



Doncaster  
Council



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Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council  
Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan

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# Executive Summary

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- I. This Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy draws upon the issues identified within the Doncaster MBC Playing Pitch Assessment Report (April 2018), which evaluated the adequacy of provision for football, cricket, rugby, hockey, tennis, and bowls across the Borough. It seeks to address the issues identified and sets out the priorities for the future delivery of facilities for these sports for the period 2018 - 2033.

## **Vision**

- II. The strategy (and this assessment report, which supports the strategy document) seeks to support DMBC and its partners in attaining its vision for outdoor sports, which is that:

*The Playing Pitch Strategy will help secure access to high quality opportunities for sport and recreation as an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. The Strategy will help to ensure that Doncaster's planning policies are based on a robust and up-to-date assessment of the needs for sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision.*

- III. Table 1 summarises the issues identified that the strategy seeks to address;

**Table 1 - Key Issues for Strategy to Address**

Sport	Key Issues to Address	Protect	Provide	Enhance
Cricket	Protection of existing cricket pitches			
	Number of facilities largely adequate but some clubs are approaching capacity and some clubs over capacity. Minimal availability at peak time and aspirations for new facility (Doncaster CC)			
	Availability of facilities for training (particularly off field) is poor. Few sites contain playable non turf wickets / nets. This is a key issue for development as well as club satisfaction and is the immediate priority.			
	There are some site-specific quality issues to be addressed (outfield levelling / maintenance / pavilion).			
	There is an aspiration to support increases in participation in cricket. This may have a knock on impact for the longer term development of facilities.			
Rugby League	There is a need to protect the existing venues for rugby league			
	There are capacity pressures at Bentley RLFC and Toll Bar RLFC (based upon projected future demand).			
	There are quality issues at existing sites that may inhibit participation if not addressed			
	There are opportunities to enhance community usage of facilities for rugby league at the Keepmoat Stadium.			
	There are opportunities to increase participation across the borough by improving engagement with schools.			
Hockey	There is a need to protect facilities required for hockey - this means retaining at least two hockey pitches for club usage (Townfields and Armthorpe Academy) to ensure that current and future hockey activity can be sustained. These facilities should therefore be protected against conversion to 3g pitches (this may need to be through the proactive agreement of the pitch owners if it is determined that planning permission for conversion is not required)			
	There are capacity pressures at Townfields currently and a need to address the requirements of Doncaster Hockey Club to ensure that the facilities continue to meet club need			
	There is a need to enhance the quality of existing hockey pitches to ensure that they remain fit for purpose			
	There are opportunities to increase levels of participation in hockey across the Borough			
Bowls	There is a need to increase participation and address recent declines in order to ensure that the existing infrastructure remains sustainable. There are significant opportunities to promote bowls to a wider target audience and to increase			

Sport	Key Issues to Address	Protect	Provide	Enhance
	the social and health benefits derived from bowls			
	There is a need to protect valuable existing greens in order to ensure that there are sufficient greens to monitor future demand			
	There are several sites with disused greens or greens with limited use and further review is required as to the future of these facilities			
	Quality issues have been identified at several sites that may impact on current and future participation if not addressed. While recent changes to the maintenance programmes at key sites appear to have been positive, there is a need to ensure that ongoing training and monitoring is undertaken and that succession planning is considered.			
Rugby Union	There is a need to protect the existing facilities that are available for rugby union clubs			
	There are some capacity issues at clubs which need to be addressed if future participation is not to be inhibited. Many of these issues arise from poor maintenance rather than a lack of pitches per se. There are however some issues that will not be addressed by improvements to maintenance alone at Thornensians and Doncaster RFC			
	On pitch training is generally focused on one pitch, generating overplay and creating compaction. There is a need to increase the amount of floodlit pitches available to clubs			
	Issues relating to both training and grass pitch capacity for matches mean that there may be opportunities to create a 3g AGP that is suitable for rugby union			
Football	There is a need to protect existing valuable pitches (these will be listed in the site by site action list)			
	There is sufficient stock overall but pressures on 9v9 and junior pitches, particularly at key club bases (Armthorpe Rovers, Scawthorpe Scorpions, Moorends Hornets and Stingers). Pitches are not necessarily tailored to the needs of clubs and there are site specific capacity pressures			
	There are concerns about the role of unsecured sites - several school bases hosting large clubs are unsecured. Loss of these sites would generate gaps in the facility stock. In addition, much of the existing surplus capacity is located at school facilities			
	There is a lack of AGPs for training which impacts on overall pitch capacity by causing clubs to use grass pitches and also generates additional wear and tear			
	There are quality issues at numerous sites and the quality of pitches is perceived to be deteriorating amid concerns about the maintenance of pitches			
	Cost provides a barrier to access to pitches for both training and matches. Pricing policies are inconsistent across the Borough particularly in relation to lack of fees for junior pitches, and clubs struggle to access training facilities			
	There are opportunities to increase participation through the retention of existing players and development of new forms of the game.			

- IV. The resulting strategic recommendations for each sport are outlined below. The strategy action plan details the actions that will be required to meet these goals and the responsibilities and timeframes for delivery.

### **Cricket**

**C1:** Retain the existing quantity of grass cricket pitches in the borough.

**C2:** While on the whole provision is sufficient to meet current demands, capacity will become constrained at some clubs if growth aspirations are achieved and if projected new housing developments are delivered. In partnership with the Yorkshire Cricket Board, ensure that the amount of cricket facilities available does not impact on the opportunities to grow participation. Access to increased provision should be sought through;

- the ongoing development of relationships between larger and smaller clubs;
- the provision of off field training facilities (linking with C3);
- linking with C3, building capacity and enhancing sustainability by adding a non turf wicket to existing squares;
- the development of school club links and the establishment of a relationship between schools and cricket clubs; and
- the provision of a new satellite ground) for clubs at capacity where this represents a sustainable option for growth.

**C3:** Support cricket clubs in the development of off field training nets and non turf wickets to enhance club sustainability and improve overall performance.

**C4:** Improve the quality of existing cricket pitches within the borough to ensure that they meet with standards required for the South Yorkshire Cricket League, as well as promoting the sport. This should include:

- ensuring that grounds maintenance schedules meet with ECB guidance and learning from best practice examples elsewhere;
- supporting required groundworks to improve quality of existing squares and outfielders where issues are identified; and
- ensure that all clubs have facilities appropriate to the standard that they play at in line with league regulations (sight screens).

**C5:** Support the sustainable growth of cricket and clubs in the Borough by promoting communication between all of those involved in cricket through the continuation of the cricket development forum.

**C6:** Linking with the National Strategy, Cricket Unleashed, support the introduction of development initiatives to increase participation in cricket. Supporting talent development pathways in cricket.

## **Rugby League**

**RL1:** Ensure that existing venues for rugby league are protected for long term use by clubs.

**RL2:** Work with clubs to ensure that capacity is sufficient to meet short term and long term demand. This may include new provision as well as enhancing existing facilities (see RL3).

**RL3:** Enhance the quality of existing rugby league facilities to ensure that participation is not inhibited by pitch quality.

**RL4:** Seek to promote the development of rugby league in the borough.

## **Hockey**

**H1:** Ensure that there remains sufficient sand based facilities to fulfil hockey need at both the current time and in the future by retaining the AGPs that are valuable for hockey as sand based facilities and protecting against conversion for 3g pitches.

**H2:** Address identified capacity issues in hockey for Doncaster HC by;

- refurbishing the existing AGP immediately to ensure that the site remains fully usable; and
- supporting the provision of a small on-site training area (to also be used for pre-match warm ups, increasing the capacity of the AGP for competitive fixtures).

**H3:** Address quality issues identified at Townfields and work with providers to ensure the timely refurbishment of the pitch surface at other sites across the borough.

**H4:** Work with the key clubs (in particular Doncaster HC) to support initiatives to introduce new participants to the game and to raise awareness of the sport.

## **Bowls**

**BG1:** To ensure the existing facility infrastructure remains sustainable, support initiatives to increase participation in bowls across the borough.

**BG2:** Protect valuable existing bowling locations to support the implementation of BG1, as well as to ensure that there are sufficient greens to accommodate future demand. This will ensure that there are sufficient greens to enable the achievement of development objectives, as well as to accommodate projected population growth. To maximise sustainability and better balance income with expenditure the potential to close one green on sites containing two and with membership of below 20 per green should be investigated.

**BG3:** Support clubs in the improvement of existing bowling greens where issues have been identified.

## Rugby Union

**R1**- Ensure that all clubs have secured access to sufficient pitches and ancillary facilities initially through the protection and retention of the existing sites.

**R2** -Seek to address capacity issues at existing sites by adding additional capacity through qualitative improvements as well as the provision of existing pitches where required.

**R3** - Explore opportunities to develop a World Rugby compliant 3g pitch to improve access to match and training facilities for clubs in Doncaster MBC.

**R4** - Ensure that all sites are equipped to manage on site training and that training load is spread over existing pitches (rather than focused on one where possible) through the effective provision of floodlights.

## Football

**F1:** Maximise the efficiency of pitch provision across the Borough by;

- protecting existing valuable grass pitches through the planning system - This includes sites containing active playing fields but not currently marked out and sites that have previously functioned as playing fields but not identified as suitable for disposal in Site Specific Table;
- effectively balancing the needs of adult and junior teams by tailoring provision annually to local need and reviewing pitch allocation policies regularly;
- maintaining relationships with schools that are currently key to the delivery of facilities for football and securing formal agreements with schools where use is evident but unsecure;
- ensuring that 3g pitches can be used for match play and that they are integrated within the grass pitch stock; and
- promoting effective maintenance regimes to protect and enhance the capacity of the pitch stock (see F3 for more detail).

**F2:** Address existing and projected future capacity issues by:

- evaluating the issues at sites where current or future capacity issues are projected and identifying bespoke solutions for these clubs - this may involve the creation of additional provision and / or the development of relationships with new providers for clubs (eg use of school sites that are not currently used);
- securing community use of school sites (linking with F1);
- ensuring that there are appropriate training facilities available (linking with the provision of 3g pitches below);
- working with adult leagues to establish greater flexibility in kick off times (and therefore reducing peak time demand);
- reviewing the existing pricing strategy across both grass and 3g AGPs;

- maximising the use of existing 3g pitches for match play (see F1 above);
- creating up to 5 new 3g pitches and ensuring that they are used for training and matches; and
- maintaining and improving pitch quality by supporting providers to enhance maintenance and address quality issues that are impacting upon capacity.

**F3:** Linking with F1 and FF2, support the growth and development of football clubs by improving access to training facilities for football clubs across the Borough through the provision of 3g pitches approved for use for both matches and training.

**F4:** Ensure that all clubs have access to facilities of appropriate quality by addressing existing issues that impact player experience at key pitch sites. These include:

- pitch maintenance regimes;
- drainage;
- pitch surface improvements; and
- impact of unofficial / recreational access.

**F5:** Ensure that the stock of facilities includes appropriate changing accommodation where it is wanted and where it is needed to comply with league regulations.

**F6:** Establish clear routes of communication with pitch users ensuring that all decisions are taken with a full understanding of needs and aspirations and that the volunteer base is both upskilled and continuity plans are in place. In particular;

- maximise channels of communication by establishing formal forums consisting of key clubs and league secretaries; and
- retain existing participants and deliver increased participation in line with the national game strategy by developing appropriate interventions.

V. The implementation of the strategy will be monitored by a working group that meets biannually and it is anticipated that the strategy will be refreshed every five years.

## **Introduction**

- 1.1 This Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy draws upon the issues identified within the Doncaster MBC Playing Pitch Assessment Report (April 2018), which evaluated the adequacy of provision for football, cricket, rugby, hockey, tennis, and bowls across the Borough. It seeks to address the issues identified and sets out the priorities for the future delivery of facilities for these sports for the period 2018 - 2033.

## **Vision**

- 1.2 The strategy (and this assessment report, which supports the strategy document) seeks to support DMBC and its partners in attaining its vision for outdoor sports, which is that:

*The Playing Pitch Strategy will help secure access to high quality opportunities for sport and recreation as an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. The Strategy will help to ensure that Doncaster's planning policies are based on a robust and up-to-date assessment of the needs for sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision.*

- 1.3 To achieve the strategic vision, the strategy therefore seeks to deliver the following objectives;

### **Protect:**

- Inform the development and implementation of planning policy by adding to the evidence base for the Doncaster Local Plan, particularly strategic policies on green infrastructure, leisure, outdoor sports facilities and health and well-being;
- Inform the assessment of planning applications that affect playing fields or creation of new sports facilities / playing fields; and
- Improve evidence to help protect and enhance existing provision.

### **Enhance:**

- Improve current asset management and inform response to budgetary pressures to ensure the most efficient management and maintenance of playing pitch provision;
- Understand the use of current, lapsed and disused sites to determine whether the current maintenance and management regimes are appropriate or require change; and
- Ensure that sports facilities are effectively managed and maintained and that best uses are made of existing resources - whether facilities, expertise and/or personnel to improve and enhance existing provision – particularly in the light of pressure on local authority budgets.

### **Provide:**

- Inform the evidence base for Developer Contributions and the Community Infrastructure Levy;
- Identify which sites have community use and whether that use is secure or not;
- Identify where community use of school sports pitches is feasible and most needed to address any identified deficits in pitch provision;

- Provide better information to residents and other users of sports pitches available for use. This includes information about pitches and sports teams / user groups;
- Promote sports development and can help unlock latent demand by identifying where the lack of facilities might be suppressing the formation of teams / community needs; and
- Help identify future trends in sports provision and align this to need.

1.4 These overall objectives reflect the planning aims of Sport England and Figure 1.1 illustrates how these components link together.

**Figure 1.1: Strategy Objectives**



## Methodology

- 1.5 This strategy and action plan have been developed in line with 'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance – An Approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy' and 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities' (Sport England;2013).
- 1.6 The priorities have been established through the preparation of a full evidence based assessment which included extensive consultation and analysis. The Doncaster MBC Playing Pitch Assessment (2018) contains detailed information on how the assessment was carried out, who was consulted and detailed site and sport analysis information.
- 1.7 The key phases of the approach included;
- a full audit of teams derived from, playing or wishing to play within the authority boundary;
  - identification of all sites containing formal playing fields and quality assessments of all community use pitches in the Borough;
  - a full programme of consultation with local clubs, league secretaries, National Governing Bodies of Sport and external stakeholders; and
  - application and interpretation of the supply and demand information in line with the Sport England methodology to;
    - understand the situation at individual sites;
    - develop the current and projected future pictures for each sport; and
    - identify the key findings and issues that need to be addressed.

## Strategy Development

- 1.8 This is the strategy document, which draws upon the issues set out in the assessment report and sets out a strategic framework for the future delivery of playing pitches up to 2033.
- 1.9 Recommendations and priorities have been developed following extensive scenario testing and in conjunction with the following key stakeholders;
- Doncaster MBC;
  - representatives of the Sheffield and Hallamshire FA, The Football Foundation, Yorkshire Cricket Board, The ECB, the RFU, the RFL and England Hockey; and
  - Sport England.
- 1.10 The views of these groups have been used to shape this strategy and to finalise the action and implementation plan. The consultation process does not stop here - many of the identified short-term actions involve consultation with wider groups, ensuring that any priorities implemented are reflective of the needs and aspirations of current pitch users.
- 1.11 The key phases of the methodology and the consultation and engagement with key partners is summarised in Figure 1.2.

**Figure 1.2: Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy – The 10 Step Approach**



## Context and Wider Links

- 1.12 In addition to the achievement of the playing pitch specific objectives set out earlier in this section, the strategy also contributes to the delivery of many other national, regional and local strategic targets. Links between this Playing Pitch Strategy and other national, regional and local strategies and policies are summarised in Table 1.1.
- 1.13 The assessment report provides full detail of the key issues arising in each document.

**Table 1.1: Contribution of PPS towards national and local priorities**

Objectives for the future delivery of Playing Pitches			
	Protect - Ensure the quantity of pitches is sufficient to meet local needs.	Enhance - Ensure the quality of pitches meets current and future need.	Provide - Ensure facilities support increasing participation and promote sustainable club development.
Strategic Documents			
National Planning Framework	✓	✓	✓
Sport England – Policy on Playing Fields	✓	✓	✓
Sport England: Towards an Active Nation	✓	✓	✓
The Football Association - National Game Strategy for Participation and Development (2015 - 2019)	✓	✓	✓
Cricket Unleashed – Strategic Plan (2016)	✓	✓	✓
The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013 – 2017) (currently being updated)	✓	✓	✓
England Hockey National Facilities Strategy (2017 - 2021)	✓	✓	✓
Local Documents			
Doncaster MBC Adopted Core Strategy (2011 - 2028)	✓	✓	✓
Emerging Doncaster MBC Local Plan	✓	✓	✓
Doncaster Physical Activity and Sport Strategy (2017)	✓	✓	✓
Greenspace Audit 2013	✓	✓	✓
The Doncaster Green Infrastructure Strategy 2014 - 2028: Creating a Greener, Healthier and more Attractive borough.	✓	✓	✓

- 1.14 Of particular note, across Doncaster there are high levels of obesity and ill health within the community and levels of sport and physical activity, although increasing are low compared to the national average as measured by the Active Lives Survey (Sport England.)
- 1.15 Reflecting this, Doncaster MBC has recently been chosen by Sport England as one of twelve local authorities to participate in a local delivery pilot to tackle inactivity (2018 - 2022).
- 1.16 This document will provide a sound evidence base to assist with this work by helping to identify where opportunities to increase participation exist and where there is a need to enhance the facility stock.
- 1.17 The strategy and associated assessment will also support the priorities and direction of Fields in Trust, who seek to legally protect parks, playing fields and green spaces for the long term use of the community. It will help to identify valuable playing fields which may warrant protection through the Green for Good Initiative.

### **Role of the Playing Pitch Strategy**

- 1.18 The end goal of this strategy is to deliver the overarching vision and achieve the specific aims and objectives set out on the previous pages. To do this, it is essential that provision for each sport continues to evolve and improve to meet with changing needs and aspirations.
- 1.19 The Council is facing increased pressures across all service areas as well as considerable constraints on local authority budgets. The strategy and associated action plans therefore seek to promote the provision of appropriate accessible community infrastructure and to deliver on the aspirations of the local sporting community within this context. They sit alongside those plans set out in the Physical Activity Strategy and inform decision making in relation to the delivery pilot to address inactivity.
- 1.20 As such, action plans have been developed with the following principles in mind;
- **The strategy actions seek to promote and facilitate participation** – it is essential to ensure that the types of facilities provided are those that are needed to both sustain existing participation and to encourage new participants into the game. The strategy also identifies where marketing and communication may positively impact upon participation.
  - **Quality of facilities is as important as the amount of provision** – the strategy seeks to ensure that the borough contains the right amount of facilities, of the right quality and type and in the right place. It supports the need to improve the quality of existing facilities and recognises the impact that qualitative improvements can have on capacity, as well as the long-term sustainability of the facility stock.
  - **The strategy will seek to maximise sustainability** – it will seek to build relationships between partners, promote good practice and deliver sustainable solutions for sport and recreation taking into account the challenging financial context in which facilities must be provided. It will seek to maximise the use of existing resources.
  - **Pitch provision will be delivered in partnership.** The strategy seeks to bring together key partners in the delivery of playing fields and to ensure that roles and responsibilities are clearly defined and effectively aligned to maximise the value of assets to the community. This may include the creation of new partnerships in management and maintenance.

