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COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd
Company No: 9145032 (England)

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

Registered Office: 1 -2 Frecheville Court, off Knowsley Street, Bury BL9 0UF
T: 0161 764 7040 E: mail@kcp.co.uk www.kcp.co.uk



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COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial grass pitch)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
CASC	Community Amateur Sports Club
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
HC	Hockey Club
IMS	International Match Standard
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PIP	Pitch Improvement Programme
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106 Agreement
U	Under

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy (PPOSS) for Coventry City Council. Building upon the preceding updated Assessment Report, it provides a clear, strategic framework in relation to the provision of playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities. It delivers:

- ◀ A vision for the future protection, improvement and development of provision.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations and scenarios.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area and site-by-site action plan that prioritise and can address key issues.

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

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

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

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

Agreed scope

The following types of outdoor sports facilities are covered by the PPOSS:

- ◀ Football pitches (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Rugby league pitches
- ◀ Hockey pitches (sand/water based AGPs)
- ◀ Golf courses
- ◀ Athletics tracks
- ◀ Outdoor bowling greens
- ◀ Outdoor tennis courts
- ◀ Outdoor netball courts

Other grass pitch sports (e.g., lacrosse and American football) are also included, where there is a presence within the City. Where no activity has been identified, the sports are not included, although that is not to say that they are not played informally.

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Study area

The study area comprises the whole of the Coventry administrative area.

Moreover, for the purposes of this project, Coventry has been divided into four analysis areas. These are based on grouping wards together and reflect how sport is played in the City as well as the travel patterns of users, as agreed by the Steering Group. They allow for a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch surplus and deficiencies at a local level and allow local circumstances and issues to be taken into account.

The analysis areas are summarised in the table below.

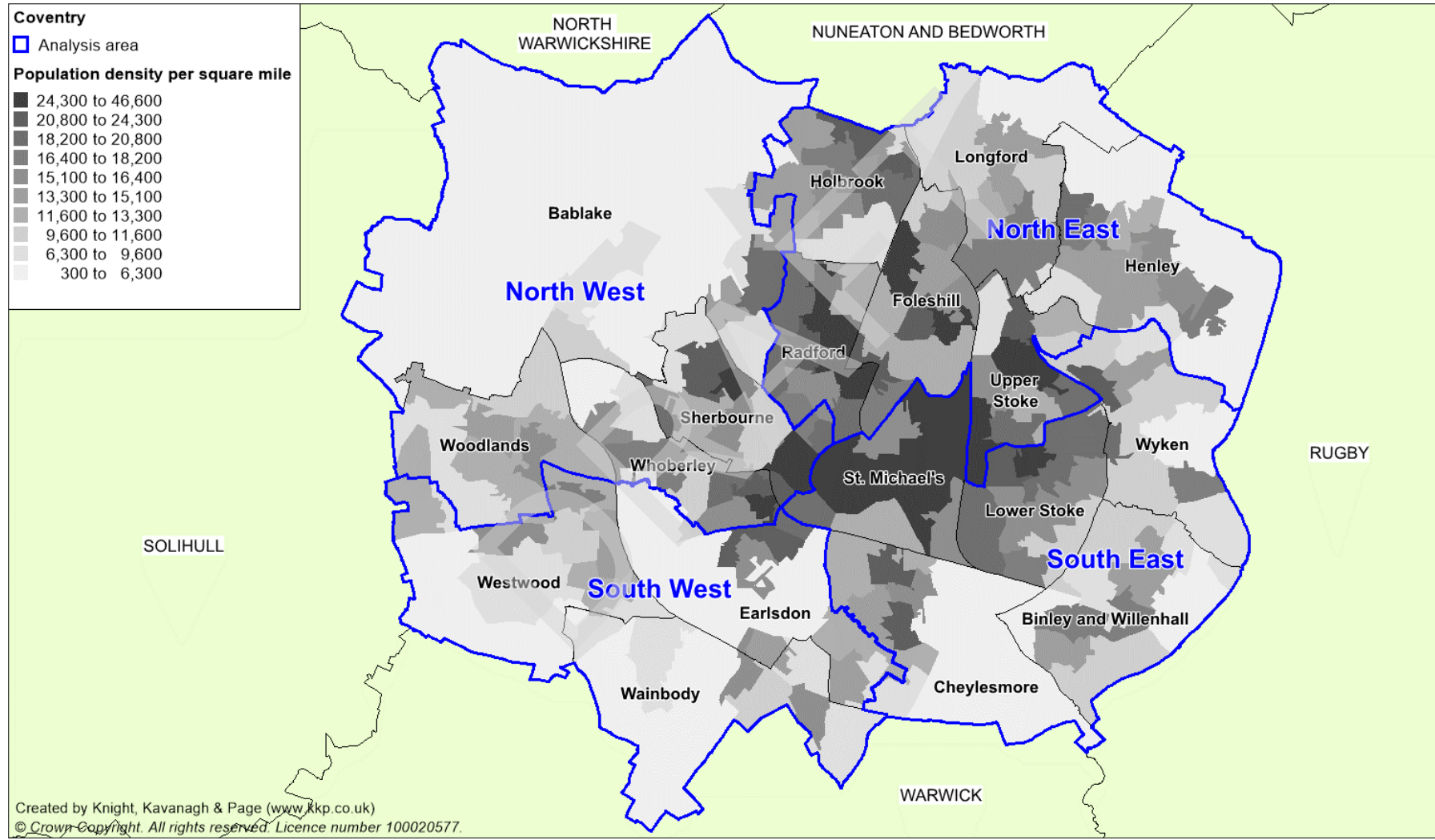
Table 1.1: Analysis areas

Ward	Analysis area
Foleshill	North East
Henley	
Holbrook	
Longford	
Radford	
Upper Stoke	
Bablake	North West
Sherbourne	
Whoberley	
Woodlands	
Binley and Willenhall	South East
Cheylesmore	
Lower Stoke	
St. Michael's	
Wyken	
Earlsdon	South West
Wainbody	
Westwood	

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

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Figure 1.1: Map of Coventry



COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

1.1: Headline findings

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

Future demand is calculated to 2040 to align to a future Local Plan review.

Table 1.2: Quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/demand balance (2040)
Football – grass pitches			
North East	Adult	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 1 match session
North West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 6.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
South East	Adult	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 5.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 9.75 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity 2.5 match sessions	Demand is being met
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
South West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 5 match sessions

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/demand balance (2040)
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
Football – 3G pitches			
North East	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
North West	Full size	Shortfall of 1.5 pitches	Shortfall of 2 pitches
South East	Full size	Shortfall of 0.25 pitches	Shortfall of 1 pitch
South West	Full size	Shortfall of 0.25 pitches	Shortfall of 0.5 pitches
Coventry	Full size	Shortfall of 2 pitches	Shortfall of 3.5 pitches
Cricket			
North East	Senior (Saturday)	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
North West	Senior (Saturday)	Actual spare capacity of 48 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 24 match sessions
South East	Senior (Saturday)	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
South West	Senior (Saturday)	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
Coventry	Senior (Saturday)	Actual spare capacity of 48 match sessions	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
Rugby union			
North East	Senior	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 14.5 match sessions
North West	Senior	Shortfall of 4.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 4.75 match sessions
South East	Senior	Shortfall of 9 match sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match sessions
South West	Senior	Shortfall of 8.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 12.5 match sessions
Coventry	Senior	Shortfall of 34 match sessions	Shortfall of 41.25 match sessions
Hockey			
North East	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
North West	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
South East	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
South West	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Coventry	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

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

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

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	Supply is broadly sufficient to meet demand although there is a shortfall of capacity for two clubs. However, neither report any issue with this and therefore supply is considered sufficient.
Tennis	Club demand is being adequately met; however, there is a requirement to focus on informal activity at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites and schools).

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Sport	Headline findings
Netball	There is a shortfall of capacity for clubs and league-based netball across the City. Focus should be placed on improving court quality and access to Xcel Leisure Centre as well as improved access to educational sites such as Ernesford Grange Community Academy and Coventry Blue Coat School.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand although quality improvements at Lyng Hall School Sports Centre are needed.
Golf	There is a good range of provision; however, each facility is meeting a clear need and further pressure is to be created following the impending loss of Windmill Village Hotel & Golf Club. Contributions from this development should be sought to improve golf provision elsewhere in Coventry, for example at Brandon Wood Golf Course where provision is due to be re-established although investment is required to ensure the operation on site is viable.

Conclusions

The existing position for all sports is either that demand is being met or that there is a shortfall, whereas the future position shows the exacerbation of current shortfalls and the creation of additional shortfalls for some pitch/facility types and in some areas where demand is currently being met.

Where demand is being met, this does not equate to a surplus of provision, with any spare capacity instead considered as a solution to overcoming shortfalls. As such, there is a clear need to protect all existing playing pitch and outdoor sport provision until all demand is met, or there is a requirement to replace provision to an equal or better quantity and quality before it is lost, in line with national planning policy. For improved quality, this could relate to pitches with enhanced maintenance regimes in place, drainage systems installed or newly provided 3G or sand-based AGPs. In terms of ancillary provision, this typically equates to newly refurbished/constructed pavilions of a larger size or with a more suitable layout and ideally with dedicated women and girls and disabled facilities. The only exception to this is in the case of sports provision being replaced by a different form of sports provision on the assumption that no clubs or users are left without alternative provision and providing that this is agreed upon by Sport England and the relevant NGBs.

For the most part, the shortfalls identified can be met by better utilising current provision, such as through improving quality, pitch re-configuration, installing additional sports lighting, improving ancillary facilities and enabling access to existing unused provision, such as at unavailable school sites. That being said, for rugby union in particular, there is likely to be a need for some new provision to completely alleviate existing and future deficits given the considerable shortfalls identified.

In relation to football, there is also a current and future shortfall of 3G pitches that can only be met through increased provision. To fully alleviate these shortfalls, new provision would be required in the North West, South East and South West analysis areas. Proposals for a new full size 3G pitch currently exist at Woodlands Sports Complex (FUL/2022/0561) (North West) whilst discussions have also taken place regarding the feasibility of providing pitches at Cardinal Newman School (North West), Coundon Court School (North West) and Caludon Castle Sports Centre (South East). With resources to improve the quality of grass pitches being limited, an increase in 3G provision could also help reduce grass pitch shortfalls through the transfer of play, which in turn can aid pitch quality improvements. When considering future shortfalls, two pitches would be warranted in the North West Analysis Area and one in the South East Analysis Area.

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PART 2: VISION AND OBJECTIVES

2.1: Vision

The vision for the PPOSS provides a clear focus with desired outcomes for the study. It seeks to support the Council and its partners to:

“To provide a range of modern, accessible and high quality [outdoor] sports facilities in the City.”

2.2: Objectives

Key objectives for the PPOSS, as identified by the Council, are to:

- ◀ Provide a documented assessment of current and future needs for outdoor sports facilities within the City; focusing on quantity and quality issues in relation to supply and demand.
- ◀ Identify all valuable sites to ensure they can be protected and improved for the long-term benefit of sport.
- ◀ Provide a clear, justified series of recommendations and associated action plans for disposal/provision of pitches and facilities surplus to requirements to meet current and future demand. Within these recommendations examples of sites will also be provided to demonstrate the impact that following through on these recommendations would have.
- ◀ Promote a sustainable approach to the provision of outdoor sports facilities and management of sports clubs.
- ◀ Ensure that all clubs have access to ancillary facilities of appropriate quality to meet current needs and long-term aspirations.
- ◀ Inform the development and implementation of planning policy.
- ◀ Inform the assessment of planning applications and Section 106 (S106) contributions, plus any agreements with Sport England and other bodies regarding planning.
- ◀ Plan for the provision and use of shared spaces, including the identification of school facilities which could be utilised to address any identified deficits in provision.
- ◀ Take account of outdoor sport facilities provided in neighbouring local authorities that presently service the sporting and recreational needs of Coventry residents (and vice versa).
- ◀ Ensure provision can meet future demand derived from housing growth and to guide the level of increased provision required (using Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator).
- ◀ Provide a clear plan for the development of football hubs within the City, located at War Memorial Park and Coundon Hall Park, linked to the amalgamation of parks provision, where evidenced.
- ◀ Deliver a strategic need and action plan for the delivery of future 3G provision across the City to support the revision of the Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP).
- ◀ Provide a clear and justified series of recommendations and associated action plans for the provision of new pitches and facilities.
- ◀ Provide a framework that helps secure future internal and external funding to support the PPOSS action plan.
- ◀ Ensure that the work utilises the existing Greenspace Strategy and Education Capital Strategy for Coventry.
- ◀ Align the work with wider objectives of the refreshed Coventry Sports and Physical Activity Strategy as they emerge.

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PART 3: AIMS

The following overarching aims are based on the three Sport England themes (see figure 3.1 below). It is recommended that they are adopted by the Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the PPOSS and Sport England planning objectives. Strategy delivery is the responsibility of, and relies upon, all relevant stakeholders.

AIM 1

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

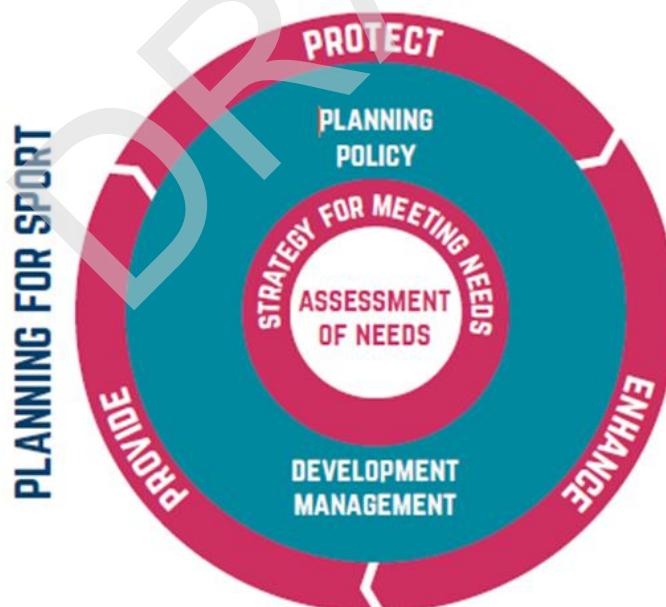
AIM 2

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

AIM 3

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

Figure 3.1: Sport England themes



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

PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

For site-specific and more localised recommendations, please refer to the Action Plan in Part 6 of the report.

Football – grass pitches

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ In total, 65 pitches display some level of actual spare capacity across 14 sites, equating to 47 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ 18 pitches are overplayed across 13 sites by a total of 23.75 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There is current spare capacity on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches whilst youth 11v11 pitches are overplayed (youth 9v9 pitches are at capacity).
- ◀ After considering future demand, a shortfall is also created on youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches.

Supply summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 251 football pitches across 98 sites in Coventry, with 199 pitches available at some level for community use across 59 sites. 32 sites provide secure community use.
- ◀ Disused pitches are identified at Cashes Park, Eastern Green Recreation Ground, Floyds Fields and Stoke Heath Recreation Ground, whilst lapsed provision is found at Charter Avenue (opposite Marler Road). Pitches at Cashes Park and Eastern Green Recreation Ground had no demand due to poor quality and drainage issues whilst Stoke Heath Recreation Ground is deemed unfit for competitive use.
- ◀ Plans are in place that would result in the loss of some pitch provision at Woodlands Sports Complex and Woodfield School, with a planning application now approved.
- ◀ An adult pitch is set to be temporarily lost at Coundon Court School due to the construction of a new sports block on site with the view to replace it once building works are complete.
- ◀ Tenure of sites in Coventry is generally secure; however, Triumph Athletic FC has been served notice to cover all expenses from March 2021 at Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane) or vacate the site by 25th October 2022.
- ◀ Pitch quality ratings that 27 pitches available for community use are rated as good quality, 140 as standard quality and 32 as poor quality.
- ◀ A total of 12 sites are identified as being serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.

Demand summary

- ◀ A total of 407 teams across 85 clubs are identified within Coventry, consisting of 97 senior men's, ten senior women's, 176 youth boys', 17 youth girls' and 107 mini soccer teams.
- ◀ Participation has increased in recent years with 11 more teams identified currently compared to 2018/2019 data, although there has been a decline in adult football.
- ◀ No imported demand is identified, whilst Athletic United JFC exports its U15 team to Nuneaton & Bedworth due to a lack of suitable pitches within Coventry.

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- 28% of clubs report latent demand in that they could field more teams if more or better facilities were available to them.
- Team generation rates predict an increase amounting to 22 adult, 24 youth 11v11 teams, three youth 9v9 teams, two mini 7v7 teams and three mini 5v5 teams, whilst future demand expressed by clubs equates to five adult, 15 youth 11v11, 10 youth 9v9 and 15 mini 5v5 teams.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

In total, there are 18 pitches in Coventry across 13 sites that are overplayed by a combined total of 23.75 match equivalent sessions. Improving quality of such provision will increase capacity across the sites and as a consequence reduce both current and future shortfalls in the City.

To illustrate the above, Table 4.1 highlights that the large majority of existing overplay would be alleviated if quality improved to good at each site. 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

Table 4.1: Overplay if all pitches were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
11	Blue Coat Church of England School & Music College	South East	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	3	
12	Bredon Avenue	South East	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	0.25	0
20	Chace Avenue Playing Field	South East	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	2	
25	Copsewood Community Sports and Social Club	South East	Adult	1	Standard	2	1
			Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	3	1
27	Coundon Court School	North West	Adult	2	Standard	1	0
			Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	0
32	Coventrians Rugby Club	North East	Adult	1	Standard	3.75	2.75

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current Capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
37	Coventry Technical Rugby Club ¹	North West	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	0
40	Daimler Green Community Centre	North East	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	0
			Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	0
69	Jaguar Leisure Centre	North West	Adult	1	Poor	1.5	0.5
116	St Finbarrs Sports Ground	North East	Adult	1	Standard	1.25	0.25
143	West Coventry Academy	North West	Adult	1	Standard	1	
161	Westwood United Football Club	North West	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	1	0
			Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	1	0
181	Wheelwright Lane Playing Fields	North East	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	1	0

As seen, most overplayed pitches could accommodate demand if quality was improved. The only exceptions to this are the pitches at Copsewood Community Sports & Social Club, Coventrians Rugby Club and St Finbarrs Sports Ground, which would continue to accommodate some level of overplay even if they were improved to good quality. Some play at these sites should therefore be transferred to sites with spare capacity, to an existing or additional 3G pitch, or, if space and other usage allows, pitch re-configuration could be considered. However, it should be noted that some overplayed sites have unsecure tenure, particularly schools sites, meaning it is unlikely quality improvements would be supported unless community use agreements could be secured.

Reducing overplay through quality improvements will eradicate pitch shortfalls across Coventry when looking at the authority as a whole, with significant overall spare capacity created. However, no analysis area shortfalls would be alleviated through quality improvements alone, although the deficit of youth 11v11 capacity in the North West and South East analysis areas would be reduced. This shown in the table below.

Table 4.2: Impact on supply and demand if quality improved to good across Coventry

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North East	Adult	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

¹ It should be noted that Coventry Technical Rugby Club is allocated for a residential development, with the lease agreement due to expire in 2025. Whilst the site is likely to be lost, suitable mitigation should be provided to ensure existing demand on site is adequately accommodated without overplay.

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North West	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 12.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 6 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match session
South East	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions
	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 1 match session	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 5.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match session
	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 5.5 match sessions
South West	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
Coventry	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 21.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.75 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 6.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions

In addition, on a City-wide level, future shortfalls would be reduced on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches, whilst actual spare capacity on adult pitches would increase. On an analysis area basis, only the future shortfall expected on adult pitches in the North East Analysis Area could be prevented through quality improvements alone. All remaining expected shortfalls would remain although most would be at reduced levels.

Table 4.3: Impact on future supply and demand if quality improved to good across Coventry

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North East	Adult	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match session
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1 match session	Shortfall of 1 match session
North West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 6.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 11 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
South East	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 9.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 5.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
South West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 12 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 4.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match session
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 5 match sessions	Shortfall of 5 match sessions

Providing security of tenure

Currently, 60.75 match equivalent sessions per week are played on unsecured pitches across Coventry. If these pitches were to fall out of use, shortfalls would become evident on all pitch formats at a City-wide level, except for mini 7v7 pitches which would be played to capacity. Shortfalls would also be created on most pitch types in most analysis areas, as shown in the following table.

Table 4.4: Current supply and demand balance without unsecure sites

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North East	Adult	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 1 match session
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
North West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions	Shortfall of 3 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
South East	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 1 match session	Shortfall of 4 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 5.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 5.25 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Demand is being met
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
South West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 7 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 5.25 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match session
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 18.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 9 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions	Demand is being met
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 5 match sessions

Most of the unsecured sites are education sites with limited use, such as Foxford School and Grace Academy Coventry, although others such as Bablake Playing Fields and Coventry Technical Rugby Club² are also considered unsecure and are used extensively.

At school sites, whilst not always possible, creating community use agreements between providers and users would ensure that users continue to be provided for in the longer-term, such as at Coundon Court School and its community use agreement with Coundon Court FC and Chapelfield Colts FC at Coventry University (The Place). Where there is external investment on sites e.g., by an NGB or Sport England, there are potential opportunities to secure community use as part of the funding or approval agreement. This also applies to new schools or for existing schools seeking changes to provision that requires planning permission as, via planning consent, the Council can mandate the implementation of a community use agreement as part of the planning stipulations.

² As mentioned previously, the site is allocated for residential development in the Local Plan.

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In addition to unsecure sites that are used, there are 25 match equivalent sessions of potential actual spare capacity discounted due to tenure issues. Again, this is mostly identified at schools, particularly those not offering community use. Gaining secured access to these would alleviate all current shortfalls and create spare capacity on all pitch types.

Table 4.5: Impact on current supply/demand through securing access to unsecure sites

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North East	Adult	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 5.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 7 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 1 match session
North West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 1 match session
South East	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 1 match session	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 5.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 5.25 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
South West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 29 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.75 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 0.25 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 13 match sessions

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions

This would also create additional future capacity on adult and mini 7v7 pitches, whilst the expected future shortfall of youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 capacity would be reduced on a City-wide basis. On an analysis area basis, shortfalls of adult, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches in the North East Analysis Area would be alleviated, whilst a future deficit of mini 5v5 pitch capacity in the North West Analysis Area and of adult pitch capacity in the South East Analysis Area would be reduced. This can be seen in the table below.

Table 4.6: Impact on future supply/demand through securing access to unsecure sites

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North East	Adult	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 7 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1 match session	Demand is being met
North West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 6.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 6.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3 match sessions
South East	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 9.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 9.75 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
South West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 11 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 19.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 10.75 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3 match sessions

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 13 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions

As it is not deemed possible to gain secured access to all provision, sites that provide a large quantity of pitches or that are already used heavily by the community should be prioritised. Examples of such sites are Cardinal Newman Catholic School and King Henry VIII Sports Fields. Additionally, if any of these sites were to submit planning application for the loss of playing field land, it would have to be replaced or adequately mitigated in line with Sport England guidance.

Undertaking all scenarios

If pitch quality was improved and tenure was secure, in combination and as set out above, it is considered that all current shortfalls could be alleviated across Coventry as a whole. However, some isolated shortfalls would remain when assessing the picture on an analysis area basis (youth 9v9 pitches in the North West Analysis Area, youth 11v11 pitches in the South East Analysis Area and youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches in the South West Analysis Area).

