
REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	AGENDA ITEM: 10
DATE OF MEETING:	4th OCTOBER, 2018	CATEGORY: DELEGATED/ RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	ALLISON THOMAS STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (SERVICE DELIVERY)	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	HANNAH PEATE, 595973, hannah.peate@south-derbys.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: HCS07

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 To approve the adoption and implementation of the updated Playing Pitch Strategy for the District.
- 1.2 To inform the Committee of the Football Association (FA) Parklife Hub Project.
- 1.3 To inform the Committee of the Local Football Facility Plan.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 The report outlines the key findings and recommendations of the Playing Pitch Strategy and seeks approval to adopt the Strategy.
- 2.2 To inform the Committee of the FA Parklife Hub Project and the Local Football Facility Plan.

3.0 Executive Summary

- 3.1 A Playing Pitch Strategy has been produced to provide a strategic framework for pitch sports across the District and to provide an objective assessment of need for:
 - identifying priorities for investment and action
 - guiding long term planning policy and decisions
 - supporting applications for external funding
- 3.2 The full Playing Pitch Strategy documents are attached via the link here:-
<https://www.south-derbys.gov.uk/assets/attach/5144/PPS%20strategy.pdf>

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 In order to plan effectively for the future provision of outdoor sports facilities and to develop a forward plan for improvements to current facilities, consultants Knight Kavanagh

and Page were commissioned to produce a Playing Pitch Strategy for South Derbyshire. This work has been conducted alongside Derby City Council to ensure it accounts for and reflects the substantial housing growth happening in both the north of South Derbyshire and to the south of Derby City.

4.2 The Playing Pitch Strategy work consists of three elements: A Playing Pitch Assessment Report, A Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan and a Growth Zone Report.

4.3 The Strategy will be an effective tool in helping to protect existing pitches in the District which are threatened by development and provides an excellent strategic evidence base to support applications for external funding for facility improvement projects.

4.4 The sports covered by the Strategy are Football; Cricket; Rugby Union; outdoor Tennis; Bowls (crown green and flat green), Hockey and outdoor Netball.

4.5 In preparing the Strategy, the following tasks were undertaken:

- Audit of all existing pitches in the District cataloguing location, condition and accessibility.
- Identifying clubs and teams and predicting future demand in reference to club development, housing and population growth.
- Establishing aggregate home games per week, total number of pitches required and peak demand for games by location and assessing Team Generation Rates (TGR's).
- Consulting with all sports clubs to assess the current situation in terms of, teams, development plans and to establish challenges and issues they currently face. Parish Councils and other partners were also offered the opportunity to feed into the process.
- Undertaking a study of the national trends in each sport, and consulting with National Governing Bodies also took place.
- Dividing the District into five sub-areas to help assess supply and demand and plan for the future on a more local level.
- Establishing a project Steering Group led by the consultants and comprising local authorities, Sport England and the relevant National Governing Bodies that has worked closely to ensure the Strategy and Assessment Reports are as accurate as possible.

4.6 Relevant Council Services including Planning Services, Direct Services, Cultural Services, Community Services and the Sport and Health Team have all fed into this piece of work.

4.7 Key Assessment Report Findings per Sport

Within the assessment report the community usage, management, security of tenure, pitch type, number of pitches and size, quality rating along with current play and site capacity and its balance are identified for each site / sport.

The tables in section 10 Appendices (10.1) to the report show the main summary from the assessment reports for each sport.

4.8 Key Recommendations

Within the Strategy and Action Plan there are tables listing each project and identifying the recommendations for each site, the priority, potential timescale and cost bracket.

The overarching recommendations of the strategy include:

- a) Protecting playing field sites through local planning policy
- b) Securing tenure and access to sites for high quality, development-minded clubs through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.

- c) Maximising community use of education sites where there is a need to do so
- d) Improving quality
- e) Adopting a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) for the management and improvement of sites.
- f) Working in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding
- g) Rectifying quantitative shortfalls in the current pitch stock
- h) Identifying opportunities to add to the overall pitch stock to accommodate both current and future demand.

The recommendations for each sport can be found in section 10.2 of the Appendices.

4.9 Growth Zone Report

This additional report focuses on the growth between South Derbyshire and Derby City, which will see significant housing growth through to 2028. It will be used in conjunction with the Assessment Report, Strategy and Action Plan.

