



CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

JANUARY 2024

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation Turf
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs & Opportunities Guide
BCGBA	British Crown Green Bowls Association
CCB	Cheshire Cricket Board
CFA	Cheshire Football Association
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
EA	England Athletics
ECB	England & Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
EL	England Lacrosse
EN	England Netball
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FIT	Fields in Trust
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GIS	Geographic Information System
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
GPMF	Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund
HC	Hockey Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
MUGA	Multi-use games area
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB(s)	National Governing Body (of sport)
NLS	National League System
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PIP	Pitch Improvement Programme
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RE	Rounders England
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
SADPD	Site Allocations and Development Policies Document
U	Under (related to participating age groups)

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

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

- ◀ A vision for the future protection, improvement and development of provision.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport scenarios and recommendations.
- ◀ A series of strategic objectives and recommendations.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area and site-by-site action plan that prioritises and can address key issues.
- ◀ Guidance as to how the PPOSS can be delivered.

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

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

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

The ANOG has a similar staged approach, as follows:

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

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

The PPOSS replaces the existing study for Cheshire East whilst also now covering a wider scope and additional sports. The previous iteration was completed in 2017 before being kept regularly updated (the last update was carried out in 2021).

Study area

The study area is the entire Cheshire East local authority area. However, analysis areas (or sub areas) are also used to allow for more localised analysis in addition to the assessment for the Borough as a whole. For this purpose, three areas have been established via grouping the aforementioned towns/centres together, with a further individual breakdown provided where necessary. This further breakdown differs from previous studies and is most pertinent to the sports with the highest level of participation (e.g., football and cricket) due to them being played more locally and participants being less likely to travel a significant distance to access provision.

The sub-areas are shown in the following figure and table.

