



WOLVERHAMPTON

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

DRAFT ASSESSMENT REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2015

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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GLOSSARY

AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
NGB	National Governing Body
FA	Football Association
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
RFU	Rugby Football Union
S106	Section 106
FIT	Fields in Trust
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
FE	Further Education
HE	Higher Education
TGR	Team Generation Rate

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This is the Playing Pitch Assessment Report prepared by Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for Wolverhampton Council and its partners.

This report presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch facilities in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy. It has been followed to develop a clear picture of the balance between the local supply of, and demand for, playing pitches and other outdoor sports facilities.

The guidance details a stepped approach to developing a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS). These steps are separated into five distinct sections:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (Step 1)
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision (Steps 2 & 3)
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views (Steps 4, 5 & 6)
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the strategy (Steps 7 & 8)
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date (Steps 9 & 10)

Stages A to C are covered in this report.

Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach

Why the PPS is being developed

As outlined by the Council in the preparation stages the study aims to revise the previous Playing Pitch Strategy undertaken in 2011 with a view to guiding future provision and management of the sports pitch provision in the City in the context of national and local sports development policy. Specifically the Strategy should contribute to:

- ◀ Improving health and wellbeing of the residents of the City through participation in pitch sports.
- ◀ Providing a sound evidence base for any future planning decisions around playing pitches.
- ◀ Providing a sound evidence base for and contributing to future planning policy
- ◀ Provide evidence for any internal and external funding, including developer contributions from new development.
- ◀ Manage and enable decision making around leases for sports clubs.
- ◀ Understand potential shortfalls in provision across the defined areas of the study.

Key objectives

The Strategy will seek to:

- ◀ Gather information relating to the supply of pitches through an audit of all playing pitches in the local authority area, and outside where appropriate, including those not currently in community use.
- ◀ Consultation on demand and quality with relevant parties using an appropriate mix of consultation methods including postal questionnaires, telephone interviews, face to face meetings and focus groups. The intended audience will be clubs, schools,

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leagues, County/regional officers, local authority colleagues, Sport England and any other relevant providers of sports pitches.

- ◀ Assessment of quality on all sites as defined by Active Places Power (including Education sites)
- ◀ Gathering and processing information at ward level with subsequent amalgamation into sub area data (see above for sub areas).
- ◀ Analysis of the findings of the study to provide a picture of current and future provision based on need, demand and level of provision (three years and 15 years).
- ◀ Development of policy options which are informed by modelling and interpretation of results.
- ◀ Clear recommendations and action plans broken down by sport and sub area.
- ◀ Explore the role that AGPs could play in facilitating match play within the City.

Agreed scope

The following types of outdoor sports facilities were agreed by the steering group for inclusion in the Assessment and Strategy:

- ◀ Football pitches
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches
- ◀ Rugby league pitches
- ◀ Hockey/artificial grass pitches (AGPs)
- ◀ Athletics
- ◀ Bowling greens
- ◀ Tennis/netball courts
- ◀ Cycling facilities

Management arrangements

A Project Team from the Council has worked with KKP to ensure that all relevant information is readily available and to support the consultants as necessary to ensure that project stages and milestones are delivered on time, within the cost envelope and to the required quality standard to meet Sport England methodology.

Further to this, the Steering Group is and has been responsible for the direction of the PPS from a strategic perspective and for supporting, checking and challenging the work of the project team. The Steering Group is made up of representatives from Wolverhampton City Council, Sport England and NGBs.

It will be important for the Steering Group to continue once the PPS has been finalised for several reasons, including a continuing responsibility to:

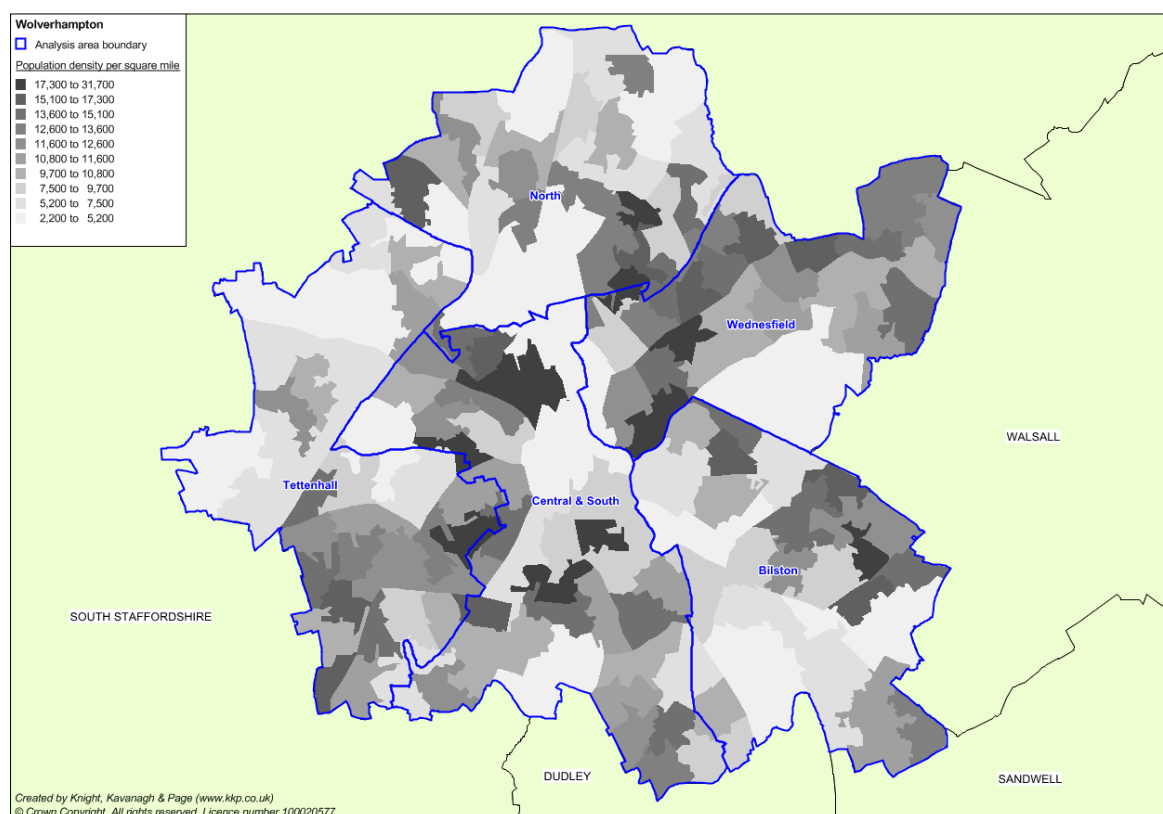
- ◀ Be a champion for playing pitch provision in the area and promote the value and importance of the PPS.
- ◀ Ensure implementation of the PPS's recommendations and action plan.
- ◀ Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the PPS.
- ◀ Ensure that the PPS is kept up to date and refreshed.

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Study area

The study area covered by the PPS is the Wolverhampton City Council boundary. Further to this sub areas or analysis areas have been created to allow a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch surplus and deficiencies at a local level. Use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. Wolverhampton is divided into the following five analysis areas:

- ◀ Bilston
- ◀ Central & South
- ◀ North
- ◀ Tettenhall
- ◀ Wednesfield



NB: A number of pitches that fall just outside of the Wolverhampton City boundaries have also been included in the analysis as they form part of the supply that services Wolverhampton residents. This also allows for cross boundary issues to be highlighted and potential for co-ordinated working with neighbouring authorities. These issues are explored within the sport by sport sections.

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Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision

It is essential that a PPS is based on the most accurate and up-to-date information available for the supply of and demand for playing pitches. This section provides details about how this information has been gathered in Wolverhampton.

Gather supply information and views – an audit of playing pitches

PPS guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field. These definitions are set out by the Government in the 2010 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order'.¹

- ◀ **Playing pitch** – a delineated area which is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.
- ◀ **Playing field** – the whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch.

This PPS counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply. The definition of a playing pitch also includes artificial grass pitches (AGPs).

Quantity

All playing pitches in existence, summer 2015, are included irrespective of ownership, management and use. Playing pitch sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web based database. The Council and NGBs supported the process by checking and updating this initial data. This was also verified against club information supplied by local leagues. For each site the following details were recorded in the project database (which will be supplied as an electronic file):

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location
- ◀ Ownership and management type
- ◀ Security of tenure
- ◀ Total number, type and quality of pitches

Accessibility

Not all pitches offer the same level of access to the community. The ownership and accessibility of playing pitches also influences their actual availability for community use. Each site is assigned a level of community use as follows:

- ◀ **Community use** - pitches in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ◀ **Available but unused** - pitches that are available for hire but are not currently used by teams which play in community leagues; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire.
- ◀ **No community use** - pitches which as a matter of policy or practice are not available for hire or used by teams playing in community leagues. This should include professional club pitches along with some semi-professional club pitches, where play is restricted to the first or second team.

¹ www.sportengland.org>Facilities and Planning> Planning Applications

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Quality

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

It is not just the quality of the pitch itself which has an effect on its capacity but also the quality, standard and range of ancillary facilities. The quality of both the pitch and ancillary facilities will determine whether a pitch is able to contribute to meeting demand from various groups and for different levels and types of play.

The quality of all pitches identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed regardless of ownership, management or availability. Along with capturing any details specific to the individual pitches and sites, a quality rating is recorded within the audit for each pitch.

These ratings are used to help estimate the capacity of each pitch to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

Non-technical assessments using the templates provided within the Sport England guidance and as determined by NGBs were used by KKP's in house site researcher to carry out site assessments. Visits were carried out within the playing season for each sport. Users and providers were also consulted on the quality, and in some instances the quality rating was adjusted to reflect this.

Gather demand information and views

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for playing pitches (i.e. recording how and when pitches are used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment. Demand for playing pitches in Wolverhampton tends to fall within the following categories:

- ◀ Organised competitive play
- ◀ Organised training
- ◀ Informal play

In addition, unmet and displaced demand for provision is also identified on a sport by sport basis. Unmet demand is defined as the number of additional teams that could be fielded if access to a sufficient number of pitches (and ancillary facilities) was available. Displaced demand refers to teams that are generated from residents of the area but due to any number of factors do not currently play within the area.

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPS to assess whether the future demand for playing pitches can be met. Using population projections, and proposed housing growth (if available), an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for playing pitches.

The resident population in Wolverhampton is recorded as 251,557 (these are the ONS 2013 mid-year estimates). By 2037, the population is projected to increase to 273,325 (ONS 2012-based projections 2012-2037).

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Team generation rates are used to provide an indication of how many people it may take to generate a team (by gender and age group), in order to help estimate the change in demand for pitch sports that may arise from any population change in the study area.

Future demand for pitches is calculated by adding the percentage increases, to the ONS population increases in each analysis area. This figure is then applied to the TGRs and is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

Other information sources that were used to help identify future demand include:

- ◀ Recent trends in the participation in playing pitch sports.
- ◀ The nature of the current and likely future population and their propensity to participate in pitch sports.
- ◀ Feedback from pitch sports clubs on their plans to develop additional teams.
- ◀ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets (e.g. increase in participation).

Current and future demand for playing pitches is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

A variety of consultation methods were used to collate demand information about leagues, clubs, county associations and national/regional governing bodies of sport. Face to face consultation was carried out with key clubs from each sport. This allowed for the collection of detailed demand information and an exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed.

For data analysis purposes an online survey was utilised. This was sent to all clubs not covered by face to face consultation.

A variety of consultation methods were used to collate information about leagues, clubs, county associations and national/regional governing bodies of sport. These were as follows:

Consultation summary - methods and response rates

Sport	Total number of clubs	No. of responding clubs	Response rate	Methods of consultation
Football clubs	105	57	49%	Face to Face, Online Survey
Football teams	274	189	69%	
Cricket clubs	8	8	100%	Face to Face, Online Survey
Rugby union clubs	1	1	100%	Online Survey
Rugby league clubs	2	-	-	-
Hockey clubs	3	3	100%	Online Survey
Tennis clubs	7	7	100%	Online Survey
Bowls clubs	19	14	74%	Online Survey
Universities	1	1	100%	Telephone
Colleges	1	1	100%	Face to Face
Secondary schools	17	15	88%	Face to Face
Independent schools	3	2	67%	Face to Face

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Sport	Total number of clubs	No. of responding clubs	Response rate	Methods of consultation
Primary schools	74	51	69%	Online Survey
Special schools	3	3	100%	Online Survey

Local sports development officers, county associations and regional governing body officers advised which of the clubs to include in the face to face consultation. Sport England was also included within the consultation process prior to the project commencing. Issues identified by clubs returning questionnaires were followed up by telephone or face to face interviews.

Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views

Supply and demand information gathered within Section B was used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision in Wolverhampton. It focused on how much use each site could potentially accommodate (on an area by area basis) compared to how much use is currently taking place.

Understand the situation at individual sites

Qualitative pitch ratings are linked to a pitch capacity rating derived from NGB guidance and tailored to suit a local area. The quality and use of each pitch is assessed against the recommended pitch capacity to indicate how many match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket) a pitch could accommodate.

This is compared to the number of matches actually taking place and categorised as follows, to identify:

Potential spare capacity: Play is below the level the site could sustain.	
At capacity: Play is at a level the site can sustain.	
Overused: Play exceeds the level the site can sustain.	

Develop the current picture of provision

Once capacity is determined on a site by site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated on an area by area basis via further interrogation of temporal demand. Although this may have been identified, it does not necessarily mean that there is surplus provision. For example, spare capacity may not be available when it is needed or the site may be retained in a 'strategic reserve' to enable pitch rotation to reduce wear and tear.

Capacity ratings assist in the identification of sites for improvement/development, rationalisation, decommissioning and disposal.

Develop the future picture of provision - scenario testing

Modelling scenarios to assess whether existing provision can cater for unmet, displaced and future demand is made after the capacity analysis. This will also include, for example, removing sites with unsecured community use to demonstrate the impact this would have if these sites were to be decommissioned in the future.

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Identify the key findings and issues

By completing Steps 1-5 it is possible to identify several findings and issues relating to the supply, demand and adequacy of playing pitch provision in Wolverhampton. This report seeks to identify and present the key findings and issues, which should now be checked, challenged and agreed by the Steering Group prior to development of the Strategy (Section D).

The following sections summarise the local administration of the main grass pitch sports in Wolverhampton. Each provides a quantitative summary of provision and a map showing the distribution of facilities. It also provides information about the availability of facilities to/for the local community and, the governing body of each sport and regional strategic plan (where they exist). Local league details are provided in order to outline the competitive structure for each sport. The findings of club consultation and key issues for each sport are summarised.

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PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

Staffordshire FA and the Birmingham FA are the primary organisations responsible for the development (and some elements of administration) of football in Wolverhampton. They are also responsible for the administration, in terms of discipline, rules and regulations, cup competitions and representative matches, development of clubs and facilities, volunteers, referees, coaching courses and delivering national football schemes.

This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches. Part 3 captures supply and demand for 3G artificial grass pitches (AGPs). In the future it is anticipated that there will be a growing demand to use AGPs for competitive fixtures, especially to accommodate mini and youth football.

Consultation

In addition to face to face consultation with key football clubs, an electronic survey was sent to all clubs playing in Wolverhampton. Contact details were provided by the City Council, Staffordshire FA and Birmingham FA and the invitation to complete the survey was distributed via email. Returns were received from 57 clubs; equating to a club response rate of 49% and a team response rate of 69%. The Bilston Partnership Youth League was also consulted and a number of clubs were interviewed on a face to face basis. There were:

- ◀ AFC Wulfrunians
- ◀ Bilston Town FC
- ◀ NPV Football Academy FC
- ◀ Old Wulfrunians FC
- ◀ Penn Colts FC
- ◀ Springvale Steelers Academy FC
- ◀ Wednesfield FC
- ◀ Wolverhampton Olympic FC

The results of consultation are used to inform key issues within this section of the report.

2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a current total of 172 grass football pitches within Wolverhampton across 83 sites. Of these, 129 are available, at some level, for community use (presented in Table 2.1). Figure 2.1 identifies all grass football pitches within Wolverhampton regardless of community use (see Table 2.9 for the key to the map).

Table 2.1: Summary of grass football pitches available to the community

Analysis area	Available for community use					Totals
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Bilston	12	2	2	1	2	19
Central & South	9	2	-	3	-	14
North	16	1	8	2	1	28
Tettenhall	27	1	5	2	1	36
Wednesfield	18	3	8	2	1	32
Wolverhampton	82	9	23	10	5	129

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Table 2.1 identifies a large number of adult pitches in Wolverhampton when compared to other pitch sizes; this reflects the area as the majority of teams use adult pitches. It should be noted, however, that many youth 11v11 teams are playing on adult pitches, which part because of the lack of youth 11v11 pitches rather than a preference to use the full sized venues. In total, 57 youth 11v11 teams currently use adult pitches for home matches in Wolverhampton; this is not considered to be ideal for youth players and is not in line with the FA Youth Review.

The following sites contain adult pitches that are used solely by youth 11v11 teams and would, thus, as a starting point be ideal locations to offer youth 11v11 pitch provision:

- ◀ Bilston C of E Primary School
- ◀ Dixon Street Playing Fields
- ◀ East Park Primary School
- ◀ Heath Town Park
- ◀ Highfields Secondary School
- ◀ Northwood Park
- ◀ Tettenhall Upper Green
- ◀ The Kings CE High School

The FA's recommended pitch sizes can be seen in the table below:

Age Grouping	Type	Recommended size without run off		Recommended size including run off		Recommended size of goal posts	
		Length x width (yards)		Length x width (yards)		Height x width (ft)	
U7/U8	5v5	40	30	46	36	6	12
U9/U10	7v7	60	40	66	46	6	12
U11/U12	9v9	80	50	86	56	7	16
U13/U14	11v11	90	55	96	61	7	21
U15/U16	11v11	100	60	106	66	8	24
U17/U18	11v11	110	70	116	76	8	24
Over 18	11v11	110	70	116	76	8	24

Source: The FA Guide to Pitch and Goalpost Dimensions

Additional supply

Pitches located at Old Wulfrunians AFC and Castlecroft Stadium have been included within this section of the report. Although located just outside the Wolverhampton boundary, they service and are leased by clubs (AFC Wulfrunians and Old Wulfrunians FC) which consider themselves to be Wolverhampton based. Pitches located at Wolverhampton Casuals have also been included for the same reason.

Old Wulfrunians AFC's ground contains two adult, two 9v9, one 7v7 and one 5v5 pitch, whilst Castlecroft Stadium has one (stadia) adult pitch. Wolverhampton Casuals venue accommodates one adult and one youth 11v11 pitch.

All pitches attached to Highfields Secondary School have also been included within this section of the report, despite the fact that one of the School's five adult pitches, plus its 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 pitches are located just outside the Wolverhampton boundary. They are used exclusively by Penn Colts FC.

Future supply

A new site is being developed at Barnhurst Lane which will provide adult, youth and mini football pitches and a combined total of nine pitches. This site is to be managed by Aldersley High School, which sits adjacent to the land, and all pitches will be available to the community. They are expected to be available before 2016, although use will initially

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be limited in order to protect quality. There is an expectation that due to the quality of the new pitches there will be some migration in to the Area from teams that would not ordinarily access pitches in that area.

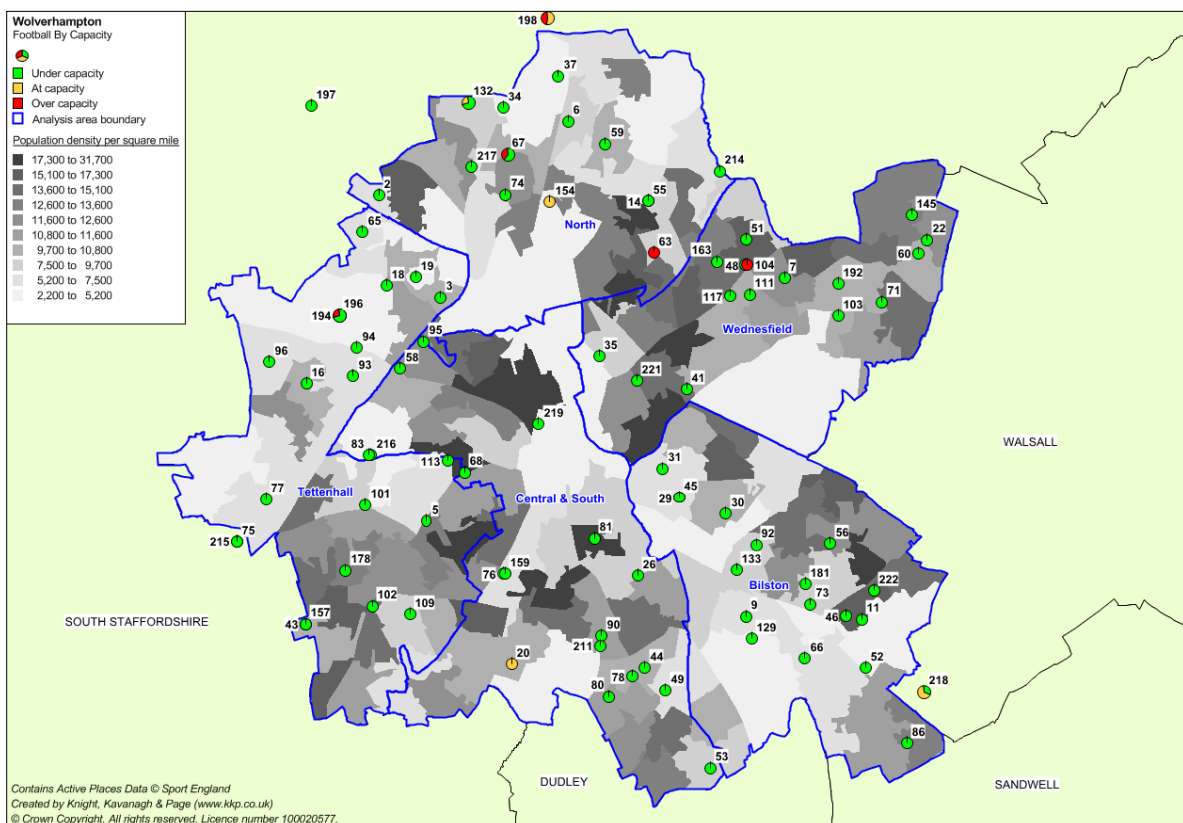
In addition, one new adult pitch is to be created at St Edmunds Catholic Academy as drainage work has been completed on land which previously had flooding issues. Subject to quality, the School hopes to allow community use of this pitch; something which was not, until now, considered to be feasible. The new pitch is expected to be in use at the beginning of 2016.

Our Lady's & St Chads College will be re-instated with a 9v9 pitch following the completion of the building work and provision of the 3G pitch. At the site will be; one full size 3G, one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9.

Following redevelopment of an adjacent piece of land to St Luke's Primary there will be an additional youth football pitch on site which will be available for community use.

Two youth pitches are also currently being created at Colman Avenue open space in the Wednesfield Analysis Area

Figure 2.1: Location of all football pitches in Wolverhampton mapped by capacity



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Pitch quality

The quality of football pitches in Wolverhampton has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by The FA) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain levels of use. It is likely that pitches which receive little to no ongoing repair or post-season remedial work will be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games able to take place each week without a detrimental effect on quality. Conversely, well maintained pitches which are tended to regularly are likely to be of a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

Private sites (e.g. sports clubs) typically offer better quality facilities than Council parks/ playing fields and school pitches. In general, such sports clubs tend to have dedicated ground staff or volunteers working on pitches and the fact that they are often secured by fencing prevents unofficial use. Maintenance of Council sites tends to be less frequent and unofficial use of these sites can further exacerbate quality issues.

The percentage parameters used to 'score' non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (50-80%), Poor (<50%). The final quality ratings assigned to the sites also take into account the user quality ratings gathered from consultation.

The table below summarises the quality of pitches that are available for community use. In total, 26 are assessed as good quality, 90 as standard and 13 are deemed to be poor.

Table 2.2: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)

Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
13	65	4	11	17	4	2	8	5

Pitches located outside the Wolverhampton boundary included within this section of the report are assessed as standard quality, with the exception of Castlecroft Stadium, which is assessed as good. Sites containing poor quality pitches are as follows:

- ◀ Bee Lane Playing Fields
- ◀ Colton Hills High School
- ◀ Danescourt Road Sports Club
- ◀ Long Knowle Primary School
- ◀ Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College
- ◀ Royal Wolverhampton (junior) School
- ◀ Wodnesfield Primary School
- ◀ Westcroft Sports College

NB: It is expected that the quality of the grass pitches at Our Lady & St Chads College will improve now that the 3G is complete as demand will move to the 3G and there will be less usage of the grass pitch.

