



KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

JULY 2020

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS	1
PART 1: INTRODUCTION	2
PART 2: VISION	15
PART 3: AIMS.....	16
PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	17
4.1 Football – grass pitches	17
4.2 Third Generation turf (3G) pitches.....	24
4.3 Cricket pitches.....	28
4.4 Rugby union	33
4.5 Hockey pitches (sand/water-based AGPs).....	38
4.6 Bowling greens.....	40
4.7 Tennis courts.....	41
4.8 Netball courts	42
4.9 Athletics provision	44
4.10 Golf courses	45
4.11 Archery	46
4.12 Cycling provision	46
PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS	48
PART 6: ACTION PLAN	64
PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS	79
PART 8: DELIVER THE STRATEGY AND KEEP IT ROBUST AND UP TO DATE	83
APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT	87
APPENDIX 2: FUNDING PLAN	98
APPENDIX 3: GLOSSARY OF TERMS	103

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third generation turf
AGP	Artificial grass pitch
ASC	All Stars Cricket
BC	Bowls Club
CC	Cricket Club
CFA	County Football Association
EG	England Golf
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
KBC	Kettering Borough Council
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
IOG	Institute of Groundsmanship
JCS	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (2011 – 2031)
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
MES	Match equivalent sessions
NGB	National Governing Body of Sport
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NTP	Non-turf pitch
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
PIP	Pitch Improvement Programme
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
SSP2	Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan
TC	Tennis Club
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under
WRC	World Rugby Compliant

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Kettering Borough Council (KBC) commissioned Knight Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) to develop a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for the authority. This Strategy forms part of a wider inter-related strategy for open space, sport and recreation which will see the development of a Sports Facilities Strategy and an Open Spaces Strategy to complete the trilogy. The inter-relationship between the strategies must be noted as some sports covered by the PPS also use indoor facilities for matches/training or use open space areas for informal use. These documents will act as an evidence base for the preparation of the Site Specific Part 2 (SSP2) Local Plan.

These strategies will be robust and provide the necessary information and direction to inform decisions on future strategic planning and investment priorities for sports facilities across the Borough. They will support sports development programmes and health and wellbeing objectives.

This Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for Kettering Borough has been developed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (2019 (NPPF)), Sport England guidance¹ and under the direction of a Steering Group led by the Council and with collaboration from the National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs). The Steering Group drew representation from across Council departments and with outside partners. This ensured a full representation of individuals involved in the provision, enhancement, management and maintenance of facilities and with those responsible for developing activities to support and deliver sport and health and well-being programmes across the Borough. It builds upon the preceding Playing Pitch Assessment Report (Oct 2019) and is capable of:

- ◀ Providing adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting outdoor sports facilities, as appropriate, directing S106 contributions secured from new development and informing and shaping local planning policy.
- ◀ Informing the protection and provision of playing pitches.
- ◀ Informing land use decisions with respect to future use of existing playing pitch areas and playing fields (capable of accommodating pitches).
- ◀ Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of playing pitches.
- ◀ Supporting external funding bids and maximising support for playing pitches.
- ◀ Providing the basis for ongoing monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality and accessibility of playing pitches.

1.1 Monitoring and updating

Once the PPS has been formally signed off it is important to ensure there is regular annual monitoring and a review of the actions identified. The monitoring should be led by the Council and supported by the Steering Group. It is worth noting that 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.

¹ Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy (Sport England) (2013)

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The monitoring and review process will help maintain the momentum and commitment built into the development the Strategy. It will also ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed. Part 8 of the Strategy contains a suggested process for undertaking the update and monitoring. The Steering Group will need to agree the process prior to signing off the Strategy.

1.2 Scope

The Council has set out that the PPS should cover the main pitch sports of football, cricket, rugby union/league and hockey and asses both grass pitches and artificial pitches. In addition, it will also include an assessment of other outdoor sports facilities including tennis courts, netball courts, golf courses, bowling greens, skateboard parks, athletics tracks, cycling tracks and outdoor water sport facilities.

It should be noted that for the non-pitch sports, (i.e. tennis, bowls and netball) included within the scope of this study, the supply and demand principles of Sport England guidance: Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities (ANOG) (2014) are followed to ensure the process is compliant with the NPPF. This is less prescriptive than the PPS guidance. Thus, where applied, the approach to assessing non-pitch sports is a supply/demand assessment based on more a 'light touch' approach.

1.3 Study area

Kettering Borough is situated in the heart of England covering an area of over 23,000 hectares; it has good road and rail links to the rest of the country. Located in Northamptonshire the Borough shares a close functional relationship with Corby, Wellingborough and East Northamptonshire. These four local authority areas are collectively known as North Northamptonshire.

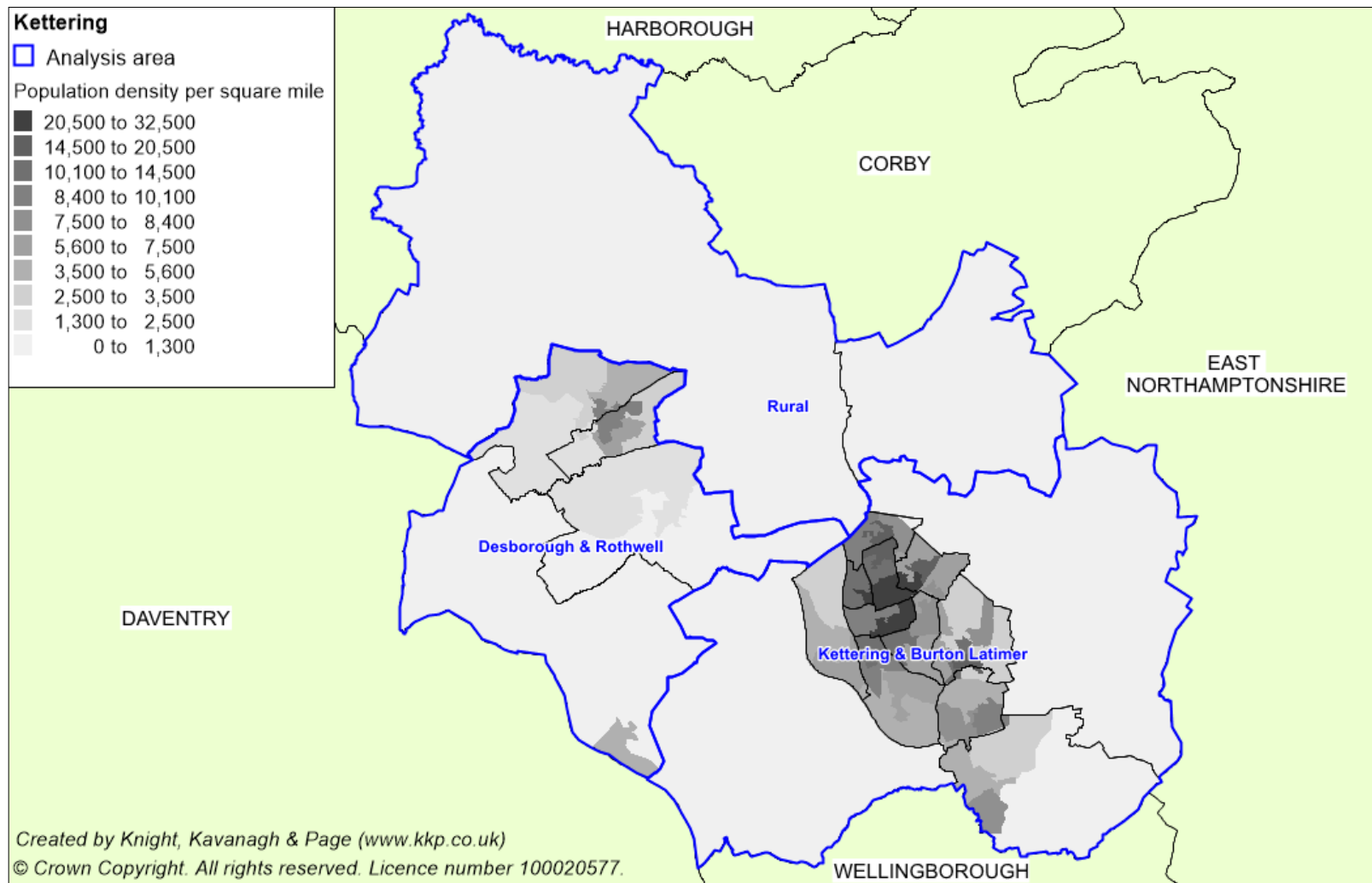
The study area will comprise the whole of Kettering Borough Council's administrative area. Cross boundary issues will also be explored to determine the level of imported and exported demand, recognising, for example, that people travel to and make use of strategic facilities irrespective of administrative boundaries. Neighbouring authorities include Harborough, Corby, East Northamptonshire, Wellingborough and Daventry.

In order to address supply and demand on a more localised level, as well as addressing the urban/rural divide within Kettering, three analysis areas have been derived:

- ◀ Kettering Town & Burton Latimer
- ◀ Desborough & Rothwell
- ◀ Rural Area

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Figure 1.1: Map of Kettering including analysis areas



KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

1.4: Context

The rationale for undertaking this study is to identify current levels of provision within Kettering across the public, education, voluntary and commercial sectors and to compare this with current and likely future levels of demand. The primary purpose of the PPS is therefore to provide a strategic framework that ensures the provision of outdoor sports facilities meets the local needs of existing and future residents up until the 2031 Local Plan period.

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

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

This strategy provides an evidence base for planning decisions and funding bids and background evidence to support Local Plan policies in relation to formal recreation. It will ensure that decision-making is sound, robust and capable of being scrutinised through examination and meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

One of the core planning principles of the NPPF is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Section 8 of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities; Paragraph 96 discusses the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Paragraphs 97 and 98 discuss assessments and the protection of "existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields". A PPS will provide the evidence required to help protect playing fields to ensure sufficient land is available to meet existing and projected future pitch requirements.

Paragraph 99 and 100 promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

1.5: Local context

North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy 2011-2031 (Part 1) (Adopted 2016)

The North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (JCS) (Adopted 2016) is the strategic Part 1 Local Plan for Kettering, Corby, East Northamptonshire and Wellingborough. This has been prepared by the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning and Development Unit and outlines the vision and outcomes for the four local authorities. The Part 2 Local Plans, being prepared by the individual Local Authorities, will provide detailed planning policies to deliver the objectives outlined in the JCS.

The vision is to ensure that North Northamptonshire will be widely recognised as a safe, healthy, affordable and attractive area for residents and visitors, and an excellent place for business to invest in. In addition, the area will be a showpiece for modern green living and well managed sustainable development which will take advantage of a strategic transport network to be a nationally important growth area.

The JCS also highlights a summary vision for Kettering. This summary vision states that by 2031 Kettering [town] will be the largest retail centre in North Northamptonshire and its vibrant town centre, regarded for being characterful, distinctive and fun, will provide a focus for its surrounding market towns and villages. The town will be the focus for healthcare and will lead the way in renewable energy investment to strengthen the green economy. Its business community will capitalise on its excellent connectivity, including its position on the Trans-European (E24 route) A14 and on the electrified Midland Mainline rail route.

To achieve the overarching and local vision, the JCS aims to deliver following ten outcomes successfully:

- ◀ Empowered and proactive communities
- ◀ Adapt to future climate change
- ◀ Distinctive environments that enhance and respect local character and enhance biodiversity.
- ◀ Excellent services and facilities easily accessed by local communities and businesses.
- ◀ A sustainable balance between local jobs and workers and a more diverse economy.
- ◀ Transformed connectivity.
- ◀ More walkable places and an excellent choice of ways to travel.
- ◀ Vibrant, well connected towns and a productive countryside.
- ◀ Stronger, more self-reliant towns with thriving centres.
- ◀ Enhanced quality of life for all residents.

To help local communities and businesses access excellent services and facilities (which includes sports facilities), policy seven in the Strategy will resist the loss of any community services and facilities, including leisure facilities, unless an appropriate alternative is provided or evidence is presented that the facility is no longer required and suitable alternative uses have been considered.

Any alternative provision should be of equal or better quality and be located in an appropriate and, where feasible, sustainable location.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan (2011-2031)

The Council is preparing Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan. This will be specific to the Borough of Kettering and is due to be adopted in winter 2020/2021. The document will cover the whole of Kettering Borough with the exception of issues addressed in the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (JCS), the Area Action Plan for Kettering Town Centre, the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocation Policy and the Broughton Neighbourhood Plan.

The SSP2 will allocate non-strategic land for housing and employment and it identifies potential locations for retail, leisure and community facilities. It will contain policies relating to the principle growth town of Kettering, the market towns of Rothwell, Desborough and Burton Latimer and for the 27 villages of varying scale and character. These will be supported by policies covering topics such as Local Green Space, Green Infrastructure and Settlement Boundaries.

North Northamptonshire – Unitary Authority

The Government has agreed to create two new unitary councils in Northamptonshire to provide all local government services in the county. This will come into being on 1 April 2021 and Northamptonshire's current eight councils will cease to exist.

The new North Northamptonshire unitary authority will cover the administrative areas of Corby, East Northamptonshire, Kettering and Wellingborough. A new unitary authority for West Northamptonshire will cover the areas of Daventry, Northampton and South Northamptonshire. Services currently provided by Northamptonshire County Council and the districts and boroughs will be delivered by the two new authorities.

The creation of the two unitary authorities is seen as an opportunity to develop and transform services to deliver what residents, visitors and businesses need across the county, with a modern approach that provides good value for money.

Supporting Northamptonshire to Flourish: Northamptonshire's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2020

This is the latest strategy which aims to improve the health and wellbeing of all people in Northamptonshire. The overall objective is to reduce health inequalities by enabling people to help themselves.

The strategy lists four key priorities with targets associated for each priority. The importance of having accessible, good quality sports facilities will assist in achieving all four key priorities:

- ◀ Giving every child the best start
- ◀ Taking responsibility and making informed choices
- ◀ Promoting independence and quality of life for older adults
- ◀ Creating an environment for all people to flourish

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Northamptonshire County Council - Director of Public Health Annual Report 2019

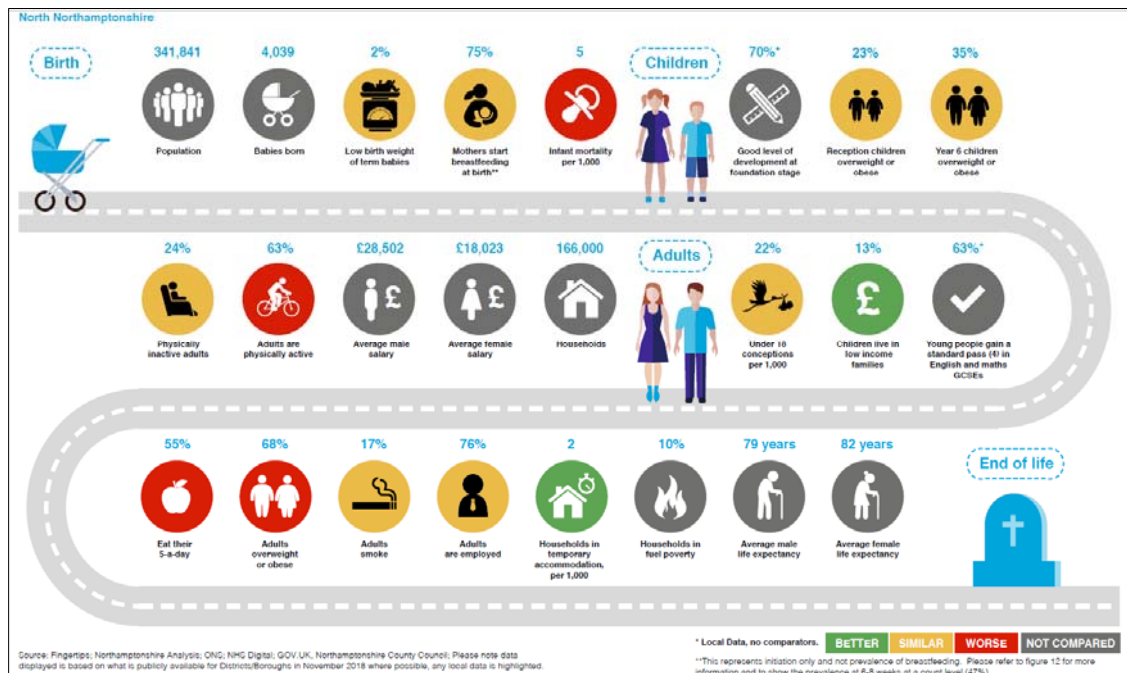
This report provides Northamptonshire area information on the following:

- ◀ Background to health inequality and inequity
- ◀ Health inequalities across Northamptonshire – demographics, life expectancy, deprivation
- ◀ Maternal health inequalities
- ◀ Health inequalities in children
- ◀ Lifestyle
- ◀ Wider determinants
- ◀ Ageing

Figure 1.2 identifies the key characteristics appertaining to lifestyle of the population of North Northamptonshire.

The report makes eight recommendations that require joint working to achieve the best outcomes for Northamptonshire residents; a precis of which are identified in Table 1.1.

Figure 1.2: Health and wellbeing in North Northamptonshire Jan 2019



KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 1.1: *Director of Public Health Annual Report 2019 - Key recommendations*

	Recommendation
1	Local leaders and organisations need to work with new shadow unitary authorities (subject to government agreement) to ensure that public health principles and practice to improve population health and reduce health inequalities are embedded in order to shape services to best meet need.
2	There should be greater focus on improving health and promoting a healthy lifestyle for pregnant women and new parents. This will require an improvement in health literacy and understanding of what a healthy pregnancy means and how it can be achieved
3	The root cause of unhealthy weight of children and young people must be tackled by working with and educating communities, schools and families to take a lead role in preventing our children becoming overweight and addressing the issue early if it arises.
4	To reduce the number of people who experience mental ill health there is a need to improve the effectiveness of prevention services for mental wellbeing.
5	Services need to work together so that fewer women are smoking in pregnancy, more people waiting for planned operations 'stop before the op' and there is bedside support for in-patients, particularly those experiencing ill health due to respiratory or cardiac conditions.
6	Primary, community and hospital services all have a role in fewer people experiencing avoidable ill-health and disease, by increasing uptake of vaccination, screening programmes; cancer, non-cancer and health checks and directing people to healthy lifestyle services.
7	Optimise the use of the NCC Public Health 'Supporting Independence Programme' for people living with mild frailty which allows them greater autonomy and independence for longer and increases their healthy life expectancy.
8	NCC Public Health will develop a comprehensive communication and engagement strategy, linked to partners, that will reach into communities to educate, inform and support positive behaviour change.

Northamptonshire Sport

One of 43 active partnerships (AP) nationally, Northamptonshire Sport is a partnership of local and national organisations working together to provide opportunities for people to participate in sport, physical activity and recreation in Northamptonshire. It is hosted by Northamptonshire County Council and its activities are supported via Sport England Lottery grant funding and by other local and national partners.

The AP leads and supports on a number of different programmes to support the development of sport in the county. These include:

- ◀ The Jog Northants Programme; this develops jogging groups that operate from communities, schools, weight loss clubs, athletics clubs, leisure centres and workplaces.
- ◀ Disability Sport; developing programmes to integrate people with a disability into mainstream sport.
- ◀ Nordic Walking; the AP has developed a number of programmes in local parks to engage those who may feel intimidated who wish to engage in regular physical activity.
- ◀ Development of satellite school clubs
- ◀ School Sport and Competition; the AP leads on the delivery of the School Games Programme across the county. This encourages participation in sport and competition at all levels in a wide range of sports.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The AP led the production of a new 'Physical Activity and Sport Framework' in 2017 and this framework was formally adopted by the Health and Wellbeing Forum and the Northamptonshire Leadership group in March 2018. This document identifies the way in which the local network will work collaboratively together to improve the health and wellbeing of the county with more people being more active more often. The Physical Activity and Sport Framework has three main aims:

- ◀ 1) reduce adult inactivity at a faster rate
- ◀ 2) Get our children and young people moving more and forming healthy, active lifestyles
- ◀ 3) reduce the inequalities experienced by people in lower socio – economic groups and those with a life limiting illness or disability

1.6: The Strategy

As this Strategy is specific to Kettering Borough, it focuses on findings, recommendations and scenarios for outdoor sports facilities across the Borough.