Table 4.7: Impact on current supply and demand through actioning all scenarios

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North East	Adult	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 7 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 1 match session
North West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 12.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 6 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match session
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Demand is being met
South East	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 1 match session	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 5.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match session
	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 5.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
South West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 37 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.75 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 7.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 6 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 13 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions

When factoring in future demand, the only outstanding shortfall would be a future shortfall of youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitch capacity on a City-wide basis, although some further analysis area deficits would also remain.

Table 4.8: Impact on future supply and demand through actioning all scenarios

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North East	Adult	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 6 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions	Demand is being met
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 7 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1 match session	Demand is being met
North West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 6.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 11 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3 match sessions
South East	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 9.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 5.5 match sessions

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Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity 3 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
South West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 11 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 27.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 13 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions

The significant amount of spare capacity created, especially on adult and mini 7v7 pitches, could be utilised to enable pitch re-configuration to further increase capacity on other pitch types (or to alleviate shortfalls where other means of doing so are not possible). For example, some under-utilised adult pitches could be converted to youth 11v11 pitches (such as at War Memorial Park), whilst under-utilised mini 7v7 pitches could be converted to mini 5v5 pitches (such as at Coundon Hall Park).

Despite the above, it is unlikely that all scenarios above can be presented and therefore focus should be placed on securing community use agreements at unsecure sites and improving pitch quality of poor quality and overplayed pitches.

With many adult pitches already being used for youth 11v11 football, the above would have the added benefit of better accommodating the existing demand and potentially alleviating the future shortfall of youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitches. As such, it would result in there being no requirement for new pitches to be established (other than those that may be needed to, for example, support housing growth and localised future demand).

Reconfiguring pitches

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

Starting with adult pitches, a total of 30 pitches across nine sites have actual spare capacity equating to 25 match equivalent sessions per week. This is shown in the table below.

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Table 4.9: Actual spare capacity on adult pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch quality	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match sessions)
7	Baginton Fields	South East	Standard	1	1
28	Coundon Hall Park	North West	Standard	10	9
80	Longford Park	North East	Standard	1	1
84	Massey Ferguson Sports Ground	North West	Standard	2	2
109	Sowe Common Sports Ground	North East	Standard	5	4.5
110	Spencer Park	South West	Standard	1	1
142	War Memorial Park	South West	Standard	6	4
152	Woodlands Sports Complex	North West	Standard	2	0.5
153	Wyken Croft Playing Fields	South East	Standard	2	2
Total					25

Of these sites, only one pitch at Coundon Hall Park, one pitch at Sowe Common Sports Ground and two pitches at War Memorial Park are used for adult football. Therefore, all remaining pitches should be pursued for conversion to youth 11v11 pitches.

Table 4.10: Adult pitches proposed for youth 11v11 conversion

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch quality	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match sessions)
7	Baginton Fields	South East	Standard	1	1
28	Coundon Hall Park	North West	Standard	9	9
80	Longford Park	North East	Standard	1	1
84	Massey Ferguson Sports Ground	North West	Standard	2	2
109	Sowe Common Sports Ground	North East	Standard	4	4
110	Spencer Park	South West	Standard	1	1
142	War Memorial Park	South West	Standard	4	4
152	Woodlands Sports Complex	North West	Standard	2	0.5
153	Wyken Croft Playing Fields	South East	Standard	2	2
Total					24.5

As shown above, 26 pitches could potentially be converted which would reallocate 24.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity from adult pitches to youth 11v11 pitches. The table overleaf highlights the impact if all these pitches were converted to youth 11v11 pitches, showing that a shortfall would only remain in the South East Analysis Area.

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Table 4.11: Impact of converting adult pitches to youth 11v11

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North East	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions
North West	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 12.5 match sessions
South East	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 9.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.75 match sessions
South West	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3.5 match sessions
Coventry	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 12.75 match sessions

Focus should be placed on conversions in the North East, South East and South West based on future shortfalls whilst there is no immediate need for conversion to be pursued in the North West Analysis Area.

As for mini 7v7 pitches, a total of 13 pitches across six sites are identified as having actual spare capacity equating to eight match equivalent sessions per week. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.12: Actual spare capacity on mini 7v7 pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch quality	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match sessions)
28	Coundon Hall Park	North West	Standard	2	2
65	Holbrooks Park	North East	Standard	3	1.5
103	Ryona Engineering Supplies Stadium (Coventry Sphinx Football Club)	South East	Good	1	0.5
109	Sowe Common Sports Ground	North East	Standard	2	1.5
142	War Memorial Park	South West	Standard	2	1.5
152	Woodlands Sports Complex	North West	Standard	3	1
Total					8

Of the pitches listed above, the two pitches at Coundon Hall Park and one pitch at Holbrooks Park, Sowe Common Sports Ground, War Memorial Park and Woodlands Sports Complex are not currently used for mini 7v7 demand. Therefore, these pitches should be pursued for reconfiguration and are the only pitches considered for reconfiguration in the table overleaf.

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Table 4.13: Mini 7v7 pitches proposed for mini 5v5 conversion

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch quality	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match sessions)
28	Coundon Hall Park	North West	Standard	2	2
65	Holbrooks Park	North East	Standard	1	1
109	Sowe Common Sports Ground	North East	Standard	1	1
142	War Memorial Park	South West	Standard	1	1
152	Woodlands Sports Complex	North West	Standard	1	1
Total					6

As shown above, six pitches could potentially be converted which would reallocate six match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity from mini 7v7 pitches to mini 5v5 pitches. The table below highlights the impact on the future mini 5v5 shortfalls previously identified if all these pitches were converted.

Table 4.14: Impact of mini 7v7 pitches to mini 5v5

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
North East	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Actual spare capacity of 6 match sessions
North West	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 3 match sessions	Demand is being met
South East	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
South West	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions
Coventry	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2.5 match sessions

As seen in the table above, by converting all under-utilised mini 7v7 pitches to mini 5v5 pitches, all mini 5v5 demand could be met in all analysis areas.

Moving all Council pitch demand to football hubs

The Council is exploring the feasibility of moving to a Hub model for its grass football provision, with Coundon Hall Park (North West) and War Memorial Park (South West) noted as potential hub sites in the North and South of the City respectively. Therefore, this scenario will assess the impact of relocating all demand on Council football pitches to Coundon Hall Park and War Memorial Park.

Currently, 47 teams are currently registered as using Council pitches. This is broken down in the table overleaf.

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Table 4.15: Number of teams currently using council pitches

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams	Match equivalent sessions
Adult	11v11	Sunday AM	19	9.5
Youth	11v11	Sunday AM	13	6.5
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	7	3.5
Mini	7v7	Saturday AM	6	3
Mini	5v5	Saturday AM	2	1
Total			47	23.5

Coundon Hall Park currently provides ten adult, three youth 11v11 and two mini 7v7 pitches whilst War Memorial Park currently provides six adult, two youth 11v11 and two mini 7v7 pitches. All pitches across both sites are of standard quality. The table below demonstrates the current capacity and spare capacity at peak time at each site.

Table 4.16: Capacity of proposed football hub sites

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	Number of pitches	Current capacity	Spare capacity in the peak period
28	Coundon Hall Park	Adult	10	19	9
		7v7	2	8	2
		11v11	3	5.5	2.5
142	War Memorial Park	Adult	6	10	4
		7v7	2	7.5	1.5
		11v11	2	2.5	0.5

Across the two sites there is capacity for 29 match sessions on adult pitches, 15.5 match sessions on mini 7v7 pitches and eight match sessions on youth 11v11 pitches. The table below demonstrates how the demand listed above could be accommodated on this provision, with youth 9v9 teams playing on overmarked youth 11v11 pitches and mini 5v5 teams playing on overmarked mini 7v7 pitches.

Table 4.17: Current capacity by pitch type

Pitch type	Current capacity	Match equivalent sessions	Potential capacity
Adult	29	9.5	19.5
11v11	8	6.5	2
9v9	-	3.5	
7v7	15.5	3	11.5
5v5	-	1	

As seen in the table above, there would be sufficient capacity across both adult and mini pitch types whilst there would be a shortfall of youth pitches. However, there is sufficient capacity on adult pitches to accommodate a portion of youth 11v11 demand to alleviate this shortfall. However, as the majority of teams would play at peak time, peak time capacity also needs to be considered. This is shown in the table below.

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Table 4.18: Peak time capacity by pitch type

Pitch type	Peak time capacity	Match equivalent sessions	Potential capacity
Adult	13	9.5	3.5
11v11	3	6.5	7
9v9	-	3.5	
7v7	3.5	3	0.5
5v5	-	1	

As shown in the table above, there is insufficient peak time capacity to accommodate youth and mini football, although there is sufficient capacity to accommodate all adult football at peak time.

In summary, whilst a football hub model in theory has capacity to accommodate all current Council match demand at Coundon Hall Park and War Memorial Park, the Council would have to work with Birmingham FA and local football leagues to fulfil fixtures outside of peak time (i.e. Saturday mornings for adult and youth football and Sunday mornings for mini football) to ensure capacity would be sufficient. Further to this, if agreements could be made regarding the reallocation of fixtures, there would still be minimal capacity for future demand meaning other sites would have to be retained as a strategic reserve to ensure future demand could be sufficiently accommodated.

Site specific recommendations

- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and/or assessed as poor or standard quality, such as at Copsewood Community Sport and Social Club, prioritise investment to improve quality.
- ◀ Transfer play from sites which remain overplayed, such as Coventrians Rugby Club, to alternative sites with spare capacity (or 3G provision).
- ◀ Provide security of tenure for clubs using unsecure sites, such as Bablake Playing Fields, through community use agreements and support negotiation with private landowners and schools to secure appropriate access (e.g., via a community use agreement).
- ◀ Seek to gain access to sites not currently available for community use, particularly where a large quantity of pitches are provided, such as Cardinal Newman Catholic School and King Henry VIII Sports Fields which would provide three and four match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity per week respectively.
- ◀ Consider pitch re-configuration where capacity of one pitch type can be used to reduce shortfalls of another and where it can better accommodate what demand is received e.g. adult to youth 11v11 pitches and mini 7v7 to mini 5v5 pitches such as at Coundon Hall Park.
- ◀ Work to accommodate exported, latent and future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity, such as Sowe Common Sports Ground, or at sites which are not currently available for community use.

General recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided in line with national planning policy).
- ◀ Update the LFFP following this study and use it to secure investment into appropriate sites.
- ◀ Utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to identify pitch conditions and recommendations to maintain or enhance pitch quality and enable future grant funding from the Football Foundation.

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- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer.
- ◀ Where appropriate, develop partnerships and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own sites.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site football provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls, with accompanying clubhouse provision included given that single pitch sites without appropriate ancillary facilities can be unsustainable.

3G pitches

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ The priority in regard to 3G pitches for football should be placed on the creation of new provision in areas where it is required (North West, South East and South West analysis areas).
- ◀ In addition, it is important to sustain the current pitch stock to ensure that the existing shortfalls are not exacerbated.
- ◀ Given the grass pitch shortfalls identified, scope also exists for further rugby union provision to be created in the future, particularly at sites that can service clubs with overplayed pitches and with no other realistic alternative for alleviation.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are eight full size 3G pitches in Coventry, all of which are available to the community and floodlit.
- ◀ In addition, there are 34 smaller sized 3G pitches across 16 sites.
- ◀ A planning application has been submitted for the potential development of a full size 3G pitch at Woodlands Sports Complex, whilst a planning application has also been submitted for a smaller sized 3G pitch at Seva School.
- ◀ Christ the King FC reports that it is in discussions with Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company in regard to a full size 3G pitch development at one its schools, Cardinal Newman School.
- ◀ The full size 3G pitches at Alan Higgs Centre, Coventry Rugby Club (Butts Park Arena), Moat House Leisure Centre, President Kennedy School, University of Warwick (Cryfield Pavilion) and University of Warwick (Westwood Campus) are all FIFA/FA³ approved and can therefore be used to host affiliated football.
- ◀ The smaller sized pitches at Coventry Blue Coat School, Ryona Engineering Supplies Stadium (Coventry Sphinx Football Club), St Finbarrs Sport Ground and University of Warwick (Westwood Campus) are also FA approved, whereas the full size pitch at Sidney Stringer Academy is not on the FA Pitch Register due to its poor condition.
- ◀ The 3G pitches at both Coventry Rugby Club (Butts Park Arena) and Warwick University (Cryfield Pavilion) are World Rugby compliant.
- ◀ The full size pitch at Sidney Stringer Academy has reached the end of its recommended lifespan and is assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ The smaller sized pitches at Coventry Blue Coat School, Goals Soccer Centre, Grace Academy and Hereward College Sports Pavilion have also exceeded their recommended lifespans.

³ [Football Foundation | 3G Pitch Register](#)

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Demand summary

- For football, 17% of clubs that responded to consultation report that they require additional access to 3G provision, which represents a high proportion of unmet demand although it is relatively low when compared to other local authorities regionally and nationally.
- With 407 football teams currently affiliated to Coventry there is a potential shortfall of two full size 3G pitches to meet training demand.
- When accounting for future demand, the potential shortfall increased to at least 3.5 full size pitches and the shortfall is identified in the North West, South East and South West analysis areas (demand is being accommodated in the North East Analysis Area).
- Notwithstanding the above, there is a need for a proportion of football training demand to be retained on hockey suitable AGPs to maintain the sustainability of the provision, particularly at Bablake Playing Fields and Caludon Castle Sports Centre, where demand is relatively high.
- Currently, only 37 (seven adult, 16 youth and 14 mini) affiliated football teams are registered as using 3G provision for match play, with opportunities existing for this to be increased given the facilities that are provided.

Scenarios

Accommodating football training demand

If all teams were to utilise 3G pitches to accommodate their training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a need for 10.75 full size 3G pitches in Coventry. However, the pitch at Coventry Rugby Club (Butts Park Arena) is discounted due to limited community availability and prioritises rugby union demand. Additionally, the pitches at both University of Warwick campuses have been discounted due to the prevalence of curricular usage, meaning there is a calculated total of 8.75 full size 3G pitch equivalents currently provided in Coventry (including smaller size pitches). This means a current shortfall of two full size 3G pitches.

Table 4.19: Current demand for 3G pitches in Coventry (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	3G requirement ⁴	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall
407	10.75	8.75	2

When considering future demand (using a combination of population increases and future demand expressed by clubs), there is a demand for 12.5 full size 3G pitches, meaning a shortfall of 3.75 pitches.

Table 4.20: Future demand for 3G pitches in Coventry (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	3G requirement ⁵	Current number of 3G pitches	Future shortfall
473	12.5	8.75	3.75

If every team was to remain training within the analysis area in which they play their matches in, the current shortfall equates to 1.5 full size pitches in the North West Analysis

⁴ Rounded to the nearest 0.25

⁵ Rounded to the nearest 0.25

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Area and a shortfall of 0.25 pitches in each of the South East and South West analysis area.

Table 4.21: Current demand for 3G pitches in Coventry by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement ⁶	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall
North East	103	3	3	-
North West	108	2.75	1.25	1.5
South East	127	3.25	3	0.25
South West	69	1.75	1.5	0.25
Coventry	407	10.75	8.75	2

When accounting for future demand, the potential shortfalls are projected to increase in the North West, South East and South West analysis areas, whereas demand remains satisfied in the North East Analysis Area.

Table 4.22: Future demand for 3G pitches in Coventry by analysis area

Analysis area	Future number of teams	3G requirement ⁷	Current number of 3G pitches	Future shortfall
North East	116	3	3	-
North West	127	3.25	1.25	2
South East	150	4	3	1
South West	80	2	1.5	0.5
Coventry	473	12.25	8.75	3.5

Moving football match play demand to 3G pitches

In Coventry, despite a considerable number of both full size and smaller size 3G pitches being FA/FIFA approved to host affiliated football⁸, currently only 37 affiliated teams are registered as using the provision for regular match play. This is a low number relative to the number of pitches provided.

The FA is particularly keen to work with local authorities to understand the potential demand for full size 3G pitches should all competitive matches that are currently played on council pitches be transferred. The number of teams currently utilising council provision is summarised below, based on peak time usage.

Table 4.23: Number of teams currently using council pitches

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Adult	11v11	Sunday AM	19
Youth	11v11	Sunday AM	13
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	7
Mini	7v7	Saturday AM	6
Mini	5v5	Saturday AM	2

⁶ Rounded to the nearest 0.25

⁷ Rounded to the nearest 0.25

⁸ [Football Foundation | 3G Pitch Register](#)

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Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Total			47

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

Table 4.24: Full size 3G pitches required for the transfer of council pitch demand

Format	No. of teams at peak time	No. of matches at peak time	3G units required per match ⁹	Total 3G units required	3G pitches required
Adult	19	9.5	32	304	4.75
11v11	13	6.5	32	208	3.25
9v9	7	3.5	10	35	0.55
7v7	6	3	8	24	0.38
5v5	2	1	4	4	0.06

Transferring all matches currently played on council pitches would equate to the need for nine full size 3G pitches (rounded up from 8.55) as the requirements for adult and youth pitch types need to be added together (as peak time is the same). As this is below the number required to accommodate training demand, it is suggested that meeting the training shortfall could also enable the transfer of all play from council pitches.

An alternative approach to consider is the transfer of all mini football to 3G provision, which is also a priority for the FA and which can maximise the usage of pitches due to the number of matches that can be played at one time and on one day. As such, the table below tests a scenario to enable all mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 football to transfer to 3G pitches based on a programme of play at current peak time (Saturday AM).

Table 4.25: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

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

Based on the above programming and separate start times for the formats, the overall need is for 5.5 full size 3G pitches to accommodate all current mini match play demand. This is calculated based on 41 teams playing mini 5v5 football and 66 teams playing mini 7v7 football. As such, it is considered that the current supply of pitches could accommodate all existing demand.

The table below tests a similar scenario for youth 9v9 football.

Table 4.26: Moving all 9v9 matches to 3G pitches

Time	AGP	Total games/teams
10am – Noon	2 x 9v9	2/4
Noon – 2pm	2 x 9v9	2/4

⁹ Based on pitches are split on a full size 3G pitch

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Time	AGP	Total games/teams
2pm – 4pm	2 x 9v9	2/4

This demand could also be accommodated on the existing number of pitches as it equates to the need for 5.25 full size 3G pitches based on 63 teams currently playing this format within Coventry. It is also worth noting that if all youth 9v9 football was moved to a Saturday and all mini football was retained on a Sunday (or vice versa), it is feasible that all current demand for mini and youth 9v9 football could be accommodated on the existing 3G pitch stock.

Full size 3G proposals

There are proposals for full size 3G pitches to be established at Woodlands Sports Complex and at Cardinal Newman School (in partnership with Christ the King FC). In addition, preliminary discussions have also been held regarding the potential provision of a full size 3G pitch at Coundon Court School, where the School has been looking to acquire additional land surrounding the site which it would develop into playing field land. With three pitches proposed but a future shortfall of two full size 3G pitches in the North West Analysis Area, further investigation is required to determine which two of these potential developments are the most feasible. The proposal at Woodlands Sports Complex benefits from outline planning permission for the installation of a 3G pitch on site.

Elsewhere, there is an opportunity to convert the existing sand-based pitch at Caludon Castle Sports Centre to 3G given that it is currently not required for hockey and given its quality issues. As the pitch is located in the South East Analysis Area, its conversion would alleviate the future shortfall identified, meaning that this development could be supported.

Birmingham FA, the Football Foundation and England Hockey would all be supportive of the development although the loss of the AGP for hockey would mean that the existing facility stock has no capacity for an increase of demand. Therefore, all remaining hockey suitable AGPs must be protected for hockey within the City and options to remove permitted development rights for the change of artificial pitch surfaces (from sand-based to 3G or vice versa) should be explored to ensure NGBs can protect the artificial pitch supply for the benefits of all sports in Coventry.

It should also be noted that Warwick District Council aspires to include a full size 3G pitch as part of the 2,500-home development at King's Hill on the Coventry and Warwickshire border. Despite technically residing in Warwick, the development is a five-minute drive from Alvis Sports Club, where discussions are ongoing regarding the establishment of a full-size 3G pitch.

On the Coventry side of the border, there is a future shortfall of 0.5 full size 3G pitches in the South West Analysis Area. The Warwick District Council PPS, completed in June 2019, indicates that four full size 3G pitches are required in Warwick to alleviate the current football training shortfall.

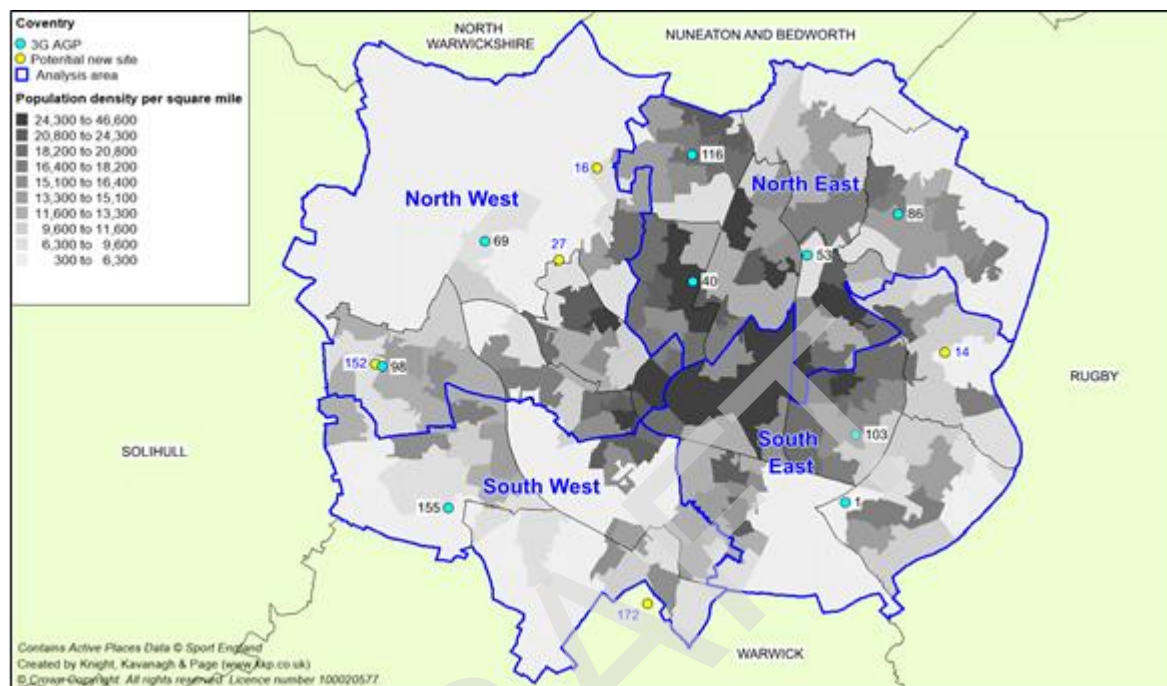
Therefore, the both councils need to work collaboratively to determine whether developments on either side of the border (full-size or small-size) would be warranted or if a single full-size 3G pitch development would suffice. This could also enable funding to be pooled together into an enhanced development at a single site.