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The majority of poor quality pitches are located within school sites, whereby the norm is for them to receive a basic level of maintenance that is restricted to grass cutting and seeding, with budgets generally limiting any further level of upkeep. Overall, 5% of adult pitches are poor quality, whilst 80% are standard and 15% are good. For youth pitches, 11% are poor, 57% - standard quality and 34% - good. For mini pitches, 25% are rated poor quality, 65% - standard and 10% - good.

In terms of clubs, 42% rate quality on their home ground as good, 37% rate it as standard and 21% as poor. Additionally, 16% of clubs indicate that pitch quality has improved when compared to last season, whilst 21% of clubs indicate that it has worsened. The remainder (63%) report no difference. Worsening pitch quality is generally attributed to a mixture of exceptionally wet winters that impact upon the frequency of maintenance regimes and inadequate drainage. To highlight this, of the clubs which report worsening pitch quality, 85% rate the drainage on their pitches as poor.

The table below highlights comments from pitch users at some of the sites:

Table 2.3: Site specific comments

Site	Comments
Ashmore Park	Essington WMC FC report that these are the best Council-owned pitches in Wolverhampton, however, it also states that changing rooms are needed.
Bantock Park	Whitmore Reans FC suggests that that maintenance and drainage is poor. The site is also reported to be sloped.
Bellamy Lane Playing Fields	Wednesfield Town FC report that more pitches could be marked out which would help the Club alleviate overplay on other pitches.
Compton Park	Wolverhampton Wanderers FC cite that more space is required so that more pitches can be provided. No quality issues were reported.
East Park	Wednesfield Pheasant FC suggests that it is poorly maintained and in need of rolling and spiking. The playing surface is very 'bobbly'.
Fowlers Park	Codhall Athletics FC report that the grass is not cut sufficiently regularly during the season and not maintained at all in the off season. This has led to the Club playing outside Wolverhampton.
Old Wulfrunians AFC	Drainage is poor on the mini pitches. Although the Site is private, preventing unofficial use is difficult.
Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College	The youth 11v11 pitch is considered too small for older age groups. High amounts of leaf fall and litter are present.
Royal Wolverhampton (Junior) School	The School reports poor drainage on the two mini 7v7 pitches.
South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy	Springvale Steelers FC state that grass cuttings are always left on the pitch.
Wednesfield High School	Wolverhampton Schools FA reports that, whilst pitches are good quality, they are overused. Changing rooms need improvement.
Windsor Playing Fields	Penn Rovers FC reports unofficial use and dog fouling to be a major issue.
Wolverhampton Cricket Club	Both Wolverhampton Cricket Club and Wolverhampton Olympic FC cite drainage issues on the adult pitch. More pitches could be marked out if drainage improved.

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Over marked pitches

Over marking can cause notable damage to surface quality and lead to use that is beyond recommended capacity (overuse). In some cases mini and/or youth pitches are marked onto senior pitches or mini matches are played widthways across adult or youth pitches. This can lead to targeted areas of surface damage because of the large volume of play focused on high traffic areas, particularly the middle third of pitches. Over marking not only influences available capacity, it may also cause logistical issues in respect of kick off times; for example, when two teams of differing age formats are due to play at the same site at the same time.

A number of football pitches in Wolverhampton are marked onto or overlapping cricket outfields, which can create availability issues at multi-sport sites as the cricket season begins in April when the football season is still ongoing and the football season begins in August as cricket fixtures are still being played. This is a case in point at Springvale Sports & Social Club, Wolverhampton Cricket Club and Fordhouses Cricket Club.

Ancillary facilities

Changing facilities are generally viewed as being either good or adequate by clubs with 40% rating provision as good and a further 40% rating it as standard. The remaining 20% of clubs rate changing facilities as being of poor quality.

Clubs response to changing facility quality:

Good	Standard	Poor
40%	40%	20%

The majority of facilities described as poor by users are dated, small and do not provide sufficient rooms/space in relation to the number of pitches on site. Facilities that received a poor rating from clubs are all located at Council owned sites; they are as follows:

- ◀ Bantock Park
- ◀ East Park
- ◀ Fowlers Park
- ◀ Windsor Avenue Playing Fields.

Some sites do not provide changing provision at all and, as a consequence, the pitches are not accessible to adult teams that require facilities to comply with league rules. Ashmore Park and Dixon Street Playing Fields are examples of multi-pitch venues containing adult pitches which do not provide changing facilities.

Security of tenure

Tenure of sites in Wolverhampton is generally secure i.e. through a long term lease or a guarantee that the pitch will continue to be provided over the next three years, with most sites ensuring that community use is available.

However, the tenure of some sites remains unsecure, notably at schools and academies which tend to have their own individualised policies with regard to community use. Some schools allow no community use of their pitches, whilst others have an agreement in place with a club which allows for exclusive access.

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AFC Wulfrunians is six years into a 15 year lease from the RFU, at Castlecroft Stadium and its lease is, thus, due to expire in nine years' time. Similarly, Bilston Town FC and Wednesfield Town FC have only 22 years and 18 years left on their respective lease agreements. As with AFC Wulfrunians, an agreement which extends beyond 25 years would be more advantageous to the clubs.

During consultation, Penn Colts FC reported a desire to acquire land currently owned by Highfields Secondary School on a long term lease. The Club currently has exclusive access to the land (located just outside the Wolverhampton boundary) but would allow for continued school use should an asset transfer take place. The area is fenced off and the Club is a key holder for the Site. The current agreement is a one-year rolling contract. There are additional pitches adjacent to the school which are available for community use.

2.3: Demand

The audit assessment recognised a total of 230 teams playing within Wolverhampton. This consists of 91 men's, three women's, 94 youth boys', five girls' and 37 mini teams. In addition, 44 teams from Wolverhampton based clubs play on pitches outside the Area.

Table 2.6: Summary of competitive teams currently playing in Wolverhampton

Analysis area	No. of teams playing					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Bilston	19	9	4	5	1	38
Central & South	8	10	3	2	2	25
North	27	12	6	7	6	58
Tettenhall	21	18	9	4	2	54
Wednesfield	20	18	9	6	2	55
Wolverhampton	95	67	31	24	13	230

The majority of teams play in the North (25%), Wednesfield (24%) and Tettenhall (23%) analysis areas, whilst the Central & South Analysis Area (11%) contains the fewest teams. The most prevalent playing format is adult (41%), which correlates to there being more adult pitches within Wolverhampton compared to other pitch types.

Clubs that responded to the online survey were asked whether there had been a change in the number of teams over the previous three years. The response rates for those which responded to this question can be seen in the table below:

Table 2.7: Change in the number of teams over the previous three years

Team type	Clubs response		
	Increased	Decreased	Stayed the same
Adult	9%	11%	80%
Youth	19%	7%	74%
Mini	25%	11%	64%

The highest increase in team numbers is seen in mini football, with 25% of clubs reporting an increase over the last three years and only 11% reporting a decrease. Similarly, 19% of clubs report an increase in youth teams whilst only 7% report a decrease.

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It would be expected that an increase in mini and youth teams would translate into more adult teams; however, this is not always the case. Although 9% of clubs report an increase in the number of adult teams over the previous three years, 11% report a decrease. It must also be noted that figures do not take into account the high number of adult only clubs that have folded during this time.

This decline in adult football coincides with the national trend of the number of 11-a-side adult men's teams decreasing. This is thought to be due to many players opting to play small sided versions of the game instead. The way in which people, especially adult men, wish to play football is changing. People wish to fit it into busy lifestyles; small sided formats and shorter games allow players to do this without giving up their weekends. If this trend continues there is likely to be greater demand for more access to 3G pitches.

Bilston Partnership Youth League

The Bilston Partnership Youth League is the main mini and junior football league operating in Wolverhampton and therefore creates the most demand for football pitches within the Authority. Currently, 73 Wolverhampton based teams compete in the League from u7s through to u21s. This number has reportedly increased year on year during the previous three seasons and a further increase is expected next season.

The League uses a central venue format for all its teams playing 5v5, 7v7 and 9v9 football, meaning each fixture must be played at a location chosen by the League. The main pitches used as a central venue are City of Wolverhampton College (3G pitch) and Wednesfield High School. During consultation, the League reported its preference for these two sites due to the availability of the artificial surface at the City of Wolverhampton College and the high quality pitches at Wednesfield High School.

The main issue reported by the League is the lack of youth 9v9 pitches within the City. This leads to difficulty in arranging fixtures, sustaining participation and causes overplay on the pitches used. The reportedly poor quality of Council owned pitches and low levels of maintenance were also cited as problems.

Football pyramid

Eight clubs in Wolverhampton play within the football pyramid:

- ◀ Wolverhampton Wanderers FC
- ◀ AFC Wulfrunians (Step 5)
- ◀ Bilston Town FC (Step 6)
- ◀ Willenhall Town FC (Step 6)
- ◀ Wolverhampton Casuals FC (Step 6)
- ◀ Wolverhampton Sporting Community (Step 6)
- ◀ Trysull Tigers FC (Step 7)
- ◀ Wednesfield Town FC (Step 7)

Additionally, four play in West Midlands Regional Division Two (which is just one promotion short of joining the football pyramid):

- ◀ Bilbrook FC
- ◀ Old Wulfrunians FC
- ◀ Warstone Wanderers FC
- ◀ Wolverhampton United FC

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Clubs within the step system must adhere to ground requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league/step above if their ground do not meet the correct specifications. Ground grading assesses grounds from A to H, with 'A' being the requirements for Step 1 clubs. In Wolverhampton, AFC Wulfrunians (discounting Wolverhampton Wanderers FC) play at the highest level (Step 5) and as such its home ground must adhere to the grading for that level (E). Appendix 3 highlights all requirements from grade A to H.

Although all clubs currently meet the requirements of their leagues the majority would need to make significant ground improvements, or potentially move sites, in order to progress up through the pyramid. Furthermore, a number of the current sites require qualitative improvements to create financial sustainability.

Stadia pitches should be protected where possible as they are expensive to create and therefore replace. The sites are a requirement for teams wishing to climb the football pyramid and are an asset to the City.

Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision.

Wolverhampton Wanderers Girls FC reports unmet demand in that it could field an additional adult women's team if another pitch existed in the Area which met league standards.

Additional factors also play a part in limiting increases in the number of teams. For instance, Sneyd All Stars FC reports that it would wish to increase the number of junior teams it runs if more pitches existed; this would, however, depend heavily on finding volunteers to coach these teams. In the same way, Wolverhampton Revolutions FC states that an increase in teams would depend on the cost implications of hiring additional pitches and training venues.

Latent demand

During the consultation process a number of clubs identified that if more pitches were available, at their home ground or in the local area, they could develop more teams in the future (latent demand). The table below highlights latent demand expressed by the clubs - that could *potentially* be fielded if more pitches were available.

Table 2.8: Summary of latent demand expressed by clubs

Club	Latent demand	Analysis area	Match equivalent sessions	Pitch type
Liddar Sports FC	2 x Youth	Tettenhall	0.5 0.5	11v11 9v9
Springvale Steelers FC	1 x Youth	Bilston	0.5	9v9
Wolverhampton Casuals FC	2 x Youth 1 x Mini	OUTSIDE	0.5 0.5 0.5	11v11 9v9 7v7

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Club	Latent demand	Analysis area	Match equivalent sessions	Pitch type
Totals			Adult	-
			Youth 11v11	1
			Youth 9v9	1.5
			Youth 7v7	0.5
			Youth 5v5	-

All identified latent demand exists in the Tettenhall and Bilston analysis areas. In addition to the table, five clubs indicate that they could field more teams if training facilities improved, and three suggested that more teams would be run if ancillary provision improved.

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in football but are not currently doing so'. In Wolverhampton the tool identifies latent demand of 2,401 people. The most dominant segments are 'Jamie – sports team lads' (27%) and 'Kev – pub league team mates' (22%).

Displaced demand

Displaced demand refers to teams that currently have access to pitches for their home fixtures outside the area in which they are registered. This is normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met, however, as previously mentioned, many Wolverhampton based clubs access pitches just outside the boundary through choice, yet still consider themselves to be based in the City.

Discounting teams which play at Old Wulfrunians AFC, Castlecroft Stadium, Wolverhampton Casuals and Highfields Secondary School (which are included in this report), a further six adult men's, one adult women's, six youth boys', one youth girls' and three mini teams are displaced out of Wolverhampton. Clubs with displaced teams are:

- ◀ Aldersley Athletic FC
- ◀ Grapes FC
- ◀ Penn Colts FC
- ◀ Sneyd All Stars FC
- ◀ Spartak FC
- ◀ Tettenhall FC
- ◀ Wednesfield Town FC
- ◀ Wolfies Bar FC
- ◀ Wolverhampton Wanderers Girls FC
- ◀ Workers Rest FC

The reasons for displacement vary. Clubs such as Wolverhampton Wanderers Girls FC and Sneyd All Stars FC have been 'displaced' on the basis they have opted to play on supposedly better pitches located elsewhere; they may, as a consequence, have no desire to return to Wolverhampton. In other instances, teams are displaced due to leagues using central venues. This was the case for Wednesfield Town FC, which has stated its preference for its mini and youth teams to play in non-Wolverhampton based leagues due to them offering a perceived better standard of football.

The only displaced club which reports a preference to play within Wolverhampton is Penn Colts FC. It has an u15s girls' team displaced at Windsor High School, Dudley, as its

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normal home ground (Highfields Secondary School) cannot provide the changing facilities that the team requires.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts.

Population increases

Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2037) based on population growth. It is predicted that there will be a potential increase of 15 youth boys' teams and five mini teams; however, a decline in adult population could result in a concomitant decrease in the number of adult teams.

Table 2.9: Team generation rates

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Adult Men (16-45)	52,085	106	491	50,419	102.6	-3.4
Adult Women (16-45)	50,983	3	16994	52,445	3.1	0.1
Youth Boys (10-15)	8,769	108	81	10,061	123.9	15.9
Youth Girls (10-15)	8,453	5	1691	9,851	5.8	0.8
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-9)	12,234	52	235	13,575	57.7	5.7

Participation increases

A number of clubs report plans to increase the number of teams they provide. Of those which quantify the potential increase, there is a predicted growth of 21 teams equating to a demand for two adult, 12 youth and six mini match equivalent sessions. Latent demand highlighted earlier in the report has been discounted from the table below, as it is presumed to be included in future growth.

Table 2.10: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Future demand	Analysis area	Match equivalent sessions	Pitch type
AFC Bilston	1 x Adult	Bilston	0.5	Adult
AFC Woodcross	1 x Youth 2 x Mini	Bilston	0.5	11v11
			0.5	7v7
			0.5	5v5
All Star Wanderers	1 x Adult 4 x Youth 2 x Mini	Bilston	0.5	Adult
			2	11v11
			2	9v9
			0.5	7v7
			0.5	5v5

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Club	Future demand	Analysis area	Match equivalent sessions	Pitch type
FC Reedswood	1 x Youth	North	0.5	11v11
Punjab Sports FC	1 x Adult 2 x Mini	Tettenhall	0.5	Adult
			0.5	7v7
			0.5	5v5
Smestow Football Academy FC	1 x Adult	OUTSIDE	0.5	Adult
Springvale Steelers FC	4 x Youth 2 x Mini	Bilston	2	11v11
			2	9v9
			0.5	7v7
			0.5	5v5
Wednesfield Town FC	3 x Youth	Wednesfield	1.5	11v11
Whitmore Reans FC	2 x Youth 2 x Mini	Tettenhall	1	11v11
			0.5	7v7
			0.5	5v5
Wolverhampton Casuals FC	1 x Adult 1 x Youth	OUTSIDE	0.5	Adult
			0.5	11v11
Wolverhampton Olympic FC	2 x Mini	Tettenhall	0.5	7v7
			0.5	5v5
Totals			Adult	2
			Youth 11v11	8
			Youth 9v9	4
			Mini 7v7	3
			Mini 5v5	3

2.4: Capacity analysis

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

As a guide, The FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting current quality (pitch capacity). Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity the following ratings were used in Wolverhampton:

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

Table 2.13 applies the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

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Potential capacity	Play is below the level the site could sustain
At capacity	Play matches the level the site can sustain
Overused	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

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Education sites

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that the carrying capacity at such sites will need to be adjusted. This adjustment is dependent on the amount of play carried out and also the number of pitches on site. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is community use. The table below identifies the school sites and adjusted capacity where required.

Table 2.11: Secondary school capacity adjustment

Site ID	Type	Site name	Site capacity comments/actions
2	Secondary School	Aldersley High School	Pitches are available for community use and used. Usage by the School reduces capacity by one match equivalent per pitch. The 9v9 pitch is slightly over marked by a Gaelic football pitch.
20	Secondary School	Colton Hills Community High School	Pitches are available for community use and used. All pitches are used by the school therefore capacity is reduced by one match equivalent per pitch to reflect this. Additional pitches have previously been marked out (two mini).
22	Secondary School	Coppice Performing Arts School	The School has one pitch which is technically available to the community but is unused. Additional pitches have previously been marked out and the site is large enough to accommodate at least three adult pitches. High levels of school usage on the sole pitch reduces capacity by two match equivalents.
25	Secondary School	Deansfield Community School	No response. The School is currently undergoing a rebuild and did not wish to take part in the report.
135	Secondary School	Heath Park Business & Enterprise College	The School does not have its own football pitches and has limited access to pitches offsite. The majority of the schools curricular and extra-curricular activity occurs on its AGP.
43 & 157	Secondary School	Highfields School	Pitches are marked out both on land within Wolverhampton (Site ID: 43) and just outside the boundary (Site ID: 157). Those outside the City are rarely used by the School due to an agreement with Penn Colts FC, whilst usage of pitches within Wolverhampton reduces capacity by one match equivalent per pitch.
55	Secondary School	Moreton School	The School has one well used pitch, thus reducing capacity by two match equivalent sessions. The pitch is also available to and used by the community. Space exists for additional pitches to be marked out.
56	Secondary School	Moseley Park School	Did not respond. Community use is presumed following club survey responses. Potential school usage reduces capacity by one match equivalent per pitch.

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Site ID	Type	Site name	Site capacity comments/actions
67	Secondary School	North East Wolverhampton Academy	The School has three adult and four 9v9 pitches. Due to its size and the fact that most curricular use occurs on its AGP, capacity is reduced by just 0.5 match equivalent per adult pitch. Capacity is reduced by one match equivalent on the 9v9 pitches, however, two are shared and used by Rakegate Primary School. All pitches are available to and used by the community.
63	Secondary School	Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College	The School has one youth 11v11 pitch. The level of school use reduces capacity by two match equivalents. The pitch is available and used by the community. The School also has a new 3G pitch on site (from October 2015).
89	Secondary School	St Peter's Collegiate High School	The School does not have its own pitches and instead uses Compton Park, although access is restricted to certain pitches only.
77	Secondary School	Smestow School	Pitches are available for community use and used. School usage reduces capacity by one match equivalent per pitch.
66	Secondary School	South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy	School uses reduces capacity by 0.5 match equivalents per pitch as the AGP is more commonly used and school match play is spread across the three pitches. Available to the community and used.
83	Secondary School	St Edmunds Catholic Academy	School usage reduces capacity by one match equivalent per pitch. No community use is offered in order to protect the pitches (which are owned by Wolverhampton College) for school use. The School hopes to provide community use when a new adult pitch is created in early 2016.
96	Secondary School	The Kings CE High School	Pitches are available for community use and used. School usage reduces capacity by one match equivalent per pitch.
103	Secondary School	Wednesfield High School	Pitches are available to the community and well used, particularly by the Bilston Youth Partnership League which uses the Site as a central venue. School usage reduces capacity by one match equivalent per pitch.
114	Secondary School	Wolverhampton Girls High School	The School does not have football pitches and does not access any off site. Football is not considered a priority sport, however there has previously been a junior football pitch at the site.
113	Independent School	Wolverhampton Grammar School	Pitches are available to the community midweek only. No regular use is recorded for matches. School usage reduces capacity by one match equivalent per pitch.
76 & 159	Independent School	Royal Wolverhampton School	Pitches are split across the junior and senior school sites. Community use is available but only recorded at the senior site. Usage by the School reduces capacity by one match equivalent per pitch on both sites.
93	Independent School	Tettenhall College	Did not respond. Community use is presumed due to club survey responses indicating that pitches are in use. Capacity reduced by one match equivalent to account for any school use.

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Site ID	Type	Site name	Site capacity comments/actions
133	College	City of Wolverhampton College	The College no longer accesses grass football pitches with all activity recorded on its AGP. (College owns one mini pitch on Wellington Road campus as well as St Edmund's pitches which adjoin Paget Road Campus).
-	University	The University of Wolverhampton	The University does not have pitches, with all recorded play occurring outside of Wolverhampton at the university's Walsall campus.

The capacity of primary and special school sites has not been adjusted except at sites where the School has quantified the level of school use for matches/curriculum use.

Peak time

Peak time can vary for different pitch types. The table below identifies peak time for each pitch type in Wolverhampton and informs table 2.13 as to whether or not spare capacity can actually be considered as such, depending on pitch availability. Based on current demand, peak times for each pitch type in Wolverhampton are considered to be Sunday AM.

Table 2.12: Spare capacity in the peak period

Pitch type	Peak time	Comments
Adult	Sunday AM	The majority of adult teams play their fixtures on a Sunday morning whilst 34 youth 11v11 teams also access adult pitches at this time. The demand from youth 11v11 teams for adult pitches on Sunday mornings reduces the capacity available for adult matches. Teams tend to use local authority sites as opposed to club sites which are more commonly used by teams playing on a Saturday afternoon. In total, 69 adult teams play Sunday AM, whilst 21 play Saturday PM. Ten teams also play Sunday PM, one playing Saturday AM and eight playing mid-week.
Youth 11v11	Sunday AM	In total, 41 youth 11v11 teams play on Sunday mornings, compared to 19 teams playing Sunday PM and 15 teams playing Saturday AM. There is also one team playing Saturday PM and one team playing mid-week. Although the majority of youth 11v11 teams in Wolverhampton use adult pitches, peak time demand for access to youth 11v11 pitches is also Sunday AM. That is, the majority of teams accessing youth 11v11 pitches play on Sunday mornings.
Youth 9v9	Sunday AM	The majority of 9v9 teams compete in the Bilston Partnership Youth League and the Stourbridge District Youth Football League, both generally played on Sunday mornings. 26 9v9 teams play at this time, compared to seven playing Saturday AM and two playing Sunday PM.
Mini 7v7	Sunday AM	In total, 27 of the 32 7v7 teams in Wolverhampton play on Sunday mornings, whilst the remainder play Saturday morning. Subsequently, peak time demand for access to 7v7 pitches is Sunday AM.
Mini 5v5	Sunday AM	Of the 20 5v5 teams currently playing within Wolverhampton, 18 play on Sunday mornings and two play on Saturday mornings. Peak time for access to mini pitches is therefore Sunday AM.

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Table 2.13: Football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
2	Aldersley High School	WV8 1RT	Yes	S	School	North	A		Standard	2	0.5	3	-2.5	1.5
2	Aldersley High School	WV8 1RT	Yes-unused	S	School	North	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	1	-1	1
3	Aldersley Leisure Village Sports Pitches	WV6 9NW	Yes	S	Council	Tettenhall	A		Good	1	1	3	-2	0.5
3	Aldersley Leisure Village Sports Pitches	WV6 9NW	Yes	S	Council	Tettenhall	A		Standard	2	1.5	4	-2.5	2
5	Bantock Park	WV3 9BH	Yes	S	Council	Tettenhall	A		Standard	2	2.5	4	-1.5	0.5
6	Bee Lane Playing Fields	WV10 6LE	Yes-unused	S	Council	North	Y	(11v11)	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
7	Bellamy Lane Playing Fields	WV11 1NN	Yes	S	Council	Wednesfield	Y	(11v11)	Standard	1	1.5	2	-0.5	0
9	Bilston C of E Primary School	WV14 0HU	Yes	S	School	Bilston	A		Standard	2	2.5	4	-1.5	1
11	Bilston Town Football Ground	WV14 7EX	Yes	S	Club	Bilston	A		Good	1	2	3	-1	0.5
14	Bushbury Hill Primary School	WV10 8BY	No	U	School	North	A		Poor	1	0	1	-1	-
15	Castlecroft Primary	WV3 8HS	No	U	School	Tettenhall	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-

² Unless local information suggests otherwise it can be assumed that the availability of all pitches in LA, town and parish council and sports club ownership will be secure.