This Strategy has been developed through the research and analysis of outdoor sports provision and usage to provide:

- ◀ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of outdoor sport facilities.
- ◀ Evidence to help protect and enhance outdoor sport provision.
- ◀ The need to inform the development and implementation of planning policy.
- ◀ The need to inform the assessment of planning applications.
- ◀ The need to provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations that provide a strategic framework for improvements to provision.
- ◀ 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 prioritised area-by-area action plan to address key issues.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommend a number of priority projects for Kettering that should be implemented over the course of its lifespan. It is outlined to provide a framework for improvement, with potential partners and possible sources of external funding identified in light of limited council resources.

The recommendations made in this strategy must be translated into local plan policy so that there is a mechanism to support delivery and secure provision and investment into provision where the opportunity arises.

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

1.7: Headline findings

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

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

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

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

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

Table 1.2: Quantitative headline findings

Sport	Current demand shortfall	Future demand shortfall (2031)
Football (grass pitches) ²	Kettering Town & Burton Latimer Analysis Area	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 4 MES on adult pitches ◀ Shortfall of 1.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 3.5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 11.5 MES on mini 7v7 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 7.5 MES on mini 5v5 pitches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 5.5 MES on adult pitches ◀ Shortfall of 6.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 12.5 MES on mini 7v7 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 13.5 MES on mini 5v5 pitches
	Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 6 MES on adult pitches ◀ Shortfall of 0.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 2.5 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Spare capacity of 1 MES on mini 7v7 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 0.5 MES on mini 5v5 pitches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Shortfall of 6 MES on adult pitches ◀ Shortfall of 1 MES on youth 11v11 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 4 MES on youth 9v9 pitches ◀ Spare capacity of 1 MES on mini 7v7 pitches ◀ Shortfall of 0.5 MES on mini 5v5 pitches

² MES - Match equivalent sessions per week

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Sport	Current demand shortfall	Future demand shortfall (2031)
	Rural Area Analysis Area	
	◀ No football demand in the analysis area	◀ No future demand in the analysis area
	Kettering Borough Summary	
	◀ Shortfall of 11.5 MES on adult pitches	◀ Shortfall of 12.5 MES on adult pitches
	◀ Shortfall of 2 MES on youth 11v11 pitches	◀ Shortfall of 7.5 MES on youth 11v11 pitches
	◀ Shortfall of 6 MES on youth 9v9 pitches	◀ Shortfall of 9 MES on youth 9v9 pitches
	◀ Shortfall of 10.5 MES on mini 7v7 pitches	◀ Shortfall of 11.5 MES on mini 7v7 pitches
Football (3G pitches) ³	Kettering Town & Burton Latimer Analysis Area	
	◀ Shortfall of 1 full size floodlit pitch	◀ Shortfall of 2 full size floodlit pitches
	Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area	
	◀ Sufficient supply to meet demand	◀ Sufficient supply to meet demand
	Rural Area Analysis Area	
	◀ Sufficient supply to meet demand	◀ Sufficient supply to meet demand
	Kettering Borough Summary	
Cricket	Kettering Town & Burton Latimer Analysis Area	
	◀ Shortfall of 28 MES per season	◀ Shortfall of 41 MES per season
	Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area	
	◀ Shortfall of 17 MES per season	◀ Shortfall of 17 MES per season
	Rural Area Analysis Area	
	◀ Spare capacity of 2 MES per season	◀ Shortfall of 6 MES per season
	Kettering Borough Summary	
Rugby union ⁴	Kettering Town & Burton Latimer Analysis Area	
	◀ Shortfall of 4.75 MES (4.5 MES at Kettering Rugby Club and 0.25 at Tresham College).	◀ Shortfall of 6.75 MES (6.5 MES at Kettering Rugby Club and 0.25 at Tresham College).
	Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area	
	◀ No rugby union demand in the analysis area	◀ No future demand in the analysis area
	Rural Area Analysis Area	
	◀ No rugby union demand in the analysis area	◀ No future demand in the analysis area
	Kettering Borough Summary	
Hockey (Sand AGPs)	Kettering Borough	
	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Insufficient supply to meet future demand

³ Based on 2018/19 season affiliation data and on accommodating 38 teams on one full size pitch

⁴ MES - Match equivalent sessions per week

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Sport	Current demand shortfall	Future demand shortfall (2031)
Bowls	Kettering Borough	
	◀ Overall, sufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Overall, sufficient supply to meet future demand
Tennis	Kettering Borough	
	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Sufficient supply to meet future demand
Netball	Kettering Borough	
	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand; however, quality issues need addressing.	◀ Sufficient supply to meet future demand; however, quality issues need addressing.
Athletics	Kettering Borough	
	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand; however, quality does need to be improved	◀ Sufficient supply to meet future demand; however, quality does need to be improved
Cycling	Kettering Borough	
	◀ Insufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Insufficient supply to meet future demand
Golf	Kettering Borough	
	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Sufficient supply to meet future demand
Archery	Kettering Borough	
	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Sufficient supply to meet future demand
Beach Volleyball	Kettering Borough	
	◀ Sufficient supply to meet current demand	◀ Sufficient supply to meet future demand

Conclusions

The existing position for all pitch sports is either; demand is currently being met, or there is a current or future shortfall. There are current shortfalls on grass pitches for football, rugby union and cricket.

As there are identified shortfalls on grass pitches, there is a need to protect both playing pitch provision currently in use and pitches that are no longer in use. This could offer the opportunity to bring out-of-use pitches back into service to meet current and/or future needs.

However, these shortfalls are not always a result of a lack of pitches, it also links to pitch quality and, in some instances, improving quality will also improve the carrying capacity of pitches to accommodate more match equivalent sessions.

For grass football pitches, a large amount of shortfall can be attributed to poor pitch quality which reduces available capacity; currently the total of overplay equals 21.5 MES on poor quality pitches. Therefore, improve the quality to increase the capacity; new football pitches are not required to meet the shortfalls expressed.

It may also prove a viable solution to transfer some football match play onto 3G pitches thereby reducing the use (and shortfall) of grass pitches. Alleviating pressure on certain high use grass pitch sites will also allow for rest and circulation of pitches to be introduced.

The 3G pitch being developed at Latimer Arts College will help meet training demand shortfalls within Kettering. However, with the significant increase in affiliated football teams between the 2018/19 and 2019/20 season, there is a need to provide an additional 3G pitch to ensure sufficient provision exists.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

For rugby pitches, there is a likely combined need to make quality improvements and increase the number of pitches available (potentially for training) linked to both sites used by the rugby club.

For cricket, quality improvements are unlikely to fully address the shortfalls identified and instead, more pitches are required to achieve this. This may, for example, include increased use of non turf pitches.

For hockey, unless alternative AGP provision is provided in the Borough there is a need to protect the existing AGP stock to ensure sufficient provision to accommodate future hockey demand.

For remaining sports, the current stock of facilities is meeting demand and is expected to do so in the future, although there is a requirement to increase quality at specific sites across each sport. This is particularly the case for netball and athletics. The only exception to this is cycling where current sites and facilities within the Borough are inadequate for the current and future needs of the clubs.

PART 2: VISION

2.1: Vision

Below is Kettering's vision for its sport and leisure provision. It sets out the vision and objectives for the period 2019 - 2031.

“To serve existing and future communities by guiding the enhancement of existing and provision of new outdoor sports facilities for the area of Kettering Borough up to 2031. It will lead to a network-provision of well managed and high quality outdoor sports resources. These will be accessible to all to promote, support and increase participation in formal and informal physical activities leading to improvements in health and well-being across the Borough”

To achieve this vision, the strategy seeks to deliver the following objectives:

- ◀ Working collectively with partners to create opportunity for everyone to participate
- ◀ Ensure that all valuable facilities are protected for the long term benefit of sport.
- ◀ Promote a sustainable approach to the provision of playing pitches and management of sports clubs.
- ◀ Ensure that there are enough facilities in the right place to meet current and projected future demand.
- ◀ Ensure that all clubs have access to facilities of appropriate quality to meet current needs and longer term aspirations.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

PART 3: AIMS

The following overarching aims are based on the three Sport England themes. It is recommended that they are approved and implemented as appropriate by the Council and its partners to enable the delivery of the overall PPS vision and Sport England planning objectives.

AIM 1

To **protect and promote** the existing supply of outdoor sports facilities where they are needed to meet current and future needs.

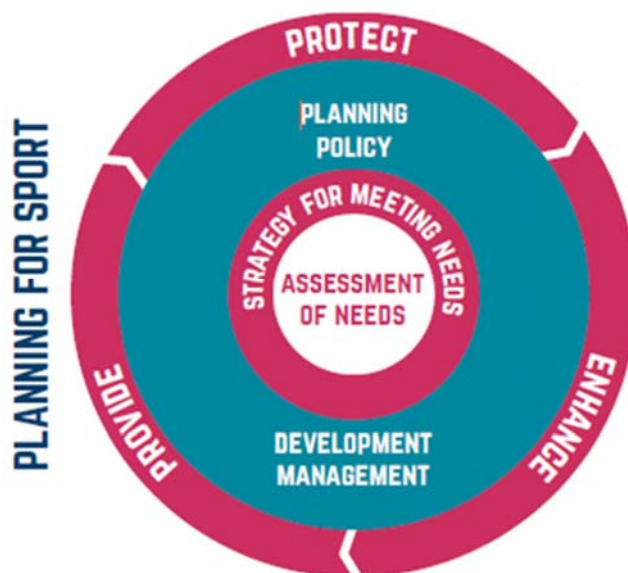
AIM 2

To **enhance** outdoor sports provision and ancillary facilities by improving the quality management and maintenance of sites.

AIM 3

To **provide** new outdoor sports facilities which are fit for purpose and well designed to meet identified needs.

Figure 2.1: Sport England themes



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

PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

4.1 Football – grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There are 64 grass football pitches within Kettering across 25 sites. Of the pitches, 63 are available, at some level, for community use across 24 sites. Most provision (43%) in the Borough is adult pitches.
- ◀ In total, five pitches are assessed as good quality, 21 pitches as standard quality and 37 as poor quality.
- ◀ Most sites (14) have ancillary facilities which are rated as standard quality. Of the remaining sites, five are assessed as having good quality facilities and five are assessed as having poor quality facilities.
- ◀ There are five clubs in Kettering which compete within the football pyramid and one ladies' team (Kettering Town Ladies) in the Women's National League System.
- ◀ **Responsive clubs** are generally considered to have security of tenure across Kettering, although this is not the case for users of The Lowther Football Centre.
- ◀ At time of audit there were 169 teams (excluding further education college and Futsal teams) playing inside 27 clubs within Kettering. This consisted of 21 adult men's, two adult women's, 73 youth boys', five youth girls' teams and 68 mini teams.
- ◀ Based on new affiliation data collated by Northamptonshire County FA for the 2019/20 season there has been an increase of 35 affiliated teams (excluding further education college and Futsal teams) since the 2018/19 season.
- ◀ Migration is recorded in the Weetabix Youth Football League, where mini teams based outside of the Borough are coming into the area to play at North Park Pavilion.
- ◀ Further to the above, an U11s team from Oakley Vale FC is playing its home matches at Weekley Glebe Playing Fields despite the Club's main site being located in neighbouring Corby.
- ◀ At present seven teams are identified as being displaced into neighbouring authorities.
- ◀ A number of clubs report latent demand, with the majority expressed in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area.
- ◀ Using team generation rates, future population is predicted to generate two senior men's, six youth 11v11 boys' and two youth 9v9 boys' teams in Kettering.
- ◀ Further to population growth, several clubs also report potential future demand totalling 12 MES (24 teams).
- ◀ Nine pitches across eight sites are considered to contain some level of actual spare capacity equating to 7.5 MES.
- ◀ A total of 20 pitches are overplayed by a total of 28.5 MES.
- ◀ Based on current demand, there are shortfalls on all pitch types in Kettering, primarily as a result of overplay; however, displaced demand is also a key factor with regards to adult pitch provision.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Shortfalls are most significant in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area which is mainly attributed to the overplay on mini pitches at North Park Pavilion.
- ◀ Shortfalls on each pitch type are intensified when applying future demand.
- ◀ A large amount of shortfall can be attributed to poor pitch quality which reduces available capacity; currently the total of overplay equals 21.5 MES on poor quality pitches.

Scenarios

Alleviating overplay/improving pitch quality

In total, there are 20 community available pitches in Kettering, across ten sites, that are overplayed by a total of 28.5 MES. Improving quality on these pitches (i.e. through increased maintenance or improved drainage) will increase capacity and reduce current and future shortfalls. At present, 14 overplayed pitches are rated as poor quality.

To illustrate the above, Table 3.1 and Table 3.2 highlight that current levels of overplay would be alleviated with improvements to standard and good quality respectively.

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

Adult pitches		Youth pitches		Mini pitches	
Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

Should the quality of all 14 poor quality, overplayed pitches be improved to standard, overplay on eight pitches (across four sites) would be removed. Overplay on the pitch at Latimer Arts College would also be alleviated, however, it would be played to capacity i.e. there would be no spare capacity. Five pitches across two sites; North Park Pavilion and Kettering Science Academy would remain overplayed.

If all overplayed pitches were improved to good quality, overplay would be eradicated with the exception of one site; Sergeants Lawn, where 2.5 MES of overplay would remain.

To improve grass pitch quality, the FA's Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP) should be used to provide recommendations and guide improvements on the pitches noted above. PIP provides the preferred approach for improving grass pitch quality when possible. However, given the costs associated with pitch improvement programmes the Council may wish to consider alternative pitch provision in some areas. This could provide a more sustainable model over the long term planning of pitch provision.

The alternative to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for matches. The transfer of play to 3G can alleviate overplay on grass pitches. Alleviating overplay reduces the impact of use on grass pitches which will aid quality improvement. This could work for sites such as North Park Pavilion, where the site is very heavily used, as well as acting as an open recreation site for local residents

Using 3G pitches for match play will be explored in the following 3G section. There is also a need to consider utilising future 3G pitches for larger clubs to prevent them being spread over a high number of grass pitch sites. This suggestion is likely to support both player and club development.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 3.1: Levels of overplay if quality improved to standard

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating (MES ⁵)	Standard quality capacity rating (MES)
8	Desborough Leisure Centre	Desborough & Rothwell	Youth	11v11	1	Poor	0.5	0.5
19	Kettering Science Academy	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Adult		2	Poor	0.5	1.5
			Youth	9v9	1	Poor	2.5	1.5
20	Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	0.5
22	Latimer Arts College	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Youth	9v9	1	Poor	1	-
26	North Park Pavilion	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Mini	5v5	4	Poor	5.5	2.5
			Mini	7v7	4	Poor	11	3

Table 3.2: Levels of overplay if quality improved to good

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating (MES)	Standard quality capacity rating (MES)
2	Bishop Stopford School	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	0.5
8	Desborough Leisure Centre	Desborough & Rothwell	Youth	11v11	1	Poor	0.5	2.5
19	Kettering Science Academy	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Adult		2	Poor	0.5	3.5
			Youth	9v9	1	Poor	2.5	0.5
20	Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1.5
22	Latimer Arts College	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Youth	9v9	1	Poor	1	2
23	Latimer Park	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Adult		2	Standard	1	3
26	North Park Pavilion	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Mini	5v5	4	Poor	5.5	10.5
			Mini	7v7	4	Poor	11	5
32	Sergents Lawn	Desborough & Rothwell	Adult		1	Standard	3.5	2.5
34	The Centre at Mawsley Pitches	Desborough & Rothwell	Youth	9v9	2	Standard	2	4

⁵ Match equivalent sessions

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Accommodating latent and displaced demand on Council pitches

There are currently seven adult football teams playing outside of the Kettering Borough. Of these teams two are women's and five are men's teams. Accommodating the five men's teams within the Kettering Borough would require 2.5 MES at adult peak time (Sunday AM). The two ladies' teams would require one match equivalent session Sunday PM.

Three clubs; Burton Park Wanderers, Kettering Youth and Rothwell Corinthians with teams accessing council pitches report latent demand⁶. The teams from these clubs accessing council provision are mini teams. As such, their mini demand has been accounted for in Table 3.3.

The analysis below is based on all council pitches being improved to good quality and only considers the latent demand expressed by clubs currently accessing council sites. All displaced demand⁷ is included, as bringing these teams back into Kettering should be considered wherever capacity exists.

Table 3.3: Summary of supply and demand in Kettering Borough (peak period) accounting for displaced and latent demand

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity (match sessions)	Demand (match sessions per week)			
		Overplay	Latent demand	Displaced demand	Total (current)
Mini 5v5	-	-	4	-	4
Mini 7v7	-	-	-	-	-
Youth 9v9	1	-	-	-	1
Youth 11v11	1.5	-	-	-	1.5
Adult	3.5	-	-	3.5	-
Kettering Borough	6	-	3.5	3.5	1

Once displaced and latent demand have been addressed at council sites, there is limited opportunity for creating a strategic reserve of council grass pitches without the need for new pitches to be provided.

If, in the future, 3G pitches will be provided on council owned sites (such as Hanwood Park and Kettering Pitch & Track) which could accommodate match play and therefore reduce demand for grass pitches. Then the creation of strategic reserve (for rest and rotation of pitches) could be reconsidered. This could also include greater use of unused pitches for informal football opportunities.

The Lowther Football Centre (Kettering FC)

Since the consultation phase of the PPS, there have been developments around the lease arrangements for Kettering FC at The Lowther Football Centre. These developments have raised concerns around long term security of tenure (i.e. 25 years or more) for the Club. Should it lose access to the site, six teams (three match equivalent sessions) would need to be accommodated elsewhere within the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area.

⁶ See Appendix 3: Glossary of terms for explanation

⁷ See Appendix 3: Glossary of terms for explanation

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

This has been factored into the providing security of tenure scenario below in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area. The scenario demonstrates that the remaining supply of pitches is not sufficient to absorb this demand and that shortfalls would be increased by 4.5 MES per week.

Providing security of tenure

As shown in the table below, currently, 12 match equivalent sessions per week⁸ take place at sites which have unsecure tenure (i.e. they have no formal community use agreements in place and as such there is a risk that use could be terminated at any time).

Table 3.4: Summary of unsecured sites

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Management	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Current play (MES)
2	Bishop Stopford School	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Education	Adult		1	1.5
				Youth	(9v9)	1	1
22	Latimer Arts College	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Education	Adult		2	0.5
				Youth	(9v9)	1	1
25	Montsaye Academy	Desborough & Rothwell	Education	Adult		2	1.5
				Youth	(9v9)	2	2
35	The Crescent	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Community Association	Youth	(9v9)	1	-
36	The Lowther Football Centre (Kettering FC)	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Club/Scouts	Youth	(9v9)	1	0.5
				Adult		2	2.5
37	Tresham College (Kettering Campus)	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Education	Youth	(9v9)	1	1.5
Totals						14	12

If these sites were to fall out of use, shortfalls in the analysis areas where the sites are located would be further increased as the demand would have to relocate to other sites. This is because there is not enough spare capacity on existing pitches in either Kettering & Burton Latimer or Desborough & Rothwell analysis areas, and therefore existing sites would become more overplayed, resulting in more shortfalls.

In total, four MES on youth 9v9 and 4.5 MES adult pitch would need to be accommodated in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area. Two youth 9v9 MES and 1.5 adult MES would also need to be accommodated in the Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area.

To avoid further overuse of existing pitches, access to additional pitches would need to be secured to meet demand (should it be lost) from sites which have unsecured use.

⁸ Excluding school use/demand

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

New demand (2019/20 season)

Based on new affiliation data collated by Northamptonshire County FA for the 2019/20 there will be 204 teams (excluding further education college and Futsal teams) playing in Kettering. These teams currently require access to grass pitch provision within Kettering.

Most of these teams are mini 5v5 and 7v7 teams joining the Weetabix League and playing matches at North Park Pavilion. Given the high levels of overplay already at this site (coupled with poor quality), as well as the primary use of the site being as a local recreational space, it is likely that making qualitative improvements will have little overall impact on overplay. In order to better address overplay, there is a need to reduce usage of the pitches and transfer play to an alternative site. Further, exploring alternative options such as moving match play to 3G pitches should be investigated.

New provision

As part of the new Hanwood Park development, an area of grass the equivalent of two adult football pitches has been designated as playing field land. This will be part of a wider sports development and will include changing provision and clubhouse space to accommodate up to eight teams at a time. The type and configuration of pitches should be based on current/future demand at the time they are provided.

In order to ensure the appropriate quality standards are achieved for these new pitches, it is recommended that the Council involves the County FA and IOG to advise.

The Assessment also identified potential for Rothwell Aztec FC to develop its own site with grass pitch and clubhouse provision. This should be considered in line with the grass pitch improvement and clubhouse projects at Montsaye Academy.