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Figure 1.1: Analysis areas

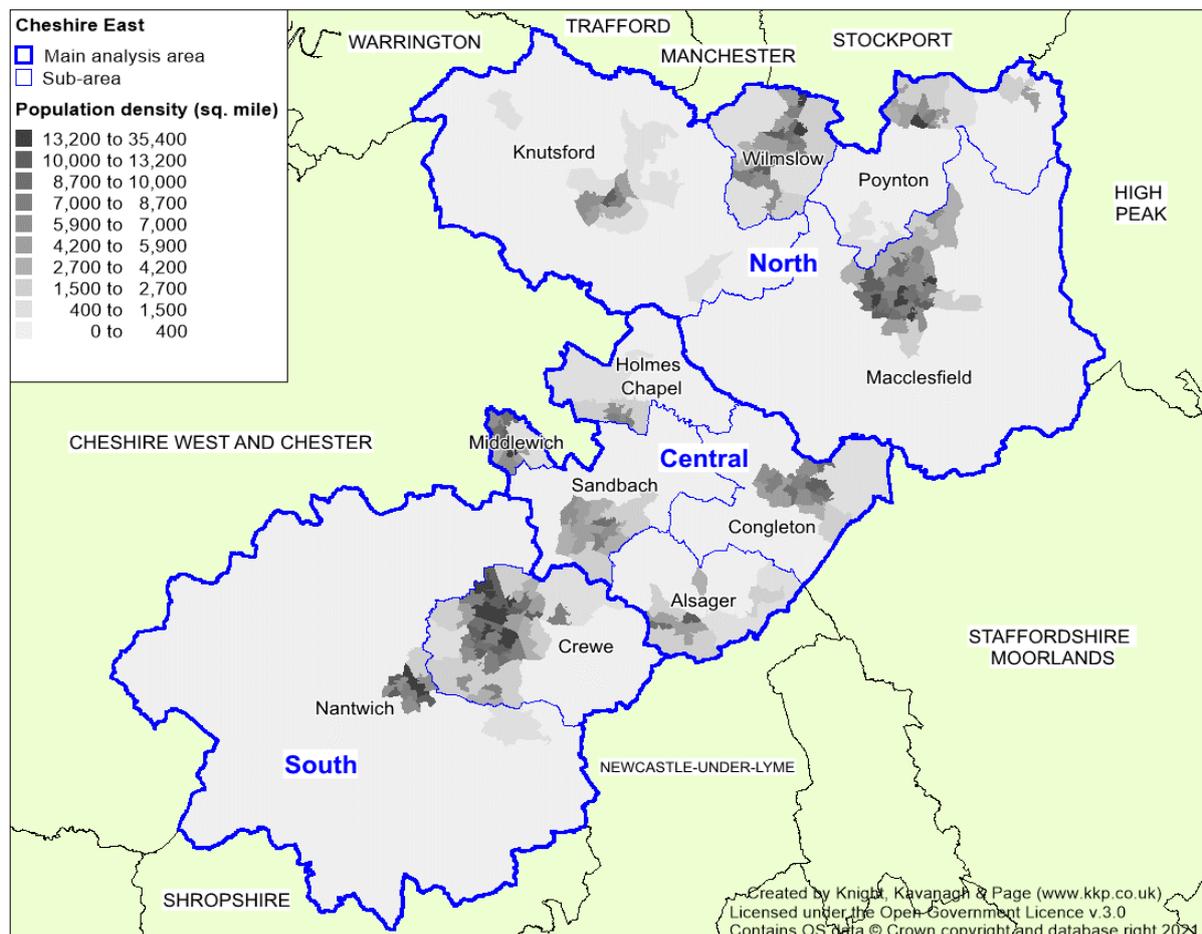


Table 1.1: Analysis area breakdown

Analysis area	Towns/centres
North	Knutsford
	Macclesfield
	Poynton
	Wilmslow
Central	Alsager
	Congleton
	Holmes Chapel
	Middlewich
	Sandbach
South	Crewe
	Nantwich

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Agreed scope

As standard, the PPOSS covers the following ‘core’ playing pitch sports, as follows:

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

In addition, other grass pitch sports are also included where supply and/or demand has been identified. In Cheshire East, this includes American football, baseball/softball, lacrosse and rounders.

Detail in relation to third generation turf (3G) pitches is also included due to the number of sports such provision can accommodate. This predominately pertains to football but is also relevant to both rugby codes and potentially American football and lacrosse.

In terms of other outdoor sports, the following are included within the scope, as agreed by the Steering Group:

- ◀ Archery
- ◀ Athletics
- ◀ Bowls
- ◀ Cycling
- ◀ Golf
- ◀ Netball
- ◀ Tennis (including padel)

Where a sport has not been included, this is because its presence has not been evidenced. However, that is not to say that the sports are not played informally, or that localised demand does not exist.

Sport England’s PPS guidance applies to football, rugby union, rugby league cricket and hockey as well as the other grass pitch sports identified. ANOG guidance applies to the remaining ‘non-pitch’ sports.

Colour coding

For reference, throughout the Strategy, the following colour coding is used in places:

Colour	Meaning
Red	Overplay or a shortfall is identified.
Amber	At capacity.
Green	Spare capacity is identified.

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PART 2: VISION AND AIMS

The vision for the Cheshire East PPOSS remains in place from the previous study to provide clear focus with desired long-term outcomes for the study. It seeks to support the Council and its partners in the creation of:

'An accessible, high quality and sustainable network of sports pitches that provides and promotes local opportunities for participation by all residents at all levels of play from grassroots to elite.'

To achieve this strategic vision, the strategy continues to have the following aims - to;

- ◀ Ensure that all valuable facilities are protected for the long term benefit of sport.
- ◀ Promote a sustainable approach to the provision of playing pitches and management of sports clubs.
- ◀ Ensure that there are sufficient facilities in the right place to meet current and projected future demand.
- ◀ Ensure that all clubs have access to affordable facilities of appropriate quality to meet current needs and longer term aspirations.
- ◀ Ensure that all providers seek to ensure all facilities meet up-to-date standards of accessibility.

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

AIM 1

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

AIM 2

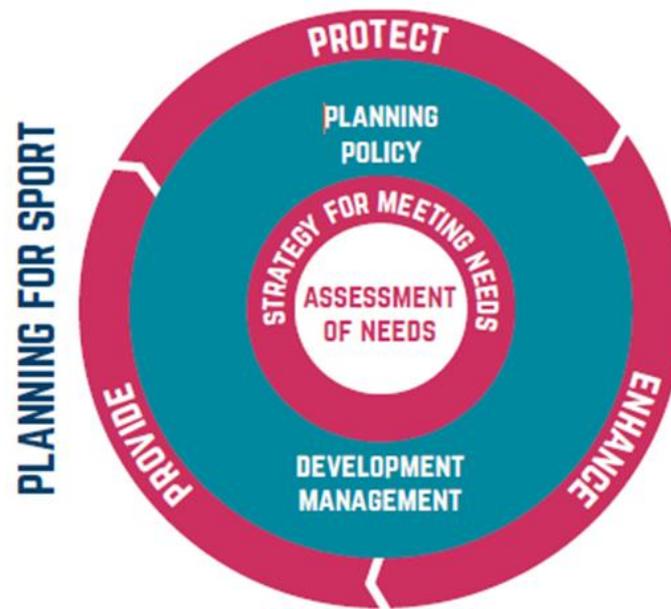
To **enhance** outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites.