Linked to the above and since the production of the assessment report, Coventry University has submitted a planning application to replace a senior rugby union pitch at Coventry University (The Place) with a sports lit 3G pitch that would be available to the community.

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This pitch would be located in the South West Analysis Area and could therefore meet the future training shortfall of 0.5 full size 3G pitches as long as there is sufficient community access as it would be predominantly utilised for University demand.

Figure 4.1: Existing and proposed 3G pitches



World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

There are two World Rugby compliant 3G pitches within Coventry, one at Coventry Rugby Club (Butts Park Arena) and one at University of Warwick (Cryfield Pavilion). These are well used by the providers as well as having very ad-hoc usage from rugby union clubs in Coventry although they typically train on grass pitches.

Given the grass pitch shortfalls identified, scope exists for further provision to be created in the future, particularly at sites that can service clubs with overplayed pitches and with no other realistic alternative for alleviation. As such, provision that could service the likes of Coventrians and Pinley rugby clubs should be seen as a priority. This is further explored in the rugby union scenarios below.

Site specific recommendations

- Develop additional 3G pitches to alleviate identified shortfalls, with priority placed on developing pitches at two of Woodlands Sports Complex, Cardinal Newman School and Coundon Court School in the North West Analysis Area.
- Pursue conversion of the AGP at Caludon Castle Sports Centre in the South East Analysis Area.
- Support the creation of additional 3G pitches above and beyond football training shortfalls if it can satisfy multi-sport demand, or explore creation of 3G pitches that are appropriate for numerous sports when alleviating shortfalls, particularly in the South East Analysis Area such as at Caludon Castle Sports Centre. Community need for the facility would have to be demonstrated and supported by the relevant NGBs.

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General recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA/RFU recommended dimensions and quality performance standards to meet performance testing criteria.
- ◀ Seek to resurface existing stock of 3G pitches that have exceeded recommended lifespan e.g., at Sidney Stringer Academy.
- ◀ Ensure all 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are on the FA Pitch Register are re-tested every three years, or annually for clubs competing in the football pyramid, to sustain certification.
- ◀ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are World Rugby compliant are re-tested every two years to sustain certification.
- ◀ Explore options to remove permitted development rights for the change of artificial pitch surfaces (from sand-based to 3G or vice versa).
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches with external funding have community use agreements in place and seek to use this to also tie in access to grass pitch and other sporting provision, where relevant.
- ◀ Encourage more match play demand to transfer to 3G pitches, where possible, particularly from council sites and for mini and youth 9v9 football.

Cricket

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ There are ten squares that show potential spare capacity on grass wickets although none have actual spare capacity for senior demand on Saturday's, whilst eight have actual spare capacity on Sunday's and nine midweek.
- ◀ No grass wicket squares are identified as being overplayed in Coventry.
- ◀ Spare capacity exists currently for Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket, although future shortfalls are identified for Saturday cricket and specifically in the South East and South West analysis areas.

Supply summary

- ◀ In total, there are 13 grass cricket squares in Coventry located across nine sites, ten of which are available for community use.
- ◀ There are no NTPs accompanying grass wicket squares although there are 11 standalone NTPs provided.
- ◀ Two grass wicket square were identified as disused, located at The Highway Club and Colliery Sports Ground.
- ◀ Standard CC has been served notice to cover all expenses from March 2021 at Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane) or vacate the site by 25th October 2022. It is not yet known whether the Club has identified alternate playing provision for the 2023 season.
- ◀ The audit of community available grass wicket cricket squares in Coventry found four to be good quality and the remaining six to be standard quality (none are assessed as poor quality).
- ◀ The audit of community available NTPs in Coventry found two to be good quality, two are assessed as standard quality and five are poor quality.

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- ◀ All clubs in Coventry have access to changing room facilities at their home ground and the quality is generally adequate, although Bablake CC is serviced by poor quality provision.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are 13 affiliated cricket clubs in Coventry which collectively provide 45 cricket teams, equating to 38 senior men's, 12 junior boys and no women's and girls' teams.
- ◀ There has been a significant reduction in demand in recent years.
- ◀ Coventry Blues CC imports a single midweek team into Coventry from Stratford-on-Avon.
- ◀ Two clubs in Coventry form part of the All Stars initiative and two clubs are running Dynamo's sessions.
- ◀ Unaffiliated demand is noted via Last Man Stands, with two LMS leagues operating within Coventry; one across Xcel Leisure Centre and Massey Ferguson Sports Ground and one at Coventry University (The Place).
- ◀ Future demand of eight senior men's and one junior team is predicted via population growth, although this falls to six senior men's teams when broken down by analysis area.

Scenarios

Accommodating future overplay

Whilst no existing overplay is identified in Coventry, future shortfalls are expected in the North West, South East and South West analysis areas, each amounting to 24 match equivalent sessions. Currently, all existing squares in Coventry are played to capacity on Saturdays.

Based on the above, to adequately accommodate future demand in Coventry, an additional square would need to be provided in each of the North West, South East and South West analysis areas.

Standard CC

Due to Standard CC's ongoing tenure issues at Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane), it appears likely that the Club will be forced to vacate the site in the very near future. Therefore, this scenario considers the impact if it does have to relocate.

The Club currently fields five senior men's teams of which two Saturday, one Sunday and one midweek team currently play at Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane), equating to 23 matches per season on site. As the South West Analysis Area (where Standard CC is based) is currently played to capacity on Saturdays, any loss of provision would lead directly to overplay.

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Table 4.27: Saturday cricket balance if Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane) is lost

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
North East	-	-	0	-	0
North West	-	-	0	24	24
South East	-	-	0	24	24
South West	-	24	24	24	48
Total	0	24	24	72	96

As seen in the table above, current overplay of the South West Analysis Area would occur, leading to an overall shortfall of 24 match equivalent sessions and a future shortfall of 96 match equivalent sessions.

On Sundays, current and future capacity would fall to 108 match sessions, whilst midweek current and future midweek capacity would fall to 246 match sessions.

If provision at Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane) is to be lost, Standard CC would be forced to export its demand outside of the City, or the Club could be lost entirely. To prevent this, there would be a need for new provision within close proximity to the existing provision. With The Highway Club being located in the South West Analysis Area and a planning application submitted for the permanent loss of the square on site, contributions from this development could be directed to provide new playing provision for Standard CC if it is forced to vacate Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane) instead of the off-site contributions to existing cricket provision currently proposed as part of the mitigation package that includes a replacement adult football pitch for the disused football pitch on site.

Peugeot CC

Due to uncertainty around the future of The Parkridge Centre (Formerly Peugeot Sports Club), with Peugeot CC's lease agreement set to expire at the end of the 2023 season, the following scenario considers the impact if Peugeot CC is forced to relocate.

The Club currently fields two senior men's teams, both of which play on Saturdays at The Parkridge Centre (Formerly Peugeot Sports Club), equating to 13 matches per season on site. As the South East Analysis Area (where Peugeot CC is based) is currently played to capacity on Saturdays, any loss of provision would lead directly to overplay.

Table 4.28: Saturday cricket balance if The Parkridge Centre (Formerly Peugeot Sports Club) is lost

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
North East	-	-	0	-	0
North West	-	-	0	24	24
South East	-	24	24	24	48
South West	-	-	0	24	24
Total	0	24	24	72	96

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As seen in the table above, current overplay of the South West Analysis Area would occur, leading to an overall shortfall of 24 match equivalent sessions and a future shortfall of 96 match equivalent sessions.

If The Parkridge Centre (Formerly Peugeot Sports Club) is to be lost, Peugeot CC would be forced to export its demand outside of the City, or the Club could be lost entirely. To prevent this, there would be a need for new provision within close proximity to the existing provision.

Generic recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares.
- ◀ Improve quality at sites assessed as standard and ensure quality is sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Continue to support ECB initiatives such as All Stars and Dynamos and ensure unaffiliated demand and recreational cricket is provided for.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing or new cricket sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).

Site specific recommendations

- ◀ Explore creation of additional squares in the South East and South West analysis areas in order to eradicate future shortfalls.
- ◀ Work with the WCB and ECB to improve the quality of and increase demand for NTPs in Coventry and consider the feasibility of creating additional NTPs to support the recreational and informal game.
- ◀ Pursue improved security of tenure for clubs without ownership or a long-term lease arrangement in place, particularly Standard CC.
- ◀ If the above cannot be secured for Standard CC, support the Club to relocate to a suitable alternative site.
- ◀ Improve the changing facilities where there is a need to do so i.e., at Bablake Playing Fields.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, ensure that any proposals for new squares will attract adequate demand with suitable ancillary provision. Focus for new provision should be placed on the South East and South West analysis areas.

Rugby union

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Of the 26 pitches identified as having potential spare capacity, only three are considered to have actual spare capacity at peak time for an increase in senior rugby totalling three match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ There are 17 senior pitches across 11 sites that are overplayed by a total of 37 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ There is a current overall shortfall of 34 match equivalent sessions per week, with future demand exacerbating this to 41.25 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ A current and future shortfall is identified in each analysis area.

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Supply summary

- There are 65 pitches identified across 33 sites, of which 50 pitches are available for community use across 25 sites.
- Coventry Welsh and Barkers Butts rugby clubs have plans to develop additional pitches at their respective home venues.
- Trinity Guild RUFC has plans to develop a new site after losing its previous home venue (it currently uses Finham Park School).
- Coventry Corsairs RUFC has unsecure tenure although it is in discussions with Coventrians RUFC to extend its current rental agreement.
- Coventry Technical RUFC leases its site from the Council, although this is due to expire in 2025 and the site has been allocated for residential development as part of the local plan.
- Of pitches which are available for community use, there are 13 good quality pitches, nine standard quality pitches and 26 poor quality pitches
- Coventry Rugby, Coventry Welsh, Coventrians, Earlsdon, Stoke Old Boys and Trinity Guild rugby clubs all report a need, or have a need, for ancillary provision improvements.

Demand summary

- There are 15 rugby clubs considered to be based in Coventry providing a total of 132 teams.
- A total of 12 clubs currently use match pitches to accommodate training demand, whereas teams from Coventry RUFC, as well as University of Warwick based demand, instead use a World Rugby compliant 3G provision.
- Team generation rates predict a growth by analysis area of four senior men's, nine junior boy's and one mini mixed team.
- Five clubs quantify aspirations to increase their current team numbers by a total of 16 teams.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

Maximising pitch quality through enhanced maintenance and the installation of drainage systems would alleviate overplay on six of the 13 overplayed pitches across Coventry. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.28: Capacity of overplayed pitches if quality improved to good (M2/D3)

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality rating
6	Bablake Playing Fields	Senior	1	Poor	2.25	0.75
32	Coventrians Rugby Club	Senior	1	Poor	4.75	2.75
			1	Poor	2.5	0.5
41	Dunlop Sports and Social Club	Senior	1	Poor	3.75	1.75
42	Earlsdon Rugby Club	Senior	1	Standard	0.5	1.25
47	Finham Park School	Senior	1	Standard	1.5	0
		Junior	1	Standard	7.5	6
90	Old Coventrians Rugby Club	Senior	3	Good	2	2.5

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Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality rating
96	Pinley Rugby Club	Senior	1	Poor	7.5	4.5
132	Stoke Old Boys Rugby Football Club	Senior	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
162	Coventry Welsh Rugby Club	Senior	1	Good	0.75	0.25

Overall, this would reduce the shortfall from 31 match equivalent sessions per week to 13.25 match equivalent sessions, whilst future shortfalls would reduce from 38.25 match equivalent sessions per week to 20.5 match equivalent sessions.

Table 4.29: Supply and demand balance with quality improvements

Demand	Capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Current demand	31	13.25
Future demand	38.25	20.5

At least one pitch at each of Coventrians Rugby Club, Finham Park School, Pinley Rugby Club and Coventry Welsh Rugby Club would remain overplayed even if quality was maximised. This is predominately due to high levels of training demand on the provision.

However, in reality it is not feasible for every pitch within Coventry to be improved to the maximum quality rating due to the financial implications of providing pipe and slit drainage every five years. For example, it is unlikely that further pitch improvement works would be undertaken at Old Coventrians Rugby Club as all pitches on site are currently of M2/D2 quality.

Increasing access to training provision (grass pitches)

All the pitches that would remain overplayed despite quality improvements are serviced by sports lighting and receive training demand from club users. As such, providing additional sports lighting could help reduce overplay as training demand could be dispersed, although this is dependent on the level of spare capacity provided on the existing non-lit provision.

At Pinley Rugby Club and Coventry Welsh Rugby Club, only one pitch is provided at both sites, meaning there is no current possibility for additional sports lighting to be provided. However, for Coventry Welsh Rugby Club, unmarked areas could instead be used, which aligns to the Club's plans to convert a recently purchased area into playing field land. This should therefore be supported.

For Pinley RUFC, the Club also utilises provision at Wyken Croft Playing Fields, with the two pitches at this site currently providing spare capacity despite being poor quality. Enhancing quality and providing sports lighting at the site could, in theory, alleviate shortfalls although this would require all three pitches to be maintained to M2/D3 quality which is not considered to be feasible or sustainable.

At Coventrians Rugby Club, overplay could be eradicated with additional sports lighting, although at the this would also require maximising quality across the site.

At Finham Park School, sports lighting both pitches instead of just one, in conjunction with quality improvements, would reduce overplay although significant levels would remain. That

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being said, given that Trinity Guild RUFC is to transfer away from the site once its new site is developed, this is unlikely to be necessary.

The impact of actioning the above on overall shortfalls across Coventry is shown in the table below (on the assumption that quality is also increased across the relevant sites).

Table 4.30: Supply/demand balance with additional sports lighting

Demand	Capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Current demand	31	12.5
Future demand	38.25	19.75

Increasing pitch stock

To fully alleviate shortfalls, in addition to increasing pitch quality and sports lighting, additional pitches may need to be made available to Coventry Welsh, Pinley and Trinity Guild rugby clubs, as discussed below.

Trinity Guild RUFC, as referenced above, is to permanently relocate to a new site from Finham Park School, which it is only using temporarily following the loss of its previous venue. It states that this will provide two senior and one junior pitch as well as training areas, sports lighting and a clubhouse with six changing rooms. It is hoping to be at the new site in late 2024. As the Club currently has demand equating to 10.5 match equivalent sessions per week, it is feasible that three pitches could be sufficient to meet demand, especially if the separate training areas are adequate to accommodate the majority of its training demand.

The Club's training demand currently equates to eight match equivalent sessions per week. Assuming half of this demand would be accommodated on separate training areas, the three pitches would need to have capacity for 6.5 match equivalent sessions per week to accommodate all current demand, although team generation rates predict that a further two juniors boys' teams are to be generated in the South West Analysis Area which Trinity Guild RUFC is likely to absorb. Therefore, capacity for at least 7.5 match equivalent sessions per week should be provided which would require all new pitches to be constructed and maintained to at least M1/D2 or M2/D1 quality.

One additional pitch would need to be made available to Coventry Welsh RUFC to alleviate overplay on site, again providing evidence to support its aspiration to convert a recently purchased area to playing field land. To fully alleviate this shortfall, the additional playing field land would need to be maintained to at least M0/D1 or M1/D0 quality, although better quality should be sought from a playability perspective. This land will be used as a training area for the Club. As no current proposals exist to enable this and as the Club is not known to have sufficient funding in place, opportunities should be pursued in collaboration with the RFU.

As shown in the previous scenario, alleviating overplay for Pinley RUFC is not deemed feasible through increased access to sports-lit training provision and pitch quality improvements. As such, removing training demand from Pinley Rugby Club would be the most appropriate solution, with the Club currently servicing training demand of three match equivalent sessions per week.

To accommodate the Club's training demand, access to a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch could be sought. A future shortfall of one full-size 3G is identified in the South East Analysis Area, where Pinley Rugby Club resides, so evidence exists to support the installation of a

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pitch. Furthermore, the RFU indicates that a WR compliant 3G pitch within the vicinity of Pinley Rugby Club would be its preferred location within the City for such a development.

If the training demand was removed from its grass pitches, overplay at Pinley Rugby Club would fall to three match equivalent sessions per week, with 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity currently located on both the senior and junior pitches at Wyken Croft Playing Fields. This leaves an overall shortfall of two match equivalent sessions per week which could be alleviated by improving pitch quality at Pinley Rugby Club to at least M2/D1 or M1/D3 and the pitches at Wyken Croft Playing Fields to at least M1/D1. However, if these improvements were to go ahead, careful fixture management would also be required to ensure that overplay would not occur at either site.

Additionally, given that it is likely to be unrealistic to fully improve quality and to provide sufficient sports lighting across all the sites where such actions need to be implemented, additional pitches may also be required for other clubs. This is especially the case for Coventrians RUFC, where shortfalls are particularly high.

Barker's Butts RUFC plans to develop additional pitches at Barkers Butts Rugby Club to better accommodate current and future demand. However, there is no spare land for additional pitch space at Barker's Butts Rugby Club and therefore it is considered that the Club is looking to purchase additional land to accommodate this. As the Club currently has spare capacity on all of its pitches, this would not be an immediate priority although future growth of the Club should be monitored to ensure overplay does not occur.

For Coventrians RUFC, as playing field land at Coventrians Rugby Club is already fully utilised and as it is unrealistic for shortfalls to be alleviated through quality improvements and the provision of sports lighting alone, removing training demand from the site should also be explored. The Club's training demand currently totals 2.25 match equivalent sessions per week and removing this from the site would reduce the overall shortfall to only 1.5 match equivalent sessions. This could be alleviated by improving pitch quality to at least M2/D1 or M1/D2 quality. For the Club's training demand, access to a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch should be sought, similarly to Pinley RUFC.

As both Pinley and Coventrians rugby clubs potentially require access to World Rugby compliant 3G provision to alleviate their overplay, it should be noted that Pinley RUFC is located in the South East Analysis Area, where a future football training shortfall of one full size 3G pitch exists. Therefore, any 3G development proposals that arise within the area should also consider Pinley RUFC's demand and be constructed to suit (i.e., to meet World Rugby Regulation 22 requirements). As stated previously, this is also a preferred development location for the RFU.

The North East Analysis Area, where Coventrians RUFC resides, does not have a 3G shortfall for football. As such, a dedicated World Rugby compliant pitch could be established, although the sustainability of this would be questionable due to insufficient demand for it to be fully utilised. A better approach may therefore be to ensure that the development of a pitch within the South East Analysis Area is also with a commutable distance for Coventrians RUFC, thus reducing the number of pitches to be provided whilst ensuring both clubs have sufficient access.

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Recommendations

Pitch maintenance/drainage/extra provision

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at all sites used by clubs through improved maintenance and/or the installation of drainage systems, particularly at sites containing overplayed pitches such as Pinley Rugby Club.
- ◀ Explore usage of currently unused venues, such as Caludon Castle Sports Centre, as a means to alleviating overplay at club sites, subject to the clubs being willing to access secondary sites.
- ◀ Support proposals for Barker's Butts RUFC and Coventry Welsh RUFC to be provided with additional pitch provision.

Sports lighting

- ◀ Increase or provide provision with sports lighting at club sites where pitches are overplayed due to high levels of training demand, and particularly where shortfalls would remain despite quality improvements (e.g., at Coventrians and Broadstreet rugby clubs).

Ancillary provision

- ◀ Support ancillary facility improvement aspirations expressed by Coventry Welsh, Coventrians, Coventry Rugby, Old Wheatleyans and Stoke Old Boys rugby clubs.

New developments

- ◀ Enable the relocation of Trinity Guild RUFC from Finham Park School to its new site by late 2024 and ensure the Club is adequately provided for in terms of pitch and ancillary provision.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand e.g. via demand from existing clubs.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing and priority sites within the locality.

Security of tenure

- ◀ Pursue improved security of tenure for Coventry Corsairs and Coventry Technical rugby clubs or ensure any permanent loss of their facilities is replaced in line with national planning policy.

World Rugby compliant 3Gs

- ◀ Explore the feasibility of providing a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in the South East Analysis Area for Pinley RUFC and in commutable distance for Coventrians RUFC to accommodate their training demand.

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Hockey

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ The current number of AGPs is sufficient to meet both match play and training demand, although only minimal spare capacity remains.
- ◀ It is also imperative that the AGPs that currently accommodate hockey demand are protected for future hockey use.
- ◀ Consideration should also be given to increasing the opening hours of the pitches at Bablake Playing Fields and improving quality at Caludon Castle Sports Centre, if the pitch is to be retained for hockey.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are six full size, floodlit AGPs suitable for competitive hockey in Coventry located across four sites.
- ◀ The pitch at Coventry University (The Place) and one pitch at University of Warwick (Westwood Campus) are two of the few water-based pitches supplied nationally.
- ◀ In addition, there are eight smaller-sized AGPs located across the City, although none are suitable for purposeful hockey demand.
- ◀ All six full size pitches are considered to be readily available to the community within the peak period, although availability is restricted at the University sites due to internal usage, and the pitches at Bablake Playing Fields have limited weekend opening hours.
- ◀ Based on the guidance of a ten-year carpet life, the pitch at Caludon Castle Sports Centre is in need of refurbishment and is assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ All remaining full size pitches are considered to be good or standard quality and are within their recommended lifespans.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are currently four community hockey clubs and two universities playing in Coventry, collectively consisting of 19 men's teams, 13 women's teams and six junior teams.
- ◀ There is no known exported demand from Coventry into neighbouring authorities, whereas Khalsa Leamington HC imports demand into Coventry from Warwick.
- ◀ It is clear that there is significant usage of the full size hockey suitable AGPs within Coventry, with all but one pitch (at Caludon Castle Sports Centre) in use by at least one hockey club.
- ◀ In addition, some of the provision is also commonly used for other activities, most notably in terms of football, whether that be through formal training or via informal social use.

Scenarios

Accommodating future demand

As a reminder one full size floodlit AGP is able to accommodate four match equivalent sessions on one day. With teams playing on a home and away basis, this equates to one AGP being able to cater for eight 'home' teams at peak time (one team requires 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on its 'home' pitch).

On the basis that there are six full size AGPs available which can accommodate hockey matches in Coventry, this provides a theoretical opportunity to accommodate up to 48 hockey teams across the City. However, quality issues mean that the pitch at Caludon Castle Sports Centre should not be used for hockey, whereas the pitches at Bablake Playing

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Fields do not open to the community until 12:30pm on Saturdays, meaning that morning matches cannot be hosted at the site. As such, capacity across Coventry is calculated at 32 teams.

Table 4.31: Usage of full size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Number of teams	
			Potential capacity	Actual capacity
6	Bablake Playing Fields	2	16	8
14	Caludon Castle Sports Centre	1	8	0
38	Coventry University (The Place)	1	8	8
139	University of Warwick (Westwood Campus)	2	16	16

With 32 senior teams currently provided across the clubs, this suggests that current supply is sufficient to accommodate demand, although no capacity remains for any increase in future demand, despite growth plans from both Coventry University HC and Khalsa Leamington HC.

Notwithstanding the above, if Coventry University HC was to field another team, matches would be played outside of the peak period, during midweek time slots, due to how University fixtures are arranged. As such, this could be accommodated and would not impact upon peak time capacity, although it may require the transfer of some football or hockey training demand.