This inter-related region of growth is known as the Derby Growth Zone (DGZ), reflecting the meeting of Derby City housing need within South Derbyshire District as an urban extension. For the purposes of the PPS, the local planning authorities for both Derby City Council (DCC) and South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) agree that the DGZ should be considered as spanning the following ward areas:

Table A.2: Local ward areas which form the Derby Growth Zone

Local authority	
Derby	South Derbyshire
Blagreaves	Aston
Boulton	Etwall
Chellaston	Stenson
Littleover	Willington and Findern
Sinfin	

The report highlights key development sites and subject to their size identifies the future outdoor pitch requirements across the Growth Zone. The key recommendations within the Growth Zone are:

- Use the recommendations and scenarios within the report and the accompanying PPS to inform optimal facility mix and design where onsite development of new sports facilities are planned.
- Ensure that where new pitch or ancillary provision is to be developed, that the facilities meet national governing body specifications where possible.
- Explore opportunities to secure Section 106 funding to use as match funding in order to help secure partnership funding and further enhance potential and opportunities for development through capital investment
- Ensure that any new facilities or investment is able to evidence a case for sustainability. The respective Councils report preference not to take on management of additional playing field assets and as such there may be opportunities for Community Asset Transfer or to secure tenure through long-term leasehold for clubs, leagues or community associations deemed able to realistically manage such a facility.
- Where Section 106 contributions may be used towards the improvement of facilities not primarily driven towards community sport (such as schools), secure community use access through the planning process, for example in the form of a Community Use Agreements (CUA).

4.10 The FA Parklife Programme

The FA, the Premier League and Sport England (along with the Football Foundation together commonly referred to as 'the Football stakeholders') have developed the Parklife Football Hubs Programme to target areas where pressures on the local game are greatest. The aim of the programme is to create a sustainable model for football facilities based around artificial grass pitches on hub sites. The fund will provide significant new investment into local, accessible facilities. It differs from traditional football investment streams as the funding partners are keen to see a portfolio approach that provides an area-wide solution, rather than a one-off site investment. The programme is fully detailed within Part 2: Football.

To be eligible for the programme local authorities must have a qualifying population of at least 200,000 people, however, those with a lesser population are able to adopt a partnership approach with neighbouring authorities to qualify. Following an expression of interest submitted by Derby City Council in partnership with Derbyshire FA and Derby County Football Club (and supported by SDDC) in January 2017, Derby City Council has successfully been progressed to develop an application within the second of a three-stage funding process for the Parklife programme. The PPS findings will help inform the Derby Parklife journey, given the creation of new football hubs may be located accessible to residents near to the Derby border and would likely lead to some import of demand from South Derbyshire to the City to access hub provision.

4.11 Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

The Local Football Facility Plans are being conducted in a range of phases across England; Derbyshire is in Tranche 1 meaning that this is currently underway. The FA, in partnership with the Premier League and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), is committed to making a major investment in local football facilities over the next 10 years. To inform and direct this investment Knight, Kavanagh & Page (KKP) has been commissioned to produce a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) for each local authority in England.

LFFPs are a key priority in the National Football Facility Strategy which aims to increase football participation by delivering across the Country:

- 1000 new 3G Artificial Grass Pitches
- 1000 new pavilions (supporting key multi-pitch grass sites)
- 20,000 improved natural turf pitches
- New or improved access to better indoor and outdoor spaces for social and recreational football

LFFPs will establish a ten-year vision for football facilities that aims to transform the playing pitch stock in a sustainable way. They will identify priority projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. It is estimated that 90% of all national football investment (FA, Premier League and DCMS) in South Derbyshire will be identified via the LFFP.

Various colleagues and partners are involved in bringing this piece of work together on behalf of the District and across Derbyshire.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 The resources required for delivering the capital elements of the action plan will be sought largely through external grant funding. Opportunities exist within current and future planning obligations to secure funding for capital investment, either through Section 106 contributions, through on-site provision or as a contribution to off-site provision.
- 5.2 Additionally, the action to continue to improve working relationships with clubs and other partners could have a positive impact on revenue costs, with a sharing of resources and responsibilities.
- 5.3 Consultation will take place with the relevant parties on a project-by-project basis.
- 5.4 This Strategy offers an opportunity to review and revise current maintenance and management obligations which could lead to efficiency savings in terms of actual management costs and resources.