AIM 3

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

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Figure 2.1: Sport England themes



Source: Sport England, Planning for Sport Guidance (2019)

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PART 3: HEADLINE FINDINGS

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

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

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

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

Table 3.1: Current quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
North	Knutsford	Adult	1 match equivalent session
		Youth 11v11	7.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	4 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity
	Macclesfield	Adult	At capacity
		Youth 11v11	7 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	8 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity
	Poynton	Adult	0.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	At capacity
		Youth 9v9	At capacity
		Mini 7v7	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity
	Wilmslow	Adult	1.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	6.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	2 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity

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Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/demand balance
Central	Alsager	Adult	1.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	At capacity
		Youth 9v9	At capacity
		Mini 7v7	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity
	Congleton	Adult	1.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	6 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	At capacity
		Mini 7v7	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity
	Holmes Chapel	Adult	0.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	At capacity
		Mini 7v7	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity
	Middlewich	Adult	0.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	0.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	At capacity
		Mini 7v7	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity
Sandbach	Adult	0.5 match equivalent sessions	
	Youth 11v11	At capacity	
	Youth 9v9	At capacity	
	Mini 7v7	At capacity	
	Mini 5v5	At capacity	
South	Crewe	Adult	3 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 11v11	5.5 match equivalent sessions
		Youth 9v9	3 match equivalent sessions
		Mini 7v7	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity
	Nantwich	Adult	At capacity
		Youth 11v11	At capacity
		Youth 9v9	At capacity
		Mini 5v5	At capacity
Cheshire East	Adult	5.5 match equivalent sessions	
	Youth 11v11	38 match equivalent sessions	
	Youth 9v9	11 match equivalent sessions	
	Mini 7v7	At capacity	
	Mini 5v5	At capacity	
Football – 3G pitches			
North	Knutsford	Full size	1.25 additional 11v11 3G pitches
	Macclesfield	Full size	2.5 additional 11v11 3G pitches
	Poynton	Full size	0.75 additional 11v11 3G pitches
	Wilmslow	Full size	1.5 additional 11v11 3G pitches
Central	Alsager	Full size	At capacity
	Congleton	Full size	At capacity
	Holmes Chapel	Full size	At capacity
	Middlewich	Full size	At capacity
	Sandbach	Full size	0.75 additional 11v11 3G pitches
South	Crewe	Full size	2 additional 11v11 3G pitches
	Nantwich	Full size	0.5 additional 11v11 3G pitches

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Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/demand balance
Cheshire East		Full size	7.5 additional 11v11 3G pitches
Cricket pitches			
North	Knutsford	Senior (Saturday)	24 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	At capacity
		Senior (midweek)	8 match equivalent sessions
	Macclesfield	Senior (Saturday)	29 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	13 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (midweek)	7 match equivalent sessions
	Poynton	Senior (Saturday)	51 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	51 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (midweek)	51 match equivalent sessions
	Wilmslow	Senior (Saturday)	52 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	52 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (midweek)	52 match equivalent sessions
Central	Alsager	Senior (Saturday)	31 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	31 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (midweek)	31 match equivalent sessions
	Congleton	Senior (Saturday)	15 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	15 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (midweek)	15 match equivalent sessions
	Holmes Chapel	Senior (Saturday)	4 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	4 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (midweek)	4 match equivalent sessions
	Middlewich	Senior (Saturday)	At capacity
		Senior (Sunday)	At capacity
		Senior (midweek)	At capacity
Sandbach	Senior (Saturday)	22 match equivalent sessions	
	Senior (Sunday)	2 match equivalent sessions	
	Senior (midweek)	22 match equivalent sessions	
South	Crewe	Senior (Saturday)	12 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	12 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (midweek)	20 match equivalent sessions
	Nantwich	Senior (Saturday)	10 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	26 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (midweek)	2 match equivalent sessions
Cheshire East		Senior (Saturday)	226 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (Sunday)	130 match equivalent sessions
		Senior (midweek)	166 match equivalent sessions
Rugby union – grass pitches			
North		Senior	5 match equivalent sessions
Central		Senior	3.25 match equivalent sessions
South		Senior	1 match equivalent session
Cheshire East		Senior	7.25 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league – grass pitches			
North		Senior	No current supply or demand
Central		Senior	No current supply or demand
South		Senior	No current supply or demand
Cheshire East		Senior	No current supply or demand
Hockey - AGPs			
North		Full size	Sufficient supply; however, quality improvements are required.
Central		Full size	Sufficient supply; however, quality improvements are required.