- **Investment will focus upon interventions that will have the greatest impact** – the strategy seeks to prioritise investment into sites where the highest impact will be felt and where high numbers of users will benefit.
- 1.21 Key priorities are explored on a sport by sport basis and a site by site action list is also provided. Priorities have been developed following the completion of the detailed assessment, as well as scenario testing, which included;
- the impact of population growth and potential impact of housing development;
  - the impact of growth aspirations of clubs;
  - the impact of improving (and not improving) the quality of sites; and
  - the impact of securing community use to key sites that are currently unsecured or unavailable.
- 1.22 The results of this scenario testing are incorporated into the justifications for the recommendations where relevant.
- 1.23 As outlined in the assessment report, as far as possible the strategy aims to capture all of the pitches within Doncaster. There may however be instances where a site is omitted. Where pitches have not been recorded within the report they remain as pitches and for planning purposes continue to be so. Furthermore, exclusion of a pitch does not mean that it is not required from a supply and demand point of view. The strategy monitoring process will ensure that the document is kept up to date as any omissions arise.
- 1.24 It should also be noted that any sites not required to meet current and future demand for playing fields are not necessarily surplus to requirements as green space and should be viewed in the context of the evidence the up-to-date community open space assessment of the borough.

### **Structure**

- 1.25 The remainder of this strategy is set out as follows;
- Section 2 – Summary of Key Issues by Sport
  - Section 3 – Recommendations and Action Plan
  - Section 4 - Implementation, monitoring and review.

## 2: Summary of Sport Specific Issues and Needs

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### **Introduction**

- 2.1 This section summarises the current and projected future adequacy of provision for each sport and the key issues that this strategy seeks to address. Further detail is provided in the supporting assessment report (April 2018).
- 2.2 It should be noted that the key issues identified are based upon the adequacy of current provision to meet demand and the projected future demand.
- 2.3 The baseline assessment considers the future demand using Sub National Population Projections (trends based) only. The impact of further population growth generated by housing development linking with policy in the emerging local plan will be set out later in this section.

**Table 2.1: Summary of Assessment Findings and Key Issues to Address - Cricket**

Summary - Assessment Findings	
<b>Supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 28 active sites containing grass facilities for cricket with a total of 29 pitches. There are also several sites where cricket has been played until recently and facilities are no longer used. Spatially, facilities are well distributed across the borough.</li> <li>• Several clubs only rent their sites which restricts opportunities for funding and reduces the security of access that they have.</li> <li>• Broadly speaking, the stock of cricket facilities is sufficient in qualitative terms to meet demand. There are few sites considered to be poor and clubs are happy with the condition of the facilities that they have access to.</li> <li>• There are however some sites with quality issues that need to be addressed, including levelling of the outfield and improvement of the wicket, and many sites suffer from the impact of recreational access. Maintenance procedures remain of paramount importance if standards are to be maintained and the trends of qualitative improvements are to continue. The standard of pitch required increases as clubs progress higher in cricket leagues and therefore even clubs with access to higher standard facilities do need improvements.</li> <li>• The availability of outdoor facilities for training (in particular off field) is poor. Training facilities at more than half of the sites are either limited in function or none existent. There are also few sites containing playable non turf wickets. This impacts upon the functionality of the site and their suitability for the purpose that they are intended. The lack of off field training facilities is particularly significant when reviewing this in the context of developmental aspirations. With greater emphasis on midweek cricket (for both senior and juniors), training becomes increasingly difficult where no off field opportunities are provided, as training cannot take place at the same time as any competitive activity.</li> </ul>
<b>Demand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 106 teams playing cricket in Doncaster currently. Of these, 62 (58%) are senior male teams. Just over half of these teams play on a Saturday. Adult female cricket is much less developed, with Doncaster Town Cricket Club being the only club in the borough fielding a senior female side in the 2017 season. A further 10 teams play in the last man stands leagues.</li> <li>• Junior cricket is well developed, with 43 teams. Junior development is supported by significant work undertaken by the Yorkshire Cricket Board, as well as by conditions of membership enforced by the senior South Yorkshire Cricket League. As a result of this, few clubs do not run junior teams.</li> <li>• Trends in participation are mixed, with some clubs experiencing decline while others have seen an increase in the number of players that they have. There are recent examples of clubs struggling to field teams however, suggesting that there are challenges in maintaining and growing cricket in the borough. Several clubs reference difficulties recruiting players and volunteers and highlight that the number of local clubs and teams has reduced. There is also believed to be a drop out in the transition between junior to adult cricket, and some clubs have sought to establish U19 age group sides to address this. Funding and resourcing is also reported to be presenting a challenge to local cricket clubs.</li> <li>• There is no evidence of teams being displaced outside of Doncaster MBC to play cricket. There is however a small amount of displacement / club movement</li> </ul>

<p><b>Adequacy of Provision</b></p>	<p>within the borough, with 3rd X1 teams from clubs with three Saturday teams and only one grass pitch travelling to other venues to play their fixtures.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the exception of the pitch at Stainforth Miners Welfare (which does not currently accommodate any use) all active facilities offering community use are used at least once per week. There is no club use of any of the school sites.</li> <li>• There are only three sites that are overplayed, with pitches at Conisbrough, Hatfield CC and Sprotbrough heavily used. All three sites accommodate large clubs with both adult and junior sections and are generally in good condition (although some issues are experienced accommodating the number of teams that are playing. Both Conisbrough and Sprotborough CC lack in practice nets, which places further pressures on the ground and there is only one mobile training net at Hatfield CC.</li> <li>• The majority of sites can sustain further play across the season; with Sykehouse CC; Hooten Pagnell CC; Fishlake CC; Tickhill CC; Wadworth CC; Hampole and Skelbrooke; Eden Grove Parklands and Bullcroft Main CC all able to accommodate the equivalent of at least 3 further adult teams.</li> <li>• Doncaster Town CC, Bentley Colliery CC, Warmsworth CC and Rossington Main are the only sites that are at capacity with no scope for further play across the season. Doncaster Town CC also use an overspill ground currently and indicate that this is not their preferred arrangement moving forwards.</li> <li>• While across the season there is scope for additional play, capacity is much more restricted at peak time. There are just 5 sites containing availability, with Bullcroft Main, Hooten and Pagnell; Lindley Road Recreation Ground (Finningley), Wadworth (Christopher Faljam Playing Fields) (all 0.5 match equivalents available) and Stainforth Miners Welfare (1 match equivalent available) the only sites with spare capacity. There is no more localised capacity for clubs currently experiencing displacement of their third teams.</li> <li>• Quality issues and a lack of training facilities further exacerbate pressures at some sites.</li> <li>• Population growth will have limited impact on demand for cricket, with a decline of 2 senior teams offset by growth of 2 junior teams by 2033.</li> <li>• Many clubs, as well as the Yorkshire Cricket Board however have significant aspirations for growth. While many of these can be accommodated within the confines of the existing sites, existing capacity issues will be exacerbated at Hatfield Town CC, Doncaster CC, Sprotborough CC, Conisborough CC and Bentley Colliery CC. Provision will also become overplayed at Mexborough Miners Welfare, King George Playing Field and (Warmsworth Cricket Club).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Issues for Strategy to Address</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of existing cricket pitches.</li> <li>• Number of facilities largely adequate but some clubs are approaching capacity and some clubs over capacity. Minimal availability at peak time and aspirations for new facility (Doncaster CC).</li> <li>• Availability of facilities for training (particularly off field) is poor. Few sites contain playable non turf wickets / nets. This is a key issue for development as well as club satisfaction and is the immediate priority.</li> </ul>

- There are some site specific quality issues to be addressed (outfield levelling / maintenance / pavilion).
- There is an aspiration to support increases in participation in cricket. This may have a knock on impact for the longer term development of facilities.

**Table 2.2: Summary of Assessment Findings and Key Issues to Address - Rugby League**

Summary	Assessment Findings
<b>Supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are four sites containing facilities for rugby league, providing 8 pitches in total. The main site is the Doncaster RFL Keepmoat Stadium (professional).</li> <li>• There are no formal / exclusive rugby league pitches at any school site in the borough.</li> <li>• The quality of facilities is basic / standard, with some issues around informal use as well as drainage and a lack of appropriate changing facilities. There are also opportunities to improve capacity through enhanced maintenance procedures.</li> <li>• Bentley RLFC are currently working to lease their existing field from Doncaster MBC, while Moorends Thorne Marauders RFC also require a review of their lease. Doncaster Toll Bar RLFC lease their facilities.</li> </ul>
<b>Demand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are four rugby league clubs in the Doncaster MBC area. Three of these are amateur clubs while Doncaster RLFC is a professional club playing in the national league. Doncaster RLFC is the premier club in the area.</li> <li>• Participation in rugby is stable and increasing, although there are some concerns that the availability of facilities may impact on club development in years to come. Grass roots development of rugby league primarily takes place at the amateur clubs, with the professional club operating in a more performance related environment. All teams train at their existing sites.</li> <li>• The Rugby league Club scene is not well supported by the schools in the area with a much greater focus on Football and Rugby Union. As a result, there is little formal Rugby league played at any of Doncaster's schools. The low levels of school activity suggest that there is scope to stimulate further interest in rugby as a sport perhaps building on the Sky Try initiative and also to re-engage the secondary schools.</li> </ul>
<b>Adequacy of Provision</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is sufficient capacity at Doncaster RFLC, supported by the use of 3g pitches shared with football. Club consultation reveals that the key issue for the Rugby League Academy is the recruitment of young people and encouraging more schools and local clubs to use the facilities.</li> <li>• The two pitches at Moorends-Thorne Marauders RLFC are sufficient to accommodate demand, although drainage would benefit from improvement. There are however no appropriate changing facilities. The club also own land, offering the opportunity to further increase the number of pitches available and to</li> </ul>

	<p>improve the quality longer term. The club however fall into a Group 1 club currently and changing provision is therefore key priority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is also sufficient capacity at Doncaster Toll Bar RLFC to meet demand, although pitches are only of standard quality. The club are however seeking further growth, which could see up to 5 additional match equivalents generated and two additional pitches subsequently required.</li> <li>• Bentley Rugby League Club has one available pitch and a training area both of standard quality. With a total capacity of 2 match equivalents on the grass pitch, plus the training area (which is not formally marked and therefore can't be used for games) and demand for up to 5 match equivalents, this means that the stock of facilities is insufficient. Added to this, the ancillary facilities at the club are mixed with a small club house but improvements required to changing and spectator facilities. The club also have further growth aspirations (of up to 6 match equivalents which could see a further 3 pitches needed). The club fall into a Group 2 club and improvements to the existing facilities are therefore required.</li> <li>• The RFL have recently completed a new facility strategy to supersede the existing document. This strategy sets out the minimum facilities requirements and priorities for facilities investment and will provides a framework to address the issues identified in Doncaster. It indicates that the majority of amateur clubs in the borough should meet Group 2 facility classification.</li> <li>• Population change up to 2033 will be insufficient to generate any further participation in rugby league and that the number of teams in each age group is likely to remain static.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Issues to Address</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to protect the existing venues for rugby league.</li> <li>• There are capacity pressures at Bentley RLFC and Toll Bar RLFC (based upon projected future demand) and new provision required.</li> <li>• There are quality issues at existing sites that may inhibit participation if not addressed.</li> <li>• There are opportunities to enhance community usage of facilities for rugby league at the Keepmoat Stadium.</li> <li>• There are opportunities to increase participation across the borough by improving engagement with schools.</li> </ul>

**Table 2.3: Summary of Assessment Findings and Key Issues to Address - Hockey**

Summary	Assessment Findings
<b>Supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Of the eight full sized pitches available, three have a surface suitable for hockey. These are Townfields Sports Ground, Trinity Academy and Armthorpe Academy. There is also a sand-based pitch at Hill House School but this is not available for community use.</li> <li>The quality of facilities is standard but that the age of the stock is starting to show, with evidence of deterioration year on year and quality issues starting to emerge. The changing facilities provided at all three sites are considered to be good. A resurface is required at Townfields Sports Ground in the short term to ensure that the pitch remains suitable for hockey as grip underfoot is now poor (this is anticipated to take place in 2018 but is subject to funding). Moss and lichen is also evident at Trinity Academy.</li> </ul>
<b>Demand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are four hockey clubs currently playing within Doncaster running a total of 15 adult teams and 13 youth teams. Two of the four clubs are based in the borough. Both Goole HC and Epworth HC travel in to Doncaster to play, due to the availability of the pitch at Trinity Academy and its proximity to their home bases.</li> <li>The large majority of teams are associated with Doncaster Hockey Club, who run both male and female teams as well as a full junior section. The club are experiencing significant growth on the back of the 2016 Olympic success and continue to increase the number of teams that they are running year on year. In general, participation in hockey is increasing, with three of four clubs experiencing significant growth and over 100 new hockey players over the last three seasons.</li> <li>Consultation with hockey clubs suggest that the key concerns for clubs and the barriers to further growth in the borough are; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the trend of schools to lay 3g / 4g pitches that are not suitable for hockey - there are concerns about the long term implications for hockey as well as the shorter term availability of pitches. Doncaster HC believe that an additional training area and / or second pitch are required to meet demand and enable continued growth;</li> <li>cost of hiring / using facilities (smaller clubs);</li> <li>shortage of coaches and volunteers (smaller clubs); and</li> <li>loss of the social aspect of hockey due to the location of pitches at school sites where there are no on site club houses, as well as the need to play games at odd times in order to access appropriate facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Two clubs playing in the borough (Epworth and Goole) are travelling from nearby local authorities and can therefore be considered displaced. Both use Trinity Academy.</li> </ul>
<b>Adequacy of</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is spare capacity at sites that are suitable for hockey across the week and at weekends. The pitch at Townfield Sports Ground</li> </ul>

## Provision

(Doncaster Hockey Club) is however heavily used with very little scope to increase usage. Although there is some football usage of the site, the club indicate that this is important for their income.

- At peak time, demand equates to 7 match equivalents while supply is equivalent to 12 -15. There is therefore sufficient capacity within the borough for hockey. There is however no remaining capacity at Townfields (and indeed not all demand at that site can be met) and spare capacity is at the other venues across the borough. Reflecting this, Doncaster Hockey club often use Armthorpe Academy as an overspill venue. This is not however the clubs preference and they would prefer all teams to be accommodated at Townfields. The club are therefore seeking the creation of both a small training area and a second pitch. There are however concerns about the financial viability of a second pitch, as well as constraints around the existing site in terms of providing a second pitch at this venue.
- The England Hockey Facilities Strategy (2017) provides a perspective on the facilities that the Governing Body perceive to be required for hockey. The vision of the document is for every club in England to have appropriate and sustainable facilities that provide excellent experiences for players. With regards facilities, it provides guidance that multi pitch sites are required / viable for clubs reaching 500 members or more (although access to pitches at a second site is likely to be required much before this). At 345 (2016 - 2017) Doncaster Hockey Club would not currently meet this target. The provision of a training pitch located adjacent to a main pitch can however add benefits at peak time and increase the capacity of the full size pitch. If this pitch is used for warm ups for competitive fixtures, the number of matches that an AGP can sustain on peak day increases to 5 matches. The creation of a training area at Doncaster HC would therefore see demand more easily accommodated at peak time, by enabling more matches to be played at the main home pitch. This would reduce the reliance upon the second pitch that they currently use at Armthorpe Academy.
- Population growth will have limited impact upon the demand for hockey with no additional teams generated. Doncaster HC however have significant aspirations for growth, equivalent to an additional match equivalent at peak time (as well as further play on a Sunday morning). This activity could not be accommodated within ongoing use of a second pitch (currently Armthorpe Academy). Even if a training area was created, access to a second pitch would still be required.
- It is therefore important that at least two hockey pitches are retained for future use and protected from conversion to 3g pitches (Townfields and Armthorpe Academy).

## Key Issues to Address - Summary

- There is a need to protect facilities required for hockey - this means retaining at least two hockey pitches for club usage (Townfields and Armthorpe Academy) to ensure that current and future hockey activity can be sustained. These facilities should therefore be protected against conversion to 3g pitches. Unless it is determined that such conversions require planning permission, this may require discussion, negotiation and agreement with the pitch owners
- There are capacity pressures at Townfields currently and a need to address the requirements of Doncaster Hockey Club to ensure that the facilities continue to meet club need.
- There is a need to enhance the quality of existing hockey pitches to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.

- There are opportunities to increase levels of participation in hockey across the Borough.

**Table 2.4: Summary of Assessment Findings and Key Issues to Address - Bowls**

Summary	Assessment Findings
<b>Supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 23 active greens. The sites on which these bowling greens are located however contain 28 greens in total - there are 5 disused greens on active sites. There are a further 5 sites containing 9 derelict greens that are now completely disused.</li> <li>• Recent changes to the management and maintenance of bowling greens means that Doncaster and District Bowling Association are now responsible for the asset maintenance of many of the bowling greens, while DMBC remain responsible for the management of the sites.</li> <li>• All sites are functional and fit for purpose. Cleanliness is the most highly rated attribute (lack of litter and graffiti) with mowing frequency and playing surface also rated well, although some sites clearly required improvement. There are no significant concerns emerging as a theme across the borough, although there are site specific issues that need to be addressed. The quality of green surrounds and the paths provided were the most consistently poorly rated criteria.</li> <li>• The age and quality of pavilions varies and in many instances, the pavilion serves only basic teas and coffees. There are also some examples of sites which are not tailored for disabled users, either access to the clubhouse, or to the green (or both).</li> <li>• Clubs are however relatively negative about the stock of facilities however most believe that recent changes to the maintenance arrangements has also seen improvement and will generate further enhancement in future years.</li> <li>• Several site specific issues are identified, including both green surface improvements and renovations to the pavilion / social facilities.</li> <li>• Issues with security of tenure are also raised on 3 sites - Wyndthorpe Hall, Pilkington Recreation Ground and Askern Welfare Bowls Club.</li> </ul>
<b>Demand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are active clubs on all current sites except Hexthorpe Flatts.</li> <li>• There are varying trends in participation, with some clubs experiencing an increase and evidence of several clubs recently folding. It is notable that most clubs who have seen an increase have benefitted from the collapse of other clubs. The quality of greens is perceived to be the only inhibiting factor with regards facilities, but other issues such as natural decline and lack of interest in younger participants are also raised.</li> <li>• All but one club has capacity for new members and are actively seeking new participants. Higher levels of membership help maximise</li> </ul>

Summary

Assessment Findings

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sustainability through increased income, which will be required to support the management and maintenance of greens.

- There are no supply and demand models for bowls, but triangulation of data collated indicates that there is no evidence of demand for additional facilities. There is spare capacity at all greens and most are actively seeking to retain new members - retention of existing members and recruitment of new is highlighted as a key priority for clubs.
- Guidance suggests that a bowling green becomes particularly unsustainable where club memberships drop below 20 members although it should be noted that club membership fluctuates and membership should therefore be monitored over a medium time period.. At the time of data collection, three sites (Yorkshire Main Welfare, Rossington Miners Welfare and Armthorpe Miners Welfare had a membership falling below 20 members per green and several more bowling clubs were approaching these levels (Denaby Miners Welfare, Elmfield Park, Carcroft Park, Woodlands Park, Haslam Park, Brodsworth Miners Welfare and Askern Miners Welfare). Bentley Park, Balby Community Sports Village, Mexborough Miners Welfare, Moorends / Thorne Colliery and Stainforth Miners Welfare all contained disused greens. Reflecting the changing nature of club membership, it is however known that several of these clubs have recently increased membership and regular monitoring is therefore essential.
- Reflecting this, average club membership is currently 38, which is below optimum levels. It should be noted however that club membership varies significantly and across the season.
- Taking this into account, it is clear that there is no rationale for the reinstatement of any disused greens and that if the existing infrastructure for bowls is to remain sustainable, growth in participation will be of key priority.
- Population growth is likely to have a greater impact on the supply and demand for bowls than for other sports and based on existing membership, is likely to increase by 27 players up to 2033. These levels are still clearly serviceable within the existing stock and still require additional participation increases to ensure that the stock of facilities is sustainable.
- Without participation increases, or in the event of further decline in participation, sustainability of existing club sites will remain the key challenge to address. Clubs highlight the importance of increasing support and the challenges that they face with sustainability and this will be a key issue moving forwards. The retention of existing bowling locations and increasing the usage of these facilities therefore represents the key priority. There may also be scope for rationalisation of facilities and closure of some greens. It should be noted however that there are many benefits of having two greens (including sports development opportunities, flexibility for league matches and opportunities to host competitions) and this should be taken into account when considering potential closure.

