



East Hampshire – Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs and Opportunities Assessment 2018-2028

Playing Pitches



East Hampshire District Council
Playing Pitch Strategy 2018 to 2028
Final Report
April 2018

Produced for

**East
Hampshire**
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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1 Introduction - Brief, Scope, Vision & Context

1.1 Why this strategy has been developed

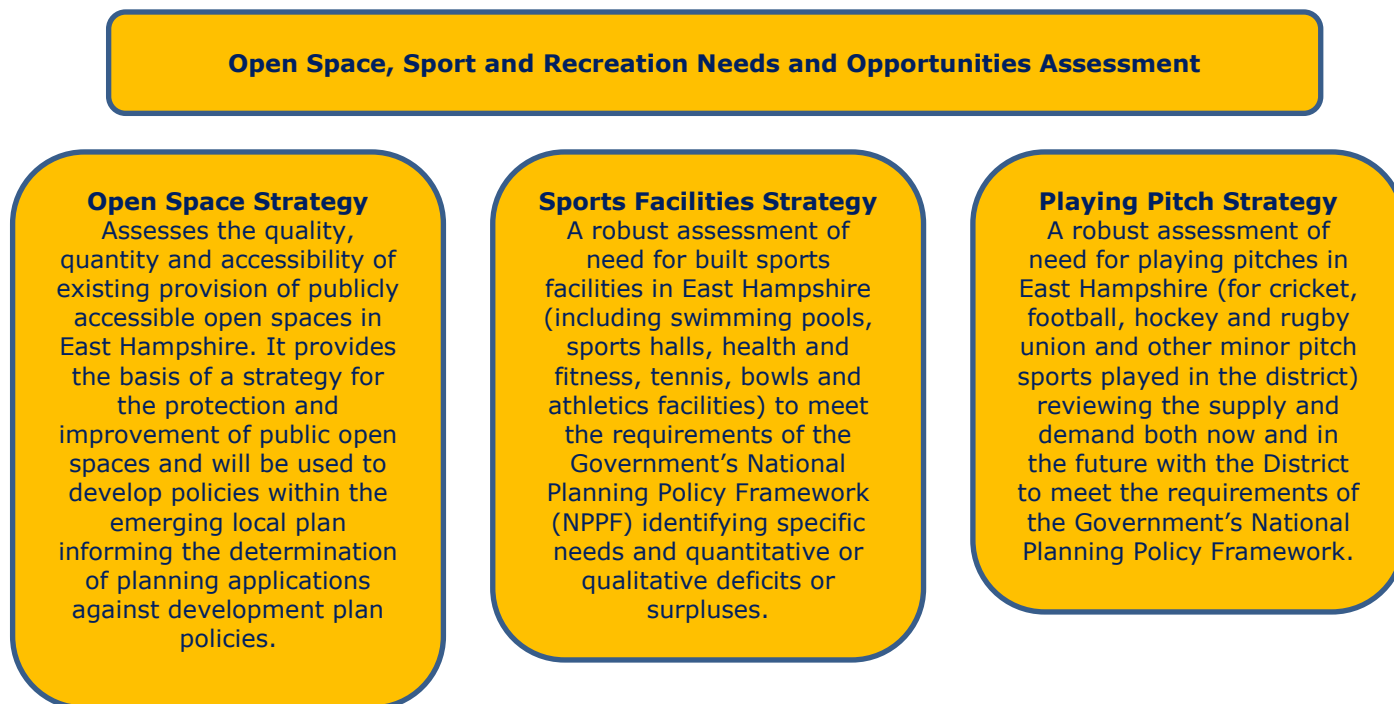
East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) initiated this Playing Pitch Strategy as part of a wider study of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs and Opportunities in response to the following drivers:

The Key Drivers	
Public Health	This Playing Pitch Strategy, and the open space and sports facility studies, will support public health in the district by helping to ensure the available and accessible supply of these facilities actively encourages residents to make healthy lifestyle choices. Specifically, playing pitches provide opportunities for participation in outdoor sports and recreation. Sustaining and increasing participation in pitch sports will help address public health needs in East Hampshire District (identified in the Hampshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2017).
Planning Policies	There is a requirement for an updated evidence base to support the relevant policies of EHDC and The South Downs National Park (SDNP) Authority (CP17 & CP18) within the adopted Joint Core Strategy to protect and improve Open Space, Sport and Recreation and Built Facilities. Updated evidence is also important to support the emerging South Downs National Local Plan and the emerging review of the East Hampshire District Local Plan.
Localism & Neighbourhood Planning	Since the last playing pitch review in 2008, The Localism Act of 2011 has introduced the right for communities to shape development in their areas through the production of Neighbourhood Development Plans. At present, the towns of Alton and Petersfield and the neighbourhoods of Bentley, Medstead & Four Marks, East Meon and Liss have plans that are made as part of the Local Plan. Also, growing pressure on local government budgets since 2008, have contributed to the transfer of ownership of some playing pitch sites and facilities to town and parish councils or sports clubs and associations. There is a need to identify playing pitch needs at a neighbourhood level identifying those sites that need to be protected, those where additional playing capacity can be sustained cost effectively through enhancement, and opportunity sites for new pitches where these will be needed over the Local Plan period to 2028.
Housing & Population Growth	The Joint Core Strategy sets housing targets to meet the objectively assessed needs of the district over the duration of the plan period (2011-2028). These needs will be met through a strategic allocation at Whitehill & Bordon, allocations in the Local Plan: Housing & Employment Allocations, as well as allocations in Neighbourhood Plans. The total target is a minimum of 10,060 new dwellings by 2028 with just over a quarter of this total allocated to Whitehill & Bordon, mainly through development of land occupied by the Ministry of Defence. This planned housing growth - and its likely distribution within the district - is the major driver of the need for updated evidence of the need for open space including playing pitches and sports facilities in the district. While a pitch needs assessment and draft strategy was prepared for Whitehill & Bordon in 2015 (and updated in May 2017) to inform site-specific development briefs, the last district-wide assessment was in 2008. This new district-wide assessment is required to assess changes in supply and demand since 2008 and to consider the likely impact on facility needs of forecast population change and participation trends in playing pitch sports to 2028.
School Expansions	Hampshire County Council's School Places Plan for the five year period 2017-2021 includes programmed school expansions in Whitehill & Bordon (relocation and expansion of secondary school, expansion of an infant and junior school and a new primary school), Alton (expansion of two primary schools), expansion of primary schools in Clanfield and in Four Marks and a new primary school in the Horndean area in the far south of the district to serve demand from a major housing allocation in this area (Hazelton Farm). These proposals present opportunities to secure new and better quality replacement built sports facilities and playing pitches that afford community access out of school hours where such a need is identified.
Developer Contributions & External Grants	There is a need to update the priority projects for new and enhanced sports facilities, playing pitches and pavilions in the district and its sub areas to inform updates of the Infrastructure Delivery Plans of EHDC and the SDNPA and the future investment priorities for the Council's CIL and site-specific S106 Developer Contributions. Priority projects will also inform applications for external grant support to the relevant national sports agencies.

1.2 Report structure and format

This Playing Pitch Strategy is one of three documents which combine to offer a robust and up to date assessment of open space, sport and recreation facility needs across East Hampshire. The three components of the work are summarised in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1 – Study Overview



1.3 The study area

The study relates to the area within East Hampshire's district boundary sub-divided into the following established district sub-areas (to correspond with all local planning documents):

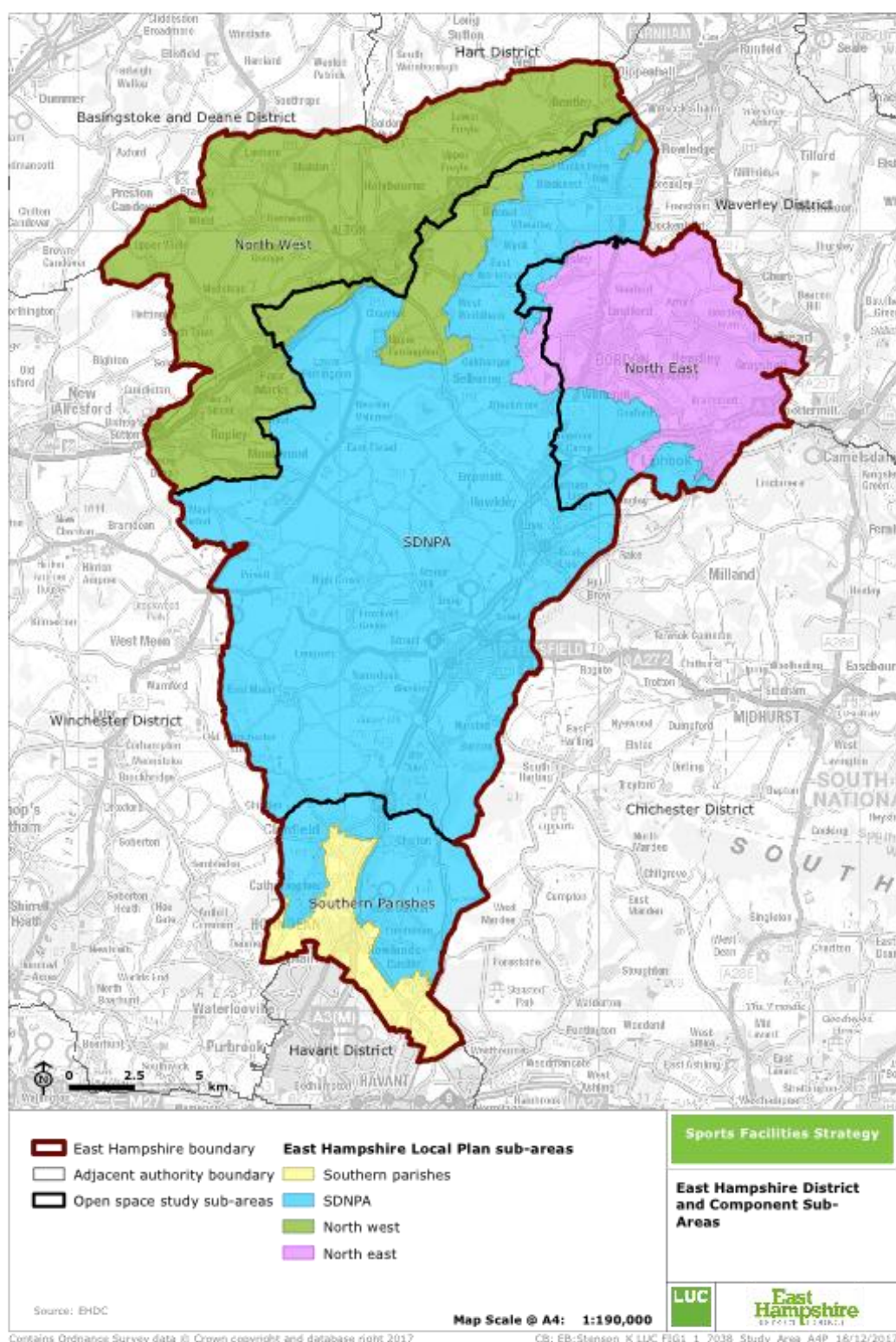
- **South Downs National Park** (Petersfield Town and parishes)
- **North East** (Whitehill & Bordon including Headley, Grayshott and Liphook)
- **North West** (Alton Town and parishes)
- **Southern Parishes** (Horndean, Clanfield and Rowlands Castle)

The playing pitch needs and recommendations in this strategy are presented by sub area and for the district as a whole. The four sub areas are shown in Map 1.

Playing pitch supply in neighbouring local authority areas with easy access for East Hampshire residents has been taken into consideration in determining current and future facility needs in the District. In terms of demand, the impact of sites in neighbouring authorities close to the district boundary and allocated for large scale new housing developments is taken into consideration in assessing the needs and priorities for the playing pitch sports in scope. Also, the impact of 'displaced' teams and clubs is considered in relation to the playing pitch facility needs in the district and each sub area. This includes both clubs and teams based in East Hampshire playing or training at facilities in neighbouring local authorities and those based outside the district but playing or training at facilities in East Hampshire. The neighbouring local authority areas to East Hampshire are:

- **Basingstoke & Deane** - to the north of the North West sub area (east side)
- **Hart** - to the north of the North West sub area (west side)
- **Waverley** - to the north east of the North East sub area
- **Havant** - to the south of The Southern Parishes sub area
- **Winchester** - to the west of the SDNP and North West sub areas
- **Chichester** - to the east of the SDNP and North East sub areas

Map 1 – East Hampshire Sub Areas



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1.4 The approach to developing the strategy

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The approach to developing the playing pitch strategy is in line with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance, [Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance](#) and tailored to the study area as per details set out in this brief.

Specifically, the approach adheres to the following ten steps as advocated in the current Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (October 2013):

Stage A

1. Prepare and tailor the approach

A Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group was convened in April 2017 following an Inception meeting with the District Council to plan the wider study of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs and Opportunities. An initial meeting of the Playing Pitch Steering Group in May 2017 developed and agreed the approach summarised below.

Stage B

2. Gather supply information and views

3. Gather demand information and views

Between February and June 2017, visits were made to more than 80% (50/60) of the open playing pitch sites in the district during the main playing seasons of the respective sports and non-technical visual assessments made of each playing pitch and the ancillary facilities available at each site. In some cases, these visits included meetings on site with representatives of the site owner organisations, the user club or the site maintenance contractor.

Supply and demand information gathered from the site visits was augmented and verified through website research and by conducting an online survey of playing pitch sports clubs based in the district. For rugby and hockey the survey response rate was 100%, cricket and football 70% taking into account on site meetings with club officials during site visits. Information and views were received from most of the larger multi-team clubs.

The 40 Town and Parish Councils were invited to submit information and views by email or telephone and meetings were held with representatives of each of the three Town Councils in Petersfield, Alton and Whitehill.

Planning/Leisure officers in neighbouring local authority areas were requested to identify and supply information on key playing pitch supply and relevant development proposals close to their district/borough boundary with East Hampshire District.

Lead officers for sports development, leisure centres, and the Whitehill & Bordon regeneration project and the consultant leading on the Whitehill & Bordon Area Playing Pitch Strategy were consulted individually through meetings and by telephone. A meeting was also held with the primary school PE co-ordinator for the Alton cluster of primary schools.

Stage C

4. Understand the situation at individual sites

The supply and demand information was summarised in the format of individual playing pitch site overviews. Summary spreadsheets for each sport were then prepared comparing the playing capacity by pitch and site in season with a best estimate of current use in order to identify the current picture of provision.

5. Develop the current and future pictures of provision

For each sport, drafts of the individual site overviews and summary spreadsheets of current provision were distributed to the NGB leads to check and challenge and to add any local knowledge and views concerning the current picture of provision and issues by site and sub area. The NGB feedback was reviewed and final versions of the site overviews prepared (Appendix E).

The District Council's Planning Service provided population growth forecasts to 2028 based on housing allocations, mortality and migration factors. The projections show the impact of forecast population change over the next 10 years on the main age groups for each playing pitch sport and pitch size (e.g. football and rugby pitch sizes in the junior age groups).

These population forecasts were used to calculate the potential number of additional teams for each sport and pitch size that would be generated by 2028 based on current 'team generation rates' (i.e. the number of people in the current population divided by the current number of teams).

This growth driver was considered together with information from the NGBs on national demand trends in their respective sports and from the clubs concerning local trends in demand and future aspirations.

The final factor considered to develop a future picture of provision was information provided the Planning Service and neighbour local authorities concerning committed projects (i.e. with planning consent and funding secured) that will change the supply when implemented. Examples in East Hampshire District include plans to provide new school and community playing pitches in Bordon and smaller scale pitch projects in the Southern Parishes within Clanfield and East of Horndean.

6. Identify the key findings and issues

Based on the research and consultation in stages 1-5 above, key findings and issues for each sub-area and sport were identified in draft reports for consideration by the members of the Steering Group at a meeting on 31st October 2017. Final versions of these Assessment of Need Reports for the four playing pitch sports (Appendices A-D) were then prepared and circulated for sign-off.

Stage D

7. Develop the recommendations and action plan

Potential scenarios to address the playing pitch facility needs and issues identified in the Assessment of Need reports were considered by the members of the Steering Group prior to the drafting of the strategic recommendations and an initial plan for sport/site specific actions.

8. Write the strategy

A draft of the strategy was prepared and circulated to the members of the Steering Group in December 2017 for consideration and comment at a meeting on 11th January 2018. A final draft was prepared and circulated for sign-off on 17th January 2018.

