek increased use of at other local sites to accommodate club demand.	Sports Club LTA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
15	Burton Road Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Two standard quality adult pitches used by Major Oak FC. Actual spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions available per week.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce shortfalls. Maximise use of spare capacity to reduce current shortfalls.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
16	Byron Abbey Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	Standard quality square with eight wickets and one non turf pitch. Used by just one team from Byron Abbey CC on Sundays, therefore the site has actual spare capacity of one match available and can accommodate a further 30 matches per season.	Improve pitch quality to enhance performance for match play. Maximise use of spare capacity to accommodate displaced and future demand.	Sports Club	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance

¹³ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁴ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁵	Cost ¹⁶	Aim
17	Calverton Cricket Club (The Rookery Ground)	Cricket	Sports Club	Standard quality square with seven wickets and one non turf pitch. Used by five senior and junior teams from Calverton CC. Overplayed by five matches per season.	Improve pitch quality to enhance performance for match play and sustain level of overplay. Seek to alleviate overplay by transferring junior play to the non turf pitch.	Sports Club NCB	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
18	Calverton Leisure Centre	AGP	GBC	Standard quality small sized 3G pitch with floodlighting. Surface was laid in 2005 and is now beyond the recommended lifespan. Available for community use and used by Paviers RFC juniors for training. Spare capacity is allocated to the onsite youth club free of charge when there is no booking.	Consider surface replacement given that the current surface has surpassed the recommended lifespan. Seek testing of the 3G pitch and increase use for competitive play to help accommodate future demand.	GBC NFA RFU	Local site	Medium	Medium	Protect Enhance
19	Calverton Miners Welfare Trust	Football	CISWO/ Trust	Three adult football pitches, one of which is Step 6 compliant whilst the other two are overmarked with youth 9v9 pitches. The main pitch is played to capacity whilst the two other pitches are overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week. Also onsite are mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 pitches. Actual spare capacity of one mini 5v5 match available.	Sustain pitch quality through continued and improved standard of maintenance in order to accommodate current level of demand. Remove overmarked youth 9v9 pitches and seek to make greater use of spare capacity elsewhere or on certified 3G pitches to re-accommodate this competitive demand. Maximise spare capacity available for additional mini soccer play.	Trust Sports Club NFA	Local site	Medium	Low	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Small 5v5 sized sand filled AGP with floodlighting, available for community use and used to capacity for training by Calverton Miners Welfare FC adult and youth teams. Good quality and was last refurbished in 2013.	Ensure the required standard of maintenance in order to sustain pitch quality. Encourage providers to put in place a sinking fund to ensure long term sustainability.			Long	Low/ High	

¹⁵ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁶ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁷	Cost ¹⁸	Aim
20	Carlton Forum Leisure Centre	Football	Academy/ GBC	Two standard quality adult pitches available for community use and used by Carlton Academy throughout the week. No recorded community use at present but likely to be overplayed given the extent of academy use and the withdrawal of use on the full sized AGP.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce likely overplay.	GBC	Key centre	Short	Low-Medium	Protect Enhance
		AGP		One full sized and three small sized sand filled AGP with floodlighting. All pitches are poor quality and are currently withdrawn from community use due to concerns over the safety of the surface on which the pile has become very short and slippery. Last resurfaced in 2005. Carlton Academy has aspirations to convert to 3G for resurfacing.	Key priority – resurface the pitch in order to bring it back into use to address shortfalls. EH, NFA and RFU to work in partnership to determine feasibility of converting to 3G surface to meet shortfalls.	Academy Trust GBC NFA EH		Short	High	
		Tennis		Seven standard quality macadam courts with floodlighting which are available for community use at £8.80 per hour. Not used by clubs and reported by GBC to be underused.	Maximise use and consider as an additional venue for Burton Joyce TC. Also explore potential to increase use through LTA participation initiatives such as cardio tennis and consider setting up a satellite club linking to Carlton Academy and local clubs to increase junior participation and court use.	Academy Trust GBC LTA		Short	Low	
21	Carlton Hill Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Poor quality adult pitch used by three adult teams from Carlton Top Spot FC and Gedling Southbank FC. Overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce likely overplay.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
22	Carlton-le-Willows Academy	Football	Academy	Four adult pitches, two mini 7v7 pitches and two youth 9v9 pitches, all standard quality and previously available but all use has ceased this season due to the proposed Gedling Access Road (GAR) development. Both 9v9 pitches were marked within an adult pitch and all were used but none are currently marked as the academy doesn't require them and have instead just marked one exclusive 9v9 for the time being. Pitches are under threat of permanent loss.	Explore opportunities to bring pitches back into use to meet identified shortfalls in the Assessment. If bringing the site back into use is not feasible or sustainable or disposal of the site is inevitable it must meet the requirements of the second criterion of paragraph 74 of NPPF. This requires replacement provision of an equivalent or better quantity and quality in a suitable location. Consideration could be given to replacement in the form of 3G pitch provision for loss of football and rugby pitches with the potential to be World Rugby compliant.	Academy GBC NFA RFU NCB SE	Key centre	Short/ Medium	High	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Senior pitch only used by the academy but no spare capacity likely given limited capacity. Not in current use as above.						
		Cricket		Standard quality NTP within a fenced area on a higher level of the site from the other grass pitches. Boundary is junior sized within a fenced area and not suitable for senior cricket. Accompanied by six artificial net bays. Not in current use as above.						

¹⁷ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁸ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

**GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁷	Cost ¹⁸	Aim
		Athletics		Poor quality cinder surface with faded line markings and loose gravel on the surface. Adult football pitch is marked in the middle with a long jump pit and a shot put throwing area beside the track. Currently the only provision onsite available for community use and used by Notts AC satellite club for one hour.	Improve track quality and maintenance to cater for school and community use. Continue to provide for community use to maintain club and academy links through the satellite club.	Academy UKA		Short	Low	
		Tennis		Five standard quality macadam courts without floodlighting which are not made available for community use. Used exclusively by the school as a hard court area for tennis as well as other activities such as netball.	Improve quality for school use and continue to develop school tennis participation.	Academy		Short	Low	
23	Christ The King Catholic Voluntary Academy	Football	Academy	Adult and youth 11v11 pitches of standard quality. Available for community use but not recorded use by teams. Likely to be overplayed given the school has limited indoor sports provision therefore outdoor pitches are used heavily for lessons and by school teams.	Improve pitch quality as required and explore potential for increased community use to help reduce shortfalls.	Academy NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Poor (M0/D1) quality pitch maintained to a basic standard. Available for use but currently unused by club teams. Likely to be overplayed given the school has limited indoor sports provision therefore outdoor pitches are used heavily for lessons and by school teams.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity for school use. Explore potential for increased community use to help reduce current shortfalls.	Academy RFU			Low	
		Tennis		Seven poor quality shale courts without floodlighting. Used as a general hard court area for netball and hockey practice.	Improve quality and consider options for a small sand AGP to meet demand identified.	Academy			Medium	
24	Church Lane Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Two standard quality adult pitches which are available for community use but have no recorded use by teams. Occasionally used by Redhill Academy when required for school fixtures on an infrequent basis but most fixtures are played away at other schools.	Seek options to maximise use of spare capacity available to accommodate future demand.	GBC NFA	Local site	Low	Short	Protect Enhance
25	Colonel Frank Seely Comprehensive School	Football	School	Standard quality adult pitch available for use but not recorded as being used by community clubs. Likely to be overplayed given the limited outdoor provision available for school use and fixtures.	Improve pitch quality and explore potential for increased community use to help reduce shortfalls.	School NFA	Local site	Low	Short	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Poor quality pitch (M0/D1) maintained in house to a basic standard including cutting and lining with infrequent weed killing when required. School reports no local demand but that it would be open to community use providing it did not impact on pitch quality for school use. Likely to be overplayed given the limited outdoor provision available for school use and fixtures.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity for school use.	School RFU		Low	Short	