Table 3.5: Ancillary facilities rated as standard or poor quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ancillary facility quality
2	Bishop Stopford School	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
5	Broughton Recreation Ground	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
8	Desborough Leisure Centre	Desborough & Rothwell	Standard
12	Dunkirk Avenue Recreation Ground	Desborough & Rothwell	Poor
15	Kettering Buccleuch Academy	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
19	Kettering Science Academy	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
20	Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
21	King George V Recreation Ground	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
22	Latimer Arts College	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
23	Latimer Park	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Poor
24	Loddington Playing Field	Desborough & Rothwell	Standard
25	Montsaye Academy	Desborough & Rothwell	Poor
26	North Park Pavilion	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
27	Northampton Road Recreation Ground	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Poor
32	Sergents Lawn	Desborough & Rothwell	Standard
35	The Crescent	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
37	Tresham College (Kettering Campus)	Kettering & Burton Latimer	Standard
39	Well Lane Recreation Ground	Desborough & Rothwell	Poor
40	Wilbarston Playing Field	Rural	Standard

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Further to the above, clubs using Broughton Recreation Ground report changing facilities are very dated and not adequate for all involved at the Club (in particular women and girls' teams). The Club has expressed that use at this site is likely to increase with future growth.

Although the ancillary provision at The Centre at Mawsley Pitches is of good quality, there is a need to expand provision to meet the growing needs of Mawsley Youth FC.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed⁹ and/or assessed as poor quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality.
- ◀ Ensure long term security of tenure for all clubs with lease arrangements in place by ensuring agreements have over 25 years remaining.
- ◀ As a priority, seek to obtain long term security of tenure (or formal Community Use Agreement) at The Lowther Football Centre, Montsaye Academy, Latimer Arts College, The Crescent and Bishop Stopford School for the clubs using these sites.
- ◀ Explore alternative sites to North Park Pavilion being used as a central venue for the Weetabix League, including increasing availability of 3G pitches for matches.
- ◀ Given the shared service agreement between Kettering and Corby councils, further explore cross boundary migration between the two authority areas and how demand for central venues/mini football could be better accommodated.
- ◀ As a priority, work to accommodate displaced and latent demand at sites which are not operating at capacity and have peak time availability namely, Broughton Recreation Ground, The Centre at Mawsley Pitches and Kettering Buccleuch Academy.
- ◀ Improve/increase ancillary facilities at key/hub sites (and in line with the Kettering LFFP) where there is demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer, for example, Montsaye Academy (Rothwell Aztec FC), Broughton Recreation Ground and The Centre at Mawsley Pitches (Mawsley Youth FC).
- ◀ Ensure new provision is well designed and fit for purpose to meet the needs identified through this PPS. Where on site provision can't be secured seek off-site contributions to improve pitch and / or ancillary facilities to increase pitch capacity (subject to security of tenure for clubs using those sites).
- ◀ Effective partnership working across Council departments and in association with the County Football Association, the Institute of Groundsmanship and other key stakeholders will ensure that existing and future communities will be served through the enhancement of existing and provision of new outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ In the longer term, retain spare capacity created through greater use of 3G pitches to allow for rest and rotation of grass pitches through having a stock of strategic reserve. This should also allow for more informal use of local authority pitches to be promoted linked to getting more people active and the health and wellbeing agenda.
- ◀ Carry out a review of local authority pitch hire charges linked to promoting more volunteer involvement in the management and maintenance of sites/facilities.

⁹ Please refer to Table 3.1 and Table 3.2 for a list of overplayed sites

4.2 Third Generation turf (3G) pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There are currently three full size 3G pitches in Kettering, all of which are floodlit and available for community use, located at Kettering Buccleuch Academy, Montsaye Academy and Tresham College (Kettering Campus).
- ◀ Further to this, there are four smaller size 3G pitches across two sites; Desborough Leisure Centre (one) Kettering Science Academy (three).
- ◀ A full size floodlit 3G pitch is currently under construction at Latimer Arts College; this will be completed and fully available for community access for the beginning of the 2019/2020 football season.
- ◀ Pitches at Kettering Buccleuch Academy and Tresham College (Kettering Campus) are on the FA register and can accommodate competitive football; the pitch at Montsaye Academy is not currently on the register.
- ◀ The pitches at Kettering Buccleuch Academy and Tresham College (Kettering Campus) are on the FA Register and can accommodate competitive football.
- ◀ The pitch at Montsaye Academy is not on the FA Register. It was built in 2006 and has not been resurfaced. As such, it is identified as being poor quality and is in need of re-surfacing
- ◀ There is one World Rugby Compliant 3G pitch in Kettering located at Tresham College (Kettering Campus).
- ◀ With 169 teams affiliated to Kettering during the 2018/19 season there is a need for four full size 3G pitches (Borough wide), meaning a current shortfall of one.
- ◀ When accounting for future growth, the shortfall increases to two full size pitches, both of which are required in the Kettering & Burton Analysis Area.
- ◀ When the pitch at Latimer Arts College is provided, the current shortfall will be met, whilst the future shortfall will reduce to one pitch.
- ◀ There is a need to address quality issues identified with the 3G pitch at Montsaye Academy to ensure additional pitches are not required.
- ◀ Based on new affiliation data collated by Northamptonshire County FA for the 2019/20 season there has been an increase of 35 affiliated teams (excluding further education college and Futsal teams) since the 2018/19 season.

Scenarios

Accommodating football training demand (2019/20 season)

Based on new affiliation data collated by Northamptonshire County FA for the 2019/20 there will be 204 teams (excluding further education college and Futsal teams) which require access to 3G pitches within Kettering for football training.

Table 3.6: Demand for 3G pitches (based on 38 teams per pitch) 2019/20 season

Number of teams (2019/20 season)	Current 3G pitch requirement (2019/20 season) ¹⁰	Current shortfall	Future number of teams	Future 3G pitch requirement	Future shortfall
204	5	1	237	6	2

¹⁰ Rounded to the nearest whole number

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The increase of teams between the 2018/19 and 2019/20 season is mostly associated with mini 5v5 and 7v7 teams joining the Weetabix League. Therefore, this demand will be situated in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area. As such, this analysis area is where the additional 3G pitch should be located if feasible and sustainable. When accounting for future demand by analysis area, this additional demand also translates to the need for a further pitch in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area.

Moving football match play demand to 3G pitches

Moving match play to 3G pitches is supported by the FA. In Kettering two of the existing three full sized pitches have undergone testing and are therefore FA approved to host competitive matches. That being said, there are currently no regular users of the provision for this purpose.

To further the use of 3G pitches for matches, the FA is particularly keen to work with the Council to understand the potential demand for full size floodlit 3G pitches should all competitive matches currently played on Council pitches be transferred. The following table therefore calculates the number of teams currently using council facilities in Kettering for each pitch type at peak time.

Table 3.7: Number of teams currently using council pitches

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Youth	11v11	Sunday AM	1
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	1
Mini	7v7	Sunday AM	19
Mini	5v5	Saturday AM	11
Total			23

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

Table 3.8: Full size 3G pitches required for the transfer of council pitch demand

Format	No teams per time (x)	No matches at PEAK TIME (y) = x/2	3G units per match (z)	Total units required formats (A)=(y)*(z)	3G pitches required B= (A)/64
11v11	1	0.5	32	16	0.25
9v9	1	0.5	10	5	0.07
7v7	19	9.5	8	76	1.19
5v5	11	5.5	4	22	0.34

Given that peak time is the same for youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 provision, the number of 3G pitches required needs totalling together. This equates to the demand for two full size 3G pitch (rounded up from 1.5). As the number required is less than the number of full size 3G pitches required for training, this would be feasible.

Moving all mini match play to 3G provision

The FA has an ambition to transfer 50% of mini play on to 3G pitches nationally. Thus, a programme of play has been created to determine how many 3G pitches would be required to accommodate this.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

At present there are 27 mini 5v5 teams and 35 mini 7v7 teams currently playing within the Kettering Borough. The peak time for mini 5v5 is Saturday AM, with 15 teams playing at this time. For mini 7v7, the peak time is Sunday AM, with 20 teams playing at this time.

Table 3.9: Full size 3G pitches required for transfer of all mini demand

Time	Pitch markings	Total games/teams
9.00 – 10.00	4 x 5v5	4/8
10.00 – 11.00	2 x 7v7	2/4
11:00 – 12:00	2 x 7v7	2/4
12:00 – 13:00	2 x 7v7	2/4

Based on the above programming and separate start times for 5v5 and 7v7 matches, the overall need is for two full size 3G pitches, meaning current supply could meet demand if availability was programmed efficiently. This is calculated based on 15 teams playing 5v5 football requiring two pitches (rounded up from 1.9) and 20 teams playing 7v7 football requiring two pitches (rounded up from 1.6).

Moving mini match play from North Park Pavilion to 3G provision

At present the Weetabix League is using North Park Pavilion as a central venue; however, this is significantly overplayed. Improving the quality at a site with such heavy use is challenging and may be financially burdensome. As such, playing matches on 3G pitches, could present a solution. This is explored further below.

The table below shows the number of teams accessing the mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 pitches at North Park Pavilion only.

Table 3.10: Number of Weetabix League teams accessing North Park Pavilion

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Mini	7v7	Sunday am	19
Mini	5v5	Saturday am	11
		Sunday am	11
Total			41

Based on the programming and separate start times set out earlier in Table 3.9, the overall need for 3G provision to accommodate play from North Park Pavilion remains at two full size 3G pitches. Again, this means that current supply could meet demand if availability was programmed efficiently.

Options for new 3G pitches

The Football Foundation has identified the potential to resurface the hockey suitable sand based AGP¹¹ located at Kettering Pitch & Track to a 3G pitch for football. However, this is only likely to be fully supported if access to an additional sand based AGP is secured to accommodate expressed future hockey demand. For example, though provision being provided as part of Hanwood Park.

¹¹ NB Competitive league hockey matches and training can only be played on sand filled, sand dressed or water based artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Similarly, the preferred surface for football is 3G with competitive football only taking place on 3G surfaces that have been FIFA or International Matchball Standard (IMS) tested and approved by the FA for inclusion on the FA pitch register.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

In the longer term, demand exists for provision of a full size 3G pitch to be provided at Hanwood Park and as such the feasibility of providing a 3G pitch (as part of Phase 2) should be undertaken.

Latimer Park (Kettering Town FC)

Kettering Town FC has a long term aspiration to turn the main adult pitch at Latimer Park into a 3G pitch in conjunction with developing a stadium at a new site situated next to Kettering Buccleuch Academy. The need for this should be reviewed within the lifetime of this strategy.

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

An alternative to using grass pitches for rugby matches and training is utilisation of a World Rugby (WR) compliant 3G pitch.

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

The 3G pitch at Tresham College (Kettering Campus) is WR compliant. As such, it already accommodates training demand from Kettering RFC, as well as some mini match play. At present; however, it only accommodates two mini teams on Sunday AM, equating to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week. As such, consideration could be given to better utilisation of the 3G pitch Sunday AM in order to take pressure of the grass provision at Kettering Rugby Club.

Given potential future shortfalls for rugby union pitches, there may be potential for the RFU to work in partnership with the FA so that a new 3G pitch at an alternative site is compliant for rugby usage, whilst also alleviating football shortfalls.

Recommendations

- ◀ As a priority, provide one additional 3G pitch to accommodate current training demand shortfalls. This should be provided in the Kettering and Burton Latimer Analysis Area based on location of current demand. In the longer term, a second 3G pitch should be provided to meet future needs.
- ◀ Continue to explore alternative facilities to the AGP at Pitch & Track based on discussions with England Hockey and Sport England.
- ◀ Through partnership working, explore options for resurface and other required qualitative improvements to the 3G pitch at Montsaye Academy to ensure it can continue to accommodate training demand and become eligible for FA certification to allow match play.
- ◀ Encourage providers to retain FA certification on existing 3G pitches so they remain suitable to accommodate match play.
- ◀ Explore options for transferring match play from North Park Pavilion to alternatives sites, including greater use of 3G pitches to accommodate mini play.
- ◀ Look to provide one full size 3G pitch as part of the artificial grass pitch provision to be provided at Hanwood Park. In the longer term, consider providing a second 3G pitch at Hanwood Park (if demand exists and to service the Weetabix League Central Venue).
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA (and RFU as required) recommended dimensions and quality performance standards to meet performance testing criteria.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Explore moving more mini and junior match play onto the WRC 3G pitch at Tresham College (Kettering Campus). This will increase capacity at Kettering Rugby Club to support with improving pitch quality.¹²
- ◀ Explore potential of the RFU working in partnership with the FA so that new 3G pitch provision is compliant for rugby usage. Especially with consideration to future demand.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches have community use agreements in place and where possible, link with partner clubs.
- ◀ Ensure all providers put in place a sinking fund to ensure long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Support access to 3G pitches to accommodate growth in walking football and other forms of more informal football activity.

4.3 Cricket pitches

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ In total, there are 13 grass cricket squares in Kettering located across 11 sites, with Burton Latimer Town Cricket Club and Kettering Town Cricket Club both having two squares.
- ◀ All grass cricket squares are available for community use.
- ◀ There are five non turf pitches (NTPs) in Kettering. Four of these accompany grass wicket squares located at Geddington Sports Ground, Rushton Cricket Club and Burton Latimer Town Cricket Club. The latter has an NTP adjoined to both squares. The remaining NTP is located at Southfield School and is standalone and is unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Only Desborough Town CC is identified as having unsecure tenure at its home ground.
- ◀ The non-technical assessment of available grass wicket squares in Kettering found six squares to be good quality and seven to be standard quality. No grass wicket squares are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ The audit of ancillary facilities determined that eight squares are accompanied by good quality ancillary facilities and four squares by poor quality ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Barton Seagrave, Desborough Town and Kettering Town cricket club all report a need to improve or replace their practice nets.
- ◀ A shortage of indoor cricket facilities in the area is reported. This is supported by Northamptonshire Cricket which states that amount of indoor cricket net provision is an issue in the area.
- ◀ In total, there are 67 teams playing in Kettering from 11 clubs. As a breakdown, this equates to 34 senior men's, two senior women's and 34 junior boy's teams, with no dedicated girl's junior teams in existence.
- ◀ Peak time demand for senior cricket is Saturday, whereas for junior cricket it is midweek.
- ◀ Most clubs report that team numbers have stayed consistent over the last few years for both senior and junior section. Rushton CC is the only exception to this, reporting that it lost one senior men's team this season (2019). It does; however, have plans to re-establish this team.
- ◀ Three clubs; Desborough Town, Barton Seagrave and Geddington, have seen an increase in junior players due to the All Stars Cricket programme. They envisage this will continue to grow and that junior teams will be produced as a result. Geddington CC specifies that next season (2020) it will have an additional U9s team.

¹² See rugby union section for scenarios.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Five responding clubs report plans to increase the number of teams in the future. This amounts to an increase of two senior men's, one senior women's, three junior boys' and one junior girls' team.
- ◀ Three sites; Braybrooke Cricket Club (The Castle Ground), Pytchley Cricket Club and Rushton Cricket Club, have actual spare capacity at peak time (Saturday) and have capacity to accommodate one additional senior team each.
- ◀ In total three sites are classed as being overplayed by a total of 43 matches per season.
- ◀ Due to the presence of current and future shortfalls for both senior and junior cricket, there is a clear need to alleviate overplay, particularly at those sites with higher levels of overplay.
- ◀ When taking displaced demand into account there is currently a shortfall in both the Kettering & Burton Latimer and Desborough & Rothwell analysis areas of 28 and 17 MES respectively. These shortfalls further increase when considering future demand to a total of 64 MES per season.
- ◀ When analysing junior demand (midweek), there is current overall spare capacity albeit a shortfall is present in the Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area.
- ◀ When considering future demand, the shortfall in the Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area remains the same; however, a shortfall is created in the Kettering and Burton Latimer Analysis Area of 33 MES per season. This being said, on a Borough level provision remains sufficient to accommodate demand.

Scenarios

Addressing overplay

The capacity of a cricket square to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. For good quality squares, capacity is considered to be five matches per wicket per season, whilst for a standard quality square, capacity is four matches per wicket per season.

For poor quality squares, no capacity is considered to exist as such provision is not safe for play; however, no squares in the Borough receive a poor quality rating.

Improving pitch quality

In total three sites are classed as being overplayed by a total of 43 matches per season. This can be seen in the table overleaf.

Table 3.11: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	No. of squares	Overplay (matches per season)
1	Barton Seagrave Cricket Club	1	20
13	Geddington Sports Ground	1	6
24	Loddington Playing Field	1	17
Total			43

Pitch quality does significantly impact on overplay. At the overplayed sites above, 28 match sessions of potential capacity are discounted because the sites are of standard quality and can't support additional play.

Aside from these sites, there are a further 33 sessions of potential spare capacity discounted due to pitch quality across the Borough.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The table below identifies overplayed pitches that are currently of standard quality and demonstrates the extent to which overplay can be addressed through improving pitches to good quality i.e. the difference between the 'capacity rating' columns.

Table 3.12: Overplay if all pitches were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Current quality	Standard quality capacity ¹³ (MES per season)	Actual play (MES per season)	Standard quality capacity rating (MES per season)	Good quality capacity ¹⁴ (MES per season)	Good quality capacity rating (MES per season)
1	Barton Seagrave Cricket Club	Standard	32	52	-20	40	-12
13	Geddington Sports Ground	Standard	48	54	-6	60	6
24	Loddington Playing Field	Standard	32	49	-17	40	-9

At Geddington Sports Ground, should pitch quality be improved from standard to good, this would address overplay and create six matches of spare capacity.

At both Barton Seagrave Cricket Club and Loddington Playing Field, however, improvements to pitch quality would not be enough to completely remove overplay. Even if improved to good quality, 12 match and nine equivalent sessions of overplay would remain respectively.

Accommodating demand now and in the future

As seen in the above scenario, qualitative improvements alone are not enough to see current demand accommodated on existing grass square provision. Further to the 43 match sessions of overplay per season set out above, there are an additional 24¹⁵ match sessions per season attributed to teams displaced outside of Kettering Borough contributing to the shortfalls. Below, the amount of additional provision required to accommodate all current demand (including displaced demand) is explored.

Of the three displaced adult teams, two of these; Barton Seagrave CC and Weekley & Warkton CC, would be based in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area, whilst one team; Geddington CC, would be based in the Rural Analysis Area. The table below shows the shortfalls at peak period created by considering displaced demand alongside overplay.

Table 3.13: Capacity of grass wicket squares at peak period (Saturday)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)	Demand (match sessions)				
		Overplay	Displaced demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kettering & Burton Latimer	8	20	16	28	13	41
Desborough & Rothwell	-	17	-	17	-	17
Rural	16	6	8	2	8	6
Total	24	43	24	43	21	64

¹³ Based on a standard quality square accommodating four matches per wicket per season.

¹⁴ Based on a good quality square accommodating five matches per wicket per season.

¹⁵ Based on the average number of match sessions per season (eight) for an adult team.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

In the Rural Analysis Area, current demand (including displaced demand) could potentially be accommodated if some clubs were encouraged to move off an overplayed site and onto one with spare capacity. However, in practise cricket is very club based and it is unlikely that clubs will travel to utilise spare capacity at other club sites. For example, overplay at Geddington Sports Ground (six MES per season) is unlikely to be met by either Braybrooke Cricket Club (eight MES per season) or Rushton Cricket Club (eight MES per season).

Further, in Rural Analysis Area when accounting for future demand, overall there is a shortfall expressed of six match sessions per season. However, this could be accommodated at Geddington Sports Ground if pitch quality is improved (as per Table 3.12).

In the Kettering and Burton Latimer Analysis Area, there is a current shortfall of 28 match sessions per season, of which, 16 match sessions are attributed to displaced teams. This shortfall increases to 41 match sessions when considering future demand.

The Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area doesn't have any identified displaced demand; however, it does have a current shortfall of 17 match sessions per season, as a result of overplayed squares.

Based on Table 3.13, if pitch quality remains the same, an additional six, good quality grass wickets (rounded up from 5.6) would be required in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area to accommodate current demand. The need would increase to nine grass wickets to meet future demand. A further four wickets (rounded up from 3.5), would be needed in the Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area to meet both current and future demand.

The Rural Analysis Area would require two, good quality grass wickets to accommodate future demand.

Should pitch quality be improved as shown in Table 3.12, the number of additional grass wickets required to accommodate current and future demand is reduced. This is shown in the table below.