Key Issues to Address -

- There is a need to increase participation and address recent declines in order to ensure that the existing infrastructure remains sustainable.

Summary	Assessment Findings
Summary	<p>There are significant opportunities to promote bowls to a wider target audience and to increase the social and health benefits derived.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to protect valuable existing greens in order to ensure that there are sufficient greens to monitor future demand.</li> <li>• There are several sites with disused greens or greens with limited use and further review is required as to the future of these facilities.</li> <li>• Quality issues have been identified at several sites that may impact on current and future participation if not addressed. While recent changes to the maintenance programmes at key sites appear to have been positive, there is a need to ensure that ongoing training and monitoring is undertaken and that succession planning is considered.</li> </ul>

**Table 2.5: Summary of Assessment Findings and Key Issues to Address - Rugby Union**

Summary	Assessment Findings
Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 33 rugby union pitches in Doncaster MBC. Less than half of all rugby union pitches are secured for community use. Most school sites offer some degree of access to the general public, but as academies, almost all of this access is on an unsecured basis. Schools are actually the largest provider of rugby union pitches in the borough. This contrasts with rugby league, where there were no pitches on school sites.</li> <li>• 9 pitches are managed by local clubs, with the largest site belonging to Doncaster Knights. There are 2 pitches under the control of Doncaster Council, one of which accommodates a club (Carcroft Park). The remaining pitch is offered on a free to access basis and is open 24 hours a day. Just 7 pitches are floodlit.</li> <li>• The key issues for quality in relation to club based pitches in Doncaster MBC are; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a requirement for additional and improved maintenance. Some sites demonstrate evidence of compaction and a need for fertilisation;</li> <li>- some sites suffer from the impact of recreational use;</li> <li>- there is a need for improved changing facilities / clubhouses; and</li> <li>- there is a lack of floodlighting to support club activity.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Demand</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are five rugby union clubs in Doncaster MBC running a total of 14 adult teams, 1 colts, 11 youth and 17 midi teams.</li> <li>• All of these teams are amateur, with the exception of Doncaster Knights. Doncaster Knights are a professional side playing in the National Championship. The club are part of Doncaster RFC, which operates other senior teams, as well as a full female, junior and midi section.</li> <li>• Of these clubs, two run single adult sides only while the remaining three all offer progression from junior through to seniors. Both Wheatley Hills and Doncaster RFC also offer girls rugby. This level of junior play, as well as female engagement (although there are no ladies teams) with the sport suggests that rugby union is relatively well developed within the borough.</li> <li>• Doncaster RFC in particular highlight the pressures that training places on their pitch stock, while Wheatley Hills RFC also believe that the level of training impacts negatively on the quality of their training pitch. Adwick le Street RFC highlight the issues that they experience training, given that they do not have access to any floodlit training facilities on site.</li> <li>• Reflecting the high level rugby played by Doncaster Knights, and the subsequent interest in the sport within the borough, participation in rugby union within the education sector is good. More than 50% of secondary schools participate in schools rugby. The RFU are keen to continue building relationships with schools and reflecting the strong foundations in place there are good relationships between some clubs and nearby schools.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Adequacy of Provision</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the two facilities owned and managed by the Council receives no formal club use - this is at Townfields. It accommodates informal recreational activity but would be able to host 0.5 match equivalents formal rugby in addition. There are no floodlights and capacity is restricted by limited maintenance procedures.</li> <li>• There is minimal use of any of the school sites by rugby clubs, with only facilities at Trinity Academy (Thornensians RFC) and Doncaster Communication Specialist College (Doncaster RFC) used on an ad hoc basis. The remainder of sites all accommodate curricular use (although all are available on an unsecured basis).</li> <li>• There are capacity issues at several club bases, with Doncaster RFC, Wheatley Hills RFC and Thornensians RFC all experiencing issues with pitch availability at their club bases. The maintenance procedures at club bases are particularly restricting. With the exception of Doncaster RFC, where maintenance specifications are already high and work to improve them further is underway, all other sites offer restricted capacity due to the maintenance regimes that are being carried out. Specifically; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At Thornensians, all training activity takes place on competitive pitches, in particular the 2nd pitch which is of poorer quality. Drainage issues are also impacting on match play (despite drainage being installed). While the 2 pitches are able to accommodate play at peak time on a Saturday, pitch availability is restricted on a Sunday (with both youth and midi teams wishing to play) and the club does not have access to overspill opportunities. Restricted maintenance programmes however mean that pitches are at capacity, with match play alone causing overplay equivalent to 1.5 match equivalents. Taking into account training activity, overplay equates to 6.5 match equivalents per week. Even if maintenance levels were enhanced, this level of demand would be difficult to accommodate within the constraints of the existing site</li> <li>- Although there is only one team playing at Adwick Park, the limited maintenance schedules and restricted drainage mean that the</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Key Issues to Address**

pitch is operating at capacity. The lack of floodlights means that training cannot take place during the deep winter months but when training does occur, this results in the pitch being overplayed (-0.5)

- Maintenance schedules at Rossington Main also restrict the club activity, but with just one team, provision is sufficient to accommodate match play (supply equals demand). The use of the pitch for floodlit training however results in overplay (-0.5) and the club also experiences some causal access and informal recreation, which can further impact on pitch quality
- At Doncaster RFC, despite a strong maintenance programme (which is currently being further enhanced along with the quality of pitches), the site capacity is limited. While taking into account just match play, 6 further match equivalents could be accommodated, the high quantities of training undertaken (particularly as one side is professional and the club also runs an academy), overplay amounts to -6 match equivalents. The spread of play across the pitches (with the stadium pitch used only for Doncaster Phoenix and Doncaster Knights), means that in reality wear and tear on the remaining three pitches is greater. It is therefore clear that pitches at Doncaster RFC are at capacity and that there is limited scope for further growth within the constraints of the existing facilities
- At Wheatley Hills RFC, site capacity is also restricted by the limited maintenance programme. Despite the restricted capacity, competitive activity can be accommodated at the site without overplay (0.25 spare capacity). Taking into account training however, overplay increases to 2.5 match equivalents. Given that there is only one floodlit pitch, all training (2.75 match equivalents) is primarily focused on this pitch. As this pitch has capacity of 1.5 (and also accommodates match play) this is insufficient, and this is evident by the level of wear and tear demonstrated during site visits.

- Population growth alone is unlikely to have significant impact upon the demand for rugby union within Doncaster MBC. The RFU however believe that TGRs are less indicative of likely growth of rugby in the city with significant aspirations for growth at Doncaster RFC, Wheatley Hills RFC and Thornensians.
- The RFU Council has recently approved a strategy to invest in Artificial Grass Pitches (AGP) which will see 100 artificial, floodlit pitches installed across the country over a four-year period. In addition to Doncaster RFC, who have capacity issues for both matches and training, there are other clubs in the borough currently struggling to access appropriate training facilities, as well as capacity pressures on the existing infrastructure (Thornensians). The strategy may provide opportunities for the development of a Rugby Compliant 3g AGP, but the best means of delivering this to effectively benefit rugby in Doncaster will need to be considered.

- There is a need to protect the existing facilities that are available for rugby union clubs.
- There are some capacity issues at clubs which need to be addressed if future participation is not to be inhibited. Many of these issues arise from poor maintenance rather than a lack of pitches per se. There are however some issues that will not be addressed by improvements to maintenance alone at Thornensians and Doncaster RFC.
- On pitch training is generally focused on one pitch, generating overplay and creating compaction. There is a need to increase the amount of floodlit pitches available to clubs.
- Issues relating to both training and grass pitch capacity for matches mean that there may be opportunities to create a 3g AGP that is suitable

for rugby union.

**Table 2.6: Summary of Assessment Findings and Key Issues to Address - Football**

Summary	Assessment Findings
Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are 273 individual formal football pitches currently available for community use across Doncaster MBC. 41% of these are full sized.</li><li>• While currently available for use, football pitches at school sites are often considered unsecured, as almost all schools now have academy status and with that comes greater independence around the lettings of their facilities. That said, the vast majority of secondary schools are currently allowing access to their facilities. Pitches at Rossington Community Sports Village (Rossington Main School) are managed by Doncaster Culture and Leisure Trust, while facilities at both The Hayfield School and McAuley Catholic Academy have signed a medium contract for management by Schools Lettings Solutions. Facilities at Balby Carr Community Academy were funded through the Football Foundation, which means that a community use agreement is attached to them too. The Outwood Academy Adwick and Danum sites have formal agreements through planning conditions for community use. Several other schools permit access on an unsecured basis and these include primary schools as well as secondary schools.</li><li>• There are several sites that have formerly contained playing fields that are now closed and further sites that have not been laid out this season. These sites offer the potential to increase the pitch stock and to address any existing or projected future deficiencies and therefore need to be taken into account when evaluating the adequacy of provision. Such redundant sites include, Schofield Street, Balby Community Sports Village, Bridon Sports Ground and Kilham lane Playing Field. Sykehouse Recreation Ground, Edlington Recreation Ground, Bentley Road Playing Fields and Dunsville Quarry Park are also not used and / or contain fewer pitches this season than they have done in recent years.</li><li>• Supplementing the supply of grass pitches are four full sized 3g pitches. Pitches located at Balby Carr Academy and Outwood Academy Adwick are listed on the FA register and can therefore be used for matches as well as training. Since the development of the assessment, a further pitch has also been created at the Keepmoat Stadium. In addition, there are several smaller sized 3g pitches.</li><li>• Doncaster MBC is a key provider of football pitches in the borough managing circa a third of the pitches that are available for community use. The Council therefore have significant control over the range, type and quality of facilities provided. The highest proportion of pitches is however in the control of schools (primarily academies).</li><li>• There are mixed views in relation to the overall pitch stock in the borough, with slightly more clubs satisfied with the facilities available than are not. The proportion of clubs that are not satisfied however means that there remain improvements to be made.</li></ul>

## Demand

- Key issues raised in relation to the pitch stock include;
  - perceived poor quality of pitches and a perception that increased investment is required, particularly in maintenance;
  - perception that quality is declining and in some instances is exacerbated by heavy use;
  - the variation in the quality in pitches across the borough; and
  - the perceived value for money of some pitches (with Parish Council pitches perceived to be available at much lower costs than other providers and a mix of charges in place). Facilities for junior teams are provided free by the Council
- Site visits reveal that almost all pitches are categorised as standard (based upon the views of providers / users / site visits). There are few pitches of very high quality and site assessment scores range from 40% up to 90%. The average score achieved by pitches visited is 63%, which falls within the standard range. It is clear that in many instances, the maintenance programmes are fairly limited across almost all sites and particularly on Parish Council sites, are often supplemented by the clubs. Out of season reinstatement is becoming more challenging as seasons lengthen and this also means that there is little time for recovery of pitches.
- There is little variation geographically on the quality of pitch sites however there is a small degree of variation according to provider, reflecting the views of clubs during consultation. Higher quality facilities are generally provided by clubs / Welfare organisations and the poorer quality facilities are general under the management of public bodies.
- There is a total of 425 community teams who play across the borough. Doncaster Rovers FC and Doncaster Belles FC also play within Doncaster, with their home ground being the Keepmoat Stadium and training facilities at Cantley Park. Doncaster Rovers are the highest performing teams in the borough, playing within National League One.
- Like the distribution of pitches, the spread of teams is fairly even across the borough. The highest proportion of teams is in the south, where the highest amount of pitches are provided. Participation is therefore broadly correlated with pitch provision. Participation is therefore likely influenced by the pitch stock to an extent.
- Participation trends demonstrate a significant decline in participation for adults, while there has been a steady increase in junior play. For adult football, it is believed that the cost of hiring facilities, shortage of coaches and poor quality changing all contribute to the decline in participation. The cost of playing football has been exacerbated since the disappearance of the pit community that was very supportive of sport. For youth teams, the pressures of volunteering and the level of commitment required to clear coaching and safeguarding requirements are perceived to impact development.
- In addition to Doncaster Rovers and Doncaster Belles, the professional clubs in the borough, there are several clubs playing in the Non League System. As a result of the standard of football played, there are specific requirements that must be adhered to in relation to the

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facilities provided at the home ground.

- Clubs use a mixture of grass pitches and AGPs for training. While many clubs use AGPs midweek, there is also fairly extensive training on grass pitches on a Saturday morning, in particular by junior clubs.
- Club consultation demonstrates that there is a fairly even balance of opinions, but that overall, a greater proportion of clubs are dissatisfied with facilities for training than are satisfied. Key concerns raised are the cost of facilities, availability and lack of local provision. Several clubs and schools have aspirations for new facilities.
- Cost is a key barrier to use across the borough. DMBC facilities in particular are expensive for adults in comparison to neighbouring authorities but offer free play for juniors and only are the local authority to do so. Other fees are varied, with charges at Parish Council sites fairly low and schools mid range (although these fees may be considered high in comparison to free of charge council pitches). Value for money is also raised as a key concern.

- The majority of pitches are able to sustain additional play across the week. This is influenced by the strong focus on match play on a Sunday morning, which reduces the amount of times that pitches are needed for competitive play over the weekend (and does in theory limit demands in pitch quality, with pitches used fewer times across the week and therefore benefitting from lower wear and tear).
- Training does however impact significantly at a number of sites, with training activity almost doubling the level of usage pitches receive over the course of the week. In many instances, training causes overplay when without it the pitch would easily be within its weekly capacity.
- Currently, across the week, there is spare capacity across the borough, particularly for adult football which has seen recent decline. Provision is much more tightly matched for youth and 9v9 games, particularly in the central and eastern areas. The spare capacity in the adult age groups is supplemented by the presence of several sites that are not available for use this season (due to lack of demand) but have been considered playing fields in previous years.
- There is only minimal overplay in the borough and more concerns are raised about the quality of provision than the quantity. It is evident that the majority of instances of overplay / pitches approaching capacity are associated with larger clubs, while the spare capacity is located at pitches serving single clubs (adult pitches) and school sites (all sizes of pitch). Overplay is evident on at least one pitch at Anchorage Lane (heavy use), Askern Miners Welfare (competitive play and some training), Armthorpe Academy (competitive play, training and curricular use), Barnby Dun and Kirk Sandall Sports Association, Balby Carr Community Academy (curricular use as well as competitive activity), Bentley High Street Primary School (curricular use, competitive activity and training), Communication Specialist College (curricular use, competitive activity), Cantley Park, Coulman Road (heavy use for training and matches) Hills Lane Recreation Ground (heavy use for training and matches), Hungerhill School (heavy use and curricular activity, 9v9 pitches at Langdale Drive (heavy use and training), The Hayfield School youth and 5v5 pitches (curricular activity, matches and training), Rossington Main (heavy use and training), King George V Playing Field (Warmsworth) and Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare (heavy use).
- The high levels of use at of some club bases places pressure on the quality of pitches, as it is pitch quality that dictates capacity. Training

was identified as a key concern for many of the clubs in the borough and it is clear that a lack of facilities (or a lack of accessible facilities) causes clubs to use their grass pitches.

- While there is capacity across the week, outside of adult football, peak time availability is much more constrained, particularly at youth and 9v9 age groups (and this is influenced by the high concentration of play on a Sunday morning). There are 114 pitches (over 1/3 of the total pitch stock) that have no remaining spare capacity on a Sunday morning. Peak time capacity is particularly constrained at sites accommodating large clubs these include Langdale Drive Playing Fields (no remaining capacity), Lindley Road Recreation Ground, Sheep Dip Lane Recreation Ground, The Hayfield School, Tickhill Juniors, Edenthorpe Howard Pavilion and Wicket Hern Recreation Ground.
- At some of the larger club bases, there is no further capacity at peak time and while staggering of matches would be possible, this would create overlap due to the level of activity that the site sustains across the week.
- Despite many sites only being used at peak time, quality issues are evident across the borough. Many pitches suffer from poor and limited maintenance regimes. Lower levels of use may help to maintain the quality of sites where it may otherwise be lower, for example where drainage issues are experienced, but are likely long term to lead to a reduction in capacity of pitches (particularly where sites are heavily used).
- The role of unsecured pitches is also evident and this represents a key threat to the borough in future years. Much of the spare capacity is currently provided by school sites and the loss of access to these facilities would see supply precariously balanced with demand, particularly for 9v9 and smaller pitches. Several clubs are also reliant upon these sites for facilities. Recent issues have been experienced with clubs and schools through the change to academy status, and many clubs raise concerns about the cost of the pitches at school sites (and the schools ability to increase these with little or no notice). Cost is already perceived to be the key barrier for clubs in their growth and development and price sensitivities are therefore perceived to be particularly important. The impact of the withdrawal of school sites would be felt all over the borough, but in particular in the east. The impact would be lowest in the central area.
- In contrast, there are several examples of schools that indicate that their facilities are available but have no existing community use. Most of these schools also undertake limited amounts of promotion and there may therefore be a lack of awareness of their availability (as well as potential other barriers to use). There is therefore scope to increase usage at these sites.
- There are therefore a few localised capacity issues, but on the whole the stock of facilities is sufficient to meet current demand (in quantitative terms, although the balance between the stock of facilities is not necessarily right, with pressures on 9v9 and youth pitches and surplus adult capacity).
- The quality issues identified (which also influence capacity) are therefore of as great significance as the quantity of pitches in the borough (although it should be noted that the high peak time demand means that quality has limited impact on capacity). Further reduction in quality (impacting on capacity) would have significant impact - 9v9 and youth provision would likely become insufficient.
- The FA vision (November 2014) which is the result of extensive analysis on the facilities used for football (including grass roots) placed

**Key Issues to address**

greater emphasis on the benefits of 3g pitches and their importance for the future delivery of football. This is also reflected in the FA National Game Strategy 2015 - 2019 which seeks to provide better training and playing facilities. In particular, the FA cite the additional capacity that AGPs offer compared to grass and their ability to sustain play during periods of inclement weather, resulting in a reduced number of cancellations. FA data modelling therefore evaluates the baseline requirement for 3g pitches taking into account the training requirements of clubs. It assumes that one 3g pitch is required per 42 teams and that based on FA policy, all football training should take place on 3g pitches (as opposed to sand).

- Assuming that there is a baseline total of 425 teams (including Disability teams) rising to almost 450 if including those associated with Doncaster FC, this would mean that there is a requirement for at least 10.7 full size AGPs. This would therefore suggest that in broad terms, there is a theoretical requirement for a further six to seven pitches across the borough.
- Existing 3g pitches demonstrate very limited spare capacity across the week. Although there is scope to increase use at the weekend, this is either on pitches that are not on the FA register or outside of peak times. Further use of AGPs would however reduce levels of demand for grass pitches, particularly where training currently occurs. Many existing clubs using grass pitches for training due to lack of access are directly responsible for overplay / heavy use of existing sites including Hayfield School, Langdale Drive, Adwick Park.
- the creation of further AGPs may therefore reduce overuse of grass pitches rather than purely displace other activity. This is also supported by club consultation, which indicates that there is a belief that there remain insufficient 3g AGPs in the borough. The price sensitivity issues should however be investigated in further detail before the provision of any additional AGPs as it is important that these facilities are used by clubs if they are to succeed. Modelling demonstrates that if 11 pitches were to be provided across the borough (all included on the FA register), this would be sufficient to host all 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 football.
- Overall, population change is likely to see greater demands for youth and 9v9 pitches offset ongoing decline in adult football. There will however remain overall sufficient capacity within the existing pitch stock.
- Added to the impact of population growth, it is also necessary to consider the potential for participation increases. While some clubs in the borough are seeking growth, on the whole, the current aspiration of the FA is to sustain and stabilise existing participation levels. It is however likely that growth will be seen at key clubs who are developmentally focused. Analysis indicates highlights that on the whole that it is at these key club bases where capacity is also constrained.