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Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
16	Christ Church Junior School	WV6 8LG	No	U	School	Tettenhall	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
18	Claregate Playing Fields	WV6 9PZ	Yes	S	Council	Tettenhall	A		Good	1	1	3	-2	0
19	Claregate Primary School	WV6 9JU	Yes-unused	U	School	Tettenhall	Y	(9v9)	Good	1	0	4	-4	1
20	Colton Hills High School	WV4 5DG	Yes	S	School	Central & South	A		Poor	2	2	1	+1	0
22	Coppice Performing Arts School	WV11 2QE	Yes-unused	S	School	Wednesfield	A		Standard	1	0	0	0	1
26	Dixon Street Playing Fields	WV2 2BJ	Yes	S	Council	Central & South	A		Good	2	1.5	6	-4.5	0.5
29	East Park	WV1 2BS	Yes	S	Council	Bilston	A		Standard	3	4.5	6	-1.5	0
30	East Park Primary School	WV1 2DS	Yes	S	School	Bilston	A		Standard	1	0.5	2	-1.5	0.5
30	East Park Primary School	WV1 2DS	Yes-unused	S	School	Bilston	M	(7v7)	Standard	1	0	4	-4	1
31	Eastfield Primary School	WV1 2QY	No	U	School	Bilston	M	(7v7)	Good	1	0	6	-6	-
34	Fordhouses Cricket Club	WV9 5HH	Yes	S	School	North	A		Standard	1	0.5	2	-1.5	0.5
35	Fowlers Park	WV10 9AW	Yes	S	Club	Wednesfield	A		Standard	5	2.5	10	-7.5	3.5
37	Goodrich Sports Ground	WV10 7EH	Yes	S	Council	North	A		Standard	2	0.5	4	-3.5	1.5
39	Green Acres Primary	WV14 7AE	No	U	School	Bilston	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
41	Heath Town Park	WV10 0LU	Yes	S	Council	Wednesfield	A		Standard	2	2	4	-2	1

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Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
43	Highfields Secondary School	WV4 4NT	Yes	S	School	Tettenhall	A		Standard	4	2	4	-2	2
44	Hilton Road Playing Fields	WV4 6DR	Yes	S	Council	Central & South	A		Standard	2	0.5	4	-3.5	1.5
45	Holy Rosary Catholic School	WV1 2BS	Yes-unused	U	School	Bilston	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
46	Holy Trinity Catholic Primary	WV14 7PD	No	S	School	Bilston	Y	(9v9)	Good	1	0	4	-4	-
48	King George V Playing Field	WV11 1HZ	Yes	S	Council	Wednesfield	A		Standard	3	2	6	-4	1
49	Lanesfield Primary School	WV4 6BZ	No	U	School	Central & South	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
51	Long Knowle Primary School	WV11 1EB	Yes-unused	U	School	Wednesfield	M	(5v5)	Poor	1	0	2	-2	1
51	Long Knowle Primary School	WV11 1EB	Yes-unused	U	School	Wednesfield	Y	(9v9)	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
52	Loxdale Primary School	WV14 0PH	No	S	School	Bilston	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
53	Manor Primary School	WV14 9UQ	No	S	School	Central & South	M	(5v5)	Standard	1	0	4	0	-
55	Moreton Community High School	WV10 8BY	Yes	S	School	North	A		Standard	1	1	0	+1	1
56	Moseley Park School	WV14 6LU	Yes	S	School	Bilston	A		Standard	1	1	1	0	0
56	Moseley Park School	WV14 6LU	Yes-unused	S	School	Bilston	Y	(11v11)	Standard	1	0	1	-1	1
58	Newbridge Playing Fields	WV6 0JX	Yes	S	Council	Central & South	A		Standard	1	0.5	2	-1.5	0.5

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
58	Newbridge Playing Fields	WV6 0JX	Yes-unused	S	Council	Central & South	M	(7v7)	Standard	1	0	4	-4	1
59	Northwood Park	WV10 8EU	Yes	S	Council	North	A		Standard	2	1	4	-3	1.5
60	Oak Meadow Primary School	WV11 2QQ	No	U	School	Wednesfield	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
63	Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College	WV10 8BL	Yes	S	School	North	Y	(11v11)	Poor	1	3	-1	+4	0
65	Palmers Cross Primary School	WV6 9DF	Yes-unused	U	School	Tettenhall	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
66	South Wolverhampton and Bilston Academy	WV14 0LN	Yes	S	School	Bilston	A		Standard	2	1	3	-2	1.5
66	South Wolverhampton and Bilston Academy	WV14 0LN	Yes-unused	S	School	Bilston	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	1.5	-1.5	1
67	North East Wolverhampton Academy	WV10 6SE	Yes	S	School	North	A		Good	3	7	4.5	+2.5	0
67	North East Wolverhampton Academy	WV10 6SE	Yes	S	School	North	Y	(9v9)	Good	4	2	12	-10	3.5
68	Gamesfield Green Playing Field	WV3 9SB	Yes-unused	S	Council	Tettenhall	A		Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
71	Perry Hall Primary School	WV11 3RT	No	U	School	Wednesfield	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
73	Prouds Lane Playing Fields	WV14 6PW	Yes-unused	S	Council	Bilston	Y	(11v11)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
75	Old Wulfrunians AFC	WV3 8NA	Yes	S	Club	OUTSIDE	A		Standard	2	2.5	4	-1.5	0
75	Old Wulfrunians AFC	WV3 8NA	Yes	S	Club	OUTSIDE	M	(5v5)	Standard	1	2	4	-2	0
75	Old Wulfrunians AFC	WV3 8NA	Yes	S	Club	OUTSIDE	M	(7v7)	Standard	1	1.5	4	-2.5	0
75	Old Wulfrunians AFC	WV3 8NA	Yes	S	Club	OUTSIDE	Y	(9v9)	Standard	2	1	2	-1	0
76	Royal Wolverhampton (senior) School	WV3 0EG	Yes	S	School	Central & South	A		Standard	1	0.5	1	-0.5	0.5
77	Smestow School	WV3 8HU	Yes	S	School	Tettenhall	A		Standard	2	1	3	-2	1
77	Smestow School	WV3 8HU	Yes-unused	S	School	Tettenhall	Y	(11v11)	Standard	1	0	1	-1	1
78	Springvale Junior School	WV4 6SD	No	U	School	Central & South	Y	(9v9)	Poor	1	0	1	-1	-
80	Springvale Park	WV4 6SP	Yes-unused	S	Council	Central & South	A		Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
81	St Mary & John's Catholic Primary School	WV2 1HZ	No	U	School	Central & South	M	(7v7)	Standard	1	0	4	-4	-
83	St Edmunds Catholic High School	WV3 9DU	No	U	School	Central & South	A		Standard	3	0	3	-3	-
86	St Martin's CE Primary School	WV14 8BS	No	U	School	Bilston	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
90	St Teresa's Catholic Primary School	WV4 6AW	No	U	School	Central & South	Y	(9v9)	Poor	1	0	1	-1	-
91	Stow Heath Junior School	WV13 3TT	No	U	School	Bilston	A		Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
92	Stowlawn Primary School	WV14 6EH	Yes-unused	U	School	Bilston	M	(5v5)	Standard	2	0	8	-8	2
93	Tettenhall College	WV6 8QX	Yes	U	School	Tettenhall	A		Standard	1	0.5	1	-0.5	0.5
93	Tettenhall College	WV6 8QX	Yes	U	School	Tettenhall	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0.5	1	-0.5	0.5
94	Tettenhall Upper Green	WV6 9AL	Yes	S	Council	Tettenhall	A		Standard	1	1.5	2	-0.5	0
95	The Giffard Roman Catholic Primary School	WV6 0HR	Yes	U	School	Central & South	Y	(11v11)	Standard	1	0.5	2	-1.5	0.5
95	The Giffard Roman Catholic Primary School	WV6 0HR	No	U	School	Central & South	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
96	The Kings CE High School	WV6 8XG	Yes	S	School	Tettenhall	A		Standard	2	3	3	0	0
96	The Kings CE High School	WV6 8XG	Yes	S	School	Tettenhall	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0.5	1	-0.5	0.5
98	Trinity C of E Junior School	WV10 0UB	No	U	School	Wednesfield	A		Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
101	Uplands Junior School	WV3 8BA	No	U	School	Tettenhall	M	(5v5)	Poor	2	0	4	-4	-
101	Uplands Junior School	WV3 8BA	No	U	School	Tettenhall	Y	(9v9)	Poor	1	0	1	-1	-
102	Warstones Primary School	WV4 4LU	No	U	School	Tettenhall	Y	(11v11)	Poor	1	0	1	-1	-

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
103	Wednesfield High School	WV11 3ES	Yes	S	School	Wednesfield	A		Good	2	1.5	4	-2.5	2
103	Wednesfield High School	WV11 3ES	Yes	S	School	Wednesfield	M	(7v7)	Good	2	4	10	-6	0
103	Wednesfield High School	WV11 3ES	Yes	S	School	Wednesfield	Y	(11v11)	Good	1	1.5	2	-0.5	0
103	Wednesfield High School	WV11 3ES	Yes	S	School	Wednesfield	Y	(9v9)	Good	4	4	8	-4	0
108	Wilkinson Primary School	WV14 8UR	No	U	School	Bilston	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
104	Wednesfield Town Football Ground	WV11 1HZ	Yes	S	Club	Wednesfield	A		Standard	1	3	2	1	0
109	Windsor Avenue Playing Fields	WV4 4BJ	Yes	S	Council	Tettenhall	A		Standard	6	6	12	-6	2
111	Wodensfield Primary School	WV11 1PW	Yes-unused	U	School	Wednesfield	Y	(9v9)	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
112	Wolverhampton Cricket Club	WV6 9BJ	Yes	U	Club	Tettenhall	A		Standard	1	2	2	0	0
112	Wolverhampton Cricket Club	WV6 9BJ	Yes-unused	U	Club	Tettenhall	M	(5v5)	Standard	1	0	4	-4	1
112	Wolverhampton Cricket Club	WV6 9BJ	Yes	U	Club	Tettenhall	M	(7v7)	Standard	1	1.5	4	-2.5	0
113	Wolverhampton Grammar School	WV3 9RB	Yes-unused	U	School	Tettenhall	A		Standard	3	0	3	-3	3
117	Wolverhampton United Ground	WV11 1HN	Yes	S	Club	Wednesfield	A		Standard	2	3.5	5	-1.5	0
117	Wolverhampton United Ground	WV11 1HN	Yes	S	Club	Wednesfield	Y	(11v11)	Standard	1	1	2	-1	1

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
129	Springvale Sports & Social Club	WV14 0QR	Yes	S	Private	Bilston	A		Standard	1	1.5	2	-0.5	0.5
129	Springvale Sports & Social Club	WV14 0QR	Yes	S	Private	Bilston	Y	(11v11)	Standard	1	1	2	-1	0
132	Bilbrook Junior Football Club	WV9 5HQ	Yes	S	Club	North	A		Standard	2	4	4	0	0
132	Bilbrook Junior Football Club	WV9 5HQ	Yes	S	Club	North	M	(5v5)	Standard	1	3	4	-1	0
132	Bilbrook Junior Football Club	WV9 5HQ	Yes	S	Club	North	M	(7v7)	Standard	1	3.5	4	-0.5	0
132	Bilbrook Junior Football Club	WV9 5HQ	Yes	S	Club	North	Y	(9v9)	Standard	2	0.5	4	-3.5	2
133	City of Wolverhampton College (Wellington Road Campus)	WV14 6BT	No	U	College	Bilston	M	(7v7)	Standard	1	-	4	-4	-
145	Ashmore Park	WV11 2LT	Yes	S	Council	Wednesfield	A		Good	2	2.5	6	-3.5	0
154	Goodyear Sports and Social Club Sports Pitches	WV10 6AA	Yes	S	Private	North	A		Standard	1	2	2	0	0
157	Highfields Secondary School - Penn Colts FC	WV4 4NT	Yes	S	School	OUTSIDE	A		Standard	1	1	2	-1	0

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
157	Highfields Secondary School - Penn Colts FC	WV4 4NT	Yes	S	School	OUTSIDE	M	(5v5)	Standard	2	1.5	8	-6.5	0
157	Highfields Secondary School - Penn Colts FC	WV4 4NT	Yes	S	School	OUTSIDE	M	(7v7)	Standard	2	2.5	8	-5.5	0
157	Highfields Secondary School - Penn Colts FC	WV4 4NT	Yes	S	School	OUTSIDE	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	-1	0
159	Royal Wolverhampton (junior) School	WV3 0EG	Yes-unused	S	School	Central & South	M	(7v7)	Poor	2	0	2	-2	2
163	D'eyncourt Primary School	WV11 1DD	Yes-unused	U	School	Wednesfield	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
166	Grove Primary School	WV2 1HZ	No	U	School	Central & South	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
177	St Lukes C of E Primary	WV2 3AE	Yes-unused	U	School	Central & South	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
178	St Michaels Catholic Primary School	WV3 7LE	No	U	School	Tettenhall	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
181	Villers Primary School	WV14 6PR	No	U	School	Bilston	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-
192	Edward the Elder Primary School	WV11 3DB	No	U	School	Wednesfield	M	(7v7)	Poor	1	0	2	-2	-
194	Danescourt Road Sports Club	WV6 9BJ	Yes	U	Private	Tettenhall	M	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	-1	1

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
194	Danescourt Road Sports Club	WV6 9BJ	Yes	U	Private	Tettenhall	Y	(9v9)	Poor	1	3	1	2	0
198	Wolverhampton Casuals	WV10 7EW	Yes	S	Club	OUTSIDE	A		Standard	1	2.5	2	0.5	0
198	Wolverhampton Casuals	WV10 7EW	Yes	S	Club	OUTSIDE	Y	(11v11)	Standard	1	2	2	0	1
211	Parkfields School	WV4 6AP	Yes	S	School	Central & South	Y	(11v11)	Standard	1	1.5	2	-0.5	0.5
214	Westcroft Sports College	WV10 8NZ	Yes-unused	U	College	North	A		Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
214	Westcroft Sports College	WV10 8NZ	Yes-unused	U	College	North	M	(7v7)	Poor	1	0	2	-2	1
215	Castlecroft Stadium	WV3 8NA	Yes	S	Club	OUTSIDE	A		Good	1	1.5	3	-1.5	1
216	Compton Park - Wolverhampton Wanderers FC Training Ground	WV3 9DU	No	S	Club	Central & South	A		Good	4	0.5	9	-8.5	-
216	Compton Park - Wolverhampton Wanderers FC Training Ground	WV3 9DU	No	S	Club	Central & South	M	(5v5)	Good	2	4	8	-4	-
216	Compton Park - Wolverhampton Wanderers FC Training Ground	WV3 9DU	No	S	Club	Central & South	M	(7v7)	Good	1	1	6	-5	-

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play	Site capacity	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
216	Compton Park - Wolverhampton Wanderers FC Training Ground	WV3 9DU	No	S	Club	Central & South	Y	(11v11)	Good	2	2	8	-6	-
216	Compton Park - Wolverhampton Wanderers FC Training Ground	WV3 9DU	No	S	Club	Central & South	Y	(9v9)	Good	2	1	4	-3	-
217	St Pauls Primary School	WV9 5NR	Yes	S	School	North	Y	(9v9)	Good	1	0.5	4	-3.5	0.5
219	Molineux Stadium	WV1 4QR	No	S	Club	Central & South	A		Good	1	0.5	3	-2.5	-
221	St Stephens CE Primary	WV10 0BB	Yes-unused	U	School	Wednesfield	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
222	Field View Primary	WV14 7AE	No	U	School	Bilston	Y	(9v9)	Standard	1	0	2	-2	-

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

A number of the sites in the capacity tables above have the capacity on site to accommodate additional pitches, as they previously had more pitches marked out. The table below identifies all such known sites:

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Current number of pitches	Potential additional pitches that could be accommodated	Comments
5	Bantock Park	Yes	Tettenhall	2 Adult	1 Adult	Site has room for three adult pitches but only two are used at any one time in order to rest and rotate the pitches.
6	Bee Lane Playing Fields	Yes – unused	North	1 Youth	1 Adult and 1 Mini	Site has room for three pitches but only one pitch has been marked out since 2009 (poor quality). Two primary schools adjoining the Site have no playing field but do not appear to use Bee Lane.
20	Colton Hills High School	Yes	Central & South	2 Adult	2 Mini	Site previously also had two mini pitches marked out. Assumed that demand does not exist for the mini pitches.
26	Dixon Street Playing Fields	Yes	Central & South	2 Adult	1 Youth	Site previously had a youth pitch marked in addition to adult pitches.
33	Fallings Park Primary	No	North	-	1 Youth	Site currently has no pitches marked but previously had a youth pitch.
35	Fowlers Park	Yes	Wednesfield	5 Adult	2 Adult	Site has room for seven adult pitches but only five are marked out currently. A sixth pitch is also used so that pitches can be rested and rotated and a seventh has been taken out of use due to poor quality.
73	Prouds Lane Playing Field	Yes – unused	Bilston	1 Youth	1 Youth	Site previously had two youth pitches marked out but reduced to one pitch due to lack of demand.
88	St Michael's C of E	No	Tettenhall	-	1 Youth	Site previously had a youth pitch marked out but not currently.
109	Windsor Avenue Playing Fields	Yes	Tettenhall	6 Adult	1 Adult and 1 Youth	Site has room for seven adult pitches but only six are marked out currently. The seventh is used so that pitches can be rested and rotated. Youth pitch not currently marked due to lack of demand.
114	Wolverhampton	No	Central &	-	1 Youth	School previously marked youth pitch but does not do so

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Current number of pitches	Potential additional pitches that could be accommodated	Comments
	Girls High School		South			anymore as school plays mostly cricket and tennis. No community use.
155	Graiseley Recreation Ground	Yes	Central & South	-	1 Mini	Site can accommodate a mini pitch and has previously done so but not currently marked due to demand.
184	West Park Primary	No	Central & South	-	1 Youth	Site previously had a youth pitch marked out but not currently.
201	Springdale Infant School	Yes	Tettenhall	-	1 Youth	Site previously had a youth pitch and additional generic playing field.
211	Parkfields School	Yes	Central & South	-	1 Adult	Site previously had an adult pitch marked out but not currently.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'actual spare capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against it. For example, it may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to enable it to cater for regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

The table below considers site by site the capacity of the pitches to accommodate further play and for them to be deemed as having 'actual spare capacity'. A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of the game. Any pitch not meeting this criteria has been discounted.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.14: Actual spare capacity

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Current play	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period	Comments
2	Aldersley High School	Yes	Secured	North	Adult		2	0.5	-2.5	1.5	Spare capacity including peak time.
2	Aldersley High School	Yes-unused	Secured	North	Youth	(9v9)	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
3	Aldersley Leisure Village Sports Pitches	Yes	Secured	Tettenhall	Adult		1	1	-2	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
3	Aldersley Leisure Village Sports Pitches	Yes	Secured	Tettenhall	Adult		2	1.5	-2.5	2	Spare capacity including peak time.
5	Bantock Park	Yes	Secured	Tettenhall	Adult		2	2.5	-1.5	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
6	Bee Lane Playing Fields	Yes-unused	Secured	North	Adult		1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
9	Bilston C of E Primary School	Yes	Secured	Bilston	Adult		2	2.5	-1.5	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
11	Bilston Town Football Ground	Yes	Secured	Bilston	Adult		1	2	-1	0.5	Minimal spare capacity retained in order to protect stadia pitch.
26	Dixon Street Playing Fields	Yes	Secured	Central & South	Adult		2	1.5	-4.5	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
30	East Park Primary School	Yes	Secured	Bilston	Adult		1	0.5	-1.5	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
30	East Park Primary School	Yes-unused	Secured	Bilston	Mini	(7v7)	1	0	-4	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
34	Fordhouses Cricket Club	Yes	Secured	North	Adult		1	0.5	-1.5	0.5	Minimal spare capacity discounted due to being over marked on cricket outfield.
35	Fowlers Park	Yes	Secured	Wednesfield	Adult		5	2.5	-7.5	3.5	Spare capacity including peak time.
37	Goodrich Sports Ground	Yes	Secured	North	Adult		2	0.5	-3.5	1.5	Spare capacity including peak time.
41	Heath Town Park	Yes	Secured	Wednesfield	Adult		2	2	-2	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
43	Highfields Secondary School	Yes	Secured	Tettenhall	Adult		4	2	-2	2	Spare capacity including peak time.
44	Hilton Road Playing Fields	Yes	Secured	Central & South	Adult		2	0.5	-3.5	1.5	Spare capacity including peak time.
48	King George V Playing Field	Yes	Secured	Wednesfield	Adult		3	2	-4	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
56	Moseley Park School	Yes-unused	Secured	Bilston	Youth	(11v11)	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
58	Newbridge Playing Fields	Yes	Secured	Central & South	Adult		1	0.5	-1.5	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
58	Newbridge Playing Fields	Yes-unused	Secured	Central & South	Mini	(7v7)	1	0	-4	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
59	Northwood Park	Yes	Secured	North	Adult		2	1	-3	1.5	Spare capacity including peak time.
66	South Wolverhampton and Bilston Academy	Yes	Secured	Bilston	Adult		2	1	-2	1.5	Spare capacity including peak time.
66	South Wolverhampton and Bilston Academy	Yes-unused	Secured	Bilston	Youth	(9v9)	1	0	-1.5	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
67	North East Wolverhampton Academy	Yes	Secured	North	Youth	(9v9)	4	2	-10	3.5	Spare capacity including peak time.
68	Gamesfield Green Playing Field	Yes-unused	Secured	Tettenhall	Adult		1	0	-2	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
73	Prouds Lane Playing Fields	Yes-unused	Secured	Bilston	Adult		1	0	-2	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
76	Royal Wolverhampton (senior) School	Yes	Secured	Central & South	Adult		1	0.5	-0.5	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
77	Smestow School	Yes	Secured	Tettenhall	Adult		2	1	-2	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
77	Smestow School	Yes-unused	Secured	Tettenhall	Youth	(11v11)	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
80	Springvale Park	Yes-unused	Secured	Central & South	Adult		1	0	-2	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
93	Tettenhall College	Yes	Unsecured	Tettenhall	Adult		1	0.5	-0.5	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
93	Tettenhall College	Yes	Unsecured	Tettenhall	Youth	(9v9)	1	0.5	-0.5	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
95	The Giffard Roman Catholic Primary School	Yes	Unsecured	Central & South	Youth	(11v11)	1	0.5	-1.5	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
96	The Kings CE High School	Yes	Secured	Tettenhall	Youth	(9v9)	1	0.5	-0.5	0.5	Minimal peak time capacity.
103	Wednesfield High School	Yes	Secured	Wednesfield	Adult		2	1.5	-2.5	2	Spare capacity discounted due to over marked pitches.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Current play	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period	Comments
109	Windsor Avenue Playing Fields	Yes	Secured	Tettenhall	Adult		6	6	-6	2	Spare capacity including peak time.
113	Wolverhampton Grammar School	Yes-unused	Unsecured	Tettenhall	Adult		3	0	-3	3	Spare capacity discounted as not available to the community during weekends (peak time).
117	Wolverhampton United Ground	Yes	Secured	Wednesfield	Youth	(11v11)	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity including peak time.
129	Springvale Sports & Social Club	Yes	Secured	Bilston	Adult		1	1.5	-0.5	0.5	Minimal peak capacity discounted due to being over marked on cricket outfield.
132	Bilbrook Junior Football Club	Yes	Secured	North	Youth	(9v9)	2	0.5	-3.5	2	Spare capacity including peak time.
194	Danescourt Road Sports Club	Yes	Unsecured	Tettenhall	Mini	(7v7)	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
112	Wolverhampton Cricket Club	Yes-unused	Unsecured	Tettenhall	Mini	(5v5)	1	0	-4	1	Spare capacity discounted due to being over marked on cricket outfield.
112	Wolverhampton Cricket Club	Yes	Unsecured	Tettenhall	Mini	(7v7)	1	1.5	-2.5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to being over marked on cricket outfield.
211	Parkfields School	Yes	Secured	Central & South	Youth	(11v11)	1	1.5	-0.5	0.5	Minimal peak capacity.
215	Castlecroft Stadium	Yes	Secured	OUTSIDE	Adult		1	1.5	-1.5	1	Spare capacity retained in order to protect quality of stadia pitch.
217	St Pauls Primary School	Yes	Secured	North	Youth	(9v9)	1	0.5	-3.5	0.5	Minimal peak capacity.