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Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/demand balance
South		Full size	Sufficient supply; however, quality improvements are required.
Cheshire East		Full size	Sufficient supply; however, quality improvements are required.
Lacrosse – grass pitches			
North		Senior	At capacity.
Central		Senior	No current supply or demand.
South		Senior	No current supply or demand.
Cheshire East		Senior	At capacity.
American football – grass pitches			
North		Senior	No current supply or demand.
Central		Senior	No current supply or demand.
South		Senior	At capacity.
Cheshire East		Senior	At capacity.
Rounders – grass pitches			
North		Diamonds	No current supply or demand.
Central		Diamonds	No current community demand.
South		Diamonds	No current community demand.
Cheshire East		Diamonds	No current community demand.
Baseball/softball – grass pitches			
North		Diamonds	No current supply or demand.
Central		Diamonds	No current supply or demand.
South		Diamonds	No current supply or demand.
Cheshire East		Diamonds	No current supply or demand.

The following table identifies the quantitative findings overall across Cheshire East after taking into account future demand. This is based on a variety of factors, including population growth and club aspirations, up to the period until 2030 in line with the Council's emerging Local Plan.

Table 3.2: Future quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Sport	Pitch/facility type	Future supply/ demand balance (2030)
Football	Adult	2.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 11v11	42 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	14 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	2.5 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 5v5	1.5 match equivalent sessions
3G pitches	Full size	8.25 match equivalent sessions
Cricket	Senior (Saturday)	286 match equivalent sessions
	Senior (Sunday)	142 match equivalent sessions
	Senior (midweek)	198 match equivalent sessions
Rugby union	Senior	15.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Senior	No future supply or demand identified
Hockey	Full size	Sufficient supply providing quality improvements take place across poor quality pitches that are currently in use.
Lacrosse	Senior	Poynton Lacrosse Club requires access to increased pitch capacity.
American football	Senior	At capacity.
Rounders	Diamonds	No identified future demand.
Baseball/softball	Diamonds	BSUK identifies that future demand could exist in the area.

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

Table 3.3: *Headline findings (non-pitch)*

Sport	Headline findings
Tennis	For club-based tennis, four clubs (Croftside TC, Lindow LTC, Pownall Park TC and Prestbury TC) have potential capacity issues through using LTA guidelines. However, none of these clubs report any capacity issues themselves, and all remaining clubs have spare capacity, which suggests that supply is sufficient to meet such demand across the Borough. For non-club courts, whilst no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, it is clear that the existing supply can be improved through roll-out of LTA products and, where required, quality improvements. Capacity for all tennis courts would also increase via the installation of sports lighting, meaning this should be explored where it is deemed necessary.
Netball	The current stock of netball courts requires investment and need to be better utilised in order to adequately accommodate the demand that exists. This can be achieved via securing tenure at key, well used sites, gaining access to a greater number of sites, especially where multiple courts are provided, improving quality, and through installing sports lighting where such provision would accommodate and attract greater levels of demand.
Bowls	Overall supply is considered sufficient to meet requirements, especially when factoring in the presence of the unused greens. However, at localised level, some sites are oversubscribed, meaning focus should be placed on these to ensure that demand can continue to be adequately accommodated.
Archery	There is currently insufficient provision to adequately cater for archery demand due to capacity pressures existing at Alsager Company of Archers and because North Cheshire Bowmen requires a larger grass area. The outdoor archery range operated by National Archery is not affiliated to Archery GB.
Cycling	Relatively high demand for cycling is identified within Cheshire East, especially when accounting for latent demand. Whilst most of this will fall outside of the club environment and will not require dedicated provision, protecting and sustaining what is provided at Tipkinder Park (Shanaze Reade BMX Track), Weston Pump Track and Windmill Park should be seen as particularly key given the off-road facilities offered. The creation of formal provision in the Central Analysis Area could also be explored to better accommodate demand from across the Borough.
Athletics	Cheshire East is relatively well provided for in relation to athletics tracks, with two synthetic 400-metre facilities provided and with these covering both the northern and southern areas of the Borough. However, demand is also notably high given that both have clubs attached to them, with a large volume of other clubs also existing. As such, priority should be placed on protecting the provision, with quality improvements also required within the lifespan of this study to ensure they remain sufficient to accommodate the level of demand received. In addition, the creation of an additional formal athletics facility could also be explored in the Central Analysis Area given that it is currently without provision – this could be tied into England Athletics new generation of tracks (mini/active/compact tracks).
Golf	Supply is sufficient to meet demand; however, it must be noted that membership levels are well above the national average. This means that some sites will have capacity pressures that would only be amplified if any sites were to be lost. As such, there is a clear need to protect all existing provision and to support sites to ensure that any future demand can be absorbed.