The additional demand identified by Khalsa Leamington HC cannot be accommodated on the current supply of pitches within Coventry. However, it should be noted that the Club has aspirations to construct its own pitch at a site within Leamington Spa (in Warwick). If this was to go ahead, it is likely that most of the Club's demand would leave Coventry, which in turn would free up additional capacity for the remaining hockey activity, although a single pitch development would be insufficient to accommodate all the Club's demand (meaning some imported demand into Coventry would remain). Such plans should therefore be supported if sufficient funding was raised/available.

Converting sand-based AGPs to 3G

Of the six full size pitches located in Coventry, five are used extensively for hockey and therefore should not be considered for 3G pitch conversion unless a replacement pitch in a suitable location is provided. As such, all these pitches should be protected for future hockey usage and attempts should be made for this to be ensured through planning policy e.g., through having permitted development rights removed (meaning planning permission would be required for a surface change).

The exception to the above is at Caludon Castle Sports Centre, where the pitch on site has exceeded its recommended lifespan and is assessed as poor quality. It is currently unused for hockey, with all demand on site being football based, and pitch improvements would be required before any hockey demand could be safely accommodated. As hockey demand is being met without the use of pitch at Caludon Castle Sports Centre, alternative uses for the AGP on site could be explored i.e., 3G conversion.

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Generic recommendations

- ◀ Protect the five full size pitches currently utilised to ensure they can continue to accommodate hockey demand.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have sinking funds in place at all sites to ensure long-term accessibility.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Site specific recommendations

- ◀ Look to improve security of tenure for Khalsa Leamington, Sikh Union Coventry, Berkswell & Balsall Common and Coventry & North Warwickshire hockey clubs.
- ◀ Support Khalsa Leamington HC in its aspirations to return demand to Warwick to free up additional capacity in Coventry.
- ◀ Ensure future demand expressed by Coventry University HC can be accommodated within the City.
- ◀ Explore opportunities to increase the opening hours and improve the sports lighting servicing the pitch at Bablake Playing Fields.
- ◀ Explore alternative use cases for the AGP at Caludon Castle Sports Centre alongside the 3G pitch recommendations.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.

Bowls

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Where membership is known, two greens (at Dunlop Sports & Social Club and Coundon Social Club) are operating above the recommended capacity threshold.
- ◀ Conversely, two greens (at Old Coventrians Rugby Club and Coventrians Rugby Club) are operating close to the minimum recommended capacity.
- ◀ Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, although Old Coventrians, Herberts/Coventrians, Coundon and Dunlop bowls clubs may need support to ensure this remains the case.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are 24 bowling greens (17 crown greens, seven flat greens) in Coventry provided across 19 sites, all of which are available for community use.
- ◀ A total of three disused bowling greens are also identified, with these located at Bell Green Working Men's Club and The Highway Club.
- ◀ Overall, eight greens are assessed as good quality, six as standard quality and ten as poor quality.
- ◀ In terms of clubhouse facilities, eight sites are serviced by good quality provision, nine by standard quality provision and two by poor quality provision.
- ◀ Five of the greens are serviced by sports lighting, which represents a high proportion.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are 20 clubs using bowling greens in Coventry (14 crown and six flat).

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- ◀ Of the 13 clubs that have responded to consultation requests, there are a total of 572 members, equating to 386 senior men, 171 senior women and 15 juniors.
- ◀ The average membership across the clubs is 44.
- ◀ In correlation to a national trend of declining membership, four clubs report a reduction in participation over recent years, whereas only one reports an increase (Alvis BC).
- ◀ Six of the responsive clubs express some level of future demand, equating to the potential growth of 67 senior members and 14 junior members.
- ◀ Two clubs offer pay and play access in addition to membership usage, although uptake is low.

Scenarios

N/A

Generic recommendations

- ◀ Protect all existing in-use greens.
- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as poor and standard quality, such as Copsewood Community Sports & Social Club and Coventrians Rugby Club, and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, such as Jaguar Bowls Club.
- ◀ Seek to improve ancillary facility quality where it is necessary e.g., at Old Coventrians Rugby Club and Spencer Park.
- ◀ For crown green bowls, encourage partnership working between the North Midlands CGBA and the Council to provide an informal bowls offer at Council sites such as Spencer Park and War Memorial Park to introduce new players to the sport.
- ◀ For flat green bowls, support Bowls England to implement new products to increase participation within Coventry; Bowls Bash¹⁰ (a shortened format) and Play Bowls¹¹ (to assist clubs to attract more casual, pay and play, participants).

Site specific recommendations

- ◀ Improve security of tenure for Dunlop BC and Standard BC.
- ◀ Support clubs operating with a high membership, such as Dunlop BC, to ensure demand continues to be met on their existing provision.
- ◀ Support clubs operating with a low membership, such as Old Coventrians BC, to ensure that they remain sustainable.

Tennis

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Supply is seemingly sufficient to meet club-based demand, although it may become problematic at Beechwood Lawn Tennis Club if it experiences reasonable levels of growth.
- ◀ Away from clubs, although no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, precedence should be placed on improving the supply in ways that can meet the high levels of unmet and latent demand identified.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are a total of 153 tennis courts identified in Coventry across 30 sites, with 61 courts categorised as being available for community use at 14 sites.

¹⁰ <https://www.bowlsengland.com/bowlsbash/>

¹¹ <https://play-bowls.com/>

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- ◀ The majority of courts are operated by schools, although only 27% of these are available for community use, whilst only 12 courts are operated by the Council.
- ◀ The large majority of courts have a macadam surface, with 141 being of this type compared to the remaining 12 having an artificial surface.
- ◀ In total, 54 of the courts are serviced by sports lights, representing just 35% of the provision, although this includes all courts servicing clubs.
- ◀ Of the courts, 44 are assessed as good quality, 46 as standard quality and 63 as poor quality.
- ◀ The ancillary facilities servicing Beechwood and Coventry & North Warwickshire tennis clubs are assessed as good quality, whilst the provision is generally considered to be problematic at non-club sites with the exception of War Memorial Park.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are two tennis clubs in Coventry.
- ◀ Beechwood TC has 454 members, whereas Coventry & North Warwickshire TC has 197 members.
- ◀ Away from clubs, demand for tennis at War Memorial Park and Spencer Park is relatively high when compared to local authority courts nationally, with both sites forming part of the LTA's Clubspark scheme.
- ◀ No other court providers report high levels of community access, including the various education providers.
- ◀ A Local Tennis League is in operation in Coventry at War Memorial Park, whilst Beechwood TC operated LTA Youth Start.
- ◀ Eight dedicated mini tennis courts have been identified, located at Sidney Stringer Academy, War Memorial Park and Beechwood Lawn Tennis Club, whereas there are no padel courts despite demand growing nationally.

Scenarios

Increasing recreational tennis demand

Increasing recreational tennis demand is currently a priority for the LTA, with twice as many people playing casually rather than at clubs. To enable this, it has secured a £22 million investment fund to be put into public tennis courts across Britain, together with an £8.5 million investment from the LTA. This will see thousands of public park tennis courts that are in poor or unplayable condition improved for the benefit of the local communities.

In Coventry, there are currently only two local authority sites providing tennis courts, with these being Spencer Park and War Memorial Park. This represents a significantly low supply and it is therefore considered that developing provision at other sites should be explored. Both Spencer Park and War Memorial Park are located in the South West Analysis Area, meaning that all other analysis areas should be of focus.

In addition, quality at Spencer Park is poor and therefore improvements should be sought to help attract additional demand as well as to better accommodate what is already received.

Generic recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Explore opportunities to provide additional courts at park and other local authority sites to improve the year-round recreational tennis offer.
- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via further utilisation of technology provided by the LTA (e.g., Clubspark) to support the customer journey and

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through investment into facilities and accompanying ancillary provision, such as at Spencer Park.

- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.

Site specific recommendations

- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality, such as Lyng Hall School Sports Centre and Jaguar Leisure Centre, and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs or that are (or could be) well used for recreational demand, such as Beechwood Lawn Tennis Club.
- ◀ Explore the installation of sports lighting where it is not currently provided to increase the capacity of courts, such as at Ernesford Grange Community Academy.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision servicing courts where demand is, or could be, high.
- ◀ Explore opportunities to provide padel courts, such as at Coventry & North Warwickshire Sports Club, and see to maximise activity given its growing demand.

Netball

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is high demand for netball in Coventry, as represented by 10 clubs being based in the City as well as two unaffiliated leagues and Walking Netball sessions.
- ◀ It is clear that the existing facility stock is not adequately meeting demand, predominately due to quantity quality and accessibility issues.

Supply summary

- ◀ There is a large supply of outdoor netball courts across Coventry, with 95 identified across 28 sites.
- ◀ Of the supply, 58 courts at 18 sites are available for community use.
- ◀ Most courts are operated by schools, with 84 of the 95 courts falling under this management type.
- ◀ The large majority of outdoor netball courts in Coventry have a macadam surface, with 91 being of this type (the remaining four are artificial courts).
- ◀ All but six of the courts are over marked by tennis provision.
- ◀ 36 of the courts are serviced by sports lighting, representing only 32% of the provision.
- ◀ Of the courts, 22 are assessed as good quality, 39 as standard quality and 34 as poor quality, with 15 of the good quality courts available for community use, 26 of the standard quality courts and 17 of the poor quality courts.

Demand summary

- ◀ Netball clubs in Coventry compete in the Coventry and Warwickshire Netball League at senior level and the Coventry and Warwickshire Youth League at junior level.
- ◀ There are ten clubs based in the City.
- ◀ Walking Netball sessions are held at Moat House Leisure & Neighbourhood Centre.
- ◀ There are no Bee Netball, Netball Now or Back to Netball sessions currently taking place in the City.
- ◀ Totally Netball operates a 'Back to Netball' league at King Henry VIII School whilst Play Netball operates social leagues at Bablake School.
- ◀ High levels of latent, unmet and future demand are identified.

Scenarios

N/A

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Generic recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs and for England Netball initiatives.
- ◀ Explore options to provide clubs with additional court space, potentially via additional venues.
- ◀ Consider establishing additional sports lighting at venues in use for netball or at venues that could attract netball demand following installation.

Site specific recommendations

- ◀ Focus on improving court quality and access to Xcel Leisure Centre to benefit Earlsdon Highway NC, England Netball and the wider netball community.
- ◀ Seek to improve access to educational sites, particularly where sports lighting is or could be provided such as Ernesford Grange Community Academy and Coventry Blue Coat School.

Athletics

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Coventry is very well provided for in relation to athletics, with three 400-metre tracks provided and this considered sufficient to meet demand.
- ◀ The track at Lyng Hall School Sports Centre is in urgent need of repair work to ensure that this remains the case, whilst the track at University of Warwick (Westwood Campus) requires protection.
- ◀ Emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other activities taking place in Coventry, such as Run Together groups, Park Run and Couch to 5k, with a focus on retaining and increasing participation and growing the various initiatives that are in place.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are three purpose-built athletics tracks in Coventry, at Lyng Hall School Sports Centre, President Kennedy School and University of Warwick (Westwood Campus).
- ◀ Both Lyng Hall School Sports Centre and University of Warwick (Westwood Campus) provide 400-metre synthetic tracks with sports lighting, whilst President Kennedy School provides a 400-metre cinder track (non-lit).
- ◀ There was also previously a six-lane, 400m cinder track located at Bishop Ullathorne School which closed in 2019 and has since been removed.
- ◀ The track at University of Warwick (Westwood Campus) is assessed as good quality whilst tracks at Lyng Hall School Sports Centre and President Kennedy School are assessed as poor quality.

Demand summary

- ◀ Five clubs have a current focus on athletics and/or running activity in Coventry.
- ◀ Sphinx AC uses Lyng Hall School as its base whilst Coventry Godiva Harriers utilises University of Warwick (Westwood Campus).
- ◀ Northbrook Athletic Club, Massey Ferguson Running Club and Coventry Triathletes also have a presence in Coventry, although none of them require formal athletics facilities.
- ◀ There is currently one active Run Together group in Coventry, Ashby's Adventure Trails and Treks.

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- ◀ Park Run events are held each week at War Memorial Park.
- ◀ Sport England's Market Segmentation tool identifies high levels of latent demand for athletics in Coventry, whilst Coventry Godiva Harriers has a waiting list in place for junior membership albeit this is due to a lack of coaches rather than facilities.
- ◀ Both Sphinx AC and Coventry Godiva Harriers express an aspiration to grow membership by a total of 40 and 100 members respectively, whilst England Athletics also believes that demand is likely to increase in the future, particularly for initiatives such as Park Run and junior Park Run, which both take place at War Memorial Park.

Scenarios

N/A

Generic recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing formal athletics facilities for continued activity.
- ◀ Support clubs, running groups, events and England Athletics initiatives such as Park Run and junior Park Run and pursue increased participation, where possible.
- ◀ Ensure all clubs/groups continue to have home bases to operate from and pursue improved security of tenure where it is required.

Site specific recommendations

- ◀ Improve track quality at Lyng Hall School Sports Centre as a priority to ensure that demand can continue to be met.

Golf

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ With six golf facilities in Coventry and a mix of 18-hole and 9-hole courses, as well as a well-equipped driving range, there is seemingly a good range of provision servicing the City.
- ◀ It is also clear that each facility is meeting a need, with further pressure to be created following the impending loss of provision at Windmill Village Hotel & Golf Club, meaning that all remaining sites require protection.
- ◀ There is also a shortfall of driving range bays.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are currently six golf facilities in Coventry.
- ◀ Four golf sites within Coventry provide one standard hole course, with three 18-hole courses (Coventry Hearsall, Windmill Village Hotel and Coventry golf clubs) and one 9-hole course (Copsewood Grange Golf Club) in place.
- ◀ The course at Windmill Village Hotel & Golf Club is soon to be lost following approval for a housing scheme as part of the local plan.
- ◀ An 18-hole Par 3 course is provided at Allesley Hall Golf Course which is owned and managed by the Council.
- ◀ John Reay Golf Centre provides a 30-bay, covered driving range with sports lighting, although this represents a low supply for an authority the size of Coventry.
- ◀ Although located just outside of Coventry, Brandon Wood Golf Course is owned by the City Council and provides a disused 18-hole course following closure in November 2020; it was deemed to be an unviable operation by Coventry Sports Trust although the Council is now working on re-establishing the site for golf.

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- ◀ The intention is to develop the site to contribute to the Council's 10-year Sports Strategy, to provide a good quality accessible golf course and ancillary facility offer, to provide a facility mix that means the site is sustainable without a council subsidy, and to explore alternative uses for surrounding land to compliment golf and to create other possible leisure/physical activity opportunities.
- ◀ Coventry and Coventry Hearsall golf clubs are members clubs, Windmill Village Hotel & Golf Club, John Reay Golf Centre and Copsewood Grange Golf Club are proprietary facilities and Allesley Hall Golf Course is a municipal course.
- ◀ Coventry and Coventry Hearsall golf clubs operate above the national average for membership costs, suggesting that they are high-end facilities, whereas the remaining sites are below the rate.
- ◀ In terms of the quality of the golf facilities, it is relatively good across Coventry with no significant issues identified, especially at Coventry Golf Club.
- ◀ Coventry Hearsall Golf Club has plans to refurbish ancillary provision on site whilst Coventry Golf Club aspires to re-develop and re-structure its building (which was built in 1971).

Demand summary

- ◀ Membership across the four sites with a membership scheme in place is high, collectively amounting to 2,166 members.
- ◀ Coventry and Coventry Hearsall golf clubs are operating significantly above the national average for membership, whereas Windmill Village Hotel and Copsewood Grange golf clubs are close to it.
- ◀ Membership since 2015 has increased across all four clubs and collectively across the clubs by 865 members.
- ◀ Coventry Golf Club operates with a small waiting list (eight members), although it is questionable as to whether this represents true unmet demand as it is likely that this demand is currently being accommodated elsewhere.
- ◀ Pay and play usage is unknown but is likely to be highest at Allesley Hall Golf Course, Windmill Village Hotel and Copsewood Grange golf clubs as well as John Reay Golf Centre given the operational structures in place and the lower price points.
- ◀ England Golf's mapping tool identifies a significant amount of potential/latent demand, with Copsewood Grange Golf Club shown to have the highest population base.

Scenarios

N/A

Generic recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing golf provision.
- ◀ Sustain course and ancillary facility quality and seek improvements where necessary.
- ◀ Support clubs in membership retention and potential growth and encourage clubs and providers to work more collaboratively in terms of creating pathways for players.

Site specific recommendations

- ◀ Ensure demand from Windmill Village Hotel & Golf Club can be adequately accommodated should development proposals go ahead and pursue contributions from the development to improve golf provision elsewhere within its catchment area.
- ◀ Re-establish golf at Brandon Wood Golf Course to help accommodate demand, ensuring appropriate investment into the site so that it becomes a viable operation

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(without council subsidy), and consider the creation of other on-site sport, leisure and recreation offerings to assist with this.

- ◀ Explore opportunities to relieve the identified shortfall of driving range bays (Brandon Wood Golf Course previously provided a driving range that could be brought back into use).

DRAFT

PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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

OBJECTIVE 1

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

Recommendations:

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

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

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

NPPF paragraph 99 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

Should facilities be taken out of use for any reason (e.g., council budget restraints), it is imperative that the land is 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 (subject to being informed by a review of the PPOSS or a separate needs assessment), or unless replacement provision is provided to an equal or greater quantity and quality.

Development Management

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

Sport England's playing field policy exception E1 only allows for development of provision if a PPOSS shows a clear excess in quantity both presently and in the future across all relevant sports facilities. This means that, even if there is a surplus of provision for a particular sport, provision for that sport cannot be deemed surplus to requirements and developed upon as the area could be used to reduce shortfalls for another sport through re-configuration/re-purposing.

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'.

Given the presence of shortfalls in Coventry, particularly for football and rugby union, exception E1 cannot currently be met for any proposals. Where a PPOSS cannot demonstrate that a site, or part of a site, is surplus to requirements, then replacement will instead be required in order for an application to be supported. This would 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.'

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

A number of school, commercial and private sites are being used in Coventry for competitive play, predominantly for football. In some cases, use of such facilities has been classified as secure; however, it is not necessarily formalised and relevant organisations should seek to establish appropriate community use agreements, including access to changing provision where required/available. This is especially the case for sites that have unsecured community use despite receiving high levels of use, such as at Jaguar Leisure Centre and Coundon Court School.

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

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Given current budgetary pressures, it is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations to enable them to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities. To facilitate this, where practical, it should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds for the acquisition and development of sites, providing that this is to the benefit of sport.

The Council should also further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted via lease agreements (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs) so that clubs are in a position manage assets and to apply for external funding for site improvements. This is particularly the case at poor quality local authority sites, possibly with inadequate or no ancillary facilities, so that quality can be enhanced and sites developed.

Local sports clubs that could be able to manage their own assets should be supported by partners including the Council, NGBs or Think Active to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership work. For example, club development should be supported and clubs should be encouraged to develop business and sports development plans to show how facilities can be sustainable and to maximise income generation.

Relevant clubs could also be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)¹². They should also be signposted to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies or local businesses.

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

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

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

Club	Site
<p>Clubs should have Clubmark/NGBs accreditation award.</p> <p>Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links.</p> <p>Clubs are sustainable, both in a financial sense and via their internal management structures in relation to recruitment and retention policy for both players and volunteers. Strong business plans could also be created by the clubs to illustrate this.</p> <p>Ideally, clubs should have already identified any match funding required for initial capital investment identified.</p>	<p>Sites should be those identified as 'Local Sites' (recommendation E) for new clubs (i.e., not those with a City-wide significance) but that offer development potential.</p> <p>For established clubs which have proven success in terms of self-management 'Key Centres' are also appropriate.</p> <p>As a priority, sites should acquire capital investment to improve (which can be attributed to the presence of an accreditation award).</p> <p>Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards the improvement of the site.</p>

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

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

- ◀ Increasing participation, particularly in target areas such as women's and girls' activity.
- ◀ Supporting the development of coaches and volunteers.
- ◀ Commitment to quality standards.
- ◀ Improvements (where required) to facilities, or as a minimum retaining existing standards.

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

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

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

A large number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the venues and local clubs, as well helping to reduce identified shortfalls. It is, however, common for provision not to be fully maximised for community use, even on established community use sites.

In some instances, facilities are unavailable for community use due to poor quality and therefore remedial works will be required before it can be established. The low carrying capacity of these facilities sometimes leads to them being played to capacity or overplayed simply due to curricular and extra-curricular use, meaning they cannot accommodate any additional use by the community.

As a priority, community use options should be explored at large education sites offering several pitches, such as Cardinal Newman Catholic School and King Henry VIII Sports Fields. Securing access to such sites will significantly reduce shortfalls throughout the analysis areas that they are based within.

Although there are a growing number of academies over which the Council has little or no control, it is still important to understand the significance of such sites and attempt to work with the providers where there are opportunities for community use. In addition, relevant NGBs have a role to play in supporting the Council to deliver upon this recommendation and communicating with schools where necessary to address shortfalls in provision.

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

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Where new schools are provided, they should be designed to facilitate community access, with opportunities for meeting the community's outdoor sports needs explored at the outset to maximise the potential impact of the provision. An example of this is ensuring the provision of youth 11v11 grass football pitches, given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students, or multi-use provision such as courts that can accommodate both tennis and netball activity.

OBJECTIVE 2

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

Recommendations:

- ◀ Improve quality
- ◀ Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) to the management and improvement of sites.
- ◀ Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding.
- ◀ Secure developer contributions through Section 106.

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to improve quality, including, for example, addressing overplay and improving maintenance. Given the number of councils' face reducing budgets, it is currently advisable to look at improving key sites as a priority (e.g., the largest, well used sites that are overplayed and/or poor quality). The Action Plan within this document provides a starting point for this, identifying key sites, poor quality sites and/or sites that are overplayed which should be prioritised for improvement.

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

Addressing quality issues

Quality in Coventry is variable but generally facilities are assessed as standard quality with the exception of rugby union pitches which are mostly assessed as poor 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 pitches is also essential.

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. For the purposes of quality assessments, the Strategy refers to pitches and ancillary facilities separately as being of 'good', 'standard' or 'poor' quality. However, 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).

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

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 (thus reducing capacity issues). Where this occurs, it is vital that the improvements are advertised and marketed towards potential users as their perception of the provision may need altering.

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

For football, The FA has a Pitch Improvement Programme aimed at improving the standard of grass pitches across the Country. For provision included in the programme, clubs can utilise the services of the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to carry out a free on-site assessment of their pitches. This then provides the Grounds Management Association (GMA) with the detail needed to create a personalised, informative report to advise on how improvements can be made. Clubs then receive bespoke advice and support to help with any future actions, funding applications and equipment, with clubs getting access to discounted rates for machinery and consumables through local partnerships.

The tool is available across mobile apps and desktop and is open to access by all providers, including clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches. Applicants are required to submit a PitchPower assessment for each of their pitches as a condition of a grant funding application for Football Foundation grass pitch investment, such as the Grass Pitch Maintenance fund.

For rugby union, the RFU is now also utilising Pitch Power, with reports also being produced similar to those for football.

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 GMA. 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.

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

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

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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 and weekly for football and rugby union).

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

Table 5.1: Carrying capacity of pitches

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

For non-pitch sports, capacity is not linked to the number of matches taking place but rather the number of members (and other users) attracted to a site. For example, for tennis, a hard court is said to have capacity for 60 members if it is serviced by sports lighting, whereas a non-lit has court has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts). For bowls, a green is considered at capacity if it has over 80 members, whilst a membership of under 20 could be unsustainable.