- There is a need to protect existing valuable pitches (these will be listed in the site by site action table at the end of this section).
- There is sufficient stock overall but pressures on 9v9 and junior pitches, particularly at key club bases (Armthorpe Rovers, Scawthorpe Scorpions, Moorends Hornets and Stingers). Pitches are not necessarily tailored to the needs of clubs and there are site specific capacity pressures.
- There are concerns about the role of unsecured sites - several school bases hosting large clubs are unsecured. Loss of these sites would generate gaps in the facility stock. In addition, much of the existing surplus capacity is located at school facilities.

- There is a lack of AGPs for training which impacts on overall pitch capacity by causing clubs to use grass pitches and also generates additional wear and tear.
- There are quality issues at numerous sites and the quality of pitches is perceived to be deteriorating amid concerns about the maintenance of pitches.
- Cost provides a barrier to access to pitches for both training and matches. Pricing policies are inconsistent across the Borough and clubs struggle to access training facilities.
- There are opportunities to increase participation through the retention of existing players and development of new forms of the game.

2.4 The key issues for each sport are therefore summarised below in the context of the three overarching objectives.

2.5 It is clear that issues for all sports span all three objectives and indeed the issues for many sports are very similar. While information is presented on a sport specific basis, there may be opportunities for cross sport working and this should be promoted. The provision of AGPs for example can benefit more than one sport and facilities will need to be delivered in partnership and with a coordinated approach.

**Table 2.7: Summary - Key Issues to address**

Sport	Key Issues to Address	Protect	Provide	Enhance
Cricket	Protection of existing cricket pitches			
	Number of facilities largely adequate but some clubs are approaching capacity and some clubs over capacity. Minimal availability at peak time and aspirations for new facility (Doncaster CC)			
	Availability of facilities for training (particularly off field) is poor. Few sites contain playable non turf wickets / nets. This is a key issue for development as well as club satisfaction and is the immediate priority.			
	There are some site-specific quality issues to be addressed (outfield levelling / maintenance / pavilion).			
	There is an aspiration to support increases in participation in cricket. This may have a knock on impact for the longer term development of facilities.			
Rugby League	There is a need to protect the existing venues for rugby league			

Sport	Key Issues to Address	Protect	Provide	Enhance
	There are capacity pressures at Bentley RLFC and Toll Bar RLFC (based upon projected future demand).			
	There are quality issues at existing sites that may inhibit participation if not addressed			
	There are opportunities to enhance community usage of facilities for rugby league at the Keepmoat Stadium.			
	There are opportunities to increase participation across the borough by improving engagement with schools.			
Hockey	There is a need to protect facilities required for hockey - this means retaining at least two hockey pitches for club usage (Townfields and Armthorpe Academy) to ensure that current and future hockey activity can be sustained. These facilities should therefore be protected against conversion to 3g pitches (this may need to be through the proactive agreement of the pitch owners if it is determined that planning permission for conversion is not required)			
	There are capacity pressures at Townfields currently and a need to address the requirements of Doncaster Hockey Club to ensure that the facilities continue to meet club need			
	There is a need to enhance the quality of existing hockey pitches to ensure that they remain fit for purpose			
	There are opportunities to increase levels of participation in hockey across the Borough			
Bowls	There is a need to increase participation and address recent declines in order to ensure that the existing infrastructure remains sustainable. There are significant opportunities to promote bowls to a wider target audience and to increase the social and health benefits derived from bowls			
	There is a need to protect valuable existing greens in order to ensure that there are sufficient greens to monitor future demand			
	There are several sites with disused greens or greens with limited use and further review is required as to the future of these facilities			
	Quality issues have been identified at several sites that may impact on current and future participation if not addressed. While recent changes to the maintenance programmes at key sites appear to have been positive, there is a need to ensure that ongoing training and monitoring is undertaken and that succession planning is considered.			
Rugby Union	There is a need to protect the existing facilities that are available for rugby union clubs			
	There are some capacity issues at clubs which need to be addressed if future participation is not to be inhibited. Many of these issues arise from poor maintenance rather than a lack of pitches per se. There are however some issues that will not be addressed by improvements to maintenance alone at Thornensians and Doncaster RFC			
	On pitch training is generally focused on one pitch, generating overplay and creating compaction. There is a need to increase the amount of floodlit pitches available to clubs			

Sport	Key Issues to Address	Protect	Provide	Enhance
	Issues relating to both training and grass pitch capacity for matches mean that there may be opportunities to create a 3g AGP that is suitable for rugby union			
Football	There is a need to protect existing valuable pitches (these will be listed in the site by site action list)			
	There is sufficient stock overall but pressures on 9v9 and junior pitches, particularly at key club bases (Armthorpe Rovers, Scawthorpe Scorpions, Moorends Hornets and Stingers). Pitches are not necessarily tailored to the needs of clubs and there are site specific capacity pressures			
	There are concerns about the role of unsecured sites - several school bases hosting large clubs are unsecured. Loss of these sites would generate gaps in the facility stock. In addition, much of the existing surplus capacity is located at school facilities			
	There is a lack of AGPs for training which impacts on overall pitch capacity by causing clubs to use grass pitches and also generates additional wear and tear			
	There are quality issues at numerous sites and the quality of pitches is perceived to be deteriorating amid concerns about the maintenance of pitches			
	Cost provides a barrier to access to pitches for both training and matches. Pricing policies are inconsistent across the Borough particularly in relation to lack of fees for junior pitches. and clubs struggle to access training facilities			
	There are opportunities to increase participation through the retention of existing players and development of new forms of the game.			

## **Impact of New Development**

- 2.6 The assessment report considers the impact of trends based population growth as well as the impact that increases in sports participation will have.
- 2.7 It indicates that population growth forecast in and around Doncaster MBC will play a significant role in negating the impact of the ageing population in terms of demand for playing pitches, and overall there is likely to be an increase in the number of people participating, particularly in the younger age groups. This means that ensuring appropriate contributions from new developments will be essential if the facility stock is to continue to meet local need.
- 2.8 Strategic housing growth will however generate additional participation and an increased requirement for playing pitches. Increased use of playing pitches also places greater importance on the quality and capacity of existing pitches.
- 2.9 The Doncaster Local Plan is currently emerging but it is anticipated that policy will plan for the development of new homes during the plan period and it is likely that this will have an additional impact on the population of the borough.
- 2.10 Sport England has developed a draft Playing Pitch Calculator which can be used to indicate how much demand will be created by a proposed development and the cost associated with this.
- 2.11 The calculator uses information from The Playing Pitch Strategy Assessment to provide an estimate of the demand from the population of new development. It considers;
- a) The likely number of people from the new population in each of the individual pitch sport age groups (Derived from the profile of the current population);
  - b) Using the Team Generation Rates (TGR) prepared as part of the PPS and the profile of the population (a), the likely number of teams that will be generated by the new development; and
  - c) The number of match equivalent sessions that will be generated by the new population and the subsequent demand in terms of pitch requirements.
- 2.12 The resulting figures are then considered in the context of the findings of the assessment and the recommendations of the Playing Pitch Strategy and action plan in order to determine the ability of the existing facilities to sustain the additional demand and any requirements for new and / or improved provision.
- 2.13 Although The Doncaster Local Plan is still emerging and the amount and location of development that will take place has not yet been finalised, it is important that the overall likely scale of the impact is considered now in order to inform the strategy recommendations and actions. Once the local plan has been adopted, the New Development Calculator should be used on a site by site basis to evaluate the impact of proposals (this is discussed further in section 4 of this strategy document).

## **Potential Impact of Growth in Doncaster MBC**

- 2.14 Emerging figures suggest that the local plan may seek to deliver 920 homes per annum over the period 2015 - 2033. The impact of this on the population of the borough is set out overleaf.

**Table 2.8: Likely impact of new dwellings on population figures**

Number of New Dwellings	Total Number of New Dwellings	Number of People per dwelling	Total Population Impact of Population Growth
920 per annum	15640	2.38	37223

2.15 Table 2.9 summarises the findings of the New Development Calculator to summarise the overall impact of the projected housing growth (cumulative across the borough) on demand at the peak period.

**Table 2.9: Impact of New Development on Demand for Sports Pitches**

Sport	Estimated Demand (Match Sessions)	Increased Demand Equivalent	Pitch Equivalent
Adult football	5.66		5 - 6 Pitches
Youth	9.42		10 Pitches
Mini Soccer	4.92		5 pitches
Rugby Union	1.62		2 pitches
Rugby League	0.69		1 Pitch
Hockey	1.72		1 - 2 AGPs
Cricket	120		2 - 3 grounds

2.16 The New Development Calculator therefore proves that new developments planned as part of the local plan process will place extra pressures on the pitch stock. While this is indicative only at this point as the full scale of the housing development is not known, it is essential that this is considered as part of the strategy and action planning. Table 2.10 therefore evaluates the adequacy of provision to meet current and project demand (drawing upon information presented in Tables 2.1 - 2.6) and considers the additional impact that might be generated.

**Table 2.10: Likely additional impact of Planned Housing Development in Doncaster**

Sport	PPS Issues and Priorities	Cumulative Impact of New Development	Comments
<p><b>Football</b></p>	<p>Quality of pitches is as great a concern as quantity of pitches.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are 63 adult football pitches available at peak time</li> <li>For youth pitches, spare capacity is just 5.5 pitches</li> <li>There is 9 match equivalents spare capacity at peak time for 9v9 pitches</li> <li>Pitch capacity on 5 v5 and 7v7 pitches would remain sufficient</li> <li>Spare capacity for 7v7 pitches is 14 match equivalents, while for 5v5 pitches is 10.5</li> </ul> <p>Despite provision overall being significant, there are several concerns with the adequacy of provision to meet the needs of key clubs with</p>	<p>Adult Football - demand for 5 - 6 pitches.</p> <p>Youth demand for 10 pitches</p> <p>Mini Soccer demand created for 5 more pitches</p>	<p>For adult football, the additional demand generated by new development can be accommodated within existing quantities of pitch.</p> <p>There would remain a significant amount of availability.</p> <p>For 9v9 and youth pitches however, the assessment already identifies existing pressures and these will be exacerbated further by the new development.</p> <p>Supply for both 9v9 and youth pitches will become very closely balanced with demand and it is likely that there will be insufficient provision in some areas. Pressures are already particularly high at Armthorpe Rovers, Scawthorpe Scorpions, Moorends Hornets and Stingers and there is also overplay at Hayfield School, Langfield Drive, Adwick Park</p> <p>The projected additional increases of 7v7 and 5v5 pitches can be met within the existing pitch stock, although the additional play will place extra pressures on the pitches.</p> <p>The additional play will also place greater wear and tear on pitches and so quality will be increasingly important. If 3g pitches are still not available, it should also be noted that training pressures are likely to further impact the adequacy of supply.</p> <p>The identified issues are therefore likely to be exacerbated by the new population growth and mean that actions for improvement take on greater priority to ensure that the pitch stock can meet demand in terms of both current and future need.</p>

Sport	PPS Issues and Priorities	Cumulative Impact of New Development	Comments
	some clubs over capacity.		
<b>Cricket</b>	<p>3 match equivalents available at peak time. Capacity available across the week.</p> <p>Some issues of overplay and displacement (Sprotborough / Doncaster CC / Hatfield CC and Conisbrough). No further scope for expansion in Bentley, Brodsworth, Warmsworth, Mexborough.</p>	<p>Population growth is likely to see the creation of 118 additional matches. This is broadly equivalent to 2 - 3 grounds (not necessarily needed at peak time - this is measured across the season).</p>	<p>Additional growth could be accommodated within the infrastructure although supply would be almost directly balanced with demand.</p> <p>Location of growth may influence adequacy of provision, with some key sites already at capacity.</p> <p>Additional growth supports (and exacerbates) requirement for improved training facilities and for additional capacity at some sites (non turf wickets / additional pitches). This will be particularly evident if growth occurs in areas where supply is already pressurised.</p>
<b>Rugby Union</b>	<p>Assessment identifies capacity issues at several sites;</p> <p>Capacity equivalent to 3 - 4 additional pitches required at Thornensians, capacity issues at Wehatley Hills RFC (up to 4.5 match equivalents) and at least 2 additional pitches or equivalent capacity required at Doncaster RFC</p>	<p>Demand 2 additional pitches</p>	<p>Requirement for access to up to 2 additional pitches at peak time will further add to pressures for rugby union, particularly as there are already capacity issues identified. Assessment also contains further capacity concerns, but many of these relate to maintenance procedures and floodlighting to improve capacity.</p> <p>Assessment seeks to address capacity issues at key club sites, new development may see further pitch requirements longer term.</p>
<b>Rugby League</b>	<p>Some projected capacity issues based on club growth</p>	<p>Demand for 1 additional pitch</p>	<p>Impact of new development overall will generate small amount of additional participation. As the unmet demand (and need for additional capacity) is largely generated through growth aspirations</p>

Sport	PPS Issues and Priorities	Cumulative Impact of New Development	Comments
	aspirations. Pressures with capacity at Bentley RLFC currently.		of clubs, it is likely that housing growth will contribute to the achievement of these goals. The assessment identifies the requirement for potentially up to 3 pitches for Bentley RLFC and 2 for Doncaster Tollbar. It is likely that demand from new developments will contribute to the requirement for these new pitches.
<b>Hockey</b>	Assessment identifies need to protect 2 pitches and to provide training facilities for Doncaster HC.	Demand for 1 - 2 AGPs	Increase in demand will add to the pressures on the existing stock of facilities and is likely to create greater justification for consideration of the provision of a second pitch for Doncaster HC longer term.

- 2.17 This scenario testing therefore reveals that new developments will place extra pressures on the pitch stock and that supply and demand will become even more closely balanced.
- 2.18 Section 3 draws upon the information contained within the assessment report and within this section and sets out recommendations to address the issues identified.

## 3: Recommendations and Actions

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### Introduction

- 3.1 Section 2 summarised the context for each sport and the key issues that need to be addressed across Doncaster, drawing upon supply and demand modelling, consultation and site visits. The full assessment of issues identified, modelling and evaluation of options using site specific modelling is set out under separate cover (assessment report).
- 3.2 While to date and for clarity, each sport has been considered separately within this strategy, recommendations should be implemented strategically, considering opportunities for partnerships between sports. There are some good examples of sustainable clubs and multi sport partnerships already and these provide foundations for a successful future delivery model. It will be essential to ensure that good practice and insight from these successful ventures is spread across the Borough through knowledge sharing and effective training and guidance.
- 3.3 Table 3.1 sets out recommendations and action plans to address the key issues that have been identified for each sport. It briefly summarises the recommendation, identifies the sites that should be considered for the delivery of the recommendation (where appropriate) and provides an indication of the timeframe and the lead responsibility.
- 3.4 Table 3.2 provides an outline of the sites in the Borough and the action required at each.
- 3.5 With regards timescales, it should be assumed that;
- short term represents actions to be considered within next two years;
  - medium term - 3 - 5 years; and
  - long term - 5 years plus.

**Table 3.1: Action Plan**

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
C1	Cricket	Retain the existing quantity of grass cricket pitches in the borough.	All sites (including facility at Stainforth Miners Welfare).	<p>Ensure that the list set out reflecting sites to protect in this strategy is up to date.</p> <p>Incorporate policy within the emerging local plan protecting valuable cricket pitches This should link with the priorities of this document and take into account the monitoring and review process which may see updates occur.</p> <p>Ensure that the findings of this assessment are considered when making decisions relating to playing fields.</p>	Short Term and ongoing	DMBC
			<p>Review the role of former cricket club bases in meeting the needs of the clubs (see C2).</p> <p>Where the site is not suitable to address existing / projected deficiencies, there is no clear role for it to play in the provision of cricket in the borough.</p>	<p>Opportunities to reinstate lapsed sites;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balby Community Sports Village</li> <li>Adwick upon Dearne CC</li> <li>Moorends Welfare Ground</li> <li>Stainforth Miners Welfare (Priority site)</li> </ul>	Medium Term	ECB / YCB / DMBC
C2		While on the whole provision is sufficient to meet current demands, capacity will become constrained at some clubs if growth aspirations are achieved and if projected new housing	<p>Clubs where capacity issues are identified (current or future) are;</p> <p>Doncaster Town CC - teams displaced to</p>	Work with smaller clubs to ensure that any availability at peak time is offered to other clubs to maximise growth of the sport and ensure that capacity is not restricted.	Short term and ongoing	YCB

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		<p>developments are delivered. In partnership with the Yorkshire Cricket Board, ensure that the amount of cricket facilities available does not impact on the opportunities to grow participation. Access to increased provision should be sought through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the ongoing development of relationships between larger and smaller clubs. This has already proved successful in the Borough, with many larger clubs using facilities owned by smaller clubs;</li> <li>the provision of off field training facilities (linking with C3) to reduce the use of the grass square and maximise the capacity;</li> <li>linking with C3, building capacity and enhancing sustainability by adding a non turf wicket to existing squares;</li> <li>the development of school club links and the establishment of a relationship between schools and cricket clubs. Facilities could be developed at</li> </ul>	<p>Finningley CC. Seeking second ground in close proximity to first.</p> <p>Pitches at Conisbrough, Hatfield CC and Sprotbrough CC overplayed (and also lacking in practice facilities).</p> <p>Doncaster Town CC, Bentley Colliery CC, Warmsworth CC and Rossington Main also have no further scope for play across the season.</p> <p>If development aspirations are achieved, Brodsworth Miners Welfare will also be under pressure. Given that the majority of these sites are the likely focus of club growth, development of cricket will exacerbate these capacity pressures.</p>	<p>Bullcroft Main CC, Hooten Pagnell CC, Lindley Road Recreation Ground, Wadworth CC and Stainforth Miners Welfare all currently have capacity.</p>		
			<p>See C3 for more detail, but clubs where training facilities may help address capacity include; Doncaster Town CC (note: 3 bay off field practice is due to be installed) Bentley Colliery CC,</p>	<p>Work with clubs to provide appropriate training facilities where there is evidence of need. This may include the provision of support and guidance in relation to the submission of external funding bids.</p>	<p>Medium Term</p>	<p>YCB / ECB</p>

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		<p>school sites and used by the cricket club as the club expands. Note improvements to the quality of facilities are likely to also be required (in line with recommendation (C4);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the provision of a new satellite ground) for clubs at capacity where this represents a sustainable option for growth (and where access to new grounds at a point in time is.</li> </ul>	<p>Conisbrough CC -, Hatfield Town CC, Warmsworth CC</p> <p>Bentley Colliery CC</p> <p>Brodsworth CC</p> <p>Warmsworth CC</p> <p>Mexborough CC</p>	<p>Prioritise the provision of non turf wickets where they can help to address capacity issues as well as training needs. Non turf wickets may be particularly valuable on sites that are overplayed / approaching capacity across the season, as junior activity can be transferred on to these facilities.</p>	<p>Short - Medium Term</p>	<p>YCB</p>
			<p>Doncaster Town CC - identify need for second ground due to existing issues with displacement.</p> <p>Hatfield Town CC are also approaching capacity. The recent collapse of clubs playing at Stainforth Miners Welfare may see this site offer an ideal second ground in close proximity to the clubs current venue.</p>	<p>Work with Doncaster Town CC to identify opportunities for a second ground. This should include identification of location, building of relationships and developing agreements where appropriate.</p> <p>Stainforth Miners Welfare.</p>	<p>Short Term</p>	<p>YCB / ECB / DMC</p>
			<p>Clubs seeking to establish additional Saturday teams and / or use overspill facilities (none currently evident).</p>	<p>Regularly review club capacity issues (at least annually to ensure that participation is not constrained by a lack of facilities).</p> <p>A full review of capacity issues should be undertaken once Local Plan</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>YCB</p>