Table 3.14: Capacity of grass wicket squares at peak period (Saturday) with qualitative improvements

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)	Demand (match sessions)				
		Overplay	Displaced demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kettering & Burton Latimer	8	12	16	20	13	33
Desborough & Rothwell	-	9	-	9	-	9
Rural	16	-	8	8	8	-
Total	24	21	24	21	21	42

The number of additional wickets required in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area at present reduces to four, increasing to seven (rounded up from 6.6) in the future. The Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area would need two additional grass wickets (rounded up from 1.8) to accommodate both current and future demand. No additional grass wickets would be needed in the Rural Analysis Area.

Therefore, qualitative improvements decrease the overall number of additional wickets required across the Borough, based on all current demand, from ten to six. Furthermore, only nine grass wickets would be needed to meet future demand compared to 15 grass wickets.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Providing additional wickets

The scenario above highlights the need for additional provision particularly across the Kettering & Burton Latimer and Desborough & Rothwell analysis areas.

With improvements to square quality, there would be a requirement for four wickets in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area. There is opportunity for such provision to be provided as part of the Hanwood Park development, with current proposals including a new cricket square (albeit the number of wickets is yet to be set out). Should the size of the allocated land allow, providing seven, good quality grass wickets could see all current demand (including displaced demand) and anticipated future demand accommodated.

The Centre at Mawsley Pitches located in the Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area currently has a standalone non turf pitch (NTP), rated as standard quality. This NTP has previously been adjoined to a grass square, which was utilised by Loddington and Mawsley CC before the Club decreased in team numbers, and decided it was not financially viable to maintain two sites at the end of last season.

Should this site be brought back into use, identified demand suggests it would be sustainable. Dependant on the level of cricket being played at the site, utilisation of the NTP which would provide 60 match sessions per season of capacity may be the best option. However, given that the square previously had grass wickets, reinstating this provision is likely feasible. This would require further exploration and support would need to be provided to clubs accessing the site to ensure sustainability.

Ancillary facilities

Four squares are accompanied by poor quality ancillary facilities as shown below.

Table 3.15: Poor quality ancillary facilities

Site ID	Site	No. of squares	Ancillary facility quality
1	Barton Seagrave Cricket Club	1	Poor
3	Braybrooke Cricket Club (The Castle Ground)	1	Poor
20	Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club	1	Poor
28	Pytchley Cricket Club	1	Poor

At Kettering Town Cricket Club, each square has its own pavilion. The pavilion for the first team square is of good quality; however, the pavilion for the second square is poor, with no access to electricity or water.

Pytchley CC is keen to explore funding options to realise its aspiration of refurbishing its pavilion and Barton Seagrave CC aspires to develop a new pavilion on its site.

Training facilities

With regards to winter training, Barton Seagrave CC states there is a shortage of indoor cricket facilities in the area. This is supported by comment from Northamptonshire Cricket stating that amount of indoor cricket net provision is an issue in the area.

Demand for indoor facilities is likely to increase in the 2019/20 season due to an indoor girl's league being established. Northamptonshire Cricket reports that it is in discussions with Southfield School about the possibility of this being held in its sports hall with provision of cricket nets. This would see a level of community use re-established at the School.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect the existing quantity of cricket provision (unless replacement provision of equal quality or better is agreed upon and provided). This includes protection from development that may prejudice the use of a cricket square such as residential development in close proximity to a cricket outfield (ball strike issues).
- ◀ Work with clubs and grounds staff to review quality issues on squares to sustain and improve quality of squares with priority given to overplayed pitches to alleviate current shortfalls. This can be supported by the Grounds and Natural Turf Improvement Programme.
- ◀ Ensure new provision is well designed and fit for purpose to meet the needs identified through this PPS. Where on site provision can't be secured seek off-site contributions to improve pitch and / or ancillary and / or training facilities to increase pitch capacity (subject to security of tenure for clubs using those sites).
- ◀ Work in partnership with ECB to support Desborough Town CC in obtaining security of tenure on its site, with a lease agreement for a minimum of 25 years.
- ◀ Alongside qualitative improvements to existing grass cricket provision look to either utilise the NTP at The Centre at Mawsley Pitches or reinstate the grass provision (minimum of two grass wickets) to eradicate current and predicted future shortfalls in the Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area.
- ◀ Provide a grass square with a minimum of four wickets at the Hanwood Park development to eradicate current shortfalls in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area.
- ◀ Seek to improve poor quality ancillary provision at sites utilised by clubs to support with club development and site sustainability.
- ◀ In line with the Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy, support investment at sites where sports halls are being refurbished or new sports halls are being developed to ensure cricket is catered for, regularly evaluate programming at sports halls to ensure there is capacity to support cricket and develop relationships between schools and clubs to ensure good access to indoor provision.

4.4 Rugby union

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There are five senior and two junior rugby pitch pitches across six sites. Three of the senior pitches are located at Kettering Rugby Club. All seven pitches are available for community use.
- ◀ The vast majority of rugby union provision is located in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area, with a total of six rugby pitches (four senior and two junior).
- ◀ All rugby union pitches at education sites are rated as poor quality.
- ◀ There are three pitches at Kettering Rugby Club, each of which, has a different quality rating. The first team pitch is assessed as good quality with the remaining two rated as standard and poor respectively. The poor quality pitch suffers from issues with drainage.
- ◀ The clubhouse at Kettering Rugby Club is rated as standard quality; however, the Club reports issues with space, particularly in the changing rooms.
- ◀ Kettering RFC have security of tenure, with 41 years remaining on its lease of Kettering Rugby Club from the Council.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Kettering RFC has a total of 19 teams. When broken down this is made up of five senior men's teams, five junior boys' teams, three junior girls' teams and six mini teams. In addition, 60 women attend training at Kettering RFC, which equates to approximately two female senior teams.
- ◀ Kettering RFC reports a decrease in senior players, having lost two men's teams over the last few years. In contrast, it reports growth in its women's and girl's participation.
- ◀ Population growth forecasts the creation of one additional junior boys' team in the future.
- ◀ Kettering RFC aspires to grow by two senior men's teams and one senior women's team.
- ◀ Kettering RFC has access to the WRC 3G pitch at Tresham College (Kettering Campus) three nights a week (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) between 19:00 and 20:30.
- ◀ No sites currently have actual (peak time) spare capacity. This mostly attributed to unsecure tenure, as well as poor pitch quality.
- ◀ Three pitches in Kettering are currently overplayed, totalling 4.75 match equivalent sessions per week. Two of these are senior pitches, located at Kettering Rugby Club and one a junior pitch at Tresham College (Kettering Campus).
- ◀ Kettering Rugby Club as a whole is currently overplayed by 4.5 MES per week. The shortfall based on predicted future demand will increase to 6.5 MES per week.
- ◀ There are a number of reasons for the identified overplay at Kettering Rugby Club including training demand and pitch quality. Furthermore, in an effort to preserve pitch quality for the first team, the first team pitch is only accommodating one match equivalent session per week.
- ◀ The minimal current and future shortfalls identified at Tresham College (Kettering Campus), of 0.25 MES per week, is a result of poor pitch quality reducing carrying capacity.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

At Kettering Rugby Club (KRC), one senior pitch is good quality (M2/D1), one is standard (M1/D1) and one is poor (M1/D0). Tresham College (Kettering Campus) has one junior pitch rated as poor quality (M0/D1).

There is current shortfall of 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week at KRC as a result of overplay on the standard and poor quality pitches. The shortfall is directly related to the quality issues and to training demand on half of each pitch. Tresham College (Kettering Campus) has a current shortfall of 0.25 match equivalent sessions. Again, this is attributed to quality issues.

Accounting for future demand, shortfalls will increase at Kettering Rugby Club to 6.5 match equivalent sessions. The shortfall at Tresham College (Kettering Campus) will remain the same.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 3.16: Summary of current and future provision of pitches

Site	Actual spare capacity ¹⁶ (match sessions)	Demand (match sessions per week)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Total current capacity	Future demand ¹⁷	Total future capacity
Kettering Rugby Club	-	4.5	-	4.5	2	6.5
Tresham College (Kettering Campus)	-	0.25	-	0.25	-	0.25
Total	-	4.75	-	4.75	2	6.75

Table 3.17 overleaf shows how capacity would change if all pitches were increased to good quality and had pipe drainage installed (M2/D2). It demonstrates that with improvements to pitch quality through increased maintenance and addressing potential drainage issues, overplay would be reduced. However, the standard and poor quality pitches at Kettering Rugby Club remain overplayed by 0.75 match equivalent sessions each. This can be attributed to training demand of 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week on each of these pitches.

With qualitative improvements, capacity at of 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week at Tresham College (Kettering Campus) would be created; however, this only translates into 0.25 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity, meaning one additional mini team could be accommodated at this site.

¹⁶ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁷ Future growth calculated through combining population growth and club growth aspirations.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 3.17: Overplay if all pitches were increased to good quality (M2/D2)

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current Quality	Current capacity (MES)	Level of capacity (MES)	Current capacity if improved to M2/D2 (MES)	Current Level of capacity if improved to M2/D2 (MES)	Spare capacity available in peak period if improved to M2/D2 (MES)
18	Kettering Rugby Club	Senior	1	Good	3	2	3.25	2.25	-
		Senior	1	Standard	2	2	3.25	0.75	-
		Senior	1	Poor	1.5	2.5	3.25	0.75	-
37	Tresham College (Kettering Campus)	Junior	1	Poor	1.5	0.25	3.25	1.5	0.25

The RFU runs a programme for improving grass pitches. Rugby Groundsmen Connected Volunteer Pitch Advisors support local rugby clubs by visiting them, meeting with their groundsman and committee members, providing them with advice about how they can improve their rugby pitch in general or in respect of a specific issues encountered. Building on this, the RFU now has a Pitch Contractor Partnership in place to signpost member clubs to reputable and competitively priced ground maintenance companies. These companies will be able to support with implementing advice and recommendations provided through the Rugby Groundsmen Connected site visit.

Spreading training demand at Kettering Rugby Club

At present, three match equivalent sessions per week at Kettering Rugby Club are attributed to training demand. This is spread across both the poor and standard quality pitches due to them both being floodlit on one half. Furthermore, the first team pitch (rated as good quality), is not utilised for training to retain its quality.

Whilst Kettering RFC does access the WRC 3G pitch at Tresham College (Kettering Campus) for a significant amount of its training, the time it has available on the pitch does not accommodate all its training demand.

Training demand taking place on only half of the pitches is impacting on the quality of the pitches overall, with one side ending up with less grass coverage through overuse. As such, providing additional floodlighting to allow for spread of training across the whole pitch could support with qualitative improvements. However, as seen in Table 3.20, improving pitch quality alone will not fully address overplay.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Utilising Tresham College (Kettering Campus) grass provision for training

Should the grass pitch at Tresham College (Kettering Campus) be improved to good quality (M2/D2), this would create 1.5 match equivalent sessions of capacity. This spare capacity could be utilised for training demand, taking pressure of the pitches at Kettering Rugby Club. This would see the College pitch used to its capacity. The remaining 1.5 match equivalent sessions of training demand on the pitches at Kettering Rugby Club could then be spread across both floodlit pitches (0.57 MES each). This would mean both pitches would be at capacity, removing overplay. This can be seen in Table 3.21. This said, with predicted future demand generating an additional two match equivalent sessions per week, should this demand be realised, a shortfall would be created.

Table 3.21: Overplay if all pitches were increased to good quality (M2/D2) and training demand was spread across both sites

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current Quality	Current capacity (MES)	Level of capacity (MES)	Current capacity if improved to M2/D2 (MES)	Current Level of capacity if improved to M2/D2 (MES)	Spare capacity available in peak period if improved to M2/D2 (MES)
18	Kettering Rugby Club	Senior	1	Good	3	2	3.25	2.25	-
		Senior	1	Standard	2	2	3.25	-	-
		Senior	1	Poor	1.5	2.5	3.25	-	-
37	Tresham College (Kettering Campus)	Junior	1	Poor	1.5	0.25	3.25	-	-

WRC 3G pitches

An alternative to using grass pitches for matches and training is utilisation of a World Rugby (WR) compliant 3G pitch.

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

The 3G pitch at Tresham College (Kettering Campus) is WRC. As such, it already accommodates training demand from Kettering RFC, as well as some mini match play. At present; however, it only accommodates two mini teams on Sunday AM, equating to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week. As such, consideration could be given to better utilisation of the 3G pitch Sunday AM in order to take pressure of the grass provision at Kettering Rugby Club.

Given potential future shortfalls for rugby union pitches, there may be potential for the RFU to work in partnership with the FA so that a new 3G pitch at an alternative site is compliant for rugby usage, whilst also alleviating football shortfalls.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Support the rugby club in its efforts to acquire its current site to secure its long term future and allow it to continue making facility investments to support its large membership.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at Kettering Rugby Club and Tresham College (Kettering Campus) to reduce overplay and increase capacity, primarily through improved maintenance and the installation of an effective drainage system where appropriate.
- ◀ Support Kettering RFC to explore funding options to carry out required renovations to its clubhouse.
- ◀ Consider providing additional floodlighting for pitches at Kettering Rugby Club to spread training demand, subsequently supporting with qualitative improvements.
- ◀ Look at spreading training demand across both Kettering Rugby Club and Tresham College (Kettering Campus) alongside qualitative improvements and additional floodlighting to remove overplay.
- ◀ Explore moving more mini and junior match play onto the WRC 3G pitch at the College. This will increase capacity at Kettering Rugby Club to support with improving pitch quality.
- ◀ Explore potential of the RFU working in partnership with the FA so that new 3G pitch provision is compliant for rugby usage. Especially with consideration to future demand.
- ◀ Utilise off site contributions from housing developments to support with improvements sites utilised by rugby clubs.

4.5 Hockey pitches (sand/water-based AGPs)

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There are currently two full size, hockey suitable AGPs in Kettering, located at Bishop Stopford School and Kettering Pitch & Track.
- ◀ Both pitches are floodlit, available for community use and situated in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area.
- ◀ The pitch at Bishop Stopford School is managed in house, with sports centre staff employed to operate the facility. The pitch located at Kettering Pitch & Track is owned by the Council and managed and operated by Parkwood/Legacy Leisure.
- ◀ The sand dressed AGP located at Kettering Pitch & Track is rated as poor quality and as such is unused for hockey. The pitch is overdue a resurface, well exceeding the recommended ten-year carpet lifespan.
- ◀ The Bishop Stopford School sand filled AGP is assessed as good quality, having been developed in 2017.
- ◀ The pitch at Kettering Pitch & Track remains available for 34 hours of the peak period (albeit it has very little use and none for hockey). Bishop Stopford School is currently available for 31 hours of the peak period.
- ◀ There is one hockey club; Kettering HC, based in Kettering providing a total of 14 teams (eight senior and six junior) playing at Bishop Stopford School.
- ◀ At present the AGP at Bishop Stopford School is operating at capacity for adult hockey and cannot accommodate more play at peak time.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ The Club also delivers satellite sessions at schools within Kettering, Wellingborough, Corby and Moulton.
- ◀ Team generation rates based on future population, applied Borough wide, forecast no additional teams to be generated by 2031.
- ◀ Kettering HC expresses future demand for one additional men's senior team for the 2019/20 season. It also aspires to expand its youth academy; however, does not quantify team numbers, instead it states it would like to have between 200 and 250 junior members.
- ◀ Quantitatively there is enough hockey suitable AGPs to accommodate both current and future demand in Kettering. However, the inaccessibility (due to poor quality) of Kettering Pitch & Track AGP creates a future shortfall.
- ◀ As part of the Hanwood Park (East Kettering) development new sand based AGP provision is currently proposed. England Hockey is carrying out further work to determine the long term sustainability of maintaining three full size sand AGPs in Kettering.

Scenarios

Protecting provision

Given that one full size sand-based AGP is required in the Borough to meet Kettering HC's current demand, it is imperative that the AGP at Bishop Stopford School is protected and quality is retained for hockey use.

Accommodating future demand

At present the AGP at Bishop Stopford School is operating at capacity for adult hockey and as such, the Club would require access to a second pitch in order to accommodate future demand. On this basis, in order to maintain enough supply to accommodate anticipated future demand (one additional adult team), there is a need to retain two AGPs in Kettering.

In its current poor state, the AGP at Pitch & Track is not considered an option for hockey use and would require significant investment to bring it up to the standard required. It is also clear that from a sustainability point of view, the provider is unlikely to fund a resurface to sand. In addition, the Football Foundation has identified the potential to resurface it to a 3G pitch.

Dependent upon the above, England Hockey and Sport England are unlikely to support a resurface unless access to an additional sand based AGP is secured to accommodate expressed future hockey demand. However, current proposals for new provision as part of Hanwood Park developments include provision of two full size sand AGPs. Dependent upon the timescales for provision of at least one of the AGPs, this could offer a solution to meet the future need for hockey.

For improvement/replacement of AGPs refer to Sport England and the NGBs 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, 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/

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure that the AGP at Bishop Stopford School is protected to ensure the continuation of hockey in the Borough.
- ◀ Support Kettering HC with its work to increase participation and grow the game across Kettering and neighbouring authorities through its satellite clubs.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Work with Kettering HC to fully determine its future requirements, particularly in terms of its aspiration to develop an Academy.
- ◀ Continue to explore alternative facilities to the AGP at Pitch & Track based on discussions with England Hockey and Sport England to service future demand.
- ◀ Further determine the long term sustainability and timescales for AGP provision at Hanwood Park to support future demand for Kettering HC.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability of any current or new AGP provision.

4.6 Bowling greens

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There are 11 flat bowling greens located across eight sites in Kettering. Two sites provide double bowling greens; Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club and Rockingham Road Pleasure Park.
- ◀ Seven bowling greens are located in the Kettering & Burton Latimer analysis area, with two greens located in Desborough & Rothwell analysis area and one in the rural analysis area.
- ◀ Of the responsive clubs, one club; Geddington & Newton BC, is considered to have security of tenure. The Club owns its ground at Geddington Sports Ground.
- ◀ The remaining four clubs rent their facilities on an annual basis from KBC. As such, these clubs are not considered to have tenure security.
- ◀ Following a non-technical assessment of greens in Kettering, six greens are assessed as good quality, one as standard quality and three as poor quality.
- ◀ All bowling greens are serviced by a clubhouse or pavilion.
- ◀ There are nine bowls clubs playing in Kettering. Across the five responsive clubs, there is a total of 256 members.
- ◀ Over the last three years two clubs; Burton Latimer Town and Geddington & Newton report a decreased in senior members. The remaining responsive clubs describe senior membership numbers being consistent.
- ◀ Four of the five responsive clubs describe aspirations to increase membership numbers.
- ◀ Using ONS projections (2017-2036), the number of persons aged 65 and over living in Kettering is likely to increase continuously from 18,445 in 2017 to 28,489 in 2036, representing an increase of 54.4%. Due to this age band being the most likely to play bowls, demand for bowling greens may increase greatly over this period.
- ◀ Overall there is sufficient bowling green provision across the Borough to accommodate both current and future club demand. There are; however, cases of individual sites operating over recommended capacity. For The Paddocks, Burton Latimer this is minimal and as such, can likely be accommodated.
- ◀ Given that Geddington Sports Ground is operating more significantly over the recommended guideline, as well as issues with green quality being identified, the focus should be on supporting Geddington & Newton BC to ensure that quality is improved and that play at the site is sustainable.
- ◀ The predicted 54% increase in individuals over the age 65 up to 2036 also needs to be taken into consideration as this could see a significant increase in demand for bowls across Kettering.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Scenarios

Sustainability

Geddington Sports Ground is currently operating over the recommended membership guidelines (of 60 members per green), with plans by the Club for membership to further increase. The green is also assessed as poor quality. Similarly, The Paddocks, Burton Latimer is also currently operating marginally over the recommended membership, with sizeable future growth planned by the Club. The green here is; however, of good quality.

Although additional membership can be accommodated on existing provision (and there is no need for new provision), the focus should be on supporting Geddington & Newton BC and Burton Latimer Town BC to improve/sustain green quality to ensure that play at the sites remain sustainable.

Recommendations

- ◀ Retain greens being accessed by clubs and for pay and play activity.
- ◀ Sustain good quality greens and explore improvements on greens assessed as standard or poor quality.
- ◀ Support clubs with plans to increase membership so that growth can be maximised.
- ◀ Seek to ensure that potential future demand expressed by clubs can be accommodated and sustained.