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

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

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

As mentioned earlier, there are also sites that are poor quality but are not overplayed. These should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than others but demand could increase if the quality was improved. It does, however, work both ways as

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potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular, which in the long run can lead again to them becoming poor quality pitches if not properly maintained.

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 outdoor sport sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 6: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

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

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

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

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

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

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 developments.

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

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

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The PPOSS should be used to help determine the likely impact of a new development on demand and the capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for contributions to put towards improvements to increase the capacity of existing provision, or if new provision is required (or a combination of both). 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).

Sport England recommends that a number of objectives should be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- ▶ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to specific planning obligations. Where developer contributions are applicable, a S106 agreement or equivalent must be completed that should specify, when applied, the amount that will be linked to Sport England's Building Cost Information Service from the date of the permission and timing of the contribution/s to be made.
- ▶ Contributions should also be secured towards the first ten years of maintenance on new pitches (lifecycle costs), the cost of which is indicated by the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator. NGBs and Sport England can provide further and up to date information on the associated costs.
- ▶ External funding should be sought/secured to achieve maximum benefit from the investment into appropriate facility enhancement, alongside other open space provision, and its subsequent maintenance.
- ▶ Where new provision is provided, appropriate changing rooms and associated car parking should be located on site.
- ▶ All new or improved outdoor sports facilities on school sites should be subject to community use agreements.
- ▶ Where it is determined that new provision is required to accompany a development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that also contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality. To determine what supply of provision is provided, it is imperative that the PPOSS findings are taken into consideration and that for particularly large developments consultation takes place with the relevant NGBs and Sport England. This is due to the importance of ensuring that the stock of facilities provided is correct to avoid provision becoming unsustainable and unused.

The preference from Sport England and the NGBs is for multi-pitch and potentially multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for further development in the future. This is because single-pitch facilities are more likely to become under-used (or unused), unviable and unsustainable.

It is recognised that consultation cannot take place with NGBs for every development due to resource restrictions. Instead, it is recommended that such discussions take place within PPOSS Steering Group meetings (see Part 8 for further information).

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

OBJECTIVE 3

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

Recommendations:

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

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

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

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

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity.
- ◀ The re-designation of facilities e.g., converting an unused pitch (or pitch type) for one sport to instead cater for another sport (or another pitch type).
- ◀ Securing community use at education sites including those currently unavailable.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage and secure tenure.
- ◀ Exploring lease/management arrangements with appropriate clubs/organisations.
- ◀ Establishing additional sports lighting.
- ◀ Installing artificial surfaces (e.g., NTPs).

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

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

The Steering Group should use and regularly update the Action Plan within this Strategy. The Action Plan lists recommendations for each site, focused upon both qualitative and quantitative improvements, which if delivered will lessen the need for new provision.

Linked to the above and as evidenced in Part 4, although there are identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions, 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 presently used minimally or that are currently unavailable. Adding to the current stock, particularly in the short term, is therefore not recommended as a priority, except for rugby union and for 3G pitches, the shortfall for which cannot be reduced without new stock.

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For rugby union, it is imperative that any new provision that is established will be accessed by the relevant clubs. Typically, rugby union demand can be very club-orientated, which can make the use of secondary venues unlikely. Failure to provide pitches in the right location could therefore lead to the provision becoming unused and unsustainable. Immediate focus should be placed on the North East and South East analysis areas.

Large scale housing developments and the establishment of new schools may also necessitate the need for new provision. Where new schools are developed, there is an opportunity to combine the building of the School to the development of a new multi-sport site that will be of a benefit to the School as well as the wider community.

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

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PART 6: ACTION PLAN

The site-by-site action plan seeks to address key issues identified in the preceding Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement. It is separated by analysis area and includes information pertaining to the sub sections below.

Site hierarchy

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

The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in a City-wide context. As such, this, for example, takes into account the level of demand accommodated and the potential impact the recommended actions will have on addressing the identified shortfalls/issues. The proposed site-hierarchy is summarised in the following table.

Table 6.1: Proposed tiered site criteria

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

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Hub sites are of City-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. Actions at these sites are likely to have a greater impact on addressing the issues identified in the PPOSS.

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

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

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

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

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

Partners

The column indicating partners refers to the main organisations that the Council would look to work with to support delivery of the actions.

Given the extent of potential actions, it is reasonable to assume that partners will not necessarily be able to support all the actions identified but where the action is a priority and resource is available the partner will endeavour to assist.

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

Priority

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

The majority of key centres have **medium** priority actions. These have analysis area importance and are identified on the basis of the impact that they will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment, although not to the same extent as high priority actions.

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The **low** priority actions tend to be for single pitch or single sport sites and often club or education sites with local specific importance but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified for specific users. Whilst low priority, there may be opportunities to action some of the recommendations made against such sites relatively quickly e.g., through S106 funding.

Costs

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

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

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

Timescales

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

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

Aim

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

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NORTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary - pitch sports

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance (2040)
Football – grass pitches			
North East	Adult	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 1 match session
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
Football – 3G pitches			
North East	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Coventry	Full size	Shortfall of 2 pitches	Shortfall of 3.5 pitches
Cricket			
North East	Senior (Saturday)	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Coventry	Senior (Saturday)	Actual spare capacity of 48 match sessions	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
Rugby union			
North East	Senior	Shortfall of 5 match sessions	Shortfall of 7.75 match sessions
Coventry	Senior	Shortfall of 27.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 34.5 match sessions
Hockey			
North East	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Coventry	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	There is a shortfall of capacity for Dunlop BC, although it does report any issue with this and therefore supply is considered sufficient.
Tennis	Club demand is being adequately met; however, there is a requirement to focus on informal activity at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites and schools).
Netball	There is a shortfall of capacity for clubs and league-based netball.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand although quality improvements at Lyng Hall School Sports Centre are needed.
Golf	No supply identified.

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Coventrians Rugby Club and Daimler Green Community Centre. ◀ Improve security of tenure at key sites such as Foxford School. ◀ Consider asset transfer of sites to clubs. ◀ Enable use of currently unavailable sites. ◀ Improve changing facilities where required.
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches have a sinking fund in place. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches remain on the FA register to host competitive matches.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Rugby Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Coventrians Rugby Club and Dunlop Sports and Social Club. ◀ Improve changing and ancillary facilities where required.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve track quality at key sites such as Lyng Hall School Sports Centre.
Golf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
13	Broad Heath Primary School	CV6 5DP	Hockey	Education	One smaller sized (51x32m) sand-based pitch which is unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use.	School	Local	L	L	L	Protect
17	Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School	CV2 2AJ	Football	Education	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch which is played to capacity.	Improve quality to provide actual spare capacity and reduce future overplay in the Analysis Area. Pursue a community use agreement to provide greater security of tenure for club users.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		One poor quality junior pitch which is available for community use but unused. It is played to its capacity through curricular demand.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Nine poor quality macadam courts that are not available for community use or serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use and explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School LTA		M	M	M	
			Netball		Five poor quality macadam courts that are not available for community use or serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use and explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School England Netball		M	M	M	
18	Cashes Park	CV1 4DW	Football	Council	The pitches have been taken out of use due to a deterioration in quality and frequent flooding and have not been used for several years. Also serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	FF FA	Local	L	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
						If pitches are brought back into use, improve the ancillary facility offer to help attract demand and find a suitable club user.			L	M	M	
32	Coventrians Rugby Club	CV6 4AF	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch which is currently significantly overplayed.	Transfer demand to sites with actual spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Club FF FA	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		Two poor quality senior pitches, one of which is serviced by sports lighting. Both pitches are overplayed due to match and training demand from Coventrians and Coventry Corsairs rugby clubs. Coventrians RUFC has plans to improve the clubhouse on site.	Improve quality of the pitches to reduce overplay on site and within the Analysis Area and explore additional sports lighting to better disperse training demand.	Club RFU		H	S	L	
					Explore providing the Club with access to an additional pitch, or with access to a 3G pitch to fully alleviate overplay.				H	S	L	
					Improve ancillary facilities.				H	S	M	
Bowls	A standard quality crown green that is used by Herberts/Coventrians BC.	Explore options to improve quality to good to better accommodate demand.	Club BCGBA	L	L	L						
34	Coventry Building Society Arena	CV6 6GE	Football	Commercial/ Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch which is unavailable for community use due to being used for professional football.	Ensure that the Stadium continues to be utilised for sporting use.	Club Council SE FF/FA RFU	Local	H	S	L	Protect
			Rugby Union		One good quality senior pitch which was used by Wasps RUFC.				H	S	L	

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim			
39	Cubbington Recreation Ground	CV6 7BH	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch which has spare capacity discounted.	Improve quality to provide actual spare capacity and reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls.	FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance			
40	Daimler Green Community Centre	CV6 3LR	Football	Community	One adult and one youth 11v11 pitch, with mini pitches overmarked. Both are standard quality and overplayed.	Improve the quality of both pitches to eradicate overplay and reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls.	Community FF FA ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance			
			3G		One smaller sized (50x34m) pitch which is sports-lit and available for community use. The pitch is large enough to accommodate mini football.	Retain for community use and explore opportunities to maximise demand, especially for recreational play.			L	L	L				
			Cricket		One poor quality, standalone NTP which is unused by the community.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing the NTP on site for informal and recreational demand.			L	L	L				
41	Dunlop Sports & Social Club	CV6 4BE	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One poor quality senior pitch which overplayed due to match and training demand from Dunlop RUFC.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.	Club RFU	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance			
			Bowls		Two standard quality greens that are used by Dunlop BC. The Club reports that its lease agreement is nearing expiry. Serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand. Extend lease agreement to provide increased security of tenure.			Club BCGBA ECB	Local	L		L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standard quality grass cricket square with 12 wickets. It has actual spare capacity on Sundays and midweek. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.					M		S	L	
51	Foxford School	CV6 6BB	Football	Education	Three standard quality adult pitches which are available for community use but with actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity to reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect			
			Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use and sports lighting potential.			School LTA	L	L		L		
			Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use and sports lighting potential.				School England Netball	L		L	L	
53	Goals Soccer Centre	CV6 7GP	3G	Commercial	Nine smaller sized (eight 30x20m and one 40x30m) pitches. They have exceeded their recommended lifespan.	Retain for continued commercial use whilst exploring options to enable a resurface.	FF RFU	Local	L	S	L	Protect			
54	Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School	CV6 7FN	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches, both of which are available for community use. The site has actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity to reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect			

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
56	Grace Academy Coventry	CV2 2RH	Football	Education	Two standard quality adult pitches and one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, all of which are available for community use. The site has actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity to reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
			3G		A smaller sized 3G pitch (88x52m) that is serviced by sports lighting.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and seek FA testing so that it can be used for competitive matches.	School FF FA		M	S	L	
			Rugby Union		Two poor quality junior pitches which are not available for community use.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Netball		Three standard quality netball courts are serviced by sports lighting but unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options.	School England Netball		L	S	L	
59	Grangehurst Primary School	CV6 6JN	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch and one standard quality youth 9v9 pitch. Both are available for community use but have actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
61	Henley College Coventry	CV2 1ED	Rugby Union	Education	One poor quality senior pitch which is available for community use but is unused. Since the production of the assessment report, access to changing and parking provision on site has been lost following the closure of the campus.	Improve pitch quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand. Ensure playing fields on site are retained or sufficiently mitigated following the closure of the College.	School RFU	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Hockey		One smaller sized (37x35m) sand-based pitch which is with sports lighting and available for community use. Since the production of the assessment report, access to changing and parking provision on site has been lost following the closure of the campus.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular use. Ensure the pitch on site is retained or sufficiently mitigated following the closure of the College.	School		L	S	L	
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts that are available for community use but unlit. Since the production of the assessment report, access to changing and parking provision on site has been lost following the closure of the campus.	Explore options to provide sports lighting. Ensure courts on site are retained or sufficiently mitigated following the closure of the College.	School England Netball		L	S	L	
62	Henley Green Primary School	CV2 1HQ	Hockey	Education	One smaller sized (35x18m) sand-based pitch which is not with sports lighting but that is available for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
65	Holbrooks Park	CV6 4BY	Football	Council	Three adult, three mini 7v7 and one youth 11v11 pitch, all of which are standard quality. The adult pitches and youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity at peak times, whilst the mini 7v7 pitches have actual spare capacity.	Sustain quality of the pitches and explore opportunities to utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or through future demand. Consider re-configuring one of the mini 7v7 pitches to mini 5v5 size to support local shortfalls.	FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
67	Holy Family Catholic Primary School	CV6 2GU	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
80	Longford Park	CV6 6DW	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch which has actual spare capacity.	Sustain quality and explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites to reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls. Consider re-configuring the pitch to youth 11v11 size to support local shortfalls.	Council FF FA ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect
			Cricket		One poor quality, standalone NTP which is unused by the community.				Explore the feasibility of resurfacing the NTP on site for informal and recreational demand.	L	L	
81	Longford Park Primary School	CV6 7AT	Football	Education	One standard quality adult pitch which is available for community use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity to reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
82	Lyng Hall School Sports Centre	CV2 3JS	Football	Education	Two standard quality adult pitches and one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, all of which are available for community use. Each pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Explore options to improve pitch quality to increase carrying capacity and to avoid future overplay.	School FF FA	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two standard quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School LTA		M	L	L	
			Netball		Three poor quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Improve quality and explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School England Netball		M	L	L	
			Athletics		A 400-metre track assessed as poor quality.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	School England Athletics		H	S	M	
86	Moat House Leisure & Neighbourhood Centre	CV2 1EA	Netball	Community	Two poor quality macadam courts with sports lighting.	Improve court quality.	England Netball	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
87	Moat House Primary School	CV2 1EQ	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches which are unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
97	Potters Green Primary School	CV2 2GF	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
99	President Kennedy School	CV6 4GL	Football	School/Sky Blues in the Community	One standard quality adult pitch which is currently being played to its capacity.	Sustain pitch quality and explore options to further improve it to ensure overplay does not occur.	School FF, FA	Hub	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		One good quality full size pitch which is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is managed by a partnership between the School and Sky Blues in the Community.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Ensure FA testing every three years to ensure the pitch remains able to accommodate match play and seek to maximise its usage for this purpose.	School FF FA		H	L	L	
			Rugby Union		One senior and one junior pitch, both assessed as poor quality. Unavailable for community use.	Improve quality of both pitches to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School RFU		H	M	L	
			Tennis		14 macadam courts, 10 of which are poor quality and four of which are good quality. Courts on site are available to the community.	Examine the feasibility of providing sports lights on site to better enable community use.	School LTA		L	L	L	
			Netball		Six macadam courts, three of which are good quality and three of which are poor quality. Courts on site are available to the community.	Examine the feasibility of providing sports lights on site to better enable community use.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
			Athletics		A 400-metre cinder track.	Retain for continued school use if it is required, or re-purpose for other sporting curricular and extra-curricular needs.	School England Athletics		M	S	L	
109	Sowe Common Sports Ground	CV2 2AE	Football	Council	Five standard quality adult pitches, two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches and two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches. Actual spare capacity exists across the pitch types. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality of the pitches and explore opportunities to utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites to reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls. Consider pitch re-configuration based on local shortfalls, with a focus on converting four of the adult pitches to youth 11v11 provision and one of the mini 7v7 pitches to mini 5v5 provision. Explore options to improve ancillary facilities.	FF FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect
									M	S	L	
									M	L	M	
116	St Finbarrs Sports Ground	CV6 4DG	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch which is overplayed.	Improve quality of the pitch to reduce overplay and seek the transfer of some demand to site with actual spare capacity to fully eradicate overplay and reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls.	Club FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		A smaller sized (70x42m) pitch with sports lighting. Suitable for mini play and FA approved.	Retain for continued club usage and seek FA testing every three years so that it can continue to be used for mini matches.	Club FF FA		L	L	L	

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
121	St Laurence's Church of England Primary School	CV6 7ED	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
127	Stanton Bridge Primary School	CV6 5TY	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
130	Stoke Heath Primary School	CV2 4PR	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
131	Stoke Heath Recreation Ground	CV2 4PR	Cricket	Council	One standalone NTP which is assessed as standard quality.	Sustain wicket quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	Council ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
133	Stoke Park School & Community College	CV2 4JW	Tennis	Education	Five standard quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting but unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting but unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
162	Coventry Welsh Rugby Club	CV6 6AY	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One good quality senior pitch which is with sports lighting. Currently overplayed due to match and training demand from Coventry Welsh RUFC, which has aspirations to develop additional provision. The Club also wants to extend and improve its ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality to ensure overplay does not worsen.	Club RFU	Local	H	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
						Support the Club in its plans to establish additional provision in order to eradicate overplay from the site and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.			H	S	M	
						Improve ancillary provision.			M	M	M	
167	St Augustine's Catholic Primary	CV3 3AD	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch which is available for community use. The pitch has actual spare capacity discounted due to its unsecure tenure.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
168	Hill Farm Primary School	CV4 9SW	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is available for community use. The pitch has actual spare capacity discounted due to its unsecure tenure.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
174	Little Heath Primary School	CV4 9QT	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches which are both available for community use.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
175	Alderman's Green Community School	CV4 8EN	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality and explore opportunities to accommodate community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
178	St Patricks Catholic Primary School	CV1 4AP	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
181	Wheelwright Lane Playing Fields	CV7 9HS	Football	Sports Club	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch and two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches. The youth 9v9 pitches are at capacity at peak time, whilst the youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed. A PitchPower assessment has taken place.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay from the site and reduce future Analysis Area shortfalls, in line with PitchPower assessment recommendations.	Club FF, FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
186	Jaguar Bowls Club	CV6 3LS	Bowls	Sports Club	A good quality crown green used by Jaguar BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
188	Foleshill Gas BC	CV6 6EN	Bowls	Sports Club	A good quality crown green used by Foleshill Gas BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
192	Stoke Bowls Club	CV2 4AB	Bowls	Sports Club	Two good quality crown greens used by Stoke BC.	Sustain green quality.	Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
193	The Walsgrave Stonehouse	CV2 4AF	Bowls	Commercial	A poor quality crown green used by Walsgrave BC.	Improve quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
196	Potters Green Community Association	CV2 2RH	Bowls	Community	A poor quality crown green used by Potters Green BC. Serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
-	Bell Green Working Men's Club	CV2 1NB	Bowls	Community	A disused flat green.	Consider alternative uses for the provision given lack of local demand.	Bowls England	Local	L	S	L	-

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COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

NORTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary – pitch sports

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance (2040)
Football – grass pitches			
North West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 6.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 3 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance (2040)
Football – 3G pitches			
North West	Full size	Shortfall of 1.5 pitches	Shortfall of 2 pitches
Coventry	Full size	Shortfall of 2 pitches	Shortfall of 3.5 pitches
Cricket			
North West	Senior (Saturday)	Actual spare capacity of 48 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 24 match sessions
Coventry	Senior (Saturday)	Actual spare capacity of 48 match sessions	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
Rugby union			
North West	Senior	Shortfall of 4.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 4.75 match sessions
Coventry	Senior	Shortfall of 27.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 34.5 match sessions
Hockey			
North West	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Coventry	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	There is a shortfall of capacity for Coundon BC, although it does report any issue with this and therefore supply is considered sufficient.
Tennis	Club demand is being adequately met; however, there is a requirement to focus on informal activity at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites and schools).
Netball	There is a shortfall of capacity for clubs and league-based netball.

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand although quality improvements are needed.
Golf	Supply is well placed to meet demand; however, each facility is meeting a clear need and further pressure is to be created following the impending loss of Windmill Village Hotel & Golf Club. Contributions from this development should be sought to improve golf provision elsewhere in Coventry, for example at Brandon Wood Golf Course where provision is due to be re-established although investment is required to ensure the operation on site is viable.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Coundon Court School and Jaguar Leisure Centre. ◀ Improve security of tenure at key sites such as Bablake Playing Fields. ◀ Consider asset transfer of sites to clubs. ◀ Enable use of currently unavailable sites. ◀ Improve changing facilities where required.
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches have a sinking fund in place. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches remain on the FA register to host competitive matches. ◀ Consider installation of two additional full size 3G pitches to alleviate football training shortfalls with proposals at Cardinal Newman Catholic School, Woodlands Sports Complex and Coundon Court School.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve security of tenure at key sites such as Bablake Playing Fields.
Rugby Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Bablake Playing Fields and Barkers Butts Rugby Club. ◀ Improve changing and ancillary facilities where required. ◀ Ensure Coventry Technical Rugby Club is mitigated in line with national planning policy and that Coventry Technical RUFC has long-term tenure on site.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ No action required.
Golf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure demand from Windmill Village Hotel & Golf Club can be adequately accommodated should development proposals go ahead and pursue contributions from the development to improve golf provision elsewhere within its catchment area.