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁷	Cost ¹⁸	Aim
26	Colwick Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Three poor quality adult pitches used by five different adult and youth teams. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions available.	Retain spare capacity and improve pitch quality through increased maintenance.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Short	Protect Enhance
27	Conway Road Recreation Ground	Bowls	GBC	Double green site shared between three clubs. One good quality green whilst the standard quality green nearest the road is of slightly lesser quality and subject to leaf fall. Over 80 members use the site in total, therefore the greens are considered to have spare capacity for additional membership and play.	Improve standard of maintenance to address quality issues and improve green quality. Determine future plans for sporting use of the site given potential need to rationalise supply amidst budget pressures. Consider potential for asset transfer and club management mechanism where viable.	GBC	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Six standard quality macadam courts without floodlighting. Bowling club reports as largely underused now that there is no park keeper to ensure they are secure. Used occasionally by Burton Joyce TC as an overspill site but the Club reports that the quality of nets and security of the courts is relatively poor and impacts on quality for play.	Maximise use of the site and explore potential for cardio tennis, parks leagues or use for other participation schemes and explore potential for more consistent access by Burton Joyce TC as a second club site to increase capacity available for coaching and match play. This would include improvements in quality to meet club and league requirements and availability of changing provision.			GBC LTA	Short/ Medium	
30	Goosedale Sports Club	Football	Sports Association	Two adult pitches, two mini 7v7 and one youth 9v9 which are all of standard quality. Used by Hucknall Sports Youth FC which temporarily imports demand due to complications with pitch reinstatement at its home site in Ashfield. Actual spare capacity of one match session available on mini 7v7 pitches but the youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match sessions.	Determine for how much longer Hucknall Sports Youth FC is to use the site or whether plans are for use to continue longer term. Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce overplay and existing shortfalls. Consider impact on revenue generation and financial sustainability should rental income stop if the club returns to Ashfield.	Sports Association Sports Club NFA	Key centre	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Two good quality senior squares with 12 and eight wickets respectively and each with an NTP. One recently created junior sized square with six wickets. Spare capacity for an additional 17 junior matches per season but senior sized squares are overplayed by 22 match sessions.	Key priority - Consider use of additional sites as secondary provision to accommodate some play in order to reduce overplay. Transfer use onto NTPs where possible and permitted, such as senior T20 or evening league matches. Continue to maintain pitch quality and levels of maintenance in order to help sustain levels of overplay.			Sports Association NCB	Short	
		AGP		Poor quality sand filled AGP with floodlighting. Over 20 years old and requires resurfacing. Used by both hockey clubs in the Borough for matches and training as well as for football training by Hucknall Sports Youth FC. Spare capacity for additional use.	Key priority - resurfacing of the pitch to improve quality and prevent it from becoming unsafe. Consider potential impact of potential new 3G developments in Hucknall and possible transfer of football use which may impact on financial sustainability. Encourage providers to put in place a sinking fund to ensure long term sustainability.	Sports Association EH		Short	High	

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁹	Cost ²⁰	Aim
32	Haywood Road	Bowls	GBC	Standard quality green with club facilities provided in the neighbouring community building. Club believes quality has deteriorated over recent years. Surface is uneven and grass is too long due to excessive watering from automated sprinkler systems. Spare capacity to accommodate future play.	Improve standard of maintenance to address quality issues and improve green quality. Determine future plans for sporting use of the site given potential need to rationalise supply amidst budget pressures. Consider potential for asset transfer and club management mechanism where viable.	GBC Sports Club	Local site	Short	Low	Enhance
33	Killisick Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Good quality adult pitch used four teams from various clubs. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week.	Retain spare capacity to help sustain pitch quality and levels of maintenance in order to accommodate current level of use.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
34	King George V Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Standard quality adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches, the latter of which is currently unused. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 mini 7v7 match sessions per week.	Retain any spare capacity and improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce shortfalls. Maximise use of spare capacity available to accommodate future demand.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Standard quality square with ten wickets and an non turf pitch. Used by three different clubs and can accommodate a further 30 matches per year. No spare capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality to enhance performance for match play. Maximise use of spare capacity at non-peak times to develop junior participation or further play on Sundays.			GBC NCB	Short	
35	Lambley Lane North	Football	GBC	Poor quality mini 7v7 pitch used by Gedling Southbank Youth FC and overplayed by 1.5 match sessions. Large site which the Club has aspirations to manage and develop. It believes there is potential to accommodate several more pitches but would also require development of new changing provision to replace the two poor quality cabins which are not fit for purpose.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce overplay. Explore potential for development as a hub site and consider strategic location as a possible 3G pitch site linking to increased demand from local housing developments. Consider opportunities as a softball focus venue within any potential hub development. Provide access to good quality changing provision to cater for increased number of pitches should they be developed.	GBC NFA	Hub site	Medium	High	Protect Enhance Provide
36	Lambley Lane South	Cricket	GBC	Standard quality square with nine grass wickets which is currently unused since Lambley CC folded in 2015. The site has a pavilion and can accommodate 45 match sessions per year.	Establish a resident user and secured long term tenure. Maximise use of spare capacity to address current levels of overplay.	GBC NCB	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance

¹⁹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁰ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²¹	Cost ²²	Aim
38	Linby Colliery Welfare	Football	CISWO/ Trust	Standard quality adult pitch overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per year. Linby Colliery Welfare FC plays at Step 7 and one year of planning permission left on plans for new changing and clubhouse provision to replace dated and poor quality cabins currently in place. This also includes levelling the ground to move the pitch closer to the clubhouse to allow for installation of floodlighting and to be made bigger to meet Step 6 ground grading criteria.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce overplay and existing shortfalls. Support the Club with fulfilling development plans, particularly to create better quality changing provision. Explore opportunities to secure grant funding to fulfil development plans. Support the Club in developing junior participation or linking to a junior club to provide transition into adult football.	CISWO/ Trust Sports Club NFA	Local site	Short/ Medium	High	Protect Enhance
40	Mapperley Plains Sports And Social Club	Football	Sports Club	Good quality adult pitch used by just one team from Gedling Miners Welfare FC. Step 6 compliant facilities with pitch floodlighting. Actual spare capacity of one match per week.	Preserve pitch quality through continued level of maintenance to sustain current capacity. Maximise use of spare capacity to reduce current shortfalls. Develop facilities to meet Step 5 requirements should the Club have ambitions for progression.	Sports Club NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Good quality square with eight wickets and an NTP used by Gedling Colliery CC. Considered to be played to capacity with no potential to accommodate further play. All junior matches already played on NTP.	Increase levels of maintenance to improve square quality so that it is able to sustain current level of use. Explore feasibility of increasing the number of wickets to increase capacity. Seek use additional capacity on other pitches such as Lambley Lane South which may be able to be used as a secondary club site given use of other sites for senior cricket at peak time already.	Sports Club NCB		Short	Low	
41	Mellish Rugby Football Club	Rugby union	Trust/ Sports Club	Four standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitches, one of which has match grade floodlighting. Two other pitches are fully and partially floodlit to training grade standard and are subsequently overplayed by a total of 3.5 match sessions due to significant use for training on top of match play. A fourth pitch is not floodlit but has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions, as is the mini pitch which has actual spare capacity of one match session. The Club is growing and has good school links. It is trying to develop its girls section but requires appropriate exclusive changing provision to facilitate this.	Key priority - Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance in order to create capacity to reduce overplay and current shortfalls. Develop en-suite changing provision to assist with the development of girls' rugby. Seek to transfer training use off match pitches in order to alleviate overplay and increase capacity available for match play. Explore feasibility of access to spare capacity at available school sites given the availability of suitable changing and toilet facilities where required. In the longer term consider access to 3G provision.	Trust/ Sports Club	Key centre	Short	Low/ Medium	Protect Enhance

²¹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²² (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²³	Cost ²⁴	Aim
44	Newstead Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Two standard quality adult pitches marked onto the outfield area of the cricket pitch with accompanying pavilion. No consistent community use recorded but used occasionally by Hucknall Town Harriers FC. Available with actual spare capacity of two matches per week.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce existing shortfalls. Maximise use of actual spare capacity to reduce existing shortfalls.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Poor quality square with eight wickets and one NTP situated between football pitches, also with onsite artificial net bays. Used by one team from Nomads CC reports difficulty in accessing the pitch and can only do so between May and August because it is still made available to hire for football in April and from August onwards. Capacity to accommodate an additional 30 matches per season including actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions.	Improve square quality through increased maintenance, remedial and preparatory work to improve performance for match play. Maximise use of actual spare capacity to accommodate future demand and alleviate existing overplay at other sites such as Goosedale Sports Club (approximately five miles away).					
45	Nottingham Road Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Standard quality adult pitch with a youth 9v9 pitch overmarked. Available but no recorded community use, therefore there is actual spare capacity of one match available.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce existing shortfalls. Maximise use of spare capacity to reduce existing shortfalls.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
46	Oakdale Road Recreation Ground (Onchan Drive)	Tennis	GBC	One poor quality macadam court with no recorded community use other than likely occasional social play.	Improve court quality to cater for social and recreational play. Seek to maximise use of spare capacity.	GBC LTA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Bowls		Bowling green previously used by Carlton BC until issues with local youths made it regularly inaccessible for play and subject to vandalism and improper use. Since left to become disused and the club have relocated to Conway Road Recreation Ground.	Determine future use of the green and whether it could be brought back into use with greater security. Secure appropriate re-provision should the green be lost given that demand is still present and lack of use is not due to oversupply.					
47	Papplewick and Linby Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	Good quality square with 12 wickets and one non turf pitch. The Club believes quality has decreased slightly since last season due to less time available to access the square to conduct maintenance work. Overplayed by four matches per season.	Increase levels of maintenance to improve square quality so that it is able to sustain current level of overplay. Seek to increase use of the NTP for junior or senior midweek matches where possible to alleviate overplay. Make greater use of Burnstump Country Park providing improvements to quality, in order to alleviate overplay at the main club site.	Sports Club NCB	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance

²³ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁴ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁵	Cost ²⁶	Aim
49	Playfootball (Nottingham)	AGP	Commercial	Poor quality full sized 3G pitch and eight standard quality small sized 3G pitches, all of which are floodlit. Available for community use but hours are limited by commercial small sided leagues. Arnold Hill School uses during the day and GBC has community use agreement for limited hours. Full sized pitch surface comes loose in areas and is not maintained as required. Repeatedly hired out for matches despite lack of certification due to dimensions, which causes recurring issues with NFA and referees who cancel the fixture.	Improve standard of maintenance and repair to improve pitch quality. Consider surface replacement given significant use and insufficient maintenance despite relative age. Encourage providers to put in place a sinking fund to ensure long term sustainability.	Commercial NFA	Key site	Short/ Medium	Low/ High	Protect Enhance
50	Poplars Sports Ground	Football	Severn Trent/ Parish Council	Five adult pitches which are overmarked with youth 9v9, mini 5v5 and two mini 7v7 pitches. Also there are exclusive youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches, the latter being unused and kept for use when required. All pitches are standard quality. Adult pitches display spare capacity for further use but this is considered necessary to retain in order to protect pitch quality given overmarking.	Key priority - Remove overmarked pitches to enable spare capacity to be used rather than retained. Seek to transfer overmarked play onto 3G pitches in order create spare capacity which would not need to be retained. Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce existing shortfalls.	Parish Council Sports Club NFA	Key site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Good quality small sized 3G pitch with floodlighting recently built in 2015. FA certified and used for mini soccer matches as well as for club training by Burton Joyce Junior FC.	Maintain AGP as required in order to preserve pitch quality. Maximise use of spare capacity to accommodate training demand and competitive matches to manage use of grass pitches. Encourage providers to put in place a sinking fund to ensure long term sustainability.					
		Cricket		Standard quality square with nine wickets and one NTP. Lies in between football pitches which are marked onto the outfield area. Can accommodate an additional 18 matches per season but no spare capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality to enhance performance for match play. Maximise use of spare capacity at non-peak times to develop junior participation or further play on Sundays.	Parish Council NCB		Short	Low	
		Bowls		Standard quality green used by Burton Joyce BC. Membership unknown but likely to have capacity to accommodate additional members and play.	Improve green quality to enhance performance for match play. Maximise use of spare capacity through club development and increasing participation.	Parish Council Sports Club		Short	Low	