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				housing allocations are finalised, as projected growth will see supply and demand closely balanced.		
				Review potential of schools in the provision of cricket facilities -a facility for a club could be installed at a school site (or an existing facility upgraded), providing school club links as well as functioning as 2 <sup>nd</sup> ground.	Medium Term	YCB
C3		<p>Support cricket clubs in the development of off field training nets and non turf wickets to enhance club sustainability and improve overall performance. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the provision of non turf wickets (linking with C2) to support training as well as competitive play;</li> </ul>	<p>Lack of (or lack of appropriate) practice facilities has been raised as the key concern for many clubs relating to both nets and non turf wickets and was the key cause of poor quality ratings. As outlined in C2, appropriate non turf facilities can also be used to address capacity issues. Key priorities are:</p> <p>To help address capacity issues;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doncaster Town CC - refurbishment of non turf wickets, provision of off field nets (<i>funding recently secured, installation anticipated before</i></li> </ul>	<p>Work with clubs to provide appropriate training facilities where there is evidence of need. This may include the provision of support and guidance in relation to the submission of external funding bids.</p>	Short Term	YCB / ECB

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
			<p>April).</p> <p>Bentley Colliery CC - existing nets unsafe and non turf wickets poor. Require refurbishment and off field facilities</p> <p>Conisbrough CC - off field nets required, club seeking as priority</p> <p>Hatfield Town CC - off field training nets require</p> <p>Warmsworth CC - off field practice facilities needed, no training nets</p> <p>Mexborough Miners Welfare - no training nets - club seeking off field practice facilities</p> <p>Sprotbrough Cricket Club - no training nets, club seeking off field practice facilities</p> <p>To provide / improve training facilities;</p> <p>Fishlake CC - poor non turf wicket, nets and off field practice facilities identified as priority</p>			

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
			<p>Barnby Dun and Kirk Sandall Sports CC - existing non turf wicket and nets poor</p> <p>Adwick Park CC - no nets</p> <p>Askern Welfare - non turf wicket required</p> <p>Bullcroft CC - nets required</p> <p>Hampole and Skelbrooke - no non turf wickets or nets</p> <p>Hooten Pagnell CC - training nets</p> <p>Parklands Sports and Social - no training nets or non turf wicket</p> <p>Rossington Miners Welfare - no training nets or non turf wicket</p> <p>Sykehouse Cricket Club - no training nets or non turf wicket</p> <p>Tickhill CC - no off field practice nets and non turf wicket requires refurbishment</p> <p>Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare - no training nets or non turf wicket</p> <p>Wadworth Cricket Club - no training nets or non turf</p>			

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
C4		<p>Improve the quality of existing cricket pitches within the borough to ensure that they meet with standards required for the South Yorkshire Cricket League, as well as promoting the sport. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that grounds maintenance schedules meet with ECB guidance and learning from best practice examples elsewhere</li> <li>supporting required groundworks to improve quality of existing squares and outfielders where issues are identified. This is likely to include; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- addressing impact of public access</li> <li>- Outfield levelling</li> <li>- Work to improve condition of square</li> <li>- Improvements to the standard of club pavilions</li> <li>- Ensure that all clubs have facilities appropriate to the</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	wicket.			
			<p>Groundstaff on all pitches regardless of ownership.</p> <p>Maintenance issues are a key priority for some clubs and these should represent the initial focus.</p>	<p>Work with Clubs and Site Providers to review existing grounds maintenance procedures against ECB Best Practice Specifications and update to ensure that pitches are receiving appropriate maintenance and that best use is made of available budget.</p>	Short Term	ECB/YCB
				<p>Ensure that all groundsmen (all those maintaining cricket pitches) receive appropriate training and have ongoing input from IOG. This should include attendance at training sessions and support from ECB specialist pitch advisors. Consideration should be given to succession planning at each club.</p>	Short Term	ECB/YCB
			<p>Support clubs who share with football clubs to establish grounds maintenance regimes that take into account the dual purpose of the site and the extra impact that is taken.</p>	Medium Term	ECB/YCB	
		<p>Clubs known to be lacking in appropriate machinery / skill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doncaster Town CC</li> <li>Askern Welfare</li> <li>Fishlake CC</li> <li>Mexborough Miners</li> </ul>	<p>Undertake a review of the adequacy of machinery held on each site and work with the Doncaster Cricket Forum and key clubs to seek to establish a means of improving access to required machinery (for example the use of an equipment bank).</p>	Medium Term	ECB/YCB	

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		standard that they play at in line with league regulations (sight screens etc).	<p>Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parklands Sports and Social</li> <li>• Sprotborough Cricket Club</li> </ul>			
			<p>Addressing issues caused by public access to sites;</p> <p>Pitch (outfield and square) improvements at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adwick Park - poor square and site suffers from unofficial use</li> <li>• Askern Welfare - outfield in poor condition (evenness) but impacted by maintenance procedures</li> <li>• Hampole and Skelbrooke CC - damage to surface</li> <li>• Hooten Pagnell CC - uneven areas of outfield</li> <li>• Parklands Sports and Social - uneven</li> </ul>	<p>Work with clubs to establish means of reducing the impact of unofficial use on sites. Where successes are experienced, use the Doncaster Cricket Forum to share best practice.</p>	Medium Term	ECB/YCB
				<p>Work in partnership with providers to identify the detailed improvements required through the use of detailed professional quality assessments.</p>	Short - Medium Term	ECB/YCB
				<p>Provide ongoing support to improve quality of existing facilities. This should include support to identify opportunities for capital investment to address existing identified issues and then ongoing appropriate maintenance techniques.</p>	Short Term and Ongoing	ECB/YCB

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
			<p>patches on outfield</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare - damage to surface</li> <li>Adwick Park CC - lack of changing accommodation on site</li> </ul>			
			<p>Clubhouse Facilities:</p> <p>Wadworth Cricket Club - pavilion dated and lacks required facilities</p> <p>Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare - pavilion requires renovation</p> <p>Tickhill CC - ongoing remedial works</p> <p>Rossington Miners Welfare - interior of changing accommodation poor</p> <p>Hooten Pagnell CC - requires updating</p> <p>Hatfield Town CC - upgrade required</p>	<p>Support improvements to clubhouses where these are required through the provision of capital funding and / or preparing / supporting external funding bids to facilitate qualitative improvements.</p>		

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
			Fishlake CC - upgrade			
<b>C5</b>	<b>Cricket</b>	Support the sustainable growth of cricket and clubs in the Borough by promoting communication between all of those involved in cricket through the continuation of the cricket development forum. Clubs should be encouraged to join and share good practice and the forum should support accurate forward planning for all clubs.	N/A – Boroughwide.	Continue the Doncaster MBC Cricket Forum.	Ongoing	YCB
<b>C6</b>	<b>Cricket</b>	<p>Linking with the National Strategy, Cricket Unleashed, support the introduction of development initiatives to increase participation in cricket. This may include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for clubs and leagues in line with the national strategy</li> <li>• Providing more opportunities for children to play through schools</li> <li>• Initiatives to break down barriers to access - including indoor, small sided and new formats of the game</li> <li>• Promoting best practice and sustainability</li> <li>• Supporting and recognising the roles of volunteers and staff within the game</li> </ul>	All cricket clubs. In particular, target increases in participation at smaller clubs in order to ensure that clubs remain sustainable.	Support clubs in providing a range of activities to encourage new players to the game as well as to retain existing members. This should include the introduction of new initiatives for women and girls as well as implementation of the All Stars Scheme and ongoing participation in Chance to Shine.	Ongoing	ECB/YCB

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting talent development pathways in cricket.</li> </ul>				
RL1	Rugby League	Ensure that existing venues for rugby league are protected for long term use by clubs.	Borough wide	Ensure appropriate policy requiring the protection of rugby league pitches is included within emerging local plan.	Short Term	DMC
			Bentley RLFC and Moorends Thorn Marauders RLFC currently require a review of their lease arrangements.	Support clubs in the review of existing leases and ensure that all clubs have secured long term access to their site.	Short Term	RFL
RL2		Work with clubs to ensure that capacity is sufficient to meet short term and long term demand. This may include new provision as well as enhancing existing facilities (see RL3).	All clubs, but prioritising Bentley RLFC who are currently constrained by capacity. Projected increases in participation arising from housing growth are likely to see further demand, in particular at Doncaster Toll Bar RLFC.	Work with clubs to regularly review capacity and ensure that pitch provision is not impacting upon quality. While provision at Bentley RLFC is already restricting demand, club aspirations for growth cannot be met at Doncaster Toll Bar RLFC. Both clubs currently fall into Group 2 classification, meaning at least 2 – 4 pitches are required.	Short - Medium Term	RFL / DMC
				Work with Bentley RLFC to secure access to additional grass pitches. Successful achievement of aspirations to develop a full junior section could see up to 3 pitches be required. Exact facilities required should be considered in the context of the new RLFC facility strategy. It should be noted that there is currently an unused rugby playing field at Bentley Road Recreation Ground which could be considered as a further opportunity. Any opportunities for Bentley ARLFC should be	Short - Medium Term	RFL / DMBC

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				considered alongside key action below.		
				Work alongside NGBs of other sports to understand any opportunities to address capacity issues in conjunction with other sports (for example use of an AGP for rugby league alongside other codes).	Medium Term	RFL
<b>RL3</b>		<p>Enhance the quality of existing rugby league facilities to ensure that participation is not inhibited by pitch quality. Quality is currently the key issue relating to facilities for rugby league in the borough. Work required will include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investment in ancillary facilities</li> <li>Enhancement of pitch surface (levelling and drainage).</li> </ul> <p>All clubs should meet with the baseline requirements of the RFL facility strategy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moorends Thorn Marauders RFC - drainage /pitch surface. Lack of appropriate changing facilities</li> <li>Doncaster Toll Bar RLFC - pitch drainage / compaction</li> <li>Bentley RLFC - investment in ground conditions. Improvements required to ancillary provision.</li> </ul>	<p>Provide ongoing support to improve quality of existing facilities. This should include support to identify opportunities for capital investment to address existing identified issues and then ongoing appropriate maintenance techniques.</p> <p>The new RFL facility strategy specifies the baseline requirements for each club in the country and indicates that each club should have access to pitches of a minimum standard quality and with appropriate changing accommodation. Amateur Clubs in Doncaster are currently classified as Group 2 clubs.</p> <p>Detailed professional quality assessments may also be required.</p>	Medium Term	RFL
<b>RL4</b>		Seek to promote the development of rugby league in the borough.	Schools in close proximity to the four rugby league clubs.	Work with schools to reinvigorate activity through the Club Doncaster Foundation Sky Try programme as well as the Champion Schools Secondary School programme.	Medium Term	RFL

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
H1	Hockey	<p>Ensure that there remains sufficient sand based facilities to fulfil hockey need at both the current time and in the future by retaining the AGPs that are valuable for hockey as sand based facilities and protecting against conversion for 3g pitches.</p> <p>Hockey clubs should have priority access to all sand based facilities.</p>	<p>Doncaster HC (Townfields)</p> <p>Armthorpe Academy</p>	<p>Ensure full consultation is carried out with providers and NGBs prior to the change of any existing surfaces - all named facilities should be retained as sand based and it should be ensured that a sinking fund is in place for the ongoing maintenance of these facilities.</p>	Short Term and ongoing	EH / DMBC
				<p>Build a relationship with schools and ensure that appropriate agreements are in place to maximise community use and to support priority access for hockey clubs.</p>	Ongoing	EH
				<p>Explore opportunities for community use of Hill House School AGP.</p>	Medium - Long Term	EH
				<p>Continue to monitor the adequacy of pitches to meet the needs of hockey clubs.</p>	Ongoing	EH
H2		<p>Address identified capacity issues in hockey for Doncaster HC by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refurbishing the existing AGP immediately to ensure that the site remains fully usable</li> <li>Supporting the provision of a small on-site training area (to</li> </ul>	Townfields HC	<p>Support a refurbishment of the Townfields AGP to ensure it remains suitable for competitive activity (this is anticipated to take place in 2018 subject to available funding).</p>	Short Term	Club / EH
				<p>Work with the club to develop and deliver an on site training area to supplement the existing facility and increase capacity on a match day.</p>	Long Term	EH

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		also be used for pre-match warm ups, increasing the capacity of the AGP for competitive fixtures)		Monitor growth of the club and the impact upon demand for additional facilities. Investigate the requirement for a further pitch to meet the needs of the club (and the wider hockey community) in the longer term if membership exceeds 500 (in the context of the England Hockey Facility Strategy. The pitch at Armthorpe Academy currently supports the needs of the club and this will be supplemented by the proposed grass training area. Further club growth may mean that this arrangement restricts club development longer term and this should be monitored. This will be particularly important as new development is built in the borough. The New Development Calculator indicates that demand will increase by another 1 - 2 pitches and it is therefore likely that this will provide longer term justification for the creation of a second pitch for Doncaster HC.	Long Term	EH
<b>H3</b>		Address quality issues identified at Townfields and work with providers to ensure the timely refurbishment of the pitch surface at other sites across the borough.	Townfields All sites	Review existing maintenance procedures in conjunction with England Hockey and ensure appropriate routine maintenance procedures and sinking funds are in place to enable timely replacement of the surface. The need for this will be dependent upon the outcome of feasibility assessments re. H2.	Ongoing	Club / EH
				Address quality issues in existing surface through refurbishment at Townfields	Short Term	EH / Club

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				(anticipated to take place 2018 subject to funding).		
<b>H4</b>		Work with the key clubs (in particular Doncaster HC) to support initiatives to introduce new participants to the game and to raise awareness of the sport.	Doncaster HC	Support clubs in the engagement with the local community to increase the number of hockey participants. This could involve provision of coaching, as well as the introduction of Back to Hockey Sessions and other new forms of the game.	Ongoing	EH / Clubs
				Engage with clubs to provide sports development support and advice on promotion and marketing.	Ongoing	EH / Clubs
				Support the clubs in engaging with local schools to promote growth in participation in hockey at an early age. Initial focus should be placed on the schools with AGPs (Trinity Academy / Armthorpe Academy) as well as those that have entered county hockey competitions.	Ongoing	EH / Clubs
<b>BG1</b>	<b>Bowls</b>	To ensure the existing facility infrastructure remains sustainable, support initiatives to increase participation in bowls across the borough. This should include work to remove several key barriers to participation in the sport including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poor marketing and promotion and lack of awareness</li> </ul>	<b>All sites</b> , but focusing in the short term on those that are identified as having low levels at the time of data collection (although it is recognised that many clubs have since increased their membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Denaby Welfare Bowls Club</li> <li>Carcroft WMB Bowls</li> </ul>	Form a bowls delivery group to work with bowls communities across the borough to increase participation. Set realistic and achievable targets for the increase of bowls. This should include support for clubs in how they can access new members.	Short Term	DDBA / DMBC
				Support Doncaster and District Bowls Association to undertake relevant marketing and promotion to increase awareness of bowls. This should include borough wide initiatives; as well club based support including arranging	Short Term	DDBA / DMBC

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Struggle to recruit volunteers</li> <li>Age profile of bowling clubs</li> <li>Inaccessible environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Club</li> <li>Woodlands Park Bowls Club</li> <li>Harvesters Bowls Club</li> <li>Haslam Park Bowls Club</li> <li>Askern Welfare Bowls Club</li> <li>Brodsworth Welfare Bowls Club</li> </ul>	<p>training and discussion forums in relation to direct marketing and the creation of an online presence to help increase membership. Club based training on how to access funding grants is also required.</p>		
				<p>Work with clubs and providers to improve signage to existing facilities, ensuring that all facilities are well signed by both road and for pedestrians. Signage should also include information about the club, appropriate contact details and provide an open invitation to attend sessions to sample bowls.</p>	Medium Term	DDBA
				<p>Support Bowls Doncaster in the implementation of other initiatives to further develop bowls and build links with Health Improvement services. This may include engagement with GP referral schemes and other community establishments in line with National Governing Body priorities, as well as practical guidance on advice on member recruitment (such as the delivery of successful open days, reduced membership fees for a trial period etc). Bowls also offers significant social opportunities, and this should be further explored as a means of attracting new participants.</p>	Ongoing	DMBC
				<p>As a delivery group, regularly monitor participation increases achieved by the above and set ongoing goals to further support the development of</p>	Ongoing	Bowls Forum

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
BG2		<p>Protect valuable existing bowling locations to support the implementation of BG1, as well as to ensure that there are sufficient greens to accommodate future demand. This will ensure that there are sufficient greens to enable the achievement of development objectives, as well as to accommodate projected population growth.</p> <p>To maximise sustainability and better balance income with expenditure the potential to close one green on sites containing two and with membership of below 20 per green should be investigated.</p> <p>In addition, there are several disused locations / disused greens at former sites.</p> <p>If development objectives are not achieved (BG1), then closure of further greens and / or mergers of clubs may need to be considered.</p>	<p>Retention of at least one green in all existing locations with a functioning club.</p> <p>Review the benefits of potential closure of one green where clubs are experiencing low membership per green over several years.. Note that the impact in terms of bowls development, fixture programming and hosting competitions should also be taken into account. This list presents a starting point for further decision making only.</p> <p>There is no justification for the reinstatement of any former greens / disused greens at the current time.</p>	bowls.		
				<p>Ensure that the list set out reflecting sites to protect in this strategy is up to date.</p> <p>Incorporate policy within the emerging local plan protecting valuable greens. This should link with the priorities of this document and take into account the monitoring and review process which may see updates occur.</p>	Short Term	DMBC
				<p>Work with clubs at named sites to identify and understand the impact of potential closures of second greens and determine the benefits that will be achieved against the potential impact on participation. It should be noted that the presence of second greens can offer many benefits for bowls development and also enable larger clubs to enter more than two teams in leagues and to host South Yorkshire Competitions. Analysis of the impact of the loss of greens should take this into account.</p>	Medium Term	DDBA / DMBC 1
				<p>Linking with BG1, regularly review the success of initiatives to drive participation increases in bowls. If these are not delivered successfully, undertake a programme of rationalisation based upon;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of members at each club (clubs with 20 or less</li> </ul>	Short - Medium Term	DDBA / DMBC 1

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				<p>members should be considered initially for rationalisation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The condition of the facility.</li> </ul>		
			<p>Pilkington Recreation Ground</p> <p>Wyndthorpe Hall Bowling Green</p> <p>Askern Welfare Bowling Green</p>	<p>Support clubs in the negotiation of their leases to ensure long term access to facilities.</p> <p>This should include ensuring a replacement facility in the event of the loss of any existing greens.</p>		
<b>BG3</b>		<p>Support clubs in the improvement of existing bowling greens where issues have been identified. All bowling greens should include access to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A green of appropriate standard</li> <li>Adequate pavilion (including toilets) and shelter. This should include facilities for disabled and those with mobility issues.</li> </ul> <p>Green quality has improved since new arrangements for maintenance have been introduced. Ongoing training and mentoring will however be key to longer term success and there is also a need to maximise succession planning. Bowls Clubs</p>	<p>Improvements to playing surface - Elmfield Park, Westfield Park (decompaction, overseeding, top dressing), Adwick Park (grass cover / surface), Askern Miners Welfare (poor condition overall), Denaby Miners Welfare (Drainage)</p>	<p>Undertake detailed professional quality assessments / masterplanning to establish works required.</p>	Short - Medium Term	DDBA / DMBC 1
			<p>Pavilion works - Elmfield Park, Haslam Park, Armthorpe Colliery Welfare, Askern Miners Welfare, Brodsworth Miners Welfare, Yorkshire Main (lack of access).</p>	<p>Support improvements to facilities where these are required through the provision of capital funding and / or preparing / supporting external funding bids to facilitate qualitative improvements. This may also be funded through the closure of some second greens).</p>	Medium Term	DDBA / DMBC 1
			<p>All clubs</p>	<p>Provide support and guidance for clubs in the compilation of funding bids to support required improvement work for existing greens.</p>	Short - Medium Term	DDBA / DMBC 1
				<p>Provide regular training and guidance events for bowls club on the management and maintenance of</p>	Short - Medium Term	DDBA / DMBC 1

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		should have access to advice and guidance on management and maintenance.		facilities. Ensure that training targets both existing maintenance teams and other club members to maximise succession planning, enhance knowledge and reduce reliance on small numbers of volunteers.		