6 Corporate Implications

- 6.1 This area of work supports the delivery all key themes of the Corporate Plan: People, Place and Progress.
- 6.2 Legal implications – any projects that are led by the District Council will be managed on a project-by-project basis, involving all relevant Services at the early planning stage.
- 6.3 Employment Implications – There are no direct employment implications from this piece of work, officer time from a range of Services is required to ensure that the Strategy is delivered and achieves the best outcomes for South Derbyshire in this area of work.
- 6.4 The Strategy, once adopted, will be communicated to the Sports Clubs, Parish Councils and other relevant partners and the wider public. It will be a public document, which will outline the Council's vision for outdoor pitch provision and will provide the evidence base for such negotiations on Section 106 agreements.
- 6.5 The Strategy will also support the delivery of the Council's Open Space, Sport and Community Facility Strategy which was adopted in 2016, and the Recreation, Sport and Recreation Strategy adopted in summer 2017-2022.

7 Community Implications

- 7.1 This Strategy can make positive contributions to all key themes within the Sustainable Community Strategy- Children and Young People, Healthier Communities, Safer and Stronger Communities and Sustainable Development.
- 7.2 The Strategy aims for all residents to have access to good quality playing pitches for outdoor sports facilities across South Derbyshire. This will be achieved by working with clubs and community groups, parish councils, governing bodies and other relevant partners on a local level.

8 Conclusions

8.1 The strategy adoption will mean that The Council can work to ensure current need and future demands of the District are met. Whilst taking account of our significant growth, and supporting the aspirations of local clubs, parish councils and partners being met.

9 Background Papers

9.1 The following documents that support this report are available through the following link: <https://www.south-derbys.gov.uk/assets/attach/5144/PPS%20strategy.pdf>

Playing Pitch Assessment Report
Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan
Growth Zone Report

10 Appendices

10.1 The key assessment summaries which are highlighted in the PPS Assessment Report by Sport can be found below-

Football – grass pitch summary

- ◀ **Current and future supply of football pitch provision can sufficiently accommodate demand in South Derbyshire across all pitch types apart from youth 11v11 which becomes marginally overplayed when accounting for future demand.**
- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 80 grass football pitches across 42 sites in South Derbyshire, with 76 pitches across 41 sites identified as being available for community use on some level, whilst four pitches at one site (Granville Academy) are unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Most community available football provision is split between North Analysis Area (31% or 24 pitches) and Central Analysis Area (30% or 23 pitches). The least amount is located in the North-East Analysis Area with just four (6%) community available pitches.
- ◀ Hilton Harriers, Edgehill and Gresley football clubs all have aspirations to create new provision.
- ◀ The pitch quality ratings determined through a combination of non-technical assessments and user feedback show most (67%) pitches available for community use are rated as standard quality, with 26% rated as good and only six pitches as poor, equating to just 7%.
- ◀ Five existing sites in South Derbyshire have received a Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP) assessment. (Church Gresley Indoor Bowling Centre, Stapenhill Football Club, The Mease Pavilion and Woodville Recreation Ground and Woodhouse Recreation Ground).
- ◀ South Derbyshire District Council manages and operates six football pitch sites, five of which are accompanied by changing provisions.
- ◀ Through consultation, clubs indicate that the following sites do not have adequate car parking facilities; Broomhills Lane Playing Field (Repton), Newhall Park and Melbourne Sports Park.
- ◀ Woodville Rangers Football Club (FC) reports aspirations to acquire a long-term lease of a site in order to assist in increasing participation.
- ◀ In total there are 154 teams identified as playing competitive football matches within South Derbyshire. This consists of 40 men's teams, one women's team, 66 youth boys' teams, four youth girls' teams and 43 mini soccer teams.
- ◀ Due to the popularity of the Burton Junior Football League and its use of central venues there are substantial amounts of imported and exported demand in South Derbyshire.
- ◀ Including both Team Generation Rates (TGRs) and club aspirations the total amount of future demand across South Derbyshire equates to four match equivalent sessions on adult pitches, 5.5 match equivalent sessions on youth 11v11 pitch type and one match equivalent session on mini 7versus7 pitches.
- ◀ There are 20.5 match equivalent sessions per week of actual spare capacity (i.e. at peak time) located across 18 sites on 21 pitches. Any spare capacity at unsecured sites has been discounted from any totals as the long-term existence of those pitches cannot be relied upon in the future.
- ◀ Overplay on football pitches in South Derbyshire amounts to 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week over four pitches (across four sites), all of which are located on adult pitch types.

Cricket summary

- ◀ **There is insufficient supply of cricket provision to cater for current and future demand. Though demand can presently be accommodated within four of the five Analysis Areas, there is a significant shortfall within the North Area.**
- ◀ **Anticipated growth in the number of senior teams in other areas can be accommodated; however future senior growth exacerbates shortfalls to include the South Area.**
- ◀ **Key issues for cricket in South Derbyshire extend beyond capacity, with several clubs subject to issues regarding security of tenure.**
- ◀ In total, there are 20 grass cricket squares in South Derbyshire located across 15 sites. All grass squares, apart from the one located at Derby Grammar School Grass Pitches, are available for community use.
- ◀ The grass cricket squares that are available for community use are located mainly in the North Analysis Area which hosts six (30%) followed by the North East with five (25%) and North with four (20%) squares. The Central Analysis Area has the least amount of cricket provision within South Derbyshire with two (10%).
- ◀ In total, there are nine non-turf pitches (NTPs) in South Derbyshire. Of which, four are located accompanying natural turf squares at club sites and five are stand-alone based at school sites. The most amount of NTP provision is located in the Central Analysis Area with three followed by two in the North-West area and one each in the North-East and South areas.
- ◀ Derby Grammar School is seeking to develop a new natural turf cricket pitch at Prince Charles Avenue in Mackworth (Derby) in conjunction with Mickleover Cricket Club (CC), with a view to the Club also using the site given its nearby location.
- ◀ Pitch quality ratings determined by non-technical quality assessments and user feedback found an even split between good and standard quality squares each with ten grass cricket squares each. No squares in South Derbyshire reported to be poor quality; however, some clubs report issues regarding their playing provision.
- ◀ There is a need to secure long-term tenure for Elvaston CC and Hilton CC as their leases are due to expire within the medium-term.
- ◀ Etwall CC reports that changing provision is of poor quality and in need of improvement and modernisation, whilst Elvaston CC has plans to develop new permanent social provision in replacement of the existing temporary structure it presently uses.
- ◀ There is no Last Man Stands league operating in South Derbyshire, with some teams playing within the nearby league hosted in Derby. There is, however, a short format pub league offer run by Lullington Park CC aimed as an entry level into club cricket, which has seen several new players transition into club cricket this season.
- ◀ There are 38 senior cricket teams and 45 junior teams playing competitive matches in South Derbyshire as shown above, totalling 83 cricket teams playing in the District.
- ◀ Melbourne CC presently exports demand of one senior team to access provision in Derby due to a lack of capacity in the locality, whilst Trentside CC imports demand from South Derbyshire to play at Lullington Park CC for the same reasons.
- ◀ There are three sites which have available capacity at senior peak time (Saturday) equating to 1.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There are two sites in South Derbyshire considered to be overplayed by a total of 46 match equivalent sessions per season, most significantly The Grange (Ticknall Recreation Ground) which accounts for 41 of these match sessions per season.

Rugby union summary

- ◀ **Current supply is not sufficient to cater for the level of demand expressed in South Derbyshire at present, totalling a need for a further 4.75 match equivalent sessions on senior pitches. This is further exacerbated to create a future requirement for 7.25 match equivalent sessions.**
- ◀ In total, there are five rugby union pitches in South Derbyshire across four sites, all of which are senior sized. There are no dedicated mini or junior pitches. Four of the five pitches are available for community use in some capacity.
- ◀ At present, there is no World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in South Derbyshire, with the nearest being located at the University of Derby, Kedleston Road campus and Derby Rugby Football Club (RFC). Melbourne RFC does access the latter site as a key club in the Local Rugby Partnership guaranteeing use of the pitch for the foreseeable future.
- ◀ Both the Central and North-East analysis areas have 40% of the supply of natural turf rugby union provision, with the remaining 20% being located in the North Analysis Area. Neither the North-West nor South areas have any supply.
- ◀ The majority of pitches available for community use are rated as poor quality (four pitches or 80%). The remaining pitch is rated as good quality.
- ◀ There is only one rugby union club in South Derbyshire, Melbourne RFC, providing 16 teams.
- ◀ Melbourne RFC is considered to have security of tenure via a lease agreement that Melbourne Sports Partnership has from the Council.
- ◀ None of the Club's training demand takes place on match pitches due to the poor drainage of the floodlit pitch. As an alternative the Club utilises a dedicated floodlit training area for mid-week training.
- ◀ Ancillary facilities at Melbourne Sports Park are considered to be good quality although there is an issue with the amount of parking available on site.
- ◀ TGRs when applied on an Analysis Area basis forecast the growth of one junior boys' team and a mini team, both located in the North East Analysis Area.
- ◀ There are three pitches across two sites which are overplayed totalling 4.75 match equivalent sessions.

Netball summary

- ◀ **Priority should be placed on improving court quality in order to sustain usage and supporting the growth of the Burton and District Netball League.**
- ◀ **In addition, consideration should be given to increasing the amount of England Netball initiatives such as Back to Netball and Walking Netball.**
- ◀ There are 21 netball courts located across eight sites.
- ◀ Of the courts, eight are assessed as good quality, seven are assessed as standard quality and six assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ The only floodlit courts are located at John Port Spencer Academy (Etwall Leisure Centre) and Melbourne Sports Park.
- ◀ There are six clubs operating in South Derbyshire which are South Derbyshire Juniors, Etwall Lions, Hilton Juniors, Seven Belles, Eureka Park and Central Ladies netball clubs.
- ◀ The Burton and District Netball League frequently use Eureka Park, John Port Spencer Academy (Etwall Leisure Centre) Maurice Lea Memorial Park, The Pingle Academy and Repton School Sports Centre competitive fixtures.
- ◀ There are also a range of recreational netball opportunities in South Derbyshire.

Hockey summary

- ◀ **The current supply of hockey suitable Artificial Grass Pitches (AGP's) is considered sufficient to accommodate the current level of hockey demand for both at peak-time and training requirements. Through greater use of the second AGP onsite, there is also considered to be sufficient capacity available to accommodate Repton Hockey Club (HC) aspirations for growth.**
- ◀ **Both AGPs are in excess of the recommended surface lifespan and should be considered for resurfacing in the short-term subject to condition for match play.**
- ◀ **There is a key need to formally secure future use of the site for the Club amidst priority School use in order for the two to continue to work and grow hockey participation together. The relationship between Club and School is very important to sustain, both with regards to access to facilities and the School acting as a key signpost to the Club which has subsequently seen junior growth accelerate.**
- ◀ There are currently two full sized, floodlit, community available hockey suitable AGPs in South Derbyshire, of which one is sand based and the other water based. It should be noted that the sand dressed AGP is marked as a full sized hockey pitch, whereas, the full sized water based AGP is marked as two junior pitches.
- ◀ There are two small sized hockey suitable AGPs which are available for community use, one each in the North and North-West Analysis Areas, these are located at Foremarke Hall Repton Preparatory School and Bloomfield Close, Hilton (Black Lane Recreation Ground), respectively.
- ◀ Team generation rates based exclusively on future population change, applied District wide, forecast two new additional teams to be generated, one each at the Junior Boys and Junior Girls. When applied on an Analysis Area basis both these teams are projected to be located in the North area.
- ◀ Repton School owns and manages both full sized hockey suitable AGPs in South Derbyshire. Repton HC has unsecure tenure at the site as no formal community use agreement is in place, however, the Club is closely linked to the School and in practice it reports no issues regarding its current arrangement.
- ◀ Repton HC has 17 teams and around 302 members in total, all of which play and train in South Derbyshire.

Tennis summary

- ◀ **There is sufficient supply of tennis courts in South Derbyshire to meet current demand apart from at Melbourne Sports Park which is currently overplayed.**
- ◀ **As such Melbourne Tennis Club (TC) requires access to additional court capacity to support its aspirations to develop additional court provision on site.**
- ◀ There is a total of 45 tennis courts identified in South Derbyshire located across 12 sites, of which, 38 or 85% are as considered to be available for community use. The majority of courts are located in the North Analysis Area which hosts 14 courts (37%) in contrast the North-East Analysis Area has the least provision with only three available courts (8%).
- ◀ Of available court provision, 24 courts (63%) are assessed as good quality, eight courts (21%) are assessed as standard quality and six courts (16%) are assessed as poor quality. Most of the courts are located at club-managed sites (45%).
- ◀ All TC's in South Derbyshire have access to floodlit courts.
- ◀ Melbourne TC is working with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to secure funding to create three additional courts at Melbourne Sports Park.
- ◀ Of the clubs which responded to consultation, there is a total of 336 senior members and 189 junior members in South Derbyshire
- ◀ In total South Derbyshire has an aspirational future club demand of 99 senior and 76 junior members.
- ◀ All remaining courts are deemed to have spare capacity; focus should be on improving quality to an adequate standard for informal play, particularly at publicly available sites that are assessed as poor or standard quality.

3G pitches summary

- ◀ **In conclusion, based on the FA Affiliated Team Training Model there is sufficient supply of full sized 3rd Generation (3G) pitches to meet current demand, however forecasted future demand increases highlight a future shortfall of one full sized 3G pitch in the Central Area.**
- ◀ **Key priority should be on the refurbishment of the pitch at The Pingle Academy and the eventual recertification of both pitches in the District to ensure they are still usable as central venues.**
- ◀ There are two full sized 3G pitches in South Derbyshire, both of which have floodlighting and are available for community use.
- ◀ There is one small sized 3G pitch at Melbourne Sport Park (North-East Area) which is also floodlit and available for community use.
- ◀ The two full sized 3G pitches at John Port Spencer Academy (Etwall Leisure Centre) and The Pingle Academy are FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football- The English interpretation is-International Federation of Association Football) and FA certified respectively, therefore, are both compliant for use for competitive matches.
- ◀ The Pingle Academy has had FA certification temporarily extended until the end of the 2017/18 in light of a pending Football Foundation application for funding for refurbishment.
- ◀ The full sized 3G pitch at John Port Spencer Academy (Etwall Leisure Centre) is rated as standard quality, whereas the pitch at The Pingle Academy is poor quality, mainly due to the age of the surface. The surface now exceeds the recommended surface lifespan and should be considered for resurfacing, with the School awaiting the forthcoming outcome of a funding application to allow it to do so over summer 2018.
- ◀ The pitch located at John Port Spencer Academy (Etwall Leisure Centre) is accessed for a total of five hours by imported clubs whereas the pitch at The Pingle Academy is accessed for three hours.
- ◀ Due to its location on the border with East Staffordshire, the 3G pitch at Robert Sutton Catholic School is widely used by South Derbyshire based clubs for training as it is easily accessible.
- ◀ Derbyshire FA reports that the 3G surface at Robert Sutton Catholic School is now poor quality and highlights that given the volume of community use the pitch accommodates, should it become unusable it would impact significantly on users who would require access to facilities elsewhere.
- ◀ Of the 12 clubs that stated a demand for additional training facilities, ten specifically stated a need for increased use of 3G pitches.
- ◀ There are 141 teams that require access to train once per week on floodlit 3G surface. When applied on an analysis area level, this equates to the need for three full-sized 3G pitches to service this level of training demand. At present, there are two available full-sized 3G pitches across the District. Therefore, there is a shortfall of one full sized 3G pitch to meet training demand for football.

Bowls summary

- ◀ **Current supply of bowling greens is sufficient to cater for current and future demand.**
- ◀ There are four flat bowling greens in South Derbyshire, located at four sites. There are also 13 crown bowling greens, across 13 sites.
- ◀ There are no multiple green sites in South Derbyshire.
- ◀ There is one disused green, located at Woodville Bowls Club (BC).
- ◀ Non-technical site assessments and club feedback indicate that eight greens in South Derbyshire are good quality; one is standard quality and four are poor.
- ◀ Four clubs in the District cannot be considered to have security of tenure due to either having an annual rental agreement or because a lease agreement has less than three years to run.
- ◀ Four sites are considered to be over played, however, the level of over play at these sites is minimal and can be accommodated at its current level provided that pitch quality is monitored and maintenance levels remain high.
- ◀ Future demand expressed by Kings Newton BC will further exacerbate over play at the Club's home venue. However, there is sufficient capacity within the District to accommodate this.
- ◀ Consideration should be given to the long-term sustainability of greens at Melbourne BC and Willington BC as both sites cater for low levels of membership.

11.1 The key recommendations highlighted in the PPS Strategy and Action Plan by Sport can be found below:

The following recommendations have been made for each sport following the assessments of pitches and feedback from a range of partners including clubs, parish councils and national governing bodies.