²⁵ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁶ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
53	Ravenshead Leisure Centre	Football	Parish Council	Three adult pitches, one of which is slightly smaller and has a youth 9v9 pitch overmarked. Also onsite are mini 5v5 and 7v7 pitches, the latter of which does not drain well. All pitches are rated as standard quality. Ravenshead FC has recently undertaken maintenance of the bottom adult pitch on a trial basis to show competence as it hopes to do so permanently to have exclusive use of the pitch and develop it to meet Step 7 requirements. Spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions available at peak time on this pitch.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce existing shortfalls. Maximise spare capacity to reduce existing shortfalls. Support the Club in taking greater responsibility for maintenance including access to the required equipment. Seek to make the pitch Step 7 compliant to allow the Club to achieve aspirations for progression.	Parish Council Sports Club NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Standard quality small sized 3G pitch with floodlighting, built in 2010. Used mainly by Ravenshead FC and Ravenshead Reds Youth FC for training.	Improve standard of maintenance and repair to improve pitch quality. Maximise use of spare capacity for team training and social football bookings.	Parish Council Sports Club NFA				
		Tennis		Three good quality macadam courts with floodlighting. Used well by Ravenshead Lawn TC throughout the week for matches and coaching.	Ensure courts are maintained as required to sustain quality. Support the Club in developing women's participation so that it can again enter a women's team in the league.	Parish Council LTA		Short	Low	
54	Redhill Leisure Centre	AGP	Academy/ GBC	Poor quality full sized sand filled AGP which was withdrawn from community use due to the poor quality surface and lack of floodlighting which was removed for safety reasons. Still used by the academy which has aspirations to convert to 3G. Built in 1996 and in urgent need of surface replacement. Not able to be used for hockey matches because run off areas are too short, though Redhill Ladies HC (playing in Nottingham) would like to play here.	Key priority – resurface the pitch in order to bring it back into use to address shortfalls. Consider options for surface replacement given that the surface age and poor quality has rendered it unsafe. NFA and EH to determine feasibility of converting the surface to 3G to meet shortfalls. Seek FA/FIFA testing and certification should the surface be converted to 3G, subject to meeting dimensions criteria. Subsequently seek to increase use for competitive match play to address grass pitch shortfalls. Encourage providers to put in place a sinking fund to ensure long term sustainability.	Academy GBC NFA EH	Local site	Short	High	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Four poor quality macadam courts without floodlighting. General hard court area used for various activities by the academy but not made available for community use due to poor quality.	Improve quality for school use and potential future community use.	Academy LTA		Short	Medium	

²⁷ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁸ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁹	Cost ³⁰	Aim
56	Richard Herrod Centre	Football	GBC	Standard quality adult and mini 7v7 pitches used by Netherfield Boys & Girls FC and Netherfield FC. Standard quality youth 9v9 is currently unused due to quality issues caused by poor reinstatement of an underlying water pipe by Severn Trent, subsequently displacing youth teams to sites elsewhere. Adult pitch is overplayed by two matches per week whilst mini 7v7 pitch has actual spare capacity of one match.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce existing shortfalls and overplay. Maximise spare capacity for further use. Ensure youth 9v9 is reinstated to the required and sufficient standard and that displaced teams can return to play onsite.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
57	Riverside Ground	Football	Private/ Sports Club	Two good quality adult pitches managed by real United FC, one of which is overmarked by a youth 9v9 pitch. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions available on the main pitch. Only one set of changing rooms to serve two pitches so kick off times have to be staggered and games can't run simultaneously. Tenure is not considered to be secure as the owner will only offer a rolling short term lease with review.	Prioritise establishing secure tenure of the site through formal agreement. Maintain pitch quality to sustain current levels of play. Remove overmarked pitch, creating spare capacity on the adult pitch to reduce shortfalls. Increase level of changing provision to adequately serve the number of pictures.	Private Sports Club NFA	Local site	Short	Medium	Protect Enhance
60	Standhill Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Standard quality adult pitch used by two teams. No spare capacity available at peak time.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce existing shortfalls.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
62	Thackerays Lane	Football	GBC	Standard quality youth 9v9 pitch used by two teams from Ernehale Colts FC. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions available.	Retain spare capacity and improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce existing shortfalls.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
63	The Sherwood E-Act Academy Sports Centre	Football	Academy	One adult pitch and two youth 11v11 pitches both of which are overmarked with youth 9v9 pitches. Tenure is unsecure as the site no longer operates as a school and its future use is undecided. Community use for next season is not being offered to resident teams. All pitches are standard quality and played to capacity with no capacity for further use.	Key priority - Determine future use of the site and whether sporting provision will continue to be available. Establish plans for relocation of teams playing onsite should access to the pitches be lost for next season. Secure appropriate re-provision should facilities be lost for sporting use.	Academy NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Poor quality sand dressed AGP built in 1980. No floodlights and not currently used. Previously used by the school mainly for tennis rather than football or hockey given the lack of floodlighting because it lies within close proximity of housing.	Determine future use of the site and whether sporting provision will continue to be available. Secure appropriate re-provision should facilities be lost for sporting use.	Academy LTA				
		Cricket		Disused non turf pitch previously used by the school before it stopped operating as a full time school.	Determine future use of the site and whether sporting provision will continue to be available. Secure appropriate re-provision should facilities be lost for sporting use.	Academy NCB				