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Conclusion

The existing position for all sports is either that demand is being met or that there is a shortfall, whereas the future position shows the exacerbation of shortfalls and the creation of additional shortfalls for some pitch/facility types and in some areas where demand is currently being met.

Where spare capacity exists or where demand is being met, this does not equate to a surplus of provision, with any spare capacity instead considered as a solution to overcoming shortfalls. As such, there is a clear need to protect all existing provision until all demand is met, or there is a requirement to replace provision to an equal or better quantity and quality before it is lost. This is in line with national and local planning policy and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy.

Notwithstanding the above, for the most part, the current shortfalls identified can be met by better utilising current provision. This can be achieved via methods such as improving quality, pitch re-configuration, installing additional sports lighting, enabling access to existing unused provision, such as at unavailable school sites, and bringing disused sites back into use. That being said, there could be a need for some new provision in specific areas to completely alleviate existing and future deficits, especially if other forms of eradicating the shortfalls are not possible (e.g., financially) or where they are not the preferred approach.

In relation to football, there is also a specific shortfall of 3G pitches that can only be met through increased provision. This is particularly the case when also factoring in future demand.

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PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

The included scenarios focus on the impact that they will have on the shortfalls and key issues identified and how they can be overcome. However, whilst each can improve the picture to a greater or lesser extent, it should be noted that carrying out some scenarios to the fullest degree is likely to be unviable and that a combination of actions will instead be required to ensure that all current and future demand can be met.

For some sports, no scenarios are included, although that is not to say that no action is required. Instead, recommendations are clear without the requirement for scenarios to be tested.

Football – grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Football – supply and demand summary

- ◀ In total, 17 pitches display some level of actual spare capacity across 11 sites, equating to 13.5 match equivalent sessions, whereas 39 pitches across 22 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 57 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ Overall, it is determined that there is current and future spare capacity for adult football and a significant shortfall of capacity for both youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 football, whilst mini football is at capacity.
- ◀ There is now a larger shortfall of youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches when compared to 2021 findings, although previous shortfalls of adult and mini pitches have been eradicated.
- ◀ For adult football, the improved picture is seemingly a consequence of many youth teams transferring demand from adult pitches to youth pitches (resulting in the increased youth pitch shortfalls), whereas for mini pitches it is due to an increased level of activity taking place via 3G pitches.

Football – supply summary

- ◀ The audit identifies 310 grass football pitches within Cheshire East across 172 sites, with 250 pitches available for community use across 136 sites.
- ◀ Overall, since the 2021 PPS study, the total number of pitches has decreased by 10%.
- ◀ There are seven disused sites identified that have historically offered football pitches.
- ◀ Future provision could be established at Land North of Glastonbury Drive as well as at the Crown Estates site in Knutsford, as part of the Garden Village development in Handforth, and at Egerton Youth Club.
- ◀ 30 teams (representing 4% of demand) are currently without security of tenure at their venues, including Knutsford FC following the expiration of its lease agreement.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches, 130 are managed by education operators, 85 by the Council or its leisure provider, 32 by clubs and three by other entities.
- ◀ 24 community available pitches are assessed as good quality, 165 as standard and 61 as poor.
- ◀ There are 91 pitches not serviced by accessible changing accommodation, whilst 52 are serviced by poor quality facilities.

Football - demand summary

- ◀ A total of 776 teams across 82 clubs are identified as playing within Cheshire East, with this equating to 136 senior men's, 24 senior women's, 332 youth boys', 60 youth girls' and 224 mini soccer teams.
- ◀ Since the previous study was last updated in 2021, the total number of teams has increased from 692 teams to 776 teams, representing a growth of 84 teams, which is substantial.

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- ◀ Overall, 57 teams are exported outside of Cheshire East to fulfil match demand, although this is predominately due to accessing central venue structures.
- ◀ Many teams import demand into Cheshire East, which is also a consequence of central venues being used by leagues such as the Alexandra Soccer League and the South Cheshire Youth League.
- ◀ Seven clubs indicate that they could field more teams if they had access to more pitches (latent/unmet demand).
- ◀ Team generation rates predict an increase amounting to six adult, eight youth 11v11, six youth 9v9, five mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 teams, whilst nine clubs have aspirations to grow by a total of 59 teams.
- ◀ Crewe FC, Holmes Chapel Hurricanes FC, Nantwich Town FC and Sandbach United FC also express an aspiration to grow but do not quantify this potential.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

In total, there are 40 pitches in Cheshire East across 23 sites that are overplayed by a combined total of 57 match equivalent sessions per week. Improving quality of such provision will increase capacity across the sites and as a consequence reduce both current and future shortfalls across the Borough.