Recommendations – grass

- ◀ Existing quantity of football pitches to be protected, except for where low value/single pitch sites are considered suitable and feasible to be lost for development on the condition that re-provision of playing field land elsewhere represents a preferable and greater benefit to sport.
- ◀ Where pitches are over played and rated as standard or poor quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality.
- ◀ Where clubs are found to be undertaking additional maintenance to sustain and improve quality at sites where they have tenancy but not security of tenure, support where possible, including potential maintenance equipment and onsite storage to facilitate. This may however require a need to secure exclusive use of the Club in question, if only through self-management or license agreement where sites are designated public open space.
- ◀ Look to utilise spare capacity expressed on sites in order to cater for existing and future demand including over play. This may require improvements to pitch quality and is explored on a site by site basis within the accompanying action plan.
- ◀ Consider potential and feasibility for asset transfer or long-term leasehold to clubs which express interest and are considered realistically able to sustain and maintain sporting provision as required, allowing for greater opportunities to access external funding streams for facility development.
- ◀ Seek to increase use of 3G pitches in order to increase capacity available to address future shortfalls and review impact on grass pitches as part of the PPS Annual Review.
- ◀ Determine sites with key qualitative issues which may benefit most from technical assessment and a composed bespoke programme of works through the FA (PIP).
- ◀ Improve, provide and increase access to changing facilities which serve grass football pitches. Ensure any works ensure suitability for female and disability access to facilitate increased formats of football.
- ◀ Seek to secure community use through formal agreement and/or the planning process should there be development of new football pitch provision.
- ◀ Ensure suitable and non-hazardous line marking paint is the District-wide standard for instatement of pitches and that no pitches are marked by burning lines into the surface using chemicals, negatively impacting on playability increasing potential to cause injury.
- ◀ Ensure adequate provision for increased demand generated by housing developments, secured through appropriately calculated developer contributions.
- ◀ The FA and County FAs to work closely with the Burton Junior Football League and the Council to manage the impact of summer football on grass pitches and develop a planned approach to summer use and remediation of football provision.
- ◀ Utilise the PPS in conjunction with the emerging South Derbyshire Local Football Facilities Plan to further explore how the improvement of formal football provision primarily for affiliated play can also help service local demand for recreational and informal football where appropriate.

Recommendations – 3G pitches

- ◀ Resurface the 3G pitch at The Pingle Academy as a priority to ensure suitable quality for use and retention on the FA register for competitive football.
- ◀ Ensure current supply is maintained regularly and rigorously as required to ensure continued quality for use and ensure they are of sufficient quality to pass performance standing testing or certification renewal.
- ◀ Retain all certified 3G pitches on the respective sporting registers and ensure certification of each is renewed through performance standard testing so to maintain the level of 3G capacity available to accommodate demand from different sports.
- ◀ Should Derby City Council continue to pursue and deliver Parklife Football Hubs, most particularly one in the South of the City, establish any subsequent effect and migration from South Derbyshire residents (including the Derby Growth Zone) through the PPS delivery, update and monitoring process known as Stage E.
- ◀ Should any new 3G pitches be built, seek to secure access through usage agreements where possible as a condition of partnership investment or planning conditions.
- ◀ Should any new 3G pitches be built, ensure they are constructed to required specifications and to meet FA, Rugby Football League and Rugby Football Union recommendations rather than minimum dimensions where land footprint allows, so to maximise opportunities for use for all formats of competitive play dependant on relevant funding becoming available.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have a mechanism in place which ensures the long-term sustainability of provision, such as an adequate sinking fund for repairs or resurfacing formed over time.
- ◀ Through the creation of any new full sized 3G pitches, consider options to deliver a wide variety of football and rugby union opportunities, including new formats of competitive football such as central venue midweek flexi and Vets leagues, as well as walking football and female development centres.
- ◀ Utilise the PPS in conjunction with the emerging South Derbyshire Local Football Facilities Plan to further explore how the improvement of formal football provision primarily for affiliated play can also help service local demand for recreational and informal football where appropriate.

Recommendations – cricket

- ◀ Existing quantity of cricket pitches to be protected.
- ◀ Support clubs such as Etwell CC and Elvaston CC with aspirations to improve and extend ancillary provision including access to external funding opportunities where possible and available.
- ◀ Maintain and improve pitch quality through rigorous and regular maintenance, remedial and preparatory work, ensuring that clubs have sufficient access to the required equipment in order to do so.
- ◀ Work with clubs and leagues towards permitting use of Non-Turf Pitch NTP's for matches beyond U11 age cricket and seek to make greater use of NTP's to alleviate overuse at club sites.
- ◀ Deliver the new All Stars Cricket and women and girls programmes and seek to increase junior and female participation as a result.
- ◀ Consider opportunities to increase NTP's provision in parks and public spaces should recreational and short format demand be identified.
- ◀ Support the ambition of Ticknall CC to develop Burton Road Recreation Ground (Woodville), encouraging the Club to continue to utilise the site as a secondary venue.
- ◀ Explore options to provide clubs currently with unsecure tenure with long-term lease or community use agreements, providing security of tenure.