Stage E (East Hampshire DC and partners)

9. Adopt and deliver the strategy

10. Keep the strategy robust and up to date.

Summary

This document covers stages A-D above, replaces the East Hampshire Playing Pitch Strategy (2008) and covers the period 2018 to 2028. The strategic recommendations and site specific actions are based on critical evaluation of the current quantity, quality, accessibility and availability of playing pitch facilities available to residents of East Hampshire district.

Available secondary source evidence (e.g. relevant neighbourhood development plans, planning applications, demographic information, pitch booking records) has been considered and fieldwork carried out (including site visits and engagement with local sports clubs, town and parish councils, schools and other stakeholders) to establish existing and future priority needs.

1.5 The vision and key objectives

This Playing Pitch Strategy (and the separate assessments of open space and sports facilities) contribute to achievement of the joint vision of the East Hampshire Community Partnership adopted both for The Sustainable Community Strategy and the East Hampshire District Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy (June 2014) i.e.

East Hampshire Vision Statement 2014

By 2028, East Hampshire will be a better place where people live, work and build businesses in safe, attractive and prosperous towns and villages. They will have good access to a range of housing, jobs, leisure and community facilities, and enjoy a high quality built, historic and natural environment. They will live and work in a way that respects resources and protects and enhances the District's natural environment.

The key objectives of the strategy are:

1. To improve public health by encouraging more people in East Hampshire to get more active through engagement in playing pitch sports.
2. To provide an evidence base and clear priorities for protecting and enhancing existing playing field stock, improving present provision to inform responses to future planning applications, capital investment plans and external funding bids.

1.6 Steering Group

As indicated in 1.4 above, the development and delivery of this Playing Pitch Strategy is managed by the **East Hampshire Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group** comprising representatives from England Hockey, The England & Wales Cricket Board, The Rugby Football Union, The Football Association, Sport England, EnergiseMe (Hants & IoW County Sports Partnership), members of the East Hampshire & Havant Strategy & Governance Directorate, East Hampshire Planning and Community Services, South Downs National Park Authority and Continuum Sport & Leisure (the consultants appointed to co-ordinate the strategy development to the point of the recommendations and action plan i.e. Steps 1 to 8 in para 1.4 above).

1.7 Scope - the playing pitch sports included

The Steering Group agreed at an initial meeting in May 2017, that the primary pitch based sports to be included in the East Hampshire Playing Pitch Strategy would be **association football, hockey, rugby union, cricket** to include both natural and artificial playing surfaces as appropriate to these sports.

In relation to other sports played on playing pitches in the district, it was agreed the study also consider the following sports to the extent that providing for these sports can impact on the availability / capacity of pitches for the primary sports where they share the same playing area:

- **Archery** - Archery is a particularly popular sport in East Hampshire. There are well established clubs in each sub area: North West (Alton & Four Marks Archers), SDNP (Bowmen of Petersfield), Southern Parishes (Forest of Bere Bowmen), and the North East (Whitehill Archers). Alton & Four Marks Archers are based on the cricket field at Four Marks Recreation Ground in summer (shooting on Tuesday evenings and Sundays) which does not impact on cricket as there is no local club. This club hires Eggar's School sports hall in the winter. Bowmen of Petersfield are based at The Petersfield School year round using a 100yd range on the school playing field in summer and a 25yds range in the sports hall in winter. Whitehill Archers (formerly Standford Archers) have their own range on a field just off the A325 Petersfield Road in Whitehill. Similarly, Forest of Bere Bowmen have their own range and wood pavilion available year round at Cadlington House in Horndean and train indoors in a church hall in Bedhampton in Havant Borough in winter.
- **Lacrosse** - Portsmouth Pythons Lacrosse Club is currently based at the independent Kingscourt School, Catherington (in the Southern Parishes sub area) with players aged from 8-17 years playing and training on the school playing field on Saturdays which is not available to hire by community football or cricket club teams.

As far as other minority playing pitch sports are concerned it was noted by the Steering Group that for **rugby league** demand within Hampshire is met by the Southampton Spitfires RFLC. Similarly, for **American Football** demand within the county is met by provision within the larger population centres of Portsmouth, Southampton and Winchester (at the university).

For each of the four main pitch sports, the strategy seeks as far as is practicable to include consideration of all forms of play whether:

- Club and league based (formal) play and training (including indoor nets for cricket).

- Less formal programmed forms of the respective sports (e.g. turn up and play 'products' such as Rush Hockey, Mash Up Football, T20/25 friendlies, All Stars cricket for primary age children, Adult Touch Rugby).
- Unprogrammed play by groups of residents, workers, students, school friends out of school.

Built facility needs and priorities for other outdoor sports - **tennis, netball, bowls and petanque, athletics, golf** - are addressed in a separate assessment of need report for Sports Facilities along with indoor sports facility typologies (e.g. swimming pools, sports halls, indoor tennis, indoor bowls and health and fitness centres). The assessment of need for these sports facility types has been prepared in accordance with Sport England's 'Assessing Needs & Opportunities Guide for Indoor & Outdoor Sports Facilities' (July 2014).

1.8 Tailoring the approach - key characteristics of East Hampshire

Key features of the district and its four sub areas that impact on the supply of and demand for open space and sports facilities including playing pitches include:

Relevant key characteristics of East Hampshire
<p>Population</p> <p>East Hampshire District covers an area of over 51,000 hectares and is largely rural with landscapes of high quality and relatively low population densities compared to the national and regional averages (see Map 2 below). Over half of the district (57%) lies within the South Downs National Park. The district has 40 town and parish councils a number of which own playing fields and recreation grounds.</p> <p>On average, the resident population (115,608 at 2011 census) is relatively affluent and older than the national average (42yrs compared to 39yrs) and is distributed between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 main towns - Alton (18,000), Petersfield (15,000), Whitehill & Bordon (15,000). ○ 2 large service centres - Horndean (13,000), Liphook (8,500). ○ 4 small service centres - Clanfield (4,600), Rowlands Castle (2,700), Four Marks (4,000), Grayshott (2,400). ○ A large number of smaller settlements throughout the district. <p>89% of households in the district had access to a car or van at the time of the last census (2011) compared with the average for England and Wales of 74.4%.</p> <p>EHDC's current population forecast for 2028 is 131,426¹ - an increase of over 16,000 from 2011 with most growth likely to take place outside the SDNP with considerably more growth North of the SDNP (focused on Whitehill & Bordon and Alton Town).</p>
<p>Sub areas and access to sports facilities</p> <p>For spatial planning of community infrastructure - including open space and facilities for sports and recreation - the district divides into four sub areas (see Map 1 above). An overview of the existing picture of sports facility supply/demand in each area (with a focus on playing pitches) is provided below:</p> <p>South Downs National Park</p> <p>The largest of the four sub areas, the primary location of sports facilities for residents of the SDNP area is Petersfield which is home to town clubs and playing facilities for all four of the main playing pitch sports - football, rugby, hockey and cricket.</p> <p>The Taro Leisure Centre at Penns Place (built in 1992 and currently being updated) has a sports hall, swimming pool, squash courts and health and fitness facilities. There is a 3G AGP (artificial grass pitch) at the Petersfield School, and sand filled AGPs and sports halls with cricket practice nets at Churchers College and Bedales School (both independent).</p> <p>There are also well established football and cricket clubs in Liss/West Liss midway between Petersfield and Liphook. The villages of Steep, East Meon and Binstead also support active football and/or cricket clubs.</p>

¹ Based on the East Hampshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment Scenario B (2013)

Relevant key characteristics of East Hampshire

A narrow 'finger' of the South Downs National Park (SDNP) extends to the northern district boundary with Hart District. For residents of the area around Binstead, facilities in the North East sub area or in Farnham (in Waverley Borough) are closer than those in Petersfield. For those with access to a car living in the East Meon rural parish settlements on the west side of the SDNP, facilities in Winchester City are as easily accessible as those in Petersfield.

North East

This area has a dual use leisure centre on the Mill Chase Community School site which provides a sports hall, health and fitness facilities and a floodlit 100x60m 3G pitch resurfaced in 2013 with Sport England grant support. Planning consent and funding is secured for development of a larger replacement for this school on a former MoD site (Budds Lane) closer to Bordon centre. This committed project will replace the school's existing sports hall and floodlit 3G pitch (to a specification suitable for FA Step 7 level league matches) and provide grass pitches for football and rugby, a non turf cricket pitch and tennis/netball courts. The consents include provision for a Community Use Agreement (CUA) to secure community access.

Other planning consents for development sites in Bordon secure commitments for a new community leisure centre (with both swimming facilities and new health and fitness facilities replacing the gym and studios in the existing Mill Chase Leisure Centre) to be built on the edge of a new Bordon Town Centre.

This sub area is the focus for large scale housing growth on two areas of MOD land with a target for 2,725 new dwellings by 2028. In light of these strategic housing allocations, in 2014 the District Council commissioned consultants Max Associates to prepare a playing pitch strategy for this sub area. Updated in May 2017, this study identifies shortfalls in provision for junior football and cricket to meet current demand and makes recommendations for both new provision - including non-turf pitches for cricket and a FA registered 3G Artificial Grass Pitch as part of the planned new secondary school. The study also recommends facility improvements and pitch redesignations to better meet local demand from clubs and teams based in this area which include large community football and cricket clubs in **Headley, Grayshott** and in **Bramshott & Liphook**, a large service centre on the border with Chichester with a secondary school - The Bohunt School - which has a range of sports facilities accessible to the community.

There are also developer-led proposals (at pre-planning consultation stage) for a large commercial indoor sports building (primarily for the sport of roller hockey but with potential to accommodate indoor football, trampolining and boxing) on former MOD land in Bordon.

North West

The focus of facility provision in this sub area is the town of **Alton** which, similar to Petersfield, has successful town sports clubs and a range of sites accommodating all four of the major playing pitch sports as well as being the location of the district's flagship Alton Sports Centre (with floodlit 5 a side outdoor pitches) to be replaced in 2019 with a new £20 million leisure centre.

To the south of Alton, the local centre at **Four Marks** has its own football club with facilities provided by the Parish Council. The smaller parishes of **Medstead** and **Wield** close to Four Marks have active village cricket clubs. In the far south of the sub area, the parish of **Ropley** has excellent facilities and active clubs in both cricket and football. There are also well established football and cricket clubs in **Holybourne** in Froyle parish to the north of Alton.

For those with cars living in **Bentley** parish close to the northern district boundary, pitches in Farnham (in Waverley Borough) are equally as accessible as those in Alton.

Southern Parishes

In the southern parishes, the main centre of population is **Horndean** which has a football club with a stadium pitch and plays in the Wessex Premier League and a large secondary school Horndean Technology College with indoor sports facilities and sports pitches available for community use. Forest of Bere Bowmen, the largest archery club in Hampshire, is also based in Horndean and has its own range and pavilion.

Both the other main settlements in this sub area - **Clanfield** and **Rowlands Castle** - have well-established football clubs (Clanfield FC and Castle United FC) with multiple teams. In Clanfield youth football teams have to travel out of the area to access pitches.

Relevant key characteristics of East Hampshire

Both parishes also have smaller scale cricket clubs playing friendly fixtures using facilities in club or parish ownership.

Those with access to a car in this sub area are a relatively short journey time from clubs and facilities in Waterlooville and Havant Park in Havant Borough to the south via the A3 trunk road.

New playing pitches and indoor support facilities are included in Section 106 Planning Agreements related to new housing developments in the Southern Parishes in both Clanfield and Horndean.

Sports facilities on school sites

A significant proportion of the district's supply of sports halls and playing pitches is located on school and college sites (both in the state and independent sectors) with no security of community use.

In the case of AGPs, five of the six full size pitches are on school sites and only two (Mill Chase School in Bordon and Bohunt School in Liphook) have secured community access.

In Alton, schools with playing pitches that accommodate regular community use include Eggars School, Alton School, Treloar School and Amery Hill School. Occasional community play also takes place on a pitch at Alton College (VIth form and adult education college).

In Petersfield the Bedales School, Churchers College, Petersfield College and Ditcham Park School all make some of their playing pitch and/or indoor sports facilities available to hire by community clubs and teams.

In the southern parishes, Horndean College (Academy) accommodates a large amount of demand from community clubs while Kingscourt Preparatory School (independent) has made its playing field available to a Lacrosse Club for several years and opened a new 3G MUGA in September 2017.

Several of the primary schools in the rural villages do not have their own playing fields and use parish recreation grounds for PE and sports days (e.g. Bentley, Chawton, KGV Field in Froxfield).

Investment in playing pitches since 2008

There has been substantial investment in improved facilities for playing pitch sports in the district since the last PPS was adopted in 2008. On town and parish sites, these include:

- Alton Town Council - Anstey Park floodlit 3G Pitch & Pavilion (S106 from sale of brewery Sports & Social Club site) and Finimore pavilion replacement (£350k, SE, Jan 2011)
- Grayshott Cricket Club - Broxhead Pavilion Refurbishment Project, Outdoor Practice Nets, Bowling Machine (£35k, SE, May 2016/Nov 2014/May 2012)
- Grayshott Parish Council - sports pavilion refurbishment (£24k, SE, Jan 2012)
- Headley Cricket Club - all weather outdoor practice nets (£10k, SE, Jan 2010)
- Holybourne Cricket Club - mowers and other equipment (£10k, SE, June 2013/Oct 2013)
- Jubilee Playing Field, Horndean - two junior football pitches installed in 2011
- Liss Athletic FC - Newman Collard pavilion refurbishment in 2014
- Petersfield Cricket Club - Cricket pavilion modernisation & equipment (£75k, SE, Oct 2015)
- Petersfield Rugby Club - Floodlighting upgrades (£56.5k, SE, Sept 2014/Sept 2015)
- Petersfield Town Football Club - clubhouse refurbishments in 2014
- Steep Cricket Club - Minor works to pavilion roof etc (£10k, BIG, Feb 2016)
- Petersfield Rugby Club - Installation of a mezzanine floor adjacent to an existing balcony. with fixed seating for rugby viewing above and storage below. Funded by club in December 2017
- Liss Athletic FC - Change of use of agricultural land east of Lyss Place on Hawkley Road to create a 11v11 pitch and a 9v9 pitch over-marked as a 7v7 pitch), a parking area for 24 cars and secure storage container. A planning condition restricts use to 9-12am on Sat and 1-4pm on Sun between 1st September and 31st March. Funded by club in December 2017.