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
3	All Souls Catholic Primary School	CV5 8ED	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
4	Allesley Primary School	CV5 9FY	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches which are currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
6	Bablake Playing Fields	CV6 2BU	Football	Sports Club	Three adult, one youth 11v11, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of standard quality and played to capacity at peak time. Leased by Christ the King FC in an agreement that has only 10 years remaining. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities which require improvement.	Sustain quality to ensure no future overplay.	Club FF FA RFU EH ECB	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
						Extend lease arrangement to provide greater security of tenure to Christ the King FC.			M	L	L	
						Explore options to improve ancillary facilities.			M	M	M	
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch that is overplayed. Leased to Old Wheatleyans RUFC in an agreement that has only 12 years remaining. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities that require improvement.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.			H	S	L	
						Extend lease arrangement to provide greater security of tenure to Old Wheatleyans RUFC.			H	S	L	
						Explore options to improve ancillary facilities.			H	M	M	
			Hockey		Two full size sand-based pitches which are available for community use, although with limited weekend opening hours. The playing surface is seven years old, meaning the provision is assessed as standard quality. Used by Berkswell & Balsall Common HC and Sikh Union Coventry HC. Serviced by limited car parking.	Protect as a hockey suitable surface and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.			H	M	L	
						Explore opportunities to increase availability, particularly on Saturday mornings.			H	S	L	
						Improve security of tenure via longer-term usage arrangements with clubs.			H	S	L	
						Explore resolution to car parking issues.			M	M	L	
Cricket	Five grass cricket squares with 13, ten, eight, five and five wickets respectively, all of standard quality. The 13 and eight wicket squares are available to the community. There is spare capacity on Sundays and midweek on site. Bablake CC states its lease for the site is running down and it has having difficulty negotiating a new agreement. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support Bablake CC to renew its lease agreement on site. Explore the feasibility of improving ancillary facilities on site.	M	M	L							

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
8	Barker's Butts Rugby Club	CV5 9AR	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Three standard quality senior pitches, two of which are serviced by sports lighting. Each pitch is overplayed due to match and training demand from Barkers Butts RUFC. Serviced by limited car parking.	Improve quality to reduce overplay and consider installation of additional sports lighting to distribute training demand more evenly to eradicate overplay on site and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.	Club RFU	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
						Explore options to overcome car parking issues.			M	M	L	
9	Barrs Hill School & Community College	CV1 4BU	Football	Education	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	M	L	L	Protect Provide
			Tennis		A single poor quality macadam court. Unavailable for community use and not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use.	School LTA		L	L	L	
16	Cardinal Newman Catholic School	CV6 2FR	Football	Education	Two adult pitches and one youth 11v11 pitch, all of which are assessed as standard quality but that are unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			3G		An aspiration exists to create a full size pitch on site, in partnership with Christ the King FC.	Support aspirations given local shortfall of provision and use investment to enable wider community access of the site.	School FF, FA		H	S	H	
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior and two poor quality junior pitches, all of which are currently unavailable for community use.	Improve quality of pitches for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School RFU		M	S	L	
			Tennis		Nine poor quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Improve quality for curricular use and explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School LTA		M	L	M	
			Netball		Six poor quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Improve quality for curricular use and explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School England Netball		M	L	M	
21	Christ The King Catholic Primary School	CV6 2DJ	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches, both of which are currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
24	Colliery Sports Ground	CV7 8HY	Football	Sports Club	Two good quality adult pitches which are both played to capacity at peak time. The site has received a PitchPower assessment. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality through actioning recommendations from the PitchPower assessment.	Club FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
						Explore options to improve ancillary facilities.			M	M	M	

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
27	Coundon Court School	CV6 2AJ	Football	Education	Two adult, one youth 11v11 (overmarked by a youth 9v9), one mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are standard quality and available for community use. The adult pitches and the youth 11v11 pitch are overplayed, the mini 7v7 pitch is played to its capacity at peak time, and the mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. One of the adult pitches is to be temporarily lost to enable the construction of a new sports block. Preliminary discussions have been held regarding the potential provision of a full-size 3G pitch on site.	Improve the quality of the adult pitches and youth 11v11 pitch to reduce overplay on site.	School FF FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and to create actual spare capacity on the mini 5v5 pitches.			M			S	L		
			Ensure the adult pitch is re-instated following site development.			H			S	L		
			Explore the feasibility of installing a 3G pitch on site.			H			S	H		
			Rugby Union		Two poor quality senior pitches which are currently unavailable for community use.	Improve quality of pitches for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School LTA		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Improve quality for curricular use.			L	L	L	
Netball	Six poor quality macadam courts that are available for community use. Three are serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality for curricular use and explore community use options.	School England Netball	M	L	L						
28	Coundon Hall Park	CV6 2EH	Football	Council	Ten standard quality adult pitches, two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches and three standard quality youth 11v11 pitches. All of these pitches have actual spare capacity.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise the actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites and through future demand.	Council FF FA ECB	Key Centre	M	M	L	Protect
			Consider re-configuring a portion of the adult pitches to youth 11v11 size and the mini 7v7 pitches to mini 5v5 size to support local shortfalls.			M			S	L		
			Cricket		One poor quality, standalone NTP which is unused by the community.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing the NTP on site for informal and recreational demand.			L	L	L	
29	Coundon Primary School	CV6 1FQ	Hockey	Education	One smaller sized (20x12m) sand-based which is unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.	Retain from continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim	
36	Coventry Rugby Club (Butts Park Arena)	CV1 3GE	3G	Sports Club	One good quality full size FA Approved and World Rugby compliant pitch. Available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. Identified as being in need of ancillary facility improvements.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	Club FF RFU FA	Key Centre	H	M	L	Protect Enhance	
						Ensure FA and RFU testing when required to ensure the pitch remains able to accommodate match play and seek to maximise its usage for this purpose.			H	S	L		
						Improve supporting ancillary provision to better accommodate rugby union demand.			H	M	M		
						Explore the feasibility of increasing community use on site.			M	S	L		
37	Coventry Technical Rugby Club	CV4 8DY	Football	Sports Club	One poor quality adult pitch and one poor quality youth 11v11 pitch. The adult pitch is played to its capacity whilst the youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed. The site is allocated for a residential development, with the lease agreement due to expire in 2025.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay. Ensure replacement provision is provided to an equal or better quantity and quality, in line with national planning policy.	Club FF FA	Local	H	M	H	Protect	
			Rugby Union			One poor quality senior pitch which is played to capacity. The site is allocated for a residential development, with the lease agreement due to expire in 2025.			Ensure replacement provision is provided to an equal or better quantity and quality, in line with national planning policy.	Sports Club FF RFU	H		M
							Ensure the Club is provided with long-term tenure of a replacement site.				H		M
43	Eastern Green Recreation Ground	CV5 7BX	Football	Council	The youth 11v11 pitch at this site is no longer marked out due to quality deterioration and frequent flooding. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance	
						If provision is brought back into use, explore options to improve ancillary facilities.			M	S	M		
60	Hawkesmill Sports Club	CV5 9FN	Football	Sports Club	Two good quality adult pitches and one good quality, overmarked mini 7v7 pitch. The site has received a PitchPower assessment. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality through actioning recommendations from the PitchPower assessment.	Club FF FA	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance	
						Explore options to improve ancillary facilities.			M	M	M		
66	Hollyfast Primary School	CV6 2AH	Football	Education	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch which is available for community use but has actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect	
69	Jaguar Leisure Centre	CV5 9PS	Football	Commercial	One poor quality adult pitch which is overplayed.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay on site. Formalise community use agreement to provide security of tenure.	FF, FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance	

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			3G		One smaller sized pitch (60x35m) which is both available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is large enough to accommodate mini football.	Retain for continued commercial use.	FF FA		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts without sports lighting.	Improve quality.	LTA		L	L	L	
70	Jardine Crescent	CV4 9QS	Football	Council	One adult, one youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitch, all of which are assessed as standard quality. The adult pitch and youth 11v11 pitch are both played to capacity at peak time, whilst the mini pitch provides actual spare capacity. The site is serviced by adequate ancillary provision.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise the actual spare capacity that exists through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
77	King Henry VIII School	CV3 6AQ	Tennis	Education	Two good quality macadam courts that are available for community use but unlit.	Explore community use options.	School LTA		L	L	L	
79	Limbrick Wood Primary School	CV4 9QT	Netball	Education	A poor quality macadam court that is available for community use but not sports-lit.	Improve quality for curricular use.	School England Netball	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
84	Massey Ferguson Sports Ground	CV4 9WH	Football	Council	Two standard quality adult pitches and three standard quality youth 11v11 pitches, all of which provide actual spare capacity.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise the actual spare capacity that exists through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Consider re-configuring the adult pitches to youth 11v11 size to support local shortfalls.	Council FF FA ECB	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One grass cricket square and a standalone NTP, both of which are assessed as good quality. The square has capacity on Sundays and midweek. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary provision although Massey Ferguson CC states it is in need of expansion but is running out of space. The Club also plans to improve training provision on site.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Support Massey Ferguson CC to expand ancillary provision and improve training facilities on site.			L	L	M-H	
91	Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School	CV4 9LB	3G	Education	One smaller sized (30x15m) pitch which is neither sports-lit nor available for community use.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular usage.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
92	Park Hill Primary School	CV5 7LR	3G	Education	One smaller sized (20x12m) pitch which is neither sports-lit nor available for community use.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular usage.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
98	Powerleague	CV5 7FF	3G	Commercial	Eight smaller sized pitches (six 30x20m and two 35x30m) with sports lighting.	Retain for continued commercial use.	FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – NORTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
114	St Christopher Primary School	CV5 9JG	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch and one standard quality mini 7v7 pitch, both of which are unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
119	St John Vianney Catholic Primary School	CV5 7GX	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch and one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, both of which are available for community use and played to their capacity during peak times.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FF FA	Local	M	M	L	Protect
120	St John's Church of England Academy	CV5 9HZ	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
123	St Osburg's Catholic Primary School	CV1 4AP	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
143	West Coventry Academy	CV4 9PW	Football	Education	One standard quality adult pitch which is available for community use and that is overplayed.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay.	School FF, FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch and one poor quality junior pitch, both of which are available for community use albeit unused.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Hockey		One smaller sized (90x50m) AGP which is neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use aspects with the School and the potential for the addition of sports lighting given the larger size of the provision	School EH		M	M	M	
			Tennis		Nine poor quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Improve quality for curricular use and explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School LTA		M	L	M	
			Netball		Three good quality macadam courts that are available for community use but not lit.	Explore community use options.	School England Netball		M	L	L	
147	Whitmore Park Primary School	CV6 2HG	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
152	Woodlands Sports Complex	CV5 7FF	Football	Education	Two adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, three mini 7v7 pitches and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality. Actual spare capacity exists across the site, although 3G plans may reduce the number of pitches provided.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise the actual spare capacity that exists through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Use potential income from the proposed 3G pitch to further improve pitch quality. Consider re-configuring the adult pitches to youth 11v11 size and one mini 7v7 pitch to mini 5v5 size to support local shortfalls.	FF FA	Hub	H	M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
			3G		A proposal exists for the creation of a full size pitch.	Support aspirations given local shortfall of provision.	FF		H	S	H	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
						Ensure ancillary facilities are sufficient to support 3G provision and make improvements where necessary.	FA		H	M	M	
156	Allesley Hall Golf Course	CV5 9AD	Golf	Council	An 18-hole pitch and putt course.	Retain to meet a clear need in the golfing market, aimed more so towards beginners and recreational players.	England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
159	John Reay Golf Centre	CV7 8NJ	Golf	Private	A standalone driving range with 30-bays.	Retain to meet a clear need in the golfing market given that it is the sole standalone driving range.	England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
160	Windmill Village Hotel & Golf Club	CV5 9AL	Golf	Commercial	An 18-hole course that is subject to development proposals and potential loss.	Ensure demand can be appropriately accommodated elsewhere should the proposals go ahead and seek appropriate mitigation to improve other golf provision within the locality (e.g., Brandon Wood Golf Course which has the potential to reopen).	England Golf	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
169	Eastern Green Junior School	CV5 7EG	Rugby Union	Education	One poor quality junior pitch which is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
173	Whobberley Hall Primary School	CV5 8AJ	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
184	Avenue Bowls Club	CV6 1GZ	Bowls	Sports Club	A standard quality flat green used by Avenue BC.	Explore options to improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
191	Coundon Social Club	CV6 1JB	Bowls	Sports Club	Two poor quality crown greens used by Coundon BC.	Improve quality.	Club BCGBA	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
203	Bablake School	CV1 4UA	Tennis	Education	Four standard quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting but unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options.	School LTA	Local	M	L	L	Protect
			Netball		Three good quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Sustain quality.	School England Netball		M			

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

SOUTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary – pitch sports

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance (2040)
Football – grass pitches			
South East	Adult	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 5.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 9.75 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity 2.5 match sessions	Demand is being met
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 0.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance (2040)
Football – 3G pitches			
South East	Full size	Shortfall of 0.25 pitches	Shortfall of 1 pitch
Coventry	Full size	Shortfall of 2 pitches	Shortfall of 3.5 pitches
Cricket			
South East	Senior (Saturday)	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
Coventry	Senior (Saturday)	Actual spare capacity of 48 match sessions	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
Rugby union			
South East	Senior	Shortfall of 9 match sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match sessions
Coventry	Senior	Shortfall of 27.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 34.5 match sessions
Hockey			
South East	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Coventry	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	Supply is sufficient to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is being adequately met; however, there is a requirement to focus on informal activity at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites and schools).
Netball	There is a shortfall of capacity for clubs and league-based netball. Focus should be placed on improving court quality and improved access to educational sites such as Ernesford Grange Community Academy and Coventry Blue Coat School.

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand although quality improvements are needed.
Golf	Supply is well placed to meet demand; however, each facility is meeting a clear need and therefore any loss of provision would create a gap in the golfing market.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Chace Avenue Playing Field and Copsewood Community Sports and Social Club. ◀ Ensure clubs have security of tenure at their home venues. ◀ Consider asset transfer of sites to clubs. ◀ Enable use of currently unavailable sites. ◀ Improve changing facilities where required.
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches have a sinking fund in place. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches remain on the FA register to host competitive matches. ◀ Consider installation of one additional full size 3G pitch to alleviate football training shortfalls with a proposal at Caludon Castle Sports Centre.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve security of tenure at key sites such as The Parkridge Centre (Formerly Peugeot Sports Club) or; ensure it is adequately mitigated before any potential development begins on site. ◀ Consider the feasibility of providing a second square at Copsewood Community Sports and Social Club.
Rugby Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Broadstreet Rugby Club and Stoke Old Boys Rugby Football Club. ◀ Improve changing and ancillary facilities where required. ◀ Ensure Coventry Technical Rugby Club is mitigated in line with national planning policy and that Coventry Technical RUFC has long-term tenure on site.
Hockey	◀ Protect provision.
Bowls	◀ Protect provision.
Tennis	◀ Protect provision.
Netball	◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	◀ No action required.
Golf	◀ Protect provision.

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Alan Higgs Centre	CV3 1HW	Football	Community Organisation	Three adult, one youth 11v11 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of good quality. Both the adult and youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity, whilst the mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality.	FF FA	Hub	H	L	L	Protect
			3G		Two FA approved full size pitches, both of which are available for community use and floodlit (one is indoor). One of the pitches is standard, having been installed in 2015, whilst the other is good, having been installed in 2019.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	FF FA		H	L	L	
						Ensure FA testing every three years to ensure the pitches remain able to accommodate match play and seek to maximise usage for this purpose.			H	M	L	
5	Ashington Grove	CV3 4DA	Football	Council	Two standard quality adult pitches, both of which are played to capacity. The ancillary provision at this site is reported to be of poor quality.	Sustain pitch quality to prevent overplay.	FF FA	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
						Explore options to improve ancillary facilities.			M	M	M	
7	Baginton Fields	CV3 4DX	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch which currently has actual spare capacity.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise the actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. Consider re-configuring the pitch to youth 11v11 size to support local shortfalls.	FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
11	Coventry Blue Coat School	CV1 2BA	3G	Education	A smaller sized pitch (95x50m) with sports lighting. FA approved and large enough for mini and youth matches.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	FF FA	Key centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
						Ensure FA testing every three years to ensure the pitches remain able to accommodate match play.			M	M	L	
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Improve pitch quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Six good quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School LTA		M	L	M	
			Netball		Four good quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School England Netball		M	L	M	
12	Bredon Avenue	CV3 2EY	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch which is overplayed. It has received a PitchPower assessment.	Improve quality in line with PitchPower recommendations in order to eradicate overplay.	Club FF, FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is available for community use but unused. Actual spare capacity is discounted due to the quality issues.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity and explore opportunities for a club to access the provision as a secondary venue to alleviate other pitches of overplay.	Club RFU		M	S	L	
14	Caludon Castle Sports Centre	CV2 5BD	Football	Education	Three standard quality adult pitches, which are all available for community use and played to their capacity at peak time.	Sustain quality of pitches.	School FF FA	Hub	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
						Explore conversion of at least one of the pitches to youth 11v11 to better accommodate existing demand as well as school usage.			M	S	L	

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH EAST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Rugby Union		Two poor quality senior pitches, both of which available for community use albeit unused.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Hockey		One poor quality, full size sand-based AGP that is unused for hockey. Spare capacity exists for match and training demand although pitch improvements would be required before demand could be accommodated. Aspirations exist to convert the provision to 3G.	Consider 3G conversion provided that hockey demand can remain catered for elsewhere given local 3G shortfalls.	School EH FF FA		H	S	H	
						If 3G conversion is not pursued, explore resurfacing to create additional hockey capacity.			H	S	M	
			Tennis		Six standard quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Explore opportunities to maximise usage.	School LTA		L	L	L	
			Netball		Six standard quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Explore opportunities to maximise usage.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
20	Chace Avenue Playing Field	CV3 3PS	Football	Sports Club	One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, all of which are assessed as standard. The mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity at peak time, the youth 9v9 pitch currently has actual spare capacity, and the youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed. The ancillary facilities are deemed to be of poor quality.	Improve quality to alleviate overplay, increase actual spare capacity and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls. Explore options to improve ancillary facilities.	Club FF FA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
								M	L	M		
25	Copsewood Community Sports and Social Club	CV3 1JP	Football	Sports Club	One adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch that are all standard quality. The adult and youth 11v11 pitches are significantly overplayed, whilst the youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches are overmarked by mini 5v5 pitches.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay and seek the transfer of some demand to sites with actual spare capacity to fully eradicate it on site and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.	Club FF FA RFU BCGBA EN ECB	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
		Rugby Union	One poor quality senior pitch which is available but unused. The pitch has spare capacity discounted due to its quality.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity and explore opportunities for a club to access the provision as a secondary venue to alleviate other pitches of overplay. If rugby union demand does not exist, consider re-purposing for other sports with pitch shortfalls e.g., football.	M	S			L			
		Bowls	A poor quality crown green that is used by Copsewood BC. Serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality.	M	L			L			
		Netball	Two standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	M	L			L			

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Cricket		One grass cricket square with ten wickets assessed as standard quality. The square is played to capacity at weekends and during the week. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary provision. The ECB indicates Coventry West Indian Wanderers CC are looking to provide a second square on site and believes it could field four Saturday teams if it had sufficient pitch space.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Consider the feasibility of providing a second square on site.			L	L	L	
26	Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School	CV3 2QP	3G	Education	One smaller sized pitch (60x40m) with sports lighting that is available for community use. The pitch is large enough to accommodate mini football.	Retain for continued curricular usage and look to maximise community demand, particularly from informal and recreational groups.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
33	Coventry & North Warwickshire Sports Club	CV3 1HB	Tennis	Sports Club	One standard quality artificial and four good quality macadam courts, all of which are available for community use.	Sustain quality.	Club LTA EN ECB	Local	M	L	L	Protect
			Netball		One good quality macadam court with sports lighting.	Sustain quality.			M	L	L	
			Cricket		One good quality, grass cricket square with 16 wickets. The square has capacity for additional play on Sundays and midweek. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary provision.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
44	Ernesford Grange Community Academy	CV3 2QD	Football	Education	Two poor quality adult pitches and two poor quality youth 9v9 pitches which are all available for community use. Both pitches have spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.	Improve quality of pitches to provide and pursue the implementation of a community use agreement to provide actual spare capacity to support future Analysis Area shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts that are available for community use but unlit.	Explore sports lighting options.	School LTA		M	L	L	
			Netball		Three good quality macadam courts that are available for community use but unlit.	Explore sports lighting options.	School England Netball		M	L	L	
55	Gosford Park School	CV1 2SF	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch and one standard quality youth 9v9 pitch, which are both unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
68	Howes Primary School	CV3 5EH	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch, which is available for community use but has actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
73	John White Community Centre	CV3 2ED	Football	Community Organisation	Two poor quality adult pitches which have actual spare capacity discounted due to the quality issues.	Improve quality of both pitches to provide actual spare capacity and to support future Analysis Area shortfalls.	FF, FA	Local	M	L	M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
94	Pearl Hyde Primary School	CV2 2NB	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
96	Pinley Rugby Club	CV2 3AD	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One standard quality senior pitch which is sports-lit and overplayed due to match and training demand from Pinley RUFC.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay and explore opportunities to increase the number of pitches accessed by the Club in order to fully eradicate overplay on site and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls such as at Copsewood Community Sports and Social Club.	Club FF, FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
100	Ravensdale Primary School	CV2 5GQ	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
101	Richard Lee Primary School	CV2 5FU	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
103	Ryona Engineering Supplies Stadium (Coventry Sphinx Football Club)	CV3 1WA	Football	Sports Club	Two adult, one youth 11v11, one 9v9, one 7v7 and one 5v5 pitch, all of which are assessed as good quality. The mini 7v7 has actual spare capacity, whereas the remaining pitches are played to capacity at peak time. A PitchPower assessment has been undertaken. A gaelic football pitch is overmarked on the 9v9 and 7v7 pitches.	Sustain quality of pitches, aligned to the recommendations of the PitchPower assessment. Ensure a dedicated maintenance regime is in place to sustain pitch quality despite year-round usage.	Club FF FA	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		One smaller sized (40x35m) pitch which is both sports-lit and available for community use. The pitch is large enough to accommodate mini football and is FA approved.	Retain for continued club and recreational use and seek FA testing every three years so that it can continue to be used for competitive matches.	Club FF, FA		M	L	L	
			Bowls		A standard quality flat green that is used by Coventry Sphinx BC. Serviced by sports lighting.	Explore options to improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Club Bowls England		L	L	L	
			Gaelic Football		One dedicated gaelic football pitch which is overmarked on the youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 football pitches. It is used by both Four Masters GAA and Roger Casements GAA throughout the Summer.	Ensure a dedicated maintenance regime is in place to sustain pitch quality despite year-round usage.	Club GAA		L	L	L	
104	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	CV2 4DW	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
105	Sidney Stringer Academy	CV1 5LY	3G	Education	One poor quality full size pitch which is available for community use and is sports-lit. The pitch has exceeded its 10-year recommended lifespan.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	School FF FA	Key centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
						Seek FA testing so that the provision can be used for competitive matches and seek to maximise usage for this activity.			H	M	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Explore opportunities to maximise usage.	School LTA		L	L	L	
			Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Explore opportunities to maximise usage.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
132	Stoke Old Boys Rugby Football Club	CV3 2DG	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One poor quality senior pitch which is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is overplayed due to match and training demand from Stoke Old Boys RUFC. The Club has aspirations to improve its toilet facilities to better accommodate disabled users.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay on site and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls. Improve toilet facilities.	Club RFU	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
									M	M	L	
137	The Parkridge Centre (Formerly Peugeot Sports Club)	CV3 1NF	Football	Commercial	One standard quality adult pitch which is available for community use but has actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. The pitch is overmarked on a cricket outfield.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity.	Commercial FF FA ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect
			Cricket		One good quality, grass cricket square with 11 wickets. The square has capacity on Sundays and midweek. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary provision. Since the production of the assessment report, security of tenure on site has been raised as a concern with Peugeot CC's lease agreement on site set to expire at the end of the 2023 season. Coventry and North Warwickshire CC are said to have engaged in discussions regarding the possible purchase of the site.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure the site is retained for cricket demand or that it is adequately mitigated before any potential development begins on site.			H	S	L	
144	Whitley Abbey Primary School	CV3 4DE	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
145	Whitley Academy	CV3 4BD	Football	Education	One standard quality adult pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
			Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School LTA		L	L	L	
			Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School England Netball		L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
146	Whitley Common	CV3 5LL	Football	Council	Three standard quality adult pitches which are played to their capacity at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality to ensure that overplay does not occur.	FF FA	Key Centre	M	M	L	Protect
						Consider conversion of one of the pitches to youth 11v11 size given local shortfalls and to better accommodate existing demand.			M	S	L	
150	Willenhall Community Primary School	CV3 3DB	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
			Hockey		One small sized (37x19m) pitch which is both unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.			School	L	L	
153	Wyken Croft Playing Fields	CV2 3AD	Football	Council	Two standard quality adult pitches and two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches which all have actual spare capacity.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise the actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites and through future demand. Consider re-configuring the adult pitches to youth 11v11 size to support local shortfalls.	FF FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch and one poor quality junior pitch which are used by Pinley RUFC for youth and mini activity. Actual spare capacity is discounted due to the quality issues.	Improve quality of pitches to better accommodate demand, provide actual spare capacity and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls. Explore creation of sports lighting to enable Pinley RUFC to spread out its training demand, utilising the increased pitch capacity from the quality improvements.			RFU	M	S	
163	Coventry Saracens Rugby Club	CV3 2FD	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One standard quality senior pitch which is played to capacity through match and training demand from Coventry Saracens RUFC.	Seek to improve quality to accommodate future demand and to ensure overplay is not created.	Club RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
164	King Henry VIII Sports Fields	CV3 4EJ	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches and two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches, all of which are unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Provide
			Rugby Union		Three good quality senior pitches which are all unavailable for community use.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular activity and explore future community access given quantity and quality or provision.			School RFU	M	S	
165	Southfields Community Primary School	CV1 5LS	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches which are both unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
170	Broadstreet Rugby Club ¹³	CV3 2AY	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Seven standard quality senior pitches, with two serviced by sports lighting. These are both overplayed.	Improve quality of pitches to alleviate overplay and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls. Explore opportunities to increase level of sports lighting to enable training demand to be further spread out.	Club RFU	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance

¹³ Located in Rugby Borough Council although its close proximity to the border means it is considered to be Coventry-based.