Recommendations – rugby union

- ◀ Existing quantity of rugby union pitches to be protected or mitigated/re-provided suitably meeting National Planning Policy where proposed for or at risk of loss.
- ◀ Continue to support the Clubs' use and access to the new World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at Derby RFC (Derby City), with the Club being a key club within the Local Rugby Partnership.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality through improved and more regular maintenance and remedial work. Install pipe drainage system to increase pitch quality and capacity.
- ◀ Renegotiate the existing lease agreement at Chellaston Academy in Derby well in advance of its expiry in 2024.
- ◀ Encourage midweek training demand to continue to take place on a dedicated, floodlit, training area away from match pitches.
- ◀ Consider establishing a third pitch on site, which will be a maximum of junior size, given the site limitations. Doing so would transfer some junior demand away from the two senior pitches onsite as well as from Chellaston Academy (Derby) which is evidenced as being overplayed and presents shortfalls within the Derby PPS deriving from South Derbyshire based demand.
- ◀ Seek to sustain changing provision quality at Melbourne Sports Park, ensuring that there are sufficient changing facilities to serve all pitches available on site.

Recommendations – hockey

- ◀ Retain all full sized hockey suitable AGPs as hockey suitable surfaces.
- ◀ Resurface both AGPs at Repton School as a key priority, to be retained as a hockey suitable surfaces, in the coming years as both are beyond recommended lifespans.
- ◀ Establish opportunities to access additional capacity for hockey should any new hockey suitable AGPs be created. Should this happen, seek to secure community use for hockey through formal usage agreements.
- ◀ Seek to maximise capacity freed up from anticipated transfer of football training demand to 3G pitches in order to grow hockey participation.
- ◀ Increase participation driven through community clubs and schools.
- ◀ Secure increased access to midweek and non-peak time capacity to allow for both growth in training demand and development and delivery of alternative hockey formats, such as short format matches/leagues and less formal participation based sessions.
- ◀ Maintain AGPs regularly and to the standard required to preserve quality for performance. Monitor quality and rate of natural deterioration and seek resurfacing when required so not to impact on hockey use.
- ◀ Encourage providers to put in place a mechanism for sustainability such as a sinking fund, (formed by periodically setting aside money over time ready for surface repair or replacement when required) in place to maintain AGP pitch quality in the long-term.
- ◀ Undertake further consultation and exploration of school aspirations for the creation of an indoor hockey facility at Repton School.

Recommendations – bowls

- ◀ Develop bowls participation in the District through greater engagement with the 15 clubs.
- ◀ Explore providing/renewing lease agreements with the four clubs currently without security of tenure, provided that each club meets minimum membership numbers for sustainability.
- ◀ Monitor membership numbers at Melbourne BC and Willington BC to ensure the long-term sustainability of these greens.
- ◀ Continue to assess the quality of bowling greens, ensuring that continued overplay at specific sites does not adversely affect green quality.

Recommendations – tennis

- ◀ Develop tennis participation in the District through greater engagement with the five South Derbyshire tennis clubs.
- ◀ Seek to sustain the high quality of the majority of courts in the District, whilst concurrently seeking to increase the quality of standard and poor courts via improved maintenance and/or resurfacing.
- ◀ Continue to support Melbourne TC with securing funding to create three additional courts at Melbourne Sports Park.
- ◀ Continue to encourage informal play at public sites by improving the quality of poor and standard courts.

Recommendations – netball

- ◀ Encourage netball participation in the District through greater engagement and collaborative work with the District's six clubs.
- ◀ Seek to improve the quality of standard and poor quality courts to encourage netball participation.
- ◀ Support the Burton and District Netball League in securing long-term lease agreements/security of access in respect of the sites used in South Derbyshire.
- ◀ Support the clubs with access to suitable venues.
- ◀ Continue to support recreational formats of the sport that engage people in physical activity, signposting to club activity if participant's aspirations demand.