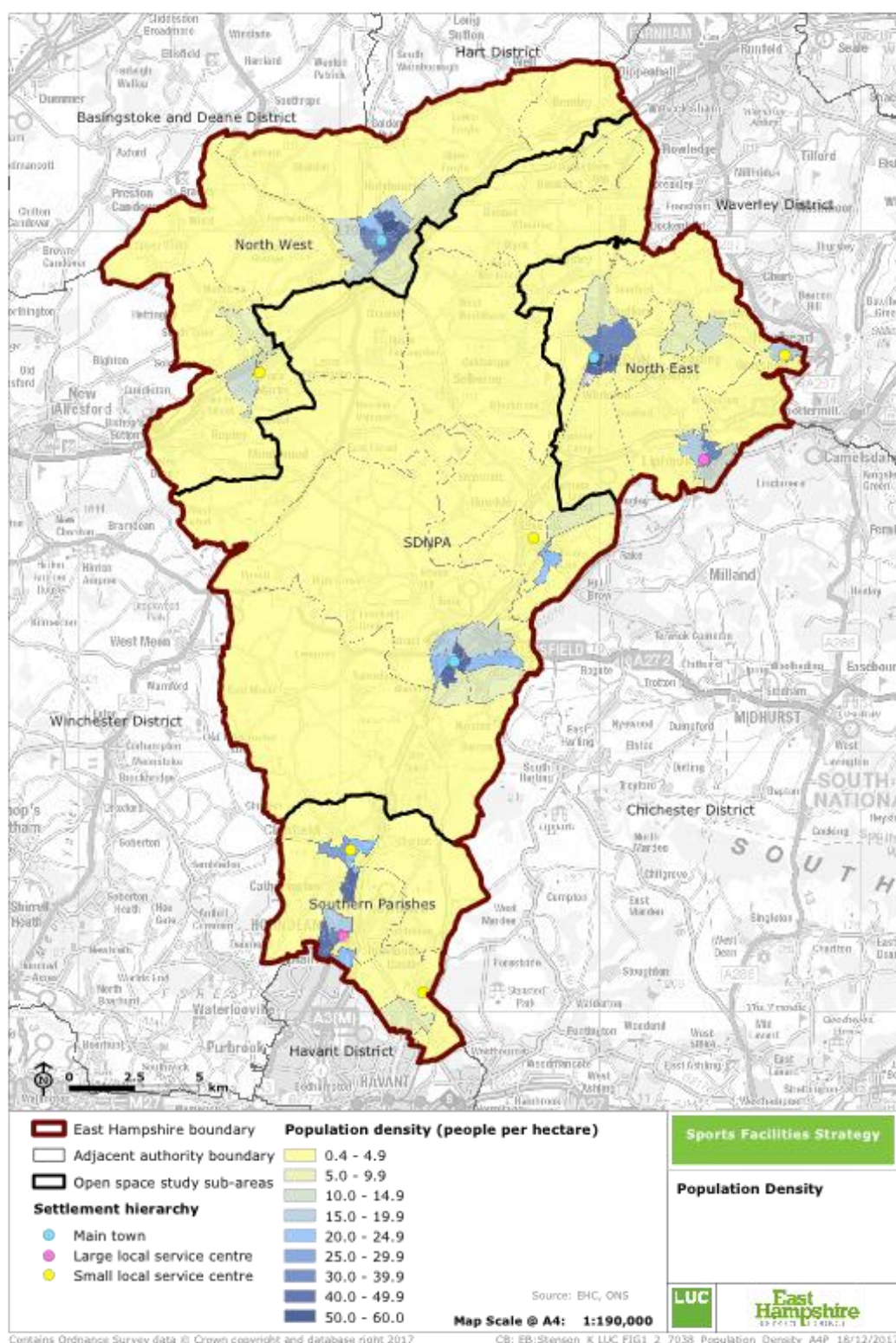
On school sites:

- Bohunt School, Liphook - Upgrade of Sports Hall with indoor cricket nets (£76k, SE, Feb 2013)

Relevant key characteristics of East Hampshire
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amery Hill School - Rejuvenation of playing surface of AGP, new sand etc. Funded by school (December 2017)
<p>Playing pitch projects with secured planning consents</p> <p>The following projects with a current planning consent include provision for new or replacement playing pitch facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Petersfield (SDNP) - <i>Penns Field B</i>: Development of land to the rear of Penns Place Playing Fields to provide four mini soccer pitches proposed (alongside a senior rugby pitch) and youth football pavilion part funded by a developer (£40k in S106 Agreement). This project remains subject to the Town Council securing a Reserved Matters planning consent for removal of a hedgerow of wildlife habitat value and the balance of funding. Bordon (NE) - <i>Bordon & Oakhanger Sports Club (BOSC)</i>: A two-storey pavilion; a cricket pitch (with a four wicket square); tennis courts; a bowling green; a petanque area; a play area; two senior football pitches (for use in winter season). This project is near to completion funded by a developer (S106 Agreement). Bordon (NE) - <i>Budds Lane</i>: A new 900 pupil place sixth form entry (FE) secondary school with an associated community use agreement for a sports hall, floodlit (FA Step7) 3G AGP, junior football pitches, a junior rugby pitch, MUGA for tennis/netball and non turf cricket wicket. This provision is linked to a consent for demolition of the existing Mill Chase School & Leisure Centre to make way for new housing. This project is scheduled to start in 2018 funded by developers (S106 Agreements). It is noted that the agreements include for provision of a second floodlit AGP with a sand based playing surface suitable for hockey on this site funded from the sale proceeds of the existing Mill Chase AGP site for development which remains subject to planning. Eggar's School (NW) - <i>London Road, Holybourne</i>: Development of a full size hockey AGP with floodlights. Permitted hours of use on weekday evenings until 9pm, on Saturdays from 9am-6pm and on Sundays from 10am to 2pm. The project remains subject to agreement of a community use agreement and the academy school raising the necessary funding in partnership with Alton Hockey Club. Horndean (SP) - <i>Land to East at Hazelton Farm</i>: new cricket pitch, football pitch and pavilion with hard court MUGA to be funded by developer (S106 Agreement). Clanfield (SP) - <i>Windmill View</i>: A new community building nearing completion plus S106 funding of £76k for outdoor sports facilities. Original proposal for a 7v7 youth football pitch was changed to tennis courts in view of available budget and high estimated costs of leveling the site for football use. <i>St James' Place</i>: A shared bowls and football pavilion, artificial bowls green and two youth 9v9 football pitches on site funded by a S106 Agreement. West Liss (SDNP) - Replacement football/scouts pavilion at West Liss RG. EHDC has approved a £40,000 contribution from its S106 budget to the total project costs (sum to be confirmed).
<p>Playing pitch projects with submitted planning applications</p> <p>The following planning application with impact on playing pitches in the district is submitted and not yet determined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alton Sports Centre (NW) - <i>Chawton Park Road</i>: Development of a new Alton Leisure Centre on the site of an existing floodlit sand based MUGA (part of the Alton Sports Centre) and provision of a floodlit 3G football replacement. This project secured outline consent in 2015 and remains subject to determination of a Reserved Matters planning application. Funding for this project is secured by means of an Agreement between EHDC and Everyone Active. In January 2018, a revised plan for this pitch was submitted at the request of the FA and Football Foundation to make the pitch compliant with the recommended dimensions for 5v5 mini soccer matchplay (i.e. a playing area of 37m x 27m with 6m run offs).
<p>Playing pitch projects at pre-planning consultation stage</p> <p>There are also current proposals (subject to securing planning consents and funding) for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Petersfield (SDNP) - Penns Place Playing Fields

Relevant key characteristics of East Hampshire	
i)	Installation of additional set of floodlights to rugby pitches
ii)	Expansion of the Petersfield RFC clubhouse social and commercial areas
iii)	Installation of a floodlit rugby compliant 3G pitch on mini rugby area

Map 2 – East Hampshire Population Density



1.9 How the population participates in sport

The table below shows the percentage of adults in East Hampshire that take part in sport at least once a week and comparisons with East Hampshire's near neighbour districts in terms of similarity of demography, and with the county and national averages.

Active People Survey

The figures show that regular adult (i.e. 16+) sports participation (i.e. at least once a week on average) in East Hampshire has grown by approximately 3% over the last ten years and currently is higher than all but one of the nearest directly comparable local authority areas, as determined by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) based on a basket of socio-economic and demographic indicators, and the county and national averages.

Adult (16+) sports participation (all sports) at least once a week East Hampshire compared with CIPFA nearest neighbours, England, Hampshire & IoW										
Active People Survey Year:	2005/06 (APS1)	2007/08 (APS2)	2008/09 (APS3)	2009/10 (APS4)	2010/11 (APS5)	2011/12 (APS6)	2012/13 (APS7)	2013/14 (APS8)	2014/15 (APS9)	2015/16 (APS10)
East Hampshire	38.3%	39.9%	39.4%	36.5%	39.4%	39.7%	37.3%	39.4%	43.6%	41.5%
Mid Sussex	38.9%	42.7%	43.5%	43.0%	36.7%	44.5%	39.6%	40.2%	41.4%	47.4%
South Oxfordshire	40.5%	40.2%	42.5%	40.6%	37.2%	49.0%	36.7%	35.2%	40.6%	39.7%
Test Valley	40.3%	38.9%	38.2%	40.8%	36.8%	38.4%	37.5%	45.2%	36.7%	40.3%
West Oxfordshire	37.4%	41.5%	41.4%	41.9%	38.2%	43.3%	40.1%	34.4%	36.1%	37.2%
Hampshire & IoW	38.2%	38.3%	39.2%	37.8%	37.1%	38.5%	37.1%	36.9%	38.3%	37.6%
England	34.6%	36.6%	36.5%	36.2%	35.6%	36.9%	36.6%	36.1%	35.8%	36.1%

Source: Sport England Active People Interactive November 2017

Sports Market Segmentation

An analysis of Sports Market Segmentation for outdoor pitch based sports shows the following levels of adult (16+) current participation and comparisons overall and for each Sports 'Group'. It is apparent from this data that over 4,100 adults resident in East Hampshire currently participate in outdoor pitch sports.

The highest participating Groups in East Hampshire in outdoor pitch sports are:

1. **Ben ('Competitive Male Urbanites')** - mainly aged 18-25, single, graduate professional
2. **Tim ('Setting Down Males')** - mainly aged 26-45, married or single, may have children, professional
3. **Philip ('Comfortable Mid Life Males')** - mainly aged 46-55, married with children, full time employment, owner occupier
4. **Chloe ('Fitness Class Friends')** - mainly aged 18-25, single, graduate professional

Pitch Sports participation by Sport England Sports Market Group East Hampshire compared with England, South East, Hampshire & IoW								
Segment	East Hants Pop.	CSP Pop.	Rgn Pop.	Nat Pop.	East Hants %	CSP %	Rgn %	Nat %
Ben	860	11054	55886	286137	20.8	17.2	18.7	16.7
Jamie	134	5824	22150	186116	3.2	9.1	7.4	10.9
Chloe	453	5300	28208	134564	10.9	8.3	9.5	7.9
Leanne	67	2485	9545	79854	1.6	3.9	3.2	4.7
Helena	253	3421	17310	93740	6.1	5.3	5.8	5.5
Tim	779	10235	52255	249123	18.8	16	17.5	14.6
Alison	303	3927	19853	85425	7.3	6.1	6.7	5

Pitch Sports participation by Sport England Sports Market Group East Hampshire compared with England, South East, Hampshire & IOW								
Jackie	123	2535	10210	67264	3	4	3.4	3.9
Kev	50	1911	7364	75894	1.2	3	2.5	4.4
Paula	43	1497	5668	47996	1	2.3	1.9	2.8
Philip	467	6752	29701	163594	11.3	10.5	10	9.6
Elaine	199	2563	11914	65329	4.8	4	4	3.8
Roger & Joy	115	2074	8854	50366	2.8	3.2	3	2.9
Brenda	18	621	2319	25216	0.4	1	0.8	1.5
Terry	17	570	2228	20979	0.4	0.9	0.7	1.2
Norma	6	164	686	6837	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.4
Ralph & Phyllis	201	1987	9732	39327	4.9	3.1	3.3	2.3
Frank	24	569	2223	15727	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.9
Elsie & Arnold	26	593	2385	17249	0.6	0.9	0.8	1
Total	4138	64082	298491	1710737	99.8	100	100.1	100

Source: Sport England Market Segmentation November 2017

Active Lives Survey

The participation analysis below shows the findings of Sport England's Active Lives Survey into levels of physical activity (excluding gardening) for East Hampshire, its four 'nearest neighbour' local authorities, Hampshire & Isle of Wight, and England.

The Active Lives Survey data below shows that more adults in East Hampshire are defined as 'Active' (i.e. physically active to moderate intensity for at least 150 minutes a week on average) than the national average, the average for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and in the district's four 'nearest neighbour' local authority areas (as defined by CIPFA). Similarly, levels of adult 'Inactivity' in East Hampshire (i.e. physically active for less than 30 minutes a week on average) are substantially lower than the national and county averages and lower than in the nearest neighbour districts apart from Mid Sussex. However, the second table shows that in all areas, including East Hampshire, the prevalence of 'Inactivity' has increased in the last year.

Active Lives Survey 1 - May 2015 to May 2016

East Hampshire compared with CIPFA nearest neighbours, England, Hampshire & IoW						
	Inactive (<30mins/wk)		Fairly Active (30-149 mins/wk)		Active (150+mins/wk)	
	Pop.	%	Pop.	%	Pop.	%
East Hants	15,400	16.0%	10,500	10.9%	70,700	73.2%
Mid Sussex	16,200	13.8%	14,600	12.4%	86,600	73.8%
South Oxfordshire	20,300	18.2%	12,100	10.9%	78,800	70.9%
Test Valley	23,500	23.9%	14,000	14.3%	60,600	61.8%
West Oxfordshire	19,500	22.0%	13,200	14.9%	55,800	63.1%
Hampshire & IoW	337,900	21.1%	193,000	12.1%	1,067,700	66.8%
England	9,765,100	22.0%	5,598,100	12.6%	29,018,000	65.4%

Source: Sport England Active Lives Survey 1 report October 2016

Active Lives Survey 2 - May 2016 to May 2017

East Hampshire compared with CIPFA nearest neighbours, England, Hampshire & IoW						
	Inactive (<30mins/wk)		Fairly Active (30-149 mins/wk)		Active (150+mins/wk)	
	Pop.	%	Pop.	%	Pop.	%
East Hants	19,100	19.8%	10,600	11.0%	66,800	69.2%
Mid Sussex	23,400	19.8%	15,200	12.8%	79,900	67.4%
South Oxfordshire	28,200	25.2%	13,800	12.3%	69,700	62.4%
Test Valley	24,100	24.3%	15,500	15.6%	59,600	60.1%
West Oxfordshire	22,000	24.9%	9,400	10.7%	57,100	64.5%
Hampshire & IoW	391,500	24.3%	221,500	13.7%	998,700	62.0%
England	11,456,900	25.6%	6,179,600	13.8%	27,102,400	60.6%

Source: Sport England Active Lives Survey 2 report October 2017

For the first time, Active Lives Survey 2 includes data at local authority level on adult (16+) participation in sport and physical activity at least twice in the last 28 days²

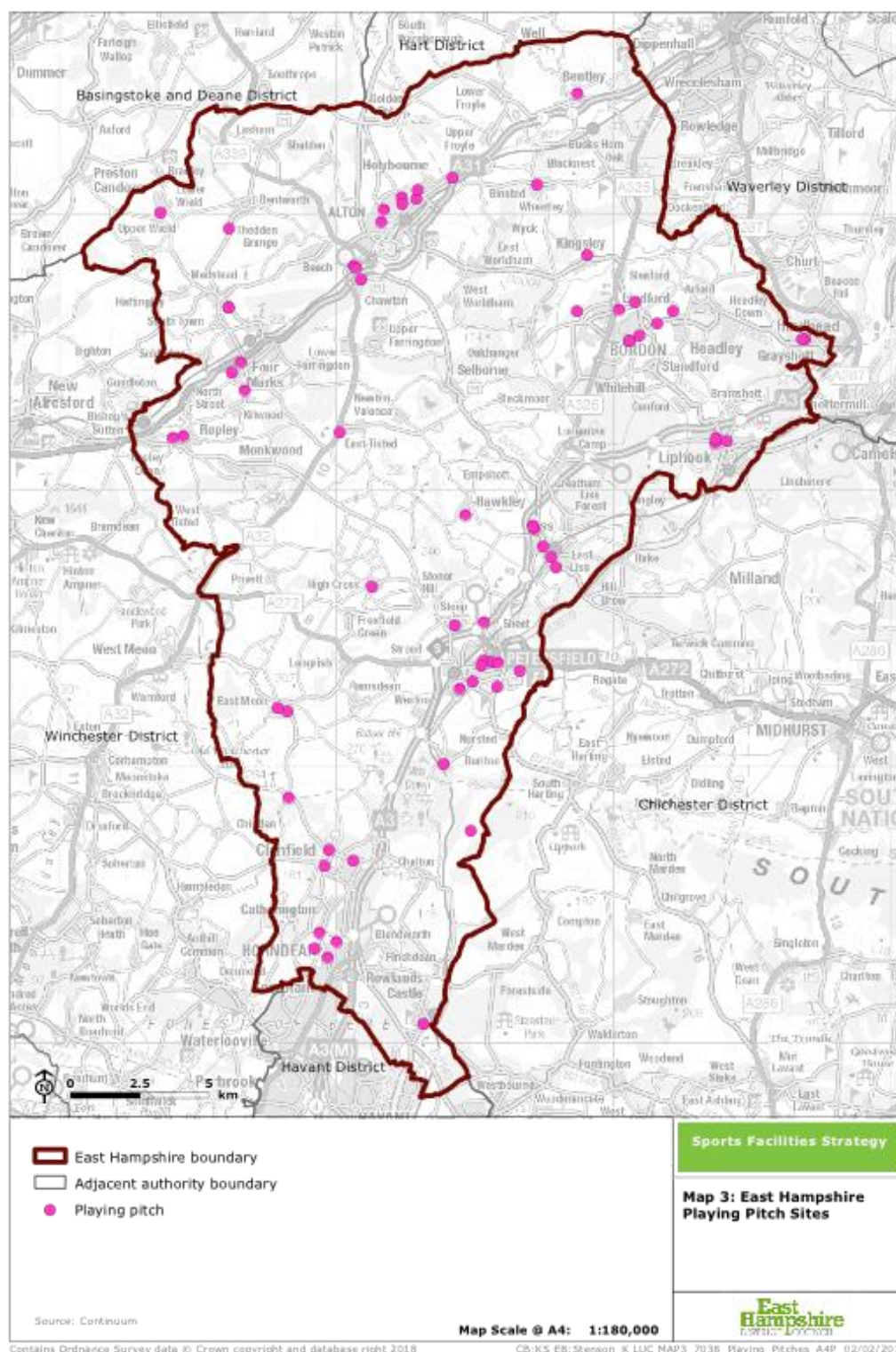
The table below shows that on this measure of regular participation in sport and physical activity, East Hampshire is also out-performing all its near neighbour local authorities with the exception of Mid Sussex and the national and CSP averages.