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

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

Table 4.1: Overplay if all overplayed pitches were good quality (match equivalent sessions)

Site ID	Site name	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
34	Congleton High School	Congleton	Youth (11v11)	2	Standard	0.5	3.5
35	Congleton Road	Macclesfield	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	1	2
43	Eaton Bank Academy	Congleton	Youth (11v11)	2	Standard	5	1
44	Egerton Youth Club	Knutsford	Adult	1	Good	1.5	1.5
			Youth (11v11)	3	Standard	7	1
			Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	4	2
58	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Holmes Chapel	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	0.5
			Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	5	3

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
61	Jim Evison Playing Fields	Wilmslow	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	2	0
			Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	2	0
69	Lacey Green Pavilion	Wilmslow	Youth (11v11)	2	Poor	3	3
75	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Adult	3	Poor	1	5
84	Middlewich Town Football Club	Middlewich	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	0.5
107	Sandbach Community Football Centre	Sandbach	Adult	2	Good	0.5	0.5
117	St John's Road	Congleton	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	2.5
128	The Macclesfield Academy/Macclesfield College	Macclesfield	Youth (11v11)	2	Standard	1.5	2.5
			Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	0.5
130	The Peacock Sports Ground	Crewe	Youth (11v11)	2	Standard	5.5	1.5
132	Tytherington Pitches (Rugby Drive)	Macclesfield	Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	5	3
133	Upcast Lane	Wilmslow	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1.5
144	Eric Swan Sports Ground	Crewe	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
151	All Hallows Catholic College	Macclesfield	Youth (11v11)	2	Poor	1.5	4.5
191	Hurdsfield Community Primary School	Macclesfield	Youth (9v9)	1	Poor	1.5	1.5
199	Middlewich Primary School	Middlewich	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
248	Jasmine Park	Macclesfield	Youth (11v11)	2	Standard	3.5	2.5
253	Alsager Sports Hub	Alsager	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
260	Iford Playing Fields (Mobberley)	Knutsford	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	2.5

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
268	Gawsworth Primary School	Macclesfield	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	2.5

As seen, a large proportion of pitches could accommodate current demand if quality improved to good, with only 13 of the 40 remaining overplayed. These are identified at All Hallows Catholic College, Congleton High School, Eaton Bank Academy, Egerton Youth Club, Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre, Hurdsfield Community Primary School, Middlewich Primary School, Sandbach Community Football Centre, The Macclesfield Academy, The Peacock Sports Ground and Tytherington Pitches. These receive particularly high levels of demand, and in some cases, quality is already good (i.e., at Sandbach Community Football Centre).

Improving quality as set out above will eradicate existing pitch shortfalls across youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches on a Borough-wide basis, with overall spare capacity therefore created. In addition, spare capacity of adult pitches would increase, whilst both mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches would remain at capacity.

Table 4.2: Impact on supply and demand if quality of overplayed pitches improved to good

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
Football – grass pitches				
North	Knutsford	Adult	1	1
		Youth 11v11	7.5	1.5
		Youth 9v9	4	2
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Macclesfield	Adult	0	0
		Youth 11v11	7	7.5
		Youth 9v9	8	1.5
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Poynton	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	0	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Wilmslow	Adult	1.5	1.5
		Youth 11v11	6.5	4.5
		Youth 9v9	2	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
Central	Alsager	Adult	1.5	3.5
		Youth 11v11	0	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Congleton	Adult	1.5	1.5
		Youth 11v11	6	0.5
		Youth 9v9	0	0

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Holmes Chapel	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	5	3
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Middlewich	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	0.5	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Sandbach	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	0	0
Youth 9v9		0	0	
Mini 7v7		0	0	
Mini 5v5		0	0	
South	Crewe	Adult	3	5
		Youth 11v11	5.5	1.5
		Youth 9v9	3	3
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Nantwich	Adult	0	6
		Youth 11v11	0	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
Cheshire East		Adult	5.5	17.5
		Youth 11v11	38	9.5
		Youth 9v9	11	1
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0

In addition, the future shortfall of youth 11v11 pitches would be eradicated and spare capacity would be produced, whilst future spare capacity of adult pitches would increase significantly. Each remaining pitch type would still display a future shortfall, as shown in the table below.