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
177	Sowe Valley Primary School	CV3 2QX	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
180	Aldermoor Farm Primary School	CV3 1DP	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
183	David Lloyd (Coventry)	CV3 4BJ	Tennis	Commercial	Four good quality courts; two macadam and two artificial. Usage is reserved for members of the wider club.	Sustain quality.	LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
189	Stoke Coventry Club	CV3 1FP	Bowls	Sports Club	A poor quality crown green that is used by Stoke Coventry Club BC.	Improve quality.	BCGBA	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
197	Copsewood Grange Golf Club	CV3 1JP	Golf	Sports Club	A 9-hole members course.	Retain as the sole 9-hole offering in the City.	Club England Golf	Local	M	L	L	Protect
202	Brinklow Road Open Space	CV3 2XE	Cricket	Council	One poor quality, standalone NTP which is unused by the community.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing the NTP on site for informal and recreational demand.	Council ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

SOUTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary – pitch sports

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance (2040)
Football – grass pitches			
South West	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 4.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
Coventry	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 13.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 4 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 11.75 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 8 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 5 match sessions
Football – 3G pitches			
South West	Full size	Shortfall of 0.25 pitches	Shortfall of 0.5 pitches
Coventry	Full size	Shortfall of 2 pitches	Shortfall of 3.5 pitches
Cricket			
South West	Senior (Saturday)	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
Coventry	Senior (Saturday)	Actual spare capacity of 48 match sessions	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
Rugby union			
South West	Senior	Shortfall of 8.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 12.5 match sessions
Coventry	Senior	Shortfall of 27.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 34.5 match sessions
Hockey			
South West	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Coventry	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	Supply is sufficient to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is being adequately met; however, there is a requirement to focus on informal activity at non-club courts and improving the recreational tennis offer (e.g., at local authority sites and schools).
Netball	There is a shortfall of capacity for clubs and league-based netball.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand although quality improvements are needed.
Golf	Supply is well placed to meet demand; however, each facility is meeting a clear need and therefore any loss of provision would create a gap in the golfing market.

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School and Xcel Leisure Centre. ◀ Improve security of tenure at key sites such as Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School and Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane) or ensure Triumph Athletic FC is adequately provided for elsewhere. ◀ Consider asset transfer of sites to clubs. ◀ Enable use of currently unavailable sites. ◀ Improve changing facilities where required.
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches have a sinking fund in place. ◀ Ensure all existing pitches remain on the FA register to host competitive matches. ◀ Consider installation of one additional full size 3G pitch to alleviate football training shortfalls with proposals at Coventry University (The Place) and Alvis Sports Club.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve security of tenure at key sites such as Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane) or ensure Standard CC is adequately provided for elsewhere. ◀ Ensure the cricket square at The Highway Club is replaced given future shortfalls in the Analysis Area.
Rugby Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality at key sites to alleviate overplay, especially at key, poor quality and/or overplayed sites such as Old Coventrians Rugby Club and Finham Park School. ◀ Ensure sufficient provision is available to meet Trinity Guild RUFC's demand at its new site. ◀ Improve changing and ancillary facilities where required.
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve court quality at Xcel Leisure Centre through resurfacing to create a potential home venue for Earlsdon Highway NC as well as for England Netball initiatives.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Golf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
10	Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School	CV3 6BH	Football	Education	Five adult, two youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, all of which are assessed as poor quality. Spare capacity is discounted due to quality issues and unsecure tenure. A community use agreement has been secured as a planning condition as part of the new sports hall which is due to be constructed on site.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime.	School FF FA	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is available for community use but is unused. The pitch is played to capacity through curricular demand.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School RFU		L	L	L	
			Tennis		Ten poor quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Improve quality for curricular use and explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School LTA		M	L	M	
			Netball		Four poor quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Improve quality for curricular use and explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School England Netball		M	L	M	
38	Coventry University (The Place)	CV4 8GP	Football	Education	Five good quality adult pitches which are available for community use but have actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality and pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity for clubs.	University FF FA RFU EH ECB	Hub	H	S	L	Protect Provide
			Rugby Union		One standard quality senior pitch and one good quality senior pitch, both of which are available for community use and have spare capacity. One pitch is proposed to be lost with the University's aspiration to provide a 3G pitch on site.	Sustain quality and explore opportunities for clubs with overplayed pitches to have secured access to the provision as a secondary venue. Explore the feasibility of installing a 3G pitch on site.			M	S	L	
			Hockey		One water-based full size hockey pitch. Assessed as good quality having been installed in 2019.	Sustain pitch quality, protect as a hockey suitable surface, and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Explore options to improve security of tenure for club users and seek to maximise availability for clubs.			H	L	L	
					One good quality, grass cricket square with nine wickets and an NTP. The square has spare capacity on Sundays and midweek. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			H	S	L	
			Cricket		One good quality, grass cricket square with nine wickets and an NTP. The square has spare capacity on Sundays and midweek. The site is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
42	Earlsdon Rugby Club	CV4 8DY	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One standard quality senior pitch and two senior, two junior and two mini pitches that are poor quality. The standard quality senior pitch is serviced by sports lighting and is overplayed.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay, provide actual spare capacity and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.	Club RFU	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
						Explore creation of additional sports lighting so that training demand can be spread out.			M	S	M	
46	Finham Park 2	CV4 9WT	Hockey	Education	One smaller sized (30x20m) sand-based pitch which is unavailable for community use but is serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for school use and explore opportunities to accommodate community use given presence of sports lighting for recreational activity.	School	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
			Tennis		Two standard quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Improve quality for curricular use.	School LTA		L	L	L	
			Netball		Two standard quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Improve quality for curricular use.	School England Netball		L	L	L	
47	Finham Park School	CV3 6EA	Football	Education	Two standard quality adult pitches which are available for community use and are played to capacity at peak times.	Sustain quality and pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure to club users.	School FF, FA	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect Provide
			3G		One smaller sized (33x20m) pitch which is unavailable for community use but is serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for school use and explore opportunities to accommodate community use given presence of sports lighting for recreational activity.	School FF FA		L	L	L	
			Rugby Union		One standard quality senior pitch and one standard quality junior pitch, both of which are used by Trinity Guild RUFC and significantly overplayed. The Club is to relocate once a replacement site for its previous venue is provided by late 2024. The pitches are also used for rugby league demand throughout the summer by Trinity Knights although there is spare capacity for additional summer demand.	Ensure continued club usage until the replacement site for Trinity Guild RUFC is provided. Work with local clubs to ensure demand on site is replaced.	School RFU		H	S	L	
						Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance to reduce overplay on site and Analysis Area shortfalls.			M	S	L	
						Ensure sufficient provision is provided to the Club as part of its relocation (minimum three good quality pitches with some level of sports lighting).			H	M	H	
Ensure a dedicated maintenance regime is in place to sustain pitch quality despite year-round usage.	M	L	L									
Tennis	11 standard quality courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School LTA	M	L	L						

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Netball		Seven standard quality macadam courts that are neither serviced by sports lighting nor available for community use.	Explore community use and sports lighting potential.	School England Netball		M	L	L	
49	The Highway Club	CV4 9BY	Football	Sports Club	The site now lies disused and a planning application (Ref: FUL/2021/2240) has been submitted for the development of the site which would see the loss of the provision. This proposes replacing the disused adult football pitch and off-site contributions towards netball, cricket and bowls.	Given the unsustainability of single pitch sites, consider alternative mitigation approaches for football, including the extension of existing sites, or off-site contributions to improve other sites in the locality (e.g., Woodlands Sports Complex and Jardine Crescent). Ensure the site is retained until suitable mitigation is delivered.	Club FF FA	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
			Cricket									
			Bowls									
			Netball			Ensure the cricket square is replaced as part of any plans given the future cricket shortfalls identified in the area (potentially at Bablake Playing Fields or Xcel Leisure Centre).	Club ECB		H	S	M	
						Ensure contributions towards netball provision go towards a strategic site/s, with Xcel Leisure Centre considered a priority.	Club England Netball		H	S	M	
50	Floyds Fields	CV4 9HX	Football	Council	A disused site which previously provided two adult pitches and one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use, if quality issues can be overcome, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve. Explore potential lease agreements with local clubs.	FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
58	Grange Farm Primary School	CV3 6NF	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch which is available for community use and is played to capacity at peak times.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure to club users.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
63	Hereward College Sports Centre	CV4 9SW	3G	Education	One smaller sized (59x38m) pitch which is both available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is large enough to accommodate mini football.	Retain for continued community use and seek to maximise activity. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		Three standard quality artificial courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Explore opportunities to maximise usage.	School LTA		L	L	L	
			Netball		Three standard quality artificial courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Explore opportunities to maximise usage.	School England Netball		L	L	L	

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
76	King Henry VIII Preparatory School	CV3 6PT	Hockey	Education	One smaller sized (30x15m) sand-based pitch which is unavailable for community use but is serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for school use and explore opportunities to accommodate community use given presence of sports lighting for recreational activity.	School	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
77	King Henry VIII School	CV3 6AQ	3G	Education	One smaller sized (65x35m) sand-based pitch which is available for community use and is floodlit. The pitch is large enough to accommodate mini football	Retain for continued community use and seek to maximise activity. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			Tennis		Three courts, two good quality macadam and one standard quality artificial. The macadam courts are sports-lit and all courts are available for community use.	Sustain quality and explore opportunities to maximise usage.	School LTA		L	L	L	
90	Old Coventrians Rugby Club	CV5 7AJ	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Three standard quality senior pitches, with two serviced by sports lighting. Each pitch is overplayed due to match demand from Old Coventrians RUFC.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.	Club RFU	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		One good quality flat green and one poor quality crown green that are used by Maxtrix (Coventy) BC and Old Coventrians BC. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain good quality green and improve poor quality green as well as accompanying ancillary facilities.	Club Bowls England BCGBA		M	L	M	
			Tennis		A poor quality, non-lit macadam court.	Improve quality.	Club LTA		M	L	L	
110	Spencer Park	CV5 6PA	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise the actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites and through future demand. Explore options to improve ancillary facilities. Consider re-configuring the pitch to youth 11v11 size to support local shortfalls.	FF FA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
									M	S	M	
									M	S	L	
			Bowls	A poor quality crown green that is used by Albany Social BC and a disused flat green. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve green and ancillary facility quality.	BCGBA	M	L	M			
			Tennis	Four poor quality macadam courts that are unlit.	Improve quality via resurfacing and explore installation of sports lighting.	LTA	M	L	L			
125	St Thomas More Catholic Primary School	CV3 5DE	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is available for community use and is played to its capacity.	Pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure to club users.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
126	Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane)	CV4 9HX	Football	Commercial	One standard quality adult pitch and one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, both of which are played to capacity at peak time. Leased by Triumph Athletic FC; however, the Club has been served with a notice to vacate the site.	Seek to secure long-term tenure for Triumph Athletic FC, or, if this is not possible, ensure the Club can be adequately provided for elsewhere.	Commercial FF FA RFU ECB	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
					Protect the site in line with national planning policy should it be subject to development proposals.	H			S	L		
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is currently unused.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity and explore opportunities for a club to access the provision as a secondary venue to alleviate other pitches of overplay.			M	S	M	
					If rugby union demand does not exist, consider re-purposing for other sports with pitch shortfalls e.g., football.	M			S	L		
					Protect the site in line with national planning policy should it be subject to development proposals.	H			S	L		
	Cricket	One grass cricket square with 11 grass wickets and an NTP. The square has spare capacity on Sundays and midweek. Standard CC has been served notice to vacate the site by the end of the 2022 season. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Seek to secure long-term tenure for Standard CC, or, if this is not possible, ensure the Club can be adequately provided for elsewhere. Protect the site in line with national planning policy should it be subject to development proposals.		H	S	L					
129	Stivichall Primary School	CV3 6PY	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
139	University of Warwick (Westwood Campus)	CV4 7AL	3G	Education	One standard quality full size pitch which is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. It is reaching the end of its ten-year recommended lifespan.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	University FF FA	Hub	H	M	M	Protect Enhance
					Seek FA testing so that the provision can be used for competitive matches and seek to maximise usage for this activity.	H			M	L		
			Rugby Union		One good quality senior pitch which is available for community use and with spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality.	University RFU		M	L	L	
			Hockey		Two good quality full size AGPs, one of which is water-based and one which is sand-based. Both pitches are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain pitch quality, protect as a hockey suitable surface, and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	University EH		H	M	L	
	Explore options to improve security of tenure for club users.	H	S	L								

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Explore opportunities to maximise usage.	University LTA		M	L	L	
			Netball		Three good quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Explore opportunities to maximise usage.	University England Netball		M	L	L	
			Athletics		A 400-metre synthetic track assessed as good quality.	Sustain quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment.	University England Athletics		H	L	L	
142	War Memorial Park	CV3 6PT	Football	Council	Six adult, two youth 11v11 and two mini 7v7 pitches, all of which are assessed as standard. Actual spare capacity exists across the pitch types.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise the actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites and through future demand. Consider re-configuring four of the adult pitches to youth 11v11 size and one of the mini 7v7 pitches to mini 5v5 size to support local shortfalls.	Council FF FA BE LTA ECB	Key Centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		Two poor quality flat greens that are currently unused.	Improve quality and seek to attract usage or consider alternative uses given lack of local demand.			M	S	L	
			Tennis		Eight good quality macadam courts; four with sports lighting and four without.	Explore opportunities to maximise usage.			M	M	L	
			Cricket		One standalone NTP of standard quality.	Sustain wicket quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of providing a second NTP on site.			L	L	L	
155	Xcel Leisure Centre	CV4 8DY	Football	Trust	Two poor quality adult pitches, both of which are played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity and to better accommodate existing demand.	Trust FF FA RFU LTA EN ECB	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			3G		Two smaller sized (35x18m) pitches which are available for community use and are serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for continued recreational usage.			L	L	L	
			Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is available for community use yet is unused for rugby union and instead played to capacity through the summer through RL demand from Coventry Bears RLFC.	Improve pitch quality to better accommodate rugby league demand and enable Coventry Bears RLFC to grow further.			M	M	L	
			Tennis		Six poor quality macadam courts that are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.	Improve quality through resurfacing.			M	L	M	
			Netball		Four poor quality macadam courts, all available for community use. Two are serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality through resurfacing to provide a potential home venue for Earlsdon Highway NC as well as for England Netball initiatives.			H	S	L	

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim		
			Cricket		One standalone NTP of good quality.	Sustain wicket quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Explore the feasibility of providing grass wickets on site to support future shortfalls.			M	L	L			
158	Coventry Hearsall Golf Club	CV5 6DF	Golf	Sports Club	An 18-hole members course with a high membership.	Retain course given high membership.	Club England Golf		M	L	L	Protect		
161	Westwood United Football Club	CV4 8JJ	Football	Sports Club	One poor quality adult pitch, one poor quality youth 11v11 pitch and one poor quality youth 9v9 pitch. The adult pitch is played to capacity at peak time, whilst both youth pitches are overplayed. The site is also deemed to offer poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay on site and reduce shortfalls in the Analysis Area.	Club FF FA	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance		
						Improve ancillary facility offer.			H	S	M			
166	Cannon Park Primary School	CV3 7EB	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches which are currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide		
171	University of Warwick (Cryfield Pavilion)	CV4 7EU	Football	Education	Four good quality adult pitches which have actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality and pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure to club users.	University FF, FA	Hub	M	S	L	Protect		
						One good quality full size pitch which is both available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. It is both FA approved and World Rugby compliant. In addition, there are four smaller sized (30x20m) pitches which are also available for community use and sports-lit.			Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	University FF RFU	H		M	L
									Ensure FA and RFU testing when required to ensure the pitch remains able to accommodate match play and seek to maximise its usage for this purpose.		H		M	L
172	Alvis Sports Club	CV3 6EG	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch and one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. The youth 9v9 pitch has actual spare capacity, whilst the remaining pitch types are played to capacity.	Sustain pitch quality to avoid future overplay.	Club FF FA BCGBA LTA EN ECB	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide		
						An aspiration exists for a full size 3G pitch to be established.			Support aspiration given local shortfalls.	H	S		H	
						A standard quality crown green that is used by Alvis BC.			Explore options to improve quality to better accommodate demand.	L	M		L	
						A single standard quality macadam court that is unlit.			Explore opportunities to maximise use.	M	L		L	
						Two standard quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting.			Explore sports lighting options.	M	L		L	

**COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY – SOUTH WEST ANALYSIS AREA**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Cricket		One standard quality, grass cricket square with ten wickets. The square has spare capacity on Sundays and midweek. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime.			L	L	L	
176	Templars Primary School	CV4 9DA	Football	Education	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches which are currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
179	Charter Primary School	CV4 8DW	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which is currently unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
182	Beechwood Lawn Tennis Club	CV5 6FQ	Tennis	Sports Club	Six good quality macadam and two good quality artificial courts, all of which are serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	Club LTA	Local	M	L	L	Protect
185	The Three Spires Bowling & Sports Club	CV5 6PD	Bowls	Sports Club	A good quality flat green that is used by Three Spires BC.	Sustain quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
190	Lime Tree Park Club	CV4 9BQ	Bowls	Sports Club	A good quality flat green that is used by Lime Tree Park BC. Serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	Club Bowls England	Local	L	L	L	Protect
198	Coventry Golf Club	CV3 6RJ	Golf	Sports Club	An 18-hole members course with a high membership.	Retain course given high membership.	Club England Golf		M	L	L	Protect
199	Hearsall Common	CV5 6HB	Cricket	Council	One poor quality, standalone NTP which is unused by the community.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing the NTP on site for informal and recreational demand.	Council ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
204	Standard Triumph Club	CV5 6UB	Bowls	Commercial	A good quality crown green that is used by Standard BC. The Club reports that its lease agreement is nearing expiry.	Extend lease agreement to provide increased security of tenure.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	Charter Avenue	CV4 8EB	Football	Council	Lapsed provision, with an adult last marked out in 2013.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	FF, FA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide

PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2031. This future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required. The Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC)¹⁴ adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converts the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required. This is achieved via team generation rates in the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth and gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision.

As identified earlier under Recommendation (h) – Secure developer contributions, for playing pitches, the City Council should use Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator as a tool for determining developer contributions linking to sites within the locality.

Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, the Action Plan in this document should be consulted to determine whether the additional demand can be accommodated via existing provision (in which case no further action is required). If this is not the case, contributions should be sought to enhance existing provision in the locality to accommodate the increased demand. This can be through, for example, improving quality, or providing new or improved ancillary provision. Consultation with appropriate NGBs should also be used to assist in the selection of suitable sites and suitable enhancements.

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

The scenarios are as follows:

Scenario One - additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 42,400 dwellings across the City.

Scenario Two - additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 3,100 dwellings in Keresley (the North East Analysis Area).

Scenario Three - additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 2,250 dwellings in Eastern Green (the North West Analysis Area).

It should be noted that the figures used were taken from the Coventry City Council Local Plan (2011–31). For reference, the indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.3¹⁵ per dwelling.

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

¹⁴ <https://www.activeplacespower.com/>

¹⁵ The occupancy rate of 2.3 is in line with figures used in the 2011 Census.

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Scenario One – additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 42,400 dwellings across the City.

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 42,400 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 97,520 people. This population increase equates to 64.2 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 4.82 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 120.89 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 103.33 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 13.00 hours for hockey on AGPs. There are also 13.39 and 1.02 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on a floodlit grass pitch for rugby union and rugby league, respectively.

Table 7.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 42,400 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 42,400 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ¹⁶	Training demand ¹⁷
Adult football	13.59	103.33 hours
Youth football	24.48	
Mini soccer	13.60	
Rugby union	11.71	13.39 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.82	1.02 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	4.06	12.19 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.76	0.81 hours
Cricket	120.89	-

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

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ¹⁸	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ¹⁹	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	13.59	£1,290,840	£272,367	27.18	£4,453,398
Youth football	24.48	£1,860,394	£390,683	32.98	£5,404,281
Mini soccer	13.60	£322,934	£67,816	0.00	£0
Rugby union	11.71	£1,556,887	£333,174	23.41	£3,836,614
Rugby league	0.82	£90,096	£19,911	1.65	£270,289
Cricket	2.85	£798,209	£161,238	5.70	£933,499
Sand based AGPs	1.02	£801,154	£24,836	2.03	£333,010
3G	2.72	£2,570,277	£100,106	5.44	£891,202

¹⁶ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

¹⁷ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

¹⁸ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

¹⁹ 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)

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Scenario Two – additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 3,100 dwellings in Keresley (the North East Analysis Area).

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 3,100 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 7,130 people. This population increase equates to 4.69 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.36 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 8.84 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 7.55 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.95 hours for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.98 and 0.07 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on a floodlit grass pitch for rugby union and rugby league, respectively.

Table 7.3: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 3,100 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 3,100 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ²⁰	Training demand ²¹
Adult football	0.99	7.55 hours
Youth football	1.79	
Mini soccer	0.99	
Rugby union	0.86	0.98 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.06	0.07 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.30	0.89 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.06	0.06 hours
Cricket	8.84	-

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

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ²²	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²³	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.99	£94,377	£19,914	1.99	£325,600
Youth football	1.79	£136,020	£28,564	2.41	£395,126
Mini soccer	0.99	£23,612	£4,958	0.00	£0
Rugby union	0.86	£113,829	£24,359	1.71	£280,507
Rugby league	0.06	£6,587	£1,456	0.12	£19,762
Cricket	0.21	£58,359	£11,789	0.42	£68,250
Sand based AGPs	0.07	£58,575	£1,816	0.15	£24,347
3G	0.20	£187,924	£7,319	0.40	£65,160

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 Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

²³ 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)

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Scenario Three – additional demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth from 2,250 dwellings in Eastern Green (the North West Analysis Area).

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2,250 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 5,175 people. This population increase equates to 3.40 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, accumulative 0.26 match equivalent sessions for hockey and 6.41 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket.

Training demand equates to 5.48 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.69 hours for hockey on AGPs. There are also 0.65 and 0.04 match equivalent sessions per week of training for on a floodlit grass pitch for rugby union and rugby league, respectively.