East Hampshire compared with CIPFA nearest neighbours, England, Hampshire & IoW		
	Adults (aged 16+) who have taken part in sport and physical activity at least twice in the last 28 days	
	Population total	Rate (%)
East Hants	79,300	82.2%
Mid Sussex	99,800	84.2%
South Oxfordshire	88,600	79.3%
Test Valley	78,600	79.3%
West Oxfordshire	70,500	79.7%
Hampshire & IoW	1,274,900	79.1%
England	34,531,400	77.2%

Source: Sport England Active Lives Survey 2 report October 2017

Map 3 – East Hampshire Playing Pitch Sites

² Activity must of moderate intensity or above and can be made up of 10 minute blocks so long as it averages 30 minutes a session



2 Summary of Issues & Findings

2.1 Issues

Representatives of the national governing bodies of the four major playing pitch sports identified the following key demand/supply issues of relevance to their respective sports in East Hampshire at a scoping meeting (Stage A of the playing pitch strategy development process):

Playing pitch demand/supply issues in East Hampshire

Cricket

- The governing body is not aware of any major playing facility issues for cricket in the district currently. Overall, the district has a large number of cricket pitches and clubs relative to most including several with large and thriving junior sections. A number of the village clubs have experienced a decline in the adult game over recent seasons particularly for Sunday league cricket in favour of shorter game formats. This reflects national demand trends and the ECB expect this to continue over the strategy period.
- Whilst generally junior sections in the clubs that have them in East Hampshire are thriving, like football, cricket in the county experiences drop off among older teenagers which impacts on transition into the adult game.
- Several clubs in the district have engaged in the national drive by the ECB to recruit more young children into cricket through new development initiatives such as Primary All Stars Cricket (community club-based) alongside the well-established Chance to Shine programme where club coaches do outreach in secondary schools.
- As far as ancillary facilities are concerned, the main issue identified by the ECB is the dated pavilion and changing facilities at the Alton Town Council's Jubilee Playing Fields used by Alton Cricket Club playing Hampshire Premier League cricket.

Football

- Hampshire FA reports a general decline in Sunday adult football in East Hampshire alongside a growing issue of lack of pitch capacity for a number of the larger youth football clubs based in the district - both for matches at weekends and for training midweek. There are known pitch capacity issues for youth football clubs with multiple teams in Petersfield, Liss, Liphook and Clanfield.
- At several sites, playing capacity and quality of the player experience is affected by poor quality of pitches and/or ancillary facilities.
- There is a need to encourage adult and youth football clubs in the sub areas to work more closely together to address the drop off in the older teenage years and to improve transition from youth to senior football.
- Population growth in the district as a result of new housing developments will increase the need for more accessible capacity for youth football, particularly 7v7 and 9v9 pitches. Within the NE sub area (Whitehill & Bordon) the growth is likely to support the needs case for an enhanced 3G pitch that is already part of committed plans for this sub area. Population and team growth may also support a needs case for further 3G capacity in the strategy period on the east side of the SDNP sub area around Petersfield/Liss/Liphook and in the Southern Parishes around Clanfield and Horndean.

Hockey

- England Hockey reports rapid growth in participation in East Hampshire over the past three seasons largely based at the Alton Hockey Club which has more than doubled its affiliated playing membership over this period. The club has no security of tenure at its home base - at Amery Hill School - and no floodlights which requires the club to hire a second pitch out of the district for midweek training. The club also has no clubhouse base.
- The club is actively fund-raising towards the cost of a second pitch with floodlights in partnership with Eggar's School (another academy school in the town).
- Alton School (independent), also seeks access to a hockey compliant AGP to deliver its hockey PE lessons and for its school teams. The School currently hires a 3G football pitch at Anstey Park for this purpose which is unsuitable beyond the teaching of introductory skills.
- The second club in the district, Petersfield Hockey Club, also has a large membership which has remained broadly at the same level in recent seasons. England Hockey report no known facility capacity issues for this

club which plays its matches and trains almost exclusively at the independent Bedales School in Dunhurst. The club occasionally hires slots at weekends on other sand AGPs in the district (at the Bohunt School and/or Churchers College) to accommodate home summer league fixtures on Saturdays and junior squad training on Sunday mornings. Like Alton Hockey Club, the Petersfield club is also reliant on unsecured access to school pitches and has no clubhouse.

Rugby Union

- There are two community rugby clubs in the district, Petersfield RFC and Alton RFC with playing pitches and clubhouse facilities on sites in local authority ownership.
- The Alton club is based at Anstey Park, a large park in the ownership of Alton Town Council. The pitches in this park are often unplayable for up to three months of the season due to water-logging. This requires the club to hire a pitch in Bordon (at a former MOD Garrison site which is to close for development imminently). The RFU identifies this issue as greatly reducing the attractiveness of the club to new players and as a threat to the club's sustainability in the long term.
- Petersfield Rugby Club play at Penns Place Playing Fields. The pitches at this site are flat and much better quality than those available to the Alton club. The playing success and growth of this club in recent seasons - which includes links with schools who use the pitches with training lights during the week - is placing heavy wear on the existing pitches. The club has several facility enhancement proposals in its development plan. These plans include floodlights to a third pitch. The RFU supports this plan and has allocated grant funding in its capital programme for 2018/19). A project to provide spectator seating and additional storage in the clubhouse was delivered by the club in 2017. A further project to provide a fifth senior pitch and mini pitches for both rugby and football in partnership with the town council on adjacent land also has consent subject to reserved matters.

2.2 Findings

These issues and opportunities identified at Stage A of the process were tested in gathering information and views in the research and consultation with clubs and facility providers (Stage B) and used to inform the following key findings and conclusions of the assessment of facility needs (Stage C):

	Cricket
The main characteristics of the <u>current</u> supply of and demand for provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On a per capita basis, with 35 cricket pitches on club, council and school sites, East Hampshire provides one cricket pitch per every 3,750 residents based on 2016 population projections (all ages). In comparison Havant - the neighbour with the least supply - has one cricket pitch per 7,750 residents whilst those neighbours with the most supply to the north and east of East Hampshire provide on average one pitch for every 2,032 residents (Waverley) and 2,436 residents (Winchester). The large majority of the East Hampshire cricket pitch supply (78%) is on sites with secured community access. ○ The larger cricket clubs in East Hampshire playing league cricket and with junior sections all have secured community access to their home grounds and these are reasonably well distributed to meet demand. Jubilee Fields in Alton; Penns Heath and Penns Farm Playing Field in Petersfield; the Headley Playing Field and Grayshott Sports Field in the North East sub area; The Glebe in Liss, Steep Cricket Ground and Ropley Recreation Ground. Liphook & Ripsley CC in the North East play on grounds just across the district boundary in Rogate and Stedham in Chichester district. ○ The geographical exception in the district to this vibrant picture of provision for cricket in East Hampshire is the Southern Parishes. Currently, there are just two community-accessible cricket pitches in this sub area (neither of which are of high quality or have NTPs), no league cricket is played and neither of the clubs that use these pitches (Clanfield CC and DACD CC) provide opportunities for juniors or for younger children to learn to play. ○ For residents of the Southern Parishes wishing to play league cricket or find a club for their children to play, the nearest opportunities are at Havant Cricket Club playing in Havant Park and Waterlooville Cricket Club playing at Rowlands Avenue Recreation Ground between four and six miles to the south.

- The tradition of village cricket remains strong in the district although some village teams are struggling to maintain playing numbers particularly for Sunday cricket.

Summary of Current Supply/Demand Balance - secured sites by sub area

Sub Area	Pitch type	Secured capacity (MES)	Estimated Use (MES)
North of SDNP	Fine Turf	356 Adult or 556 Junior	286 Adult & Junior
	Non Turf	155 Adult or 220 Junior	108 Adult & Junior
SDNP	Fine Turf	283 Adult or 429 Junior	216 Adult & Junior
	Non Turf	40 Adult or 60 Junior	25 Adult & Junior
Southern Parishes	Fine Turf	40 Adult or 80 Junior	35 Adult; 0 Junior
	Non Turf	N/A	N/A
Whitehill & Bordon	Fine Turf	136 Adult or 218 Junior	130 Adult & Junior
	Non Turf	135 Adult or 180 Junior	100 Adult & Junior
East Hampshire	Fine Turf	815 Adult or 1283 Junior	667 Adult & Junior
	Non Turf	330 Adult or 460 Junior	233 Adult & Junior

- The table above shows that based on current expressed demand for community club use, none of the four sub areas that make up the district has a deficiency in supply of secured cricket pitches to meet current demand.

Summary of Current Supply/Demand Balance - peak period

- Further analysis by the peak times of cricket play - Saturday, Sunday and Mid Week Evenings - shows that Headley Cricket Club in the North East sub area faces challenges to secure sufficient pitches on Saturdays for its three men's teams on those occasions when two of the three teams are scheduled to play at home. This deficiency should be addressed when the new pitch at BOSC is available for play from 2018.
- The Holybourne Cricket Club just outside Alton in the NW area also has a capacity issue on Saturdays due to the small size of the square and the need to accommodate junior age group matches as well as home fixtures for its two Saturday open age sides. The club manages this through occasional hire of a pitch on Saturdays at Eggar's School.
- The three largest clubs in the district - Alton, Petersfield and Grayshott - manage their Saturday peak demand through secured access to a second pitch (in the case of Alton CC) or secured access to second grounds in the same sub area (both Petersfield CC and Grayshott CC).

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

YES

- There is a slight 'pinch point' in the North East sub area currently where both the Headley and Grayshott clubs are playing their respective home grounds to their playing capacity on Saturdays (Headley Recreation Ground in the case of Headley Cricket Club and the Grayshott Sports Ground and Broxhead Common Ground in the case of the Grayshott club). However, an additional pitch is already in development in this sub area at the Bordon & Oakhanger Sports Club.
- There is relatively little provision in the Southern Parishes but the current demand picture does not justify further provision at the present time.

Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?

YES

- Overall, the pitches at the larger clubs continue to be maintained to a good standard most often by dedicated club volunteers, while the standard of the pitches at some of the small village clubs is an issue where these are maintained to a basic level by the parish councils as their budgets allow although, in most cases, they provide an appropriate quality of surface for the level of play. The two grounds with poor quality pitches at the time of the site visits - Bentley and Four Marks - could readily be upgraded to a higher standard but this is not currently justified by local demand in the these villages.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several non-turf (artificial) pitches and net systems at grounds in the district have reached the end of their safe usable lifespan and need resurfacing. These are identified in the Action Plan. Two sites in particular have need for replacement pavilion facilities, both in the North West sub area. Jubilee Sports Field in Alton is the most pressing given the age of the existing changing and pavilion buildings and the size of the Alton CC that they support. The second is Liss Cricket Club at the Glebe where the existing pavilion is not so old but lacks adequate changing facilities for cricket umpires, for female players and has poor access for the disabled. In both cases, the case for investment is supported by the needs of community football which is also played extensively at these sites.
What are the main characteristics of the <u>future</u> supply and demand for provision?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assuming current cricket 'team generation rates' (i.e. the number of residents in the prime cricket age groups in the district population per existing cricket team), and the forecast population growth to 2028 in these age groups, it can be calculated that demand for approximately fourteen additional teams will be generated by 2028 requiring additional playing capacity. However, this figure should be considered with caution in the context of the already high number of players and teams in East Hampshire. While most village clubs are likely to continue to struggle to sustain playing numbers, several of the larger cricket clubs perceive unmet demand for junior cricket and women and girls cricket. If the aspirations for growth by these clubs are achieved, it will also be a factor both in terms of supply of pitches (good quality NTPs) and in demand for appropriate spaces in pavilions. Sports Market Segmentation data for adults wanting to play cricket in the district suggests that latent demand is higher than the national and regional averages and, if converted to actual demand, could also impact.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet <u>future</u> demand?	<p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the present time, the assessment of future community demand for cricket does not support the case for provision of further pitch capacity in the district by 2028 beyond implementation of the two committed projects at BOSC and Horndean.

	Football
The main characteristics of the <u>current</u> supply of and demand for provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On a per capita basis, East Hampshire provides one football pitch per every 1,481 residents based on 2016 population projections (all ages). In comparison Havant - the neighbour with the least supply - has one football pitch per 2,530 residents whilst those neighbours with the most supply to the north and east of East Hampshire provide on average one pitch for every 800 residents (Waverley) and 762 residents (Winchester). The larger multi-pitch football sites in East Hampshire all provide secured community access and are reasonably well distributed to meet demand. Anstey Enclosure and Park, Jubilee Fields in Alton (NW); Penns Farm Playing Fields and Love Lane Sports Ground in Petersfield (SDNP); the Headley Playing Field, Grayshott Sports Field and Mill Chase Recreation Ground (North East); and Horndean Rec and Horndean College (Southern Parishes). Adult demand for football remains strong across East Hampshire District although the county participation rate in the Active People Survey (2015/16) suggests adult participation may be slightly below the national average. Youth football and mini soccer demand is stronger than for adult football driven by a particularly well developed base of schools football (both in the state and independent sectors) which feeds players into large and well established youth football clubs based in all four sub areas of the district. Within the SDNP sub area in particular, the current picture is one of several large youth football clubs struggling to find sufficient supply of pitches to fulfil the match play and training needs of a growing number of teams particularly for match play on Saturdays. This is a factor not only for the largest club - Petersfield Town Juniors FC with 37 teams

currently - but also in other settlements within this sub area, notably to the north east of Petersfield, most particularly in Liss - where the quality and playing capacity of most of the pitch supply is poor. There are also pressures in Liphook (NE) and a deficiency of locally accessible youth pitches (7v7 and 9v9) in Clanfield (SP).

Summary of Current Supply/Demand Balance - grass pitches on secured sites by sub area

Sub Area	Secured Capacity (MES)	Estimated Use (MES)
North West	40.5	31.75
SDNP	46	52
Southern Parishes	28.5	29.5
North East	32	27
<i>East Hampshire</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>130.25</i>

- The table above shows that based on current expressed demand for community club use, the South Downs National Park sub area of the district has a substantial deficiency in supply of secured football pitches to meet current team demand for match play. The deficiency is greatest in Petersfield and in Liss.
- Clanfield in the Southern Parishes also has a deficiency in secured pitch supply for youth football with teams relying on accessing unsecured supply at Clanfield Junior School (with no current access to on site WCs) as well as travelling out of the sub area to parish playing fields in East Meon and Buriton which contributes to the supply deficiency in the SDNP.
- Further analysis by pitch type/age group and the respective peak periods of play for the various age groups shows that the key issues and challenges currently are in relation to youth football on Saturdays and most particularly 9v9 pitches and 7v7 pitches.
- Across East Hampshire, with demand from 34 teams for 9v9 pitches on a Saturday for league games, 17 9v9 pitches would need to be available to accommodate all home games if played at the same time. With 13 9v9 pitches available in the district (including those on unsecured school sites) there is a current shortfall of four 9v9 pitches. As a consequence of this shortfall, some Saturday morning kick off times have to be staggered (i.e. games played back to back on the same pitch) or 9v9 pitches over-marked on senior pitches.
- Similarly, with demand from 29 district teams for 7v7 pitches on Saturdays for league games, 15 pitches would need to be available for all home fixtures if programmed at the same time. With just nine available, clubs find it necessary to either play matches back to back or over-mark senior pitches to overcome the shortfall of six 7v7 pitches.

3G AGPs

- In terms of provision per capita of 3G AGPs with full community access in the peak hours, in comparison with its six contiguous neighbour local authorities, East Hampshire ranks above Basingstoke & Deane, Chichester District and below the other four with Havant Borough and Hart District having almost double the per capita provision of accessible FTPs (1 per 30,000) in comparison with East Hampshire (1 per 58,500).
- The FA's 3G pitch training model scenario seeks to provide access for all affiliated community club teams within each local authority area to one evening training session a week on a 3G pitch. With 224 registered teams and a capacity of 42 training slots per pitch, East Hampshire would need a total of 5.3 floodlit full size 3G pitches.
- Accordingly, a further 2 FTPs would be needed in the district to fulfil the FA training scenario based on current team numbers.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

NO

- There is a current imbalance between accessible secured community use provision on the eastern side of the district in Petersfield and Liss particularly and, to a lesser extent, in Liphook. There is also a deficiency in Clanfield in the Southern Parishes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is reliance on access to unsecured pitches on school sites for youth football and mini-soccer particularly on Saturday mornings. Lack of access to water and WCs for players, officials and spectators is an issue at some school sites (e.g. Clanfield Junior School). There are also deficiencies in ancillary facilities (e.g. WCs, secure storage, shelter, refreshments and changing) at several key football sites in this sub area, notably at Penns Farm Playing Fields in Petersfield and sites in Liss, Liphook and Horndean.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	<p>NO</p> <p>Poor quality (and hence playing capacity) of existing football pitch supply is identified a particular issue at the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newman Collard Recreation Ground, Liss Mill Chase Recreation Ground, Bordon Love Lane, Petersfield (stadium pitch and adjacent youth pitches) Amery Hill School Playing Field, Alton Bentley Recreation Ground <p>Several single pitch playing fields without on site ancillary facilities are no longer maintained for football (i.e. Hollywater and Knaves Mire in the North East, and Holybourne near Alton in the North West). The Lindford Sports Association pitch and pavilion (NE) are also no longer in football use. The pitch lies fallow and the pavilion is only used in summer for cricket.</p> <p>Sites identified with poor quality ancillary pavilions in need of replacement are identified as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Liss Recreation Ground Jubilee Fields, Alton
What are the main characteristics of the <u>future</u> supply and demand for provision?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assuming current football 'team generation rates' it can be calculated that demand for approximately 32 additional teams will be generated by 2028 requiring additional playing capacity. This is a large increase (>14%) and likely to exceed the capacity of the new supply on site at BOSC and Clanfield and from projects with a current planning consent at Penns Field B; Hawkley Road Liss (recently completed), Land east of Horndean and Budds Lane in Bordon). Unmet demand for youth football - particularly girls' football - identified in the aspirations of the main Charter Standard youth football clubs in the district - will also be a factor both in terms of supply of junior pitches and in demand for appropriate spaces in pavilions. Sports Market Segmentation data for adults wanting to play football in the district suggests that latent demand for football in the district is higher than the national and regional averages and, if converted to actual demand, could also impact.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet <u>future</u> demand?	<p>NO</p> <p>The assessment supports the case for provision of further pitch capacity in the district by 2028 (over above the projects currently on site or with planning consent) with the east side of the district (i.e. serving demand from the Petersfield/Liss/Liphook centres of population) and Clanfield as the two priority locations.</p> <p>To address future needs for football provision to 2028 will require a combination of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancements to the existing supply where this is poor (to increase playing capacity). Delivery of current plans with consent for new and replacement pitch supply to FA recommended standards (both natural turf and 3G) Provision of additional FTP supply in the district (up to two pitches), one located on the east side of the district serving the Petersfield/Liss/Liphook centres of population and the other in the Southern Parishes, the only sub area in the district without a full size AGP, to serve demand from Clanfield FC and other clubs as well as informal football demand in this sub area.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced access to on site ancillary facilities (particularly WCs, secure storage and refreshments) to meet growth in demand and more girls participation as development plans of the larger Charter Standard youth football clubs in the district are implemented.
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	Hockey
The main characteristics of the <u>current</u> supply of and demand for provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been rapid growth in participation in hockey in the Alton area (NW) within East Hampshire in recent seasons, stimulated by Alton Hockey Club and the club's strong development links with local schools, particularly Alton School. The growth in participation is most marked among women and girls - the 'Rio factor'. There is also a substantial and stable base of participation in community club hockey in the SDNP area with a well-established town hockey club, Petersfield Hockey Club. The development of community hockey in this part of the district also benefits from a strong tradition of hockey in the independent schools in this area (notably at Churchers College and Dunhurst Bedales School). The quantity of hockey pitch supply in East Hampshire - i.e. four hockey compliant AGPs - is broadly comparable on a per capita basis to most of its neighbour local authority areas (aside from Waveley Borough). The distribution of the four pitches across the district is also reasonably good with one in the North West (Alton), one in the North East (Liphook) and two in the central part of the SDNP area (in Steep and Petersfield respectively). However, availability of the supply of hockey pitches to the two community clubs is greatly constrained by the demands of the schools themselves (e.g. for boarding pupils and for inter school matches and after school training). Restrictions on the permitted hours of use of most of the pitches and lack of floodlights at the Amery Hill School - home pitch of Alton Hockey Club - place particular constraints on availability of the supply at times of peak demand. As far as schools' demand for hockey pitches for PE and school teams, there is a deficiency in Alton for the Alton School who currently hire a non-compliant 3G pitch (Anstey Park Enclosure) to deliver its hockey programme. There is a similar issue in the North East where the Mill Chase Community School currently deliver hockey on a short pile (40mm) 3G pitch. While there are proposals to replace this pitch on a new school site in Bordon, these are for a football compliant 3G although the provision of a second sand based AGP is included in the proposals for the school at a later date. Also, in Petersfield in the SDNP, Churchers College is not able to accommodate the entirety of its hockey programme on its single sand filled AGP.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet <u>current</u> demand?	<p>NO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current community club demand for league hockey (senior and youth) and for junior development and training is not met by current supply within East Hampshire. The Alton Club travels 8 miles to a pitch in Hook in Hart District to accommodate its weekly adult team training needs. Although there is spare capacity at the Bohunt School AGP, this provision is over 11 miles from Alton and relatively high hire charges impact on community accessibility. The clear sub-area of deficiency is in the Alton area (North West). The success of the Alton Hockey Club with over 360 registered players is such that the club has outgrown its home pitch at Amery Hill School where the hours of availability are restricted by the lack of floodlighting and planning restrictions on permitted hours of use. As a benchmark, England Hockey estimates that a full-sized sand filled AGP can accommodate 10 teams or 250 players with full access at weekends and midweek evening training slots. The Alton Hockey Club has substantially out-grown this benchmark. While no current threats to community use have been identified in consultation, the two hockey clubs have poor security of access to the school-based hockey pitches in the

	<p>district. Neither club has security of access to its home pitch for more than a season nor its own clubhouse facilities to host visiting teams and for social interaction. The clubs are therefore dependent on the continued goodwill and support of the schools.</p>
<p>Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?</p>	<p>YES.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall, the quality of the four pitches is sufficient and the pitches are appropriately maintained. However, within this overall picture, the Amery Hill School pitch will need a renewed playing surface in the lifetime of this strategy. Although partially upgraded in 2013 and rejuvenated again in December 2017, the playing surface is over 13 years old and for the last few seasons has been used to its capacity by Alton Hockey Club during the available hours at weekends in addition to heavy use by the school in term time. The floodlights to the pitch at Dunhurst Bedales School also need upgrading.
<p>What are the main characteristics of the <u>future</u> supply and demand for provision?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no committed projects for enhanced or new hockey pitches in the district although two schools in Alton in the North West of the district have proposals. The Amery Hill School has in principle funding support from Sport England for the installation of floodlights (subject to planning). Eggar's School secured planning consent in November 2017 for provision of a new floodlit hockey AGP (subject to permitted hours of use and a community use agreement). This school is working in partnership with Alton HC to raise the necessary funding. Churchers College in Petersfield propose to seek planning consent for extended hours. In addition, a new hockey pitch is proposed in a second phase of development of Mill Chase Community School and its playing pitch facilities in Bordon in the North East. Based on the growth trends in participation over recent seasons, latent demand and the aspirations of the clubs, it is reasonable to assume that given additional pitch capacity, the two community clubs have potential for further growth to 2028. Population growth forecasts in the district - particularly in the Southern Parishes and the North East sub areas where there are large-scale allocations for new housing - also suggest increased demand. Based on current growth forecasts and hockey team generation rates, a further four hockey teams may need to be accommodated by 2028.
<p>Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet <u>future</u> demand?</p>	<p>NO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the assessment, it is clear that neither hockey club in the district has sufficient <u>secured</u> community use at the school pitches they access currently. Population growth and trends in hockey in the district (including the strength of hockey in the independent schools along with growing in interest in teaching hockey in several state secondary schools) is likely to increase the deficiency in secured supply to 2028. The priority need lies in the Alton area (NW) where lack of floodlighting and restrictions on availability in the peak hours at Amery Hill School are already displacing demand out of the district and constraining growth. At this site, there is potential to secure community use for the long term through a grant funding agreement and/or planning conditions. When completed, the committed project for a new hockey pitch at the Eversley Sport Association in Hook will provide additional capacity within the NW sub area drive time catchment area although peak times will be taken up by demand from within Hart. Subject to funding, there is also potential for the Alton club to secure use of a new, second hockey pitch in the town at Eggar's School. In the SDNP area - Petersfield and its catchment - there is no current need for additional supply to meet the community club demand. The supply/demand balance in this area will need to be kept under review. The focus in the short term should be on seeking to secure and extend the hours available to the club at the two existing hockey pitches it uses at Dunhurst Bedales School and Churchers College (subject to planning). In the Southern Parishes, while there will be new housing led population growth over the next ten years which will grow hockey demand, the proximity of accessible supply in

	<p>Havant Borough (Havant College), should be sufficient to meet demand in this sub area over the strategy period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similarly, in the North East, there will be population growth driven by new housing that will increase demand in the community for hockey, particularly so if the secondary school continues to strongly support hockey within its PE and sport offer. The proposal for a hockey AGP to be provided on the new school site presents an opportunity to re-establish a community hockey club in Bordon in the life of this strategy. In the short term, there is no community hockey need for a pitch in this sub area. There are two secured hockey pitches just 3 miles away in neighbouring Waverley Borough at Woolmer Hill Sports Ground.
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	Rugby
The main characteristics of the <u>current</u> supply of and demand for provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existing supply in East Hampshire of eight grass senior rugby pitches on community club sites is greater than that in three of the seven neighbouring local authorities (Havant 4; Hart 7; Chichester 7), the same as in Waverley Borough and Basingstoke & Deane and two fewer than in Winchester & District. The secured rugby pitches in East Hampshire are reasonably well distributed to meet demand. Four located in the north (at Anstey Park, Alton), and four towards the south in Petersfield (Penns Place). Although there are no rugby pitches or community clubs in the Southern Parishes, there is good accessible supply at Havant RFC less than four miles away from most parts of this sub-area. Similarly, the towns and larger settlements in the north east of the district (Whitehill, Bordon, Liphook) are well served for community rugby by supply just across the border with Waverley Borough. The supply in both Alton and Petersfield is on secured community sites in the ownership of the respective town councils. Demand for rugby is stronger across East Hampshire than the national average. This strong demand is driven in the SDNP area of the district by the Petersfield RFC which, in recent seasons, has improved its league status at senior level (to London 3 SW), grown its youth section and links with local schools and enhanced the clubhouse and the club's commercial operations to provide greater financial sustainability. Demand for rugby in the North West sub area of the district is centred on Alton RFC based in Anstey Park. Although this is a large park in a central, accessible location, the pitches regularly become waterlogged and unplayable mid season making it necessary for the club to hire a former MOD pitch in Bordon nearly 8 miles away for home matches and training. This impacts on the club's attractiveness to players and its secondary income stream. While the membership has remained stable in recent seasons, if this supply issue is not resolved, it may place the sustainability of the club at risk. Rugby demand in East Hampshire is also driven by a particularly well-developed base of schools rugby (in both the academy and independent schools sectors) which feeds players into the two established community rugby clubs. Latent rugby demand is also greater than the regional and national averages in a large proportion of the Sports Segmentation Groups in the district population.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet <u>current</u> demand?	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under a supply scenario that considers the eight secured community club pitches only - i.e. excluding ad hoc access by arrangement to additional pitches at Churchers College (Petersfield RFC) and Bordon Garrison (Alton RFC) - the analysis evidences a clear deficiency in current supply to meet <u>all</u> rugby demand expressed at the two community clubs.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Petersfield, secured access to one additional good quality pitch would be needed by Petersfield RFC if the College pitches were not available on those Sundays when youth home matches are displaced by adult games or festivals on the Penns Farm pitches. ○ Similarly, in Alton, secured access to one additional good quality pitch would be needed if the Garrison pitch was not available during those weekends when home match play and training is displaced from Anstey Park due to water-logging.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ While providing additional secured supply of rugby pitches is highly desirable to safeguard against the risk of future loss of access to 'overspill' supply on school and private sites, the current facility priorities are to enhance the quality of pitches available to the Alton club in Anstey Park and to provide training lights to a third pitch at Penns Farm Playing Fields to spread wear and allow these pitches to be maintained to a good standard. ○ At Anstey Park, if specialist studies establish the pitches in their existing location cannot be enhanced cost effectively, the relevant parties could consider the feasibility of establishing replacement senior pitches on the flat, better draining area at the top of the Park (known as Diggers Field) accessible from the north (via Cadnam Park) with an area for car parking.
What are the main characteristics of the <u>future</u> supply and demand for provision?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assuming current rugby 'team generation rates', and the forecast population growth to 2028 in these age groups, it can be calculated that demand for approximately 4 additional teams will be generated by 2028 requiring additional playing capacity. This estimate is likely to be a little understated as it does not take into account the clubs' development plans to grow the adult game particularly among women and girls from the current very low base. ○ Future facility supply to meet this growth in demand is likely to include provision of floodlights to a third pitch at Penns Farm Playing Fields. The RFU has allocated funding for this project in its 2018/19 capital investment programme. Planning consent is unlikely to be a barrier as part of the playing field is already floodlit. ○ Also at Penns Farm, Peterfield Town Council has secured planning consent for expansion of the playing field (onto Penns Field 'B'), subject to securing an enabling consent to remove a dividing hedgerow with value as a wildlife habitat. This additional playing area - providing a fifth senior rugby pitch - will facilitate further team growth at the Petersfield club to include women and youth girls teams in line with the club's development plan while enabling the good standard of the existing four pitches to be maintained. By securing this additional capacity, the club will also no longer rely on unsecured 'overspill' access to pitches at Churchers College. ○ Future supply will also include a new junior rugby pitch in Budds Lane, Bordon as part of secured agreements for sports facilities to be provided at the replacement for the existing Mill Chase Academy. This provision will mitigate the closure of the existing Garrison rugby pitch also in Budds Lane. It will be important to ensure that community club access to this pitch at weekends is secured for the long term (through enforceable planning and/or funding conditions) both to provide the Alton club with continued 'overspill' provision for mini and youth rugby and - in the long term - to support possible future demand for development of a satellite junior section to one of the established community rugby clubs in the North East sub area as the population of Whitehill & Bordon grows. ○ Finally, the RFU in partnership with the Havant rugby club have pre-planning proposals to provide a Rugby 365 AGP at the club's ground in Havant Park as part of the legacy from the 2015 Rugby World Cup. This supply change will have a significant impact on rugby in East Hampshire if it proceeds due to its proximity of this club to the Southern Parishes of Rowlands Castle, Horndean and Clanfield. An AGP in Havant Park will serve demand from these parishes as well as from local schools for tournaments etc. With a travel time of 20 minutes from Petersfield it will also provide a training option for the Petersfield club on those occasions when the floodlit pitches at Penns Place are unplayable.

<p>Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet <u>future</u> demand?</p>	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There is already reliance on two unsecured private pitches in Bordon and Petersfield to meet existing demand from the two community rugby clubs based in the district. As the population of the district grows, at least four additional teams are likely to be generated (one senior, three youth/minis) plus the potential for women's and youth girls' teams, subject to the success of the clubs' and RFU in developing the women's game locally. ○ To meet this future demand will require a minimum of two additional secured pitches available in the peak weekend hours. ○ At the present time, the clear short-term priority is the upgrade of the existing pitches at Anstey Park or implementation of an alternative solution on this site that meets the long-term needs of the Alton club (while recognising the important role of this Park as a public open space). The planned closure of the Garrison site in Bordon will result in loss of access to an alternative senior pitch for matches and midweek training under lights when the Anstey Park pitches are unplayable. This increases the urgency to resolve the pitch quality issues at Anstey Park. ○ The needs analysis also supports the case for provision of a third set of training lights and a further senior pitch at Penns Place. ○ The Petersfield club's plans for minor adaptations to the circulation areas in the clubhouse are also needed to facilitate growth of the women's game. ○ In the North East sub area, securing long term community access in the peak weekend hours to the new junior size pitch to be provided on the new school playing field in Budds Lane is necessary both to provide the Alton club with secured overspill pitch space for its minis and juniors and to allow for growth in rugby demand (and potential for future development of a new junior club or satellite to an established club) in view of the substantial housing to be built in this area over the strategy period. ○ There is no current needs case for a rugby AGP in the district given the RFU's proposals close by in Havant. However, in the longer term (5-10 years), a needs case may develop for provision of a 'Rugby Share' AGP at Penns Place subject to progress of the rugby club and the town's football clubs in delivering development growth.
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2.3 Summary of Facility Needs

From the assessment of the supply and demand information and views, it is clear that there is a needs case to **protect** the existing quantity of playing pitch supply in the district to meet current demand for football, hockey and rugby and, in the case of cricket, to ensure sufficient capacity is available to allow for forecast demand growth over the strategy period as a result of cricket development initiatives and increase in population from new housing developments.

Similarly, in relation to the minor sports played on playing pitches in the district there is a needs case to protect access to playing fields for the district-based **archery clubs** - i.e. Alton & Four Marks Archers at Four Marks Recreation Ground, The Bowmen of Petersfield at The Petersfield School and Whitehill Archers at the club's own dedicated field). There is also a need to protect access to playing pitches for the **Pythons Lacrosse Club** (currently based at Kingscourt School in Catherington in the Southern Parishes sub area).

Current Facility Needs

- **Football pitches** - There is a capacity shortfall for youth football on the east side of the district in the SDNP sub area i.e. Petersfield / Liss and to lesser extent in Liphook in the North East sub area.
- In the Southern Parishes, there is a capacity shortfall for youth football in Clanfield.
- **Football AGPs** - Although the Facilities Planning Model (FPM) analysis of football AGP (both 3G and sand playing surfaces combined) concludes there is sufficient provision to meet current demand, following check and challenge of the supply assumptions used in the FPM analysis (i.e. the number and size of pitches and availability in the peak hours), this conclusion is not supported by the Steering Group. To meet the FA's model scenario for provision of sufficient full size floodlit 3G AGPs (FTPs) to enable all district based affiliated teams to train on 3G once a week would require 5.3 pitches (224 teams/42). Current supply is 3 full size FTPs - at Anstey Enclosure, The Petersfield School and Mill Chase School. On this basis of analysis, the district has a shortfall of 2 FTPs.
- **Cricket pitches** - There is sufficient pitch supply to meet current demand although there are pinch points in Headley and Grayshott in the North East during peak Saturday afternoons. Enhancing the quality of key sites, including ancillary facilities (for example at Jubilee Sports Field in Alton), is the priority.
- **Rugby pitches** - There is sufficient pitch supply to meet current demand if the unsecured supply on school and MOD sites is included. If only secured supply is considered, there is a need for additional pitch capacity in Petersfield in addition to a drainage solution, enhancing pitch maintenance or relocation of the pitches in Anstey Park (Alton RFC home ground).
- **Rugby AGPs** - There is no current need for a World Rugby Rule 22 compliant AGP in the district. The priority location in this part of the county is Havant RFC's ground in Havant Park which is within the drive time catchment of the Southern Parishes and the Petersfield area of the SDNP.
- **Hockey AGPs** - Similar to the football AGP analysis, the FPM data for hockey AGPs (sand based) concludes there is sufficient provision but based on a number of inaccurate supply assumptions. The Steering Group conclude there is a clear capacity shortfall in the Alton area of the district due to the lack of access to a hockey AGP with floodlights (to allow evening training) and planning restrictions on times of use of the pitch at Amery Hill School.
- **Pavilions** - Enhancement to ancillary pavilion facilities are required as available resources allow at: Alton Jubilee Fields, The Glebe Liss, West Liss RG (all football/cricket share); Penns Farm Playing Fields (potential for football/rugby share); East Meon and Kingsley (cricket).

Future Facility Needs to 2028

- **Football** - By 2028, there is likely to be a need for sufficient capacity to accommodate the match play and training needs of circa 8 adult and 24 youth/mini-soccer teams generated by population growth plus development within clubs to convert latent demand. Nine clubs in the district have expressed aspirations to grow in consultation. Future facility provision should also seek to respond to the FA 'National Game' strategy for more youth league football to be played on 3G pitches (for example by ensuring the replacement astro at Alton Sports Centre meets FA registration standards for u7/u8 5v5 league play

as now proposed). It is estimated that 2 new full size floodlit FTPs will be needed by 2028 in the district (to FA register specification) to accommodate this growth.

- Cricket** - Forecast population growth to 2028 has the potential to generate circa 7 adult and 7 junior teams. In addition, three cricket clubs in the district have expressed aspirations for growth which is supported by the ECB's 'Unleashed' strategy to convert latent adult demand through promotion of shorter, friendly game formats (T20/25), and to develop junior cricket through the Kids All Stars programme. With two new pitches being provided in the district (Horndean, Southern Parishes. BOSC in the North East) and unused capacity at a number of village cricket grounds there is no need case for the development of further new cricket pitches in the district in the strategy period.
- Rugby** - Sufficient playing pitch capacity will be required to accommodate team growth from population change (circa 1 adult, 3 midi/mini) plus the growth aspirations of both the districts' rugby clubs (particularly in the areas of girls & women's rugby and social adult touch rugby). The RFU facility strategy focuses on enhancing facilities at secured community club sites and providing strategically located rugby compliant 3G AGPs to deliver wider game development. The additional pitch capacity for the Petersfield Club with planning consent (Penns Field B) and the provision of a third set of floodlights (in the RFU capital programme for 2018) will be sufficient to accommodate the forecast growth. The planned development of a 365 Rugby 3G Pitch at Havant Rugby Club will meet the strategic need for rugby 3G capacity in this part of the county in the short term. A needs case for 3G supply in Petersfield may develop in the second half of the strategy period. This should be kept under review.
- Hockey** - Forecast population growth is likely to generation circa 2 adult and 2 junior teams. In addition, both the district based hockey clubs have expressed growth aspirations to convert latent demand (adult Back to Hockey, Walking Hockey etc) supporting England Hockey's aim to double participation nationally over the next ten years. In East Hampshire the priority will be on improving the stock (with floodlighting and clubhouse facilities initially) and on securing better access/tenure agreements with school facility providers. The growth trend of the Alton Hockey Club, if it continues, will support the needs case for a second pitch in the town (to EH Category 2 or Category 3 specification) during this strategy period.

The table below summarises the conclusions of the assessment as to likely facility needs by 2028 to meet demand in the peak period:

Supply shortfalls	Additional supply required by 2028	Key assumptions - supply changes (in development or committed projects)
Cricket	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New pitch in North East (BOSC) New pitch in Southern Parishes (Hazelton Farm, East of Horndean)
Football	+2 No. FA registered full size floodlit FTPs ³ (SDNP, Southern Parishes) to provide all district based affiliated teams with a midweek training slot + 4 No. 9v9 pitches (current shortfall of 4 for home matches, plus 4 for up to 8 teams from growth, less 4 in committed projects) + 7 No. 7v7 pitches (current shortfall of 6 for home matches, plus 3 for home matches of up to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement 3G AGP as FTP in North East (Budds Lane school) New youth pitches (3 No. 11v11, 2 No. 9v9, 2 No. 7v7, 1 No. 5v5) in North East (Budds Lane schools) Reprovision of 2 senior pitches in North East (BOSC) Replacement of Alton Sports Centre sand astro with a FA registered 5v5 3G suitable for u7/u8 matches (NW) 2 new 9v9 pitches in Southern Parishes (St James Place, Clanfield) 1 new senior pitch in Southern Parishes (Hazelton Farm, East of Horndean)

³ Full size FTPs on the FA Register for affiliated league play will provide capacity for match play at weekends in addition to midweek team training. Accordingly, subject to cost of hire and programming, provision of the FTPs may reduce the shortfall of natural turf pitches for youth football below the levels shown in the table.

Supply shortfalls	Additional supply required by 2028	Key assumptions - supply changes (in development or committed projects)
	6 teams from growth, less 2 in committed projects)	
Hockey	+1 No. EH Category 2 or 3 AGP (North West)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New hockey AGP in North East (Budds Lane school in final phase funded by disposal of existing 3G AGP at Mill Chase School)
Rugby (all supply)	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of Garrison senior pitch with lights in North East Secured access for Alton RFC to new junior pitch at replacement school in Budds Lane
Rugby (secured supply only)	+ 1 No. senior pitch (Penns Field B - Petersfield)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of Garrison senior pitch with lights in North East Secured access for Alton RFC to new junior pitch at replacement school in Budds Lane

3 Scenario Testing

3.1 Introduction

The scenarios that follow consider the range of options potentially available for enhancing existing playing pitches and providing new playing pitches to address the facility shortfalls identified in Section 2 above.

What if scenarios?	Opportunities/priorities identified by sport
Improve quality of poor sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football - The current shortfall of capacity for youth football in part of the district would be reduced through improved drainage and/or maintenance at key sites. The FA/IOG have visited and made recommendations for such enhancements at <i>Mill Chase Recreation Ground</i> (home ground of Wey Valley FC) for Whitehill & Bordon Town Council and for <i>Love Lane</i> (home of Petersfield Town FC). A similar FA/IOG assessment with recommendations is required for the Newman Collard Playing Field in Liss (home of Liss Athletic FC). An FA/IOG assessment of the pitches at BOSC in the North East would also be beneficial to ensure the developer makes suitable provision for ongoing maintenance of these pitches once the upgrade is completed. Cricket - As there is no current overall shortfall of cricket pitches in the district (other than occasional capacity issues in the peak period in Headley and Grayshott in the North East), any pitch improvements will impact mainly on the quality of playing experience. The outfielders at Holybourne, Bentley, Four Marks and KGV Froxfield are of relatively poor/uneven quality. However, at Bentley and Four Marks, investment in improvement works could only be justified if cricket demand were to be established in these communities. Replacement of the worn non turf pitch (NTP) at Headley Recreation Ground would impact on junior capacity for the Headley Cricket Club. Improvements to the non-turf practice nets at Petersfield Heath, Steep CC and Binsted Recreation Ground would also enhance the playing/training experience at these sites. Rugby - Anstey Park in Alton remains the priority site for enhancement of rugby pitches in the district. The options identified are to enhance the drainage and/or maintenance of the pitches in their current location (if feasible/affordable), or to relocate the pitches to a higher section of the Park with better natural drainage. Resolution of this issue is a high priority as the Garrison pitch in Bordon - currently used by the Alton club when the park pitches are not playable - is scheduled to close for development and the replacement for this pitch (to be provided on the new school playing field in Budds Lane) will be a junior size pitch without floodlighting and will not be available for some time.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hockey - Floodlights are needed to the pitch at Amery Hill School to resolve the current issue of displacement of hockey training for the Alton Hockey club to Lord Wandsworth College in Hart District. The ability to use the pitch in the evening for training would further justify the need to resurface the AGP as the usage would increase substantially. An upgrade to the training lights at Bedales AGP used by the Petersfield Hockey Club is also desirable to bring the lux levels up to EH recommended levels.
Secure more community use at education sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rugby - Securing access to school and college playing is not a priority for community rugby union in East Hampshire. The RFU facility strategy is to invest in secured playing pitch sites for community clubs. ○ Cricket - Community cricket is not played on education sites in the district. ○ Hockey - Currently, the two community hockey clubs in the district are fully reliant on un-secured access to AGPs and changing facilities at education sites and neither club has its own clubhouse for social interaction. Opportunities to secure more community use of school AGPs and to provide clubhouse facilities need to be explored through partnership/grant funding agreements for facility enhancements and planning applications for extended hours of use in the peak period (e.g. at Amery Hill School and Churchers College). ○ Football - Community youth football clubs in the district also rely extensively on unsecured access to school/college playing pitches and ancillary facilities to accommodate their facility needs. In addition to the secured access planned for Headley FC to the replacement FTP and grass pitches to be provided at the new secondary school in Budds Lane, further opportunities have been identified in consultation at several education sites that are already accessed by community football clubs. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Horndean Technology College (SP)</i> - small 3G MUGA with space for expansion and a large playing field with capacity for more grass pitches ○ <i>The Petersfield School (SDNP)</i> - 3G FTP with restricted permitted hours of use in the peak period (Petersfield Juniors FC primarily) ○ <i>Clanfield Junior School (SP)</i> - 7v7 pitch used by Clanfield YFC on Saturday mornings but with no current access to welfare facilities (WCs, water) ○ <i>Hollywater Primary School (NE)</i> - derelict pitch with potential, if enhanced, to accommodate overspill from adjacent Mill Chase Recreation Ground which has welfare facilities (Wey Valley FC) ○ <i>Bordon Primary School, Holme Primary School, Liphook Junior School Playing Fields (NE)</i> - existing mini-soccer pitches (including MUGA at Liphook JS) with potential for community club use on Saturday mornings subject to availability of access to welfare facilities. ○ <i>Anstey Junior School (NW)</i>, two playing fields with potential for community use adjacent to Alton College ○ Football & Rugby - In the longer term, a possible opportunity to secure <i>Churchers College Penns Place Playing Field</i> for use as community playing pitches has been identified in consultation with the College and Petersfield Town Council. Securing this site in local authority ownership would be subject to successful negotiation of a land transfer involving a section of Love Lane Recreation Ground (currently leased by the Town Council to Petersfield Town FC) which could enable the College to consolidate its playing fields in the Ramshill area. ○ The FA has confirmed that such a land transfer would be beneficial in meeting an established local shortfall due to the poor quality of the supply at Love Lane and the likely high cost to resolve these issues (established by an IOG report). The RFU are also supportive in principle in view of the potential of this playing field to expand playing capacity at Penns Place for Petersfield RFC. Subject, to review of the impact of the Rugby 365 3G pitch to be provided shortly in Havant Park, a football/rugby share 3G pitch at this site might be justified within the strategy period.

<p>Change use from one sport or pitch type to another</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hockey - This scenario is not relevant to hockey in East Hampshire as there is a clear need to retain all four existing sand based AGPs on school sites in the district - at Amery Hill School, Bedales, Churchers College and Bohunt School - to accommodate existing demand for community hockey and forecast growth to 2028. ○ The exception is the small (41mx38m) floodlit <i>sand-based astro pitch at Alton Sports Centre</i>. This pitch is too small for use for formal hockey games or to accommodate full squad training. Accordingly, until October 2017, when this pitch was closed to prepare for redevelopment of the sports centre, it was hired exclusively for 5 a side football. The current planning proposals are to upgrade this provision for football by specifying a 3G football surface for its replacement. This change of playing surface is supported by the assesment of playing pitch needs for both sports. ○ Cricket - A single adult football pitch was formerly provided at the <i>Lindford Sports Association Ground</i> on Broxhead Common in the North East. Grayshott Cricket Club has used this site as a second cricket ground for several seasons and has current (unfunded) proposals to install a junior pitch with NTP on the former football pitch. As a single pitch site, it has limited value to support demand for community football in the North East of the district, in the context of committed projects for other, large football sites in this area - i.e. Budds Lane new school, BOSC. As such, the needs assessment for both these pitch sports supports this proposed change of use. ○ Rugby - In the event that improving the drainage and maintenance of the existing rugby pitches in <i>Anstey Park</i> is not feasible/affordable, relocating the pitches to the top section of the Park (Diggers Field) - currently used as informal open space by runners and dog walkers primarily - has been identified as a possible alternative solution. The drainage/maintenance solution is preferred as it maintains the pitches close to the ancillary, changing social and car parking facilities. However, should this not be feasible/affordable, then the relocation option should be fully assessed. ○ Football - Petersfield Town Juniors FC submitted a proposal to the Town Council in 2017 to mark out a 9v9 pitch on <i>Avenue Recreation Ground</i> for use by u14 teams at weekends in the football season supported by access to the welfare facilities in the existing community pavilion on this site. The playing field is currently used as informal recreation space. The FA would welcome this development due to the youth football capacity issues in Petersfield.
<p>Lose availability of a key site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rugby - If the issues for community rugby at <i>Anstey Park</i> are not resolved, the future of the Alton club will be put at risk within the strategy period. There are no plans to replace the Garrison senior rugby pitch in Bordon that the club currently use when Anstey Park is not playable and, in any event, it is not financially sustainable for the Alton club to continue to hire playing facilities in Bordon and also lose secondary income. ○ Football - For football, the main sites at risk are the <i>Newman Collard Ground</i> due to long-standing drainage issues and the 9v9 pitch in private ownership at the <i>Spread Eagle</i> pub (opposite the Glebe where Liss youth share facilities with Liss Cricket Club). In view of the shortfall of capacity in Liss, any loss of access for club teams to the pitches on these sites would need to be mitigated by an accessible replacement pitch to equal or better quality. ○ Committed plans are in place in the North East sub area to mitigate the loss of key sites with secured use for community football - i.e. at BOSC and at the <i>new schools in Budds Lane</i>. The assessment finds that the Broxhead Common land at <i>Knaves Mire</i> is <u>not</u> a priority site for the FA. This site only has space for a single pitch, poor site access from a busy road and no welfare facilities or car parking. Of greater value than investing in this site would be to enhance other sites accessible to the community clubs in this sub area - e.g. Headley Recreation Ground and Mill Chase Recreation Ground,

	<p>potentially to include enhancement and secured community access to the adjacent Hollywater Primary School playing field.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hockey - As identified in the education sites scenario above, the loss of access to any of the four hockey pitches would have a major impact on community hockey in East Hampshire. Of the four pitches, the <i>Bohunt School</i> pitch is currently under-used for hockey (aside from Petersfield HC summer league home fixtures as the Bedales pitch is used exclusively for tennis in summer). From the consultation it is apparent this is partly due to the cost of hire of the Bohunt pitch. England Hockey reports growth in hockey play within the school as well as new interest in hockey from The Petersfield School (TPS) which does not have an appropriate playing surface (TPS AGP is 3G). England Hockey has referred TPS to the Bohunt School pitch to establish if there is scope for TPS pupils to play there. ○ Cricket - The future of the maintained cricket pitches at Four Marks and Bentley will be at risk if initiatives to establish local demand and regular use prove unsuccessful due to the cost to the parish councils to maintain these facilities. Although not currently key sites, this provision needs to be protected to allow for forecast growth in demand over the strategy period.
Provide new pitches	<p>Football</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ North East - The new and enhanced pitches with secured community access that will be provided within the committed projects at the new schools in <i>Budds Lane</i> (to include an enhanced FTP), and at <i>BOSC</i> - will address capacity issues in this sub area provided the existing supply at Mill Chase Recreation Ground/Hollywater Primary and at Headley and Grayshott recreation grounds are also improved in accordance with the needs identified in the site visit assessments (and IOG reports where these are available). ○ Southern Parishes - In this sub area, there is a current capacity issue for youth football in the Clanfield area. 2 No. new 9v9 pitches in development at <i>St James Place</i> will help to address the shortfall in accordance with the priority needs of the local club. In <i>Horndean</i> a single pitch and pavilion will be provided as part of a planning agreement relating to a large scale housing development on land to the east of the village. When completed, subject to the specification and management plan, this provision will serve new demand from population growth in this locality. ○ With only one small 3G pitch (38mx18m at Horndean Technology College), a suitable site needs to be identified in this sub area with potential for future development of a full size floodlit FTP. The optimum location for a full size FTP to meet the capacity needs would be in Clanfield. However a suitable site FTP in Clanfield parish has not been identified. FTP options at Clanfield FC's main Peel Park site for example, are constrained by the SDNP Dark Night Skies planning policy. An alternative option - less accessible to the Clanfield teams but potentially deliverable - is to extend the 3G at the <i>Horndean College</i> to a full size pitch with secured community use. ○ South Down National Park - There are proposals with planning consent for new youth football pitches in Petersfield (four mini soccer pitches at <i>Penns Field B</i>) and two youth pitches were provided at the end of 2017 in Liss on land at <i>Hawkley Road</i>. ○ The Neighbourhood Development Plans for both these areas within the SDNP identified capacity shortfall for youth football. The Liss NDP in particular highlights the difficulty in identifying locations for new small sided football pitches needed by the young due to local topography, landscape, ground conditions and other constraints. The proposals for new small sided football pitches at Penns Place and, within Liss, through extension of the West Liss Recreation Ground are therefore supported by the Steering Group. So too is the recent project initiated by the youth football club in the village to provide

	<p>additional pitches in Hawkley Road provided that suitable arrangements for welfare facilities (WCs, water) are put in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although this sub-area has an existing FA registered FTP (at The Petersfield School) planning restrictions on availability of this pitch in the peak hours and the high existing demand (from Petersfield Town Juniors primarily) evidences a need for a further FA registered FTP in this sub area within the ten year period of the strategy. The FTP needs to be located so as to be accessible to teams based in both Liss and Petersfield (i.e. on the east side of the district). Alternative site options in this catchment area identified as having potential for an FTP, subject to detailed feasibility assessment, planning and funding, are: i) <i>Newman Collard Recreation Ground</i> (conversion of the Liss Athletic FC main floodlit pitch which, as identified in the Liss NDP, at present has limited availability due to poor drainage), and ii) <i>Churchers College Penns Place Playing Field</i> (subject to successful negotiation of land transfer between the parties, relocation of Petersfield Town FC and planning consents to include floodlights). North West - There has been substantial new provision for community football in Alton Town since the last review of playing pitches in 2008 and no current shortfall in supply. However, looking to the next ten years and forecast population growth in the sub area, the redevelopment of the Alton Sports Centre presents a valuable opportunity to provide additional capacity in the area to accommodate new demand likely to result from planned population growth. This is recognised in the Alton Neighbourhood Development Plan (policy CH2 Sports Centre - <i>Proposals for a replacement sports centre facility providing an enhanced level of recreational provision to Alton in terms of quality and quantity on or adjacent to the current site will be supported</i>). With regard to playing pitches, the redevelopment of the sports centre provides the opportunity to enhance the quality of provision and increase playing capacity by replacing the existing relatively low grade sand-based floodlit 5/7 a side AGP with a floodlit 3G pitch to FA registration specification to accommodate demand for u7/u8 affiliated league 5v5 mini-soccer matches in addition to midweek team training and adult five a side. This opportunity has been reflected in revised layout plans for the replacement of the Alton Sports Centre submitted for a Reserved Matters planning consent. <p>Rugby</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDNP - One new senior pitch and four mini pitches (suitable for mini-soccer on Saturday mornings and mini rugby on Sunday mornings) has planning consent at <i>Penns Field B Petersfield</i> in the SDNP sub area to be accessed from the existing Petersfield RFC clubhouse. This provision is supported to meet the current needs of the Petersfield club for secured access (i.e. without reliance on ad hoc access to school pitches) and to accommodate forecast growth from population growth. North East - A new junior rugby pitch will be provided as part of the new school sports pitches at Budds Lane. Community access at weekends should be ensured to protect access for the Alton club for junior and minirugby at weekends when the Anstey Park pitches are not playable and to allow for potential development of community rugby in the sub area in future as the population grows. <p>Hockey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North West - The rapid growth in recent seasons of the Alton Club and growth trends in the sport nationally suggest there is likely to be a need for a second hockey AGP in Alton (to EH Category 2 or 3 specification) within the strategy period, regardless as to whether floodlights are provided at the club's home pitch at Amery Hill School. The main opportunity for a second
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	<p>pitch identified in consultation is at <i>Eggar's School</i> where the school and the club have been fundraising towards a pitch for some time and a planning consent is secured.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ North East - A hockey surface AGP (EH Category 3) is included in a final phase of planned sports facilities to be provided at the new school in <i>Budds Lane</i> to be funded from the disposal of the site of the existing dual use 3G AGP (EH Category 4) at Mill Chase School. There is no current community hockey needs case for this provision. <p>Cricket</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Southern Parishes - A new cricket pitch is included within the planning agreement for recreational facilities to support new housing development on Land East of Horndean. There is no current needs case for this provision to meet community cricket demand from within the sub area. In the short term, the ECB considers this provision is most likely to serve overspill demand for third and four teams at the larger community cricket clubs in Havant and Waterloooville. ○ North East - The planning agreement for the BOSC site includes provision of a new cricket pitch. In the short term, this pitch has potential to address the needs of the Headley CC for access to a second ground for home matches on some Saturdays during the season. In the longer term, this new pitch should be sufficient to address additional demand from population growth in the area. So too should a proposal for a new junior pitch at the Lindford Sports Ground (subject to funding by Grayshott CC).
Pitch taken out of supply in one area and replace in another	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are no current proposals for playing pitch supply changes in East Hampshire under this scenario. Where pitches are being taken out of the supply and replaced, the replacement provision is within the same sub area.
Significant increase in demand in specific part of the district	<p>Scenario B of the SHMA allows for population growth across the district of 15,416 between 2011 and 2028. This forecast is based on assumptions in the EHDC & SDNP Joint Core Strategy (adopted in 2014) regarding housing land allocations for up to 10,268 new dwellings over the same period. The areas and settlements with the largest allocations for new housing supply which will drive population growth and increased demand for playing pitches are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Whitehill & Bordon - 2,935 ○ Alton - 1,731 ○ Horndean - 1,184 ○ Petersfield - 981 ○ Liphook - 790 ○ Clanfield - 523 ○ Four Marks/Medstead -500 ○ Liss - 286 ○ Rowlands Castle - 275 <p>These population increase scenarios and potential for additional demand for pitch sports need to be considered in the context of existing capacity shortfalls in these areas by sport. For youth football the increases in demand from population growth in Petersfield, Liss and Liphook will impact on existing shortfalls in supply already identified on the east side of the district. The forecast population growth in Clanfield and Horndean will similarly exacerbate the current shortfall of supply for youth football identified in Clanfield in the Southern Parishes.</p> <p>For hockey, the significant growth in Alton in particular, but also the village settlements of Four Marks & Medstead in the North West, strengthens the needs case for a second hockey surface within the strategy period.</p> <p>In the case of rugby, the growth planned in both the main towns reinforces the needs case to resolve the pitch quality issues in Anstey Park and to provide further floodlights and a fifth pitch at Penns Farm to provide capacity for further growth in the SDNP area.</p>

4. Recommendations

4.1 Introduction

Local Policy Context

The recommendations of this Playing Pitch Strategy for East Hampshire are made in the context of the relevant policies of EHDC and The South Downs National Park (SDNP) Authority (CP17 & CP18) within the adopted Joint Core Strategy to protect and improve Open Space, Sport and Recreation and Built Facilities. It will also inform the emerging review to the East Hampshire District Local Plan and the South Downs National Local Plan.

Policy CP17 requires the protection of existing open space or sport, recreation or play facility unless a surplus of provision exists in accordance with the open space and built facilities standards or an appropriate alternative would be provided at an equally accessible location.

Policy CP18 sets a minimum standard for all residential developments of the equivalent of 3.45 ha of public open space per 1,000 population. The policy also states that contributions to built facility provision will also be required to meet various standards as set out in the most up to date Open Space, Sport & Recreation Needs Assessment Study for the district, depending on the facility being provided. This existing standard will be replaced by the new standards proposed in the Open Space Study completed in parallel with this playing pitch strategy in December 2017.

The policy also states that the improvement of sport and recreation facilities will be implemented in the following ways:

- *'New sites (with the exception of those to be provided within the Whitehill & Bordon Strategic Allocation) will be allocated either through the Local Plan: Allocations, the South Downs National Park Local Plan or neighbourhood plans;*
- *All new residential development will be required to make provision for public open space that is designed to a high standard and is 'fit for purpose', either through on-site provision or by financial contribution to enhance or create off-site provision and management of open space (based on the minimum requirement of 3.45 ha per 1,000 population);*
- *Provision will be secured through developer contributions through S106 or the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) mechanisms'.*

The recommendations for the South Downs National Park sub area within East Hampshire District are also made in the context of the relevant strategic policies of The South Downs National Park Authority which is currently preparing the South Downs Local Plan. The policy of direct relevance to provision of playing pitches is Policy SD46: Recreation which states '*... development for recreational activities, environmental education and interpretation will normally be supported by the Authority provided there is a proven need, and it is of an appropriate scale and intensity and reflects the valued characteristics of the National Park*'.

Sport England Guidance - Use of Standards

With regard to playing pitches (as a typology of open space), Sport England's guidance (published in 2013) strongly advises local planning authorities to move away from the use of per capita based standards in assessing and determining quantitative needs. The new guidance advocates gathering detailed local supply and demand data and assessment of area, sport and site specific needs in order to determine which existing pitches need to be protected and enhanced and priority areas/sites for new playing pitch supply based on this detailed assessment.

The updated guidance recognises that quantitative standards have become increasingly less useful and relevant as a planning tool for playing pitches with the variation in the playing capacity of natural turf pitches (depending on their quality) and the increase in provision and use of synthetic playing surfaces which can provide much greater playing capacity than natural turf. Policy changes by the playing pitch sport governing bodies have also increased the use of artificial surfaces for competitive matches in addition to training.

Accordingly, the strategic recommendations for playing pitch provision to 2028 in East Hampshire

in this section of the report do not include a per capita quantity standard. Rather, in accordance with the current published guidance for the planning of playing pitches, recommendations are made for a minimum quality standard for playing pitches and for the protection, enhancement and provision of new playing pitches on an area and site specific basis.

National Policy Context

The recommendations are also informed by The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 74. The NPPF stipulates 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.

National policy is amplified by both regional and local policy which recognises that sports and recreation facilities are important parts of social infrastructure, providing a range of social and health benefits for communities and neighbourhoods.

4.2 Protect

- East Hampshire District Council has undertaken a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and assessed existing and future needs for playing pitch provision across the district. The firm conclusion is that there is an identified need to retain all existing playing pitches to meet either current or future needs for playing pitch sports played in the District - i.e. football, cricket, hockey, rugby union, lacrosse and archery - to 2028. Therefore in the case of all playing field sites in the district, it is recommended that NPPF Policy Paragraph 74 and policy CP17 of the Joint Core Strategy continue to be applied. Should a playing field/pitch exist in the district that is not mentioned in this Playing Pitch Strategy, its omission is not an endorsement by Sport England or the relevant national governing body of that sport of its disposal.
- These protection policies should be applied to any playing pitch sites/pitches in the district that were temporarily closed at the time the assessments were undertaken - e.g. Bordon & Oakhanger Sports Club and the sand-based astro 5/7 a-side football pitch at Alton Sports Centre. At Alton Sports Centre, the replacement pitch should be to a higher quality to meet the FA Registration standards for u7/u8 5v5 affiliated league football as a minimum.
- Knaves Mire on Broxhead Common in the North East of the district is assessed as offering little potential value as a formal playing pitch site in view of its size, poor site access from a busy road and lack of on site ancillary facilities such as WCs and parking. This site should be maintained as open space for informal recreation. Future resources for playing pitches in this area should be directed to priority playing pitch enhancement projects within the Action Plan in this neighbourhood (e.g. at Headley Recreation Ground, Mill Chase Recreation Ground and, potentially, at Hollywater Primary School/Mill Chase School playing field, subject to securing community access).
- It is recommended that the District Council and its partners actively support local community sports clubs to secure existing access in the peak period at affordable rates to playing pitches and welfare facilities on school and college sites in the peak period and, where appropriate, to extend this existing community access (e.g. through community use agreements, grant terms & conditions and/or the development planning process).
- At playing field sites in Local Authority ownership (whether County Council, District Council, Town/Parish Council), it is recommended that opportunities for transfer of playing pitches and pavilions to community clubs/sports associations should only be considered where:
 - i) The facilities are assessed as of good quality by the relevant governing bodies of sport prior to transfer;

- ii) The community organisation taking on the asset is able to demonstrate it has the capacity and resources to maintain the facilities to a good standard, meeting NGB league requirements and to deliver sports development outcomes (and this forms part of any service level agreement) and
 - iii) Opportunities for informal play (either on the subject site or on another site in the same catchment area) are fully safeguarded.
- o As there is no surplus of playing pitches in the district for community club match play and training, it is recommended that no reduction in the number of grass pitches maintained, marked and equipped for playing pitch sports at sites in Local Authority ownership should take place unless the teams that use the pitch are first successfully relocated to another grass pitch or an artificial pitch. The replacement provision should be of at least equivalent quality, in the same catchment area and available at comparable cost to similar facilities in the district. Where such a relocation of organised club/team play takes place, it is recommended the grass continue to be maintained to a level that encourages continued use for informal sport and recreation.
- o At the four school sites in the district with a playing pitch endorsed by England Hockey as suitable for hockey competition and training (EH Category 2 or 3) and accessed by community hockey clubs, it is recommended that, through the planning process, the District Council and South Downs National Park Authority encourage the schools to retain a hockey surface (as opposed to resurfacing in future as football 3G) so as to safeguard the pitch needs of the two community hockey clubs based in the district.
- o It is recommended that the District, Town and Parish councils maintain their existing revenue budget allocations for playing pitch maintenance in recognition of the contribution of playing pitches to the health and well being of local communities.

4.3 Enhance & Provide

- o It is recommended the District Council and Town and Parish councils in East Hampshire seek the advice of Hampshire County FA, the ECB and the RFU and their respective pitch advisers to secure maximum value from their respective budget allocations for maintenance of playing pitches, particularly when new pitch maintenance contract specifications are being prepared.
- o Similarly, it is recommended that the Local Authorities seek the advice of these sports bodies whenever pre-planning proposals or planning applications involving new playing pitches or ancillary facilities are brought forward or new S106 Agreements for playing pitches are drafted. This to ensure that the design, layout and management plans maximise the community value of the new facilities and that the pitch maintenance plans meet the relevant Performance Quality Standards (PQS).
- o It is recommended that pitch maintenance by community club volunteers should be supported through the provision and promotion of low cost training courses in partnership with the sports governing bodies.
- o Where feasible, it is recommended that the providers of football pitches in public parks and recreations grounds in East Hampshire use moveable football goal post systems to reduce wear and tear from informal play (particularly in goalmouths), and, where feasible, realign the pitch layouts on multi-pitch sites each season to reduce wear.
- o As a condition of planning consents for new or replacement artificial grass pitches to be used predominantly for football, it is recommended the District Council require that the facilities are tested, registered and maintained to the necessary standard for inclusion on the FA 3G Football Turf Pitch Register.
- o It is recommended that any future planning consent for an artificial grass pitch to be used for rugby union require that the pitch is tested, registered and maintained to the necessary standard for inclusion on the RFU register of World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant pitches.

- It is recommended that any future consent for an artificial grass pitch to be used for hockey require that the pitch is compliant with England Hockey's specifications for Category 3 play as a minimum.
- In accordance with Policy CP18 of the adopted Joint Core Strategy, it is recommended contributions towards the delivery of priority playing pitch facility projects for each sub area within East Hampshire are sought from all qualifying residential developments under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or through the Community Infrastructure Levy mechanism. Through the S106 mechanism, appropriate contributions should also continue to be sought for ongoing maintenance of new pitches.
- The site to receive the contribution should be located within the walk to catchment area of the development site (i.e. one mile approx.) or, if no such site exists, the next closest site in the Playing Pitch Strategy Action Plan requiring enhancement or new provision.
- The priority playing pitch sites and projects are those set out in the Action Plan current at the time the planning application is submitted. The initial priority projects are set out in Section 5. The East Hampshire Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group should review and update the Action Plan and priority projects periodically during the strategy period.

4.4 Quality Standards

Pitch carrying capacity has a direct relationship with pitch quality scores. Improved quality directly affects pitch carrying capacity. Investment in quality enhancements to pitches at existing playing pitch sites with secure community access is, usually, more cost effective than investment in new provision. For example, raising the quality of a football pitch from 'Standard' to 'Good' would enable an additional game per week to be accommodated.

Sites are identified in the Action Plan below where raising the pitch standard to the 'good' standard described below would have a significant impact on overall capacity. Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy contributions in combination with contributions towards new provision and external grants are the means of funding the necessary improvement works to ensure there is sufficient capacity in future to meet demand generated by new homes and population growth in the district.

Recommended Quality Standards for Playing Pitches

Cricket: Future standard – Good (i.e. an aggregate rating of 80% or more against ECB Non-Technical Visual Quality Assessment proforma criteria and scoring mechanism for the outfield, grass wickets, changing pavilion, artificial wickets and non-turf cricket practice nets as applicable to the site)

Football: Future Standard – Good (i.e. an aggregate rating of 80% or more against FA Non-Technical Visual Quality Assessment proforma criteria and scoring mechanism for the assessment criteria and aggregate rating scores for the playing surface and maintenance programme)

Rugby Union: Future Standard – Good (M2) rating (i.e. no action needed on maintenance) and D3 rating (i.e. no action needed on pitch drainage).

AGPs: Future Standard - Good (80% or more against Sport England Non-

5. Action Plan

5.1 Introduction

Aligning with the strategic policies and recommendation in Section 4, this final section of the Playing Pitch Strategy sets out an action plan for delivering the new provision and facility enhancement needs summarised in Section 2 based on the sport-specific assessments of need detailed in full in the Appendices.

The sites and projects recommended by the East Hampshire Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group as priorities for action in the short term (within 3 years) - subject to securing any necessary consents and funding - are identified in the table at 5.2 by sub area and sport. The sites and projects recommended for action in the longer term (3+ years) are set out in the table at 5.3.

Each project is also allocated a priority ranking of High (H), Medium (M) or Low (L).

Summary overviews of the findings of the assessment for each of the playing pitch sites in the district with community access in spring/summer 2017 are provided at Appendix E.

In accordance with the published guidance for the preparation of playing pitch strategies, it is recommended the District Council convene and chair periodic meetings of the Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group to review progress and update the Action Plan and the priority ranking of projects in the Plan to reflect material changes in the picture of supply and demand and changing scenarios.

The updates to the Action Plan should in turn inform periodic updates of the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Sport England/NGB priorities for investment through capital grant and loan programmes.

Where capital budget sums are shown, these are indicative estimates derived from Sport England Facility Cost Guidance Sheet (Second Quarter 2017).

Where sites are not in local authority ownership, implementation of the recommended actions will be subject to the cooperation of the owner/leaseholder. In addition, the actions will be subject to the necessary planning processes and to securing of the required funding, both for the initial capital development and ongoing cost of maintenance.

5.2 Short Term (1-3 years)

Site	Sport(s)	Action	Lead	Partners	Resources	Priority
SDNP						
Penns Farm Playing Field	Rugby	Floodlights to third rugby pitch	Petersfield Town Council	RFU, Petersfield RFC	Allocated in RFU Capital Programme for 2018	H
Petersfield RFC clubhouse	Rugby	Assess feasibility of shared use with youth football on Saturday mornings	Petersfield RFC	Petersfield Town Council, Petersfield Juniors FC	Club fund raising/ reserves	H
Penns Field 'B'	Rugby & Football	Additional pitches and access to welfare facilities for youth football	Petersfield Town Council	FA, Petersfield Town Juniors, RFU, Petersfield RFC	To be determined (£40k S106 allocated to date)	H
Avenue Recreation Ground	Football	Mark out youth football pitch	Petersfield Town Council	Petersfield Town Juniors	For 2018/19 season	H
Newman Collard, Liss	Football	Youth pitches drainage; feasibility of conversion of main pitch to 3G	Recreation Ground Trustees	Liss Parish Council, FA, Liss Athletic FC	IOG visit to assess	H
West Liss Recreation Ground	Football	Reconfigure pitch layout to suit youth football. Feasibility of securing adjacent	Liss Parish Council	EHDC (adjacent landowner), FA, Liss Athletic FC	c. £5k for site expansion feasibility study (a layout plan was prepared for Liss Parish Council)	H

Site	Sport(s)	Action	Lead	Partners	Resources	Priority
		land for pitches; replacement of pavilion			in Feb 2018). (£40k EHDC S106 allocated to date for pavilion replacement)	
The Glebe, Liss	Cricket & Football	Expansion of pavilion (officials and access facilities)	Liss Cricket Club	FA, ECB, Liss Athletic FC	To be determined	M
North East						
Liphook Recreation Ground	Football	Remove closed pavilions and assess feasibility of minisoccer on grass tennis courts (if no longer in use by tennis club), pitch quality improvements and pavilion extension	Bramshott & Liphook Parish Council	FA, Liphook United FC	To be determined, IOG visit to assess	M
Bohunt School	Football & Hockey	Replace AGP floodlights (planning condition); negotiate more access to grass pitches for youth football	School	FA, EHDC (Planning); Liphook United FC	Secured from housing developer to rear	H
BOSC	Football & Cricket	2 No. upgraded adult football pitches, 1 new cricket pitch (4 wickets), 2 tennis courts, pavilion	BOSC	EHDC, W&B Town Council, Headley CC	£614k Secured from Prince Philip Barracks site development S106	H
Budds Lane (new school playing field)	Football, Rugby, Cricket	Provide replacement for Mill Chase AGP, new pitches for youth football, a junior rugby pitch, NTP cricket and changing facilities with CUA	Hampshire County Council	EHDC, W&B Town Council, FA, Headley FC	Costs to be determined S106 contributions of £565k secured (Louisburg Barracks & Quebec Park)	H
Mill Chase Recreation Ground	Football	Implement IoG pitch quality recommendations	W&B Town Council	FA, Wey Valley FC	Costs to be determined - £426k S106 funding secured as Off Site Sports Pitches Contribution (Prince Philip Barracks)	H
Headley Recreation Ground	Football & Cricket	Implement IoG pitch quality recommendations; Replace NTPcricket	Headley Parish Council	FA, Headley Youth FC	Costs to be determined. £426k S106 funding (as above).	H
North West						
Amery Hill School	Hockey	Floodlights to AGP	School	EH, Alton HC	SE CAF contribution in principle	H
Alton Sports Centre	Football	new 5v5 3G pitch - ensure spec suitable for FA	EHDC	Everyone Active, FA	Reserved Matters Planning to be determined in 2018	H

Site	Sport(s)	Action	Lead	Partners	Resources	Priority
		approved u7/u8 5v5 matches				
Anstey Park	Rugby & Football	Pitch drainage or relocation	Alton Town Council	EHDC, RFU, Alton RFC, Alton FC	To be determined	H
Jubilee Sports Field	Cricket & Football	Replacement for changing pavilions & cricket clubhouse	Alton Town Council	ECB, FA, Alton CC	Circa £400k	M
Medstead Recreation Ground	Cricket & Football	Upgrade cricket practice net	Medstead Parish Council	ECB, Medstead CC		M
Four Marks Recreation Ground	Football & Cricket	Spectator barrier and hardstanding to main pitch; Develop cricket demand	Four Marks Parish Council	FA, Four Marks FC ECB, EnergiseMe		M
Southern Parishes						
St James Place, Clanfield	Football	Two No. new Youth u11/u12 9v9 youth football pitches, new pavilion (shared with bowls)	Developer	EHDC, Clanfield Parish Council, FA, Clanfield FC	Secured	H
Clanfield Junior School	Football	Access to on site WC & water to support youth football (Sat ams)	School	FA, EHDC Sports Team, Clanfield FC	To be determined	H
The Rec, Horndean/ Waterlooville	Football	Consider options for secure storage for club on site	Horndean Parish Council	Horndean Hawks FC	To be determined	H

5.2 Longer Term (3+ years)

Site	Sport(s)	Action	Lead	Partners	Resources	Priority
SDNP						
Churchers College Penns Place Playing Field/ Petersfield Town Stadium	Football & Rugby	Feasibility Study for football only or football/ rugby share 3G at Penns & relocation of Petersfield Town	Churchers College	Petersfield Town Council, Petersfield Town FC, FA	c. £15k for feasibility study, project costs to be determined	M
Bedales	Hockey	Upgrade AGP floodlights	School	EH, PetersfieldHC	To be determined	M
Love Lane Recreation Ground	Football	Drainage to youth pitches	Petersfield Town Council	FA, Petersfield Town Juniors	IOG visit to assess	M
Petersfield Heath	Cricket	Replace NT nets surface	Petersfield Town Council	ECB, Petersfield CC		L
Steep Cricket Ground	Cricket	Replace NT practice net surface	Steep Cricket Club	ECB		L
King George V Playing Field	Cricket	Review options for improvements to outfield	Froxfield Parish Council	ECB, Froxfield CC	ECB pitch adviser assessment	L
North East						
Budds Lane	Hockey	Provision of a hockey AGP with a CUA	Hampshire County Council	EHDC, EH	To be funded from proceeds of	L

Site	Sport(s)	Action	Lead	Partners	Resources	Priority
					sale of existing Mill Chase AGP	
Hollywater Primary School Field	Football	Enhancement & community use by WVFC (extension to Mill Chase RG)	Hampshire County Council	W&B Town Council, FA, Wey Valley FC	IOG visit to assess. Potential to fund from Off Site Sports Pitches S106 Contribution	M
Grayshott Sports Field	Football & Cricket	Pavilion roof repairs; review options for enhancing floodlit football training area	Grayshott Parish Council	FA, Grayshott YFC, ECB, Grayshott CC	To be determined	M
Kingsley Sports Ground	Cricket	Assess feasibility of replacement clubhouse	Kingsley United Sports Club	ECB	Feasibility costs - c. £15k	L
North West						
Eggar's School	Hockey & Football	Provision of a hockey AGP with a CUA	School	EH, Alton HC, Alton School (user)	c. £500k	M
Holybourne Sports Field	Cricket (formerly also football)	Improve outfield/ extend square	Holybourne Sports Field Trustees	ECB, Holybourne CC	ECB pitch advisor to assess	L
Ropley Recreation Ground	Cricket & Football	Feasibility of securing adjacent land to relocate senior football pitch off cricket outfield	Ropley Parish Council	FA, ECB, Ropley FC, Ropley CC	IOG visit to assess	L
Four Marks Recreation Ground	Football & Cricket	Consider feasibility of floodlighting main pitch and extending pavilion social facilities	Four Marks Parish Council	FA, Four Marks FC	To be determined	L
Binsted Recreation Ground	Football & Cricket	Expand kitchen; replace NT cricket net surface	Binsted Parish Council	FA, Binsted Juniors FC, ECB, Binsted CC (newly formed)	To be determined	L
Bentley Recreation Ground	Football & Cricket	Improve pitch maintenance, replace NT cricket pitch and practice net; Develop cricket demand	Bentley Recreation Ground Charity	Bentley Parish Council, Manor Colts Vets FC ECB, EnergiseMe		L
Wield Cricket Ground	Cricket	Replace NT practice net	Wield Cricket Club	ECB		L
Southern Parishes						
Horndean Technology		Feasibility of full size FTP in place	School	FA, various clubs	c. £500k	M

Site	Sport(s)	Action	Lead	Partners	Resources	Priority
College, Horndean		of existing 3G MUGA		including Clanfield FC, Hordean Hawks, Travaux, Hurstwood Rangers		
Land East of Horndean (Hazelton Farm)	Cricket & Football	New cricket pitch, senior football pitch and pavilion	Developer	EHDC	Secured	M
Rowlands Castle Recreation Ground	Football & Cricket	Improve football pitch quality	Rowlands Castle Parish Council	FA, Castle United FC	IOG visit to assess	M

6. Conclusion

This Playing Pitch Strategy forms an integral part of the overall Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study for East Hampshire District Council and importantly represents a key element of the evidence base for the emerging Local Plans for both East Hampshire District and for the South Downs National Park.

The strategy has identified the likely impact of the population growth currently projected on demand for pitches for team games and training for the leading pitch sports within East Hampshire. It has been established that the current supply of pitches, with the recommended project investments (including the recommendations for the AGPs for football and hockey), will provide the capacity required to meet the needs of the pitch sports in East Hampshire to 2028 (the current Local Plan period) based on population growth forecast within the adopted Joint Core Strategy.

Whilst the current and forecast population increases are accounted for within the priority projects, there is a high degree of uncertainty as to future allocations for new housing associated with the emerging South Downs Local Plan and future reviews of the East Hampshire District Local Plan. Should new allocations be made that result in substantially greater population growth than the current projections, there will be more demand for playing pitches than accounted for in this strategy. Such changes in the picture of demand should be taken into account (along with any changes in supply) in the process of periodic review and updating the strategy and action plan.