Table 4.3: Future supply and demand if quality of overplayed pitches improved to good quality

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	2.5	14
Youth 11v11	42	5.5
Youth 9v9	14	2
Mini 7v7	2.5	2.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	1.5

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Providing security of tenure

Currently, 128 match equivalent sessions per week are played on unsecured pitches across Cheshire East, which is a substantial amount. If these pitches were to fall out of use, on a Borough-wide level, shortfalls would exist across all pitch types and in most sub areas.

Table 4.4: Current supply and demand balance without unsecure sites

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
Football – grass pitches				
North	Knutsford	Adult	1	2
		Youth 11v11	7.5	8.5
		Youth 9v9	4	5
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Macclesfield	Adult	0	2
		Youth 11v11	7	13
		Youth 9v9	8	14
		Mini 7v7	0	3
		Mini 5v5	0	3
	Poynton	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	0	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	1
		Mini 5v5	0	3
	Wilmslow	Adult	1.5	1.5
		Youth 11v11	6.5	6.5
		Youth 9v9	2	4
		Mini 7v7	0	6
		Mini 5v5	0	4
Central	Alsager	Adult	1.5	1.5
		Youth 11v11	0	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	2
		Mini 5v5	0	1
	Congleton	Adult	1.5	1.5
		Youth 11v11	6	6
		Youth 9v9	0	1
		Mini 7v7	0	2
		Mini 5v5	0	1
	Holmes Chapel	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	5	7
		Youth 9v9	0	3
		Mini 7v7	0	2
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Middlewich	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	0.5	1
		Youth 9v9	0	2
		Mini 7v7	0	1
		Mini 5v5	0	0
Sandbach	Adult	0.5	0.5	
	Youth 11v11	0	0	

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	1
South	Crewe	Adult	3	1.5
		Youth 11v11	5.5	8.5
		Youth 9v9	3	1
		Mini 7v7	0	2
		Mini 5v5	0	4
	Nantwich	Adult	0	4
		Youth 11v11	0	5
		Youth 9v9	0	2
		Mini 7v7	0	5
		Mini 5v5	0	1
Cheshire East	Adult	5.5	3.5	
	Youth 11v11	38	55.5	
	Youth 9v9	11	28	
	Mini 7v7	0	24	
	Mini 5v5	0	18	

In addition, future shortfalls would be substantial for all pitch types. This shows the importance of securing long-term security of tenure at sites that do not currently provide this.

Table 4.5: Future supply and demand without unsecured sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	2.5	6.5
Youth 11v11	42	59.5
Youth 9v9	14	31
Mini 7v7	2.5	26.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	19.5

Conversely, 64.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity per week are currently discounted due to some sites having unsecure tenure. As such, securing tenure across these would provide increased levels of spare capacity which would then reduce existing shortfalls.

Across Cheshire East as a whole, if tenure was secured at all community available sites, a shortfall of youth 11v11 pitches would remain, although at a diminished level, whereas shortfall for youth 9v9 pitches would be alleviated. Furthermore, spare capacity would be created on mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches, whilst spare capacity would increase on adult pitches.

Table 4.6: Current supply and demand balance with all sites secured

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
Football – grass pitches				
North	Knutsford	Adult	1	0
		Youth 11v11	7.5	6.5
		Youth 9v9	4	4

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	
		Mini 7v7	0	0	
		Mini 5v5	0	0	
	Macclesfield	Adult	0	1	
		Youth 11v11	7	6	
		Youth 9v9	8	7	
		Mini 7v7	0	3	
		Mini 5v5	0	4	
		Poynton	Adult	0.5	0.5
	Poynton	Youth 11v11	0	0	
		Youth 9v9	0	0	
		Mini 7v7	0	1	
		Mini 5v5	0	3	
		Wilmslow	Adult	1.5	1.5
			Youth 11v11	6.5	6.5
	Youth 9v9		2	0	
	Mini 7v7		0	1	
	Mini 5v5		0	3	
	Central	Alsager	Adult	1.5	1.5
			Youth 11v11	0	0
Youth 9v9			0	0	
Mini 7v7			0	0	
Mini 5v5			0	1	
Congleton		Adult	1.5	1.5	
		Youth 11v11	6	6	
		Youth 9v9	0	1	
		Mini 7v7	0	3	
		Mini 5v5	0	1	
Holmes Chapel		Adult	0.5	0.5	
		Youth 11v11	5	3	
		Youth 9v9	0	3	
		Mini 7v7	0	2	
		Mini 5v5	0	0	
Middlewich		Adult	0.5	0.5	
		Youth 11v11	0.5	0.5	
		Youth 9v9	0	1	
		Mini 7v7	0	0	
		Mini 5v5	0	0	
Sandbach	Adult	0.5	0.5		
	Youth 11v11	0	0		
	Youth 9v9	0	0		
	Mini 7v7	0	0		
	Mini 5v5	0	1		
South	Crewe	Adult	3	4	
		Youth 11v11	5.5	3.5	
		Youth 9v9	3	3	
		Mini 7v7	0	1	
		Mini 5v5	0	1	
	Nantwich	Adult	0	0.5	
		Youth 11v11	0	5	
		Youth 9v9	0	2	
		Mini 7v7	0	5	