4.7 Tennis courts

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There are 38 outdoor tennis courts identified in Kettering across 12 sites. Of these, 29 are available for community use. The sites where the remaining nine courts are unavailable for community use are Stableyard Spa, Montseye Academy and Southfield School.
- ◀ Of the 29 courts available for community use, 17 are floodlit across six sites. There are two club sites; King George V Recreation Ground and Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club, which are not floodlit.
- ◀ Macadam is the most common playing surface for community available courts within Kettering, with 24 courts (83%) courts being this type. The remaining five courts (17%) are concrete.
- ◀ Of the courts which are available for community use, 14 are good quality (48%), 10 are standard quality (34%) and five are poor quality (18%).
- ◀ There are four tennis clubs in Kettering. Where known, this equates to 143 members (75 senior members and 68 junior members).
- ◀ Based on LTA guidelines, both Kettering TC and Geddington TC can accommodate both current and future demand.
- ◀ Kettering TC is finding it difficult to grow its membership numbers as the courts are at capacity during to peak times.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Scenarios

Growth at Kettering TC

Based on LTA guidelines, Kettering TC can accommodate both current and future demand. However, the Club is finding it difficult to grow its membership numbers as the courts are at capacity during to peak times. It does report aspirations to increase membership and better utilise off peak times; however, in order to achieve this, it requires more club coaches.

Work with the LTA to identify suitable tennis initiatives which can be delivered by the Club aimed at increasing off peak usage and thereby increasing membership.

The potential of satellite sites for accommodating high levels of peak time play could be explored. This could be considered at sites within Kettering that are not currently being accessed or are underutilised and allow for growth of the game locally.

Satellite sites

Kettering TC currently accesses the courts at Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club on occasions. The main users of this site are Kettering Spinney TC. There needs to be better understanding of their membership numbers as there could be opportunity for Kettering TC to access the courts more often. It should be noted that the courts are assessed as poor quality and do require improvement. By increasing the use at this site and improvement in quality would be more justifiable.

Current proposals at Hanwood Park include provision of two double tennis courts. These courts will also be accompanied by ancillary facilities due to being part of a wider sports development. This site could act as a potential satellite site for Kettering TC, located in the same analysis area (Kettering & Burton Latimer). Furthermore, there is potential for this site to be utilised for Park Tennis and other recreational tennis initiatives due to the courts supporting infrastructure. This will be, to some extent, dependent on whether the courts are floodlit.

Recommendations

- ◀ Seek to protect, and where possible enhance the existing stock of tennis facilities through appropriate maintenance and management support to ensure adequate provision remains for those who seek regular tennis activity,
- ◀ Review and plan ways on how access and use can be improved across all tennis facilities to enable more informal play.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place to ensure the long-term provision and sustainability of existing and / or new tennis facilities.
- ◀ Work with Kettering TC around growing its coaching workforce to allow for increased membership in order to utilise courts at off peak times.
- ◀ Review and plan approaches for Kettering TC to use satellite sites to accommodate peak time demand. Potential sites include Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club and Hanwood Park.
- ◀ Recommend floodlighting as part of the development of new courts at Hanwood Park. This will increase capacity by extending playing hours.
- ◀ Look to promote the Hanwood Park tennis courts for recreational tennis initiatives.
- ◀ As a priority, work to improve community available courts which are identified as poor quality; Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club, Wilbarston Playing Field and Ise Valley Pavilion.

4.8 Netball courts

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There are 19 outdoor netball courts in the Borough, located across five sites. Of these, 13 are available for community use. Albeit only Kettering Science Academy is currently used for community use.
- ◀ The two sites which are unavailable for community use are Southfield School nor Montsaye Academy. The latter is due to issues with court quality.
- ◀ Most netball courts (85%), are located in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area. There are just three situated in the Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area. No courts are identified in the Rural Analysis Area.
- ◀ Of the 20 netball courts in Kettering, 16 have a macadam surface. The four courts at Southfield School have a concrete surface.
- ◀ In Kettering 16 courts are overmarked with tennis markings. The only exception is at Montsaye Academy, where the netball and tennis provision are stand alone.
- ◀ In Kettering seven courts are floodlit across two sites; Bishop Stopford School and Kettering Science Academy.
- ◀ Following site assessments, most netball courts (ten) are assessed as poor quality. These courts are located at Kettering Science Academy, Montsaye Academy and Southfield School. Of the remaining ten courts, six courts are rated as standard quality and four as good quality. These are located at Kettering Buccleuch Academy and Bishop Stopford School respectively.
- ◀ There is one club; Northants Storm, playing in Kettering; however, Kettering Netball League reports that most league play and training takes place indoors.
- ◀ There are three recreational netball leagues in Kettering; Totally Netball, Power Play and Play Netball. All three of these leagues access the outdoor courts at Kettering Science Academy.
- ◀ Totally Netball identifies a need for more courts due to having reached capacity on the outdoor courts at Kettering Science Academy. Due to this, it has identified latent demand through a waiting list. It suggests a need for a further six good quality outdoor courts.
- ◀ Bishop Stopford School (which is available for community use but not used) is identified as having most potential to establish formal use given the courts (four) are floodlit and good quality.

Scenarios

Although there is enough outdoor netball provision in the Borough to meet current and future demand, not all the courts are fully accessed. Further, the courts at Kettering Science Academy, currently being accessed by recreational leagues, are poor quality and as such need improvement to ensure continued use. The Academy recognises the need to make improvements and has plans to improve the currently limited maintenance regime taking place.

Totally Netball identifies latent demand for access to more courts as demonstrated through a waiting list and as such there is a need to secure access to more provision. Given that Bishop Stopford School is available for community use and has four good quality courts which are floodlit, there is an opportunity to work in partnership to formalise a Community Use Agreement for Totally Netball to access the site. Securing long term community use at additional sites is therefore important for the growth of the sport.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ As a priority, support Kettering Science Academy to improve the quality (which may be linked to a need for increased maintenance) of its courts which are currently being accessed by recreational leagues to ensure continued use.
- ◀ Work in partnership to develop secured community use at Bishop Stopford School through a Community Use Agreement in order to accommodate latent demand from Totally Netball.
- ◀ Work with England Netball to increase participation into the sport linked to investment in key sites as identified above.
- ◀ Work with England Netball to establish walking netball sessions and support access to provision as appropriate.

4.9 Athletics provision

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There is currently one athletics tracks the Borough, located at Kettering Pitch & Track. This is full size and floodlit.
- ◀ Both track and clubhouse are rated as poor quality.
- ◀ The track is owned by the Council but managed by Parkwood/Legacy Leisure. Kettering Town Harriers AC rents the track from Parkwood/Legacy Leisure.
- ◀ Kettering Town Harriers AC has a lease agreement on part of the clubhouse (excluding changing rooms). The lease has 15 years remaining.
- ◀ Kettering has one athletics club; Kettering Town Harriers AC, which currently has 302 members and continues to grow. It has a
- ◀ The track is also available for pay and play demand for individuals to access outside of club training times.
- ◀ There is one Parkrun event operating in Kettering every Saturday, based at Wickstead Park.
- ◀ There are currently two RunTogether groups within Kettering. Kettering Couch 2 5K meets at Kettering Business Park every Sunday at 6:00pm. England Athletics also report that Kettering Town Harriers AC has a RunTogether group as part of its road running section.

Scenarios

Given that Kettering Town Harriers AC currently has a significant membership base and has further growth potential, it is believed that enhancing the Kettering Pitch and Track would improve capacity and the experience for the athletes making the track at Kettering Pitch & Track sustainable.

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect the existing full-size athletics track at Kettering Pitch & Track to ensure provision remains sufficient to accommodate current and future demand.
- ◀ Explore options to improve the quality of the track to ensure provision remains sufficient to accommodate current and future demand.
- ◀ Ensure a sinking fund is in place to ensure the long-term provision and sustainability of the existing Kettering Pitch and Track.
- ◀ Look to improve the quality of the ancillary facilities servicing the track which are currently of poor quality. Consideration should be given to offsite developer contributions.
- ◀ Look to sustain and increase the popularity of running events such as Parkrun in Kettering, as well as exploring the growth of initiatives such as RunTogether groups.
- ◀ In planning for new developments give consideration to recreational running activity by incorporating circular routes with signage and connecting running routes into routes which already exist, as well as looking to enhance existing provision.
- ◀ Further to the above, where possible, open space sites being provided within new developments should be considered as venues for Parkrun and other running events.

4.10 Golf courses

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There are three privately run golf courses located in the Borough. Both Kettering and Stoke Albany golf clubs have traditional 18-hole courses whilst Pytchley Golf Lodge is a short nine-hole course.
- ◀ All three courses are considered to be good quality, with a dedicated maintenance regime carried out at each facility.
- ◀ Kettering Golf Club and Pytchley Golf Lodge both have clubhouses with bars and function rooms available for hire. Stoke Albany Golf Club has a small bar and restaurant on site.
- ◀ All three golf clubs offer membership and pay and play opportunities. There are restrictions at Kettering Golf Club however, pay and play is unavailable for non-members on weekends and bank holidays. Pytchley Golf Lodge is predominately a play and pay facility.
- ◀ Over 38,270 people are identified as current or potential users of golf courses within Kettering. It is estimated that Pytchley Golf Lodge and Kettering Golf Club have 78,114 potential users each, followed by Stoke Albany Golf Club, with 33,428 potential users.
- ◀ Membership at Pytchley Golf Lodge and Kettering Golf Club has increased slightly since 2016. Conversely Stoke Albany Golf Club experienced a sharp decline of 69 members between 2016 and 2017. Declining membership at Stoke Albany Golf Club needs to be addressed as the Club's membership base was already below half the national average.
- ◀ The England Golf mapping tool suggests that there is a good level of demand for golf within the Borough, meaning each course should be protected together with accompanying facilities.

Scenarios

Emphasis must be placed on sites retaining their current members/users and capitalising on any untapped demand and future demand. A particular focus should be placed on Stoke Albany Golf Club, as declining membership figures may threaten the Club's long-term sustainability.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Seek to protect the existing golf courses together with accompanying facilities to meet demand for golf in the Borough.
- ◀ Sustain course quality across all active sites to facilitate current demand and future growth.
- ◀ Work in partnership with site providers and golf clubs to support the delivery of club strategies (where applicable) for membership retention and growth.

4.11 Archery

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ Kettering Archers has a field located at Kettering Sports Club, whilst Targetcraft Archers has a field at West Lodge Rural Centre.
- ◀ Both clubs are considered to have security of tenure on their respective sites.
- ◀ Kettering Archers also access Kettering Buccleuch Academy on Friday evenings for indoor shooting from October through to April.
- ◀ Kettering Archers has around 100 members and Targetcraft Archers has around 70 members.
- ◀ Both clubs have seen growth over the last few years and anticipate this growth will continue. Some of this growth is attributed to beginners' courses. Kettering Archers also hold a 'Have a Go' day, which attracts members.
- ◀ Sport England's Segmentation tool identifies there is latent demand of 489 people across Kettering who would like to participate in archery.

Scenarios

Demand for archery in the Borough is reasonably high with a total of 170 members across both clubs. However, there are adequate facilities to meet the current and future demand for archery.

Therefore, the focus should be around supporting clubs with their growth and development, whilst ensuring sustainability.

Recommendations

- ◀ Seek to protect existing archery provision in order sufficiently accommodate current and future demand.
- ◀ Work in partnership with Kettering Archers and Targetcraft Archers to support the delivery of club strategies (where applicable) for membership retention and growth.

4.12 Cycling provision

Assessment Report summary

- ◀ There are currently two small pump tracks in the Borough. One is located at Desborough Leisure Centre and one is located at Rockingham Road Pleasure Park.
- ◀ There is a Cyclo-Cross track at North Kettering Country Park. This is provided by Prologis for KCC, which hosts the events as part of the Central Cyclo-Cross League.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ There are two cycling clubs in the Borough; KCC and Olde Victoria Cyclists.
- ◀ Kettering Cycling Club (KCC) is a large club (270 members), which is continuing to grow. The Club makes up the majority of identified demand in Kettering. The remaining demand is not considered to require dedicated facilities as participants predominately utilise roads and cycle paths.
- ◀ KCC currently trains across three venues within the Borough; North Kettering Country Park, Rothwell Leisure Centre and Oxford University Press Distribution Centre. Further to this, it also accesses facilities outside of the authority for training.
- ◀ As a member of the Central Cyclo-Cross League it should hold three Cyclo-Cross events per year; however, due to the events taking place in North Kettering Country Park in conjunction with Prologis, it can only hold two races per year to reduce the impact on the site.
- ◀ Sport England's Segmentation tool identifies there is latent demand of 6,794 people across Kettering which would like to participate in cycling.
- ◀ By continuing to improve the quality and interconnections of the cycle network the Council will ensure that the future demand not requiring dedicated facilities can be met.

Scenarios

The current sites and facilities catering for cycling within the Borough are inadequate for the current and future needs of the clubs.

There is a short term need to provide access to a suitable site with ancillary provision. However, in the longer term, opportunities to provide a sustainable, dedicated Cyclo-Cross facility within the Borough should be explored as part of the need to address the shortfalls identified. Whether this is a full-size track, or a compact facility for training purposes, needs to be further explored. There may be opportunity to provide this as part of the new Hanwood Park development and early discussions between the Club and the Council have taken place.

Recommendations

- ◀ Prepare a feasibility study to investigate opportunities for a dedicated Cyclo-Cross facility within the Borough and whether a full-size track or a compact facility would be most appropriate to meet training purposes.
- ◀ Work in partnership with Kettering Cycle Club and the management of Rothwell Community Centre to secure access to toilet provision.
- ◀ Work in partnership with Kettering Cycle Club and Olde Victoria Cyclists to support the delivery of club strategies (where applicable) for membership retention and growth.
- ◀ All major development will be required to contribute to the enhancement of existing and / or the provision of new cycleways to improve the quality and interconnections of the cycle network to ensure that future demand not requiring dedicated facilities can be met.
- ◀ When planning new provision due regard will be given to both recreational and commuter cycling, incorporating circular routes where appropriate and providing signage both within and beyond the development

PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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

OBJECTIVE 1

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

Recommendations:

- a. Ensure, through the use of the Playing Pitch Strategy, that outdoor sports facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. Maximise community use of education facilities where there is a need to do so.

Recommendation (a) – Ensure, through the use of the Playing Pitch Strategy, that outdoor sports facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used outdoor sports sites require protection or replacement 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 meet the identified shortfalls. Therefore, based on the outcomes of the PPS, local planning policy should reflect this situation.

NPPF paragraph 97 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.

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The PPS can be used to inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new outdoor sports facilities and ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis taking into account site specific factors.

Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing fields. They will use the PPS to help assess planning applications in line with their Playing Fields Policy.

Policy Exception E1:

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

Where the 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.

Other than bowling greens, no disused/lapsed sites have been identified in Kettering Borough. Should any be identified in the future, they should be assessed against the findings and recommendations of the PPS to determine the need to bring the site back into use or mitigate the loss on a replacement site, for example.

It may be appropriate in the future to decommission playing pitch sites (that are of low value i.e. one/two pitch sites with no changing provision or where spare capacity is created due to football moving to play on 3G surfaces) and to redirect maintenance budgets towards creating bigger, better quality sites (hub sites). Enhanced pitch provision with better ancillary facilities could be promoted with more success to encourage a greater level of casual / informal play. This would support the getting more people more active more often strategy to health and well-being in Northamptonshire.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

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

- ◀ Montsaye Academy
- ◀ Bishop Stopford School¹⁸
- ◀ Latimer Arts College
- ◀ Tresham College (Kettering Campus)¹⁹

Not having fully formalised usage presents a risk for those clubs using these sites as community use could technically be terminated at any time. Securing community use at these sites will help create additional pitch capacity and could help to address deficiencies as demonstrated within the Football Scenarios (see page 21).

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

Further, there are some clubs playing on private sites in the Borough which are not considered to have secure tenure. For example, Desborough Town CC has a 14 year lease but it is also subject to a two year get out clause, meaning its usage is at risk. This restricts funding opportunities that can be accessed by the Club for ground improvements.

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

In the context of the Government's 2010 Spending Review, which announced significant public spending cuts, it is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations to enable them to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities. To facilitate this, where practical, the Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds, providing this is to the benefit of sport.

The Council should explore opportunities to grant clubs security of tenure through lease agreements (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs). The focus should be on clubs at poor quality local authority sites where there is opportunity to improve pitch and / or ancillary facilities. Security of tenure would encourage clubs to take more care of the site through responsible play. It would motivate them to look at ways of enhancing their facilities by using external funding mechanisms that the local authority may not be able to access. Clubs with lease arrangements already in place with other owners should review existing agreements when the term dips below 25 years.

Each club interested in leasing a site should be required to meet service and/or strategic recommendations. An additional set of criteria should also be considered, which takes into

¹⁸ The AGP on this site does have tenure security; however, other sports facilities including grass pitches do not.

¹⁹ The 3G on this site does have tenure security; however, other sports facilities including grass pitches do not.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

account club quality, aligned to its long-term development objectives and sustainability, as seen in the table below.

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

Club	Site
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubs should have NGB accreditation award. Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links Clubs are sustainable, both financially and through internal management procedures e.g. recruitment and retention policy in place for players and volunteers. Have processes in place that ensure ability to maintain sites to existing, or better standards Clubs should have identified (and received an agreement in principle) match funding required for initial capital investment identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites should be identified as 'Local Sites' (Recommendation (d)) for new clubs (i.e. not those with a City-wide significance) but that offer development potential. For established clubs which have proven success in terms of self-management 'Key Centres' are also appropriate. Sites should acquire capital investment to improve or be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site

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

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

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

Community asset transfer

Another way of ensuring long term tenure for clubs playing on Council facilities is through a Community Asset Transfer (CAT). This may be something for Kettering Borough Council to consider as a way of also maximising community benefits.

Community Asset Transfer (CAT) is the transfer of management and/or ownership of public land and buildings from its owner (usually a local authority) to a community organisation (such as a Development Trust, a Community Interest Company or a social enterprise) for less than market value – to achieve a local social, economic or environmental benefit.

Community based organisations are often much more effective at engaging people than other types of organisation because they are close to and directly accountable to their community.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Communities that come together to plan and deliver services can make them more inclusive and responsive than state run services. Communities can mobilise a lot of volunteer time and energy. Asset transfer can, for example:

- ◀ Give sports clubs and community organisations more security and sustainability
- ◀ Enable people to protect the assets in their communities – including iconic heritage buildings and open spaces
- ◀ Involve people in designing and running the services from which they benefit
- ◀ Be a catalyst for getting people more involved as volunteers
- ◀ Keep money in the local economy through enterprise and locally owned assets

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 should this be an option for the Council to consider. It can be accessed here:

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/asset-transfer/>

Recommendation (c) - Maximise community use of education facilities where there is the potential / a need to do so.

It is interesting to note that only one unavailable football pitch was identified in the Borough at Southfield School. Although there is a good level of community usage at education sites in the Borough, some schools stated during consultation that they are available for community use, however, they remain unused for community use, for example, at Kettering Buccleuch Academy. In some instances, for example, at Kettering Buccleuch Academy (Weekley Glebe Playing Fields), pitches have available spare capacity at peak times, but this has been discounted from analysis due to poor quality.

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. Pricing policies at facilities can be a barrier to access but also physical access and resistance from schools to open up provision due to staffing, site security or to protect the quality of facilities for school use. Commonly across the country, grass pitches are unused for community use due to poor quality.

The Council and NGBs should work with education sites to develop an understanding of the issues that restrict or affect community access. Support should be provided, where appropriate, to address any underlying problems.

Sport England has 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/use-our-school/>

Examples of best practice from elsewhere include Gloucester, Suffolk and Luton. Following completion of the Gloucester PPS, the Council invited all schools to a workshop to discuss community access and what benefits it can bring to both the community and the schools themselves. This improved the relationship between the schools and the Council and led to an increase in the number of schools offering community available provision and in turn reduced identified shortfalls across the City.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

In 2010, Suffolk County Council developed a pilot project with a group of schools to fulfil its health and wellbeing aims. A four stage pilot was planned, working with 12 schools. The four stages involved:

- ◀ Identifying the current state of community use on school sites by carrying out a community use audit and analysis
- ◀ Developing a support strategy and recommendations for improving the community use of school services
- ◀ Implementing improvements through a 'Community Use Support Framework'
- ◀ Dissemination of learning from the pilot area across the whole county and beyond

For more information, see <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/use-our-school/case-studies/suffolk-county-council-swiss-project/>

The first action for the Kettering PPS Steering Group should be to identify examples of best practice like Gloucester and Suffolk. These could be invited, as part of wider workshop engaging multiple stakeholders, to present an overview of their working approaches including a discussion on their successes and challenges.

OBJECTIVE 2

To **enhance** outdoor sports provision and ancillary facilities by improving quality and management of sites.