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
<b>R1</b>	<b>Rugby Union</b>	Ensure that all clubs have secured access to sufficient pitches and ancillary facilities initially through the protection and retention of the existing sites.	All existing club based rugby pitches	<p>Ensure that the list set out reflecting sites to protect in this strategy is up to date. Incorporate policy within the emerging local plan protecting valuable rugby pitches This should link with the priorities of this document and take into account the monitoring and review process which may see updates occur.</p> <p>Ensure that the findings of this assessment are considered when making decisions relating to playing fields.</p>	Short Term and ongoing	DMBC
<b>R2</b>		Seek to address capacity issues at existing sites by adding additional capacity through qualitative improvements as well as the provision of existing pitches where required.	Doncaster RFC	As the maintenance specification is already high, there are limited benefits to capacity of further qualitative improvement (although enhancement continues to benefit player experience). Existing maintenance schedules should be retained to support existing	Ongoing	Club / RFU

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				schedules.		
				Address immediate short term capacity issues by working with the club to source temporary training / match play arrangements while other long term solutions are worked up (see below). This could include use of Straight Mile (although some quality works may be required) or other Council venues with existing capacity.	Short Term	Club / DMBC / RFU
				Capacity remains insufficient on site. Investigate opportunities to deliver additional pitch capacity (equivalent to at least 2 grass pitches) through either extension of existing site and / or AGP (see R3 below).	Medium Term	Club / RFU / DMBC
			Thornensians RFC	Work with club to review existing maintenance regime and enhance this to improve capacity of existing pitches.	Short Term	Club / RFU
				Capacity remains insufficient on site even with maintenance improvements. Existing overspill pitches (Trinity Academy) are not available on a Sunday when demand is high. Review opportunities for site extension / access to additional pitches / use of AGP.	Short - Medium Term	Club / RFU

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				Seek to deliver improvements to changing accommodation and clubhouse in order to enable delivery of objectives to develop women and girls sections.	Long Term	Club / RFU
			Wheatley Hills RFC	Work with club to review existing maintenance regime and enhance this to improve capacity of existing pitches.	Short Term	Club / RFU
			Rossington RFC	Work with club to review existing maintenance regime and enhance this to improve capacity of existing pitches.	Short Term	Club / RFU
			Adwick Le Street RFC	Existing site is restrictive and does not offer ancillary provision or floodlighting. Investigate opportunities for relocation of club base (including discussions with Owston Primary School) in order to deliver on site changing and provide opportunities for club growth.	Medium Term	Club / RFU
				Depending upon the outcome of the above (if site is relocated, maintenance regime should be tailored to new facility) review existing maintenance regime and enhance this to improve capacity of existing pitches.	Medium - Long Term	Club / RFU

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
			All clubs	Linking with R3 below, support the delivery of a new 3g World Rugby compliant AGP in the borough (Location to be determined following analysis and agreement of sustainable strategy by RFU).	Medium Term	RFU / Clubs
R3		Explore opportunities to develop a World Rugby compliant 3g pitch to improve access to match and training facilities for clubs in Doncaster MBC.	Several clubs are at capacity and would benefit from access to such a facility. A strategic approach across Doncaster needs to be taken to ensure that any facility provided is to the overall benefit of rugby and that the maximum number of clubs benefit.	Explore opportunities and determine the best strategic approach for the creation of a new AGP in the borough. This should consider the most appropriate location for a facility and the appropriate means of delivering a facility (including availability of funding).	Short Term	RFU
			As well as considering the needs of all clubs, consideration should be given to opportunities to share with other sports. There are capacity issues amongst rugby league clubs as well as some football clubs.	Following evaluation of opportunities, identify potential benefits to clubs in borough and review relevance of recommendations in R2 in the context of decisions made.  The New Development Calculator also indicates that up to 2 further pitches may be required at peak time. Longer term therefore there're may be justification for a second 3g AGP.	Medium Term	RFU / DMBC

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
R4		Ensure that all sites are equipped to manage on site training and that training load is spread over existing pitches (rather than focused on one where possible) through the effective provision of floodlights.	All sites, but additional floodlights at Wheatley Hills RFC and new provision at Adwick Le Street RFC is current priority.  Note requirements will depend upon the outcome of R3, provision of AGP for training.	Work with clubs to support the provision of additional floodlights. Requirements should be reviewed once decisions have been made relating to the provision of an AGP.	Long Term	TRU

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
F1	Football	<p>Maximise the efficiency of pitch provision across the Borough by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting existing valuable grass pitches through the planning system - This includes sites containing active playing fields but not currently marked out and sites that have previously functioned as playing fields but not identified as suitable for disposal in Site Specific Table</li> <li>effectively balancing the needs of adult and junior teams by tailoring provision annually to local need (and redesignating adult pitches to youth pitches where required) and reviewing</li> </ul>	All valuable sites (see Table 3.2).	<p>Incorporate policy within the emerging local plan protecting valuable football pitches. Ensure that the list set out reflecting provision that are suitable for protection and disposal in this strategy is up to date.</p> <p>Ensure that the findings of this assessment are considered when making decisions relating to playing fields and that policy requires equivalent replacement provision for any loss.</p>	Short Term	DMBC
			Sites with capacity on larger pitches but overplay on 9v9 or youth -	Following receipt of club requirements, review DMBC pitch stock in advance of each season to	Short Term and	DMBC

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		<p>pitch allocation policies regularly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintaining relationships with schools that are currently key to the delivery of facilities for football and securing formal agreements with schools where use is evident but unsecure.</li> <li>Ensuring that 3g pitches can be used for match play and that they are integrated within the grass pitch stock</li> <li>Promoting effective maintenance regimes to protect and enhance the capacity of the pitch stock (see F3 for more detail).</li> </ul>	<p>Hills Lane Recreation Ground, Cantley Park, Barnby Dun and Kirk Sandall Sports Association, Coulman Road Recreation Ground, Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare.</p>	<p>better tailor facilities to teams that wish to use it. Work with local leagues to agree facility requirements and to explore opportunities to maximise the use of available resources (this may include staggered kick offs for adult games as well as youth teams).</p>	ongoing	
				<p>Review opportunities to better cater for youth and 9v9 teams through the redesignation of adult pitches to youth and 9v9 pitches.</p>	Short Term and ongoing	DMBC
			<p>Strategically important sites – listed in Table 3.2 (site specific table).</p>	<p>Retain a strategic reserve of pitches to enable rest and rotation in the event of quality issues and other concerns. Table 3.2 outlines sites with potential to be rested but to retained. This will be particularly important as the New Development Calculator indicates that demand will increase in future years.</p>	Short Term and ongoing	DMBC
			<p>Key schools are;</p> <p>Secondary;</p> <p>Armthorpe Academy, Hungerhill School, Trinity Academy, Doncaster College (see Fx), Campsmount A Co-Operative Academy, Sir Thomas Wharton</p>	<p>Maintain strong links with schools with existing community use to ensure the ongoing success of the arrangement.</p>	Short Term and ongoing	DMBC / SHFA
				<p>Work with schools offering unsecured access to formalise community use agreements and ensure that roles of both schools and clubs are clearly defined and coordinated. Agreements should ensure that access to the community is protected and should promote the creation of</p>	Short Term and ongoing	DMBC

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
			Academy  Primary;  Abbey School Fields, Armthorpe Southfield Primary School, Bentley High Street Primary School, Kirk Sandall Junior School, Mexborough Highwoods Primary School, Pheasant Bank Academy, Richmond Hill Primary Academy, Morley Place Academy, Shaw Wood School, St Joseph and Teresas Catholic Primary School.	effective school club links.		
			Rossington Community Sports Village  Keepmoat Stadium (believed that this is already in progress)	Work with providers of 3g pitches to ensure that facilities are maintained to appropriate standards and are regularly tested by the FA to enable listing on the FA register (and therefore use for competitive fixtures).	Short Term and ongoing	DMBC / SHFA
			All AGPs	Work with leagues and key clubs to maximise the use of AGPs for match play (See F1).	Short Term and ongoing	DMBC / SHFA
			All sites	Linking with F3, promote the development of strong maintenance regimes across all sites and raise awareness of the importance of maintenance procedures and he	Short Term and ongoing	SHFA

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				support that is available to clubs and other providers.		
F2		<p>Address existing and projected future capacity issues by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluating the issues at sites where current or future capacity issues are projected and identifying bespoke solutions for these clubs - this may involve the creation of additional provision and / or the development of relationships with new providers for clubs (eg use of school sites that are not currently used)</li> <li>Securing community use of school sites (linking with F1)</li> <li>Ensuring that there are appropriate training facilities available, eliminating the need to train on grass and therefore reducing the pressures on the existing grass pitches (linking with the provision of 3g pitches below)</li> <li>Working with adult leagues to establish greater flexibility in kick off times (and therefore reducing peak time demand)</li> <li>Reviewing the existing pricing strategy across both grass and 3g AGPs</li> <li>Maximising the use of existing 3g pitches</li> </ul>	<p>Key sites where capacity might impact on large club development.</p> <p>Armthorpe Rovers - pitches at Wicket Hern Road and Armthorpe Academy at capacity at peak time. Spare capacity at other sites used but teams displaced over several facilities.</p> <p>Sprotborough and Cusworth Crusaders - risk of loss of facilities at Doncaster High Melton College.</p> <p>Scawthorpe Scorpions (Langdale Drive Playing Fields) - no remaining capacity at peak time and lack of capacity may inhibit development.</p> <p>Sheep Dip Lane (Dunscroft Welfare Juniors) at capacity at peak time and this is key concern of</p>	<p>Work with key clubs to review existing arrangements and identify solutions to capacity issues on a site by site basis. Consideration should be given to (note some solutions link with other recommendations);</p> <p>Armthorpe Rovers - fully secure use of Armthorpe Academy and Shaw Wood School. Review if displacement is a potential issue and consider role 3g pitch could play in area. Briar Road Playing Fields is former site that could be reinstated, but this would add to displacement.</p> <p>Sprotborough and Cusworth Crusaders - work with club to secure playing fields of Doncaster and High Melton College on lease. Any loss of these pitches should result in reprovision for the club.</p> <p>Scawthorpe Scorpions - review potential role of 3g pitch in area. Limited opportunities for additional pitches in the immediate vicinity.</p> <p>Dunscroft - secure use of Abbey School Fields. Review opportunities for additional capacity and investigate</p>	<p>Short Term and ongoing</p>	DMBC / SHFA

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		<p>for match play (see F1 above)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating up to 5 new 3g pitches and ensuring that they are used for training and matches. Detailed analysis of potential club use and the development of a business case and programming model for each AGP should be drawn up before development (especially given the concerns raised with regards cost during consultation)</li> <li>Maintaining and improving pitch quality by supporting providers to enhance maintenance and address quality issues that are impacting upon capacity.</li> </ul> <p><i>Longer term, the New Development Calculator indicates that an additional 42 teams may be generated across the Borough. This is equivalent to another AGP based on FA parameters (and therefore 5 may be required over the course of the strategy period).</i></p>	<p>club.</p> <p>Adwick Park Rangers - club seeking additional sites due to lack of capacity at current venue.</p> <p>Edenthorpe Howard Pavilion - at capacity at peak time and restricting club growth.</p> <p>Hayfield School heavily used and at capacity.</p> <p>Bentley Academy - club using Bentley High Street Primary School.</p> <p>Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare - several pitches approaching capacity.</p> <p>Lindley Road Recreation Ground – Finninghey.</p>	<p>role that 3g pitches could play.</p> <p>Adwick Park Rangers - review opportunities for additional capacity - this could include use of facilities at Outwood Academy Adwick (no existing football use but available). Investigate role that 3g pitches could play - capacity currently impacted by use of pitches for training.</p> <p>Edenthorpe - review opportunities for additional capacity - this could include use of Farfield. Investigate role that 3g pitches could play.</p> <p>Hayfield School - review opportunities for additional provision (believed to be potential for expansion beyond existing playing fields). School have also raised aspirations for 3g which would address issues. While pitches are used for training, capacity is also a key issue at peak time.</p> <p>Bentley Academy - secure long term community use to site.</p> <p>Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare - reduction of training on grass pitches (3g potential). Some concerns about maintenance procedure also raised. Potential to also consider Edlington Playing Fields (reinstatement of</p>		

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				pitches) to address high demand.		
				Work with schools to secure the use of school facilities that have potential to address current and future capacity issues -sites currently used (and therefore all should be secured highlighted in F1). Some schools are also highlighted as offering potential to help address key deficiencies . Work with schools should include guidance on promotion of opportunities available and pricing strategies as well as negotiations to	Medium Term	DMBC

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				secure the initial agreement.		
			Boroughwide	<p>Using benchmarking information collated by the FA as part of the development of this strategy, review the existing pricing models considering;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Price hire for DMBC pitches (taking particular note of lack of fees for junior teams and high rates for seniors)</li> <li>• Consistency of pitch hire costs across the Borough, given the wide spectrum of pitch providers</li> <li>• The impact of the pricing model for grass pitches on the sustainability of other sites.</li> </ul>	Short Term	DMBC/SHFA
			Locations where training is causing particular capacity issues include Adwick Park, Bentley High Street Primary, Langdale Drive, Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare.	<p>Undertake a detailed consultation exercise with key clubs that are currently using grass pitches to train where provision is constrained as a result to determine whether the provision of 3g AGPs would provide an appropriate solution (ie would clubs use them and can a sustainable business model be developed that is appropriate for both clubs and providers).</p> <p>This should link with above solutions, as provision of AGP will both alleviate</p>	Short Term	SHFA

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				training issues but also increase capacity for match play if effectively managed.		
			Locations where quality is limited by maintenance and / or where capacity of pitch is critical to sustain match play (ie matches are held both Saturday and Sunday). These include;	Work with key providers to evaluate existing maintenance practices and provide guidance on potential improvements. This should include regular review of Council grounds maintenance procedures.	Short Term and ongoing	DMBC / SHFA
			Balby Carr Community College, Communication Specialist College, Anthorpe Miners Welfare, Coulman Road Recreation Ground, Fishlake Falcons JFC, Adwick Park, Carcroft Park, Brodsworth Miners Welfare, Anchorage Lane Recreation Ground, Hickleton Harriers JFC, Ryecroft Road Recreation Ground, Rossington Community Sports Village, Old Road Recreation Ground, Cantley Park	In recognition of declining budgets, work with key clubs to agree input into maintenance regimes and shared maintenance arrangements.	Medium Term and ongoing	DMBC / SHFA
			Adult leagues	Engage in discussion with leagues with a view to moving towards staggered fixtures on a Sunday morning enabling a reduction in the	Medium Term	SHFA

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				number of adult pitches required.		
<b>F3</b>		Linking with F1 and FF2, support the growth and development of football clubs by improving access to training facilities for football clubs across the Borough through the provision of 3g pitches approved for use for both matches and training.	Boroughwide  Importance of pricing / business planning based upon cost analysis	<p>Linking with F1 and F2, develop business case and sustainable business model for further provision of up to 6 full sized pitches. This should consider;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The potential to run pitches through a single operator</li> <li>• The importance of ensuring that facilities are affordable and accessible - innovative pricing structures may be required</li> <li>• The appropriate strategy for pitch location - whether these should be centrally based hub sites or located to address the needs of key clubs</li> </ul> <p>The business case should be developed with full consultation with key clubs and the football forum (See F6).</p>	Short Term	SHFA / DMBC
				<p>Linking with F1, work with key providers to ensure regular testing and inclusion of 3g pitches on the FA register.</p>	Short Term and ongoing	SHFA
				<p>In line with the priorities relating to the review of this strategy, ensure that football needs are continually</p>	ongoing	DMBC / SHFA

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
				updated and that any requirement for new grass pitches is identified and appropriate sites sought.		
F4		<p>Ensure that all clubs have access to facilities of appropriate quality by addressing existing issues that impact player experience at key pitch sites. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pitch maintenance regimes.</li> <li>• Drainage.</li> <li>• Pitch surface improvements</li> <li>• Impact of unofficial / recreational access.</li> </ul> <p>Enhancing quality will also improve capacity of pitches across Doncaster (although it is meeting peak time demand that is currently most important from a capacity perspective).</p> <p>Where clubs require higher grade facilities to enable them to play within a specific league, this should be facilitated.</p> <p>Many existing quality issues at key sites are linked to use of the facilities for both matches and training (particularly where pitches are approaching a poor classification and are therefore unable to take this level of play, notably later in the</p>	<p>Improvements should be supported to those rated as poor or standard in table 8.9 of the assessment report and to sites accommodating pyramid clubs where these are required.</p> <p>Issues exist boroughwide and for all providers, but key priorities are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pitch maintenance - sites at or approaching capacity, particularly where pitches are required on both Saturday and Sunday for matches (see F2). Maintenance procedures at all sites however should be reviewed as specifications are limited across the borough.</li> </ul> <p>Concerns are also raised about maintenance procedures at several</p>	<p>Linking with F2, Regularly review grounds maintenance contracts to ensure specification is achieving required outputs and that maintenance is tailored to club requirements and ground conditions. This should include a review of machinery used and a skills audit, as well as the overall maintenance specification for each pitch. Linking with other recommendations, this may include a review of renting / management agreements and shared responsibility for maintenance.</p> <p>Ensure that regular reviews of the suitability of maintenance arrangements are undertaken throughout the course of this strategy. Consideration should be given to the required specifications and frequencies as well as the quality control mechanisms that are required.</p>	Medium Term and ongoing	DMBC / SHFA
				<p>Support clubs who undertake their own maintenance to review practices and procedures and set a strategy for ongoing improvement. As well as individual reviews, this may include the establishment of a</p>	Short Term and ongoing	

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		season)	<p>clubs / sites, specifically;</p> <p>Communication Specialist College, Armthorpe Miners Welfare, Hickleton Harriers, Crossfields Lane Recreation Ground, Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare, Mexborough Miners Welfare, Tickhill Juniors FC.</p> <p>Several clubs also supplement existing maintenance regimes (including Adwick Park, Anchorage Lane.</p>	<p>scheme designed to support clubs, for example a machinery bank. Consideration should also be given to succession planning, ensure that several representatives of a club (rather than just one or two) are trained in maintenance procedures.</p>		
			<p><b>Drainage</b></p> <p>Communication Specialist College, Parklands Sports and Social Club, Sandall Park, Wicket Hern Road, Queens Drive, Tickhill JFC.</p> <p><b>Pitch Surface</b></p> <p>Hills Lane - uneven patches and levelling, Sheep Dip Lane Recreation Ground - surface, Queens Drive - surface, Hickleton Harriers - surface, Highfields Road -</p>	<p>Support improvements to pitches where these are required through the provision of capital funding and / or preparing / supporting external funding bids to facilitate qualitative improvements. This should link with recommendations for improved maintenance procedures as capital investment will be of limited value if pitch maintenance is not adequate).</p>	<p>Medium Term and ongoing</p>	<p>DMBC / SHFA</p>

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
			<p>uneven surface in parts, Moorends Miners Welfare - surface, Old Road Recreation Ground - pitch surface, The Ruddle Centre - uneven patches.</p> <p>Pyramid clubs - AFC Bentley seeking new changing accommodation, Denaby Main FC seeking new changing accommodation, Denaby United FC perimeter Fencing, Rossington Main FC changing accommodation.</p>	<p>Monitor requirements of clubs as they progress through the football pyramid and support improvements where these are required to maintain / improve position.</p>	<p>Long Term</p>	<p>SHFA</p>
<b>F5</b>		<p>Ensure that the stock of facilities includes appropriate changing accommodation where it is wanted and where it is needed to comply with league regulations.</p> <p>This should include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to full changing accommodation for adult teams if desired (note that some adult teams seek sites with no changing in order to ensure participation remains affordable). This should be considered within the pricing review (F2) as in an ideal scenario, all teams should have access to changing accommodation</li> </ul>	<p>While ideally all sites would include full changing accommodation, it is necessary to ensure that a sustainable approach is taken.</p> <p>Changing facilities should therefore be provided on all multi pitch sites and a minimum of toilets / handwashing facilities on sites serving younger players. Key priorities for improvement therefore</p>		<p>Medium Term</p>	<p>DMBC / SHFA</p>