In addition, a number of education sites are reported to be available but currently unused. Although they may have potential future capacity they are not currently classified as actual spare capacity but are highlighted in the table below. Further investigation with the schools is required to understand the current situation and likely availability for community use.

Table 2.15: Unused education sites with potential future spare capacity

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Current play	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period	Comments
19	Claregate Primary School	Yes-unused	Tettenhall	Youth	(9v9)	1	0	-4	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
45	Holy Rosary Catholic School	Yes-unused	Bilston	Youth	(9v9)	1	0	-2	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
51	Long Knowle Primary School	Yes-unused	Wednesfield	Youth	(9v9)	1	0	-1	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
51	Long Knowle Primary School	Yes-unused	Wednesfield	Mini	(5v5)	1	0	-2	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
65	Palmers Cross Primary School	Yes-unused	Tettenhall	Youth	(9v9)	1	0	-2	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
92	Stowlawn Primary School	Yes-unused	Bilston	Mini	(5v5)	2	0	-8	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
111	Wodnesfield Primary School	Yes-unused	Wednesfield	Youth	(9v9)	1	0	-1	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
159	Royal Wolverhampton (junior) School	Yes-unused	Central & South	Mini	(7v7)	2	0	-2	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
163	D'eyncourt Primary School	Yes-unused	Wednesfield	Youth	(9v9)	2	0	-2	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
214	Westcroft Sports College	Yes-unused	North	Adult	-	1	0	-1	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
214	Westcroft Sports College	Yes-unused	North	Mini	(7v7)	1	0	-2	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.
221	St Stephens CE Primary	Yes-unused	Wednesfield	Youth	(9v9)	1	0	-2	-	No pitches considered available in peak period.

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Actual spare capacity has been aggregated up by area and by pitch type.

Table 2.16: Actual spare capacity summary

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match sessions per week)				
	Adult	Youth (11v11)	Youth (9v9)	Mini (7v7)	Mini (5v5)
Bilston	4	1	1	1	-
Central & South	4	1	--	1	-
North	5.5	-	6.5	-	-
Tettenhall	9.5	1	1	-	-
Wednesfield	5.5	1	-	-	-
Wolverhampton	28.5	4	8.5	2	-

The table shows a total of 43 match sessions of actual spare capacity. The majority of this (28.5) is on adult pitches, whilst there is no spare capacity on 5v5 pitches. There is also no spare capacity on pitches included in this report which are outside the Wolverhampton boundary.

Excluding unused education sites highlighted in table 2.15, a further ten sites containing pitches that are available for community use have actual spare capacity during peak time but are unused. Education sites included in the below table have regular community use on other pitches, therefore community use is considered readily available on unused pitches.

Table 2.17: Available for community use and unused

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches
2	Aldersley High School	North	(9v9)	1
6	Bee Lane Playing Fields	North	Adult	1
30	East Park Primary School	Bilston	(7v7)	1
56	Moseley Park School	Bilston	(11v11)	1
58	Newbridge Playing Fields	Central & South	(7v7)	1
66	South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy	Bilston	(9v9)	1
68	Gamesfield Green Playing Fields	Tettenhall	Adult	1
73	Prouds Lane Playing Fields	Bilston	Adult	1
77	Smestow School	Tettenhall	(11v11)	1
80	Springvale Park	Central & South	Adult	1

Overplay

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it is able to sustain (often due to the low carrying capacity of pitches). In Wolverhampton, six pitches are overplayed amounting to a combined total of 10.5 match equivalent sessions. It is recommended that this overplay is alleviated in order to improve and sustain quality. There is no overplay on pitches included in this report which are outside the Wolverhampton boundary.

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Table 2.17: Overplayed pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating
20	Colton Hills High School	Central & South	Adult	1	+1
55	Moreton Community High School	North	Adult	1	+1
63	Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College	North	(11v11)	1	+4
67	North East Wolverhampton Academy	North	Adult	1	+2.5
104	Wednesfield Town Football Ground	Wednesfield	Adult	1	+1
194	Danescourt Road Sports Club	Tettenhall	(9v9)	1	+1

2.6: Conclusions

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identifies the overall spare capacity in each of the analysis areas for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand is based on team generation rates (TGRs) which are driven by population increases as well as club development plans to increase the number of teams.

Table 2.18: Spare capacity/ overplay of adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ³	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent / unmet demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bilston	4	-	-	-4	1	-3
Central & South	4	1	-	-3	-	-3
North	5.5	3.5	-	-2	-	-2
Tettenhall	9.5	-	0.5	-9	0.5	-8.5
Wednesfield	5.5	1	-	-4.5	-	-4.5
Wolverhampton	28.5	5.5	0.5	-22.5	1.5	-21

The table above shows that overall in Wolverhampton there is spare capacity to accommodate adult teams both now and in the future, with each analysis area showing spare capacity. There is surplus equating to 22.5 match equivalent sessions presently and 21 match equivalent sessions when taking into account future demand. It is recommended that this surplus is used to alleviate shortfalls on other pitch types.

³ In match equivalent sessions

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Table 2.19: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁴	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bilston	1	-	-	-1	4.5	+3.5
Central & South	1	-	-	-1	-	-1
North	-	4	0.5	+4.5	-	+4.5
Tettenhall	1	-	0.5	-0.5	1	+0.5
Wednesfield	1	-	-	-1	1.5	+0.5
Wolverhampton	4	4	1	+1	14.5⁵	+15.5

The table above shows that there is current spare capacity on youth 11v11 pitches in the Bilston, Central & South, North and Tettenhall analysis areas; however, the shortfall of 4.5 match equivalents in the North Analysis Area results in an overall shortfall of one match equivalent session. When factoring in future demand, there is an overall shortfall totalling 15.5 match equivalent sessions, with only the Central & South Analysis Area showing spare capacity.

As mentioned previously, in order to alleviate current and future over play on youth 11v11 pitches it is recommended that surplus adult pitches are reconfigured. Not only will this reduce over play, it will also help with the transfer of youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches.

Table 2.20: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁶	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bilston	1	-	0.5	-0.5	4	+3.5
Central & South	-	-	-	0	-	0
North	6.5	-	-	-6.5	-	-6.5
Tettenhall	1	1	0.5	+0.5	-	+0.5
Wednesfield	-	-	-	0	-	0
Wolverhampton	8.5	1	1	-6.5	11.5⁷	+5

Although spare capacity currently exists on 9v9 pitches amounting to 6.5 match equivalent sessions, the Tettenhall Analysis Area is overplayed, whilst the Central & South and Wednesfield analysis areas are played to capacity. Future demand results in an overall shortfall of five match equivalents, with only the North Analysis Area sustaining any spare capacity.

⁴ In match equivalent sessions

⁵ Figure includes future demand identified by population increases (2037)

⁶ In match equivalent sessions

⁷ Figure includes future demand identified by population increases (2037)

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Table 2.21: Spare capacity/ overplay of mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁸	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bilston	1	-	-	-1	1.5	+0.5
Central & South	1	-	-	-1	-	-1
North	-	-	-	0	-	0
Tettenhall	-	-	-	0	1.5	+1.5
Wednesfield	-	-	-	0	-	0
Wolverhampton	2	0	0	-2	5.5⁹	+4.5

Current demand is being accommodated in each analysis area on 7v7 pitches, although the North, Tettenhall and Wednesfield analysis areas are being played to capacity. Future demand results in an overall shortfall of 4.5 match equivalent sessions, with only the Central & South Analysis Area sustaining spare capacity.

Table 2.22: Spare capacity/ overplay of Mini 5v5 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁰	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bilston	-	-	-	0	1.5	+1.5
Central & South	-	-	-	0	-	0
North	-	-	-	0	-	0
Tettenhall	-	-	-	0	1.5	+1.5
Wednesfield	-	-	-	0	-	0
Wolverhampton	0	0	0	0	5.5¹¹	+5.5

All analysis areas are currently being played to capacity as no 5v5 pitches provide any spare capacity and none are overplayed. Future demand results in overplay in the Bilston and Tettenhall analysis areas and an overall shortfall of 5.5 match equivalent sessions.

In order to prevent future overplay on 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 pitches, it is recommended that community use options are explored at available but unused primary school sites. Ensuring that such sites are readily accessible will provide greater levels of spare capacity.

⁸ In match equivalent sessions

⁹ Figure includes future demand identified by population increases (2037)

¹⁰ In match equivalent sessions

¹¹ Figure includes future demand identified by population increases (2037)

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Football – grass pitch summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 172 grass football pitches in Wolverhampton, of which 129 are available for community use.
- ◀ Pitches located outside the Wolverhampton boundary at Old Wulfrunians AFC, Castlecroft Stadium, Wolverhampton Casuals and Highfields Secondary School are included within this report.
- ◀ In total, 26 community available pitches are assessed as good quality, 90 as standard and 13 as poor.
- ◀ 230 teams were recognised as playing within Wolverhampton, consisting of 91 men's, three women's, 94 youth boys', five youth girls' and 37 mini teams. In addition, 44 teams from Wolverhampton based clubs play on pitches outside of the Area.
- ◀ The highest increase in teams is seen in mini soccer, with 25% of clubs reporting growth over the last three years and only 11% noting a decrease. Similarly, 19% of clubs report an increase in youth teams whilst only 7% recount a decrease.
- ◀ Although 9% of clubs report an increase in the number of adult teams over the previous three years, 11% report a decrease.
- ◀ Wolverhampton Girls FC reports unmet demand at a level that suggests that it could field an additional adult women's team if another pitch existed in the Area which met league standards.
- ◀ There is latent demand equating to one match equivalent session for youth 11v11 football, 1.5 match equivalents for 9v9 football and 0.5 match equivalent sessions for 7v7 football.
- ◀ Discounting teams which play at Old Wulfrunians AFC, Castlecroft Stadium, Wolverhampton Casuals and Highfields Secondary School, a further six adult men's, six youth boys', one youth girls' and three mini teams are displaced out of Wolverhampton.
- ◀ Based on population growth (2037) it is predicted that there will be a potential increase of 15 youth boys' teams and five mini teams.
- ◀ Of clubs which quantify their potential increase in teams, there is a predicted growth of 21 teams equating to a demand for two adult, 12 youth and six mini match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ The table shows a total of 43 match sessions of actual spare capacity, the majority of which (28.5) is on adult pitches.
- ◀ Currently six pitches are overplayed amounting to a combined total of 10.5 match equivalent sessions. It is recommended that this is alleviated in order to improve and sustain quality.
- ◀ There is spare capacity to accommodate adult teams both now and in the future, with each analysis area showing spare capacity.
- ◀ There is a shortfall of youth 11v11 pitches of one match equivalent session currently and 15.5 match equivalents in the future. To alleviate this overplay it is recommended that surplus adult pitches are reconfigured.
- ◀ In order to prevent future overplay on 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 pitches, it is recommended that community use options are explored at available but unused primary school sites.

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PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF PITCHES (3G)

3.1 Introduction

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces with an FA approved certificate and a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play at mini soccer and youth level. The preferred surface is medium pile 3G (55-60mm). Only competition up to (but not including) regional standard can take place on short pile 3G (40mm).

World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for AGPs for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the standard, meaning full contact activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts can take place. For rugby league, the equivalent is known as RFL Community Standard.

Table 3.1: 3G type and sport suitability

Surface	Category	Comments
Rubber crumb	Long pile 3G (65mm with shock pad)	Rugby surface – must comply with World Rugby type 22, requires a minimum of 60mm. Football surface.
Rubber crumb	Medium pile 3G (55-60mm)	Preferred football surface.
Rubber crumb	Short pile 3G (40mm)	Acceptable surface for some competitive football.

3.2 Current provision

As seen in the table below, there are three full size 3G AGPs within Wolverhampton.

Table 3.2: Full size AGPs in Wolverhampton

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type
63	Our Lady & St Chads College	North	Medium pile 3G
133	City of Wolverhampton College (Wellington Road Campus)	Bilston	Medium pile 3G
216	Compton Park (Wolves Academy)	Central & South	Medium pile 3G

The pitch at Compton Park is considered unavailable to the community as Wolverhampton Wanderers FC retains dedicated use. The pitch at City of Wolverhampton College is available for community use but is not FA certified to host competitive matches.

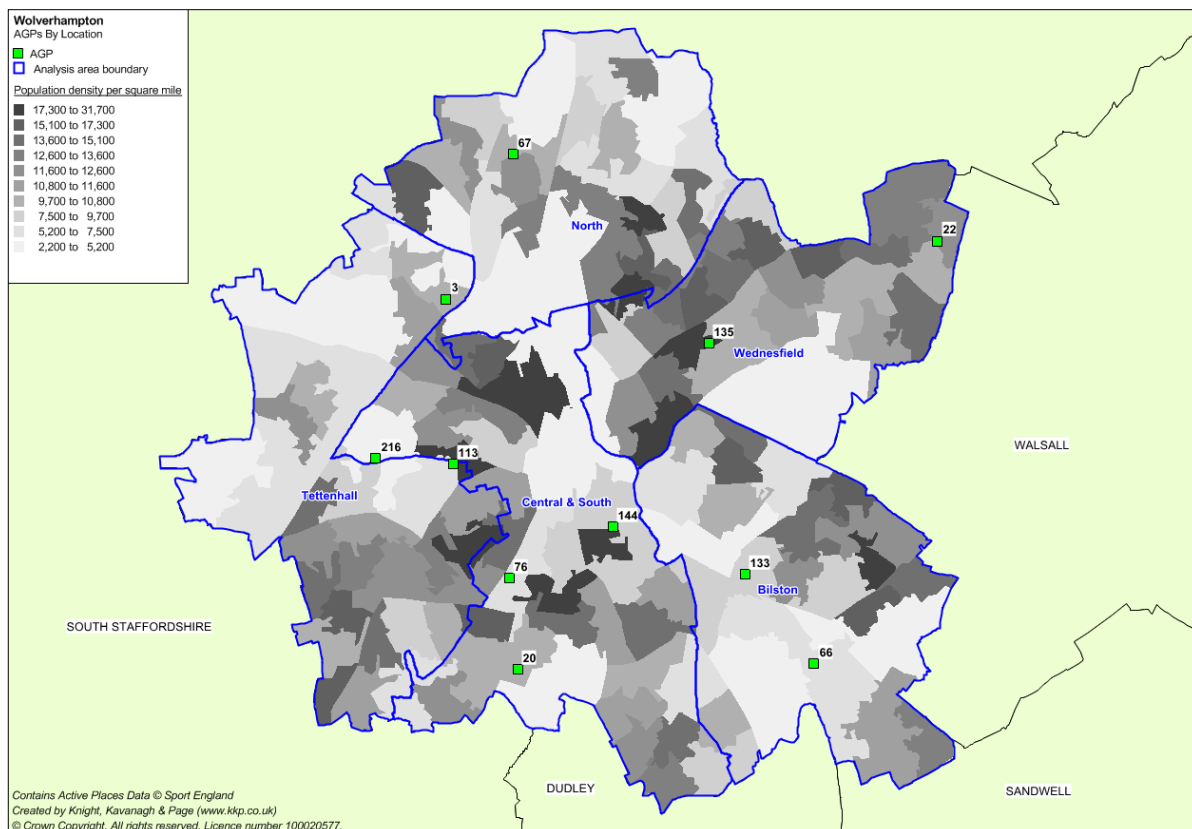
There is also a full size indoor 3G pitch at Compton Park. As with the outdoor AGP, the pitch is FIFA approved but unavailable to the community. There is also an indoor 60x40 pitch at Aldersley which is not on the FA register.

A smaller sized 3G pitch measuring 40x20 yards is located at Coppice Performing Arts School. An additional smaller sized pitch at North East Wolverhampton Academy measures 60x40 yards.

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Figure 3.1 below shows all outdoor AGPs located within Wolverhampton (including sand based).

Figure 3.1: Location of AGPs in Wolverhampton



Provision outside of Wolverhampton

To the North of Wolverhampton a new full size 3G pitch is due for completion at Codsall High School. This will service some of the City's residents in the North Analysis Area due to its close proximity to Wolverhampton.

Future provision

A 9v9 3G pitch at Heath Park College (Wednesfield Analysis Area) is due to be completed and available for community use January 2016.

Additionally, a smaller sized 3G pitch (5v5 size) is to be provided at the Youth Zone in January 2016.

Quality

All full size 3G pitches in Wolverhampton are assessed as good quality.

The carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately 10 years. The pitch at Compton Park was built in 2013, whilst the one at City of Wolverhampton College was built in 2010. As with

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all AGPs, it is recommended that a sinking fund is put in place in order to ensure that refurbishment can go ahead if and when required.

3.3 Demand

The FA considers high quality 3G AGPs to be an essential tool in promoting coach and player development. They can support intensive use and as such are great assets for both playing and training. Primarily such facilities have been installed for community use and training, however, are increasingly used for competition which The FA wholly supports.

Training demand

Getting access to good quality, affordable training facilities is a problem for many clubs throughout the Country. In the winter months, midweek training is only possible at floodlit facilities.

Of clubs in Wolverhampton that responded to consultation, over half (57%) stated that they require additional training facilities, of which, 84% specifically mentioned demand for access to a 3G pitches. Many teams currently access sand based pitches or indoor sports halls, whilst other teams travel outside of Wolverhampton in order to access more suitable training provision in neighbouring local authorities.

The FA's long term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G surface, together with priority access for every Charter Standard Community Club through a partnership agreement. The FA Standard is calculated by using the latest Sport England research "AGPs State of the Nation March 2012".

Assuming that 51% of AGP usage is by sports clubs, when factoring in the number of training slots available per pitch type per hour from 17.00 – 22.00 Mon-Fri and 09.00 – 17.00 Saturday & Sundays (peak time), it is estimated that one full size AGP can service 60 teams.

On the basis that there are 267 teams playing competitive football in Wolverhampton, there is a recommended need for at least five (rounded up from 4.45) full size 3G pitches. There are currently two suitable 3G pitch (discounting Compton Park which is not available for community use), resulting in a shortfall of three AGPs.

Alternatively, the table below considers the number of 3G pitches required if every team was to remain within their respective analysis area for training.

Table 3.3: 3G pitch requirements in each analysis area:

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Bilston	38	1	1	-
Central & South	25	1	-	1
North	58	1	1	-
Tettenhall	54	1	-	1
Wednesfield	55	1	-	1
Wolverhampton	230	5	2	3

Based on the number of teams in each analysis area, demand is being met in the Bilston and the North Analysis Area, whilst there is a shortfall of one 3G pitch in the remaining

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analysis areas. The pitch at Compton Park (Central & South Analysis Area) has been discounted from Table 3.3 above as it is not available for community use.

Moving match play to 3G pitches

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

The alternative to grass pitches is the use of AGPs for competitive matches and the FA is supporting this, particularly for mini football. Currently, six teams play regular competitive matches on the AGP at City of Wolverhampton College, whilst academy teams from Wolverhampton Wanderers FC use the AGP at Compton Park if the grass pitches are unavailable. Experience confirms that the more pitches that are certified, the more teams are likely to transfer match play from grass pitches to AGPs.

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

Table 3.4: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

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

At present, 22 5v5 teams (which require three [rounded up from 2.75] AGPs) and 33 7v7 teams (which require three AGPs [rounded up from 2.75]). Therefore, based on the above programming and separate start times for 5v5 and 7v7 matches, the overall need is for three AGPs to accommodate all mini football demand within Wolverhampton, whilst also leaving some spare capacity (0.25 of a pitch) for growth.

Alternatively, all youth 11v11 matches could be moved to 3G pitches. As many youth 11v11 teams within Wolverhampton currently use adult pitches, removing this play would reduce over play and in the long term improve quality. The peak time for youth 11v11 football is Sunday AM, whilst the second most common time is Sunday PM; therefore, both morning and afternoon timeslots have been accommodated.

Table 3.5: Moving all youth 11v11 matches to 3G pitches

Time	AGP 1	Total games/teams
10am – Noon	1 x 11v11	1/2
Noon – 2pm	1 x 11v11	1/2
2pm – 4pm	1 x 11v11	1/2

In the above programme, the 74 youth 11v11 teams playing within Wolverhampton would require 13 (rounded up from 12.33) pitches if they all played on the same day. If teams

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continued to play on the same day as they currently do, ten (rounded up from 9.33) pitches would be required (as 56 teams play on a Sunday). A more realistic aim would be to transfer all youth 11v11 teams currently using adult pitches (38) onto 3G pitches, which would require seven (rounded up from 6.33) 3G pitches.

Usage

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours a week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00). The pitch at Compton Park is unavailable to the community during any of the above hours.

City of Wolverhampton College reports its 3G pitch to be operating at close to capacity when it is available during the peak period. It is reserved for use by the College 08:00-17:00 during weekdays and booked by the community thereafter, with only limited spare capacity existing at more undesirable times such as Monday 20:00-21:00.

It should be noted that most teams have preferred days (generally Tuesday to Thursday) in which they want to access AGPs and although an AGP may show spare capacity it does not mean that a team is willing to access it during the available time slots. For example, sites may have slots available on Monday and Friday evenings but teams are unlikely to take advantage of this for training purposes as they do not wish to train in such close proximity to a weekend match.

During weekends, the pitch at City of Wolverhampton College is officially unavailable to the community after the College decided it was no longer financially viable to manage the pitch on Saturday or a Sunday. Use is recorded, however, by the Bilston Partnership Youth League, which is now a key holder to the venue. The College reports that this arrangement could be repeated for other users if sufficient demand existed.

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3.4 Supply and demand analysis

There is currently limited spare capacity on the current supply of 3G pitches during mid-week when teams require access for training: 57% of clubs reported having a need for more training facilities.

The FA model suggests that to meet training demand there is a need for at least five community available full sized 3G pitches within Wolverhampton, of which there are currently two.

Priority should therefore be placed on the creation of new 3G pitches in order to reduce shortfalls. Potential sites which can suitably accommodate a pitch should be identified within each analysis area.

3G pitch summary

- ◀ There are two full size 3G pitches available for community use in Wolverhampton. The pitch at Wolverhampton College is not currently FA certified.
- ◀ Both full size 3G pitches in Wolverhampton are assessed as good quality.
- ◀ The pitch at Compton Park is unavailable to the community.
- ◀ 57% of football clubs expressed a need for access to more training facilities, with the majority highlighting 3G pitches as a requirement.
- ◀ On the basis that 267 teams are playing competitive football in Wolverhampton, in order to satisfy training demand, there is a recommended need for at least five full size 3G pitches.
- ◀ Based on the number of teams in each analysis area, demand is being met in the Bilston and the North Analysis Areas, whilst there is a shortfall of one 3G pitch in the remaining analysis areas.
- ◀ Moving all competitive mini football matches from grass pitches to 3G pitches would require three AGPs.
- ◀ Moving all youth 11v11 football would require 13 pitches if they all played on the same, or ten pitches if they continued to play on the same day as they currently do. Transferring youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches would require seven 3G pitches.
- ◀ Wolverhampton College reports that the 3G pitch is running close to capacity when it is available during the peak period.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on the creation of new 3G pitches in order to reduce shortfalls. Potential sites should be identified within each analysis area.

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PART 4: CRICKET

4.1: Introduction

The Staffordshire County Cricket Board is the main governing and representative body for cricket within Wolverhampton. Its aim is to promote the game at all levels through partnerships with professional and recreational cricketing clubs, and other appropriate agencies.

Consultation

There are eight clubs playing within Wolverhampton, all of which were consulted resulting in a 100% response rate. Springvale CC was met with face-to-face, whilst the following clubs completed an online survey:

- ◀ Fordhouses CC
- ◀ Penn CC
- ◀ Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall CC
- ◀ Spring Hill CC
- ◀ Whitmore Reans CC
- ◀ Wightwick & Finchfield CC
- ◀ Wolverhampton CC

4.2: Supply

In total, there are 15 grass wicket cricket squares in Wolverhampton, 11 of which are available for community use. There are no grass wicket squares in the Wednesfield Analysis Area.

The pitches unavailable for community use are located at Wolverhampton Grammar School and Tettenhall College, both of which contain two grass wicket squares.

Table 4.1: Summary of grass wicket cricket squares

Analysis area	Number of grass wicket cricket squares available for community use
Bilston	1
Central & South	2
North	3
Tettenhall	5
Wednesfield	-
Wolverhampton	11

Pitches located at Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall CC, Wightwick & Finchfield CC and Springhill CC have also been included within the supply side analysis. Although located just outside the Wolverhampton boundary, all three pitches service Wolverhampton clubs.

Non turf wickets

Non-turf wickets accompany grass wicket squares at Fordhouses CC (two pitches), Wolverhampton CC (two pitches) and Penn Cricket Ground (one pitch). In addition, there are nine standalone non-turf wicket pitches at the following sites:

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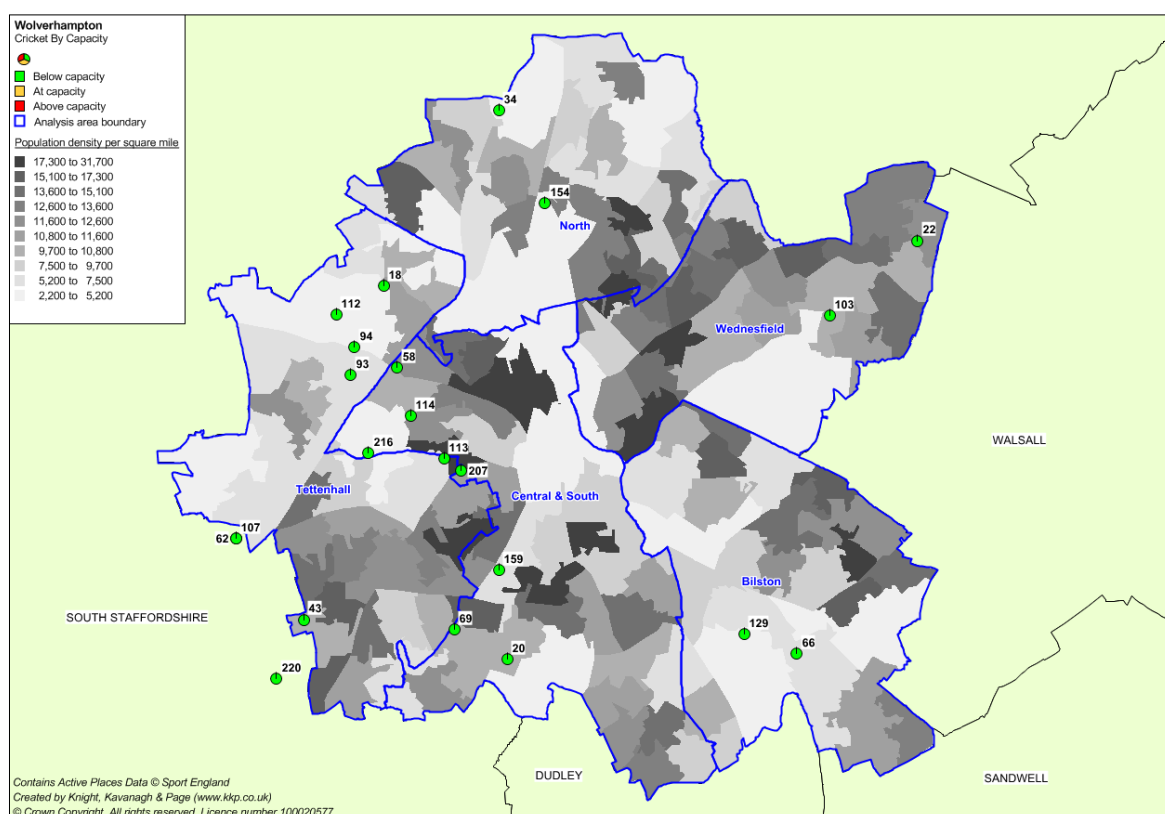
- ◀ Colton Hills High School
- ◀ Compton Park (Wolves Academy)
- ◀ Coppice Performing Arts School
- ◀ Highfields Secondary School
- ◀ Royal Wolverhampton (junior) School
- ◀ South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy
- ◀ Wednesfield High School
- ◀ Wolverhampton Girls High School
- ◀ Wolverhampton Grammar School

Of these, only Highfields Secondary School, the Royal Wolverhampton (Junior) School and South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy record any regular community use. Wednesfield High School is also available for community use; however, it is currently unused. All remaining standalone non-turf wicket pitches are unavailable (Coppice Performing Arts School is available but not on weekends).

Competitive senior cricket is not generally sanctioned on non-turf wickets (by the leagues), however, in Wolverhampton, use of a non-turf wicket is recorded by senior teams from Springhill CC (in the Staffordshire Club Championship) at Highfields Secondary School. Non-turf wickets are also used for junior cricket and for training purposes with the aid of mobile nets.

The ECB's TS6 Guidance on performance standards sets requirements for match pitches that are non-turf wickets. The ECB highlights that pitches which follow this guidance are suitable for high level play. It should be noted that this is guidance for clubs and not standards.

Figure 4.1: Location of cricket pitches in Wolverhampton



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Table 4.2: Key to map of cricket pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of grass pitches	No. of grass pitches with non-turf wicket	No. of standalone non-turf pitches
18	Claregate Playing Fields	Tettenhall	Yes - unused	1	-	-
20	Colton Hills High School	Central & South	No	-	-	1
22	Coppice Performing Arts School	Wednesfield	No	-	-	1
34	Fordhouses Cricket Club	North	Yes	-	2	-
43	Highfields Secondary School	Tettenhall	Yes	-	-	1
58	Newbridge Playing Fields	Central & South	Yes	1	-	-
62	Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall Cricket Club	OUTSIDE	Yes	1	-	-
66	South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy	Bilston	Yes	-	-	1
69	Penn Cricket Ground	Central & South	Yes	-	1	-
93	Tettenhall College	Tettenhall	No	2	-	-
94	Tettenhall Upper Green	Tettenhall	Yes	1	-	-
103	Wednesfield High School	Wednesfield	Yes - unused	-	-	1
107	Wightwick & Finchfield Cricket Club	OUTSIDE	Yes	1	-	-
112	Wolverhampton Cricket Club	Tettenhall	Yes	2	-	-
113	Wolverhampton Grammar School	Tettenhall	No	2	-	1
114	Wolverhampton Girls High School	Central & South	No	-	-	1
129	Springvale Sports & Social Club	Bilston	Yes	1	-	-
154	Goodyear Sports & Social Club	North	Yes - unused	1	-	-
159	Royal Wolverhampton (junior) School	Central & South	Yes	-	-	1
207	Gamesfield Green Playing Field	Tettenhall	Yes	1	-	-
216	Compton Park (Wolves Academy)	Central & South	No	-	-	1
220	Springhill Cricket Club	OUTSIDE	Yes	1	-	-

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Management and security of tenure

The majority of Wolverhampton clubs own or lease their home ground. All clubs which lease their home ground have long-term arrangements in place which are considered to be secure.

Whitmore Reans CC is the only club which does not own or lease its home ground and instead rents Newbridge Playing Fields on a weekly basis from the Council. The Club, however, is in talks with the Council over acquiring the pitch on a 25 year lease in order to secure its future use of the site.

Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall CC and Springhill CC own grounds that are located just outside the Wolverhampton boundary, whilst Wightwick & Finchfield CC lease a ground outside the boundary.

Table 4.3: Summary of club security of tenure

Own	Lease	Rent
Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall CC Wolverhampton CC Springhill CC	Fordhouses CC Penn CC Springvale CC Wightwick & Finchfield CC	Whitmore Reans CC

As well as owning its own ground, Springhill CC also rents a secondary pitch at Highfields Secondary School in order to field a third senior team on a Saturday. Similarly, Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall CC rents Tettenhall Upper Green for its third and fourth Saturday teams, whilst Wightwick & Finchfield CC rents South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy for its junior teams. Penn CC rents Gamesfield Green Playing Field for two Saturday teams and one Sunday team.

Pitch quality

The audit of grass wicket cricket pitches in Wolverhampton found two pitches to be good quality, 12 assessed as standard quality and one (Whitmore Reans) rated as poor. The two pitches assessed as good quality are located at Fordhouses CC and Wolverhampton CC. In addition, Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall Cricket Club, Wightwick & Finchfield Cricket Club and Springhill Cricket Club were all assessed as standard quality.

Of the standalone non-turf wicket pitches, three are assessed as good quality, three as standard quality and two as poor quality. The good quality pitches are located at Wednesfield High School, Wolverhampton Girls High School and Highfields Secondary School, whilst the poor quality pitches are at Colton Hills High School and Coppice Performing Arts School. All good quality non-turf wickets have been put into place over the last two years.

Further to site assessments, clubs were asked to rate the over quality of pitches used. Penn CC, Fordhouses CC and Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall CC rate quality as good, Springvale CC, Wightwick & Finchfield CC and Springhill CC rate quality as standard and Whitmore Reans CC rate quality as poor. Wolverhampton CC rates quality on its first pitch as good, however, rates the quality on its second pitch as poor.

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Whitmore Reans CC rates Newbridge Playing Fields as poor due to an uneven outfield, basic and infrequent maintenance and the presence of overmarked football pitches. Similarly, Wolverhampton CC rates the quality of its second pitch at Wolverhampton Cricket Club as poor quality due to an uneven outfield and poor drainage.

Penn CC reports that the non-turf wicket at Penn Cricket Ground will soon need replacing as the quality is beginning to deteriorate.

Maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. To obtain a full technical assessment of wicket and pitches, the ECB recommends a Performance Quality Standard Assessment (PQS). The PQS looks at a cricket square to ascertain whether the pitch meets the Performance Quality Standards which are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship. The report identifies surface issues and suggests options for remediation together with likely costs. For further guidance on this, please contact the ECB.

Fordhouses CC and Wolverhampton Cc contain the only pitches in Wolverhampton to have undergone PQSs.

Ancillary facilities

All clubs in Wolverhampton have access to changing room facilities at their home ground. Whilst the quality varies from site to site, the majority of provision is regarded as fit for purpose; five clubs consider the condition of their clubhouse to be good, whilst the remainder consider theirs to be standard.

Training facilities

Access to cricket nets is important, particularly for pre-season/winter training. In Wolverhampton, Penn CC, Wightwick & Finchfield CC and Whitmore Reans CC all state a need for additional training facilities.

Penn CC expresses a demand for more facilities containing indoor nets, Wightwick & Finchfield CC reports a need for a mobile net and Whitmore Reans CC reports a need for practice nets.

Newbridge Playing Fields, Tettenhall Upper Green, Claregate Playing Fields and Gamesfield Green Playing Fields are the only community available pitches within Wolverhampton to currently have no training provision on site.

4.3: Demand

Cricket clubs in Wolverhampton tend to be large clubs offering several senior and junior teams at different age groups. In total, there are eight clubs servicing Wolverhampton generating 39 senior teams and 29 junior teams. Of these, 30 senior and 23 junior teams play within Wolverhampton, whilst the remainder play on pitches just outside the Wolverhampton boundary.

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Table 4.4: Summary of teams by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of competitive teams			
	Senior men	Senior women	Junior boys	Junior girls
Bilston	4	-	7	
Central & South	6	-	1	2
North	5	-	5	
Tettenhall	14	1	8	
Wednesfield	-	-	-	
Wolverhampton	29	1	21	2

Despite a national recognition that cricket is currently experiencing a reduction in participation the amount of teams within Wolverhampton has seemingly increased. Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall CC, Wightwick & Finchfield CC, Fordhouses CC and Springhill CC all report an increase in senior teams over the previous three years, whilst only Springvale CC reports a decrease after a loss of players resulted in its third team folding.

For junior cricket, Penn CC, Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall CC, Wightwick & Finchfield CC and Fordhouses CC report an increase in teams. No clubs report a decrease. Reasons cited by clubs experiencing growth include improved facilities, increased advertising and working closely with local schools.

Women's and girls' cricket

Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority for the ECB and there is a target to establish two girls' and one women's team in every local authority over the next five years. This has already been achieved in Wolverhampton as Wolverhampton CC fields one women's and two girls' teams. The Club works in partnership with Wolverhampton Girls High School.

No other clubs field any women's or girl's teams and no other clubs report an intention to do so in the future, although girls can play cricket in mixed junior teams.

Latent demand

No latent demand was expressed during consultation, that is, no clubs report that teams are unable to play due to a lack of pitches. However; Sport England's Segmentation Tool also enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in cricket but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 1002 people, 258 (26%) of which is the segment 'Kev – pub league team mates'.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and by using population forecasts.

Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2037) based on population growth. Using this, an increase of three junior teams is to be expected. A decreasing adult population, however, could result in a decrease in adult teams.

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Table 4.5: Team generation rates based on population growth

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (18-55)	64,925	38	1709	62,301	36.5	-1.5
Senior Women (18-55)	64,439	1	64439	65,341	1.0	0.0
Junior Boys (7-17)	16,804	27	622	18,582	29.9	2.9
Junior Girls (7-17)	15,991	2	7996	18,192	2.3	0.3

Additionally, consultation highlights that seven clubs have plans to increase their number of teams in the future. Only Old Wulfrunians CC reports no plans to increase its number of teams.

In total, three clubs have plans to increase their number of senior teams and six clubs have plans to increase their number of junior teams, amounting to a total potential increase of four senior teams and 11 junior teams. The table below highlights the future demand expressed by clubs.

Table 4.6: Future demand expressed by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Senior	Junior
Fordhouses CC	North	-	2
Penn CC	Central & South	-	2
Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall CC	OUTSIDE	-	-
Springhill CC	OUTSIDE	1	-
Springvale CC	Bilston	1	1
Whitmore Reans CC	Central & South	-	2
Wightwick & Finchfield CC	OUTSIDE	1	2
Wolverhampton CC	Tettenhall	-	2
Wolverhampton		2	11

The potential growth in senior teams equates to the need for 1.5 pitches during peak time on the basis that one team can be accommodated on 0.5 of a pitch (playing home and away). There is less need for pitches to accommodate the potential increase in junior teams as junior teams generally play on a variety of days during midweek.

Last Man Stands

Last Man Stands (LMS) was founded in 2005, in London. This social outdoor eight-a-side T20 cricket game is played midweek, lasts approximately two hours and is typically played on non-turf wickets as opposed to grass wickets. All eight wickets are required to bowl a team out so when the seventh wicket falls, the 'Last Man Stands' on his own. This shorter format of the game has encouraged more people to participate in the sport and has increasing popularity.

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LMS does not currently operate in Wolverhampton, however, it did operate in 2014 and is expected to be in operation again for the 2016 season. The LMS organiser reports that the reason for not operating this season is due to a lack of staff (i.e. umpires) and a lack of time due to running other LMS (in Walsall and in Sandwell) and personal commitments.

Springhill Cricket Club (located just outside the Wolverhampton boundary) was used as the sole venue for LMS and this is expected to be the case again in 2016. As Springhill Cricket Club does not contain a non-turf wicket, grass wickets are used, which goes against standard LMS practice. The LMS organiser reports a need for a non-turf wicket on site and states that it would be preferred to using grass wickets.

Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies that peak time demand for cricket pitches is Saturday for senior cricket and midweek for junior cricket.

In total, 28 senior teams play on Saturdays, whilst the remaining 11 play on Sundays. Junior teams tend to play on a variety of days that can also include Saturday and Sundays, but is generally on weekdays.

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4.4: Capacity analysis

Capacity analysis for cricket is measured on a seasonal rather than weekly basis. This is due to playability (i.e., only one match is generally played per pitch per day at weekends or weekday evening). Wickets are rotated throughout the season to reduce wear and allow repair. Therefore, it is more accurate to assess capacity seasonally rather than weekly. The capacity of a pitch to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. This section presents the current pitch stock available for cricket. It illustrates the:

- ◀ Number of grass and artificial cricket wickets per pitch
- ◀ Number of competitive matches per season per pitch

To help calculate pitch capacity, the ECB suggests that a good quality wicket should be able to take:

- ◀ 5 matches per season per grass wicket (adults)
- ◀ 60 matches per season per synthetic wicket (adults)

This information is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

Potential capacity	Play is below the level the site could sustain
At capacity	Play matches the level the site can sustain
Overused	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

No non-turf wicket pitches are recorded as accommodating more than 60 matches per season, therefore, all non-turf wickets are considered to have spare capacity. This translates to actual spare capacity for junior cricket as peak time is midweek, whereby non-turf wickets are more commonly used and matches can be played on a variety of days.

As only one senior team is recorded as playing on a non-turf wicket, non-turf wickets have been discounted from the table below.

NB: the pitch capacity above should be used as guidance and consultation with the ECB in Wolverhampton suggests that not all wickets will be able to sustain the five matches identified. This should be considering in the context of any action planning.

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Table 4.7: Grass wicket cricket pitch capacity

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Analysis area	Quality	No. of grass wickets	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)
18	Claregate Playing Fields	Yes-unused	Tettenhall	Standard	10	-	50	-50
34	Fordhouses Cricket Club	Yes	North	Good	14	36	70	-34
				Standard	8	30	40	-10
58	Newbridge Playing Fields	Yes	Central & South	Poor	8	24	40	-19
62	Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall Cricket Club	Yes	OUTSIDE	Standard	12	54	60	-6
63	Penn Cricket Ground	Yes	Central & South	Standard	10	42	50	-8
93	Tettenhall College	No	Tettenhall	Standard	12	-	60	-
				Standard	10	-	50	-
94	Tettenhall Upper Green	Yes-unused	Tettenhall	Standard	8	16	40	-24
107	Wightwick & Finchfield Cricket Club	Yes	OUTSIDE	Standard	12	44	60	-16
112	Wolverhampton Cricket Club	Yes	Tettenhall	Good	16	50	80	-30
				Standard	11	47	55	-8
113	Wolverhampton Grammar School	No	Tettenhall	Standard	12	-	60	-
				Standard	8	-	40	-
129	Springvale Sports & Social Club	Yes	Bilston	Standard	9	40	45	-5
154	Goodyear Sports & Social Club	Yes-unused	North	Standard	12	-	60	-60
207	Gamesfield Green Playing Field	Yes	Tettenhall	Standard	7	29	35	-6
220	Springhill Cricket Club	Yes	OUTSIDE	Standard	8	35	40	-5

* In order to calculate pitch capacity at sites where clubs have not responded to consultation, the number of matches per season is based on an average taken from the league and division they play in.

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4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'spare capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular training sessions, or to protect the quality of the site.

There are 14 grass wicket pitches (discounting pitches unavailable to the community) which show potential spare capacity totalling 291 match sessions per season. Where there is a significant amount of potential capacity available, however, this may not represent actual space capacity, i.e. whether pitch capacity is available at the peak time.

The peak time for playing senior cricket is Saturday. The table below identifies whether any spare capacity is at peak time and can be deemed as 'actual spare capacity'.

Table 4.8: Summary of actual spare capacity

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Amount of spare capacity (matches)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
18	Claregate Playing Fields	Tettenhall	-50	1	Currently unused despite being available to the community.
34	Fordhouses Cricket Club	North	-34	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
			-10	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
58	Newbridge Playing Fields	Central & South	-19	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
62	Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall Cricket Club	OUTSIDE	-6	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
63	Penn Cricket Ground	Central & South	-8	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
94	Tettenhall Upper Green	Tettenhall	-24	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
107	Wightwick & Finchfield Cricket Club	OUTSIDE	-16	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
112	Wolverhampton Cricket Club	Tettenhall	-30	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
			-8	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
129	Springvale Sports & Social Club	Bilston	-15	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
154	Goodyear Sports & Social Club	North	-60	1	Currently unused despite being available to the community.
207	Gamesfield Green Playing Field	Tettenhall	-6	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.
220	Springhill Cricket Club	OUTSIDE	-5	-	No spare capacity on a Saturday.

Although a large amount of spare capacity has been identified it is not as simple as to aggregate this into a general oversupply of cricket pitches. Despite 14 pitches showing spare capacity, there are only two available during peak time for senior cricket. Both pitches with actual spare capacity are currently unused by the community, meaning no used pitches have spare capacity during peak time.

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Table 4.9: Actual spare capacity of grass wickets by analysis area

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity
Bilston	-
Central & South	-
North	1
Tettenhall	1
Wednesfield	-
Wolverhampton	2

Overplay

As guidance, all pitches receiving more than five matches per wicket per season are adjudged to be overplayed. On this basis there are no pitches overplayed within Wolverhampton.

4.6 Conclusions

Consideration must be given to the extent in which current provision can accommodate current and future demand.

The table below looks at available spare capacity at peak time for senior cricket (Saturdays) considered against over play and the future demand highlighted during consultation. As two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis, demand for 0.5 pitches can be seen where there is future demand for one team.

As previously stated, juniors teams can play on non-turf wickets and generally play mid-week on a variety of days. Therefore, spare capacity is considered to exist for junior matches both now and in the future as no non-turf wickets are adjudged to be at capacity or overplayed.

Table 4.10: Capacity of grass wicket cricket pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (pitches)	Demand (pitches)		
		Overplay	Future demand (2037)	Total
Bilston	-	-	0.5	+0.5
Central & South	-	-	-	0
North	1	-	-	-1
Tettenhall	1	-	0.5	-0.5
Wednesfield	-	-	-	0
Wolverhampton	2	-	1	-0.5

There is an overall surplus of 0.5 pitches across Wolverhampton, however, there is a shortfall of 0.5 pitches in the Bilston Analysis Area, which is a direct result of future demand expressed by Springvale CC. Focus should therefore be placed on accommodating this demand.

In order to do this, an alternative venue to Springvale Sports & Social Club will be required as no spare capacity exists on the pitch during peak time. As there are no other pitches

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within the Bilston Analysis Area, the Club will have to seek a pitch in a different analysis area or another pitch will have to be provided.

As well as this, expressed future demand from Springhill CC and Wightwick & Finchfield CC also needs to be accommodated as pitches currently used by these clubs (outside the Wolverhampton boundary) show no spare capacity during peak time.

Cricket summary

- ◀ In total, there are 15 grass wicket cricket squares in Wolverhampton, 11 of which are available for community use.
- ◀ Pitches located Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall Cricket Club, Wightwick & Finchfield Cricket Club and Springhill Cricket Club have also been included as all three pitches service Wolverhampton clubs.
- ◀ In addition, there are nine standalone non-turf wicket pitches. Of these, only Highfields Secondary School, the Royal Wolverhampton (junior) School and South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy record any regular community use.
- ◀ Whitmore Reans CC is in talks with the Council over potentially acquiring their pitch on a 25 year lease.
- ◀ There are eight clubs servicing Wolverhampton generating 39 senior teams and 29 junior teams. Of these, 30 senior and 23 junior teams play within Wolverhampton, whilst the remainder play on pitches just outside the Wolverhampton boundary.
- ◀ In total, three clubs have plans to increase their number of senior teams and six clubs have plans to increase their number of junior teams, amounting to a total potential increase of four senior teams and 11 junior teams.
- ◀ Last man stands does not currently operate in Wolverhampton, however, it did operate in 2014 and is expected to be in operation again in 2016.
- ◀ No non-turf wicket pitches are recorded as accommodating more than 60 matches per season, therefore, all non-turf wickets are considered to have spare capacity. This translates to actual spare capacity for junior cricket.
- ◀ There are 14 grass wicket pitches which show potential spare capacity totalling 291 match sessions per season. Of these, two have actual spare capacity during peak time for senior cricket (Saturday).
- ◀ There are no pitches overplayed.
- ◀ There is an overall surplus of 0.5 pitches across Wolverhampton, however, there is a shortfall of 0.5 pitches in the Bilston Analysis Area, which is a direct result of future demand expressed by Springvale CC.
- ◀ As there are no other grass wicket pitches within the Bilston Analysis Area, the Club will have to seek a pitch in a different analysis area or another pitch will have to be provided.
- ◀ Expressed future demand from Springhill CC and Wightwick & Finchfield CC also needs to be accommodated as pitches currently used by these clubs (outside the Wolverhampton boundary) show no spare capacity during peak time.

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PART 5: RUGBY UNION

5.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the governing body for the sport across England. A full-time development officer is responsible for Wolverhampton (as part of the Staffordshire region) and works closely with all the clubs to maximise their potential. This work involves developing club structures, including working towards the RFU accreditation (Clubmark) and the development of school-club structures.

Club consultation

There is one club servicing Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton RUFC, which completed an online survey.

5.2: Supply

Within Wolverhampton, there are four senior¹² and two mini rugby union pitch across four sites. Pitches at Aldersley High School, Highfields Secondary School and Wolverhampton Grammar School are available for community use (however unused), whilst pitches at Tettenhall College are unavailable.

All pitches are located in the Tettenhall and North analysis areas. There are no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches within Wolverhampton.

Table 5.1: Summary of grass rugby union pitches available for community use.

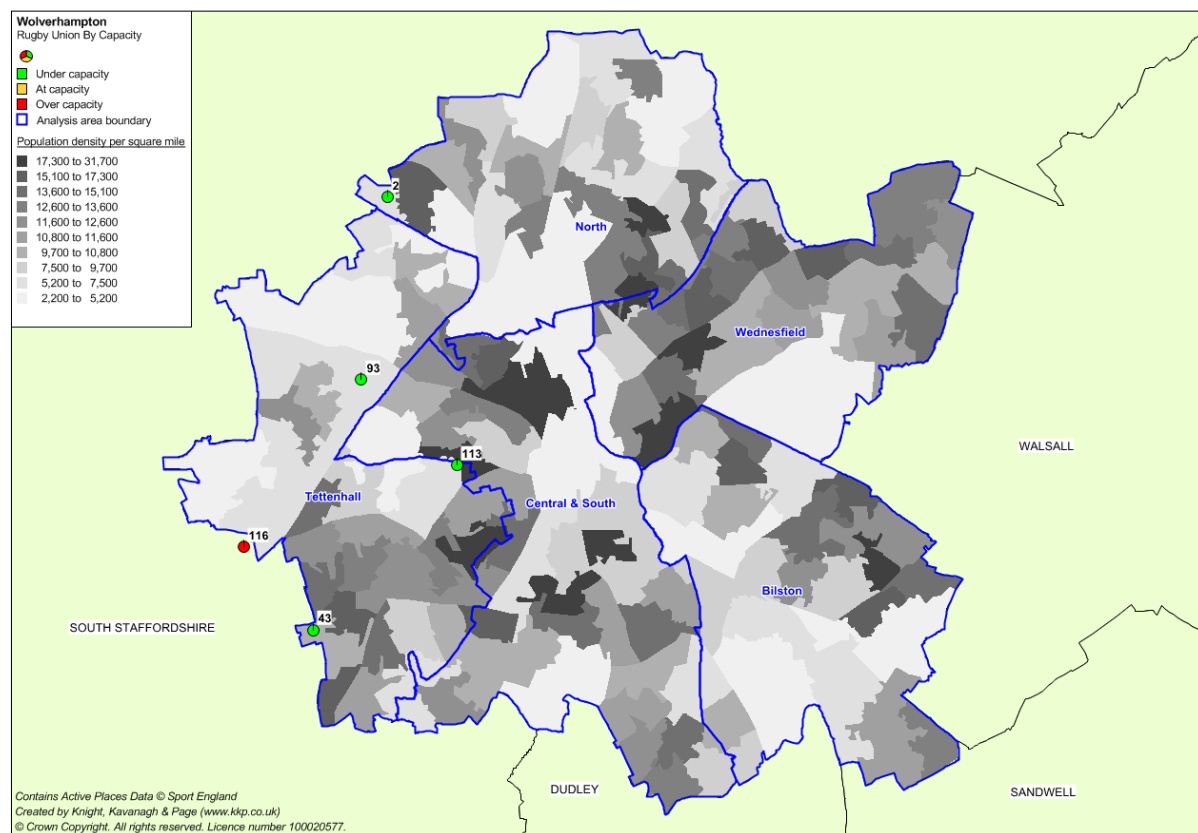
Analysis area	No. of senior pitches	No of mini/midi pitches
Bilston	-	-
Central & South	-	-
North	1	1
Tettenhall	1	1
Wednesfield	-	-
Wolverhampton	2	2

Although Wolverhampton Rugby Club is located just outside the border of Wolverhampton, the Club considers itself to be a Wolverhampton club and the majority of users are from Wolverhampton. Therefore, the supply and demand analysis for rugby union includes Wolverhampton Rugby Club.

¹² NB: The audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches. For rugby union pitch dimension sizes please refer to the RFU guidelines; 'Grass Pitches for Rugby' at www.rfu.com

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Figure 5.1: Location of rugby union pitches within Wolverhampton



For a key to the map see Table 5.5.

Future supply

The Royal Wolverhampton (Junior) School are planning to provide a senior rugby pitch from 2016 onwards. The pitch has already been marked out and the School is now waiting for posts to be provided. The pitch will be available for community use, however, drainage at the site is an issue.

Pitch quality

The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements; the maintenance programme and the level of drainage on each pitch. An overall quality based on both drainage and maintenance can then be generated.

The agreed rating for each pitch type also represents actions required to improve pitch quality. A breakdown of actions required based on the ratings can be seen below:

Table 5.2: Definition of maintenance categories

Category	Definition
M0	Action is significant improvements to maintenance programme
M1	Action is minor improvements to maintenance programme
M2	Action is no improvements to maintenance programme

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Table 5.3: Definition of drainage categories

Category	Definition
D0	Action is pipe drainage system is needed on pitch
D1	Action is pipe drainage is needed on pitch
D2	Action is slit drainage is needed on pitch
D3	No action is needed on pitch drainage

Table 5.4: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	Poor	Poor	Standard
	Natural Adequate (D1)	Poor	Standard	Good
	Pipe Drained (D2)	Standard	Standard	Good
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	Standard	Good	Good

All pitches are assessed as either M1/D1 or M1/D2, meaning all pitches are rated as standard. The table below shows the agreed quality ratings for each pitch based on a combination of non-technical site assessment scores and user ratings.

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Table 5.5: Site quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Floodlit?	Non tech score	Quality rating	Comments
2	Aldersley High School	Yes-unused	Secured	North	Senior	No	M1 / D1	Standard	A senior pitch available to the community however unused. Used by the School for approximately two match sessions per week.
					Mini	No	M1 / D1	Standard	A mini pitch available to the community however unused. Used by the School for one match session per week for curricular lessons.
43	Highfields Secondary School	Yes-unused	Secured	Tettenhall	Senior	No	M1 / D1	Standard	A senior pitch available to the community however unused. Used by the School for approximately two match sessions per week.
93	Tettenhall College	No	Unsecured	Tettenhall	Senior	No	M1 / D1	Standard	A senior pitch unavailable for community use.
116	Wolverhampton Rugby Club	Yes-unused	Secured	OUTSIDE	Senior	Yes	M1 / D2	Standard	A floodlit senior pitch used for the majority of senior matches by Wolverhampton RUFC. Also used by St Mary's Gaelic Football Club and Wolverhampton Wasps RLFC. The pitch is pipe and slit drained.
					Senior	Yes	M1 / D2	Standard	A floodlit senior pitch which accommodates the majority of training demand by Wolverhampton RUFC. Also used for matches. The pitch is pipe and slit drained.
					Senior	No	M1 / D2	Standard	A senior pitch used predominately by junior and mini teams from Wolverhampton RUFC. The pitch is pipe and slit drained.
113	Wolverhampton Grammar School	Yes-unused	Secured	Tettenhall	Senior	No	M1 / D1	Standard	A senior pitch available to the community, however, unused.
					Mini	No	M1 / D1	Standard	A mini pitch available to the community, however, unused.

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Ancillary facilities

All rugby pitches in Wolverhampton are serviced with changing rooms. No issues regarding ancillary provision were cited during consultation at either Aldersley High School or Highfields Secondary School.

Wolverhampton RUFC rates the changing accommodation at Wolverhampton Rugby Club as poor quality. The site contains six team changing rooms and one officials changing room, however, issues relating to the size of the rooms and the age of the facility were reported during consultation with the Club. Plans are in place to redevelop the clubhouse in the near future, but funding has yet to be acquired.

Security of tenure

Wolverhampton RUFC owns Wolverhampton Rugby Club and therefore is considered to have security of tenure.

Aldersley High School, Highfields Secondary School and Wolverhampton Grammar School are also considered to be secure as all schools state that community use is an important part of their business plan and it will continue to be offered for the foreseeable future.

4.3: Demand

Wolverhampton RUFC consists of three senior men's teams, one senior women's team, an U21s (male) colt's team, an U19s (male) colt's team, four junior boys' teams and six mini teams. All match play and training occurs at Wolverhampton Rugby Club.

Training on match pitches reduces the capacity for match play on these pitches and means they are more likely to be overplayed. Wolverhampton RUFC trains at Wolverhampton Rugby Club an average of six hours per week (four match equivalent sessions), the vast majority of which is on the club's second floodlit pitch (known as the training pitch by the Club).

Additional usage

In addition to regular competitive play and training, Wolverhampton Rugby Club is also used by Wolverhampton Wasps RLFC for senior matches and St Marys Gaelic Football Club for matches.

Displaced demand

Teams from the University of Wolverhampton (which play BUCS fixtures) are currently displaced outside of Wolverhampton; the teams use Walsall Rugby Club for competitive matches. This is preferred by the University as they have a partnership with Walsall RUFC.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts. Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2037) based on population growth. It is predicted that there will be an increase of one mini team.

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Table 5.6: Team generation rates

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group (2037)	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (19-45)	47,051	3	15684	45,360	2.9	-0.1
Senior Women (19-45)	46,374	1	46374	47,475	1.0	0.0
Junior Boys (13-18)	9,595	6	1599	10,108	6.3	0.3
Junior Girls (13-18)	9,034	0	0	9,893	0.0	0.0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	17,280	6	2880	20,093	7.0	1.0

Wolverhampton RUFC reports plans to increase its number of teams by one senior women's team and states that the new team will be accommodated at Wolverhampton Rugby Club. Despite this, the Club also reports that it cannot quantify any further growth, especially in junior and mini teams, due to a lack of available capacity on pitches.

Although limited future demand has been highlighted through team generation rates and club consultation, it must be noted that the 2015 Rugby World Club is expected to result in a further increase in demand.

5.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality, and therefore the capacity, of a pitch affect the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing rugby. In extreme circumstances it can result in the inability of the pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times. To enable an accurate supply and demand assessment of rugby pitches, the following assumptions are applied to site by site analysis:

- ◀ All sites that are used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◀ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches (except for where mini pitches are provided).
- ◀ From U13 upwards, teams play 15 v15 and use a full pitch.
- ◀ Mini teams (U6-12) play on half of a senior pitch i.e. two teams per senior pitch.
- ◀ For senior and youth teams the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis (assumes half of matches will be played away).
- ◀ For mini teams, play per week is set at 0.25 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis and playing across half of one adult team.
- ◀ All male adult club rugby takes place on a Saturday afternoon.
- ◀ All U13-18 rugby takes place on a Sunday morning.
- ◀ Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by the addition of team equivalents.
- ◀ Team equivalents have been calculated on the basis that 30 players (two teams) train on the pitch for 90 minutes (team equivalent of one) per night.

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As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate. Capacity is based upon a basic assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme ascertained through a combination of the quality assessment and the club survey as follows:

Table 5.7: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	0.5	1.5	2
	Natural Adequate or Pipe Drained (D1)	1.5	2	3
	Pipe Drained (D2)	1.75	2.5	3.25
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	2	3	3.5

This guide should only be used as a very general measure of potential pitch capacity and does not account for specific circumstances at time of use and assumes average rainfall and an appropriate end of season rest and renovation programme.

The figures are based upon a pipe drained system at 5m centres that has been installed in the last eight years and a slit drained system at 1m centres completed in the last five years.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 5.8: Rugby union provision and level of community use for pitches used by Wolverhampton teams

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
2	Aldersley High School	North	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	No	2	2		Senior pitch available to the community but unused. School use results in the pitch being played to capacity, therefore, any use over and above school use would result in overplay.
			Mini	Standard (M1/D1)	No	1	2	-1	Mini pitch available to the community but unused. Spare capacity of one match equivalent session exists after taking into account school use to accommodate any future demand.
43	Highfields Secondary School	Tettenhall	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	No	2	2		Senior pitch available to the community but unused. School use results in the pitch being played to capacity, therefore, any use over and above school use would result in overplay.
113	Wolverhampton Grammar School	Tettenhall	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	No	2	2		Senior pitch available to the community but unused. School use results in the pitch being played to capacity, therefore, any use over and above school use would result in overplay.
			Mini	Standard (M1/D1)	No	1	2	-1	Mini pitch available to the community but unused. Spare capacity of one match equivalent session exists after taking into account school use to accommodate any future demand.
116	Wolverhampton RUFC	OUTSIDE	Senior	Standard (M1/D2)	Yes	3	2.5	0.5	Pitch One - used mostly by senior teams within Wolverhampton RUFC. Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions exist after factoring in rugby union use, however, use by rugby league and Gaelic clubs result in the pitch being overused.
			Senior	Standard (M1/D2)	Yes	6	2.5	3.5	Pitch Two - used as a training pitch by Wolverhampton RUFC. Due to high training demand, the pitch is overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions.
			Senior	Standard (M1/D2)	No	4.5	2.5	2	Pitch Three - used mostly by junior and mini teams from Wolverhampton RUFC. The pitch is overplayed by two match equivalent sessions.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

5.5: Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'actual capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

There is spare capacity on mini pitches at Aldersley High School and Wolverhampton Grammar School, which is considered to be *actual* spare capacity. No spare capacity exists on senior pitches.

Overplay

All three pitches at Wolverhampton Rugby Club are overplayed by a combined total of six match equivalent sessions per week. In particular, Pitch Two, is primarily used for training and as such is overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week and Pitch Three, is mostly used by junior and mini teams and is overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per week.

5.6: Conclusions

The key issue is the high levels of overplay at Wolverhampton Rugby Club which is in part a result of training on match pitches and junior/mini usage of adult pitches.

There is evidence to suggest the need for an alternative (off pitch) floodlit training venue/pitch. This is particularly key given that future demand identified only further exacerbates the current situation. In general, however, clubs are reluctant to hire secondary pitches for training due to the additional costs involved and instead look to develop their own grounds in order to accommodate demand.

Although pitch quality could be improved (potentially providing an additional three match equivalent sessions of spare capacity), another way to alleviate overplay would be to install additional floodlighting. By having a third floodlit pitch, training demand can be spread across more pitches therefore resulting in less overuse of the current training pitch. Good floodlighting at club sites is a key development tool in enabling clubs to grow participation as well as balancing usage across pitches.

Another reason for overplay is mini teams playing on senior pitches. By potentially marking out additional mini pitches away from senior pitches (should the land exist), overplay will reduce.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Rugby union summary

- ◀ Within Wolverhampton, there are four senior and one mini rugby union pitch across four sites.
- ◀ Pitches at Aldersley High School, Highfields Secondary School and Wolverhampton Grammar School are available for community use (however unused), whilst pitches at Tettenhall College are unavailable.
- ◀ The Royal Wolverhampton (junior) School are planning on providing a senior pitch from 2016 onwards. The pitch will be available for community use.
- ◀ All pitches are assessed as either M1/D1 or M1/D2, meaning all pitches are rated as standard.
- ◀ Wolverhampton RUFC consists of three senior men's teams, one senior women's team, an U21s (male) colt's team, an U19s (male) colt's team, four junior boys' teams and six mini teams. All match play and training occurs at Wolverhampton Rugby Club.
- ◀ It is reported by Wolverhampton RUFC that the Club trains at Wolverhampton Rugby Club an average of six hours per week.
- ◀ Teams from the University of Wolverhampton (which play BUCS fixtures) are currently displaced outside of Wolverhampton; the teams use Walsall Rugby Club for competitive matches. This is preferred by the University as they have a partnership with Walsall RUFC.
- ◀ TGRs predict that there will be an increase of one mini team, whilst Wolverhampton RUFC reports plans to increase its number of teams by one senior women's team.
- ◀ There is spare capacity on mini pitches at Aldersley High School and Wolverhampton Grammar School, which is considered to be *actual* spare capacity. There is no spare capacity on senior pitches.
- ◀ All three pitches at Wolverhampton Rugby Club are overplayed by a combined total of six match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ There is evidence to suggest the need for an alternative (off pitch) floodlit training venue/pitch.
- ◀ Another way to alleviate overplay would be to install additional floodlighting.
- ◀ By potentially marking out additional mini pitches away from senior pitches (should the land exist), overplay will reduce.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 6: RUGBY LEAGUE

6.1 Introduction

The Rugby Football League (RFL) is the governing body for rugby league in Britain and Ireland. It administers the England national rugby league team, the Challenge Cup, Super League and the Championships which form the professional and semi-professional structure of the game in the UK. The RFL also administers the amateur and junior game across the country in association with the British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA).

Consultation

There are two rugby league clubs in Wolverhampton; Wolverhampton Wasps RLFC and Moreton Dragons RLFC. Neither club were responsive to consultation requests. Some information relating to Moreton Dragons RLFC was acquired during consultation with Moreton Community High School.

6.2 Supply

There is one rugby league pitch in Wolverhampton, located at Moreton Community High School.

Rugby league is also played on a rugby union pitch at Wolverhampton Rugby Club (located just outside Wolverhampton).

Pitch quality

A non-technical site assessment was carried out at Moreton Community High School in order to assess the pitch as one of three categories, 'good', 'standard' or 'poor'. Carrying capacity of a pitch is dependent upon the quality of a pitch which is outlined below:

Category	Capacity
Good	3 matches per week
Standard	2 matches per week
Poor	1 match per week

The pitch at Moreton Community High School is assessed as standard quality, meaning it should accommodate two matches per week.

6.3: Demand

There are two rugby league clubs in Wolverhampton.

Wolverhampton Wasps RLFC fields one senior men's team, two junior boys' teams (U14s and U16s) and one primary team (U12s). The clubs senior team plays home matches at Wolverhampton Rugby Club, whilst the junior and primary teams play at Moreton Community High School.

Moreton Dragons RLFC is a rugby league academy aimed at students aged 16-19 years old who want to play elite rugby league whilst carrying on with their studies. The Club fields one team, which plays at Moreton Community High School. The Club works in partnership with the School.

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6.4: Supply and demand analysis

Based on match play only, the pitch at Moreton Community High School currently has spare capacity amounting to 0.25 of a pitch (based on senior and junior teams using 0.5 of a pitch and primary teams using 0.25 of a pitch). Communication with both Moreton Dragons RLFC and Wolverhampton Wasps RLFC is recommended to fully understand any additional pitch usage, future demand and any other relevant needs.

It is recommended that Wolverhampton Wasps' usage of Wolverhampton Rugby Club is transferred to a site with a dedicated rugby league pitch. Not only is this more beneficial to the Club, but it will also help alleviate overplay at Wolverhampton Rugby Club (as identified in Part 5: Rugby Union).

Rugby league summary

- ◀ There is one rugby league pitch within Wolverhampton, located at Moreton Community High School. Rugby league is also played on a rugby union pitch at Wolverhampton Rugby Club.
- ◀ The pitch at Moreton Community High School is assessed as standard quality, meaning it can accommodate two match sessions per week.
- ◀ Wolverhampton Wasps RLFC fields one senior men's team, two junior teams and one primary team. The senior team plays home matches at Wolverhampton Rugby Club, whilst the junior and primary teams play at Moreton Community High School.
- ◀ Moreton Dragons RLFC fields one team which plays at Moreton Community High School.
- ◀ Based on match play only, the pitch at Moreton Community High School has spare capacity amounting to 0.25 of a pitch.
- ◀ Communication with both Moreton Dragons RLFC and Wolverhampton Wasps RLFC is recommended to fully understand any relevant needs.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 7: HOCKEY

7.1: Introduction

Hockey in England is governed by England Hockey (EH) and is administered locally by the Staffordshire Hockey Association.

Competitive league hockey matches can only be played on sand based, sand dressed or water based artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Although competitive play cannot take place on third generation turf pitches (3G), 40mm pitches may be suitable, in some instances, for beginner training and are preferred to poor grass or tarmac surfaces. For adults, a full size pitch for competitive matches measures 100x60 yards.

It is considered that a hockey pitch can accommodate a maximum of four matches on the peak day (Saturdays) provided that the pitch has floodlighting.

Club consultation

Three clubs service Wolverhampton; Finchfield Hockey Club, Old Wulfrunians Hockey Club and Wolverhampton and Tettenhall Hockey Club. All three clubs completed an online survey resulting in a 100% response rate. Results from consultation are used to inform key issues within this section of the report.

7.2: Supply

There are four full size (sand based/dressed) artificial pitches in Wolverhampton, with Aldersley Leisure Village accommodating two adjacent to each other. The Tettenhall Analysis Area contains three pitches, whilst the remaining pitch is located in the Bilston Analysis Area. There are no full size hockey suitable AGPs in the North, Central & South and Wednesfield analysis areas. All pitches are available to the community.

Table 7.1: Sand AGPs by location

Site ID	Site	No. of pitches	Floodlit?	Analysis area
3	Aldersley Leisure Village	2	Yes	Tettenhall
6	South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy	1	Yes	Bilston
113	Wolverhampton Grammar School	1	Yes	Tettenhall

It must be noted that an additional sand based pitch at Heath Park Business Enterprise College has recently been lost as the School undergoes a new build, with the pitch presently being used as a car park and site office. When the pitch is re-provided in 2016, it is expected to be brought back into use as a 3G AGP and therefore will not be suitable for hockey use.

A further two sand based AGPs have also recently been lost, located at Jennie Lee Centre and East Park. Both pitches were disused since 2012 after a combination of a lack of demand and high running costs.

An AGP located at the Royal Wolverhampton School is considered marginally too short to host competitive hockey fixtures (measuring 90 yards in length) and therefore has been discounted from table 5.1; however, the pitch is currently used by adult teams. In total, there are five smaller sized AGPs (all located in the Central & South Analysis Area) which could be used for junior hockey and could accommodate some training demand, as seen in the table below.

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Table 7.2: Smaller sized sand AGPs

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Size (yards)	Floodlit?	Analysis area
20	Colton Hills School	1	40 x 25	Yes	Central & South
76	Royal Wolverhampton School	1	90 x 60	Yes	Central & South
144	All Saints Games Area	3	40 x 20	Yes	Central & South

The location of all AGPs can be seen in Figure 3.1 (Part 3).

Quality

It is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately 10 years (depending on levels of use). Both AGPs at Aldersley Leisure Village were resurfaced in 2013 and therefore no issues relating to quality were discovered during the audit assessment.

Similarly, the AGP at Wolverhampton Grammar School was resurfaced last year and as a result is assessed as good quality. The AGP at South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy is also assessed as good quality after being built in 2013. As with all AGPs, it is recommended that a sinking fund is put in place in order to ensure future refurbishment can go ahead if and when required.

Although the AGP at Royal Wolverhampton School is not full size, the quality of the pitch is important as it accommodates regular competitive match play. The AGPs carpet has not been resurfaced since the pitch was provided in 2004, meaning it is now over 10 years old. It is therefore recommended that the pitch is refurbished as soon as possible in order to improve quality and as a result sustain regular hockey use.

Ancillary provision

Changing facilities service all sites with a sand based AGP, with no issues reported at either Aldersley Leisure Village or South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy. Users of Royal Wolverhampton School and Wolverhampton Grammar School, however, report that changing provision and toilet facilities are located a long distance away from the AGPs, which is considered to be a safeguarding issue for junior users of the sites.

7.3: Demand

There are three hockey clubs in Wolverhampton.

Finchfield Hockey Club

It consists of four senior men's teams and one junior team. All teams within the Club train and play their competitive fixtures at Royal Wolverhampton School, accessing the pitch for a combined total of nine hours per week. As previously mentioned, the pitch at Royal Wolverhampton School does not meet size requirements for senior hockey, but use is allowed at the discretion of the Midland Region Hockey Association.

The Club highlights deteriorating pitch quality as the main issue it faces, noting that the School only carries out basic maintenance work. Concerns were raised during consultation that the Club may be forced to seek an alternative venue as the pitch will not remain suitable for league hockey much longer. Ideally, the Club would like its own AGP adjacent to its clubhouse, located at Trysul Road, Wombourne, WV5 8DQ.

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Old Wulfrunians Hockey Club

The club fields six senior men's (one of which plays friendly matches only), two veteran men's and two junior teams. All activity (match play and training) takes place at Wolverhampton Grammar School. Now that the carpet of the AGP has been replaced, the Club reports no issues.

Wolverhampton and Tettenhall Hockey Club

It fields three senior men's, three senior women's and one junior team, all of which play and train on the two AGPs at Aldersley Leisure Village. As with Old Wulfrunians Hockey Club, no issues were reported during consultation.

Latent demand

No clubs report latent demand. That is, no clubs report that they would currently be able to field more teams if more pitches were available to them.

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in hockey but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 316 people in Wolverhampton. The most dominant segment is 'Jamie – sports team lads' of which 42 (13%) would like to participate in hockey.

Future demand

Old Wulfrunians Hockey Club reports that its number of teams has increased over the previous three years, which it attributes to improved recruitment, on field success and a thriving social side to the Club which has helped improve player retention. Wolverhampton and Tettenhall Hockey Club, however, reports that its number of teams has decreased over this time period, as a fourth men's team folded due to a high number of players leaving the Area for university. Finchfield Hockey Club states that its membership numbers have remained static.

All three clubs report an intention to increase their number of teams in the future. Both Finchfield Hockey Club and Wolverhampton and Tettenhall Hockey Club express future demand for one senior men's team, whilst Old Wulfrunians Hockey Club expresses future demand for one senior men's, one senior women's and one junior team. All clubs report that future demand can be absorbed at facilities currently used.

7.4 Supply and demand analysis

Based on 22 adult teams (including future demand) from Wolverhampton requiring a pitch at peak time (Saturday) there is a requirement for three (rounded up from 2.75) full sized, floodlit hockey pitches based on teams playing home and away (and based on a floodlit AGP being able to accommodate a maximum of four matches on a Saturday).

Within Wolverhampton, there are currently four pitches which meet the criteria, suggesting that supply is adequate enough to meet demand for senior hockey. When factoring in that the smaller sized AGP at Royal Wolverhampton School is also used for senior hockey, there are five suitable AGPs.

As there are less junior teams, and because junior teams generally play on a Sunday and can play on smaller sized AGPs, supply is also deemed sufficient to meet the demand for junior hockey.

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Focus should be placed on ensuring the quality of the current supply of AGPs is improved and sustained. Particular priority, therefore, should be directed at refurbishing the AGP at Royal Wolverhampton School to ensure that it can continue to provide for competitive hockey.

The lack of hockey demand should also be explored at South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy.

Hockey summary

- ◀ There are four full size sand based artificial pitches in Wolverhampton. The Tetterhall Analysis Area contains three pitches, whilst the remaining pitch is located in the Wednesfield Analysis Area.
- ◀ An additional sand based pitch at Heath Park Business Enterprise College has recently been lost as the School undergoes a new build. When the pitch is re-provided in 2016, it is expected to be brought back into use as a 3G AGP and therefore will not be suitable for hockey use.
- ◀ A further AGP located at Royal Wolverhampton School is considered marginally too short to host competitive hockey fixtures, however, the pitch is currently used by adult teams.
- ◀ The AGP at Royal Wolverhampton School has not been resurfaced since the pitch was provided in 2004.
- ◀ There are three hockey clubs in Wolverhampton; Finchfield Hockey Club, Old Wulfrunians Hockey Club and Wolverhampton and Tetterhall Hockey Club. All three clubs report an intention to increase their number of teams in the future.
- ◀ Supply is deemed adequate enough to meet demand for both senior and junior hockey.
- ◀ Focus should be placed on ensuring the quality of the current supply of AGPs is improved and sustained. Particular priority, therefore, should be directed at refurbishing the AGP at Royal Wolverhampton School.
- ◀ The lack of hockey demand should also be explored at South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy.

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PART 8: TENNIS

8.1: Introduction

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis and administers the sport locally in Wolverhampton.

Consultation

All seven tennis clubs servicing Wolverhampton were consulted via an online survey request, resulting in a 100% response rate:

- ◀ Albert Tennis Club
- ◀ Bilston Tennis Club
- ◀ Hanbury Tennis Club
- ◀ Linden Lea Tennis Club
- ◀ Tettenhall Tennis Club
- ◀ Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club
- ◀ Woodfield Tennis Club

8.2: Supply

There are a total of 122 tennis courts identified in Wolverhampton located across 26 sites including sports clubs, playing fields, parks and schools. Of the courts, 72 (59%) are categorised as being available for community use across 16 sites (60%). All courts unavailable for community use are located within education sites.

Please note that for the purposes of this report, being available for community use refers to courts in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire by individuals, teams or clubs.

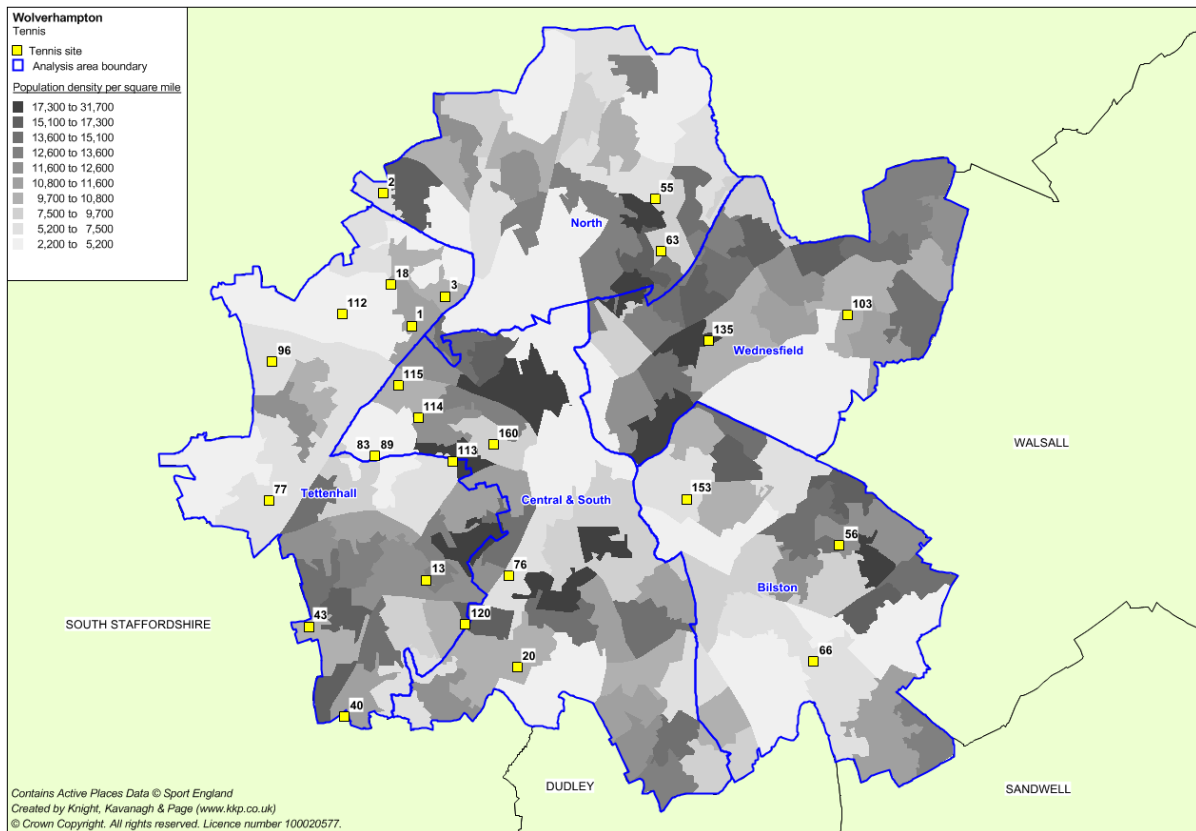
Table 8.1: Summary of the number of courts by analysis area

Analysis area	Courts available for community use	Courts (sites) unavailable for community use
Bilston	6	4
Central & South	24	25
North	7	10
Tettenhall	31	7
Wednesfield	4	4
Wolverhampton	72	50

As indicated in Table 8.1, the vast majority of community available tennis courts are located in the Central & South (33%) and Tettenhall (43%) analysis areas. Figure 8.1 below shows the location of all tennis courts within Wolverhampton, regardless of community use.

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Figure 8.1: Location of tennis courts



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Table 8.2: Key to map

ID	Site name	Ownership	Analysis area	Availability for community use?	No. of courts	Flood-lights?	Court surface	Court quality ¹³
1	Albert Lawn Tennis Club	Club	Tettenhall	Yes	6	Yes	Artificial turf	Good
2	Aldersley High School	School	North	No	2	Yes	Macadam	Good
					2	Yes	Macadam	Standard
3	Aldersley Leisure Village	Council	Tettenhall	Yes	6	Yes	Macadam	Good
13	Bradmore Recreation Ground	Council	Tettenhall	Yes	3	No	Macadam	Standard
18	Claregate Playing Fields	Council	Tettenhall	Yes	3	No	Macadam	Standard
20	Colton Hills High School	School	Central & South	No	8	No	Macadam	Poor
40	Hanbury Lawn Tennis Club	Club	Central & South	Yes	2	No	Artificial turf	Good
43	Highfields Secondary School	School	Tettenhall	No	3	Yes	Macadam	Standard
55	Moreton Community High School	School	North	No	6	Yes	Macadam	Poor
56	Moseley Park School	School	Bilston	No	4	No	Macadam	Poor
63	Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College	School	North	Yes	4	Yes	Macadam	Good
66	South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy	School	Bilston	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Good
67	North East Wolverhampton Academy	School	North	Yes	3	Yes	Macadam	Good
76	Royal Wolverhampton School	School	Central & South	No	4	No	Macadam	Standard
77	Smestow School	School	Tettenhall	Yes	6	No	Macadam	Standard
83	St Edmunds Catholic High School	School	Central & South	No	3	Yes	Macadam	Good
89	St Peters Collegiate High School	School	Central & South	Yes	4	No	Macadam	Standard
				No	4	No	Macadam	Standard
96	The Kings CE High School	School	Tettenhall	No	1	No	Macadam	Good
					3	No	Macadam	Standard

¹³ Assessed using a non-technical site assessment proforma and also takes account of user comments.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

ID	Site name	Ownership	Analysis area	Availability for community use?	No. of courts	Flood-lights?	Court surface	Court quality ¹³
103	Wednesfield High School	School	Wednesfield	Yes	4	Yes	Macadam	Standard
112	Tettenhall Tennis Club	Club	Tettenhall	Yes	3	Yes	Macadam	Good
114	Wolverhampton Girls High School	School	Central & South	No	2	No	Macadam	Good
					4	No	Macadam	Standard
115	Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club	Club	Central & South	Yes	5	Yes	Artificial turf	Good
					3	No	Grass	Standard
					3	Yes	Macadam	Good
					1	Yes	Clay	Good
120	Woodfield Sports & Social Club	Club	Tettenhall	Yes	4	Yes	Artificial turf	Standard
135	Heath Park Business Enterprise College	School	Wednesfield	No	4	No	Macadam	Standard
153	East Park	Council	Bilston	Yes	5	No	Macadam	Poor
160	West Park	Council	Central & South	Yes	6	No	Macadam	Standard

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Additional supply

Aldersley High School reports that it has sockets in place and the space for four tennis courts, however, no demand for courts to be provided exists. The macadam surface was re-laid last year and the area is also floodlit.

Courts were previously in place at Danescourt Road Sports Club, however, nets are no longer in place and the macadam surface has been left unmaintained.

Quality

During the audit assessment, of provision that is available for community use, 34 courts (47%) were assessed as good quality, 33 (46%) were deemed standard and five were rated as poor (7%).

Table 8.3: Summary of court quality for community available courts

Good	Standard	Poor
34	33	5

The only courts available for community use and assessed as poor quality are located at East Park. The most notable reasons for this quality rating include the severe slope of the courts, poor grip underfoot and the presence of loose gravel. Courts at Colton Hills High School, Moreton Community High School and Moseley Park School are also assessed as poor quality, however, these courts are not currently available for community use.

Clubs were asked to rate the overall quality of their courts on a scale of good, standard and poor. Each responding club rated court quality as good, with the exception of Woodfield Tennis Club and Bilston Tennis Club, which rated quality as poor.

Woodfield Tennis Club reports that quality at Woodfield Sports & Social Club is poor due to a lack of refurbishment, noting that no work has been carried out on the courts over the last 15 years other than general, basic maintenance. Although Bilston Tennis Club also rates its courts as poor quality, this relates to courts outside of Wolverhampton as the Club is currently displaced, as highlighted later in this report.

Clubs were also asked if the quality of their courts has improved since the previous season. Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club and Linden Lea Tennis Club stated that quality has got “much better”, whilst Woodfield Tennis Club reports that quality has got “slightly poorer”. All other clubs reported “no difference”.

Hanbury Lawn Tennis Club reports plans to have its courts resurfaced and is currently in the process of raising funds for this to go ahead. Woodfield Tennis Club reports similar plans but states that the cost is too expensive for the Club to fund.

Over markings

Many tennis courts within schools are over marked by netball courts. Courts which are over marked tend to receive higher levels of use which can result in a quicker deterioration in quality. This is the case at the following schools:

- ◀ Heath Park Business & Enterprise College
- ◀ Highfields Secondary School

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- ◀ Moseley Park School
- ◀ Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College
- ◀ South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy
- ◀ Smestow School
- ◀ St Peters Collegiate High School
- ◀ The Kings Church of England School
- ◀ Wednesfield High School

In addition, tennis courts at Aldersley Leisure Village are also over marked by netball courts.

Ancillary provision

All clubs responding to consultation report access to changing facilities, however, Tettenhall Tennis Club reports that access is limited at its site due to the clubhouse only being open when the cricket pitches are in use. The Clubhouse is owned by Wolverhampton Cricket Club.

All clubs rate changing room quality as good, with the exception of Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club, which rates quality as standard. The Club notes that an improvement to the changing facilities would result in an increase in participation, especially in terms of female tennis.

8.4: Demand

Competitive tennis

The seven clubs servicing Wolverhampton collectively provide a total of 1,198 senior members and 461 junior members. This number, however, is heavily weighted in favour of Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club which itself has 802 senior and 263 junior members. Albert Lawn Tennis Club records the next highest membership with 201 senior members and 111 junior members. No other club has over 100 members total.

Table 8.4: Summary of club membership

Name of club	Number of members	
	Seniors	Juniors
Albert Lawn Tennis Club	201	111
Bilston Tennis Club	20	-
Hanbury Lawn Tennis Club	30	2
Linden Lea Tennis Club	80	20
Tettenhall Tennis Club	35	55
Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club	802	263
Woodfield Tennis Club	30	10
Total	1198	461

Bilston Tennis Club and Hanbury Lawn Tennis Club report that membership numbers have reduced over the previous three years. Hanbury Lawn Tennis Club attributes this change to the loss of a coach which has resulted in less junior coaching sessions being run, whilst Bilston Tennis Club states that the change is due to the deterioration and eventual loss of its own courts.

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Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club, Tettenhall Tennis Club and Linden Lea Tennis Club report that membership has increased, whilst remaining clubs report no change. Reasons stated for an increase in membership include facility improvements, improved school links and increased advertising. Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club in particular reports a large increase in junior participation since 2012, which it attributes to competitive membership prices and free coaching sessions.

All clubs confirm that the number of courts available at their club is adequate to meet the needs of current and potential future membership, with the exception of Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club. The Club expresses a need for more indoor courts and outdoor floodlit courts in order to meet the needs of its growing membership.

Displaced demand

Bilston Tennis Club no longer has a home facility after its four tennis courts became disused due to a lack of funding and maintenance. The Club now uses Tipton Sports Academy, which is outside of Wolverhampton (in Sandwell), resulting in displaced demand. Membership numbers have dropped from around 150 in 2011 to 20 members now. Three adult men's teams remain, however, all adult women's and junior teams have been disbanded. Ideally, the Club wants its own courts and accompanying clubhouse to be re-provided within Wolverhampton.

Latent demand

No clubs in Wolverhampton report current latent demand for access to additional courts and no clubs operate a waiting list.

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in tennis but 'are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 3,153 people within Wolverhampton who would like to play tennis. The most dominant segment is 'Jamie – Sports team lads' of which 427 (13.5%) would like to participate in tennis.

Future demand

Four clubs report plans to increase their membership; Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club, Tettenhall Tennis Club, Woodfield Tennis Club and Linden Lea Tennis Club. When asked to quantify potential growth, clubs report plans to increase membership by 170 senior members and 180 junior members.

Of clubs expressing future demand, only Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club reports that potential new members cannot be accommodated on the current supply of courts available to the Club.

Informal tennis

Following events such as Wimbledon, demand is likely to increase for recreational use of council courts. Although the LTA reports that it is hard to measure casual use as some courts are available for free, it is assumed that courts are generally busy throughout the summer months. In Wolverhampton, local authority sites East Park, West Park, Bradmore Recreation Ground and Claregate Park are free to use by the community, whilst courts at Aldersley Leisure Village can be rented at a cost of £6 for adults and £3 for juniors (per hour).

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Use of park courts in Wolverhampton is more common than in other local authorities, in part due to the Wolverhampton Parks Tennis League. At a cost of £15 (per round) anyone aged over 18 can enter the mixed gender league. Players are organised into groups of eight, with players arranging their own matches against each individual within the group at a time and a place which best suits them.

No clubs readily allow for casual use of their courts by the community, with the majority of clubs preferring to remain strictly private, whilst others report that pay and play is difficult to manage.

No education sites which are available for community use report any regular demand from the community. It is believed that the lack of demand is a direct result of council courts being available for free, meaning the community is less likely to pay the hire charge for using school courts.

Supply and demand analysis

With the exception of Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club, all clubs report spare capacity on their courts in that the current number of courts can accommodate both current and future demand. Park courts are also reported to be readily available for casual users, whilst numerous courts within education sites are available to the community if demand existed.

Priority, therefore, should be placed on improving current facilities as well as helping Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club develop its facility in order to allow for the clubs planned growth. Within this, particular focus should be placed on improving the courts at East Park, which are the only community available courts assessed as poor quality.

A resolution to the displaced demand expressed by Bilston Tennis Club is also required.

Tennis summary

- ◀ There are a total of 122 tennis courts across 26 sites provided in Wolverhampton, 72 of which are available for community use across 16 sites.
- ◀ Of provision that is available for community use, 34 courts are assessed as good quality, 33 are deemed standard and five are rated as poor.
- ◀ The only courts available for community use and assessed as poor quality are located at East Park. Courts at Colton Hills High School, Moreton Community High School and Moseley Park School are also assessed as poor quality, however, these courts are not currently available for community use.
- ◀ The seven clubs servicing Wolverhampton collectively provide a total of 1,198 senior members and 461 junior members.
- ◀ Bilston Tennis Club no longer has a home facility after its four tennis courts became disused due to a lack of funding and maintenance. The Club now uses Tipton Sports Academy, which is outside of Wolverhampton, resulting in displaced demand.
- ◀ Four clubs report plans to increase their membership. When asked to quantify potential growth, clubs report plans to increase membership by 170 senior members and 180 junior members.
- ◀ Use of park courts in Wolverhampton is more common than in other local authorities, in part due to the Wolverhampton Parks Tennis League.
- ◀ No clubs readily allow for casual use of their courts by the community and no education sites which are available to the community report any regular community demand.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on improving current facilities as well as helping Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club develop its facility in order to allow for the clubs planned growth.
- ◀ A resolution to the displaced demand expressed by Bilston Tennis Club is also required.

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PART 9: BOWLS

9.1: Introduction

All bowling greens in Wolverhampton are crown greens. The British Crown Green Bowling Association is the National Governing Body for crown green bowls with overall responsibility for ensuring effective governance of crown green bowls. The bowling season runs from May to September.

Consultation

There are 19 clubs identified as using bowling greens in Wolverhampton. Of these, 14 replied to an online survey resulting in a response rate of 74%. The five clubs which did not reply to the survey request are as follows:

- ◀ Bilston Town Bowling Club
- ◀ Goodyear Bowling Club
- ◀ Springvale Bowling Club
- ◀ West Park Bowling Club
- ◀ Woodfield Sports Bowling Club

In addition, the Bilston Bowling League and the Wolverhampton & District Works Bowls League were also consulted.

9.2: Supply

There are 22 crown green bowling greens in Wolverhampton provided across 20 sites. Pennfields Bowling Club and Springvale Social Club both contain two greens.

Table 9.1: Summary of the number of greens by analysis area

Analysis area	Number of greens
Bilston	4
Central & South	6
North	3
Tettenhall	5
Wednesfield	4
Wolverhampton	22

An additional green located at Ashmore Park in the Wednesfield Analysis Area is disused. One green remains in use at the Site.

None of the greens are floodlit.

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Figure 9.1: Distribution of bowling greens

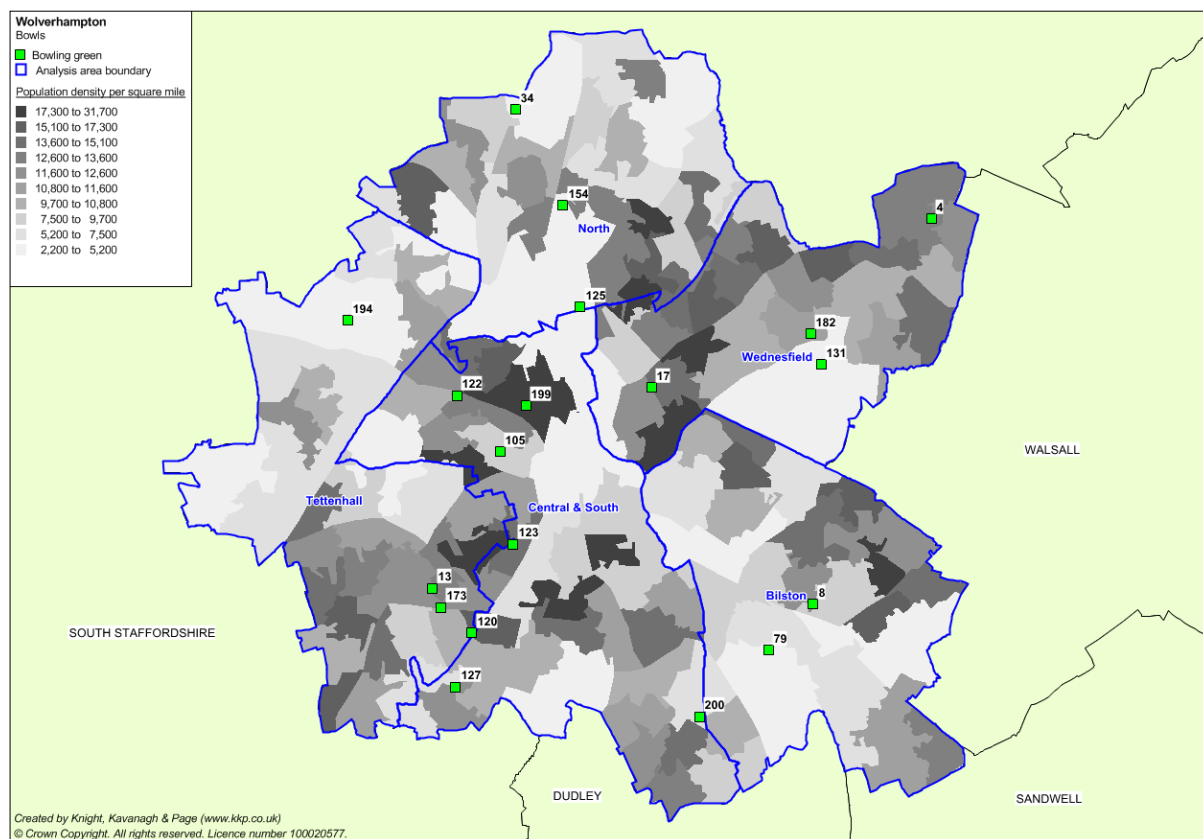


Table 9.2: Key to map

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of greens	Quality
4	Ashmore Park	Wednesfield	1	Good
8	Bilston Town Bowling Club	Bilston	1	Good
13	Bradmore Recreation Ground	Tettenhall	1	Standard
17	Chubbs Bowling Green	Wednesfield	1	Standard
34	Fordhouses Cricket Club	North	1	Standard
79	Springvale Social Club	Bilston	2	Good
105	West Park	Central & South	1	Standard
120	Woodfield Sports & Social Club	Tettenhall	1	Standard
121	Nordley Bowling Club	Bilston	1	Good
122	Newhampton Inn Bowling Club	Central & South	1	Good
123	Oaklands Bowling & Social Club	Central & South	1	Standard
125	The ECC Sports Club	North	1	Standard
127	Penn Bowling & Social Club	Central & South	1	Good
131	Wednesfield Conservative Club	Wednesfield	1	Good
154	The Pavillion	North	1	Good
173	Pennfields Bowling Club	Tettenhall	2	Good
182	Wednesfield Park	Wednesfield	1	Good
194	Danescourt Road Sports Club	Tettenhall	1	Standard
199	Stile Bowling Club	Central & South	1	Good

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Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of greens	Quality
200	44 Bowling Club	Central & South	1	Good

Quality

Of the bowling greens, 14 are assessed as good quality and eight are assessed as standard quality. None are deemed to be poor. Of the standard quality greens, issues relating to wear and tear, poor condition of ditches/boundaries and evidence of inappropriate use were prevalent.