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to improve pitch quality and these are explored below. One way for improving quality on football sites is via the FA's pitch improvement programme.

The FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)

The key principles behind the service are to provide football clubs with advice/practical solutions on a number of areas and discounts on machinery and materials to support improving the clubs' playing surface. The programme should be utilised in order to help any clubs that take on the management and maintenance of sites or which are currently managing and maintaining their own pitch site.

As subsidy is removed for pitch maintenance the PIP is an essential toolkit in supporting self-management/maintenance of sites.

Addressing quality issues

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

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

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

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

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

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

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

Using the Action Plan set out in this Strategy, the Steering Group should work in partnership to prioritise investment to those sites which are identified as poor quality and use the results of the site audits to identify improvements required (supplied as an electronic file).

For improvement/replacement of AGPs refer to Sport England and the NGBs 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, 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 outdoor facility stock; it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a match limit to each (daily for hockey, weekly for football and rugby union and seasonal for cricket).

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 5.2: Capacity of pitches

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

For all remaining non-pitch sports (e.g. bowls and tennis) there are no capacity recommendations set out by the NGBs. Instead, potential capacity is evaluated on a site-by-site basis following consultation and site assessments.

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

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

For cricket, an increase in the usage of NTPs is key to alleviating overplay as this allows for the transfer of junior demand from grass wickets, this should be undertaken in situ of quality improvements to a cricket square to improve the quality which in turn will increase carrying capacity.

For rugby union, additional floodlighting can mitigate some of the overplay as it allows training demand to be spread across a greater number of pitches or unmarked areas. However, this is on the basis that there are enough pitches on a site to make this feasible. Alternatively, access to a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch will help the transfer of midweek training demand and competitive match play which in turn will reduce the pressure on grass pitches.

Increasing maintenance

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

The FA has a Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP) which has been developed in partnership with Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG) to develop a grass pitch maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots clubs with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and therefore the quality of pitches.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The key principles behind the service are to provide clubs with advice/practical solutions in a range of areas, with the simple aim of improving playing surfaces. The programme is designed to help clubs on sites that they themselves manage and maintain.

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

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

The RFU now runs a programme for improving grass pitches. Rugby Groundsmen Connected Volunteer Pitch Advisors support local rugby clubs by visiting them, meeting with their groundsman and committee members, providing them with advice about how they can improve their rugby pitch in general or in respect of a specific issue the Club has encountered. Building on this, the RFU now has a Pitch Contractor Partnership in place to signpost member clubs to reputable and competitively priced ground maintenance companies. These companies will be able to support with implementing advice and recommendations provided through the Rugby Groundsmen Connected site visit.

In relation to non-pitch sports quality also has an impact on provision to accommodate demand. For example, there are cases in Kettering where bowling greens are potentially operating close to or over the recommended membership capacity coupled with poor quality.

It often takes specialist knowledge and effort to adequately maintain a bowling green and it's not always possible to have a full-time greenkeeper. However, there are some steps which can help to improve quality including, for example, regular mowing of the green during the summer and keeping the green well-watered in dry weather, utilising an irrigation system (where possible). This regular maintenance coupled with seasonal scarifying and aeration goes a long way to improving quality.

One of the main reasons for a lack of maintenance is often a lack of access to specialist equipment. Therefore, creation of dedicated banks of maintenance equipment which can be utilised by sports clubs to assist in the improvement of provision should be explored. If set up by the Council, equipment could be hired by clubs at a reduced cost.

Improving changing provision

There is a need to address changing provision at some sites in the Borough, these are generally centred at either club or parish council managed sites.

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 5: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

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

Partners, led by the Council, should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision are directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in outdoor sports 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 Steering Group.

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

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

Further to these, there may be funding opportunities through public health in view of how sport can contribute to physical activity objectives in reducing health inequalities.

Recommendation (g) – Secure developer contributions

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

For playing pitches, the Council should use Sport England's Playing Pitch New Development Calculator as a tool for determining developer contributions linking to sites within the locality. This uses team generation rates (TGRs) from the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth. It then converts this into pitch requirements and gives the associated costs (both for providing the provision and for its life cycle).

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Where it is determined that new provision is required to accompany a development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality. To determine what supply of provision is provided, it is imperative that the PPS findings are taken into consideration and that consultation takes place with the relevant NGBs. This is due to the importance of ensuring that the stock of facilities provided is correct to avoid provision becoming unsustainable and unused, such as single grass pitch football sites without adequate ancillary facilities or new cricket/rugby grounds located away from existing clubs. Instead, multi-pitch and multi-sport sites should be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for future AGP development.

The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate playing fields and subsequent maintenance. Section 106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes of the pitches in order to increase pitch capacity to accommodate more matches.

A number of planning policy objectives could be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- ◀ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to specific planning obligations. Where developer contributions are applicable, a Section 106 Agreement or equivalent must be completed and should specify, when applied, the amount that will be linked to Sport England's Building Cost Information Service from the date of the permission and timing of the contribution/s to be made.
- ◀ Contributions should also be secured towards the first ten years of maintenance on new pitches. NGBs and Sport England can provide further and up to date information on the associated costs.
- ◀ External funding should be sought/secured to achieve maximum benefit from the investment into appropriate playing pitch facility enhancement and its subsequent maintenance.
- ◀ Where new multiple pitches are provided, appropriate changing rooms and associated car parking should be located on site.
- ◀ All new or improved outdoor sports facilities on school sites should be subject to community use agreements.

A step by step guide has been prepared for the Council to support the implementation of this recommendation and use of the Sport England's Playing Pitch New Development Calculator.

OBJECTIVE 3

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

Recommendations:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

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

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

Table 5.3: Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends

Sport	Future sports development trend	Strategy impact
Football	Demand for adult football is likely to be sustained with the FA focusing on retention. There is also likely to be some continued movement towards small sided football for adults.	Additional need for 3G pitches. Sustain current pitch stock but give consideration to pitch reconfiguration to accommodate youth 11v11 football if required. Qualitative improvements.
	Demand for mini and youth football is likely to increase based on TGRs and the FA has a key objective to deliver 50% of mini and youth football on 3G AGPs.	Sustain current stock and consideration given to reconfigure pitches if required. Qualitative improvements. Where possible utilise new 3G pitches to further accommodate this demand and ensure FA testing.
	The FA's strategy for Women's and Girls' football: 2017 – 2020 was released in March 2017. One of the major goals of the new strategy will be to double participation.	Demand for grass pitches and 3G pitches is likely to increase.
3G pitches	Demand for 3G pitches for football is high and will continue to increase as currently there is a shortfall of full size pitches. It is likely that future demand for the use of 3G pitches will increase for both training and match play purposes.	Requirement for new 3G pitches to be provided and a need for community use agreements to be in place for any new pitches as well as sinking funds. Requirement for 3G pitches to be FA/FIFA tested to host competitive matches. Utilise Sport England/NGB guidance on choosing the correct surface.
Cricket	The ECB predicts further growth in cricket demand for pitch use over the next few years.	Alongside qualitative improvements there needs to be consideration to additional grass provision in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area to accommodate current demand (including displaced demand) and anticipated future demand. This will likely be provided through the Hanwood Park development.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Sport	Future sports development trend	Strategy impact
		The Centre at Mawsley pitches will also need to be utilised to accommodate both current and future demand in the Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area.
	All Stars Cricket, the ECB national programme for 5-8 year olds, is engaging large numbers of children and has already been delivered over the past 3-4 years, with increasing numbers of participants year on year, alongside Chance to Shine cricket delivery in primary schools. Increasing numbers of those children are continuing to play cricket as they get older so junior numbers are increasing within clubs.	Greater usage of outfielders to accommodate demand from All Stars Cricket. Shorter formats of cricket, and additional formats including softball cricket, are also driving up demand for pitches.
	Women's and girls' cricket is a national ECB priority and there is a target to establish more female teams in every local authority.	Increased requirement for peak time access to pitches. Need to ensure access to good quality facilities including, segregated changing and toilet provision.
Rugby union	Locally, the RFU want to ensure access to pitches satisfies existing demand and predicted growth. It is also an aim to protect and improve pitch quality, as well as ancillary facilities.	Clubs are likely to field more teams in the future. It is important to work with the clubs to maintain the current pitch stock and support facility development. In particular, capital improvements are required to the existing natural turf pitches as is improvements to the quality of changing rooms, where appropriate. All clubs should have access to high quality floodlit pitches to support training and match play demand.
		Potential need for access to 3G World Rugby Reg 22 pitch given shortfalls identified on grass pitches and level of training demand on grass pitches.
Hockey	Current playing level is likely to increase.	Ensure continued use of at least two sand-based AGPs to accommodate current and future demand and ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability. Ensure that no 3G pitch conversions take place that are detrimental to hockey and revisit hockey demand when and if a conversion is proposed to ensure the subjected pitch is not required.
	High profile events (Hockey World Cup 2018 Legacy)	These high profile events aim to raise the profile of the game within England and there will be community events in the build-up within clubs and a promotional programme through clubs and local schools. This will inevitably raise the profile of the game with the aim to increase participation.
	New England Hockey initiative, Hockey Heroes (aimed at growing participation for under 10s).	Ensure off peak availability to accommodate additional growth.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Sport	Future sports development trend	Strategy impact
Bowls	<p>Potential of increases in membership at four clubs.</p> <p>Using ONS projections (2017-2036), the number of persons aged 65 and over living in Kettering is likely to increase continuously from 18,445 in 2017 to 28,489 in 2036, representing an increase of 54.4%. Due to this age band being the most likely to play bowls, demand for bowling greens may increase greatly over this period.</p>	<p>Likely that any future increase could be accommodated on existing greens.</p>
Tennis	<p>The LTA has a key priority for the strategic development and growth of tennis at both a club and wider community level such as local parks.</p>	<p>Increases in participation can be accommodated by current supply; however, qualitative improvements are required. Floodlighting at some sites would also be beneficial.</p>
Netball	<p>Membership of clubs is expected to increase. Recreational leagues in Kettering are popular and report latent demand.</p>	<p>Likely that any future increase could be accommodated on existing courts; however, qualitative improvements are required.</p>
Athletics	<p>Kettering Town Harriers AC plans to increase membership from its current 302 members.</p> <p>Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool enables an analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in athletics within Kettering but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies demand of 1,983 people.</p>	<p>Need to protect the existing track at Kettering Pitch & Track. There is also a need to improve quality to ensure sufficient provision remains to accommodate current and future demand.</p> <p>Recreational running should be encouraged through support for Parkrun and running groups. Additionally, in planning for new developments consideration should be given to recreational running activity through incorporating circular routes with signage and connecting running routes into routes which already exists, as well as looking to enhance existing provision.</p>
Golf	<p>The England Golf mapping tool suggests that there is a good level of demand for golf within Kettering. This said, Stoke Albany Golf Club has declining membership figures that may threaten the Club's long-term sustainability.</p>	<p>Both current and future demand likely to be able to be accommodated on existing provision as long as quality is sustained.</p> <p>A particular focus should be placed on supporting Stoke Albany Golf Club, as declining membership figures may threaten the Club's long-term sustainability.</p>
Cycling	<p>Kettering Cycling Club is likely to continue to grow. The Club currently has 270 members and makes up most of the identified demand in Kettering.</p>	<p>Demand requires purpose-built provision. Therefore, delivering a sustainable, dedicated Cyclo-Cross facility within the Borough needs to be further explored.</p> <p>Recreational cycling should be encouraged. In planning for new developments consideration should be given to recreational incorporating circular routes with signage and connecting cycling routes into routes which already exists, as well as looking to enhance existing provision.</p>
Archery	<p>Current participation level is likely to increase based on active recruitment from clubs.</p>	<p>Likely that any future increase in participation could be accommodated on existing facilities.</p>

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

PART 6: ACTION PLAN

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

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

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

Table 6.1: Proposed tiered site criteria

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Management and development

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

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Partners

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

Priority

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

Most Key sites are a **medium** priority, have analysis area importance and have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment. The **low** priority sites tend to be Local sites which are single pitch or single sport sites with local specific importance but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment for specific users.

Costs

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

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

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

Timescales

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

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

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

Aim

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

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

KETTERING & BURTON LATIMER ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Barton Seagrave Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	One grass cricket square with eight wickets, rated as standard quality. The square is currently overplayed by 20 MES per season. Ancillary provision on site is rated as poor quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to increase capacity and reduce overplay. Should club generate necessary funds or the opportunity for offsite developer contributions arise, look to improve/replace ancillary facilities.	KBC ECB Club	Local	H	S	H	Protect Enhance
2	Bishop Stopford School	Football	School	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch, both rated as standard quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch is at capacity. No security of tenure on pitches. Ancillary provision within school building is rated as standard quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to increase capacity and reduce overplay. Look to put a Community Use Agreement in place to ensure secured use for community clubs accessing the site (Weekley Rovers FC at present).	KBC FA FF School	Key	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby		One senior pitch rated as poor quality (M0/D1). Pitch available for community use but not used. Ancillary provision within school building is rated as standard quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime for curricular and extra-curricular activity.	KBC RFU School		L	L	L	
		AGP		One good quality sand filled AGP. Pitch developed in 2017. Pitch used by Kettering HC and a Community Use Agreement is in place for the pitch.	Retain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for carpet replacement when required.	KBC EH School		H	L	L	
		Tennis		Six, good quality macadam courts with floodlighting. Four are overmarked with netball. Courts are available for community use but not currently accessed by a club.	Retain court quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extracurricular use.	KBC LTA School		L	L	L	
		Netball		Four, good quality macadam courts with floodlighting. Courts are overmarked with tennis. Courts are available for community use but not currently accessed.	Retain court quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extracurricular use. Consider as a potential site for recreational leagues or club use due to floodlighting and court quality. Should such use be realised, a Community Use Agreement should be put in place to ensure continued use.	KBC EN School		L	L	L	
5	Broughton Recreation Ground	Football	Playing Field Association	Two adult pitches and one youth 9v9 pitch all rated as standard quality. The adult pitches have one MES of actual spare capacity, as does the youth 9v9 pitch. Kettering FC; however, as part of the LFFP consultation reports usage has now increased at this site. Site used for girls' football. Ancillary facilities on site are of standard quality. However, Kettering FC feel not adequate for the amount of use and for women and girls. Further to this, parking space is limited.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to create capacity at peak period and support with reducing shortfalls. Look to improve quality of ancillary provision on site to better meet demand, including women and girls' participation. In order to do so look to support the Club and Sports Association in generating necessary funds or explore the opportunity for offsite developer contributions.	KBC FA FF Playing Filed Association	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
6	Burton Latimer Town Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	Two good quality squares with adjoining NTPs on both. Smaller square has seven grass wickets, whilst the larger square has 12 wickets. Ancillary facilities on site are of good quality.	Sustain square quality through current maintenance regime.	KBC ECB Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
14	Ise-Lodge Youth Football Club, Kettering	Football	Residents Association	One good quality adult pitch, two youth 11v11 pitches and one youth 9v9 pitch, all rated as good quality. Ancillary provision on site is of good quality.	Retain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC FA FF Residents Association	Local	L	L	L	Protect
15	Kettering Buccleuch Academy	Football	School	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch. Pitch is available for community use but not currently accessed. Community use on site would be secure due to Community Use Agreement. One MES of actual spare capacity per week exists on this pitch. Ancillary provision rated as standard quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime for curricular and extra-curricular activity.	KBC FA FF School	Key	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		One full size, standard quality 3G pitch, with accompanying ancillary provision rated as standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for carpet replacement when required. Explore options of pitch being utilised for football match play, in particular mini play.	KBC FA FF School		H	S	L	
		Rugby		One senior pitch rated as poor quality (M0/D1). Pitch available for community use but not used. Community use on site would be secure due to Community Use Agreement. Ancillary provision rated as standard quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime for curricular and extra-curricular activity.	KBC RFU School		L	M	L	
		Tennis		Eight standard quality macadam courts without floodlighting. Six are overmarked with netball. Courts are available for community used but are currently unused. Ancillary provision rated as standard quality.	Improve court quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extra curricular use.	KBC LTA School		L	L	L	
		Netball		Six standard quality macadam courts without floodlighting. Courts are available for community used but are currently unused. Ancillary provision rated as standard quality.	Improve court quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extra curricular use. Consider as a potential site for recreational leagues or club use as alternative to Bishop Stopford School. Qualitative improvements and floodlighting would; however, be required.	KBC LTA School		L	L	L	
16	Kettering Buccleuch Academy (Weekley Glebe Playing Fields)	Football	School	Three adult, five youth 11v11 and three youth 9v9 pitches all rated as poor quality. This site is heavily used for football. A total of two MES of capacity at peak period are discounted as a result of quality. Ancillary provision is rated as good quality; however, car parking is limited. The site is a Council owned site but is managed by the School. The Council do; however, still maintain the site.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to create capacity at peak period and reduce shortfalls. Explore potential future uses to maximise use once quality is improved.	KBC FA FF School	Key	H	S	L	Protect Enhance

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
17	Kettering Pitch and Track	AGP	Leisure Operator	One poor quality sand dressed AGP which is unused for hockey for this reason. Pitch is now closed for use due to health and safety reasons.	In partnership with NGBs, explore options to resurface in order to improve quality. If resurfaced as a 3G pitch, ensure that future hockey demand can be accommodated elsewhere (potentially Hanwood Park development). Alongside a resurface, improvements to accompanying ancillary facilities are required.	KBC EH, FF Leisure Operator	Key	H	M	H	Protect Enhance
		Athletics		One poor quality, full size athletics track. Athletics track is floodlit and provides for both track and field events. Accompanying ancillary provision is also of poor quality.	Explore options to improve the quality of the track to ensure provision remains sufficient to accommodate current and future demand. With any future resurface, ensure a sinking fund is in place to allow for future replacements. Should opportunity for offsite developer contributions arise, look to improve ancillary facilities.	KBC EA Leisure Operator		M	M	H	
18	Kettering Rugby Club	Rugby	Club	One good quality (M2/D1), one standard quality (M1/D1) and one poor quality (M1/D0) pitch. Both the poor and standard quality pitches have floodlighting on one half. Ancillary facilities on site are rated as standard quality; however, space is reported to be an issue by the club.	Support the rugby club in its efforts to acquire its current site to secure its long term future and allow it to continue making facility investments. Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to increase capacity. Look to provide floodlighting on other halves of both the poor and standard quality pitch to distribute training demand and support with qualitative improvements. Should club generate necessary funds or the opportunity for offsite developer contributions arise, look to improve ancillary facilities.	KBC RFU Club		H	S-M	M	Protect Enhance
19	Kettering Science Academy	Football	Commercial Operator	Two adult and one youth 9v9 pitch, all rated as poor quality. The youth pitch is currently overplayed by 2.5 MES per week, whilst the adult is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Community use on site is secure due to Community Use Agreement. Ancillary facilities are rated as standard quality.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to increase capacity and reduce overplay.	KBC FA FF School Commercial Operator	Key	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		Three small sided 3G pitches rated as standard quality. Well used. Ancillary facilities are rated as standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for carpet replacement when required.	KBC FA, FF School Commercial Operator		M	S	L	
		Netball		Three, poor quality macadam courts with floodlighting. Courts are currently accessed by a recreational netball league. Community use on site is secure due to Community Use Agreement. Ancillary facilities are rated as standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC EN School Commercial Operator		S	S	L	

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
20	Kettering Town Cricket and Sports Club	Football	Sports Association	One poor quality adult pitch, which is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Ancillary facilities are rated as good quality. These are the facilities accompanying the larger cricket square on site.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to reduce overplay.	KBC FA FF Sports Association	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Two good quality squares. The smaller square has five wickets, whilst the larger square has 15. The latter is accompanied by good quality pavilion; however, the smaller square is accompanied by poor quality pavilion. The square with five wickets is currently at capacity.	Retain pitch quality through continued maintenance regimes.	KBC ECB Sports Association		L	L	L	
		Tennis		Two poor quality concrete courts neither of which are floodlit. Courts are accessed by Kettering Spinney TC and occasionally by Kettering TC.	Look to improve court quality. If this can't be achieved through increased maintenance, resurface should be considered. Providing floodlights should also be considered to allow for longer playing hours and subsequently increased capacity. This said, given that the Club was unresponsive to consultation, further exploration is required to establish a need for this. Explore potential of Kettering TC accessing this site more to support with accommodating its peak time demand.	KBC LTA Sports Association		M	M	M	
		Bowls		Two poor quality bowling greens which are disused.	No demand for these greens has been identified through the PPS; however, due to not all bowling clubs being responsive, further investigation is required. Should no demand be identified following this, alternative sport or recreational opportunities could be explored.	KBC Bowls England		L	L	L	
21	King George V Recreation Ground, Burton Latimer	Football	Council	Two adult pitches rated as poor quality. Potential spare capacity at peak period at this site is discounted due to pitch quality. Ancillary facilities are rated as standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes so that spare capacity at peak period can be utilised.	KBC FA FF School	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Community Association	Two standard quality macadam courts without floodlighting. Site currently accessed by Burton Latimer Lawn TC. Ancillary facilities are rated as standard quality.	Improve court quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Club unresponsive to consultation. Explore demand at this site further to establish whether floodlighting is required to increase capacity through additional playing hours.		KBC LTA Community Association	M	M	
22	Latimer Arts College	Football	School	Two adult pitches and one youth 9v9 pitch, all rated as standard quality. The Youth pitch is overplayed by one MES per week. Tenure at this site is not secure. Ancillary facilities are rated as standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Look to put a Community Use Agreement in place to ensure secured use for community clubs accessing the site (Barton FC).	KBC FA FF School	Key	H	S	L	Protect Enhance

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
		3G		A new full size 3G pitch is now open and available for bookings.	Ensure pitch is maximised for football match play, in particular mini play. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for carpet replacement in the future.	KBC FA, FF School		H	L	L	
23	Latimer Park, Burton Latimer	Football	Club	Two adult pitches and one youth 9v9 pitch, all rated as standard quality. The adult pitches are currently overplayed by one MES per week; however, the 9v9 has spare capacity of one MES per week at peak period. Ancillary facilities are rated as poor quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to reduce overplay on adult pitches and create capacity at peak period on youth 9v9 provision. Consider reconfiguration of youth 9v9 pitch to youth 11v11 due to youth 11v11 teams at the site playing on adult provision. Should club generate necessary funds or look to improve ancillary facilities. Club has a long term aspiration to turn main pitch at this site into a 3G FTP in conjunction with developing a stadia pitch at a new site next to Kettering Buccleuch Academy.	KBC FA FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
26	North Park Pavilion, Kettering	Football	Council	Four mini 5v5 and four mini 7v7 pitches, all rated as poor quality. Mini 5v5 pitches are overplayed by 5.5 MES per week, whilst the mini 7v7 pitches are overplayed by 11 MES per week. High levels of overplay are a result of this site acting as a central venue for the Weetabix League. Ancillary provision is rated as standard quality. Parking is limited.	Need to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. A PIP has already been undertaken at this site; however, dual use nature of this site in terms of recreation is likely to make significant improvements challenging. As such, moving at least some demand onto 3G provision and/or alternative sites should be explored. Some section 106 monies were provided for maintenance equipment to support qualitative improvements across a number of Council sites, including North Park Pavilion. This may help with small improvements in the short term.	KBC FA FF Weetabix League	Hub	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts, both of which are floodlit.	Retain courts quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Encourage recreational use and initiatives such as Park Tennis at this site due to quality, infrastructure and floodlighting lending itself as a venue for such activity.			KBC LTA	L	L	
27	Northampton Road Recreation Ground	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch rated as poor quality. This pitch is currently not used; however, spare capacity is discounted due to quality. Ancillary provision on this site is also rated as poor quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes is demand is established. There is potential for this site to accommodate expressed latent demand for youth 11v11 teams in the Kettering & Burton Latimer Analysis Area. Should no demand be established, ensure space be retained for recreational purposes.	KBC FA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
28	Pytchley Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	One standard quality square with six wickets. Spare capacity exists on this site for one additional senior team at peak period. Ancillary provision on site is rated as poor quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Should club generate necessary funds or the opportunity for offsite developer contributions arise, look to improve ancillary facilities.	KBC ECB Club	Local	L	M	M	Protect Enhance
33	Southfield School	Football	School	One poor quality adult pitch which is unavailable for community use. This site; however, has previously been available to community clubs.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extracurricular activity.	KBC FA, FF School	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One poor quality NTP which is unavailable for community use.	Look to improve NTP quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extracurricular activity.	KBC ECB School		L	L	L	
		Tennis		Four poor quality, concrete courts without floodlighting. These courts are overmarked with netball. Not available for community use.	Look at opportunities to resurface courts for curricular and extracurricular use.	KBC LTA School		L	L	M	
		Netball		Four poor quality, concrete courts without floodlighting. These courts are overmarked with tennis. Not available for community use.	Look at opportunities to resurface courts for curricular and extracurricular use.	KBC LTA School		L	L	M	
35	The Crescent Community Centre, Kettering	Football	Community Association	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitches that is unused. Weekley Rovers FC reports that this is due to quality issues; however, if improved would want to use again. Accompanying ancillary facilities are rated as standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes should users for site be established. This could help with shortfalls in youth 9v9 provision in this analysis area.	KBC FA FF Community Association	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
36	The Lowther Football Centre (Kettering FC)	Football	Club/Scouts	One youth 9v9 and two adult pitches. Youth 9v9 pitches are of poor quality. Adult pitches are rated as standard quality. Youth pitch has 0.5 MES of capacity at peak period discounted due to tenure and quality issues. No security of tenure for Kettering FC on site due to six month get out clause being in place for landowner. Ancillary provision on site is rated as good quality. Club provided update as part of the LFFP consultation. It reports that rent on the site has increased, making things financially challenging. Furthermore, the club has grown. It is now having to access Broughton Recreation Ground for more matches. It has concerns around tenure security and is exploring options locally for its own site to develop.	Support Kettering FC with obtaining security of tenure. If this is realised, look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to create capacity at peak period.	KBC FA FF Club Scouts	Hub	H	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cycling	Prologis	One Cyclo-Cross track in the country park area of this site, which is accessed by Kettering Cycling Club.	Retain the Cyclo-Cross track to a good enough quality for Club to hold league meets. However, there is a need to explore other site options.	KBC British Cycling Prologis		H	M	M	

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
37	Tresham College (Kettering Campus)	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality. The pitch is overmarked with rugby. The grass provision at this site does not have tenure security for community clubs. As a result, 0.5 MES at peak period are discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extracurricular activity. Look to establish security of tenure through a Community Use Agreement on the grass provision. This will create capacity at peak period and support with reducing shortfalls.	KBC FA FF School	Key	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby		One poor quality junior pitch (M0/D1), which is overplayed by 0.25 MES per week. Site accessed by Kettering RFC. The grass provision at this site does not have tenure security for community clubs.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to increase carrying capacity and reduced overplay. Look to establish security of tenure through a Community Use Agreement on the grass provision. Explore opportunity of some training demand from Kettering RFC moving to this site to support with qualitative improvements at Kettering Rugby Club and remove overplay.	KBC RFU School		H	S	L	
		3G		One full size, WRC 3G pitch. This pitch is of good quality and was resurfaced in 2017.	Retain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for carpet replacement when required. Explore options of pitch being utilised for football match play, in particular mini play Saturday AM, when the pitch is not being accessed for rugby. Explore potential of more mini play from Kettering RFC moving onto 3G to reduce overplay on grass provision.	KBC FA FF RFU School		H	S	L	
38	Weekley And Warkton Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	One grass cricket square with 12 wickets. The pitch is rated as standard quality. Accompanying ancillary facilities are rated as good quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.		Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
41	Ise Valley Pavilion	Bowls	Council	One green of standard quality and one green of poor quality. This site is accessed by Ise BC. Greens accompanied by a pavilion rated as standard quality.	Look to improve green quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. This said, further investigation is required as to whether two greens are required to accommodate club demand. Should two greens not be needed, alternative sport or recreational uses could be explored.	KBC Bowls England	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		One poor quality concrete tennis court with floodlighting.	Look to improve court quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. If demand is proven to exist for the courts, consider resurface. Alternatively, court could be repurposed for other recreational use.	KBC LTA		L	L	L	
42	Rockingham Road Pleasure Park	Bowls	Council	Two greens rated as good quality. This site is accessed by Kettering Park BC.	Retain green quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
				One pump track rated as good quality as part of the Open Space assessment.	Retain pump track quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC British Cycling		L	L	L	

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
43	The Paddocks, Burton Latimer	Bowls	Council	One green rated as good quality. This site is accessed by Burton Latimer Town BC.	Retain green quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
48	Kettering Lodge Bowling Green	Bowls	Council	One green rated as good quality. This site is accessed by Kettering Lodge BC.	Retain green quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
49	Kettering Golf Club	Golf	Club	Kettering Golf Club offers a par 69, 18-hole, parkland golf course. The course is rated as good quality.	Retain course quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC England Golf Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
52	Northampton Road Pavilion	Tennis	Club	Four good quality macadam courts which are floodlit. Kettering TC are based at this site. Ancillary provision on site is poor, with the club only having access to toilet on the site.	Retain court quality through appropriate maintenance regime. Explore options of satellite sites to accommodate the high demand and peak times for Kettering TC. Should club generate necessary funds or the opportunity for offsite developer contributions arise, look to improve ancillary facilities.	KBC LTA Club	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

DESBOROUGH & ROTHWELL ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
8	Desborough Leisure Centre	Football	Leisure Operator	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, both rated as poor quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Ancillary provision on site is rated as standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to remove overplay.	KBC FA FF Leisure Operator	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		One small sided 3G FTP rated as good quality.	Retain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for carpet replacement when required.			H	L	L	
		Cycling		One pump track rated as good quality as part of the Open Space assessment.	Retain pump track quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.			L	L	L	
11	Desborough Town F.C.	Football	Club	One standard quality adult pitch with one MES of spare capacity at peak period.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC FA FF Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
12	Dunkirk Avenue Recreation Ground	Football	Council	One adult pitch rated as poor quality. Currently unused; however, spare capacity discounted due to pitch quality. Ancillary provision on site is rated as standard quality.	Explore options of site accommodating demand. If demand for site established, look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Should no demand be established, ensure space be retained for recreational purposes.	KBC FA FF Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Bowls		One good quality bowling green. Quality of pavilion is poor quality.	It is presumed that Desborough BC are accessing this site however, due to not all bowling clubs being responsive, further investigation is required regarding demand. If green is in use, retain quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Should no demand be identified, alternative sport or recreational opportunities could be explored.			L	L	L	
24	Loddington Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch currently at capacity. Ancillary provision rated as standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC FA FF Parish Council	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standard quality square with eight wickets. Square is currently overplayed by 17 MES per season.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to reduce overplay. Consider transfer of some play onto The Centre at Mawsley Pitches in order to remove overplay on this site.			H	S	L	

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
25	Montsaye Academy	Football	School	Two adult and two youth 9v9 pitches all rated as standard quality. Spare capacity of one MES at peak period discounted on adult pitches due to lack of tenure security. Ancillary facilities accessed by Rothwell Aztec FC are poor quality.	Look to secure use on site for Rothwell Aztec FC through a Community Use Agreement. Should and agreement be established, look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to increase capacity. Further to the above, should club generate necessary funds or the opportunity for offsite developer contributions arise, look to improve ancillary facilities accessed by the Club. Identified potential for Rothwell Aztec FC to develop its own site with grass pitch and clubhouse provision. This should be considered in line with the grass pitch improvement and clubhouse projects at Montsaye Academy.	KBC FA FF School	Key	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
		3G		One poor quality full size 3G pitch, developed in 2006. Pitch accommodates training demand but is not suitable for match play.	Explore options for resurface and other required qualitative improvements to ensure pitch remains in use and training demand shortfalls are not increased. Should qualitative improvements take place, explore options of pitch being utilised for match play.	KBC FA FF School		H	S	H	
		Rugby		One poor quality senior rugby pitch (M0/D1). Pitch is not currently accessed by community teams and tenure is unsecure. However, the school does run the All Schools Programme and is about to start focus on girls' participation.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extracurricular activity, as well as the All Schools Programme.	KBC RFU School		M	S	L	
		Tennis		Four poor quality, macadam tennis courts without floodlighting. Courts are not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extracurricular activity.	KBC LTA School		L	L	L	
		Netball		Four poor quality, macadam tennis courts without floodlighting. Courts are not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes for curricular and extracurricular activity.	KBC EN School		L	L	L	
30	Rothwell Town Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	One standard quality square with 12 wickets. Ancillary provision accompanying the pitch is of standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC ECB Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
32	Sergeants Lawn, Rothwell	Football	Club	One standard quality adult pitch, which is overplayed by 3.5 MES per week. Ancillary facilities are of standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to reduce overplay. This alone; however, is not enough to remove all overplay. Therefore, exploring options for transferring play to alternative sites which are not overplay is required.	KBC FA FF Club	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
34	The Centre at Mawsley Pitches	Football	Club	One adult, one mini 7v7 and two youth 9v9 pitches all rated as standard quality. Adult pitches have 0.5 MES per week of spare capacity at peak period. The mini pitch has one MES of spare capacity at peak period per week. In contrast, the youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by two MES per week. Ancillary facilities on site are of good quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to remove overplay on youth 9v9 pitches. Also explore options of extending ancillary provision to accommodate the Club, which has grown significantly between the 2018/19 and 2019/20 seasons. This; however, should be considered in line with potential of a new site being developed for the Club should an opportunity arise.	KBC FA FF Club	Key	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		One standard quality NTP which is not currently accessed. However, was accessed up until the 2018 season.	Look to either utilise the NTP or reinstate the grass provision (minimum of two grass wickets) to eradicate current and predicted future shortfalls in the Desborough & Rothwell Analysis Area. This will be dependent on the level of cricket played at the site.	KBC ECB Club					
39	Well Lane Recreation Ground, Rothwell	Football		One adult pitch rated as poor quality. Currently unused; however, spare capacity discounted due to pitch quality. Ancillary provision on site is rated as standard quality.	Explore options of site accommodating demand. If demand for site established, look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. Section 106 monies exists for grass pitch improvements and changing provision at this site; however, before any investment into these site takes place, need to ensure demand makes it sustainable. Should no demand be established, ensure space be retained for recreational purposes.	KBC FA FF Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
47	Manor Park, Rothwell	Bowls	Council	One green rated as good quality. This site is accessed by Rothwell Manor Park BC. Ancillary provision is rated as standard quality.	Retain green quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

RURAL ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
3	Braybrooke Cricket Club (The Castle Ground)	Cricket	Club	One standard quality square with five wickets. Ancillary provision on site is of poor quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC ECB Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
10	Desborough Town Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	One good quality square with 17 wickets. Ancillary provision on site is of good quality.	Retain pitch quality through continued maintenance regimes.	KBC ECB Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
13	Geddington Sports Ground	Cricket	Club	One standard quality square with 12 wickets. The square also has one NTP rated as standard quality. Ancillary facilities are of good quality.	Look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes to remove overplay.	KBC ECB Club	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
31	Rushton Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	One good quality square with 17 wickets. There square also has a good quality NTP. Ancillary provision on site is of good quality.	Retain pitch and NTP quality through continued maintenance regimes.	KBC ECB Club	Local	L	L	L	Protect
40	Wilbarston Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch which is currently unused. However, spare capacity at peak period is discounted due to quality. Ancillary facilities are of standard quality.	Explore options of site accommodating demand. If demand for site established, look to improve pitch quality through appropriate maintenance regimes.	KBC FA FF Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Two poor quality, concrete tennis courts without floodlighting.	Look to improve court quality through appropriate maintenance regimes. If demand is proven to exist for the courts, consider resurface. Alternatively, court could be repurposed for other recreational use.			KBC LTA Parish Council	L	L	
46	Stableyard Spa	Tennis	Private	One good quality macadam court with floodlights. Court is unavailable for community use.	Retain court quality through continued maintenance regimes.	KBC LTA Private owner	Local	L	L	L	Protect

PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The PPS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2033 (in line with the Plan period). This future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required. The Sport England New Development Playing Pitch Calculator (NDC) adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converts the demand into MES and the number of pitches required. This is achieved via team generation rates (TGRs) in the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth and gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision.

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

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

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

The indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.3 per dwelling and are accumulative housing figures from 2019 to 2031 (12 years) using per annum figures. The indicative figures will be applied to three exclusive scenarios as follows:

- ◀ **Hanwood Park: 5,500 forecasted dwellings**
- ◀ **Rothwell North: 700 forecasted dwellings**

Please note that the scenarios can be updated as required over the Local Plan period throughout the lifespan of the PPS to reflect population projections and projections, changes in the housing requirement and change in the average household size.

The number of pitches required in the following tables has been rounded up or down accordingly, however, capital and revenue costs are based on indicative pitch costs, proportionate to the total MES required rather than just whole pitches required. Though increases in match sessions for some sports are not sufficient to warrant the creation of new pitches, the associated costs have been incorporated and investment into alternative sites could instead be considered to increase capacity to accommodate this new demand.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Hanwood Park

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2019-2033 is 12,620 (based on 5,500 dwellings being delivered). This population increase equates to 11.39 MES of demand per week for grass pitch sports 1.21 MES of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 78.46 MES of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 20.98 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 3.15 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.99 MES per week of training for rugby union on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from housing growth (2019 – 2031)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport (2031)	
	Match demand (MES) per week ²⁰	Training demand ²¹
Adult football	1.43	20.98
Youth football	4.84	
Mini soccer	4.22	
Rugby union	0.90	0.99
Adult hockey	0.84 ²²	2.51
Junior & mixed hockey	0.37	0.64
Cricket	78.46	-

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

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision (2019 – 2031)

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ²³	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²⁴
Adult football	1.43	£159,901	£33,739
Youth football	4.84	£406,704	£85,408
Mini soccer	4.22	£118,188	£24,819
Rugby union	0.90	£141,130	£30,202
Cricket	1.72	£568,393	£114,815
Sand based AGPs	0.22	£199,243	£6,177
3G	0.55	£612,197	£20,224

Further to the above, the NDC also estimates that there will be a need to provide 15 changing rooms to support new pitch provision. The total capital cost to deliver this level of provision is £2,921,692.

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

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

²² All hockey figures based on a 50% increase in teams. This is due to England Hockey having identified Kettering HC as a key Club, with significant growth anticipated.

²³ Sport England Facilities Second Quarter 2019 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Based on calculations from the NDC, the total Hanwood Park development generates a need for an additional 10.5 grass football pitches (of varying configurations) and half of a 3G pitch. However, given the trend and ambition to increase use of 3G pitches for matches and training, it is recommended that providing one full size 3G pitch, alongside, say two adult grass pitch equivalents, is a more feasible and sustainable onsite option. The configuration of grass pitches should be determined based on users of the site. For example, if the Weetabix League were to access the site, mini pitches would need to be provided.

Current proposals for the site include provision of two full size sand based AGPs. However, the NDC alone does not show enough demand generated to sustain one full size sand based AGP. However, given current proposals for the sand dressed AGP at Kettering Pitch & Track to be converted to a 3G surface (or rather not be upgraded to a suitable hockey surface), it is recommended that AGP provision at Hanwood Park should be provided to accommodate future demand from Kettering HC. England Hockey is carrying out further work to determine the long term sustainability of maintaining three full size sand AGPs in Kettering.

With regards to other grass pitch provision, rugby clubs have a preference of play taking place on club sites. Therefore, it is likely that any demand generated through housing growth will take place at existing sites; Kettering Rugby Club and Tresham College (Kettering Campus). Therefore, contributions towards rugby provision should be made off site and help to increase the capacity of existing sites in terms of quality/quantity improvements.

Further to this, there is a need for at least one cricket pitch (1.72) to service Hanwood Park. Demand generated (78 MES) equates to the need for a 15 grass wicket square. However, to better accommodate the likely demand (and to help address wider cricket shortfalls), consideration should also be given to provision of an NTP to accompany the grass wicket provision. An NTP can accommodate 60 MES per season; albeit this is most likely to be for junior participation.

In addition to the above, two double tennis courts will be provided. There is potential for this to act as a satellite site for Kettering TC. Furthermore, there is opportunity to use this site to encourage recreational tennis participation such as Park Tennis. A cycle track is also proposed on the site for Kettering Cycling Club. The dimensions of this fit with Cyclo-Cross track dimensions.

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

- ◀ Is the local authority (or town/parish council) in a position to take on further outdoor sports facilities from a financial point of view?
- ◀ Is an education establishment to be provided as part of the development which offers a potential management option of outdoor sports facilities?
- ◀ Is there a leisure trust in place which has the capacity to take on the management of outdoor sports facilities?
- ◀ Is there an opportunity for a trust based model of management, for example, by formation of a Community Interest Company (CIC) or Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)?
- ◀ Is there an existing sports club that has the capacity to take on the management of another site?