²⁹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

³⁰ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁹	Cost ³⁰	Aim
64	Victoria Park Recreation Ground	Football	GBC	Two standard quality adult pitches which display actual spare capacity of one match per week. To increase to 1.5 match sessions next season as Gedling Town FC has informed GBC that it is likely to fold.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce existing shortfalls. Maximise spare capacity for further use to address shortfalls.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	Low	Enhance
65	William Lee Memorial Park	Bowls	Parish Council	Standard quality green used by Calverton Park BC. Membership unknown but the green is likely to have spare capacity to accommodate additional membership and play.	Improve green quality through increased maintenance to enhance performance for match play. Maximise use of spare capacity through club development and increasing participation	Parish Council	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts without floodlighting. No recorded use beyond likely occasional recreational play.	Sustain court quality to cater for social and recreational play. Seek to maximise use of spare capacity.					
66	Woodborough Tennis Club	Tennis	Parish Council/ Sports Club	Two good quality macadam courts without floodlighting. Membership and club usage unknown but likely to be spare capacity.	Sustain court quality to cater for club matches and practice. Seek to maximise use of spare capacity to develop club participation.	Parish Council/ Sports Club LTA	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
67	Woodthorpe Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Six good quality floodlit courts, three of which are macadam and three are artificial grass. The Club has around 240 members including juniors and the site courts have little spare capacity given matches, coaching and free play time for members during the week and at weekends.	Sustain court quality to cater for club matches and practice. Seek to maximise use of spare capacity to develop club participation. Support the Club in accessing suitable indoor facilities to prevent inclement weather disrupting winter programmes.	Sports Club LTA	Key centre	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
68	Newstead Centre	Bowls	Parish Council	Good quality green used by Newstead BC. Membership unknown but the green is likely to have spare capacity to accommodate additional membership and play.	Sustain green quality to enhance performance for match play. Maximise use of spare capacity through club development and increasing participation	Parish Council	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
69	Woodborough Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	Standard quality square with seven wickets used by two teams from Woodborough CC and Gedling Colliery CC. Capacity to accommodate an additional 15 matches per season but not available at peak time.	Improve pitch quality to enhance performance for match play. Maximise use of spare capacity at non-peak times to develop junior participation or further play on Sundays.	Sports Club NCB	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Football		Standard quality adult pitch used only by one team from Woodborough United FC. Actual spare capacity of one match per week. The pitch overlaps the outfield area of the cricket pitch which may cause fixture clashes with cricket should the football season extend because of rearranged winter fixtures.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity to reduce existing shortfalls. Maximise spare capacity for further use to address current shortfalls.					

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³¹	Cost ³²	Aim
70	Paviors RFC	Rugby union	Sports Club	Three standard (M1/D1) senior pitches, two of which are floodlit with match grade and training grade lighting respectively. The non-floodlit pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions however the main pitch is played to capacity. The second floodlit pitch is used significantly for club training and is subsequently overplayed by 2.75 match sessions. The Club has recently experienced issues with maintenance and remedial work which was not carried out to the required standard over the 2015 off season by a new contractor.	Key priority - Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance in order to create capacity to reduce overplay and current shortfalls. Seek to transfer training use off match pitches in order to alleviate overplay and increase capacity available for match play. Consider floodlighting on 3 rd pitch given it has some existing capacity. Explore feasibility of access to spare capacity at available school sites given the availability of suitable changing and toilet facilities where required. Assist the Club in overcoming legal limitations on use of the site which prevent revenue generation through hire for functions and activities. Explore access to 3G provision in the medium term.	Sports Club RFU	Key site	Short - Medium	Low	Protect Enhance
71	Ley Street Playing Field	Football	GBC	Good quality mini 7v7 pitch temporarily used by two teams from Netherfield Boys & Girls FC whilst the youth 9v9 pitch is unusable at Richard Herrod Centre. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions available.	Preserve pitch quality in order to maintain capacity available to sustain current use. Utilise spare capacity created when the Club moves back to Richard Herrod Centre where it is based.	GBC	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
72	Arnold Town FC	Football	Sports Club	Three good quality adult pitches maintained by Notts County FC for matches and training as well as by Arnold Town FC. Spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions on the main stadium pitch which is Step 5 compliant, though the other two pitches are overplayed by 21 match sessions per week due to daily training demand. Two other adult pitches are standard quality and overplayed by Arnold Town FC by one match per week. Youth 9v9, mini 5v5 and two mini 7v7 pitches also onsite but with no actual spare capacity. The Club is trying to service existing debts and requires rental revenue from pitches to do so.	Key priority – NFA to work with both clubs to establish a plan for the site in order to balance reducing high levels of overplay with need for revenue generation. Retain spare capacity on stadium pitch to help sustain quality. Ensure maintenance is able to sustain levels of overplay in the short term. Support club where possible Arnold Town FC to achieve financial stability.	Sports Clubs NFA	Key site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
73	Daybrook Bowling Club	Bowls	Sports Club	Good quality green used by Daybrook BC which has over 30 members, therefore is considered to have capacity to accommodate additional members and play.	Sustain green quality to enhance performance for match play. Maximise use of spare capacity through club development and increasing participation.	Sports Club	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
74	Bill Stokeld Stadium (Carlton Town FC)	Football	Sports Club	Step 4 compliant football pitch, home to Carlton Town FC. Standard quality pitch used to capacity by four teams.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance in order to create capacity to reduce current shortfalls. Develop the ground to meet Step 3 ground grading requirements should the Club have ambitions for progression.	Sports Club	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance

³¹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

³² (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³¹	Cost ³²	Aim
		AGP		Good quality small sized 3G pitch with floodlighting used mainly for club training and small sided football leagues on Sunday evenings.	Maximise use of spare capacity to accommodate training demand. Seek FA/FIFA testing and certification for competitive play should the pitch meet dimension criteria.					
75	George Street	Football	GBC	Standard quality adult pitch used to capacity by four teams from Gedling Southbank FC and Gedling Southbank Girls FC.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance in order to create capacity to reduce current shortfalls.	GBC	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
76	Arnold Mill Primary School	Football	School	Standard quality youth 9v9 pitch used to capacity by four teams from Gedling Southbank Youth FC and Gedling Southbank Girls FC. Likely to be overplayed when considering weekly school use. Tenure is unsecured given the nature of rental arrangement.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance in order to create capacity to reduce current shortfalls. Establish secure tenure through formal agreement.	School	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
77	Bestwood Lodge Fire HQ	Football	Services	Two standard quality adult pitches used by Top Valley FC Vets. Not widely available for community use and use is permitted through personal relationship, therefore tenure is not considered to be secure. Spare capacity but not widely available for community use.	Establish security of tenure through formal agreement where possible. Explore potential to access for full community use. Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance, creating additional capacity and quality for performance.	Services GBC	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
		Softball		Two diamonds used by the East Midlands Softball League (EMSL) on Thursday evenings and Sundays. Not widely available for community use and use is permitted through personal relationship, therefore tenure is not considered to be secure. EMSL expresses need for three diamonds to host all matches at once and desire to take on a site to create dedicated softball provision.	Establish security of tenure through formal agreement where possible. Explore opportunities to increase softball provision at other sites which may be able to accommodate three diamonds, considering where match days may clash with other sports onsite.			Short	Low	
78	Derrymount Special School	AGP	School	Good quality sand filled AGP without floodlighting built in 2014. Used exclusively by the school and not available for community use.	Ensure the pitch is maintained as required to sustain quality. Maximise school use to develop sports participation. Explore potential to access for community use. Encourage providers to put in place a sinking fund to ensure long term sustainability.	School NFA EH	Local site	Short	Low	Protect Enhance
NEW	Teal Close	Football	Council	New site being developed in Netherfield which is to provide football pitches and changing facilities. Was due to be used by Gedling Town Ladies FC and Gedling Town Youth FC, however, the clubs are now planning to fold for the 2016/17 season.	Establish resident users to maximise use of spare capacity created by new provision, such as Netherfield Colts Youth FC which currently play at The Sherwood E-Act Sports Centre where tenure is unsecure.	GBC NFA	Local site	Short	High	Provide

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PART 7: KEEP THE STRATEGY ROBUST AND UP TO DATE

Delivery

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

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

The production of this Strategy should be regarded as the beginning of the planning process. The success of this Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach.

Each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence. The role of the steering group should not end with the completion of the PPS document

To help ensure the PPS is well used it should be regarded as the key document within the study area guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved the steering group need to have a clear understanding of how the PPS can be applied and therefore delivered. Key uses for the PPS include evidence for supporting funding bids, guidance to inform planning decisions and planning applications and decision making for capital investment.

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

Monitoring and updating

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

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As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the steering group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date. If the PPS is used as a 'live' document, and kept up to date, the time frame can be extended to five years.

Furthermore, the process of refreshing the PPS would be much less resource intensive if changes and updates have been made throughout the five years. If there are no updates to the document within the period the nature of the supply and in particular the demand for playing pitches is likely to have changed. 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.

Ideally the PPS could be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the steering group. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment that would have been built up when developing the PPS. Taking into account the time to develop the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed.

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

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

Once the PPS is complete the role of the steering group should evolve so that it:

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

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Alongside the regular steering group meetings it is recommended that Gedling Council holds annual sport specific meetings with the pitch sport NGBs and other relevant organisations. These meetings should look to update the key supply and demand information, if necessary amend the assessment work, track progress with implementing the recommendations and action plan and highlight any new issues and opportunities. Things to consider include formation of new teams or loss of teams, any new formats of the sports that would impact on facilities, changes in quality or creation of new facilities.

These meetings could be timed to fit with the annual affiliation process undertaken by the NGBs which would help to capture any changes in the number and nature of sports clubs in the area. Other information that is already collected on a regular basis such as pitch booking records for local authority and other sites could be fed into these meetings. The NGBs will also be able to indicate any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area. Discussion with the league secretaries may also indicate annual league meetings which it may be useful to attend to pick up any specific issues and/or enable a review of the relevant club details to be undertaken.

The steering group should regularly review and refresh area by area plans taking account of any improvements in pitch quality (and hence increases in pitch capacity) and also any new negotiations for community use of education or other private sites in the future. Updating the action plans will make the task of updating the PPS much easier.

It is important that the Council maintains the data contained with the accompanying Playing Pitch Database. This will enable it to refresh and update area by area plans on a regular basis. The accompanying databases are intended to be refreshed on a season by season basis and it is important that there is cross-departmental working, including for example, grounds maintenance and sports, to ensure that this is achieved and that results are used to inform subsequent annual sports facility development plans. Results should be shared with partners via a consultative mechanism.

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Checklist

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

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/playing-pitch-strategy-guidance/>

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

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APPENDIX ONE: 3G PITCH SCENARIO

Moving match play to 3G pitches

Improving pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites but given the cost of doing such work and the continued maintenance required (and associated costs) alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football.

The FA supports the use of AGPs for competitive matches as an alternative to alleviate use of grass pitches, particularly for mini football. Only U7 and U8 teams from Burton Joyce JFC are currently recorded as playing fixtures on a certified 3G pitch located at Poplars Recreation Ground. In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches the pitch must now be FA tested and approved (to either FA or FIFA standard) and it will then appear of the FA Pitch Register: <http://3g.thefa.me.uk/?countyfa=Nottinghamshire>

The table below tests a scenario if all 5v5 and 7v7 football is moved to 3G pitches. A programme of play has been created based on the current peak time (Saturday AM) in Gedling.

Table: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

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

There are currently 25 mini 5v5 teams which would require 3.13 (rounded to four) full sized 3G pitches and 36 mini 7v7 teams which would require three full sized 3G pitches. Based on the above programming and separate start times for mini 5v5 and 7v7 matches, the overall need is for four full sized 3G pitches to accommodate all mini football demand within Gedling, whilst also leaving some spare capacity (0.87 of a pitch) for growth.

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APPENDIX TWO: STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The recommendations within this Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis. They reflect key areas to be addressed over its lifetime. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to also meet planning considerations.

National context

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

DCMS (Department for Culture Media and Sport) is currently (2015) consulting on a new strategy for sport. It will seek to address the following challenges:

- ◀ How to address the recent decline in the number of people that regularly take part in sport and deliver a long-term sustainable increase in participation;
- ◀ What type(s) of participation should be encouraged and how should they be measured;
- ◀ How to ensure that funding goes to those who can best deliver results;
- ◀ How to specifically target under-represented groups;
- ◀ Understanding the role of the private sector, and how public sector bodies, National Governing Bodies (NGBs) and other sports bodies should work with the private sector to help deliver an increase in participation;
- ◀ How to best support participation in new and/or non-traditional sports and activities;
- ◀ How to maximise the potential of new technology to increase participation;
- ◀ How to use the power of sport to achieve broader positive social outcomes and whether some funding should specifically be spent for that purpose.

Sport England: A Sporting Habit for Life (2012-2017)

In 2017, five years after the Olympic Games, Sport England aspires to transforming sport in England so that it is a habit for life for more people and a regular choice for the majority. Launched in January 2012 the strategy sets out how Sport England will invest over one billion pounds of National Lottery and Exchequer funding during the five year plan period. The investment will be used to create a lasting community sport legacy by growing sports participation at the grassroots level following the 2012 London Olympics. The strategy will:

- ◀ See more people starting and keeping a sporting habit for life
- ◀ Create more opportunities for young people
- ◀ Nurture and develop talent
- ◀ Provide the right facilities in the right places
- ◀ Support local authorities and unlock local funding
- ◀ Ensure real opportunities for communities

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The vision is for England to be a world leading sporting nation where many more people choose to play sport. There are five strategic themes including:

- ◀ Maximise value from current NGB investment
- ◀ Places, People, Play
- ◀ Strategic direction and market intelligence
- ◀ Set criteria and support system for NGB 2013-17 investment
- ◀ Market development

The aim by 2017 is to ensure that playing sport is a lifelong habit for more people and a regular choice for the majority. A specific target is to increase the number of 14 to 25 year olds playing sport. To accomplish these aims the strategy sets out a number of outcomes:

- ◀ 4,000 secondary schools in England will be offered a community sport club on its site with a direct link to one or more NGBs, depending on the local clubs in a school's area.
- ◀ County sports partnerships will be given new resources to create effective links locally between schools and sport in the community.
- ◀ All secondary schools that wish to do so, will be supported to open up, or keep open, their sports facilities for local community use and at least a third of these will receive additional funding to make this happen.
- ◀ At least 150 further educational colleagues will benefit from a full time sports professional who will act as a College Sport Maker.
- ◀ Three quarters of university students aged 18-24 will get the chance to take up a new sport or continue playing a sport they played at school or college.
- ◀ A thousand of our most disadvantaged local communities will get a Door Step Club.
- ◀ Two thousand young people on the margins of society will be supported by the Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust into sport and to gain new life skills.
- ◀ Building on the success of the Places People Play, a further £100 million will be invested in facilities for the most popular sports.
- ◀ A minimum of 30 sports will have enhanced England Talent Pathways to ensure young people and others fulfil their potential.

National Planning Policy Framework

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

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

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

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

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

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

The FA National Game Strategy (2015 – 2019)

The Football Association's (FA) National Game Strategy provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities, expenditure proposals and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a four year period. The main issues facing grassroots football are identified as:

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

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Champion Counties Strategic Plan 2014 – 2017

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic plan in 2013 which seeks to deliver successful England teams at all levels, to produce a vibrant domestic game as well as increasing participation during the period 2014-17. It builds on the 2005 plan, Building Partnerships and the subsequent 2009 initiative, Grounds to Play.

The plan will take advantage of local partnerships developed in earlier plans and support local delivery of priorities through the County network. It targets operational excellence to make maximum use of scarce resources and facilities during a time of economic austerity.

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Among the targets set under the four pillars of Effective Governance, Vibrant Domestic Game, Enthusing Participation and Successful England teams, which are relevant to the playing pitch strategy, are:

- ◀ An increase in participation as measured by Sport England's Active People Survey from 183,400 to 197,500
- ◀ Expand the number of clubs participating in NatWest CricketForce from 2,000 to 2,200
- ◀ Increase the number of cricket's volunteers to 80,000 by 2017
- ◀ Expand the number of participants in women's and disabilities cricket by 10% by 2017
- ◀ To increase the number of TwelfthMan members from 220,000 to 250,000 by 2017
- ◀ Complete an approved Community Engagement programme with all 18 First Class Counties and MCC
- ◀ For each £1 provided in facility grants through the 'Sport England Whole Sport Plan Grant Programme' ensure a multiplier of three with other funding partners
- ◀ Provide a fund of £8.1m of capital investment to enhance floodlights, sightscreens, replay screens, power sub-stations and broadcasting facilities at First Class County venues
- ◀ Provide an interest-free loan fund to community clubs of £10 million
- ◀ Qualify and engage 50 Level 4 coaches to support the development of professional cricketers
- ◀ Expand the number of coaches who have received teacher level 1, 2 or 3 qualifications to 50,000
- ◀ Provide a fund of £2 million for community clubs to combat the impact of climate change
- ◀ Introduce a youth T20 competition engaging 500 teams by 2017

The following actions executed during the duration of Building Partnerships provide a strong base for this plan. Actions include:

- ◀ Streamlining ECB governance
- ◀ Building participation by more than 20% per annum (as measured through ECB focus clubs and County Cricket Boards)
- ◀ Developing women's cricket
- ◀ Attracting volunteers
- ◀ Expanding cricket's spectator base
- ◀ Introducing grants and loans to clubs
- ◀ Developing disabilities cricket

This plan therefore influences 'Grounds to Play' in the areas of facilities and coaches, which is where ECB investment will be focussed. Partnership funding and support will play a key role in the delivery of actions and maintaining the strength of the pillars.

The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017)

The RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners.

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It identifies that with 1.5 million players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

- ◀ Create a platform for growth in club rugby participation and membership, especially with a view to exploiting the opportunities afforded by RWC 2015.
- ◀ Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of rugby clubs, through supporting not only their playing activity but also their capacity to generate revenue through a diverse range of activities and partnerships.

In summary the priorities for investment which have met the needs of the game for the Previous period remain valid:

- ◀ Increase the provision of changing rooms and clubhouses that can sustain concurrent adult and junior male and female activity at clubs
- ◀ Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches and floodlighting
- ◀ Increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development

It is also a high priority for the RFU to target investment in the following:

- ◀ Upgrade and transform social, community and catering facilities, which can support the generation of additional revenues
- ◀ Facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs
- ◀ Pitch furniture, including rugby posts and pads, pitch side spectator rails and grounds maintenance equipment

England Hockey (EH) - A Nation Where Hockey Matters (2013-2017)

EH have a clear vision, a powerful philosophy and five core objectives that all those who have a role in advancing Hockey can unite behind. With UK Sport and Sport England's investment, and growing commercial revenues, EH are ambitious about how they can take the sport forward in Olympic cycles and beyond.

"The vision is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters'. A nation where hockey is talked about at dinner tables, playgrounds and public houses, up and down the country. A nation where the sport is on the back pages of our newspapers, where children dream of scoring a goal for England's senior hockey team, and where the performance stirs up emotion amongst the many, not the few"

England Hockey aspires to deepen the passion of those who play, deliver and follow sport by providing the best possible environments and the best possible experiences. Whilst reaching out to new audiences by making the sport more visible, available and relevant and through the many advocates of hockey.

Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes the sport function. EH understand the importance of volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational people can be, the more progressive Hockey can be and the more befitting the facilities can be, the more EH will achieve. The core objectives are as follows:

- ◀ Grow our Participation
- ◀ Deliver International Success
- ◀ Increase our Visibility
- ◀ Enhance our Infrastructure

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- ◀ Be a strong and respected Governing Body

England Hockey has a Capital Investment Programme (CIP), that is planned to lever £5.6 million investment into hockey facilities over the next four years, underpinned by £2m million from the National Governing Body. With over 500 pitches due for refurbishment in the next 4-8 years, there will be a large focus placed on these projects through this funding stream. The current level of pitches available for hockey is believed to be sufficient for the medium term needs, however in some areas, pitches may not be in the right places in order to maximise playing opportunities

‘The right pitches in the right places³³’

In 2012, EH released its facility guidance which is intended to assist organisations wishing to build or protect hockey pitches for hockey. It identifies that many existing hockey AGPs are nearing the end of their useful life as a result of the installation boom of the 90’s. Significant investment is needed to update the playing stock and protect the sport against inappropriate surfaces for hockey as a result of the rising popularity of AGPs for a number of sports.