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to a minimum of toilets and handwashing facilities for younger teams</li> <li>Access to facilities meeting ground grading requirements where appropriate.</li> </ul>	<p>include;</p> <p>Sandall Park, Sheep Dip Lane Recreation Ground (container only), Carcroft Park</p> <p>Sandford Road Rec, Hatfield Woodhouse Recreation Ground, Bentley Colliery - seeking new pavilion, Crossfields Recreation Ground</p> <p>Pyramid clubs - AFC Bentley seeking new changing accommodation, Denaby Main FC seeking new changing accommodation, Denaby United FC perimeter Fencing, Rossington Main FC changing accommodation</p>			
F6		<p>Establish clear routes of communication with pitch users ensuring that all decisions are taken with a full understanding of needs and aspirations and that the volunteer base is both upskilled and continuity plans are in place.</p> <p>Maximise channels of communication by establishing formal forums consisting of key</p>	<p>Boroughwide</p> <p>Should include key clubs in each area and a sample of grass roots senior football teams. A reliance on volunteers (and a series of ageing volunteers) was</p>	<p>Establish a football forum to include all key partners. As well as facilities, these forums should consider football development and roles and responsibilities should be clearly defined, both between SHFA / The FF / Clubs and between with pitch providers.</p>	<p>Short Term and ongoing</p>	<p>SHFA</p>

Recommendation	Sport	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Areas / Clubs	Action	Timescales	Responsibilities
		clubs and league secretaries.	highlighted as a key concern.	<p>Set targets for the football development forum to achieve and monitor progress and challenges arising.</p> <p>The forum should focus upon upskilling volunteers and ensuring continuity planning within clubs. This should include coaching opportunities and awareness and understanding of funding opportunities.</p>		
<b>F7</b>		<p>Retain existing participants and deliver increased participation in line with the national game strategy by developing interventions that seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retain and support the existing affiliated male, female and disability teams.</li> <li>• Boost youth female football.</li> <li>• Increase the number of over 16s playing every week.</li> <li>• Provide innovative programmes and grants to provide a range of playing opportunities in education, clubs, leagues and other community settings.</li> </ul>	Boroughwide	<p>This should be led through the football forum in partnership with the SHFA. Activity may include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting links between junior and senior football clubs to facilitate the transition between junior and senior football.</li> <li>• Provide support to existing and new leagues.</li> <li>• Facilitate development of football across the Borough in a variety of settings.</li> </ul>	Short Term and ongoing	Football Forum / SHFA

**Table 3.2: Headline actions by Site**

Provided as a separate Excel document to support monitoring and update process. See appendix one.

## **Planning Issues**

- 3.6 As well as supporting and guiding proactive improvements to sports facilities across Doncaster MBC, this Sports Playing Pitch Strategy and the associated evidence base provides evidence to guide and support policies within the Local Plan. Specifically, this strategy will provide an evidence base for the emerging Doncaster MBC Local Plan and will also guide requirements for new and improved provision as a result of housing growth.
- 3.7 Planning policy will be a key means of delivering many of the recommendations set out in this section and it is essential that the key principles of this strategy are embraced within emerging policy.
- 3.8 This sub section considers the implications of the strategy for planning specifically in relation to;
- protection and disposal of playing fields; and
  - impact of new developments.

## **Protection and Disposal of Playing Fields**

- 3.9 Analysis set out earlier in this strategy indicates that while there are enough pitches overall in the Borough, there are some pitches that are not up to the standards that are required and some additional capacity is needed for specific clubs. The action plan recommends a series of activities to address capacity issues and to re-establish an effective network of pitches, including;
- negotiation of formal access agreements to school sites;
  - improvements to pitch quality and maintenance procedures;
  - the provision of additional 3g pitches; and
  - creation of extended facilities in a small number of cases.
- 3.10 While the stock of facilities is primarily sufficient, there remain some issues that need to be addressed and as a consequence, the site specific table (3.2) indicates that existing playing field sites should be afforded protection within specific policies in the Local Plan. Pitches should be protected unless it can be proven through local needs analysis or is documented in the site by site action plan that facilities are not required and that qualitative improvements would be of greater local value. The action plan highlights pitches that are part of the rest and recovery programme (to be returned to green space) and those that are not anticipated to play an active role in pitch provision over this strategy period.
- 3.11 There is a need to ensure that policies are flexible and that decisions relating to pitch provision are made in the best interests of both the local community and in sporting activity in the Borough. This is particularly important when considering the replacement of one or more single pitch sites with a large multi pitch venue and or AGP.
- 3.12 Sites should not be considered for disposal where they;
- currently provide more than three pitches;

- offer the potential to provide more than three pitches;
  - are identified as valuable sites within this strategy; and
  - provide an opportunity to meet an identified priority of the strategy.
- 3.13 The loss of any pitches should result in proceeds being reinvested into qualitative improvements and this should be required by policy.

### **Impact of New Development**

- 3.14 The NPPF advises that specific evidence of the need for provision should be provided alongside clarity of what provision is required. The most recent Sport England guidance and advice indicates that local authorities should;
1. develop and maintain a robust and up to date evidence base for sporting provision (this PPS provides a starting point for this)
  2. use the evidence base to;
    - estimate the nature and level of needs that may be generated from new development(s) for sporting provision (this should be informed by the New Development Calculator); and
    - establish clear deliverable actions that have the potential to help meet the needs that will be generated from new development in the area.
  3. based on the nature of the actions, the level of new development in an area, and the realistic ability to secure investment into sport through CIL or planning obligations, decide how best to use the CIL and planning obligations alongside one another to deliver sporting infrastructure and to support development.
  4. where CIL is in place ensure that any sporting provision to be placed on the Reg 123 list is;
    - project specific so it does not unnecessarily restrict the use of planning obligations;
    - focused on high level priority projects of a strategic nature that CIL has potential to deliver rather than a long list of projects that CIL will never be able to fund. This will allow the potential for other projects to be funded by planning obligations; and
    - backed by strong high level officer and political support within the LA so that there is some confidence that CIL funds will be directed to the sporting provision.
  5. Where CIL is not in place, or where the wording of a Reg 123 allows for the use of planning obligations, ensure that;
    - any obligations sought are based on a tailored approach to each development, using the robust evidence base to help with clearly justifying the needs arising and how they are to be met;

- a proactive approach is taken to planning for the use of planning obligations in the context of the current pooling restrictions (i.e. as far as is practical matching contributions to specific projects); and
  - a protocol is devised that ensures S106/CIL contributions are underpinned by evidence relating to potential projects from a playing pitch strategy or sports facility strategy that could help meet the need arising from planned developments in a Local Plan.
- 3.15 Key priorities for the delivery of playing pitches are set out in Tables 3.1 and 3.2. Table 3.1 summarises the actions that are required to ensure that provision meets current and future requirements in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility, while Table 3.2 outlines the action needed at each site.
- 3.16 This Playing Pitch Strategy identifies and outlines the facilities that are needed and the works that are required to ensure that provision continues to meet current and projected future need. Planning obligations should be based upon an understanding of;
- the type of facility needs generated by the development - this should be a local judgement depending, in part, on the population profile of the proposed development;
  - quantified need for facility types - Sport England indicate that although the population of a single development (eg a small site) may not in itself generate the needs for a full facility, it will still generate additional demand which should be quantified and met; and
  - whether the need for the identified facility types can be met by existing facilities.
- 3.17 To support local authorities, Sport England has developed a draft Playing Pitch Calculator which can be used to indicate how much demand will be created by a proposed development and the cost associated with this. Section 3 contains an application of the Sports Development Calculator based upon the most up to date available information relating to housing allocations. The use of the New Development calculator provides a standardised and transparent approach to the collection of developer contributions nationally.
- 3.18 The calculator uses information from the Playing Pitch Strategy to provide an estimate of the demand from the population of new development. It does not take into account the current levels of unmet demand in an area and is therefore used alongside the findings of the Playing Pitch Strategy to determine the impact of the new development. The action plan included within this strategy document should be used to guide decision making relating to the facilities required and / or the improvements required to existing facility stock. In the majority of instances, the amount of participation generated by each new development is likely be insufficient to require complete pitches or to justify the creation of only one or two further pitches. Investment should therefore be directed towards improvements of quality of existing pitches instead (using the strategy as a basis). The strategy document identifies where new pitches are required and new developments should be considered as an opportunity to provide these where appropriate.
- 3.19 The calculator also enables the consideration of likely costs associated with any requirements.

- 3.20 While this strategy document contains an outline application of the new development calculator and a review of the likely implications on the adequacy of the pitch stock, it is the intention that the New Development Calculator should be run on a site specific basis for strategic sites to ensure that requirements are fully understood and provision requirements are tailored.
- 3.21 The application of this calculator should be supported by the Sport England Planning Manager, who will provide the most up to date version of the calculator and support with the interpretation.
- 3.22 It should be noted that The Sports Facility calculator is reliant on the Team Generation Rates calculated as part of the Playing Pitch Assessment (which identify how many people in each age group it takes to make one team). For ease of reference, these are set out in Table 3.3.

**Table 3.3: Team Generation Rates**

Sport and Age Groups	Current TGR
Football Adult Men (16-45yrs)	529
Football Adult Women (16-45yrs)	6941
Football Youth Boys (12-15yrs)	79
Football Youth Girls (12-15yrs)	1117
Football 9v9 Boys (10 and 11 years)	64
Football 9v9 Girls (10 and 11 years)	732
Football Mini 7v7	99
Football Mini 5v5	
Cricket Open Age Mens (18-55yrs)	1194
Cricket Open Age Womens (18-55yrs)	74036
Cricket Junior Boys (7-17yrs)	454
Cricket Junior Girls (7-17yrs)	0
Rugby Union Senior Men (19-45yrs)	3368
Rugby Union Senior Women (19-45yrs)	0
Rugby Union Youth Boys (13-18yrs)	1421
Rugby Union Youth Girls (13-18yrs)	0
Rugby Union Mini/Midi Mixed (7-12yrs)	1329
Rugby League Adult Men (19-45yrs)	12630
Rugby League Adult Women (19-45yrs)	0
Rugby League Youth & Junior Boys (12-18yrs)	1951.74
Rugby League Junior Girls (12-18yrs)	0
Rugby League Primary Mixed (7-11yrs)	3814.67
Hockey Senior Men (16-55yrs)	11048
Hockey Senior Women (16-55yrs)	9667
Hockey Junior Boys (11-15yrs)	2841
Hockey Junior Girls (11-15yrs)	2435

3.23 The above information should be used to inform sports provision and requirements in terms of planning policy and development management consultations for Doncaster MBC.

### **Ensuring the Quality of Pitches**

3.24 When determining the required quality of pitches, it is important to consider;

- the standard of play at the site and expectations of users (including league requirements);
- the demand on the site (the number of games played per week);
- the need to facilitate concurrent usage by young people, women and other;
- target groups through appropriate ancillary facilities; and
- facility specifications from National Governing Body (NGB) strategies.

3.25 Reflecting this, there are several factors integral to the successful delivery of a network of high sports facilities, stating that;

*'Quality depends on two things: the needs and expectations of users, on the one hand, and design, management and maintenance on the other'.*

3.26 To ensure a high quality playing experience, where feasible and practical to do so all pitches in Doncaster MBC should be;

- of a high standard of maintenance, enabling the pitch to be played at least twice per week without detrimental impact and ensuring that sites are clean and attractive facilities - maintenance requirements should be informed by NGB guidance;
- have adequate changing facilities that:
  - are flexible, fit for a variety of purposes;
  - which fully comply with the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act;
  - provide for a number of different groups to use the facility at the same time, in safety and comfort; and
  - meet current standards - Sport England & NGB guidelines.
- managed community access;
- easily accessible by public transport and by car;
- supported by sufficient car parking;
- of a size that ensures pitches and run offs must meet NGB specification;
- located in a no flood zone;
- supported by security of tenure (at least 10 years) if a club is to be based at the site; and
- for rugby clubs in particular, supported by floodlit training facilities.

3.27 Sport England provides detailed guidance on the design of facilities and changing accommodation as follows;

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

and this, alongside specific guidance from relevant Governing Bodies of Sport (The FA / ECB / RFU and England Hockey) should be used as guidance for both new facilities and improvements to existing sites.

3.28 All new sites within the Borough and any modifications to existing facilities should be undertaken in line with this guidance.

3.29 The recommendations set out in Table 3.4 supplement those in Table 3.1 and seek to ensure that the findings of the strategy are directly taken into account within the planning evidence base, as well as to drive participation across the borough. They also seek to maximise the future sustainability of facilities.

### General Recommendations

**Table 3.4: General Recommendations**

<b>General (G1)</b>	<b>All</b>	Ensure that the findings of the PPS and the recommendations and actions are used to inform emerging policy in the local plan.
<b>General (G2)</b>	<b>All</b>	Trial and consider the use of the New Development Calculator on a site by site basis for strategic sites. Liaise with the Sport England Planning Manager on strategic housing sites and discuss opportunities with Sport England to inform wider policy as the opportunity arises.
<b>General (G3)</b>	<b>Hockey, Football, Rugby</b>	Ensure a coordinated approach to the multi-use demand for AGP across the borough. There are requirements for new AGPs to meet the demand for both football and rugby and this should be coordinated through the playing pitch strategy steering group.
<b>General (G4)</b>	<b>All</b>	Continue to support the improvement of health and well-being in the borough through a coordinated partnership approach. The priorities of this document should link with those set out in the Physical Activity Strategy and should inform decision making in the Sport and Physical Activity Delivery pilot.
<b>General (G5)</b>	<b>All</b>	Building upon recent successful changes to the management of bowling greens (with DMBC now working in partnership with the Doncaster and District Bowling Association), continue to explore opportunities for partnership arrangements to provide sport and recreation facilities across the Borough. This may include working alongside Parish Councils and clubs.  Miners Welfare sites also form a key component of the sporting infrastructure of the borough and partnership working will be required to secure the long term sustainability of these sites.
<b>General (G6)</b>	<b>All</b>	Linking with recommendations to drive participation in each individual sport, seek to establish effective means of marketing and promotion of sports facilities across the Borough. This may also link with the Sport and Physical Activity delivery pilot, as well as the priorities of the Physical Activity Strategy.

## 4: Monitoring and Review

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### Monitoring and Review

- 4.1 The implementation of the strategy will be monitored by a working group to meet biannually and it is anticipated that the strategy will be refreshed every five years.
- 4.2 The evolving context of participation in sport and active recreation means that monitoring and review of the strategy is as important as the initial preparation of the document. To keep the strategy alive, it is therefore proposed that;
- the outcomes achieved from site / club specific investment will be monitored against targets established at the outset of the project;
  - quantitative changes to the pitch stock in the Borough will be monitored and recorded through the pitch working group and annual review of participation will be undertaken with support from National Governing Bodies, to identify any key changes to participation trends in the Borough, and the likely implications of these changes for the strategy;
  - a working group (to be organised by Leisure Services) meets biannually to review progress by all key partners on the strategy delivery, identify additional priorities and draw on the data collated as part of the above two actions to ensure the strategy remains relevant and current;
  - all proposals involving changes to pitch provision will be considered by a small working group consisting of representatives of different departments of Doncaster MBC and National Governing Bodies, with links to the development forums to be established (or retained) as part of this strategy;
  - the amount of funding for pitches (gained through S106 agreements) will be monitored by Strategic and Performance Unit; or
  - provision of additional pitches delivered in association with new development is monitored by Planning.

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## Appendix One

PPS ID	Site Name	Address	Cricket Actions	Rugby League Actions	Hockey Actions	Bowls Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions	Monitoring Process - Comments
1	Abbey School Fields	Station Road, Dunscroft, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN7 4EG						Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1) and review role of site as part of wider review into adequacy of provision for Dunscroft	
2	Adwick Park	Church Lane, Adwick-le-Street, Doncaster, DN6 7AN	Protect (C1). Enhance quality of square and address issues of unofficial use. Seek to address lack of changing accommodation (C4). No training nets available (C3)			Protect (BG1). Improvements to playing surface and grass cover. BG3		Protect (F1). Review capacity issues as part of wider review of adequacy of provision for Adwick Park Rangers. Enhance maintenance regime to address capacity issues (F2).	
3	Adwick Upon Dearne Cc	Harlington Road, Adwick upon Dearne, Mexborough, S64 0NN	Former cricket pitch.						
4	Anchorage Lane Recreation Ground	Anchorage Lane, Doncaster, DN5 8DT						Protect (F1). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high usage (F2)	
5	Arksey Park	Station Road, Arksey, Doncaster, DN5 0SU						Protect (F1). No existing activity means site can be returned to green space while other opportunities are reviewed.	
6	Armthorpe Academy	Mere Lane, Armthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 2DA			Protect and retain as sand (H1). Refurbish pitch (H3) as required.		No existing community use. Protect (RU1)	Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1). Review role of site as part of wider review into adequacy of provision for Armthorpe Rovers	
7	Armthorpe Colliery Welfare	Church Street, Armthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 3AD				Protect (BG1). Review potential impact of closure of 1 green. Pavilion works.		Protect (F1). Improve maintenance procedures (F4)	
8	Armthorpe Miners Welfare - Old Cricket Field, Church Street	Church Street, Armthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 3AD	Formerly contained cricket. No evidence that this is currently required					Protect (F1).	
9	Armthorpe Southfield Primary School	TRANMOOR LANE, ARMTHORPE, DONCASTER, DN3 3BN						Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1). Review role of site as part of wider review into adequacy of provision for Armthorpe Rovers	
10	Ash Hill Academy	Ash Hill Road, Hatfield, Doncaster, DN7 6JH					No existing community use. Protect (RU1)	Protect (F1) Secure community use agreement (F1). No existing use but site offers potential to accommodate new club.	
11	Askern Miners Welfare	Manor Way, Askern, Doncaster, DN6 0AP	Protect (C1). Enhance outfield (levelling) and address concerns relating to maintenance procedures (C4). Non turf wicket required (C3)			Protect (BG1). Support club in negotiation of lease (BG2). Improvements to green and pavilion - poor overall condition (BG3)		Protect (F1)	
12	Askern Springs	Chatsworth Crescent, Doncaster, DN5 9JU		Important site for rugby league R1. Protect and seek to enhance RL2.					
13	Askern Town Sports Association	Station Road, Askern, Doncaster, DN6 0JA						No clear evidence of demand for football at current time	
14	Auckley Recreation Ground (Riverside Park)	Ravenswood Drive, Auckley, Doncaster, DN9 3PA						Protect (F1)	