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Rothwell North

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2019-2031 is 1,610 (based on 700 dwellings being delivered). This population increase equates to 1.45 MES of demand per week for grass pitch sports 0.16 MES of demand per week on AGPs for hockey and 10.1 MES of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 2.68 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and hockey equates to 0.4 hours of use per week on AGPs. There are also 0.13 MES per week of training for rugby union on a floodlit grass pitch.

Table 7.3: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from housing growth (2019 – 2031)

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport (2031)	
	Match demand (MES) per week ²⁵	Training demand ²⁶
Adult football	0.18	2.68
Youth football	0.62	
Mini soccer	0.54	
Rugby union	0.11	0.13
Adult hockey	0.11	0.32
Junior & mixed hockey	0.05	0.08
Cricket	10.01	-

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

Table 7.4: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision (2019 – 2031)

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ²⁷	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²⁸
Adult football	0.18	£20,399	£4,304
Youth football	0.62	£51,885	£10,896
Mini soccer	0.54	£15,078	£3,166
Rugby union	0.11	£18,005	£3,853
Cricket	0.22	£72,513	£14,648
Sand based AGPs	0.03	£25,419	£788
3G	0.07	£78,101	£2,580

Further to the above, the NDC also estimates that there will be a need to provide two changing rooms to support new pitch provision which is identified in the table above. The total capital cost to deliver this level of provision is £372,736.

Football, rugby and cricket demand generated by Rothwell North housing growth does not warrant new grass pitch provision. On this basis, offsite contributions within the locality, to improve the quality and therefore capacity of existing sites is recommended for this development.

²⁵ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

²⁶ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

²⁷ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2018 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

²⁸ Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

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

Delivery

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

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

Each member of the Steering Group should take the lead to ensure the 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 that 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 to which people and agencies regularly turn to for information in respect of how current demand should be met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. To ensure that this is achieved the Steering Group need to have a clear understanding of how the PPS can be applied and therefore delivered.

The process of PPS development has already led to a number of benefits that assist its application and delivery. These include enhanced partnership work across different agendas and organisations, pooling of resources along with strengthened relationships and understanding between stakeholders, members of the Steering Group and the sporting community. The drivers behind the 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 its influence should be applied and strategy delivered.

Following sign off of the PPS, a short-term Action Plan should be prepared by the Council, in consultation with relevant partners, in order to distil the existing Action Plan and to give the Steering Group a short-term focus. This would then need to be revised through regular meetings.

Monitoring and updating

It is important that there is regular annual monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. This should be led by the Council and supported by all members of, and reported back to, the Steering Group. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPS has been applied should be a key component of monitoring its delivery and be an on-going role of the Steering Group.

The Steering Group that takes the PPS forward should be a group made up of the Council as well as other partners such as the NGBs, and Northamptonshire Sport. This offers benefits in terms of joint working on strategic issues.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

KKP will provide the tools used to produce the PPS to the Council as well as training on how to use such tools, such as the PPS database used to hold all information gathered. This will enable the monitoring and updating process to be carried out.

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, Sport England and the NGBs will consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date.

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

Ideally the PPS should 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 built up during its development. 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 particular resource intensive task. However, it should highlight:

- ◀ How delivery of the recommendations and action plan has progressed and any changes required to the priority afforded to each action (e.g. the priority of some may increase or reduce following the delivery of others)
- ◀ How the 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 outdoor sports 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 that the PPS is used effectively to input into any new opportunities to secure improved provision and influence relevant programmes and initiatives
- ◀ Considers how provision for sport is be provided as part of new developments with regards to where on-site provision is required and how developer contributions are used
- ◀ Maintains links between relevant parties with an interest in local outdoor sports provision;
- ◀ 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:

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ 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).

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

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

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

The Steering Group should 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 sites in the future.

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 work encompassing, for example, grounds maintenance and sports development departments, to ensure that this is achieved and that results inform subsequent annual sports facility development plans. Results should be shared with partners via a consultative mechanism.

Kettering Local Football Facilities Plan


The findings of and any subsequent changes to the PPS should align with the Local Football Facilities Plan (LFFP) for Kettering, which will also serve as a live document requiring concurrent management. The position for formal and affiliated football provision determined and updated through the PPS should form the basis for investment into formalised football provision echoed through the LFFP, which will further explore opportunities for investment into informal, recreational, small sided and indoor football as an extension of the PPS findings, the result being a wholistic plan for partnership investment into football facilities in Kettering over the next decade. The PPS and LFFP should demonstrate synergy and should inform each other.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

National context

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

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

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

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

Sport England: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)

Sport England has recently released its new five year strategy 'Towards an Active Nation'. The aim is to target the 28% of people who do less than 30 minutes of exercise each week and will focus on the least active groups; typically women, the disabled and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

Sport England will invest up to £30m on a plan to increase the number of volunteers in grassroots sport. Emphasis will be on working with a larger range of partners with less money being directed towards National Governing Bodies.

The Strategy will help deliver against the five health, social and economic outcomes set out in the Government's Sporting Future strategy.

- ◀ Physical Wellbeing
- ◀ Mental Wellbeing
- ◀ Individual Development

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Social & Community Development
- ◀ Economic Development

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.

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; 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 of the current or former use.

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 Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

The Football Association's (FA) National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a ten-year period. The Strategy is presently in draft and is due for publication in 2018.

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

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

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

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

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

Local Football Facility Plans

To support in delivery of the NFFS, The FA has commissioned a national project. Over the next two years to 2020, a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) will be produced for every local authority across England. Each plan will be unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation, including currently underrepresented communities.

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

It is important to recognise that a LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment - it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Therefore, it cannot be used as a replacement for a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and it will not be accepted as an evidence base for site change of use or disposal. A LFFP will; however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans and may adopt relevant actions from a PPS and/or complement these with additional investment priorities.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The FA: National Game Strategy (2018-2021)

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

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

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

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

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

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

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic plan in 2019. The Strategic Plan aims to connect communities and improve lives by inspiring people to discover and share their passion for cricket. The plan sets out six important priorities and activities, these are:

- ◀ ***Grow and nurture the core***
 - ◀ Create an infrastructure investment fund for FCCs
 - ◀ Introduce a new Community Investment Funding for FCCs and CCBs
 - ◀ Invest in club facilities
 - ◀ Develop the role of National Counties Cricket
 - ◀ Further invest in County Competitions
- ◀ ***Inspire through elite teams***
 - ◀ Increase investment in the county talent pathway
 - ◀ Incentivise the counties to develop England Players
 - ◀ Drive the performance system through technology and innovation
 - ◀ Create heroes and connect them with a new generation of fans

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

◀ **Make cricket accessible**

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

◀ **Engage children and young people**

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

◀ **Transform women's and girls' cricket**

- ◀ Grow the base through participation and facilities investment
- ◀ Launch centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure
- ◀ Invest in girls' county age group cricket
- ◀ Deliver a girls' secondary school programme

◀ **Support our communities**

- ◀ Double the number of volunteers in the game
- ◀ Create a game-wide approach to Trust and Foundations through the cricket network
- ◀ Develop a new wave of officials and community coaches
- ◀ Increase participation in disability cricket

The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

The RFU has released its new strategic vision for rugby in England. The strategy is based on four main elements which are; Protect, Engage, Grow and Win. It covers all elements of rugby union ranging from elite rugby to grassroots, although the general relevancy to the PPS is centred around growing the game.

The RFU exists to promote and develop rugby union in England and ensure the long-term sustainability of clubs by growing player numbers and retaining them across all age groups. Responding to wider market influences, work will continue on developing new ways to take part in all forms of the game, without comprising the sports traditions. This will ensure a lasting legacy from elite success by attracting new players and encouraging current male and female adult players to play. The four key aims to ensure long term sustainability are to:

- ◀ Improve player transition from age grade to adult 15-a-side rugby
- ◀ Expand places to play through Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)
- ◀ Engage new communities in rugby
- ◀ Create a community 7's offering

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

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

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

Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes our sport function. We know the importance of our volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational our people can be, the more progressive we can be and the more befitting our facilities can be, the more we will achieve for our sport.

England Hockey will enable this to happen and we are passionate about our role within the sport. We will lead, support, counsel, focus and motivate the Hockey Nation and work tirelessly towards our vision.

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

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

Club participation

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

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

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

England Hockey Strategy

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

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

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

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

1. PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision

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

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

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

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

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

England Netball - Your Game, Your Way 2013-17

Even though this Plan is out of date, England Netball remains committed to its '10-1-1' mission, vision and values that form the fundamentals for its strategic planning for the future for the sport and business. To facilitate the successful achievement of Netball 10:1:1 and Goal 4, England Netball will:

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

British Tennis Strategy 2019

The new LTA Strategy includes seven strategies relating to three objectives which are built around the following vision and mission:

Vision: tennis opened up

Mission: to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable

Objectives

- ◀ Increase the number of fans on our database from [623,602] to [1,000,000] by 2023.
- ◀ More people playing more often;
 - ◀ Increase the number of adults playing tennis each year from [7.7% (4,018,600)] of the population to [8.5% (4,420,460)], and the frequency of adults playing tennis twice a month from [1.9% (858,700)] of the population to [2.2% (1,000,000)] by 2023.
 - ◀ The number of children playing tennis from [x] to [y] by 2023 (to be finalised December 2018 on publication of Sport England's new Child Participation Survey).
- ◀ Enable 5 new players to break into the top 100 by 2023 and inspire the tennis audience.

Strategies

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

Bowls England: Strategic Plan 2014-2017

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

The overall vision of Bowls England is to:

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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

- ◀ 115,000 individual affiliated members.
- ◀ 1,500 registered coaches.
- ◀ Increase total National Championship entries by 10%.
- ◀ Increase total national competition entries by 10%.
- ◀ Medal places achieved in 50% of events at the 2016 World Championships.
- ◀ 35 county development plans in place and operational.
- ◀ County development officer appointed by each county association.
- ◀ National membership scheme implemented with 100% uptake by county associations.
- ◀ Secure administrative base for 1st April 2017.
- ◀ Commercial income to increase by 20%.

Despite a recent fall in affiliated members, and a decline in entries into National Championships over the last five years, Bowls England believes that these aims will be attained by following core values. The intention is to:

- ◀ Be progressive.
- ◀ Offer opportunities to participate at national and international level.
- ◀ Work to raise the profile of the sport in support of recruitment and retention.
- ◀ Lead the sport.
- ◀ Support clubs and county associations.

Growing the Game of Golf in England (2017-2021)

In 2014, England Golf developed its first national strategy to help golf in England rise to some serious challenges. Membership was declining, many clubs were facing financial and business problems and the perception of the game was proving damaging. As such, it decided to set out recommendations for actions that would help “raise the game”.

The 2014 strategy helped achieve the following:

- ◀ 427,111 people being introduced to golf for the first time.
- ◀ 31,913 new members for England’s golf clubs from national initiatives.
- ◀ Over £25 million generated for golf clubs through new members.
- ◀ Four counties to merge their men’s and women’s unions associations.
- ◀ Support for 15,200 national, regional and county squad players.
- ◀ Over 150 championships and events organised across the country.

Following the above strategy, England Golf is now setting out to “grow the game” of golf through seven strategic objectives. Developed in consultation with the golfing community, six of these are developed from the previous work in 2014, whilst one (being customer focussed) is brand new and intends on boosting the impact of them all.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

The objectives are:

- ◀ Being customer focussed
- ◀ Stronger counties and club
- ◀ Excellent governance
- ◀ Improve image
- ◀ More members and players
- ◀ Outstanding championships, competitions and events
- ◀ Winning golfers

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)

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

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

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

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

UK Athletics Facilities Strategy (2014-2019)

Facilities are essential to attracting, retaining and developing athletes of the future. Having the right facilities in the right place will be crucial in meeting growing demand, increasing participation in physical activity and athletics, improving the health of the nation and supporting a new generation of athletes in clubs and schools through to national and world class level.

UKA and the Home Country Athletics Federations (HCAFs) recognise the challenges faced by facility owners and venue operators, and the 5 year Facility Strategy (2014-2019) uses a Track & Field facility model designed to support a sustainable UK network of development, training and competition venues that meet Home Country needs aligned to UKA's Athlete/Participant Development Model. In addition to Track and Field provision, UKA recognises the huge amount of club activity that takes place on roads, paths and trails and the strategy also maps out a plan for future "running" facilities.

The strategy does not seek to identify priority facilities, clubs or geographical areas. Instead, it provides the direction and guidance that will enable the four Home Country Athletics Federations (England Athletics, Athletics Northern Ireland, Scottish Athletics and Welsh Athletics) to establish their own priorities and deliver the principles of the UKA Facilities Strategy within their own national context. Key outcomes:

- ◀ Increased participation across all athletics disciplines
- ◀ Increased club membership by providing facilities that support a participation pathway from novice through to club member
- ◀ Increased talent pool
- ◀ Long term improvement in the development of athletes of all ages and abilities
- ◀ Securing the long term future of existing facilities
- ◀ More attractive and inspiring facilities for existing and potential athletes
- ◀ Improving the athletics experience for all participants
- ◀ Improved relationships and interactions between stakeholders, particularly clubs and facility operators

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

APPENDIX 2: FUNDING PLAN

Funding opportunities²⁹

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
<p>Big Lottery Fund http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/</p>	<p>The Big Lottery Fund distributes over £500m a year to communities across the UK, raised by players of The National Lottery.</p> <p>Awards for All – this fund offers National Lottery grants between £300 and £10,000. Applications can be made by: voluntary or community organisations, registered charities, constituted groups or clubs, not-for-profit companies or community interest companies, social enterprises, schools and statutory bodies (including town, parish and community councils). To receive funding, the applicant must meet at least one of the funding priorities listed for these grants. The funding priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities. ◆ Improving the places and spaces that matter to communities. ◆ Enabling more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage. <p>Empowering Young People – this grants programme is designed to support projects in Northern Ireland that give young people aged 8 to 25 the ability to overcome the challenges they face. Funding between £30,000 and £500,000 is available and is available to projects which meet one or more of the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Equip young people with the skills they need for the future. ◆ Improve young people’s relationships with their support networks and communities. ◆ Improve the health and well-being of young people. <p>Reaching Communities England – this programme provides flexible funding over £10,000 for up to five years to organisations in England who want to act on the issues that matter to people and communities. Grants will be awarded to voluntary and community organisations or social enterprises to fund project activities, operating costs, organisational development and capital costs. Ideas must meet one or more of the following funding priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities. ◆ Improving the places and spaces that matter to communities. ◆ Enabling more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage.

²⁹ Up to date as of January 2019

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Awarding body	Description
<p>Sport England The current funding streams may change throughout 2018/19 so refer to the website for the latest information: https://www.sportengland.org/funding/</p>	<p>Sport England's vision is that everyone in England feels able to take part in sport or activity, regardless of age, background or ability.</p> <p>Small Grants – this programme offers funding to projects involving adults and young people aged 14 or over which meet one or more of the aims of their 'Towards an Active Nation' strategy. These aims are: get inactive people more active, develop lasting sporting habits, engender more positive attitudes among young people, develop more diverse volunteers and to improve progression and inclusion among the most talented. Projects with mixed age groups may still be considered if there is a focus on people aged 14 and over.</p> <p>Community Asset Fund – this programme is dedicated to enhancing the spaces in your local community that give people the opportunity to be active.</p> <p>Major Events Engagement Fund – Sport England's 'Towards an Active Nation' strategy commits them to invest £2m in helping national governing bodies (NGBs) to host major events which evolve their existing business model and derive a greater financial return from their existing customers (players, volunteers or spectators). This funding can also be used to develop programmes that engage with individuals local to the major event, who are currently less likely to take part regularly in sport or physical activity.</p>
<p>Football Foundation http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/funding-schemes/</p>	<p>This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development.</p> <p>Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund – this fund is available to football clubs, schools, councils and local sports associations that improve facilities for football and other sport in local communities, sustain or increase participation amongst children and adults, regardless of background age or ability and to help children and adults to develop their physical, mental, social and moral capacities through regular participation in sport. Grants are available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Grass pitch drainage/improvements, ◀ Pavilions, clubhouses and changing rooms, ◀ 3G Football Turf Pitches (FTPs) and multi-use games areas, ◀ Fixed floodlights for artificial pitches. <p>Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund Small Grants Scheme – this scheme awards grants of up to £10,000 for the provision of capital items, or to refurbish/improve existing facilities. This scheme aims to support the growth of football clubs and activity, prevent a decline in football participation and make improvements to facilities to address any health and safety issues. Grants, which cannot exceed 50% of the total project cost, are awarded to support the costs of the following list of projects and items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Replacement of unsafe goalposts, ◀ Portable floodlights, ◀ Storage containers, ◀ Changing pavilion/clubhouse refurbishment and external works (not including routine maintenance works), ◀ Grounds maintenance equipment, ◀ Pitch improvement works (not including routine maintenance works), ◀ Fencing.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Awarding body	Description
	<p>The scheme is available to local authorities, educational establishments, grassroots football clubs and professional and semi-professional football clubs and their associated community organisations, to support their community outreach programmes.</p> <p>Premier League Primary Stars Kit and Equipment Scheme - this scheme, run in partnership with Nike and delivered by the Football Foundation, gives teachers the opportunity to get their hands on free resources to aid their pupils' learning. Primary school teachers registered at plprimarystars.com can access either a free Nike football strip, or a free equipment pack which can be used across the curriculum.</p>
<p>Rugby Football Foundation (RFF) http://www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14&Itemid=113</p>	<p>The Grant Match Scheme in particular 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.</p> <p>Projects eligible for funding include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts, 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). <p>'Helping Hand Grants' can award funding from £500 to £1,500. The Groundmatch Grant Scheme provides funding from £1,501 to £5,000. RFU Accredited clubs at level 5 and below are eligible to apply.</p> <p>The RFF also offer loan schemes for RFU Accredited clubs at level 3 and below. The first scheme is the Interest Free Loan scheme which can provide up to £100,000 as an interest free loan for capital works. Green Deal Loans up to the value of £20,000 are available to clubs to support them in the installation of facility solutions that reduce utility costs. Repayments are structured to be the equivalent of the projected savings over the agreed 'payback' period.</p>
<p>The England and Wales Cricket Trust https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding</p>	<p>The Interest Free Loan Scheme provides finance to clubs for various capital projects such as buildings, equipment purchase, fine turf, land purchase and non-turf. All ECB affiliated cricket clubs are eligible to apply, as well as other organisations that can evidence achievement/delivery of the EWCT's charitable aims. Clubs with a junior section can apply for funding from £1,000 to £50,000 whereas clubs without a junior section can apply for funding from £1,000 to £20,000. A minimum of 10% partnership funding is required from the applicant.</p> <p>The Small Grant Scheme aims to support the ECB's national programmes – Get the Game On, All Stars Cricket, Women's Cricket and U19 Club T20. Clubs can apply for funding towards the purchase of relevant products or materials, and associated professional labour costs.</p> <p>Project themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Covers – supporting Get the Game On, ◆ Family Friendly Facilities – supporting All Stars Cricket, ◆ Improved Changing Facilities for Females – supporting Women's Cricket, ◆ Great Events – supporting U19 Club T20.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Awarding body	Description
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. LIFE also finances some grants for non-governmental organisations active in the field of the environment because they are key players in the development and implementation of environmental policy.
National Hockey Foundation http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/	The Foundation primarily makes grants to a wide range of organisations that meet one of the areas of focus: young people and hockey, young people and sport in Milton Keynes, enabling the development of hockey at youth or community level and smaller charities. There is no limit on the amount of funding that an organisation can request. However, the Foundation does not generally award grants for less than £10,000 or more than £75,000.
Rugby Football League https://www.rlwc2021.com/facilities	Rugby League World Cup 2021 Capital Facilities Legacy funding. Small Grants Scheme awards grants of up to £15,000 for the provision of capital items, kit and equipment or to refurbish/improve existing facilities. Large capital grants programme of £15,000 plus focused on supporting the development of new or refurbished local rugby league facilities. The programme is split into four themes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcoming environments 2. More players 3. Community engagement 4. Innovation fund

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 is providing which services/facilities? Unit and overall costs).
- ◀ Technical information and requirements (e.g. planning permission).
- ◀ Targets, outputs and/or outcomes (i.e. the anticipated situation after the project/what the project is anticipated to achieve)
- ◀ Evidence of support from partners and stakeholders.
- ◀ Background/essential documentation (e.g. community use agreement).
- ◀ Assessment of risk.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Indicative costs

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

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

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

APPENDIX 3: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**.

KETTERING BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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.