Table 7.5: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 2,250 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 2,250 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week ²⁴	Training demand ²⁵
Adult football	0.72	5.48 hours
Youth football	1.30	
Mini soccer	0.72	
Rugby union	0.62	0.71 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.04	0.05 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.22	0.65 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.04	0.04 hours
Cricket	6.41	-

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

Table 7.6: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ²⁶	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²⁷	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.72	£68,500	£14,453	1.44	£236,324
Youth football	1.30	£98,725	£20,732	1.75	£286,785
Mini soccer	0.72	£17,137	£3,599	0.00	£0
Rugby union	0.62	£82,618	£17,680	1.24	£203,595
Rugby league	0.04	£4,781	£1,057	0.09	£14,343
Cricket	0.15	£42,358	£8,556	0.30	£49,537
Sand based AGPs	0.05	£42,514	£1,318	0.11	£17,671
3G	0.14	£136,395	£5,312	0.29	£47,293

²⁴ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

²⁵ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

²⁶ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

²⁷ 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)

The most appropriate way to meet the estimated demand

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

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

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

Conclusion

For the scenarios above, the tables show that, through housing growth relating to the aforementioned developments, demand will be generated for football, rugby union, cricket and hockey. The level of demand generated for football, rugby union and hockey is such that new provision is warranted across the City in order to accommodate the increase in demand from population growth. However, at the largest proposed in Keresley and Eastern Green respectively, new provision for only football and rugby union would be warranted as a direct result of these developments.

For 3G pitches, the requirement for new provision does not exceed the shortfall that is already required to meet future demand. Instead, as the demand generated from the housing growth at specific developments does not equate to a whole pitch, contributions would be better focused on supporting 3G development aspirations elsewhere in the Analysis Area of said development. The PPOSS and in particular the Action Plan, as well as future consultation with NGBs, should be used to inform this (e.g. to select suitable sites).

This is particularly the case for football, cricket and rugby union as there is a lack of supply to meet current and future demand. With housing growth in the area expected to exacerbate these shortfalls, off-site contributions should be sought to increase capacity for these sports, whether that be through pitch quality improvements or ancillary improvements to ensure underused sites can be fully utilised.

To provide the greatest impact, contributions from housing developments could be pooled together to improve key sites. The action plan identifies high priority sites which would likely provide the most benefit from investment. This includes:

- ◀ Alan Higgs Centre
- ◀ Finham Park School

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- ◀ Alvis Sports Club
- ◀ Bablake Playing Fields
- ◀ Caludon Castle Sports Centre
- ◀ Cardinal Newman Catholic School
- ◀ Copsewood Community Sports Club
- ◀ Coventrians Rugby Club
- ◀ Coventry Rugby Club (Butts Park Arena)
- ◀ Coventry Technical Rugby Club
- ◀ Coventry University (The Place)
- ◀ Coventry Welsh Rugby Club
- ◀ Lyng Hall School Sports Centre
- ◀ President Kennedy School
- ◀ Sidney Stringer Academy
- ◀ Standard Triumph Club
- ◀ The Highway Club
- ◀ University of Warwick (Cryfield Pavilion)
- ◀ University of Warwick (Westwood Campus)
- ◀ Westwood United Football Club
- ◀ Woodlands Sports Complex

However, if high priority sites in the local area of the development cannot be identified for investment, contributions should be pooled in order to fund the creation of new provision, particularly for rugby union, in consultation with Sport England and the relevant NGB to ensure the potential provision would be utilised and sustainable.

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

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

Delivery

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

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

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

To help ensure the PPOSS is well used, it should be regarded as the key document within the study area guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch and outdoor sport provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on the how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved, the Steering Group needs to have a clear understanding of how the PPOSS can be applied and therefore delivered.

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

Monitoring and updating

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

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It is agreed that the Council is responsible for keeping the database and background supply and demand information up to date in order that area-by-area action plans can be updated. This should be carried out in consultation with the NGBs, particularly around affiliation time when information is updated.

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

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

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

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


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

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

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Checklist

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

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date	Tick 	
	Yes	Requires Attention
Step 9: Apply & deliver the strategy Are steering group members clear on how the PPS can be applied across a range of relevant areas?		
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?		
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 Has a process been put in place to ensure the PPS is kept robust and up to date?		
Does the process involve an annual update of the PPS?		
Is the steering group to be maintained and is it clear of its on-going role?		
Is regular liaison with the NGBs and other parties planned?		
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?		
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.

Local context

The PPOSS replaces the previous study for Coventry, which was published in 2014. Key objectives for the PPOSS, as identified by the Council, are to:

- ◀ Provide a documented assessment of current and future needs for outdoor sports facilities within the City; focusing on quantity and quality issues in relation to supply and demand.
- ◀ Identify all valuable sites to ensure they can be protected and improved for the long-term benefit of sport.
- ◀ Provide a clear, justified series of recommendations and associated action plans for disposal/provision of pitches and facilities surplus to requirements to meet current and future demand. Within these recommendations examples of sites will also be provided to demonstrate the impact that following through on these recommendations would have.
- ◀ Promote a sustainable approach to the provision of outdoor sports facilities and management of sports clubs.
- ◀ Ensure that all clubs have access to ancillary facilities of appropriate quality to meet current needs and long-term aspirations.
- ◀ Inform the development and implementation of planning policy.
- ◀ Inform the assessment of planning applications and Section 106 (S106) contributions, plus any agreements with Sport England and other bodies regarding planning.
- ◀ Plan for the provision and use of shared spaces, including the identification of school facilities which could be utilised to address any identified deficits in provision.
- ◀ Take account of outdoor sport facilities provided in neighbouring local authorities that presently service the sporting and recreational needs of Coventry residents (and vice versa).
- ◀ Ensure provision can meet future demand derived from housing growth and to guide the level of increased provision required (using Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator).
- ◀ Provide a clear plan for the development of football hubs within the City, located at War Memorial Park and Coundon Hall Park, linked to the amalgamation of parks provision, where evidenced.
- ◀ Deliver a strategic need and action plan for the delivery of future 3G provision across the City to support the revision of the Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP).
- ◀ Provide a clear and justified series of recommendations and associated action plans for the provision of new pitches and facilities.
- ◀ Provide a framework that helps secure future internal and external funding to support the PPOSS action plan.
- ◀ Ensure that the work utilises the existing Greenspace Strategy and Education Capital Strategy for Coventry.
- ◀ Align the work with wider objectives of the refreshed Coventry Sports and Physical Activity Strategy as they emerge.

In addition, the PPOSS will continue to underpin and inform local planning policy over the period up to 2040 to provide robust evidence for a future Local Plan review. The overarching vision of the existing Local Plan is to make Coventry one of the top ten cities in England that is globally connected and locally committed. Its objectives include:

- ◀ Supporting businesses to grow.
- ◀ Enabling the right infrastructure for a city to grow and thrive.

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- ◀ Developing a dynamic 21st century city centre.
- ◀ Raising the profile of Coventry.
- ◀ Creating an attractive, cleaner and greener city.
- ◀ Maintaining and enhancing an accessible transport network.
- ◀ Housing that meets the needs of all people.
- ◀ Improving the health and wellbeing of local residents.
- ◀ Supporting safer communities.

Furthermore, Coventry's 10-year Sport Strategy is also to be refreshed, with the PPOSS considered to be integral to this and its direction. The likely component of the new strategy, and a fundamental component of the existing one, is to ensure the sustainability and future provision of sports facilities across the City is addressed.

The PPOSS will also meet 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, with paragraph 98 discussing the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Paragraph 99 discusses assessments and the protection of "existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields". Paragraphs 101 and 102 also promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields and outdoor sport facilities.

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.

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Sport England: Uniting the Movement 2021

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

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

There are three key objectives to the Strategy:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

National Planning Policy Framework (updated 2021)

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

The NPPF states the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies that the planning system needs to focus on three themes

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of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

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

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

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

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

The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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- ◀ **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.

The FA: Time for Change Strategy (2020-24)

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

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

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

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

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

The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan (2021)

The RFU has released its new strategic vision, which is to achieve 'a successful and thriving game across England'. The strategy can be found [here](#).

It identifies four 'Game Objectives' and four 'Driving Objectives', to form priority focuses for the strategy. It believes that these objectives will make the greatest substantive improvements to the game and investment will be aligned to these areas.

Game objectives

- ◀ **Enjoyment** – Enable positive player experiences on and off the field.
- ◀ **Winning England** – Create the best possible high-performance system for England Rugby.
- ◀ **Welfare** – Enhance players welfare to protect and support the wellbeing of players.
- ◀ **Flourishing rugby communities** – Support clubs to sustain and grow themselves and to reflect society.

Driving objectives

- ◀ **Diversity & inclusion** – Drive rugby union in England to reflect the diversity of society.
- ◀ **Understand** – Build a deep understanding of players, volunteers and fans to shape the future of the game.
- ◀ **Connect** – Connect with and grow the rugby community and create exceptional experiences.
- ◀ **Commercial & operational excellence** – Ensure a sustainable and efficient business model delivered by an inspired workforce.

A number of aims, identified as key to the achievement of these main objectives, are particularly relevant to facilities. The provision of good quality and suitable rugby union facilities will help to achieve these aims and in turn objectives:

- ◀ **Enjoyment** – Improve accessibility for women and girls across the game.

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- ◀ *Enjoyment* – Make the game inclusive and attractive for 14 to 18 year olds.
- ◀ *Flourishing rugby communities* – Provide support to help clubs maximise the benefit from their facilities and assets.
- ◀ *Diversity & Inclusion* – Improve the diversity of all facets of our game and continue to create an inclusive environment for all.

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:

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

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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.

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:

PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision

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

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

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

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

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

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APPENDIX TWO: HIGH PRIORITY SITES

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis Area	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Alan Higgs Centre	CV3 1HW	South East	Football	Community Organisation	Three adult, one youth 11v11 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of good quality. Both the adult and youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity, whilst the mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality.	FF FA	Hub	H	L	L	Protect
				3G		Two FA approved full size pitches, both of which are available for community use and floodlit (one is indoor). One of the pitches is standard, having been installed in 2015, whilst the other is good, having been installed in 2019.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.			H	L	L	
							Ensure FA testing every three years to ensure the pitches remain able to accommodate match play and seek to maximise usage for this purpose.			H	M	L	
6	Bablake Playing Fields	CV6 2BU	South West	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One poor quality senior pitch that is overplayed. Leased to Old Wheatleyans RUFC in an agreement that has only 12 years remaining. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities that require improvement.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.	Club FF FA RFU EH ECB	Key centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
						Extend lease arrangement to provide greater security of tenure to Old Wheatleyans RUFC.	H			S	L		
						Explore options to improve ancillary facilities.	H			M	M		
				Hockey	Two full size sand-based pitches which are available for community use, although with limited weekend opening hours. The playing surface is seven years old, meaning the provision is assessed as standard quality. Used by Berkswell & Balsall Common HC and Sikh Union Coventry HC. Serviced by limited car parking.	Protect as a hockey suitable surface and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	H			M	L		
					Explore opportunities to increase availability, particularly on Saturday mornings.	H	S			L			
					Improve security of tenure via longer-term usage arrangements with clubs.	H	S			L			
14	Caludon Castle Sports Centre	CV2 5BD	South East	Hockey	Education	One poor quality, full size sand-based AGP that is unused for hockey. Spare capacity exists for match and training demand although pitch improvements would be required before demand could be accommodated. Aspirations exist to convert the provision to 3G.	Consider 3G conversion provided that hockey demand can remain catered for elsewhere given local 3G shortfalls.	School EH FF FA	Hub	H	S	H	Protect Enhance
							If 3G conversion is not pursued, explore resurfacing to create additional hockey capacity.			H	S	M	
16	Cardinal Newman Catholic School	CV6 2FR	North West	Football	Education	Two adult pitches and one youth 11v11 pitch, all of which are assessed as standard quality but that are unavailable for community use.	Explore options to enable community access.	School FF, FA	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis Area	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				3G		An aspiration exists to create a full size pitch on site, in partnership with Christ the King FC.	Support aspirations given local shortfall of provision and use investment to enable wider community access of the site.			H	S	H	
25	Copsewood Community Sports and Social Club	CV3 1JP	South East	Football	Sports Club	One adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch that are all standard quality. The adult and youth 11v11 pitches are significantly overplayed, whilst the youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches are overmarked by mini 5v5 pitches.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay and seek the transfer of some demand to sites with actual spare capacity to fully eradicate it on site and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.	Club FF FA RFU BCGBA EN ECB	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
27	Coundon Court School	CV6 2AJ	North West	Football	Education	Two adult, one youth 11v11 (overmarked by a youth 9v9), one mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are standard quality and available for community use. The adult pitches and the youth 11v11 pitch are overplayed, the mini 7v7 pitch is played to its capacity at peak time, and the mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. One of the adult pitches is to be temporarily lost to enable the construction of a new sports block.	Ensure the adult pitch is re-instated following site development.	School FF FA	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
32	Coventrians Rugby Club	CV6 4AF	North East	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch which is currently significantly overplayed.	Transfer demand to sites with actual spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Club FF FA	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Rugby Union		Two poor quality senior pitches, one of which is serviced by sports lighting. Both pitches are overplayed due to match and training demand from Coventrians and Coventry Corsairs rugby clubs. Coventrians RUFC has plans to improve the clubhouse on site.	Improve quality of the pitches to reduce overplay on site and within the Analysis Area and explore additional sports lighting to better disperse training demand.	Club RFU		H	S	L	
						Explore providing the Club with access to an additional pitch, or with access to a 3G pitch to fully alleviate overplay.				H	S	L	
						Improve ancillary facilities.				H	S	M	
34	Coventry Building Society Arena	CV6 6GE	North East	Football	Commercial/ Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch which is unavailable for community use due to being used for professional football.	Ensure that the Stadium continues to be utilised for sporting use.	Club Council SE FF/FA RFU	Local	H	S	L	Protect
				Rugby Union		One good quality senior pitch which was used by Wasps RUFC.						H	
36	Coventry Rugby Club (Butts Park Arena)	CV1 3GE	North West	3G	Sports Club	One good quality full size FA Approved and World Rugby compliant pitch. Available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. Identified as being in	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Ensure FA and RFU testing when required to ensure the pitch remains able to	Club FF RFU FA	Key Centre	H	M	L	Protect Enhance
										H	S	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis Area	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
						need of ancillary facility improvements.	accommodate match play and seek to maximise its usage for this purpose. Improve supporting ancillary provision to better accommodate rugby union demand.			H	M	M	
37	Coventry Technical Rugby Club	CV4 8DY	North West	Football	Sports Club	One poor quality adult pitch and one poor quality youth 11v11 pitch. The adult pitch is played to its capacity whilst the youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed. The site is allocated for a residential development, with the lease agreement due to expire in 2025.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay. Ensure replacement provision is provided to an equal or better quantity and quality, in line with national planning policy.	Club FF FA RFU	Local	H	M	H	Protect
				Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is played to capacity. The site is allocated for a residential development, with the lease agreement due to expire in 2025.	Ensure replacement provision is provided to an equal or better quantity and quality, in line with national planning policy.			H	M	H	
							Ensure the Club is provided with long-term tenure of a replacement site.			H	M	L	
38	Coventry University (The Place)	CV4 8GP	South West	Football	Education	Five good quality adult pitches which are available for community use but have actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. Since the production of the assessment report, Coventry University has submitted a planning application to replace one of the pitches with a sports lit 3G pitch that would be available to the community.	Sustain quality and pursue the creation of a community use agreement to provide security of tenure and actual spare capacity for clubs. Consider the feasibility of supporting the 3G pitch development on site.	University FF FA RFU EH ECB	Hub	H	S	L	Protect
				Hockey		One water-based full size hockey pitch. Assessed as good quality having been installed in 2019.	Sustain pitch quality, protect as a hockey suitable surface, and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.			H	L	L	
							Explore options to improve security of tenure for club users and seek to maximise availability for clubs.			H	S	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis Area	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
47	Finham Park School	CV3 6EA	South West	Rugby Union	Education	One standard quality senior pitch and one standard quality junior pitch, both of which are used by Trinity Guild RUFC and significantly overplayed. The Club is to relocate once a replacement site for its previous venue is provided. The pitches are also used for rugby league demand throughout the summer by Trinity Knights although there is spare capacity for additional summer demand.	Ensure continued club usage until the replacement site for Trinity Guild RUFC is provided. Work with local clubs to ensure demand on site is replaced.	School RFU	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Provide
							Ensure sufficient provision is provided to the Club as part of its relocation (minimum three good quality pitches with some level of sports lighting).			H	M	H	
49	The Highway Club	CV4 9BY	South West	Football	Sports Club	The site now lies disused and a planning application (Ref: FUL/2021/2240) has been submitted for the development of the site which would see the loss of the provision. This proposes replacing the football pitch and off-site contributions towards netball, cricket and bowls.	Given the unsustainability of single pitch sites, consider alternative mitigation approaches for football, including the extension of existing sites, or off-site contributions to improve other sites in the locality (e.g., Woodlands Sports Complex and Jardine Crescent). Ensure the cricket square is replaced as part of any plans given the future cricket shortfalls identified in the area (potentially at Bablake Playing Fields or Xcel Leisure Centre). Ensure contributions towards netball provision go towards a strategic site/s, with Xcel Leisure Centre considered a priority.	Club FF FA ECB EN	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
				Cricket						H	S	M	
				Bowls						H	S	M	
				Netball						H	S	M	
82	Lyng Hall School Sports Centre	CV2 3JS	North East	Athletics	Education	A 400-metre track assessed as poor quality.	Ensure the cricket square is replaced as part of any plans given the future cricket shortfalls identified in the area (potentially at Bablake Playing Fields or Xcel Leisure Centre).	Club ECB	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
99	President Kennedy School	CV6 4GL	North East	Football	School/Sky Blues in the Community	One good quality full size pitch which is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is managed by a partnership between the School and Sky Blues in the Community.	Ensure contributions towards netball provision go towards a strategic site/s, with Xcel Leisure Centre considered a priority.	Club England Netball	Hub	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
				3G			Ensure FA testing every three years to ensure the pitch remains able to accommodate match play and seek to maximise its usage for this purpose.			School FF FA	H	M	

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105	Sidney Stringer Academy	CV1 5LY	South East	3G	Education	One poor quality full size pitch which is available for community use and is sports-lit. The pitch has exceeded its 10-year recommended lifespan.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	School FF FA	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
							Seek FA testing so that the provision can be used for competitive matches and seek to maximise usage for this activity.			H	M	L	
126	Standard Triumph Club (Tanners Lane)	CV4 9HX	South West	Football	Commercial	One standard quality adult pitch and one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, both of which are played to capacity at peak time. Leased by Triumph Athletic FC; however, the Club has been served with a notice to vacate the site.	Seek to secure long-term tenure for Triumph Athletic FC, or, if this is not possible, ensure the Club can be adequately provided for elsewhere.	Commercial FF FA RFU ECB	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
						Protect the site in line with national planning policy should it be subject to development proposals.	H			S	L		
				Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch which is currently unused.	Protect the site in line with national planning policy should it be subject to development proposals.			H	S	M	
				Cricket		One grass cricket square with 11 grass wickets and an NTP. The square has spare capacity on Sundays and midweek. Standard CC has been served notice to vacate the site by the end of the 2022 season. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain square quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Seek to secure long-term tenure for Standard CC, or, if this is not possible, ensure the Club can be adequately provided for elsewhere. Protect the site in line with national planning policy should it be subject to development proposals.			H	S	L	
139	University of Warwick (Westwood Campus)	CV4 7AL	South West	3G	Education	One standard quality full size pitch which is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. It is reaching the end of its ten-year recommended lifespan.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	University FF FA EH EA	Hub	H	M	M	Protect Enhance
						Seek FA testing so that the provision can be used for competitive matches and seek to maximise usage for this activity.	H			M	L		
				Hockey		Two good quality full size AGPs, one of which is water-based and one which is sand-based. Both pitches are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain pitch quality, protect as a hockey suitable surface, and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.			H	M	L	
						Explore options to improve security of tenure for club users.	H			S	L		

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				Athletics		A 400-metre synthetic track assessed as good quality.	Sustain quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for future refurbishment.			H	L	L	
152	Woodlands Sports Complex	CV5 7FF	North West	Football	Education	Two adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, three mini 7v7 pitches and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality. Actual spare capacity exists across the site, although 3G plans may reduce the number of pitches provided.	Sustain quality and seek to utilise the actual spare capacity that exists through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Use potential income from the proposed 3G pitch to further improve pitch quality. Consider re-configuring the adult pitches to youth 11v11 size and one mini 7v7 pitch to mini 5v5 size to support local shortfalls.	FF FA	Hub	H	M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
				3G		A proposal exists for the creation of a full size pitch for which planning has been approved (FUL/2022/0561).	Support aspirations given local shortfall of provision. Ensure ancillary facilities are sufficient to support 3G provision and make improvements where necessary.			H	S	H	
										H	M	M	
155	Xcel Leisure Centre	CV4 8DY	South West	Netball	Trust	Four poor quality macadam courts, all available for community use. Two are serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality through resurfacing to provide a potential home venue for Earlsdon Highway NC as well as for England Netball initiatives.	Trust FF FA RFU LTA EN ECB	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
160	Windmill Village Hotel & Golf Club	CV5 9AL	North West	Golf	Commercial	An 18-hole course that is subject to development proposals and potential loss.	Ensure demand can be appropriately accommodated elsewhere should the proposals go ahead and seek appropriate mitigation to improve other golf provision within the locality (e.g., Brandon Wood Golf Course which has the potential to reopen).	England Golf	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
161	Westwood United Football Club	CV4 8JJ	South West	Football	Sports Club	One poor quality adult pitch, one poor quality youth 11v11 pitch and one poor quality youth 9v9 pitch. The adult pitch is played to capacity at peak time, whilst both youth pitches are overplayed. The site is also deemed to offer poor quality ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay on site and reduce shortfalls in the Analysis Area.	Club FF FA	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
							Improve ancillary facility offer.			H	S	M	

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162	Coventry Welsh Rugby Club	CV6 6AY	North East	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One good quality senior pitch which is with sports lighting. Currently overplayed due to match and training demand from Coventry Welsh RUFC, which has aspirations to develop additional provision. The Club also wants to extend and improve its ancillary facilities.	Sustain pitch quality to ensure overplay does not worsen.	Club RFU	Local	H	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
							Support the Club in its plans to establish additional provision in order to eradicate overplay from the site and reduce Analysis Area shortfalls.			H	S	M	
171	University of Warwick (Cryfield Pavilion)	CV4 7EU	South West	3G	Education	One good quality full size pitch which is both available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. It is both FA approved and World Rugby compliant. In addition, there are four smaller sized (30x20m) pitches which are also available for community use and sports-lit.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	University FF RFU	Hub	H	M	L	Protect
							Ensure FA and RFU testing when required to ensure the pitch remains able to accommodate match play and seek to maximise its usage for this purpose.			H	M	L	
172	Alvis Sports Club	CV3 6EG	South West	3G	Sports Club	An aspiration exists for a full size 3G pitch to be established.	Support aspiration given local shortfalls.	Club FF FA	Key Centre	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide