



**LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

JUNE 2024

LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs Opportunities Guide
BAFA	British American Football Association
BC	Bowls Club
BSUK	Baseball Softball United Kingdom
BUCS	British Universities Colleges Sport
CC	Cricket Club
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
ECB	England & Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GAA	Gaelic Athletic Association
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
HC	Hockey Club
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
LMS	Last Man Stands
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NFL	National Football League
NGB(s)	National Governing Body (of sport)
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NTP	Non Turf Pitch
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PPOSS	Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RLFC	Rugby League Football Club
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106 Agreement
TC	Tennis Club
U	Under (related to participating age groups)
UKU	UK Ultimate

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

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

- ◀ A vision for the future protection, improvement and development of provision.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations and scenarios.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations.
- ◀ A prioritised site-by-site action plan.

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

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

This report represents Stage D of the process, with stages A-C covered in the preceding Assessment Report and Stage E ongoing once the study is complete.

The ANOG has a similar staged approach, as follows:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach.
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information on supply and demand.
- ◀ Stage C: Assessment – bringing the information together.
- ◀ Application: Application of an assessment.

Where not already implemented, the recommendations that come out of this strategy should be translated into local planning policy so that there is a mechanism in place to protect existing provision and to secure investment where the opportunity arises. The lifespan of a PPOSS is considered to be three years, although this can be increased if it is regularly kept up to date.

Agreed scope

The following outdoor sports are covered by the PPOSS:

- ◀ Football
- ◀ Rugby union
- ◀ Rugby league
- ◀ Cricket
- ◀ Hockey
- ◀ Tennis
- ◀ Bowls

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In addition to the above, other grass pitch sports have also been included where they are identified as having a presence within Newham or where future demand could exist. Sports considered within this include American football, Aussie rules, lacrosse, baseball/softball, ultimate frisbee and Gaelic football.

Study area

The study area is the entire local authority area, as identified below.

Figure 1.1 Map of Newham



In addition, cross-boundary aspects are also recognised in regard to neighbouring local authorities to understand levels of imported and exported demand into and from Newham as well as key sites and developments that sit close to boundary lines. This therefore includes consideration of authorities such as Barking & Dagenham, Epping Forest, Hackney, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest.

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PART 2: VISION AND AIMS

The vision of the PPOSS in Newham is to provide:

“A holistic analysis of sports facilities across the Borough, leading to a comprehensive set of recommendations for the future development of facilities, in line with the demands and needs of local residents”.

The following overarching aims are based on the three Sport England themes (see figure 2.1 below). It is recommended that they are adopted by the Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the PPOSS and Sport England planning objectives. Strategy delivery is the responsibility of, and relies upon, all relevant stakeholders.

AIM 1

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

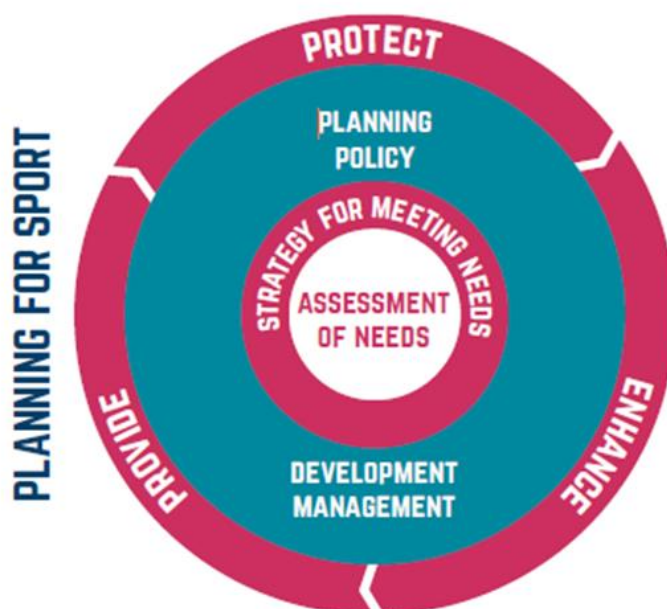
AIM 2

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

AIM 3

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

Figure 2.1: Sport England themes



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PART 3: HEADLINE FINDINGS

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

Natural turf pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions. The table below therefore uses this for football, rugby union and cricket, converting both the amount of play a site can accommodate (carrying capacity) and how much play takes place (current use) into the same unit of demand to enable an analysis to be undertaken.

Based on how the sports tend to be played, the match equivalent session unit for football and rugby union pitches relates to a typical week within the season for each sport, whereas for cricket, the number of match equivalent sessions is over the course of a season. This is because how much play a cricket pitch can accommodate is primarily determined by the number and quality of wickets on a square, with only one match generally played per pitch per day and with the wickets rotated throughout a season to reduce wear and to allow for repair. Each wicket is therefore able to accommodate a certain amount of play per season as opposed to a week.

For artificial surfaces, the carrying capacity of the provision is much higher, meaning how much play can be accommodated is primarily determined by availability, rather than how usage adversely affects quality, as is the case with grass pitches. Therefore, the total number of pitches required is instead used to form an analysis. This is pertinent to 3G and hockey (sand/water based) pitches.

Table 3.1: Current quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/demand balance
Football – grass pitches		
Newham	Adult	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Demand is being met
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met
Football – 3G pitches		
Newham	Full size	Demand is being met
Cricket squares		
Newham	Senior (Saturday)	Shortfall of 14 match equivalent sessions
	Senior (Sunday)	Shortfall of 18 match equivalent sessions
	Senior (midweek)	Spare capacity of 160 match equivalent sessions
Rugby union- grass pitches		
Newham	Senior	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league - grass pitches		
Newham	Senior	Demand is being met
Hockey- sand/water based pitches		
Newham	Full size	No community demand identified

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The following table identifies the quantitative findings overall across Newham after taking into account future demand, up to the period until 2038. This is in line with the Council's emerging Local Plan.

Table 3.2: Future quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Sport	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance (2038)
Football	Adult	Shortfall of 7 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 12.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 7 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby union	Senior	Shortfall of 12.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Senior	Demand is being met
3G pitches	Full size	Demand is being met
Hockey	Full size	No community demand identified
Cricket	Senior (Saturday)	Shortfall of 14 match equivalent sessions
	Senior (Sunday)	Shortfall of 30 match equivalent sessions
	Senior (midweek)	Spare capacity of 148 match equivalent sessions

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

Table 3.3: Quantitative headline findings (non-pitch sports)

Sport	Headline findings
Tennis	Capacity issues have been identified, primarily due to a lack of sports-lit (or covered) courts and with many courts overmarked for other sports. As such, quantity is not necessarily an issue, but demand could be better provided for via establishing additional sports lighting, improving court and ancillary facility quality, and further rolling out ClubSpark. The University of East London also expresses a need for provision, whilst an increase in padel facilities would also be beneficial.
Bowls	Supply is considered sufficient to meet both current and future demand, with no additional greens required.
Other grass pitch sports	The provision for all other grass pitch sports (Gaelic football, Ultimate frisbee, American football and baseball/softball) is adequate in isolation; however, capacity issues are likely to exist due to the multi-sport use on site at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground with this also impacting upon post season remedial work.

Conclusions

The existing position for all sports is either that demand is being met or that there is a shortfall, whereas the future position shows the exacerbation of current shortfalls and the creation of additional shortfalls for some pitch/facility types. There are deficits identified for football, cricket, rugby union and tennis, whereas demand for hockey, bowls and other grass pitch sports is being adequately accommodated.

With shortfalls existing, there is a clear need to protect all existing provision until all current and future demand is met (and with clear spare capacity established), or there is a requirement to replace provision to an equal or better quantity and quality before it is lost, in line with national planning policy. It should also be noted that any existing spare capacity

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could not only be a solution to accommodate unanticipated growth, but also to overcoming identified shortfalls (e.g., through re-configuration).

Notwithstanding the above, for the most part, the existing shortfalls identified can be met by better utilising current provision, such as through improving quality, pitch re-configuration, installing additional sports lighting and/or enabling access to existing unused provision, such as at unavailable school sites. As such, there is no present requirement for the creation of additional provision, although this may be needed if other solutions are not possible/feasible.

When factoring in future demand, there could be a need for additional provision, if aspirations are realised. This predominately relates to football and in particular youth and mini pitches, as well as 3G pitches and cricket. An increase in 3G pitches is also likely to be required to ensure that other sporting use can continue to utilise the provision (e.g., rugby union, rugby league, American football, Gaelic football and Ultimate frisbee).

For cricket, additional provision is required to better accommodate recreational and informal activity, although this could be provided via existing playing field sites rather than through new sites. However, high levels of exported demand is also identified which would also entail the need for increased provision if it was to return.

PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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

Football – grass pitches

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ In total, only adult pitches at Beckton District Park South display actual spare capacity, equating to two match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There are six overplayed pitches across five sites, with total overplay equating to 6.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There is currently a shortfall of adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9, whilst mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches are played to capacity.
- ◀ After factoring in future demand, shortfalls are evident for each pitch type.

Supply summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 31 pitches across 14 sites in Newham, with 26 pitches available at some level for community use across 11 sites.
- ◀ There has been a large reduction in pitches since the 2017 study, with fewer pitches provided at council and school sites.
- ◀ Disused pitches are identified at Brampton Park, Gooseley Playing Fields, Lyle Park and Plashet Park.
- ◀ Most sites are operated by education providers.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches, five are rated as good quality, 11 as standard quality and nine as poor quality.
- ◀ Poor quality pitches are provided at Eastlea Community School, Lister Community School (Southern Road Playing Fields), Newham Leisure Centre, Old Spotted Dog Ground, West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground and West Ham Park.
- ◀ Lister Community School (Southern Road Playing Fields), New Beckton Park, Beckton District Park South and West Ham Park are serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are 127 affiliated teams from 35 clubs based in Newham.
- ◀ Only 94 teams from 28 clubs currently play matches in the Borough, with the remaining teams exported demand outside of the Borough.
- ◀ Teams playing in Newham comprise of 27 senior men's, five senior women's, 31 youth boys and 32 mini soccer teams (there are no youth girls' teams identified as playing in the Borough).
- ◀ There are 26 more teams currently affiliated compared to the data completed for the 2017 study, although fewer teams currently play in the Borough due to more demand being exported.
- ◀ 33 teams currently play outside of the Borough due to a lack of capacity or perceived poor quality on pitches within Newham (exported demand), whilst no demand is imported.
- ◀ Eight clubs report latent demand in that they could field more teams if more pitches were available, whilst two report they could field additional teams if they had better ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Team generation rates based on population growth suggests that there will be no increase in demand to 2038; however, future demand expressed by clubs equates to nine adult, 21 youth 11v11, eight youth 9v9, five mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 teams.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

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In total, there are six pitches in Newham across five sites that are overplayed by a combined total of 6.5 match equivalent sessions. Improving quality of such provision will increase capacity across the sites and as a consequence reduce both current and future shortfalls across the Borough.

To illustrate the above, Table 4.1 highlights that the majority of existing overplay would be alleviated if quality improved to good at each site. As a reminder, the capacity rating for each type and quality rating is:

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

Table 4.1: Overplay if all pitches were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
4	Beckton District Park South	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
13	Flanders Playing Field	Adult	1	Standard	1	0
		Adult	1	Standard	1	0
29	Newham Leisure Centre	Adult	1	Poor	1.5	0.5
38	New Beckton Park	Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	0.5
48	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	1	2

As seen, most of the overplayed pitches could accommodate demand if quality was improved. The only exception to this is at Newham Leisure Centre, where the adult pitch would still be overused even if quality was good. Some play at this site should therefore be transferred to a site with spare capacity.

In addition, although not overplayed, pitches across the following sites are currently assessed as poor quality, which limits their capacity:

- ◀ Old Spotted Dog Ground (one adult pitch)
- ◀ West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground (two adult pitches)
- ◀ West Ham Park (one adult pitch)

These should also be the focus for improvements in order to create additional capacity and to better accommodate the demand already received.

Reducing overplay and creating additional capacity through quality improvements will eradicate pitch shortfalls across Newham when looking at the authority as a whole. Overall peak time spare capacity would exist on adult pitches (despite the overplay remaining at Newham Leisure Centre), whilst the remaining pitch types would be played to capacity.

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Table 4.2: Current supply and demand if quality improved to good at overplayed sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Adult	1.5	3
Youth 11v11	0.5	0
Youth 9v9	2.5	0
Mini 7v7	0	0
Mini 5v5	0	0

However, future peak time shortfalls, based on club aspirations, would remain across all pitch types, although at reduced levels for adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches.

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

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	7	3
Youth 11v11	12.5	12
Youth 9v9	7	4.5
Mini 7v7	2.5	2.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	1.5

Securing community use

There are three sites in Newham that do not allow any community access despite providing football pitches. As such, enabling community use at these sites would increase the available pitch stock and therefore further help to reduce shortfalls and increase spare capacity.

There are five pitches that are currently unavailable for community use. These are provided at:

- ◀ Cumberland Community School
- ◀ Langdon Academy
- ◀ School 21

Providing access to these would provide an additional three match equivalent sessions of peak time capacity on adult pitches and two match equivalent sessions on mini 5v5 pitches. This would eradicate overall shortfalls on the former and create overall spare capacity on the latter.

Table 4.4: Current supply and demand if all pitches were available to the community

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Adult	1.5	1.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	0.5
Youth 9v9	2.5	2.5
Mini 7v7	0	0
Mini 5v5	0	2

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When factoring in future demand, shortfalls would reduce on adult pitches and spare capacity would be created on mini 5v5 pitches. All remaining deficits remain unaltered (as the schools do not provide youth 11v11, youth 9v9 or mini 7v7 pitches).

Table 4.5: Future supply and demand if all pitches were available to the community

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	7	4
Youth 11v11	12.5	12.5
Youth 9v9	7	7
Mini 7v7	2.5	2.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	0.5

If community access was secured in addition to carrying out the quality improvement scenario, shortfalls would be eradicated on all pitch types and adult and mini 5v5 pitches would display overall peak time spare capacity.

Table 4.6: Current supply/demand if quality improved and all pitches were available

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential current total
Adult	1.5	6
Youth 11v11	0.5	0
Youth 9v9	2.5	0
Mini 7v7	0	0
Mini 5v5	0	2

Similarly, whilst future shortfalls would remain across youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitch types, peak time spare capacity would be established on adult and mini 5v5 pitches.

Table 4.7: Future supply/demand if quality improved and all pitches were available

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	7	0.5
Youth 11v11	12.5	12
Youth 9v9	7	4.5
Mini 7v7	2.5	2.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	0.5

Bringing disused pitches back into provision

There are eight disused football pitches identified across five sites in Newham, with six adult and two youth 9v9 pitches previously provided across Brampton Park, Gooseley Playing Fields, Lyle Park, Plashet Park and Lady Trower Trust Playing Fields. If these pitches were brought back into use, shortfalls would be eradicated on adult pitches, with peak time spare capacity created, and reduced on youth 9v9 pitches.

Table 4.8: Impact of bringing disused pitches brought back into use

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Adult	1.5	4.5

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Youth 11v11	0.5	0.5
Youth 9v9	2.5	0.5
Mini 7v7	0	0
Mini 5v5	0	0

Notwithstanding the above, with current shortfalls able to be overcome through quality improvements and accessing presently unavailable school sites, there is no clear need to bring the sites back into use as things stand (unless the other options are not actionable). However, if future demand aspirations are achieved, there will be a clear need, with other options not able to fully meet such growth.

Bringing the disused sites back into use would result in future peak time shortfalls remaining across all pitch types, but at reduced levels on adult and youth 9v9 pitches.

Table 4.9: Impact on future supply and demand if disused pitches were brought into use

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	7	1
Youth 11v11	12.5	12.5
Youth 9v9	7	5
Mini 7v7	2.5	2.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	1.5

If disused pitches were brought back into use in conjunction with securing community access at unavailable sites and carrying out quality improvements, peak time spare capacity would exist across adult, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches, with youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches at capacity.

Table 4.10: Impact of carrying out all scenarios

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential current total
Adult	1.5	12
Youth 11v11	0.5	0
Youth 9v9	2.5	2
Mini 7v7	0	0
Mini 5v5	0	2

Similarly, whilst future shortfalls would remain across youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitch types, peak time spare capacity would exist on adult and mini 5v5 pitches.

Table 4.11: Future supply/demand if all scenarios were actioned

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	7	6.5
Youth 11v11	12.5	12
Youth 9v9	7	2.5
Mini 7v7	2.5	2.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	0.5

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In relation to adult pitches in particular, the level of peak time spare capacity that would be created is relatively significant, meaning scope would exist to reconfigure some of the supply in order to reduce shortfalls of other pitch types (i.e., some adult pitches could be converted for youth 11v11 or youth 9v9 play). An example approach of this is shown in the following table.

Table 4.12: Future supply/demand if pitches were reconfigured

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	7	0
Youth 11v11	12.5	8
Youth 9v9	7	0
Mini 7v7	2.5	2
Mini 5v5	1.5	0

New pitches

Based on current shortfalls, there could be a requirement for new pitch provision. The table below identifies how many would be needed for each format of play, if no other methods for alleviating the deficits were carried out. This identifies a potential need for two adult, one youth 11v11 and three youth 9v9 pitches.

Table 4.13: Potential number of additional pitches required to meet current demand

Pitch type	Current total (match equivalent sessions)	No. of pitches required to alleviate shortfall	Impact (match equivalent sessions)
Adult	1.5	2	0.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	1	0.5
Youth 9v9	2.5	3	0.5
Mini 7v7	0	0	0
Mini 5v5	0	0	0

However, as evidenced through the previous scenarios, current shortfalls can be eradicated via better utilising the existing stock of pitches, meaning no present requirement for any additional provision, providing these methods can be undertaken. That being said, if future demand aspirations are realised, there will be a need, particularly in relation to youth pitch types and mini 7v7 provision. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.14: Additional pitches to meet future demand if all other scenarios are actioned

Pitch type	Potential future total (match equivalent sessions)	No. of pitches required to alleviate shortfall	Impact (match equivalent sessions)
Adult	0	0	0
Youth 11v11	8	8	0
Youth 9v9	0	0	0
Mini 7v7	2	2	0
Mini 5v5	0	0	0

Where future demand does warrant the creation of new pitches, the location of them should ensure that key growth areas are serviced. This therefore includes wards such as Beckton, Stratford & New Town, Royal Docks, Canning Town North and Canning Town South.

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An alternative to reduce the requirement for new grass pitches is to transfer more match play on to existing or new 3G pitches.

Preferred approach

Based on the above scenarios, the table below outlines a recommended approach to ensure no current or future shortfalls of provision.

Table 4.15: Summary of approach required to meet football demand

Action	Implicated sites	Comments
Improve pitch quality	Beckton District Park South Flanders Playing Field Newham Leisure Centre New Beckton Park Old Spotted Dog Ground West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground West Ham Park	This will ensure that all current demand can be met when looking at the overall picture across the Borough.
Transferring demand	Newham Leisure Centre	To fully alleviate overplay, in addition to improvements, one team needs to be transferred to an alternative venue with spare capacity (e.g., Beckton District Park South).
Securing community access	Cumberland Community School Langdon Academy School 21	This will increase the stock of pitches available and will help build future capacity.
Bringing disused pitches back into use	Brampton Park Gooseley Playing Fields Plashet Park Lady Trower Trust Playing Fields	This could be necessary if future demand aspirations are realised in order to create capacity for such growth.
Additional pitches	-	There is no current requirement for new pitch provision; however, if future growth aspirations are realised, there will be a need, particularly in relation to youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches. However, this need could be reduced through 3G provision.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches.
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and/or assessed as poor quality, prioritise investment to undertake improvements and utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to assist.
- ◀ Transfer play from sites which remain overplayed to alternative sites with spare capacity.
- ◀ Seek to gain access to sites not currently available for community use in order to provide additional actual spare capacity.
- ◀ Provide security of tenure for clubs using unsecure sites through community use agreements and support negotiation with schools to secure appropriate access (e.g., via a community use agreement).
- ◀ Retain (or replace) disused sites and consider bringing them back into use should future demand aspirations be realised.

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- ◀ Ensure additional youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches can be established if demand grows to such a level that the provision is required, particularly in key growth areas.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer e.g., at Lister Community School (Southern Road Playing Fields), New Beckton Park, West Ham Park and Beckton District Park South.

3G pitches

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is theoretically a sufficient supply of provision to accommodate both current and future 3G pitch demand in Newham for football.
- ◀ However, with expressed unmet/latent identifying that up to 1.5 additional pitches may be needed, and with exported and future demand also evidenced, there could be a need for additional pitches if the existing facilities cannot be better utilised.
- ◀ For other sports, there is also clear demand for rugby league, American football and ultimate frisbee to have sufficient access to 3G pitches and this should therefore be ensured.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are six full size 3G pitches in Newham, with five available for community use and serviced by sports lighting (the pitch at Langdon Academy is unavailable).
- ◀ There are also 18 smaller sized 3G pitches across nine sites, with all 19 available for community use and with 15 serviced by sports lighting.
- ◀ Two of the full-size pitches are FA/FIFA compliant and can therefore be used to host competitive matches (at Royal Docks Academy and West Ham United Foundation).
- ◀ The 3G pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground is certified as World Rugby compliant.
- ◀ Most 3G pitches that are available for community use have good availability, although the full size pitches at Kingsford Community School and Royal Docks Academy are unavailable on Sundays, whilst the latter is also unavailable on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- ◀ The pitches at West Ham United Foundation and West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground have been assessed as good quality, having been recently refurbished.
- ◀ The pitches at Langdon Academy and Kingsford Community School are assessed as poor quality and have reached the end of their lifespan.
- ◀ Eight out of the 18 smaller sized pitches have exceeded their recommended lifespans and have therefore been assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ No ancillary facility issues are identified.

Demand summary

- ◀ The 3G pitches currently servicing Newham are reported to be operating near or at capacity in peak times, especially in winter months.
- ◀ It is thought the majority of demand is football related activity, although rugby union, rugby league, American football and Ultimate frisbee demand is also registered on the pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground (non-contact).
- ◀ The pitch at West Ham United Foundation is heavily used internally for initiatives and programmes, whilst capacity is further limited at Royal Docks Academy due to limited opening hours.
- ◀ Unmet demand is expressed with six responding football clubs and both rugby union clubs stating that additional pitch capacity is required to meet training requirements.
- ◀ Several football clubs export some demand outside of the Borough, primarily due to a lack of capacity on the 3G pitches within Newham.

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- ◀ With future demand equating to 46 football and 10 rugby union teams, demand for access to 3G provision is likely to increase.
- ◀ Only 19 football teams currently use 3G pitches for matches, which is a low number relative to the number of pitches provided and this is likely to be a consequence of only two being appropriately accredited.

Scenarios

Accommodating all football training demand

If all football teams were to utilise 3G pitches to accommodate their training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size pitch being able to cater for 38 teams), there is a requirement for three full size 3G pitches. As there are already five full size pitches provided (discounting the unavailable pitch at Langdon Academy), this means that there is theoretically enough provision in Newham to cater for current training demand.

Table 4.16: Current football training demand for 3G pitches in Newham

Current demand (number of teams)	3G full size pitch requirement ¹	Current number of full size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
127	3	5	-

Notwithstanding the above, it must be considered that the pitch at West Ham United Foundation has limited capacity for community club demand, whilst the pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground has capacity taken up by other sporting users (e.g., rugby union clubs). Capacity is also more limited at Royal Docks Academy due to only being available on two midweek evenings (Tuesday and Wednesday). This could suggest that there may actually be a shortfall.

Aligned to this, there are six football clubs currently identifying unmet/latent demand for 3G training access, meaning that it is clear that demand is not currently being adequately met. As these collectively field 54 teams, an additional 1.5 pitches could be required, although this could be negated through better utilising the existing stock.

Enabling access to the currently unavailable pitch at Langdon Academy would supply one additional pitch, whilst securing access to the pitch at Royal Docks Academy during every midweek evening would more than double its current capacity, thus providing the equivalent of 0.5 additional pitches. Together, this would be enough to accommodate the unmet/latent demand identified. However, if neither are possible, new pitch provision will be warranted.

In addition, when factoring in future demand for an additional 52 teams (based on club aspirations), the potential need increases by a further 1.5 pitches. As such, if this growth is realised, further 3G provision is likely to be required, in conjunction with improving access to the existing supply. The location of such provision should ensure that key growth areas are serviced, with this therefore including wards such as Beckton, Stratford & New Town, Royal Docks, Canning Town North and Canning Town South.

¹ Rounded to the nearest whole number

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Moving football match play demand to 3G pitches

Moving match play to 3G pitches in addition to training demand is supported by the FA, which is particularly keen to work with local authorities to understand the potential demand for full size 3G pitches should all competitive matches that are presently played on council pitches be transferred. Within Newham, there are currently 68 teams playing at local authority sites at peak time for each format of play.

Table 4.17: Number of teams currently using council pitches in Newham

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Adult	11v11	Sunday AM	19
Youth	11v11	Saturday PM	14
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	9
Mini	7v7	Sunday AM	13
Mini	5v5	Sunday AM	13
Total			68

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

Table 4.18: Full size 3G pitches required for the transfer of council pitch demand

Format	No. of teams at peak time	No. of matches at peak time	3G units required per match ²	Total 3G units required	3G pitches required
Adult	19	9.5	32	304	4.75
11v11	14	7	32	224	3.5
9v9	9	4.5	10	45	0.70
7v7	13	6.5	8	52	0.81
5v5	13	6.5	4	26	0.41

In total, 10 (rounded down from 10.17) 3G pitches would be required to accommodate all matches played on council pitches. However, as this is more than the number of pitches required for training demand, it is not considered practical to provide this many as sustainability would then become questionable. Pitches generally need high levels of midweek usage to be operationally viable.

An alternative approach to consider is the transfer of all mini football from grass to 3G pitches. As such, the table below tests a scenario that would enable all mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 football to transfer based on a programme of play at current peak time (Sunday AM).

Table 4.19: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

² Based on how pitch types are split on a full size 3G pitch

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

Based on the above programming and separate start times for the formats, the overall need is for two full size 3G pitches to accommodate all current mini match play demand, with this based on 13 teams playing mini 7v7 football and 16 teams playing mini 5v5 football.

As five pitches are currently provided and accessible, it is considered that sufficient provision could already exist to enable the transfer of all mini demand. However, this does not factor in that capacity is limited due to usage for other formats of play and from other sports. This means that increased access to existing pitches (or new pitches) needs to be secured in line with meeting training requirements, or current programmes of use will need to be altered and demand transferred.

Additionally, to enable all existing full size 3G pitches to be used for match play, the pitches at Langdon Academy, Chobham Academy and Kingsford Community School require testing as they are not currently FA/FIFA compliant. Accreditation could also be sought in relation to some of the smaller sized pitches and especially the larger ones (e.g., Little Ilford School)

Unavailable 3G pitches

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

World Rugby produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. There is one World Rugby compliant 3G pitch situated at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground. It is used regularly for training by East London RUFC, Kings Cross Steelers RUFC, City University, Queen Mary's University and University of East London for non-contact activity.

Other sporting requirements

American football, Rugby league and Ultimate frisbee activity is currently recorded as taking place on the 3G pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground. Access should continue and any future demand should also be accommodated at the site. To ensure sufficient capacity remains for this, it again demonstrates the need for improved access to other existing 3G pitches and/or new 3G pitches elsewhere.

Preferred approach

Based on the above scenarios, the table below outlines a recommended approach to ensure no current or future shortfalls of 3G provision.

Table 4.20: Summary of approach required to meet 3G demand

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Action	Implicated sites	Comments
Improved access	Langdon Academy Royal Docks Academy	Attempts should be made to gain community access to Langdon Academy and increase access to Royal Docks Academy in order to eradicate unmet/latent demand.
Transferring match play demand (and FA/FIFA testing)	Chobham Academy Langdon Academy Kingsford Community School Royal Docks Academy West Ham Foundation West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	This will relieve grass pitch shortfalls. However, testing is required at many of the sites in order for them to be useable for this purpose.
World Rugby accreditation	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	To better accommodate and increase rugby union usage, the pitch should be certified as World Rugby compliant. This will also enable increased rugby league use.
Additional provision	-	Whilst current demand can likely be accommodated through better utilising the existing stock, up to 1.5 additional 3G pitches are required if football training growth aspirations are realised.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Seek to gain community access to the pitch at Langdon Academy and increased access at Royal Docks Academy to ensure all existing demand can be adequately met.
- ◀ Seek testing of the 3G pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground (every 2 years) to ensure World Rugby compliance.
- ◀ Seek FIFA/FA testing of all 3G pitches so that they can be used for competitive football matches and ensure re-testing when it is required (every three years).
- ◀ Provide new 3G pitches if future growth aspirations for football training demand are realised and ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA recommended dimensions (and RFU dimensions if and where required).
- ◀ Ensure all existing and future 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability.

Rugby union- grass pitches

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ No pitches are considered to provide actual spare capacity.
- ◀ There are four pitches across two sites that are overplayed by a combined total of eight match equivalent sessions and this includes all pitches accessed for club activity.
- ◀ There is a current shortfall of eight match equivalent sessions, which increases to 12.5 match equivalent sessions when factoring in future demand.

Supply summary

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- There are six grass rugby union pitches identified across four sites in Newham, with all pitches available for community use.
- All the community available pitches are senior pitches.
- Of the six pitches provided, four are operated by a community association West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground and the remaining two by education providers.
- The two rugby union clubs in the Borough have secure tenure on the pitches at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground (the school-based pitches are unused).
- Of the pitches, all six have been assessed as poor quality, primarily due to the maintenance regimes in place and overplaying.
- All three sports lit pitches in the Borough are provided at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground.
- The clubhouse occupied by East London Rugby Club is standard quality but may require some refurbishment in the future, whereas the changing provision is more recently built and good quality.

Demand summary

- There are two rugby clubs based in Newham (East London RUFC and Kings Cross Steelers RUFC).
- East London RUFC fields four senior men's and one senior women's team, whilst Kings Cross Steelers RUFC fields four senior men's teams.
- No age grade teams are provided within the Borough.
- Three universities also field several teams in the Borough.
- Participation in Newham has seemingly stayed relatively static since the last study conducted in 2017, although there has been the development of the women's team at East London RUFC.
- Both clubs and the universities currently access the sports lit pitches at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground for training demand, although the 3G pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground is also utilised for some activity.
- Both clubs report they could field additional teams if they had access to more pitches or improved quality on their current pitches (latent demand).
- Both clubs express some level of future demand, equating to a total of 10 teams and consisting of two senior men's, two senior women's, two youth boys, two youth girls and two mixed teams.
- No future demand is projected from population growth.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

Maximising pitch quality through enhanced maintenance (M2) and the installation of drainage systems (D3) would alleviate overplay on three of the four overplayed pitches across Newham. This is shown in the table below.

Table 4.21: Capacity of overplayed pitches if quality improved to good (M2/D3)

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Sports-lit?	Current capacity rating	Good quality rating
11	East London Rugby Club	Senior	1	Poor	Yes	1.5	0.5
		Senior	1	Poor	Yes	2	0
		Senior	1	Poor	Yes	4	2
48	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	Senior	1	Poor	No	0.5	1.5

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The third pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground would still remain overplayed even if quality was maximised. This is partly due to the high level of training demand on this pitch.

Overall, the quality improvement would eradicate existing shortfalls from eight match equivalent sessions to one match equivalent session, whilst future shortfalls would reduce from 12.5 match equivalent sessions to 5.5 match equivalent sessions.

Table 4.22: Supply and demand balance of rugby union pitches with quality improvements

Demand	Capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Current demand	8	1
Future demand	12.5	5.5

Increasing access to training provision (sports-lit pitches)

Where overplay remains even when quality is maximised, increasing the number of sports-lit pitches available can eradicate the deficits as it can allow training demand to be dispersed. This is the case in Newham, although all three pitches at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground are already serviced. Because of this, the 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity that would be created on the sites first pitch could be used to reduce the two match equivalent sessions of overplay that would remain on the third pitch.

Furthermore, as West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground is also used by both East London RUFC and Kings Cross Steelers RUFC, providing sports lighting on its pitch would enable the 1.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity to be utilised. This would eradicate the remaining overplay.

Table 4.23: Impact of sports lighting additional pitches

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Sports-lit?	Good quality rating	Dispersal of demand
11	East London Rugby Club	Senior	1	Poor	Yes	0.5	0
		Senior	1	Poor	Yes	0	0
		Senior	1	Poor	Yes	2	0
48	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	Senior	1	Poor	Yes	1.5	0

Notwithstanding the above, it must be noted that maximising quality across the four pitches may not be viable, which would then likely result in some level of overplay still existing.

Access to World Rugby compliant 3G provision

World Rugby compliant 3G provision is provided via the pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground, as set out within the 3G scenarios and recommendations. This could enable clubs to transfer all their training demand (providing sufficient capacity exists outside of use by other sports) and as a result relieve grass pitch capacity issues. The provision could also be used for matches where possible.

The table below provides an example of the impact of securing access to a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch. This uses current capacity findings and is based on transferring existing

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training demand as well as one match equivalent session of match play demand on both Saturdays (peak time for senior play) and Sundays (peak time for junior play).

Table 4.24: Capacity of overplayed pitches if clubs had access to 3G provision

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Capacity rating with 3G pitch access
11	East London Rugby Club	Senior	1	Poor	1.5	0.5
		Senior	1	Poor	2	0
		Senior	1	Poor	4	0
48	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	Senior	1	Poor	0.5	0.5

This would result in no quality improvements or additional sports lighting being required. However, some level of quality enhancement in particular should still be pursued given the poor quality nature of the grass pitches. This would also build capacity should future demand aspirations be realised.

Notwithstanding the above, it must be noted that existing capacity on the 3G pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground is limited due to usage not only from rugby union clubs also for other sports (particularly football) and various formats of play. As such, some of this demand will need to be transferred to enable an increase in rugby union activity. To facilitate this, as set out in the 3G scenarios, increased access to existing 3G pitches is required to free up the necessary capacity, or additional provision needs to be established.

Preferred approach

Based on the above scenarios, the table below outlines a recommended approach to ensure no current or future shortfalls of rugby union provision.

Table 4.25: Summary of approach required to meet rugby union demand

Action	Implicated sites	Comments
Improve quality	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	This will help better accommodate existing usage, eradicate grass pitch shortfalls and build capacity to meet future demand.
World Rugby accreditation and transfer of play	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	Enabling all training demand and some match play demand to take place on 3G provision will eradicate existing grass pitch shortfalls, lessen the extent of the grass pitch improvements required and result in no additional sports lighting being needed.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches.

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- ◀ Improve pitch quality at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Retain World Rugby certification of the 3G pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground and where possible transfer training and match play demand to the provision.
- ◀ Sustain ancillary facility quality and look to make improvements when required.
- ◀ Retain the stock of pitches at education sites for continued curricular and extra-curricular usage and encourage improved club links where possible.

Rugby league

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ In isolation, the pitch used for rugby league at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground is sufficient to accommodate the demand expressed by Newham Dockers RLFC.
- ◀ However, the pitch is overplayed during the rugby union season, in part due to its poor quality, making it clear that the demand could be provided for.

Supply summary

- ◀ A rugby union pitch at is overmarked for rugby le West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground ague and utilised by Newham Dockers RLFC for both competitive matches and training demand.
- ◀ The pitch is poor quality.

Demand summary

- ◀ Newham Dockers RLFC fields one senior men's team and competes in the Merit Division of the London & South East League.
- ◀ Future demand could emanate from the Rugby League World Cup 'Inspired by 2021' Legacy Programme.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

The pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground has a carrying capacity of one match equivalent sessions per week, which meets rugby league demand of one match equivalent session currently. However, the pitch is also for rugby union, and the intensive use for both sports is not ideal as it can impact upon post season remedial work, despite the seasons running at separate times. As such, quality improvements and the transfer of some demand should be sought, as set out in the rugby union scenarios and recommendations.

Access to 3G provision

Newham Dockers RLFC currently utilises the 3G pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground for training sessions. Providing the pitch can meet the RFL Performance Standard (which closely aligns to World Rugby compliancy), it could also be utilised for match play, which would then result in no requirement for access to the grass pitch. This would be beneficial for both rugby league and rugby union activity.

Preferred approach

Based on the above scenarios, the table below outlines a recommended approach to ensure no current or future shortfalls of rugby league provision.

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Table 4.26: Summary of approach required to meet rugby league demand

Action	Implicated sites	Comments
Improve quality	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	This will ensure that dual use of the pitch can be better accommodated and more appropriately managed.
Transfer of play to 3G	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	Enabling match play demand to take place on 3G provision in addition to the training demand that already takes place will result in no requirement for the grass pitch, thus resolving dual use issues.

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure continued use of the rugby union provision at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground for rugby league activity as long as is needed.
- ◀ Improve quality of the pitch to better accommodate dual use demand.
- ◀ Carry out relevant testing of the 3G pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground and seek to transfer all rugby league demand to the pitch in order to resolve the grass pitch dual use issues.

Hockey pitches (sand/water based AGPs)

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ With no full size hockey suitable pitches in Newham and with no hockey club demand, it is considered that no action is required in regard to the sport providing that any localised demand is signposted to clubs and sites in neighbouring local authorities.

Supply summary

- ◀ No full-size hockey suitable AGP's have been identified in Newham.
- ◀ There are four smaller sized pitches provided across the same number sites, although these are all too small for purposeful hockey activity.

Demand summary

- ◀ There is no identified demand for formal or recreational community hockey in Newham, although some residents are likely being accommodated in neighbouring authorities where clubs are present.
- ◀ City University, Queen Mary's University and University of East London all field hockey teams, although none currently do so within Newham despite otherwise having a presence in the Borough.

Scenarios

Meeting hockey demand

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As there is no known formal demand for hockey in Newham, there is no strategic need for provision to be developed. EH also reports no issue with the lack of a pitch, stating that activity is relatively high in neighbouring authorities and that the Borough is not a target area.

Notwithstanding the above, due to high demand nearby, if suitable provision was to be established, it is likely that some demand would import into the Borough to make use of a secondary venue. However, it is unclear as to whether this would be sufficient enough to make a pitch financially viable/sustainable.

Preferred approach

No action is required in relation to hockey. However, if the Council had such an aspiration, it could consider the creation of provision to attract and grow demand, although this would necessitate a business planning and programme of use exercise to ensure an adequate level of activity would exist. Management of the pitch would also be key, with schools often preferred in order to establish additional, day-time usage.

Recommendations

- ◀ Sign-post any localised hockey interest to suitable clubs in neighbouring authorities in order to ensure that any Newham-based demand is catered for.
- ◀ Consider the creation of suitable provision providing a robust business plan, programme of use and management structure is in place.

Cricket pitches

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ No squares display any actual spare capacity for an increase in Saturday or Sunday cricket, whereas six have capacity for an increase in midweek demand.
- ◀ One square at Flanders Playing Field is overplayed (by 14 match equivalent sessions).
- ◀ There are capacity shortfalls across the Borough for Saturday and Sunday cricket, whilst spare capacity exists for midweek cricket, although this does not account for high levels of recreational demand that cannot be quantified (e.g., tapeball cricket).

Supply summary

- ◀ There are four grass wicket cricket squares identified in Newham across two sites, with both Flanders Playing Field and West Ham Park providing two squares.
- ◀ The second square at West Ham Park cannot currently be used for senior play due to surrounding infrastructure.
- ◀ The four grass wicket squares have accompanying NTP's, in addition to nine standalone NTPs also being provided across the Borough.
- ◀ The NTP squares at Beckton District Park South and Gooseley Playing Fields previously provided grass wickets, whilst a disused grass wicket square is identified at Leigh Road Gasworks Sports Ground and both Eastlea Community School and New Beckton Park previously provided NTPs.
- ◀ Conversations are ongoing to promote facilities at Lister Community School and Langdon Academy, whilst Eastlea Community School is noted as a potential site to develop provision.
- ◀ No clubs have long-term usage agreements in place, and tenure is particularly unsecure for Newham CC at Flanders Playing Field as the lease arrangement between the Council and Bonny Downs Community Association has expired.

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- ◀ The audit of grass wicket cricket squares found one square to be good quality (at Flanders Playing Field) and the remaining three to be standard quality.
- ◀ The NTPs at Little Ilford Park, Langdon Academy and Lister Community School (Southern Road Playing Fields) are rated as poor quality.
- ◀ Poor quality ancillary facilities are identified at West Ham Park.
- ◀ Eight sites provide practice nets, although Newham CC reports demand for more nets to cater for its demand and the provision at Plashet Park needs improvement.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are four affiliated cricket clubs based in Newham which collectively run 23 cricket teams (13 senior men's and 10 junior teams).
- ◀ Demand has seemingly increased since 2017, with three more senior teams and two more junior teams now identified.
- ◀ Four unaffiliated teams are identified, whilst LMS is at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Recreational demand is perceived to be high, particularly for tapeball cricket with various sessions and festivals taking place as well as a league, in addition to unregistered play.
- ◀ The MCC Foundation operates a hub at Flanders Playing Field, with 80 participants registered in 2023, whilst the Essex Cricket Board hosts school holiday activities at Central Park, Plashet Park and Keir Hardie Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Bow Green CC and West Ham & Stratford CC offers All Stars, Dynamos, whilst West Ham & Stratford CC also run women's softball sessions.
- ◀ Essex Cricket Board notes that there is a high level of exported demand from Newham residents to play for clubs and at sites in neighbouring authorities such as Redbridge due to the heavy presence of cricket.
- ◀ West Ham & Stratford CC also fields one of its junior teams outside of the Borough at Victoria Park in Tower Hamlets (exported demand).
- ◀ Newham CC is the only club reporting future demand aspirations, amounting to one senior women's and two junior teams.
- ◀ No future demand is predicted via population growth; however, participation is expected to increase despite this, particularly in relation to women's and girls' activity and recreational demand.

Scenarios

Addressing overplay

Although a regular, sufficient maintenance regime can sustain sites with minimal levels of overplay, a reduction in play is recommended to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality over time. As such, attempts should be made to reduce identified overplay, although it should be noted that many clubs do not necessarily believe that there is an issue and are able to accommodate such demand.

In Newham, only one square is currently overplayed, with this being at Flanders Playing Field. As this is assessed as standard quality, improving it would increase its capacity. The impact of this is shown in the table below.

Table 4.27: Overplay if all overplayed squares were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Current quality	Current capacity rating (match equivalent sessions)	Good quality capacity rating (match equivalent sessions)
13	Flanders Playing Field	Standard	14	10

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As seen, overplay would still exist on the square as it only provides four grass wickets, although it would reduce from 14 match equivalent sessions to 10.

To fully alleviate the overplay, greater utilisation of the existing NTPs at the site should be encouraged, with two already provided. The installation of hybrid wickets could also be considered moving forward to increase capacity, although the extent of their impact is currently unknown.

In addition, improvements to the grass wicket provision at West Ham Park should also be sought given that the provision is currently only assessed as standard quality and due to the level of demand received. This will also future proof the site should demand increase.

Accommodating future demand

Newham CC is the only club reporting future demand aspirations, with this amounting to a growth of three teams, equating to one senior women's and two junior teams. As both junior and senior women's demand can utilise NTPs for matches, it is considered that Flanders Playing Field has sufficient capacity to accommodate this, with 40 match equivalent sessions presently existing across the two wickets at the site.

On average, senior women's teams play around eight home matches a season, whilst junior teams play six, meaning only 20 match equivalent sessions of future demand is likely. This therefore leaves 20 match equivalent sessions of capacity which could accommodate the transfer of 10 match equivalent sessions from the overplayed grass wickets.

Notwithstanding the above, it is considered that additional future growth is also likely to exist, especially in relation to women's and girls' activity as this is currently a target area for the ECB and the Essex Cricket Board. It is therefore imperative that sites are set up to accommodate this, not only in terms of capacity but also regarding appropriate ancillary facilities (e.g., single sex changing rooms).

Similarly, high levels of exported demand from Newham to neighbouring authorities such as Redbridge is reported, although this is difficult to quantify as it is individuals displaced to Redbridge-based clubs/teams (rather than Newham based clubs travelling outside of the Borough). Nevertheless, it is said that such demand would return if provision increased e.g., additional squares were created. This is therefore something that the Council should consider through dialogue with the Essex Cricket Board to determine appropriate sites and potential users.

There is a disused cricket square at Leigh Road Gasworks Sport Ground. To increase provision in Newham, one option could be to explore reinstating this, although it is unknown as to how feasible this is. Regardless, it is clear that the site warrants protection given the shortfalls and future demand that exists, regardless of its disused status. Any permanent loss would therefore need to meet requirements of the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy (e.g., like-for-like replacement to an equal or better quantity and quality).

Recreational demand

A high level of recreational demand is reported to exist in Newham, especially in relation to activities such as tapeball cricket. Whilst some of this is recorded by the Essex Cricket Board as part of sessions, festivals and leagues, a significant amount is also thought to take place outside of this on more of an informal basis.

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Given the informal nature of the demand, exact usage levels are difficult to quantify, which in turn makes it difficult to make recommendations to ensure that it can be adequately accommodated. That being said, sites currently accessed for such activity are known, and priority should therefore be placed on ensuring that these can appropriately cater for the demand received. This should entail the creation of dedicated provision where it does not currently exist e.g., NTPs, or the improvement of existing facilities where they are already in place.

The table below provides actions that would assist.

Table 4.28: Facility developments to meet recreational cricket demand

Site ID	Site name	Action/s to consider
8	Central Park	Installation of an NTP to assist the hosting of school holiday activities.
12	Eastlea Community School	Support plans to develop an NTP and consider use for school holiday activities.
22	Langdon Academy	Improve NTP and consider use for school holiday activities.
23	Lister Community School (Southern Road Playing Fields)	Improve NTP and consider use for school holiday activities.
24	Little Ilford Park	Improve NTP quality to better accommodate and encourage recreational usage.
31	Plashet Park	Improve and re-position practice nets and consider NTP installation for tapeball and school holiday activity.
49	West Ham Park	Ensure NTP quality remains adequate.

Preferred approach

Based on the above scenarios, the table below outlines a recommended approach to ensure no current or future shortfalls of cricket provision.

Table 4.29: Summary of approach required to meet cricket demand

Action	Implicated sites	Comments
Improve quality	Flanders Playing Field West Ham Park	This will reduce overplay of the grass wickets and help build future capacity.
Transfer of play to existing NTPs	Flanders Playing Field	This will eradicate overplay of the grass wickets at the site, with 10 match equivalent sessions needing to be transferred (in addition to quality improvements). In addition, the NTPs can be used to accommodate future demand.
Create additional provision	-	To return exported demand to the Borough, although further discussions are required to identify suitable sites and potential users.

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Action	Implicated sites	Comments
Accommodate recreational demand	Central Park Eastlea Community School Langdon Academy Lister Community School Little Ilford Park Plashet Park West Ham Park	To ensure existing recreational usage can be better accommodate and to encourage growth in such activity.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing cricket provision.
- ◀ Improve quality of the grass wicket squares at Flanders Playing Field to reduce shortfalls and at West Ham Park to build future capacity.
- ◀ Ensure greater utilisation of existing NTPs to fully eradicate overplay and to accommodate expressed future demand.
- ◀ Pursue improved security of tenure for clubs, particularly at West Ham Park and Flanders Playing Field.
- ◀ Improve the changing facilities where there is a need to do so i.e., at West Ham Park.
- ◀ Consider options to increase and improve stock of suitable practice facilities, particularly for Newham CC.
- ◀ Ensure provision is adequate to accommodate a growth in women's and girls' cricket.
- ◀ Consider the creation of additional provision to accommodate exported demand within the Borough, subject to suitable sites and potential users being identified.
- ◀ Improve existing provision that is used for recreational cricket and develop additional facilities to better accommodate and increase such activity.
- ◀ Continue to support ECB initiatives such as All Stars and Dynamos.

Tennis

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Newham is seemingly well placed for recreational tennis opportunities given the quantity of courts provided; however, the number of courts with sports lighting (or covered) is low and the multi-sport nature of most provision will be impacting upon capacity/availability.
- ◀ The development of a club within the Borough would be beneficial to ensure that a broader range of participants can be catered for and to limit exported demand, whilst demand from University of East London and for padel tennis could also be better provided for.

Supply summary

- ◀ A total of 89 tennis courts are identified across 28 sites.
- ◀ Of these, 70 are categorised as being available for community use at 20 sites compared to 19 that are unavailable at eight sites.
- ◀ Of the courts, 31 are operated by education providers, 27 by the Council and 12 by other entities.
- ◀ In terms of the local authority courts, those across Central Park, Canning Town Recreation Ground, Gooseley Playing Fields, Hermit Road Recreation Ground, Lyle Park and Stratford Park can be booked via the Newham Park Tennis website and can be accessed via an annual pass.
- ◀ Most courts have a macadam surface, with 80 of this type compared to eight artificial courts and one clay court, provided at Cumberland Community School.
- ◀ There are 38 courts serviced by sports lighting, with 31 of these are available for community use; however, only six sports-lit courts are at council sites (all at Stratford Park).

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- ◀ There are no covered courts in the Borough.
- ◀ 32 courts are assessed as good quality, 43 are standard quality and 14 are poor quality.
- ◀ The Parks Investment Project is currently taking place in Newham, with this incorporating provision at Hermit Road Recreation Ground, Canning Town Recreation Ground, Plashet Park, Royal Victoria Gardens and Little Ilford Park.

Demand summary

- ◀ No club activity is identified in Newham, with most demand therefore being from recreational and casual users.
- ◀ The National Tennis Association is the coaching provider across Newham, providing coaching for juniors and adults as well as competitions and holiday camps.
- ◀ LTA products are in place at some local authority venues with six sites utilising them (e.g., Clubspark); however, there is scope to incorporate more sites.
- ◀ A Local Tennis League is in operation, with 11 sites commonly utilised.
- ◀ University tennis demand at the University of East London is considered to be relatively high and receives tier two support from the LTA, although it struggles with a lack of facilities.
- ◀ Tennis Come True operates on the courts and offers sessions at West Ham Park and Chobham Academy.
- ◀ Exported demand is likely being expressed due to the lack of a club within the Borough, with any demand within the club-environment therefore needing to travel outside of Newham.
- ◀ The LTA predicts high levels of unmet/latent demand and future growth via its insight tools, whilst Sport England Market Segmentation suggests that latent demand within Newham is marginally higher than national levels.
- ◀ A lack of sports lighting and/or covered courts at park sites presents a key issue as this will be limiting demand, especially outside of the summer months.

Scenarios

Improving the recreational tennis offer

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

In Newham, the following sites have been identified for investment:

- ◀ Canning Town Recreation Ground (two courts)
- ◀ Hermit Road Recreation Ground (two courts)
- ◀ Little Ilford Park (two courts)
- ◀ Plashet Park (two courts)
- ◀ Royal Victoria Gardens (two courts)

Based on the findings of this study, such investment should be supported in order to better provide for and increase recreational demand. In particular, quality requires improving across these sites, and sports lighting (or coverings) should be installed, where possible, given that only one local authority site is currently serviced by sports lighting (Stratford Park). A lack of sports lighting is currently a significant barrier to participation.

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In addition, there is a current growth in padel tennis that could be met via the sites, or at an alternative location where there is an existing supporting infrastructure and high levels of demand e.g., Stratford Park (providing it does not impact on or result in the loss of the existing courts). Stratford Padel Club provides an existing offering in the Borough; however, this is not overly suitable for recreational, non-club users.

The LTA states that padel court development at leisure centre sites can also be particularly beneficial as provision can be tied into other sports facilities and profit from an already established operating model.

Club-based tennis

Although no clubs are currently based in Newham, it is clear that the development of one within the Borough could help to develop tennis further and facilitate/encourage competitive demand. Any residents currently looking for club-based tennis will have to leave the Borough in order to access this, which is not ideal. This could also be preventing participation. Through the aforementioned investment, a suitable site could be established to accommodate a club, should sufficient demand exist. The LTA can advise and offer support as to how to go about this.

Preferred approach

Based on the above scenarios, the table below outlines a recommended approach to ensure that tennis is better provided for within Newham.

Table 4.30: Summary of approach required to meet tennis demand

Action	Implicated sites	Comments
Improve quality	Canning Town Recreation Ground Hermit Road Recreation Ground Little Ilford Park Plashet Park Royal Victoria Gardens	Linked to the LTA investment, this will encourage increased recreational usage.
Establish additional sports lighting	Canning Town Recreation Ground Hermit Road Recreation Ground Little Ilford Park Plashet Park Royal Victoria Gardens	This will increase the capacity of the courts, especially outside of summer months. However, it will be subject to any planning restrictions across the sites.
Increase padel provision	Canning Town Recreation Ground Hermit Road Recreation Ground Little Ilford Park Plashet Park Royal Victoria Gardens Stratford Park	A suitable site could provide padel courts for recreational demand.
Club formation	Canning Town Recreation Ground Hermit Road Recreation Ground Little Ilford Park Plashet Park Royal Victoria Gardens	Establishing a suitable site for the formation of a club will help to develop tennis further and facilitate/encourage competitive demand.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good.

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- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Explore the establishment of additional sports lighting, particularly at local authority sites to increase capacity.
- ◀ Ensure the ancillary facilities are suitable to support the tennis offer, particularly at sites well used recreationally.
- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via further utilisation of technology provided by the LTA (e.g., Clubspark) and ensure sustainable operation models are in place.
- ◀ Explore opportunities to add to the stock of padel courts (separate to existing tennis courts) and seek to maximise activity.
- ◀ Establish provision that is suitable to accommodate club-based demand and explore opportunities to support the formation of a club.

Bowls

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ The supply of bowls greens in Newham is deemed sufficient to meet demand.
- ◀ With Central Park, Plashet Park and Royal Victoria Gardens receiving club demand, all three greens warrant protection.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are four flat greens provided across the same number of sites.
- ◀ All greens are operated by the Council, with those at Central Park, Plashet Park and Royal Victoria Gardens then rented to clubs.
- ◀ The green at Stratford Park is not currently usable.
- ◀ Of the greens, one is rated as good quality and the remaining three are rated as standard quality (none are poor quality).
- ◀ No greens are serviced by sports lighting.
- ◀ In terms of clubhouse facilities, one green is serviced by good quality provision and the remaining three by standard quality provision.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are three clubs in Newham.
- ◀ Central Park BC has 35 members, whereas Plashet Park BC has 53 (numbers are unknown for Phoenix BC).
- ◀ Both Central Park BC and Plashet Park BC report a recent reduction in membership numbers.
- ◀ Plashet Park BC reports that its green is also available for pay and play, although it notes that take up is low.
- ◀ All clubs report that existing membership can be accommodated on the current level of provision, suggesting that there is no latent or unmet demand.
- ◀ Central Park BC highlights an aspiration to increase by an additional five members.

Scenarios

Accommodating current and future demand

Bowls England does not have any specific guidance on bowling green capacity, stating that it can vary from site-to-site and from club-to-club. However, as a guide, any green operating with a membership of over 60 may need additional resource to ensure that it is meeting its required level of demand.

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In Newham, where membership is known, all three clubs are operating within the recommended capacity limit when taking into account both current and future demand aspirations. This therefore suggests that supply is sufficient across the Borough.

Achieving club sustainability

Bowls England suggests that clubs operating with a membership of below 20 could be unsustainable and at risk from folding. No clubs in Newham have less than this. As such, all in-use greens should be protected to continue meeting existing demand.

The green at Stratford Park is not currently usable. Dependent on the level of recreational demand received, this could be re-purposed to meet other sporting, recreational or open space requirements. However, it cannot be permanently lost for development due to shortfalls existing for other sports.

Preferred approach

Demand for bowls is currently being adequately met, meaning no action is required in this regard. The recommendations below should, however, be actioned to ensure this remains the case and to better accommodate activity levels.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect all existing greens that are in use and consider future options in relation to the green at Stratford Park given lack of existing demand.
- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as standard quality (Central Park and Royal Victoria Gardens) and sustain quality at sites assessed as good (Plashtet Park).
- ◀ Sustain ancillary facility quality and seek improvements when and where it is necessary.
- ◀ Support Bowls England in the implementation of new products to increase participation within the Borough i.e., Bowls Bash (a shortened format) and Play Bowls (pay and play participation).
- ◀ Improve security of tenure for clubs where necessary.

Other grass pitch sports

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ The pitch used for Gaelic football at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground is sufficient to accommodate this demand in isolation; however, it is likely that capacity issues exist due to its multi-sport use.
- ◀ The pitch used for Ultimate frisbee at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground is sufficient to accommodate this demand in isolation; however, it is likely that capacity issues exist due to its multi-sport use.
- ◀ The pitch used for American football at is sufficient to accommodate West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground this demand in isolation; however, it is likely that capacity issues exist due to its multi-sport use.
- ◀ Given the potential community and recreational demand generated from the presence of MLB within Newham, the creation of baseball/softball diamonds could be explored in order to provide dedicated spaces for activity.

Supply summary

- ◀ Thomas McCurtain's GAA does not have access to a dedicated Gaelic football pitch and instead plays its competitive fixtures on rugby union pitches whilst then training on the 3G pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground.

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- ◀ Fire of London Ultimate reports accessing the dual use rugby union and 3G provision at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground, with no dedicated pitch existing.
- ◀ A grass rugby union pitch at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground is used to accommodate American football activity in the Borough via demand from City University, Queen Mary's University and University of East London.
- ◀ There are no dedicated baseball or softball diamonds provided within the Borough, although Major League Baseball (MLB) has been using the London Stadium on an annual basis for one match as part of the MLB World Tour.

Demand summary

- ◀ Thomas McCurtain's GAA is the key provider of Gaelic football within the Borough. It currently consists of 300-350 members.
- ◀ Fire of London Ultimate fields one team, whereas Clapham Frisbee fields several teams, although none of these play regularly in Newham.
- ◀ City University, Queen Mary's University and University of East London all field one American football team in BUCs leagues at East London Rugby Club.
- ◀ There are no formal baseball/softball club demand currently existing in Newham; however, due to the Borough hosting an annual MLB fixture, growing interest in the sport may be generated.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

The pitches at West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground that are used for American football, Gaelic football and Ultimate frisbee have a carrying capacity of one match equivalent sessions per week. This meets current demand levels; however, the pitches are also for rugby union, which is not ideal as it can impact upon post season remedial work, despite the seasons running at separate times. As such, quality improvements and the transfer of some demand should be sought, as set out in the rugby union scenarios and recommendations.

Preferred approach

Improving quality at West Ham Memorial Ground will ensure that the dual use nature of the provision can be better accommodated and more appropriately managed. This, together with continued use of 3G pitches, will ensure that demand for American football, Gaelic football and Ultimate can continue to be met.

For baseball and softball, the creation of formal provision should be sought to accommodate the recreational demand that exists. Well used park sites provide a suitable option for this.

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure continued access to West Ham Memorial Ground to enable continued usage for all relevant sports.
- ◀ Improve quality to ensure demand can be adequately accommodated alongside rugby union usage.
- ◀ Create formal baseball/softball provision.

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PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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

OBJECTIVE 1

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

Recommendations:

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

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

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

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

In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of sports facilities and will use the PPOSS to help assess that planning application against its Playing Fields Policy. Sport England will object to proposals relating to developments impacting on playing field provision (and accompanying ancillary provision) unless at least one of its five policy exceptions is met.

The exceptions are:

- ◀ **Exception 1:** Excess of provision - a robust and up-to-date assessment has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of Sport England, that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, which will remain the case should the development be permitted, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.
- ◀ **Exception 2:** Ancillary development - the proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field and does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.

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- ◀ **Exception 3:** Land incapable of forming part of a pitch - the proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:
 - ◀ reduce the size of any playing pitch;
 - ◀ result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas);
 - ◀ reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain their quality;
 - ◀ result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site; or
 - ◀ prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site.
- ◀ **Exception 4:** Replacement provision of equivalent or better quality and quantity - the area of playing field to be lost as a result of the proposed development will be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new area of playing field:
 - ◀ of equivalent or better quality, and
 - ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity, and
 - ◀ in a suitable location, and
 - ◀ subject to equivalent or better accessibility and management arrangements.
- ◀ **Exception 5:** New sports provision benefit outweighs the loss of the playing field - the proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice to the use, of the area of playing field.

The PPOSS shows that all existing playing field and outdoor sport sites cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of the presence of shortfalls both now and when factoring in future demand. As such, all provision requires protection or replacement, or all identified shortfalls need to be overcome and spare capacity created before any proposals for loss can come forward. This includes lapsed, disused, underused and poor quality sites as there is a requirement for this provision to help meet and alleviate the identified shortfalls.

The PPOSS and its findings should now be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new playing fields and ancillary facilities. All applications should be assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case-by-case basis taking into account site specific factors and aligned to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

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

A number of school and commercial sites are being used in Newham for competitive play, predominantly for football. In some cases, use of such facilities has been classified as secure; however, it is not necessarily formalised and relevant organisations should seek to establish appropriate community use agreements, including access to changing provision where required/available.

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

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

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

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

Relevant clubs could also be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)³. They should also be signposted to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies or local businesses.

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

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

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

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

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

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

³ <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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

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

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

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

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

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

Where new schools are provided, they should be designed to facilitate community access, with opportunities for meeting the community's outdoor sports needs explored at the outset to maximise the potential impact of the provision. An example of this is ensuring the provision of youth 11v11 and/or youth 9v9 grass football pitches, given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students, or multi-use provision such as courts that can accommodate tennis activity.

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OBJECTIVE 2

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

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

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

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

Addressing quality issues

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

Based upon an achievable target, using existing quality scoring to provide a baseline, a standard should be used to identify deficiencies and investment should be focused on those sites which fail to meet the proposed quality standard. For the purposes of quality assessments, the Strategy refers to pitches and ancillary facilities separately as being of 'good', 'standard' or 'poor' quality. However, some good quality sites have poor quality elements and vice versa (e.g., a good quality pitch may be serviced by poor quality changing facilities).

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

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If a poor quality site receives little or no usage that is not to say that no improvement is needed. It may instead be the case that it receives no demand because of its quality, thus an improvement in said quality will attract demand to the site, potentially from overplayed standard or good quality sites (thus reducing capacity issues). Where this occurs, it is vital that the improvements are advertised and marketed towards potential users as their perception of the provision may need altering.

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

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

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

For rugby union and rugby league, the RFU and RFL are now also utilising PitchPower, with reports also being produced similar to those for football.

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

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

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

Addressing overplay

In order to improve the overall quality of the outdoor facility stock, it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a match limit to each (daily for hockey and weekly for football and rugby union and seasonal for cricket).

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

Table 5.2: Carrying capacity of pitches

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

For non-pitch sports, capacity is not linked to the number of matches taking place but rather the number of members (and other users) attracted to a site. For example, for tennis, a hard court is said to have capacity for 60 members if it is serviced by sports lighting, whereas a non-lit court has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts). For bowls, a green is considered at capacity if it has over 8 members, whilst a membership of under 20 could be unsustainable.

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

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

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

As mentioned earlier, there are also sites that are poor quality but are not overplayed. These should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than others but demand could increase if the quality was improved. It does, however, work both ways as potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular, which in the long run can lead again to them becoming poor quality pitches if not properly maintained.

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

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of outdoor sport sites and associated facilities.

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

Table 5.3: Proposed tiered site criteria

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

Hub sites are of Borough-wide importance where users are willing to travel to access the range and high quality of facilities offered and are likely to be multi-sport. Actions at these sites are likely to have a greater impact on addressing the issues identified in the PPOSS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Recommendation (g) – Secure developer contributions

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

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

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

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

Where offsite contributions are necessary, the PPOSS should be as a guide to determine suitable sites in the locality and what the investment should achieve in relation to wider shortfalls in the area. Sport England and relevant NGBs should also be consulted to determine their needs and to ensure that there will be no duplication of investment.

For housing developments that warrant the creation of new outdoor sports facilities, especially if existing sites in the locality do not have the capacity to absorb any growth in demand, the PPS should assist in identifying the facility mix required. The preference from Sport England and the NGBs is for multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by appropriate ancillary facilities which consider the potential for further development in the future. This is because standalone facilities are more likely to become under-used (or unused), unviable and unsustainable.

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

- ◀ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to specific planning obligations. Where developer contributions are applicable, a S106 agreement or equivalent must be completed that should specify, when applied, the amount that will be linked to Sport England's Building Cost Information Service from the date of the permission and timing of the contribution/s to be made.
- ◀ Contributions should also be secured towards the first ten years of maintenance on new pitches (lifecycle costs), the cost of which is indicated by the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator. NGBs and Sport England can provide further and up to date information on the associated costs.
- ◀ External funding should be sought/secured to achieve maximum benefit from the investment into appropriate facility enhancement, alongside other open space provision, and its subsequent maintenance.
- ◀ Where new provision is provided, appropriate changing rooms and associated car parking should be located on site.
- ◀ All new or improved outdoor sports facilities on school sites should be subject to community use agreements.

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

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For further information in relation to the Playing Pitch Calculator, please see Part 7 of this report.

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OBJECTIVE 3

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

Recommendations:

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

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

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

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

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity.
- ◀ Securing community use at education sites including those currently unavailable.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage and secure tenure.
- ◀ Exploring lease/management arrangements with appropriate clubs/organisations.
- ◀ Establishing additional sports lighting.
- ◀ Installing artificial surfaces (e.g., 3G pitches and NTPs).

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

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

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

Linked to the above and as evidenced in Part 4, although there are identified shortfalls, most current demand is being met and most present shortfalls can be addressed via better utilisation of the existing stock. Adding new provision, particularly in the short term, is therefore not recommended as a priority, although there are some potential requirements which will increase if other solutions are not possible. These requirements are then exacerbated when factoring in future demand, although the majority can still potentially be accommodated without new facilities.

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For football, there is a potential need for new 3G provision and additional grass pitches to meet demand. The focus for this should be on youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitch types based on current shortfalls and what other solutions (e.g., improving pitch quality) will achieve.

For tennis, there is demand for new padel courts given the growing nature of the activity, although this could be accommodated within an existing site (rather than a new site being created). It is, however, imperative that the supply of traditional courts is not affected (i.e., courts should not be converted).

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

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

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PART 6: ACTION PLAN

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

Site hierarchy

The Council should make it a high priority to work with NGBs and other partners to comprise a priority list of actions based on local priorities, NGB priorities and available funding.

To assist, as stated in Recommendation (e), to allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. This is done via classifying sites as hub sites, key centres or local sites.

Partners

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

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

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

Priority

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

Medium priority actions have analysis area importance and are identified on the basis of the impact that they will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment, although not to the same extent as high priority actions.

The **low** priority actions tend to be where little work is required, or where the status quo can be maintained, or they are for single pitch or single sport sites with only local specific importance. However, the actions may still contribute to addressing issues for specific users and there may also be opportunities to action some of the recommendations made against such sites relatively quickly e.g., through S106 funding.

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Costs

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

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

These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at:

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

Timescales

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

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

Aim

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

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Table 6.1: Site by site Action Plan

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
2	Barrington Playing Fields	E12 6JL	Football	Council (Disused)	One disused smaller sized sand-based pitch.	Seek to restore the site for community use.	FA/FF/ECB	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
4	Beckton District Park South	E6 5LT	Football	Council	Four adult and one youth 11v11 pitch all assessed as standard quality. The youth 11v11 pitches are overplayed, whilst the adult pitches have actual spare capacity. Serviced by no ancillary provision.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay and consider creation of suitable ancillary facilities (e.g., changing rooms and toilets).	FA/FF ECB LTA	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standalone NTP assessed as standard quality.	Retain for continued recreational demand.			L	L	L	
5	Brampton Manor Academy	E6 3SQ	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches which are available for community use and played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity and ensure long-term security of tenure via a community use agreement.	School FA/FF ECB LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		One standalone NTP which is available for community use but unused. It has four practice nets on site as well.	Sustain quality and retain for curricular use.			L	L	L	
			Tennis		Three good quality artificial courts which are serviced by sports lighting and available to the community.	Sustain quality and retain as community available given the presence of sports lighting.			L	L	L	
6	Brampton Park	E6 3LA	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously accommodated one adult pitch and one youth 9v9 pitch. Last provided circa 2020 but no longer marked out.	Consider bringing pitches back into use given local shortfalls.	FA/FF	Local	L	M	M	Protect Provide Enhance
7	Canning Town Recreation Ground	E16 3PB	Tennis	Council	Two good quality macadam courts which are not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve court quality to better accommodate community demand and explore options to install sports lighting to increase capacity.	LTA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
8	Central Park	E6 3HN	Cricket	Council	Currently used for recreational cricket but with no formal provision.	Consider installation of NTP to better accommodate demand.	ECB LTA Bowls England	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Three good quality macadam courts which are not serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain court quality and explore options to install sports lighting to increase capacity.			M	S	M	
			Bowls		One standard quality bowling green used by Central Park BC. Serviced by good quality ancillary provision.	Improve green quality to better accommodate club demand.			L	S	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
9	Chobham Academy	E20 1BD	3G	School	One standard quality full size 3G pitch which is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and carry out FIFA/FA testing so that the pitch can be used for competitive matches. Seek to maximise usage for both training and match play activity following this.	School FA/ FF LTA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.				Improve quality to better accommodate curricular use.	L	S	
10	Cumberland Community School	E13 8SJ	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches, which are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FA/FF ECB LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
			Cricket		A standard quality standalone NTP which is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular demand.			L	L	L	
			Tennis		Three macadam and one clay court, all assessed as standard quality. The courts are not available for community use but are serviced by sports lighting.	Explore community use options given the quantity of courts and the presence of sports lighting.			M	S	L	
11	East London Rugby Club	E15 3BP	Rugby union	Club	Three poor quality senior pitches (M0/D1) which are all available for community use, serviced by sports lighting and overplayed. The ancillary facilities are assessed as good quality.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay and seek increased usage of 3G provision following World Rugby accreditation to fully alleviate it.	Club RFU RFL	Key centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Rugby league		A rugby league pitch overmarks one of the rugby union pitches and is used by Newham Dockers RLFC.	Improve pitch quality to ensure that dual use can be better accommodated.			H	S	M	
12	Eastlea Community School	E16 4NP	Football	School	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch, both are assessed as poor quality. The pitches are played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity and ensure long-term security of tenure for users via a community use agreement.	School FA/FF ECB RFU LTA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		One good quality smaller sized 3G pitch which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.			M	M	L	
			Cricket (disused)		A disused grass square which is no longer in use. It has been identified as a potential site to develop an NTP, whilst the feasibility of providing a grass wicket square is also being explored.	Explore the creation of provision in order to accommodate curricular demand and to attract community usage.			M	S	L	
			Rugby union		One poor quality senior pitch (M0/D0) which is available for community use but unused. The pitch has 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity.	Improve pitch quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular activity and retain as community available should club demand exist in the future.			M	S	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
13	Flanders Playing Field	E6 2SG	Football	Community association	Two adult, one youth 11v11, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch. The youth and mini pitches are assessed as good quality, whereas the adult pitches are assessed as standard. The adult pitches are overplayed whilst the remaining are played to capacity.	Improve quality to alleviate overplay.	FA/FF EH ECB	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Hockey		One smaller sized sand-based pitch which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as standard quality.	Retain for continued recreational use, with 3G conversion potential to be considered given that the size is unsuitable for purposeful hockey demand (and given general lack of hockey demand). Also explore if sports lighting could be provided to increase capacity.			M	S	M	
			Cricket		One good quality and one standard quality grass wicket square accompanied by NTPs. The standard quality square is overplayed, whilst the good quality square is played to capacity. Newham CC aspires to refurbish the practice nets and obtain new ones. No security of tenure is provided as Bonny Downs Community Association's lease of the site from the Council has expired.	Improve quality to reduce overplay and transfer increased demand to the NTPs to fully alleviate it. Also support aspirations to improve the practice nets and look to improve security of tenure for the Club via a long-term arrangement.			M	S	M	
14	Forest Gate Community School	E7 9BB	3G	School	One good quality smaller sized 3G pitch which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	School FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
16	Gooseley Playing Fields	E6 6HU	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously accommodated two adult pitches. Last provided circa 2017 but no longer marked out.	Consider bringing pitches back into use given local shortfalls.	FA/FF	Local	L	M	M	Protect Provide Enhance
			Cricket		One standalone NTP which is assessed as standard quality. The site is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Retain NTP for continued recreational demand.			L	L	L	
			Tennis		Four good quality macadam courts which are not serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality of courts and explore option of installing sports lighting to increase capacity.			M	S	M	
17	Hermit Road Recreation Ground	E16 4JT	Tennis	Council	Two standard quality macadam courts, which are not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore option of installing sports lighting to increase capacity.	LTA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
21	Kingsford Community School	E6 5JG	3G	School	One standard quality full size 3G pitch which is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and carry out FIFA/FA testing so that it can be used for competitive matches. Seek to maximise usage for both training and match play activity following this.	School FA/FF LTA	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts, which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Retain courts to cater for curricular demand.			L	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
22	Langdon Academy	E6 2PS	Football	School	One adult and one mini 5v5 pitch, both assessed as standard quality but not available for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FA/FF ECB LTA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
			3G		One full size standard quality 3G pitch which is not available for community use but is serviced by sports lighting.	Secure community access given shortfalls of provision and seek to maximise usage for both training and match play (following FA/FIFA testing). Also ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.			H	S	L	
			Cricket		Two standalone NTPs which are unavailable for community use. Essex Cricket Board reports conversations are ongoing to promote cricket facilities at the School and to offer community use as part of this.	Improve NTP quality and seek community availability.			L	S	L	
			Tennis		Two standard quality artificial courts, two good quality artificial courts and three poor quality macadam courts. All unavailable for community use and not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve the poor quality courts to better cater for curricular use and explore if sports lighting could be provided to enable community access given the quantity of courts provided.			M	S	M	
23	Lister Community School (Southern Road Playing Fields)	E13 9JD	Football	School	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch which is available for community but currently unused. It is played to capacity through curricular use.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity for the community and ensure security of tenure is provided via a community use agreement.	School FA/FF ECB RFU	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			3G		A poor quality smaller sized 3G pitch which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Resurface pitch to avoid quality deterioration and to retain usage.			M	L	M	
			Cricket		One standalone NTP which is available but unused. Essex Cricket Board reports conversations are ongoing to promote cricket facilities at the School and to improve community use as part of this.	Improve NTP quality to better accommodate curricular use and to attract community demand.			L	S	L	
			Rugby union		One poor quality senior pitch (M0/D0) which is available for community use but unused.	Improve pitch quality to better accommodate curricular usage and retain as community available should demand exist in the future.			L	S	L	
24	Little Ilford Park	E12 6JT	Cricket	Council	A standalone NTP which requires replacement. Identified as a key site for the growth of recreational cricket.	Replace NTP to better accommodate recreational usage and look to install additional provision on site to further cater for demand e.g., practice nets.	ECB LTA	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
			Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts, plus mini tennis/pickleball court which are not serviced by sports lighting.	Explore options to install sports lighting to increase capacity.			M	S	M	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
25	Little Ilford School	E12 6JB	3G	School	One good quality smaller sized 3G pitch. The pitch is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality through appropriate maintenance and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Also seek FA/FIFA testing so that it can be used for mini match play.	School FA/FF LTA	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for curricular use.			L	L	L	
26	London Marathon Community Track	E20 2ST	Football	Commercial	One good quality adult pitch which is available for community use and played to capacity.	Sustain quality to ensure no future overplay.	FA/FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
28	Lyle Park	E16 2AX		Council			LTA	Local				Protect Provide Enhance
			Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts which are serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain court quality.			M	S	L	
29	Newham Leisure Centre	E13 8SD	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch which is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions. Site user Athletic Newham FC aspires to play a higher level of football (currently Step 5), but the site needs to be developed.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay and seek the transfer of some demand to fully alleviate it. As part of the improvements, ensure Athletic Newham FC can progress through the football pyramid.	FA/FF	Key site	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
			3G		Three smaller sized 3G pitches which are assessed as standard quality. All pitches are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.			M	S	M	
30	Old Spotted Dog Ground	E7 9NP	Football	Club	One poor quality adult pitch. Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	Club FA/FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
31	Plashet Park	E6 1BT	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously accommodated one adult pitch. Last provided circa 2017 but no longer marked out.	Consider bringing pitches back into use given local shortfalls.	FA/FF LTA Bowls England	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Provide Enhance
			Cricket		Poor quality practice nets in place. Considered to be a key site by the Essex Cricket Board for recreational demand.	Improve and re-position (north-south) practice nets, with this needing to involve re-orientation given current position. Also consider installation of additional provision, such as an NTP, to grow the recreational offer.			M	S	L	
			Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts which are not serviced by sports lighting.	Explore options to install sports lighting to increase capacity.			M	S	M	
			Bowls		One good quality bowling green which is used by Plashet BC. It is serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain quality.			M	L	L	
32	Plashet School	E6 1DG	Tennis	School	Three standard quality macadam courts; available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality for curricular use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
33	Powerleague (Newham)	IG11 0AD	3G	Commercial	Eight smaller size 3G pitches, with six assessed as standard quality and two as poor quality.	Retain for commercial use and re-surface the poor quality pitches to improve quality.	FA/FF	Local	L	M	S	Protect Enhance
34	Rokeby School	E16 4DD	3G	School	One standard quality smaller sized 3G pitch which is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	School FA/FF LTA	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
35	Royal Docks Academy	E16 3HS	3G	School	One good quality full size 3G pitch which is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. It is also FA tested for competitive matches.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place and ensure FA testing is carried out every three years so that the pitch remains suitable for competitive match play.	School FA/FF LTA	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
			Tennis		Five poor quality macadam courts which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Improve quality to better cater for curricular use. Also explore if sports lighting could be installed given quantity of courts provided.			M	M	M	
36	Royal Victoria Gardens	E16 2JJ	Tennis	Council	Two good quality macadam courts which are not serviced by sports lighting.	Explore options to install sports lighting to increase capacity.	LTA Bowls England	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		One standard quality bowling green, used by Phoenix BC. Serviced by standard quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality to better accommodate club demand.			M	M	L	
37	Saint Bonaventure's School	E7 9QD	3G	School	One poor quality smaller sized 3G pitch which is available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Resurface pitch to improve quality for curricular demand.	School FA/FF	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
38	New Beckton Park	E6 5PU	Football	Council	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch which are assessed as standard quality. The youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions, whereas the mini 7v7 pitch provides actual spare capacity. Poor ancillary facilities provided.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay and improve ancillary facilities.	FA/FF ECB LTA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
			Cricket (disused)		A disused NTP which is no longer maintained.	Consider bringing provision back into use to accommodate recreational demand.			M	S	L	
			Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts which are not serviced by sports lighting. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and explore options to install sports lighting to increase capacity. Also improve ancillary facility offering to support the courts.			M	S	M	
40	Sports Dock	E16 2RD	3G	University	One poor quality smaller sized 3G pitch which is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	University FA/FF	Hub site	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
43	Star Primary School	E16 4NH	Hockey	School	One smaller sized sand-based pitch which is neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Retain for curricular use.	EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
44	Stratford Park	E15 4PT	Football	Council	One standard quality smaller sized sand-based pitch which is available for community use, with a canopy and serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for recreational use, with 3G conversion to be considered given that the size is unsuitable for hockey demand (and given general lack of demand).	FA/FF LTA Bowls England	Key site	M	S	L	Protect Provide
			Tennis		Six good quality macadam courts, which is serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality and consider as a venue for padel given existing infrastructure and demand levels.			M	S	M	
			Bowls		One disused bowling green.	Consider potential refurbishment or repurposing options.			M	M	L	
47	West Ham Foundation	E6 5NX	3G	Commercial	One good quality full size 3G pitch which is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. FA approved for matches, but capacity is limited through internal usage.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place and ensure FA testing is carried out every three years so that the pitch remains suitable for competitive match play.	FA/FF	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect
48	West Ham Memorial Recreation Ground	E15 3AH	Football	Community association	Three adult and one youth 9v9 pitches. Two adult and the youth 9v9 pitch are assessed as poor, whilst the remaining adult pitch is assessed as standard. The adult pitches are played to capacity, whereas the youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed.	Improve pitch quality to eradicate overplay.	FA/FF ECB RFU	Hub site	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
			3G		One good quality full size 3G pitch which is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. Used for multiple sports including football, rugby union, rugby league, American football, Gaelic football and Ultimate frisbee.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and seek FA/FIFA and RFU testing so that it can be used for matches and full contact activity. Seek to maximise usage for non-football activity providing additional 3G pitches are established to create sufficient capacity for football.			H	M	L	
			Cricket		A standalone NTP used for LMS activity.	Retain for continued LMS and recreational usage.			H	L	L	
			Rugby Union		A poor quality senior pitch (D0/M1) which is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.			H	S	M	
49	West Ham Park	E7 9PU	Football	Corporation of London	A poor quality adult pitch which is played to capacity.	Improve quality to provide actual spare capacity.	FA/FF ECB LTA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
			Cricket		Two standard quality grass wicket squares which are used by West Ham & Stratford CC and Bow Green CC. The second square is currently only useable for junior play due to surrounding infrastructure and is supported by four NTPs. No long-term usage agreement is in place for the clubs.	Improve quality to increase capacity and explore options with Corporation of London to enable senior play to take place across the site. Also explore a more formal arrangement for the clubs in order to improve its security of tenure.			M	M	M	
			Tennis		Twelve good quality macadam courts which are serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain court quality.			M	L	L	

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
51	School 21	E15 4RZ	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch which is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and explore community use given shortfalls.	School FA/FF LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
			Tennis		One standard quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Retain for curricular use.			L	L	L	
52	Eko Pathways School	E6 6FE	Tennis	School	One standard quality artificial court which is neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Retain for curricular use	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
53	Lister Community School	E13 9HZ	Tennis	School	Five standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
54	Oasis Academy Silvertown	E16 2BB	Tennis	School	One standard quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Retain for curricular use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
55	John F Kennedy Special School	E15 4RZ	Tennis	School	One standard quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Retain for curricular use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
56	Stratford School Academy	E7 9PR	Tennis	School	Three standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use but not serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for curricular use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
57	Newham Sixth Form College	E13 8SG	Tennis	School	Three poor quality macadam courts which are available for community and sports lit.	Improve court quality.	School LTA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
58	Sarah Bonnell School	E15 4LP	Tennis	School	Three standard quality macadam courts which are not available for community use but are serviced by sports lighting.	Explore community use option given the presence of sports lighting.	School LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
59	Ravenscroft Primary School	E16 4BG	Tennis	School	One poor quality macadam court which is neither available for community use nor sports lit.	Improve quality for curricular use.	School LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
60	Lady Trower Trust Playing Field	E6 2ES	Football (disused)	Private	Site previously accommodated one adult and one youth pitch.	Consider bringing pitches back into use given local shortfalls.	FA FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
-	Leigh Road Gasworks Sports Ground	E6 2DP	Cricket (disused)	Private	A disused grass square that is no longer maintained.	Explore options to bring the provision back into use given existing shortfalls and future demand expressed. If this is not possible, ensure any permanent loss of the provision meets national planning policy and Sport England's Playing Field Policy.	ECB	Local	M	L	L	Protect

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PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2038 (in line with the Local Plan), with this future demand then translated into teams likely to be generated. Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases before converting the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches that may be required to meet the growth. Once this is known, existing provision should be assessed to see if the demand could be accommodated, either currently or following improvements, or it should be determined that new provision is required (or it could be a mixture of both).

The Calculator also gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision (or the level of contribution needed for improvements to the existing supply). It splits the total pitch requirement into natural turf pitches to meet peak period demand, artificial grass pitches to meet training demand, and the additional number of changing rooms required to support the new demand.

The scenarios below are provided as a guide to show the additional demand for pitch sports that could be generated from housing growth in Newham. The demand is shown in match equivalent sessions per week for most sports, except for cricket, where match equivalent sessions are by season. Training demand is expressed in either hours or match equivalent sessions; where expressed in hours, it is expected that demand will use either a 3G pitch (football demand) or an AGP (hockey demand). Where expressed in match equivalent sessions, it is expected training will take place on sports-lit grass pitches (i.e., for rugby union).

The scenarios also provide an example of how the calculator works and what information it can provide. It is recommended that the Council uses the calculator moving forward as when housing sites reach the planning stage or as greater details emerge throughout the local plan process. Note that the scenarios can also be updated as required over the Local Plan period and throughout the lifespan of the PPOSS to reflect population projections, changes in the housing requirement and changes to the average household size.

The monitoring figure for housing supply is set out in the London Plan 2021. In the case of Newham, this is 32,800 dwellings over a 10-year period, or 3,280 dwellings per annum for the planning area outside of the London Legacy Development Corporation, with a further capacity target of 14,800 or 1,480 per annum in the area covered by it. This gives a total capacity-based target in the Borough of 4,760 dwellings per annum (as identified in Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment - June 2022).

The indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.3 per dwelling (based on the national average occupancy rate). However, it should be recognised that this is forecast to decline in the future in line with national trends.

Scenario 1 – Overall housing target – 47,600 dwellings

The estimated additional population derived from overall housing growth from 47,600 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 people per household is 109,480 people. The table below identifies what this could mean in terms of demand for playing pitches.

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Table 7.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 47,600 dwellings

Pitch sport/type	Match demand (match equivalent sessions)	Training demand
Adult football	5.20	28.64 hours
Youth football	4.71	
Mini soccer	4.42	
Rugby union	1.40	1.41 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.21	0.21 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	-	-
Junior & mixed hockey	-	-
Cricket	64.13	N/A

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs. The costings are based on Sport England's cost guidance.

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	5.20	£625,712	£132,302	10.42	£2,249,591
Youth football	4.71	£46,380	£96,890	6.42	£1,388,122
Mini soccer	4.42	£152,503	£32,033	N/A	N/A
Rugby union	1.40	£252,341	£54,001	2.72	£595,365
Rugby league	0.21	£24,532	£5,422	0.31	£66,151
Cricket	1.42	£541,230	£109,331	2.93	£619,141
Hockey	-	-	-	-	-
3G	0.81	£931,892	£29,981	1.56	£327,242

In total, it is set out that 18.87 pitches will be required to meet the demand, with the capital cost of providing this estimated at £3,921,900 in addition to lifecycle costs of £489,660. Furthermore, 23.36 changing rooms will be needed at a predicted cost of £5,572,842.

Scenario 2 - Annual housing target - 4,760 dwellings

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 4,760 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 people per household is 10,948 people. The table below identifies what this could mean in terms of demand for playing pitches.

Table 7.3: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 4,760 dwellings

Pitch sport/type	Match demand (match equivalent sessions)	Training demand
Adult football	0.52	2.86 hours
Youth football	0.47	
Mini soccer	0.44	
Rugby union	0.14	0.14 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.02	0.02 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	-	-
Junior & mixed hockey	-	-
Cricket	6.40	N/A

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The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs. The costings are based on Sport England's cost guidance.

Table 7.4: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.52	£62,571	£13,203	1.04	£224,959
Youth football	0.47	£46,138	£9,689	0.64	£138,812
Mini soccer	0.44	£15,250	£3,203	N/A	N/A
Rugby union	0.14	£25,234	£5,400	0.27	£59,536
Rugby league	0.02	£2,453	£542	0.03	£6,615
Cricket	0.14	£54,123	£10,933	0.29	£61,914
Hockey	-	-	-	-	-
3G	0.08	£93,189	£2,998	0.15	£32,724

In total, it is set out that 1.88 pitches will be required to meet the demand, with the capital cost of providing this estimated at £392,189 in addition to lifecycle costs of £48,965. Furthermore, 2.57 changing rooms will be needed at a predicted cost of £557,283.

Summary

The tables above show that through overall housing growth, considerable demand will be generated for each pitch sport and this will likely result in the need for new pitch provision. However, this is only when looking at projections cumulatively, with the annual target not equating to a whole pitch for any individual sport. As such, new provision will not always be required to meet the growth, particularly when assessing individual developments.

Experience shows that only significantly large housing sites are likely to generate demand for new provision to be created in their own right. Where this is the case, consideration should be given to providing multi-pitch sites with suitable ancillary provision, including appropriate clubhouse/changing facilities and car parking. Single pitch sites which have been provided traditionally by developers are not considered to provide long term sustainable provision for the relevant sports.

Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, the Action Plan in this document should be consulted to determine whether the additional demand can be accommodated via existing provision (in which case no further action is required). If this is not the case, contributions should be sought to enhance existing provision in the locality to accommodate the increased demand. This can be through, for example, improving quality, or providing new or improved ancillary provision. The PPOSS and in particular the Action Plan, as well as future consultation with NGBs, should be used to inform this (e.g., to select suitable sites).

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

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

Delivery

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

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

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

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

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

Monitoring and updating

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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Checklist

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

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date	Tick 	
	Yes	Requires Attention
Step 9: Apply & deliver the strategy		
1. Are steering group members clear on how the PPS can be applied across a range of relevant areas?		
2. Is each member of the steering group committed to taking the lead to help ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence?		
3. Has a process been put in place to ensure regular monitoring of how the recommendations and action plan are being delivered and the PPS is being applied?		
Step 10: Keep the strategy robust & up to date		
1. Has a process been put in place to ensure the PPS is kept robust and up to date?		
2. Does the process involve an annual update of the PPS?		
3. Is the steering group to be maintained and is it clear of its on-going role?		
4. Is regular liaison with the NGBs and other parties planned?		
5. Has all the supply and demand information been collated and presented in a format (i.e. single document that can be filtered accordingly) that will help people to review it and highlight any changes?		
6. Have any changes made to the Active Places Power data been fed back to Sport England?		