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15	Balby Carr Community Academy	Weston Road, Doncaster, DN4 8ND						Protect (F1). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high levels of use (F2)	
16	Balby Community Sports Village	Springwell Lane, Doncaster, DN4 9DL	See C1. Former Site - review the role of this site in meeting the needs of cricket clubs			No identified requirement for reinstatement			
17	Barnby Dun & Kirk Sandall Sports Association	Doncaster Road, Barnby Dun, Doncaster, DN3 1HQ	Protect (C1). Existing non turf wicket and nets require improvement (C3)					Protect (F1). Review pitch allocation annually to best tailor to needs	
18	Bentley Colliery Football Ground And Cricket Club	102 , The Avenue, Bentley, Doncaster, DN5 0NP	Protect (C1). Existing non turf wicket and nets require improvement (C3). Monitor remaining capacity. Lack of capacity means new training nets/ non turf wicket are a priority. (C2)			Former bowling greens no longer exist at this site		Protect (F1). New pavilion (F5)	
19	Bentley High Street Primary School	35 High St, Bentley, Doncaster DN5 0AA						Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1). Review capacity issues as part of wider review of adequacy of provision for Bentley JFC	
21	Bentley Park, Bentley	Askern Road, Bentley, Doncaster, DN5 0JB				Protect (BG1)		Protect (F1). No existing activity means site can be returned to green space while other opportunities are reviewed.	
22	Bentley Rlfc	Eskdale Drive / Scawthorpe		RL1 (Protect). Review and address capacity issues (RL2). Improve ancillary facilities and invest in ground conditions (RL3)					
23	Bentley Road Recreation Ground	Bentley Road, Doncaster, DN5 9TB		Review potential to provide for rugby league (RL2)				Not currently used for football	
24	Bridon Sports Ground	Cross Bank, Doncaster, DN4 8BE	Former Pitch					No clear requirement for football at current time	
25	Brodsworth Miners Welfare	Welfare Road, Woodlands, Doncaster, DN6 7PP	Protect (C1). Monitor remaining capacity. Lack of capacity means new training nets/ non turf wicket are a priority. (C2)			Protect (BG1). Pavilion works.		Protect (F1). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high levels of use (F2)	
26	Brodsworth Way Playing Fields	Brodsworth Way, Rossington, Doncaster, DN11 0FD						Protect (F1). No existing activity means site can be returned to green space while other opportunities are reviewed.	
27	Broomhouse Lane Recreation Ground (Closed)	Broomhouse Lane, Edlington, Doncaster, DN12 1JF						Not currently used or required for football. Site may offer potential to address capacity issues at Yorkshire Main	
28	Bullcroft Sports & Pastimes Club	Lodge Road, Doncaster, DN6 8EE	Protect (C1). Training nets required (C3). Site may offer opportunities to address capacity issues at other clubs (C2).						
29	Campsmount A Co-Operative Academy	Ryecroft Road, Norton, Doncaster, DN6 9AS					No existing community use. Protect (RU1)	Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	

30	Cantley Park	Aintree Avenue, Doncaster, DN4 6HR	Formerly contained cricket. No evidence that this is currently required					Protect (F1) and ensure existing pitches are retained for club use. Review maintenance procedures to maximise site capacity. Review pitch allocation annually to tailor to club need	
31	Carcroft Park	Chestnut Avenue, Carcroft, Doncaster, DN6 8AG				Protect (BG1)	Protect (RU1). Currently important venue for club rugby. Longer term site is not ideal for club base (public venue). Potential requirement for floodlights (RU4). Club currently investigating relocation	Protect (F1). Provide appropriate ancillary facilities (F5). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high usage	
33	Christopher Faljam Memorial Playing Field (Wadworth)	off Church Road, Wadworth, Doncaster, DN11 9BS	Protect (C1). Training nets / non turf wicket required (C3). Site may offer opportunities to address capacity issues at other clubs (C2). Update pavilion (C4)					Protect (F1)	
34	Church Balk	The Pavillion Church Balk, Edenthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 2PR						Protect (F1). Review capacity issues as part of wider review of adequacy of provision for Edenthorpe FC	
35	Church Lane Recreation Ground	Church Lane, Bamburgh, Doncaster, DN5 7EZ						Site not currently in use for football and is not required to meet current demand	
36	Communication Specialist College - Doncaster	Leger Way, Doncaster, DN2 6AY					No existing community use. Protect (RU1)	Protect (F1). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high levels of use and improve site drainage (F2 and F4)	
37	Conisborough Cricket Club	St Peters Drive	Protect (C1). Monitor remaining capacity. Lack of capacity means off field training nets/ non turf wicket are a priority. (C2)						
38	Conisbrough Welfare	Gardens Lane, Conisbrough, Doncaster, DN12 3JX						Protect (F1)	
39	Coulman Road Recreation Ground	Coulman Street, Thorne, Doncaster, DN8 5JS						Protect (F1). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high levels of use (F2)	
40	Crossfields Lane Recreation Ground	Crossfield Lane, Skellow, Doncaster, DN6 8PN						Protect (F1). Provide appropriate ancillary facilities (F5). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high levels of usage (F2)	
41	De Warenne Academy	Gardens Lane, Conisbrough, Doncaster, DN12 3JY						Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	
42	Denaby Craggs Football Pitch	Wadworth Street, Denaby Main, Doncaster, DN12 4AL						Protect	
43	Denaby Miners Welfare	Tickhill Square, Denaby Main, Doncaster, DN12 4AW				Protect (BG1). Drainage (BG3)		Protect (F1). Improved changing accommodation (F5)	
44	Denaby Old Cricket Field							Protect (F1). Appropriate ancillary provision (F5)	
45	Don Valley Academy	Jossey Lane, Scawthorpe, Doncaster, DN5 9DD						Protect. Seek to establish community use once football pitches are reinstated	

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46	Doncaster College (High Melton) Note This Site Has Since Closed	High Melton, Doncaster, DN5 7SZ						Protect (F1). Seek to establish site as home venue for Sprotborough and Cutworth Crusaders. Any loss of site should see reprovion	
47	Doncaster Road Recreation Ground	Doncaster Road, Mexborough, S64 0HL						Protect (F1). No existing activity means site can be returned to green space while other opportunities are reviewed.	
48	Doncaster Rovers Fc School Of Excellence	off Ascot Avenue, Doncaster, DN4 6HL						F1 Protect	
49	Doncaster Sports Club (Townfields)	Townfields Sports Club, Bennetthorpe	Protect (C1). Training facilities recently provided. Identify second ground (C2). Support improved maintenance		Protect and retain as sand (H1). Refurbish pitch (H2 and H3) and provide training facility (H2).				
50	Doncaster Tollbar Rlfc	Toll Bar, Doncaster DN5 0QN		Protect (RL1). Address drainage and compaction issues (RL3)					
51	Dunsville Quarry Park	Greens Road, Dunsville, Doncaster, DN7 4DF						No clear requirement for football at current time.	
52	Edlington Recreation Ground	Auburn Road, Edlington, Doncaster, DN12 1DW						Football pitches not used this year. Retain potential to reinstate in future years. Potential to support oversupply at Yorkshire Main	
53	Elmfield Park	Roman Road, Doncaster, DN4 5EZ						Protect (F1)	
53	Elmfield Park	Roman Road, Doncaster, DN4 5EZ						Protect (F1)	
53	Elmfield Park	Roman Road, Doncaster, DN4 5EZ						Protect (F1)	
53	Elmfield Park	Roman Road, Doncaster, DN4 5EZ				Protect (BG1). Pavilion and improvements to playing surface (decompaction and overseeding)			
53	Elmfield Park	Roman Road, Doncaster, DN4 5EZ						Protect (F1)	
53	Elmfield Park	Roman Road, Doncaster, DN4 5EZ						Protect (F1)	
54	Fairfield	Athelstane Crescent, Edenthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 2NF						Protect (F1). Potential to provide additional capacity for Edenthorpe JFC	
55	Fishlake Bowling Green	Pinfold Lane, Fishlake, Doncaster, DN7 5LA				Protect (BG1)			
56	Fishlake Cricket Club	Pinfold Lane, Fishlake, Doncaster, DN7 5LA	Protect (C1). Upgrade changing accommodation and pavilion and support club with improvements to maintenance procedures (C4) Non turf wicket and nets identified as priority.						
57	Fishlake Falcons Junior Football Club	PINFOLD LANE, FISHLAKE, DONCASTER, DN7 5LA						Protect (F1). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high levels of use (F2)	
58	Doncaster Rufc - Castle Park	Castle Park Stadium,					Protect (RU1). Retain maintenance schedule. Source temporary training / match play solutions while seeking long term additional capacity through extension to existing site and / or 3g AGP (R3)		

59	Hampole & Skelbrooke Cricket Club	obin Hoods Well, Skelbrooke, Doncaster DN6 8LS	Protect (C1). Provide non turf wicket and nets (C3). Address damage to pitch surface (C4)						
60	Haslam Park, Cantley	Ellers Avenue, Doncaster				Protect (BG1). Pavilion works			
61	Hatfield Main Football Club	Broadway, Dunscroft, Doncaster, DN7 4HD						Protect (F1)	
62	Hatfield Town Cricket Club	Carr Side Lane, DN7 6SD	Protect (C1). Monitor remaining capacity. Lack of capacity means new training nets/ non turf wicket are a priority. (C2). Improve pavilion (C4)						
63	Hatfield Woodhouse Recreation Ground	Slay Pit Lane, Hatfield, Doncaster, DN7 6EX						Protect (F1). Provide appropriate ancillary facilities (F5)	
64	Hexthorpe Flats	Balby, Doncaster, DN4 0NL				Protect (BG1) Short term protection. Bowling green not require if development initiatives are unsuccessful.		Protect (F1)	
65	Hickleton Harriers Junior Football Club	off Hickleton Road, Barnburgh, Doncaster, DN5 7EL						Protect (F1). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high usage. (F2). Improve pitch surface (F4)	
67	Highfields Playing Fields (Adwick Alistars Football Club) - Roman Ridge	GREEN LANE, SCAWTHORPE, DONCASTER, DN5 7UY						Protect (F1). Pitch surface (levelling) F4	
68	Hall Cross Academy	St. Michaels Road, Bessa Carr, Doncaster, DN4 5LU					No existing community use. Protect (RU1)	Protect (F1). Potential for community use	
69	Hills Lane Recreation Ground	Arnthorpe Road, Doncaster, DN2 5PU						Protect (F1). Address quality concerns through levelling (F4). Ensure site is tailored to demand by reviewing pitch allocation annually.	
70	Hooton Pagnell Cricket Club	Gardens Corner, Hooton Pagnell	Protect (C1). Training nets required (C3). Site may offer opportunities to address capacity issues at other clubs (C2). Upgrade pavilion (C4)						
71	Hill House School	SIXTH AVENUE, DONCASTER FINNINGLEY AIRPORT, DONCASTER, DN9 3GG			Protect (H1). Investigate potential for community use (H1)		No existing community use. Protect (RU1)	Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	
72	Jubilee Park	North Ings Lane, Hatfield, Doncaster, DN7 6EG						Protect (F1)	
73	Hungerhill School	Hungerhill Lane, Edenthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 2JY					No existing community use. Protect (RU1)	Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	
74	Keepmoat Stadium	Stadium Way, Doncaster, DN4 5JW		RL1 (Protect)				Protect (F1). Ensure 3g pitches are registered on FA register and regularly tested (F2).	
75	Kilham Lane Playing Field	Kilham Lane, Branton						No clear evidence of requirement to reinstate pitch at current time	
76	King George V Playing Field	Common Lane, Warmsworth, Doncaster, DN4 9JY	Protect (C1). Monitor remaining capacity. Lack of capacity means new training nets/ non turf wicket are a priority. (C2).					Protect (F1). Heavy use of site means that maintenance procedures are particularly important	
76	King George V Playing Field	Common Lane, Warmsworth, Doncaster, DN4 9JY	Protect (F1). Heavy use of site means that maintenance procedures are particularly important						



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92	Owston Park Primary School	Lodge Road, Skellow, Doncaster, DN6 8PU					Potential to provide for rugby union		
93	Parklands Sports & Social Club	Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, DN2 4LT	Protect (C1). Support club with machinery improvements and address uneven patches on outfield (C4).			Protect (BG1)		Protect (F1). Improve drainage (F4)	
93	Parklands Sports & Social Club	Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, DN2 4LT	Protect (F1). Improve drainage (F4)						
93	Parklands Sports & Social Club	Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, DN2 4LT	Protect (F1). Improve drainage (F4)						
94	Pheasant Bank Academy	W End Ln, New Rossington, Doncaster DN11 0PQ						Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	
95	Pilkington Recreation Club	off Doncaster Road, Kirk Sandall				Protect (BG1). Support club in negotiation of lease (BG2)			
96	Queens Drive	Queens Drive, Doncaster, DN5 9QJ						Protect (F1). Pitch improvements - drainage and surface levelling (F4)	
97	Richmond Hill Primary Academy	MELTON ROAD, SPROT BROUGH, DONCASTER, DN5 7SB						Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	
98	Ridgewood School	Scawsby, Doncaster, DN5 7UB					No existing community use. Protect (RU1)	Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1). Potential to use as club home base	
99	Rossington Community Sports Village	Bond Street, New Rossington, Doncaster, DN11 0BZ						Protect (F1). Review maintenance to ensure site can accommodate high levels of usage	Protect and ensure site is regularly tested to enable inclusion on FA register
100	Rossington Main Fc	Oxford Street, New Rossington, Doncaster, DN11 0TE					Protect (RU1). Improve maintenance to enhance capacity (RU2). Provide additional floodlights (RU3)	Protect (F1). Enhance changing facilities	
101	Rossington Miners Welfare Scheme	West End Lane, New Rossington, Doncaster, DN11 0DU	Protect (C1). Monitor remaining capacity. Lack of capacity means new training nets/ non turf wicket are a priority. (C2). Improve pavilion (C4)			Protect (BG1). Review potential impact of closure of 1 green (BG2)		Protect (F1).	
102	Ruddle Centre / Braithwell Playing Fields	19, BIRCHWOOD GARDENS, BRAITHWELL, ROTHERHAM, S66 7BT	Protect (F1). Improve playing surface through levelling (F4)						
102	Ruddle Centre / Braithwell Playing Fields	19, BIRCHWOOD GARDENS, BRAITHWELL, ROTHERHAM, S66 7BT	Protect (F1). Improve playing surface through levelling (F4)						
102	Ruddle Centre / Braithwell Playing Fields	19, BIRCHWOOD GARDENS, BRAITHWELL, ROTHERHAM, S66 7BT						Protect (F1). Improve playing surface through levelling (F4)	
103	Ryecroft Road Recreation Ground	Ryecroft Road, Norton, Doncaster, DN6 9DW						Protect (F1). Improve maintenance regimes to ensure site can cope with high usage (F2)	
104	Sandall Park	Barnby Dun Road, Doncaster, DN2 4QL	Formerly contained cricket. No evidence that this is currently required					Protect (F1). Provide appropriate ancillary facilities (F4).	
105	Sandford Road Recreation Ground	Sandford Road, Doncaster, DN4 8DU						Protect (F1). Improve drainage (F4) and provide appropriate ancillary facilities (F4). Ensure site is tailored to demand by reviewing pitch allocation annually.	
106	Shaw Wood School, Mere Lane	Mere Lane, Armthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 2DG						Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	
106	Shaw Wood School, Mere Lane	Mere Lane, Armthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 2DG	Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)						

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107	Sheep Dip Lane Recreation Ground	Sheep Dip Lane, Dunscroft, Doncaster, DN7 4BG						Protect (F1). Improve ancillary facilities (F5) and invest in levelling to improve pitch surface (F4). Review capacity issues as part of wider review into adequacy of pitch provision for Dunscroft Welfare	
108	Sir Thomas Wharton Community College	Tait Avenue, Edlington, Doncaster, DN12 1HH						Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	
109	Sprotbrough Cricket Club		Protect (C1). Monitor remaining capacity. Lack of capacity means new training nets/ non turf wicket are a priority. (C2). Support maintenance improvements (C4)						
111	St Joseph And St Teresas Catholic Primary School	Doncaster Lane, Woodlands, Doncaster, DN6 7QN						Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	
112	Stainforth Miners Welfare	Off Oldfield Lane, Stainforth, Doncaster, DN7 5ND	See C1. Former Site - review the role of this site in meeting the needs of cricket clubs			Formerly contained two greens. No identified requirement for reinstatement		Protect (F1)	
113	Straight Mile	Sandal Beat Road Leger Way, Doncaster, DN2 6HQ	Formerly contained cricket. No evidence that this is currently required				Potential to provide for Doncaster RUFC	Protect (F1). Potential for further play but no ancillary facilities	
114	Sykehouse Recreation Ground	Broad Lane, Sykehouse, Goole, DN14 9AY	Protect (C1). Training nets / non turf wicket required (C3). Site may offer opportunities to address capacity issues at other clubs (C2). Upgrade pavilion (C4)					Football pitches not used this year. Retain potential to reinstate in future years	
115	The Hayfield School	Hurst Lane, Auckley, Doncaster, DN9 3HG					No existing community use. Protect (RU1)	Protect (F1). Review opportunities for extension to existing site and / or 3g pitch. (F2)	
116	Thomensians Rufc	Church Balk, Thorne, Doncaster, DN8 5BY					Protect (RU1). Improve maintenance to enhance capacity and seek to further address issues through investigating site extension / access to additional pitches and or use of AGP (RU2 and RU3). Deliver improvements to changing accommodation (RU2)		
117	Thorpe Marsh Power Station	Precipitator Road, Bamby Dun, Doncaster	Review the role of site in meeting the needs of cricket clubs. No clear evidence of demand						
118	Tickhill Bowls Club	Tithes Lane, Tickhill, Doncaster, DN11 9QN				Protect (BG1)			
119	Tickhill Cricket Club	Alderson Drive, Tickhill	Protect (C1). New training nets / non turf wicket requires refurbishment (C3). Upgrade pavilion (C4)						
120	Tickhill Juniors Football Club	Friars Hill, Tickhill, Doncaster, DN11 9RE						Protect (F1). Seek to improve maintenance procedures and enhance drainage (F2 and F4)	
121	Tickhill Recreation Ground	Tithes Lane, Tickhill, Doncaster, DN11 9QN						Protect (F1)	
122	Toll Bar Recreation Ground	Kirton Lane, Thorne, Doncaster, DN8 5RE						Protect (F1)	

123	Town Field Recreation Ground	Town Fields, Doncaster, DN1 2JQ					No existing community use. No clear evidence of current demand for rugby union	Protect (F1). Potential to provide additional pitches. Would benefit from qualitative improvement (drainage and pitch surface levelling)	
124	Trinity Academy	Church Balk, Thorne, Doncaster, DN8 5BY			Existing sand based pitch. Currently used for hockey but not required to meet long term hockey needs.		Protect (RU1). Currently important venue for club rugby. Longer term site is not ideal for club base (lack of Sunday access) but facilities should be protected	Protect (F1). Secure community use agreement (F1)	
125	Warren House Park	GREEN LANE, INSTONEVILLE, DONCASTER, DN6 0PS						Protect (F1). May benefit from improvement to existing equipment (posts etc)	
126	Wath Road Park	Wath Road, Mexborough, S64 9EX						Not currently required for formal football	
127	Westfield Park Balby	Littlemoor Lane				Protect (BG1). Pavilion and improvements to playing surface (decompaction and overseeding)			
128	Wheatley Hills Rfuc						Protect (RU1). Improve maintenance to enhance capacity (RU2). Provide additional floodlights (RU3)		
129	Wicket Hern Road Recreation Ground	Wickett Hern Road, Armthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 3SS						Protect (F1). Improve drainage (F4). Consider role of site as part of wider review into adequacy of provision for Armthorpe Rovers	
130	Woodlands Park	109 , THE PARK, WOODLANDS, DONCASTER, DN6 7RH				Protect (BG1)		Protect (F1). No existing activity means site can be returned to green space while other opportunities are reviewed.	
131	Wyke Gate Park	Wike Gate Road, Thorne, Doncaster, DN8 5PQ						Protect (F1). No existing activity means site can be returned to green space while other opportunities are reviewed.	
132	Wyndthorpe Hall Bowling Green, Dunscroft					Protect (BG1). Support club in negotiation of lease (BG2)			
133	Yorkshire Main Miners Welfare	Edlington Lane, Edlington, Doncaster, DN12 1DA	Protect (C1). Training nets / non turf wicket required (C3). Upgrade pavilion and address damage to surface (C4)			Protect (BG1). Review potential impact of closure of 1 green (BG2) Pavilion works (BG3)		Protect (F1). Review capacity issues as part of wider review of adequacy of provision for site including potential for 3g (F2). Seek to improve maintenance procedures (F2 and F4)	