EH is seeking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers which have a sound understanding of the following:

- ◀ Single System – clubs and providers which have a good understanding of the Single System and its principles and are appropriately places to support the delivery.
- ◀ ClubsFirst accreditation – clubs with the accreditation are recognised as producing a safe effective and child friendly hockey environment
- ◀ Sustainability – hockey providers and clubs will have an approved development plan in place showing their commitment to developing hockey, retaining members and providing an insight into longer term goals. They will also need to have secured appropriate tenure.

England Hockey Strategy

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

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

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

GEDLING BC PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

APPENDIX THREE: FUNDING PLAN

Funding opportunities

In order to deliver much of the Action Plan it is recognised that external partner funding will need to be sought. Although seeking developer contributions in applicable situations and other local funding/community schemes could go some way towards meeting deficiencies and/or improving provision, other potential/match sources of funding should be investigated. Below is a list of current funding sources that are relevant for community improvement projects involving sports facilities.

Awarding body	Description
Big Lottery Fund http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/	Big invests in community groups and to projects that improve health, education and the environment
Sport England : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement Fund • Sportsmatch • Small Grants • Protecting Playing Fields • Inspired Facilities • Strategic Facilities Fund http://www.sportengland.org/funding.aspx http://www.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/strategic-facilities/	Sport England is keen to marry funding with other organisations that provide financial support to create and strengthen the best sports projects. Applicants are encouraged to maximise the levels of other sources of funding, and projects that secure higher levels of partnership funding are more likely to be successful.
Football Foundation http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/	This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development.
Rugby Football Foundation - The Grant Match Scheme www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org	The Grant Match Scheme provides easy-to-access grant funding for playing projects that contribute to the recruitment and retention of community rugby players. Grants are available on a 'match funding' 50:50 basis to support a proposed project. Projects eligible for funding include: 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts, and floodlights. 2. Club House Facilities – Changing rooms, shower facilities, washroom/lavatory, and measures to facilitate segregation (e.g. women, juniors). 3. Equipment – Large capital equipment, pitch maintenance capital equipment (e.g. mowers).
EU Life Fund http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm	LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU.
EH Capital Investment Programme (CIP)	The CIP fund is for the provision of new pitches and re-surfacing of old AGPs. It forms part of EH's 4 year Whole Sport's Plan.
National Hockey Foundation http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/	The Foundation primarily makes grants to a wide range of organisations that meet one of our chosen areas of focus: Young people and hockey. Enabling the development of hockey at youth or community level.

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Protecting Playing Fields

SE launched a funding programme; Protecting Playing Fields (PPF) as part of its Places People Play Olympic legacy mass participation programme and is investing £10 million of National Lottery funding in community sports projects.

The programme is being delivered via five funding rounds (with up to £2 million being awarded to projects in each round). Its focus is on protecting and improving playing fields and developing community sport. It will fund capital projects that create, develop and improve playing fields for sporting and community use and offer long term protection of the site for sport. Projects are likely to involve the construction of new pitches or improvement of existing ones that need levelling or drainage works.

Sport England's 'Inspired Facilities' funding programme will be delivered via funding rounds and where clubs, community and voluntary sector groups and local authorities can apply for grants of between £25k and £150k where there is a proven local need for a facility to be modernised, extended or modified to open up new sporting opportunities.

The programmes three priorities are:

- ◀ Organisations that haven't previously received a Sport England Lottery grant of over £10k.
- ◀ Projects that are the only public sports facility in the local community.
- ◀ Projects that offer local opportunities to people who do not currently play sport.

Besides this scheme providing an important source of funding for potential voluntary and community sector sites, it may also providing opportunities for Council to access this funding particularly in relation to resurfacing the artificial sports surfaces

Strategic Facilities Fund

Facilities are fundamental in providing more people with the opportunity to play sport. The supply of the right facilities in the right areas is key to getting more people to play sport. Sport England recognises the considerable financial pressures that local authorities are currently under and the need to strategically review and rationalise leisure stock so that cost effective and financially sustainable provision is available in the long-term. Sport England has a key role to play in the sector, from influencing the local strategic planning and review of sports facility provision to investing in major capital projects of strategic importance.

The Strategic Facilities Fund will direct capital investment into a number of key local authority projects that are identified through a strategic needs assessment and that have maximum impact on growing and sustaining community sport participation. These projects will be promoted as best practice in the delivery of quality and affordable facilities, whilst demonstrating long-term operational efficiencies. The fund will support projects that bring together multiple partners, including input from the public and private sectors and national governing bodies of sport (NGBs). The fund is also designed to encourage applicants and their partners to invest further capital and revenue funding to ensure sustainability. Sport England has allocated a budget of circa £30m of Lottery funding to award through this fund (2013-17).

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Key features which applications must demonstrate are:

- ◀ A robust needs and evidence base which illustrates the need for the project and the proposed facility mix
- ◀ Strong partnerships which will last beyond the initial development of the project and underpin the long-term sustainability of the facility
- ◀ Multi-sport provision and activity that demonstrates delivery against NGB local priorities
- ◀ A robust project plan from inception to completion with achievable milestones and timescales.

Lottery applications will be invited on a solicited-only basis and grants of between £500,000 and £2,000,000 will be considered.

The Strategic Facilities Fund will prioritise projects that:

- ◀ Are large-scale capital developments identified as part of a local authority sports facility strategic needs assessment/rationalisation programme and that will drive a significant increase in community sports participation
- ◀ Demonstrate consultation/support from two or more NGBs and delivery against their local priorities
- ◀ Are multi-sport facilities providing opportunities to drive high participant numbers
- ◀ Are a mix of facility provision (indoor and/or outdoor) to encourage regular and sustained use by a large number of people
- ◀ Offer an enhancement, through modernisation, to existing provision and/or new build facilities
- ◀ Have a long-term sustainable business plan attracting public and private investment
- ◀ Show quality in design, but are fit for purpose to serve the community need
- ◀ Have effective and efficient operating models, combined with a commitment to development programmes which will increase participation and provide talent pathways.

Projects will need to demonstrate how the grant will deliver against Sport England's strategic priorities. The funding available is for the development of the capital infrastructure, which can contribute to the costs of new build, modernisation or refurbishment and purchasing of major fixed equipment as part of the facility development.

Funder's requirements

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

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

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Indicative costs

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

<https://www.sportengland.org/media/4349/facility-costs-1q15.pdf>

The costs are for the development of community sports facilities and are based on providing good quality sports facility for the 1st Quarter 2015. These rounded costs are based on schemes most recently funded through the Lottery (and therefore based on economies of scale), updated to reflect current forecast price indices provided by the Building Cost Information Service (BCIS), prepared by Technical Team Lead of Sport England.

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APPENDIX FOUR: GLOSSARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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