Of clubs responding to consultation, five assess the overall quality of their home green to be good quality, six assess theirs as standard and three assess overall quality as poor.

Express & Star Bowling Club and Chubb Safes Bowling Club rate Danescourt Road Sports Club and Chubbs Bowling Green (respectively) as poor due infrequent and basic maintenance and a lack of toilet facilities to accompany the green. Similarly, Fordhouses Bowling Club deem Fordhouses Cricket Club to be poor quality due to poor levels of maintenance that does not include scarifying, slitting and/or spiking the green.

Five clubs report that the quality of their home green has got 'much better' since the previous season, whilst one club reports that their green has got 'slightly better'. Two clubs report that their home green has got 'slightly poorer', whilst the remaining clubs report no difference.

The majority of clubs which report an improvement in green quality relate this to an improvement in maintenance. For instance, Wednesfield Sons of Rest Bowling Club and Bradmore Bowling Club state that their greens (Wednesfield Park and Bradmore Recreation Ground respectively) have improved over the last 12 months due to the Council dedicating more time into the maintenance programme.

In contrast, clubs reporting worsening green quality relate this to maintenance becoming less frequent and less specialised. Express & Star Bowling Club state that this is due to a lack of funding at Danescourt Road Sports Club, whilst Fordhouses Bowling Club state that it is becoming increasingly difficult to attract volunteers to maintain its green at Fordhouses Cricket Club.

Ancillary provision

All clubs report being able to access changing accommodation with the exception of Express & Star Bowling Club (Danescourt Road Sports Club) and Chubb Safes Bowling Club (Chubbs Bowling Green).

Of clubs with access to changing provision, Ashmore Park Bowling Club and Fordhouses Bowling Club rate the facilities at Ashmore Park and Fordhouses Cricket Club (respectively) as poor quality. All remaining clubs assess quality as either standard or good.

10.3: Demand

Current demand

There are 19 clubs using bowling greens in Wolverhampton, of which, 14 have been consulted. There are a total of 655 members across the consulted clubs, consisting of 512 men, 113 women and 30 juniors.

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Table 9.3: Summary of club membership

Club name	Members		
	Men	Women	Juniors
44 Club Bowling Club	19	7	1
Ashmore Park Bowling Club	22	3	-
Bradmore Bowling Club	17	2	-
Chubb Safes Bowling Club	29	1	-
ECC Bowling Club	30	15	4
Express & Star Bowling Club	40	10	-
Fordhouses Bowling Club	49	21	3
Newhampton Bowling Club	35	5	-
Oaklands Bowling Club	37	7	3
Penn Bowling Club	85	10	12
Pennfields Bowling Club	70	20	-
Stile Bowling Club	40	2	2
Wednesfield Conservative Bowling Club	25	6	5
Wednesfield Sons of Rest Bowling Club	14	4	-
	Totals		
	512	113	30

In correlation to a national trend of declining membership, seven clubs responding to consultation report that there has been a decrease in membership over the previous three years. Furthermore, the following four Wolverhampton clubs were discovered to have folded within this time period:

- ◀ Goodrich Bowling Club
- ◀ Old Ash Tree Bowling Club
- ◀ Parkfields Bowling Club
- ◀ Summer House Bowling Club

In addition, the Wolverhampton & District Works Bowls League has seen a reduction in teams which has resulted in the League reducing from four divisions to two divisions. Membership in the Bilston Bowling League has remained static.

Penn Bowling Club, Fordhouses Bowling Club and 44 Club Bowling Club all report an increase in membership over the previous three years. All three clubs, however, state that many of their new members have come from the above mentioned folded clubs.

Future demand

Of the clubs consulted, 12 have plans to increase the number of members in the future and believe that improved advertising, links with local schools and green quality improvements are the key factors to attracting more people. When asked to quantify potential growth, clubs report plans to increase membership by 87 senior members and 39 junior members.

All clubs report that any increase in membership can be accommodated on the greens currently available to them, with the exception of Penn Bowling Club and Fordhouses Bowling Club. Both of these clubs state a need for an additional green.

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Latent demand

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in bowls but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 454 people who would like to participate within Wolverhampton. The most dominant segment is 'Elsie & Arnold – retirement home singles' (25%).

9.4 Supply and demand analysis

Generally, through consultation, it is considered that most bowling greens in Wolverhampton have spare capacity, meaning an increase in membership could be sustained.

The average club membership in Wolverhampton is 47 (per one green). As 10 clubs are operating at or below this average, it is likely that they have capacity to increase use of their home green (dependent on quality). The following four clubs, however, are operating above the average:

- ◀ ECC Bowling Club
- ◀ Express & Star Bowling Club
- ◀ Fordhouses Bowling Club
- ◀ Penn Bowling Club

Of these, ECC Bowling Club (49 members) and Express & Star Bowling Club (50 members) report no additional demand for more greens to be provided. Both clubs state that membership can be increased on the current supply of greens available.

In contrast, Fordhouses Bowling Club (73 members) and Penn Bowling Club (107 members) report a demand for an additional green in order to sustain and increase membership. Penn Bowling Club states plans to create a new green at Penn Bowling & Social Club but reports that funding is yet to be secured, whilst Fordhouses Bowling Club is also yet to secure funding for a new green at Fordhouses Cricket Club, but reports that plans have been submitted.

Additionally, the Bilston Bowling League reports that Springvale Bowling Club is almost at saturation with its two greens. As the Club did not respond to consultation, further communication with the Club is recommended in order to better understand its needs.

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Bowls summary

- ◀ There are 22 crown green bowling greens in Wolverhampton across 20 sites.
- ◀ Of the greens, 14 are assessed as good quality and the remaining eight are assessed as standard quality. Of clubs responding to consultation, five deem their green to be good quality, six assess theirs as standard and three rate theirs as poor.
- ◀ Five clubs report that the quality of their home green has got 'much better' since the previous season, whilst one club reports that their green has got 'slightly better'. Two clubs report that their home green has got 'slightly poorer', whilst the remaining clubs report no difference.
- ◀ There are 19 clubs using bowling greens in Wolverhampton, of which, 14 have been consulted. There are a total of 655 members across the consulted clubs, consisting of 512 men, 113 women and 30 juniors.
- ◀ Seven clubs report that there has been a decrease in membership over the previous three years. In addition to this, four Wolverhampton clubs were discovered to have folded within this time period. Penn Bowling Club, Fordhouses Bowling Club and 44 Club Bowling Club all report an increase in membership.
- ◀ 12 clubs have plans to increase the number of members in the future. When asked to quantify potential growth, clubs report plans to increase membership by 87 senior members and 39 junior members.
- ◀ The average club membership in Wolverhampton is 46 (per one green). 10 clubs are operating below this average and as such are likely to have capacity to increase use of their home green.
- ◀ ECC Bowling Club (49 members) and Express & Star Bowling Club (50 members) report no additional demand for more greens to be provided.
- ◀ Fordhouses Bowling Club (73 members) and Penn Bowling Club (107 members) report a demand for an additional green in order to sustain and increase membership.
- ◀ Additionally, the Bilston Bowling League reports that Springvale Bowling Club is almost at saturation with its two greens. As the Club did not respond to consultation, further communication with the Club is recommended in order to better understand its needs.

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PART 10: OTHER SPORTS

10.1: Athletics

Supply

There is one track located at Aldersley Leisure Village which is an eight lane, floodlit, synthetic surface. All disciplines of athletics are provided for, including throw and long jump facilities. The track also has a spectator area that can accommodate up to 465 people.

The Council is responsible for repairs, maintenance and cleaning of the facility. A designated grounds maintenance team is employed which completes general maintenance duties throughout the summer months and both before and after the athletics season. Overall, the facility is assessed as good quality.

Additionally, there are two cinder tracks located at St. Edmunds Catholic Academy and The King's Church of England School. Both tracks are 400 metres. Both schools report that no demand exists for use by the community and therefore no community use is offered.

Demand

There is one athletics club in Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton & Bilston Athletics Club. The Club uses Aldersley Leisure Village as its home base with training sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6pm until 8pm.

An annual membership to the Club costs £50 for adults (aged over 20), £35 for juniors (aged 9-20) and £9 for children (aged under nine). There is then an additional £2 charge for each training session attended. The Club has roughly 500 members (split relatively 50/50 between seniors and juniors) and there are currently 25 coaches attached to the Club.

The Club also runs a wide range of adult road-running groups of varying abilities which train and compete throughout the year.

Supply and demand analysis

Demand for athletics in Wolverhampton is currently being met, with one synthetic athletics track to accommodate one club. Priority should therefore be focused on ensuring the quality at Aldersley Leisure Village is sustained in order to continue accommodating Wolverhampton & Bilston Athletics Club and any future demand.

10.2: Cycling

There are six recognised disciplines which British Cycling is responsible for. Each discipline has an associated, dedicated facility type:

- ◀ Track – Velodrome
- ◀ Road – Closed Road Circuits
- ◀ Mountain Bike – MTB Trails
- ◀ BMX – BMX Track (Race tracks, Pump tracks)
- ◀ Cycle Speedway – Cycle Speedway track
- ◀ Cyclo Cross – non-dedicated, non-permanent venues

Within Wolverhampton there is one Velodrome and one Cycle Speedway track.

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Supply

There is one outdoor velodrome located at Aldersley Leisure Village. Earlier this year, British Cycling commissioned a condition survey and risk assessment at the facility which returned recommendations with regards to its future maintenance needs. It is important that this report is acted upon in order to sustain and improve the quality of the velodrome.

A BMX race track located at Aldersley High School is now disused after the School took the decision to no longer manage the facility. It is reported by the School that it could not staff the track at required times, which led to high amounts of unofficial use and therefore greater risk of an accident. The track is now unmaintained to limit levels of unofficial use, however, it is reported by the School that a fence surrounding the track is required in order to prevent access.

Additionally, there are two cycle speedway tracks located at East Park and Ashmore Park. Both tracks are serviced by clubs.

Demand

In 2014, British Cycling recorded a total of 9,074 organised visits to the velodrome at Aldersley Leisure Village through competitions and coaching sessions (informal and casual use is not included within this figure). Wolverhampton Wheelers Cycling Club are based at the facility and access it three times a week for training, as well as using it as a home venue in the Track League. The Club also runs road cycling sessions for its members.

Wolverhampton Racing Cycling Club are also based in Wolverhampton. The Club is affiliated to British Cycling and competes in various road races and time trails. The Club uses Bradmore Community Centre as a clubhouse.

East Park Wolves Cycle Speedway Club are based at the cycle speedway track at East Park, whilst Wednesfield Aces Cycle Speedway Club are based at Ashmore Park.

Sport England market segmentation data for Wolverhampton suggests large levels of latent demand and reports that 9210 adults would like to participate in cycling but do not currently do so.

Supply and demand analysis

Supply is deemed sufficient enough to meet demand for cycling in that no clubs which require access to a track facility are without access. Priority should therefore be focused on ensuring good quality at all cycling facilities within Wolverhampton so that demand can continue to be supplied.

It is also recommended that the BMX track located at Aldersley High School is brought back into use. For this to happen, a solution to the staffing issues faced by the School is required, as well as making the track harder to access unofficially.

Consideration should be given to the future requirements for cycling facilities within Wolverhampton given the large numbers of latent demand. Further analysis is required to determine the extent of this demand and the current facilities capabilities of accommodating any growth.

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10.3: Netball

Supply

There is a large supply of outdoor netball courts across Wolverhampton, the majority of which are located within schools. The following schools have netball courts:

- ◀ Aldersley High School
- ◀ Coppice Performing Arts School
- ◀ Heath Park Business & Enterprise College
- ◀ Highfields Secondary School
- ◀ Moseley Park School
- ◀ North East Wolverhampton Academy
- ◀ Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College
- ◀ Royal Wolverhampton School
- ◀ South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy
- ◀ Smestow School
- ◀ St Peters Collegiate High School
- ◀ The Kings Church of England School
- ◀ Wednesfield High School
- ◀ Wolverhampton Grammar School

All courts located within schools are a macadam surface and the majority are over marked by tennis courts. Only Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College, St Peters Collegiate High School and Wednesfield High School readily offer community use, however, no school reports any regular demand.

The only courts across Wolverhampton which record any community demand are located at Aldersley Leisure Village. There are six macadam courts at the site, all of which are floodlit and over marked by tennis courts. The courts are assessed as good quality, as are courts at Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College. Courts at Wednesfield High School and St Peters Collegiate High School are assessed as standard.

Demand

There is one England Netball affiliated league operating from Wolverhampton, the City of Wolverhampton League. The League runs both during midweek and on a Saturday, with the midweek competition consisting of 40 teams (five divisions) and the Saturday competition consisting of 14 teams (two divisions). Aldersley Leisure Village is used as the sole venue, with matches being played back-to-back. The League runs in both the summer and the winter.

England Netball reports that there are also a handful of clubs based in Wolverhampton which are a part of the Club Action Planning Scheme (CAPS). CAPS is a programme designed to support each affiliated club in delivering quality netball development programmes and is aligned to the Sport England Clubmark accreditation scheme.

Back to Netball

Back to Netball is a scheme put into place by England Netball in 2010, with participation increasing ever since. Sessions are ran weekly by qualified coaches across England with the aim of re-introducing female players over the age of 16 to the sport.

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In Wolverhampton, sessions are ran every Wednesday evening (19:30-20:30) at Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College and every Tuesday evening (20:00-21:00) at Aldersley Leisure Village. Sessions at both venues, however, are ran on indoor courts.

To participate, it costs £3 per session at Our Lady & St Chads Catholic Sports College and £2.85 at Aldersley Leisure Village.

Supply and demand analysis

Demand for netball in Wolverhampton is being met. Focus should therefore be directed towards sustaining and improving the current supply of courts. It is also a recommendation that clubs are supported towards gaining CAPS accreditation

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APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

National context

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- ◀ 4,000 secondary schools in England will be offered a community sport club on its site with a direct link to one or more NGBs, depending on the local clubs in a school's area.
- ◀ County sports partnerships will be given new resources to create effective links locally between schools and sport in the community.
- ◀ All secondary schools that wish to do so, will be supported to open up, or keep open, their sports facilities for local community use and at least a third of these will receive additional funding to make this happen.
- ◀ At least 150 further educational colleagues will benefit from a full time sports professional who will act as a College Sport Maker.
- ◀ Three quarters of university students aged 18-24 will get the chance to take up a new sport or continue playing a sport they played at school or college.
- ◀ A thousand of our most disadvantaged local communities will get a Door Step Club.

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- ◀ Two thousand young people on the margins of society will be supported by the Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust into sport and to gain new life skills.
- ◀ Building on the success of the Places People Play, a further £100 million will be invested in facilities for the most popular sports.
- ◀ A minimum of 30 sports will have enhanced England Talent Pathways to ensure young people and others fulfil their potential.

National Planning Policy Framework

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

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

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

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

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

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

The FA National Game Strategy (2015 – 2019)

The main aims of the National Game Strategy are summarised below:

- ◀ Sustain and Increase Participation
- ◀ Ensure access to education sites to accommodate the game.
- ◀ Help players to be the best that they can be and provide opportunities for them to progress from grassroots to elite
- ◀ Recruit, retain and develop a network of qualified referees
- ◀ Support clubs, leagues and other competition providers to develop a safe, inclusive and positive football experience for everyone.
- ◀ Support Clubs and Leagues to become sustainable businesses, understanding and serving the needs of players and customers.

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- ◀ Improve grass pitches through the pitch improvement programme to improve existing facilities and changing rooms
- ◀ Deliver new and improved facilities including new Football Turf Pitches.
- ◀ Work with priority Local Authorities enabling 50% of mini-soccer and youth matched to be played on high quality artificial grass pitches

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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- ◀ Developing disabilities cricket

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

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

The RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners. It identifies that with 1.5 million players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- ◀ Grow our Participation
- ◀ Deliver International Success
- ◀ Increase our Visibility
- ◀ Enhance our Infrastructure
- ◀ Be a strong and respected Governing Body

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

‘The right pitches in the right places’¹⁴

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

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

British Tennis (LTA) - Place to Play Strategy

The LTA aim to get more people to play tennis more frequently and the places to play strategy is a way of doing this. The strategy will aim to provide high quality facilities for everyone at a convenient location.

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

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It's one plan that aims to increase opportunities for people to play tennis on a regular basis at tennis clubs close to their home, which provides high quality opportunities on safe and well maintained tennis courts.

The strategy sets out:

- ◀ Overall vision for places to play
- ◀ How to grow regular participation by supporting places to play to develop and deliver the right programmes
- ◀ Capital investment decisions to ensure we invest in the right facilities to grow the sport
- ◀ Supporting performance programmes in the right locations

The LTA is committed to growing the sport to ensure that more people are playing tennis more often at first class tennis facilities, with high quality coaching programmes and well organised competition.

The overall aim for the next five years (2011-2016) is to ensure that, as far as practicably possible, the British population has access to and are aware of the places and high quality tennis opportunities in their local area. In brief

- ◀ Access for everyone to well-maintained high quality tennis facilities which are either free or pay as you play
- ◀ A Clubmark accredited place to play within a ten minute drive of their home
- ◀ Indoor tennis courts within a 20 minute drive time of their home
- ◀ A mini tennis (ten and under) performance programme within a 20 minute drive of their home (Performance Centres)
- ◀ A performance programme for 11 - 15 year olds within a 45 minute drive time of their home (High Performance Centre)
- ◀ A limited number of internationally orientated programmes strategically spread for players 16+ with an international programme (International High Performance Centres)

Bowls England Strategic Plan 2014-2017

Bowls England is the largest National Governing Body for the sport of bowls in England, with more than 116,000 individual affiliated members. However, the challenges that the sport now faces are probably greater than at any time in its history.

Research has shown that recruiting and retaining members continues to be a top priority for clubs, many of whom continue to operate in the face of decreasing membership and rising costs.

The Bowls England Strategic Plan sets out three main objectives:

Promote the sport of outdoor flat green bowls

Recruit new participants to the sport of outdoor flat green bowls

Retain current and future participants within the sport of outdoor flat green bowls

The following are strategic priorities for the period to March 2017:

1. To increase participation in the sport of outdoor flat green bowls
2. To support County Associations and Clubs
3. To provide strong leadership and direction

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

APPENDIX 2: REQUIREMENTS OF STEP SYSTEM

Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
7	No minimum and no boundary fencing required	Post and rope around all sides that accommodate spectators . Minimum of 1.83m (ideally 2m) away from touchline and if hard standing exists (not compulsory) it should be minimum of 0.9 metres width.	Not essential but its desirable that a technical area exists within the laws of the game	Not compulsory	Not required, however where one exists it must be fixed and fully operational	No specific requirements for accommodation	None Required	Provision should be made for adequate toilet facilities	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads and adequate toilets for players .New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2,1 shower and access to toilets (not necessarily inside the changing room). New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
Entry to Step 6/ H	No minimum, but ground must be enclosed with fencing 1.83m high	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Hard standing width of 0.9m on spectator side of barrier on a minimum of 2 adjacent sides from the entrance.	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	1 required or a pay box.	Can be on 1 side only. 50 minimum covered. No allocation required for Directors	None Required	2 WC's should be required	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2,1 shower, 1 WC (exclusive use but not necessarily en suite)and 1 wash hand basin. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.
6/ G	No minimum, but ground must be enclosed with fencing 1.83m high	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Hard standing width of 0.9m on spectator side of barrier on a minimum of 2 sides on adjacent sides from the entrance.	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	1 required or a pay box.	Can be on 1 side but preferably 2 sides. 100 minimum covered of which 50 must be seated and located in one stand. No allocation required for Directors	None Required	Male: 2 urinals or equivalent and 1 WC. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2,1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

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Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
5/ F	No minimum, but ground must be enclosed with fencing 1.83m high	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Hard standing width of 0.9m on spectator side of barrier on a minimum of 3 sides.	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	1 required or a pay box.	Can be on 1 side but preferably on 2 sides of ground. 200 minimum covered of which 100 must be seated (can be 2 stands each 50) 16 seats allocated to Directors. Public address system required.	None Required	Male: 2 urinals or equivalent and 1 WC. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m ² , with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m ² .	Minimum 4m ² , 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. New build 6m ² . Provision for both male and female officials required.

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Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
Seeking promotion from 5-4/ E	1,000	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 0.9m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	2 required with 0.9m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on at least 2 sides of ground. 250 minimum covered of which 150 must be seated in not more than 2 stands (no stand can have less than 50 seats). 16 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 16 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required.	Minimum 2 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 2 urinals or equivalent and 1 WC. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
4/ D	1,300 with potential to increase to 1,950	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 0.9m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	2 required with 0.9m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on at least 2 sides of ground. 300 minimum covered of which 150 must be seated in not more than 2 stands (no stand can have less than 50 seats). 24 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 24 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required.	Minimum 2 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 2 urinals or equivalent and 1 WC. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

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Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
3/ C	1,950, with potential to increase to 3,000	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 0.9m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	3 required with 0.9m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on 2 sides of ground. 500 minimum covered of which 250 must be seated (no more than 2 stands, minimum of 50 per stand). 24 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 24 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required.	4 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 4 urinals or equivalent and 2 WC's. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
2/ B	3,000, with potential to increase to 4,000	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 0.9m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 11 people or 5.5m in length	Average lux of 180	6 required with 0.9m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on 2 sides of ground. 500 minimum covered of which 250 must be seated and located in one stand. 24 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 24 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required	6 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 4 urinals or equivalent and 2 WC's. Female: 2WC's	Must be 18m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC.	Minimum 4m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
1/ A	4,000, with potential to increase to 5,000	1.1m high and 2.25 m away from touchline (ideally 2.75m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 1m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 11 people or 5.5m in length	Average lux of 250	8 required with 1m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on 2 sides of ground. 500 minimum covered of which 250 must be seated and located in one stand. 24 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 24 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required	12 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 4 urinals or equivalent and 2 WC's. Female: 2WC's	Must be 18m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC and 2 urinals.	Minimum 6m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

WOLVERHAMPTON PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

APPENDIX 3: CONSULTEE LIST

Consultee	Designation	Organisation
Nicola Davis	Principal	Aldersley High School
Matt Keats	Vice Principal	
Gerald O'Hara	Business Director	Colton Hills Community High School
Graham Loynton	Senior Caretaker	Coppice Performing Arts School
Lisa Corbett	Community Officer	Highfields School
Carl Williams	Headteacher	Moreton School
Joe Millington	Leisure Manager	Our Lady & St Chad Catholic Academy
Kirk Marston	Deputy Head of PE	St Peter's Collegiate School
Steve Oakley	Contracts Manager	Smestow School
Lee Thompson	Site Manager	South Wolverhampton & Bilston Academy
Mrs Raj	Business Director	St Edmunds Catholic Academy
Jessica Gamain	Head of PE	The King's Church of England School
Mr. J Howe	Assistant Head	Wednesfield High School
Jane Oliver	Business Manager	Wolverhampton Girls High School
Bess Evans	Deputy Director	University of Wolverhampton
Penny Rudge	Bursar	Wolverhampton Grammar School
Mark Heywood	Headmaster	The Royal Wolverhampton School
Graham Hodson	Chairman	Bilston Town Community FC
		Bilston Partnership Youth League
Joe Jackson	Club Secretary	NPV Football Academy FC
David Pointon	President	Old Wulfrunians FC
		AFC Wulfrunians
Peter Thirlaway	Club Secretary	Penn Colts FC
Louise Morris	Club Secretary	Springvale Steelers Academy FC
Ron Brown	Club Secretary	Wednesfield FC
Stephen Tabner	Pitch Co-ordinator	Wolverhampton Olympic FC
Geoff Hopkinson	President	Wolverhampton CC
Kate O'Leary	Development Officer	England Netball
Mark Burrows	Development Manager	British Cycling
Sid Weston	League Secretary	Bilston Bowling League
John Taylor	League Secretary	Wolverhampton Works Bowling League
Nick Williams	Fixtures Secretary	Wolverhampton Seniors Bowls League
Dan Clarke	Sport Centre Manager	City of Wolverhampton College
Oliver Hitchcox	Facilities Development	Birmingham FA
Kevin Herbert	Development Officer	Staffordshire Cricket
Asif Patel	Franchisee	Black Country Last Man Stands (LMS)
Paul Smith	Relationship Manager	England Hockey
Kevin Staples	Development Manager	Staffordshire FA
Tom Bartram	Facilities Manager	RFU