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
		Mini 5v5	0	1
Cheshire East		Adult	5.5	10
		Youth 11v11	38	27
		Youth 9v9	11	0
		Mini 7v7	0	17
		Mini 5v5	0	15

In addition, the future shortfall across Cheshire East of youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 match equivalent sessions would reduce, whilst spare capacity would exist on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches.

Table 4.7: Future supply and demand with tenure secured at all sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	2.5	7
Youth 11v11	42	31
Youth 9v9	14	3
Mini 7v7	2.5	13.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	13.5

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that this scenario assumes that any increased usage of relevant sites will not compromise on existing quality (as this would reduce capacity). Schools in particular are often reluctant to commit to offering provision to the community as they want to preserve quality for school use, meaning that this is something that will need to be overcome.

Of particular focus should be unavailable and unsecure sites that offer a large quantity of pitches as securing access to these would be most impactful. Examples include Brine Leas School, Malbank School & Sixth Form College, Poynton High School, The Macclesfield Academy/Macclesfield College, Wilmslow High School and Sandbach School (Boys).

Actioning each of the above scenarios

Via a combination of improving pitch quality at overplayed sites and at LFFP sites, as well as securing tenure, all current shortfalls in Cheshire East would be alleviated on a Borough-wide basis. This is shown below.

Table 4.8: Impact of actioning all scenarios

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
Football – grass pitches				
North	Knutsford	Adult	1	0
		Youth 11v11	7.5	2.5
		Youth 9v9	4	2
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Macclesfield	Adult	0	1

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
		Youth 11v11	7	14.5
		Youth 9v9	8	2.5
		Mini 7v7	0	3
		Mini 5v5	0	4
	Poynton	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	0	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	1
		Mini 5v5	0	3
	Wilmslow	Adult	1.5	1.5
		Youth 11v11	6.5	4.5
		Youth 9v9	2	0
		Mini 7v7	0	1
		Mini 5v5	0	3
	Central	Alsager	Adult	1.5
Youth 11v11			0	0
Youth 9v9			0	0
Mini 7v7			0	1
Mini 5v5			0	1
Congleton		Adult	1.5	3.5
		Youth 11v11	6	5.5
		Youth 9v9	0	1
		Mini 7v7	0	2
		Mini 5v5	0	1
Holmes Chapel		Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	5	1
		Youth 9v9	0	6
		Mini 7v7	0	2
		Mini 5v5	0	0
Middlewich		Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	0.5	2.5
		Youth 9v9	0	4
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
Sandbach	Adult	0.5	0.5	
	Youth 11v11	0	0	
	Youth 9v9	0	0	
	Mini 7v7	0	0	
	Mini 5v5	0	1	
South	Crewe	Adult	3	8
		Youth 11v11	5.5	0.5
		Youth 9v9	3	6
		Mini 7v7	0	1
		Mini 5v5	0	1
	Nantwich	Adult	0	14.5
		Youth 11v11	0	5
		Youth 9v9	0	2
		Mini 7v7	0	5
		Mini 5v5	0	1
Cheshire East		Adult	5.5	40
		Youth 11v11	38	42.5

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
		Youth 9v9	11	19.5
		Mini 7v7	0	19
		Mini 5v5	0	15

Some localised shortfalls would still be prevalent in Knutsford and Sandbach; however, this related to only one pitch type for each. Furthermore, enough spare capacity would exist on other pitch types to alleviate this via pitch re-configuration.

In addition, all identified future shortfalls across the Borough would also be eradicated, with considerable spare capacity created on each pitch type, as shown below.

Table 4.9: Future supply and demand if each scenarios were actioned

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)	
	Future total	Potential future total
Adult	2.5	37
Youth 11v11	42	38.5
Youth 9v9	14	16.5
Mini 7v7	2.5	11
Mini 5v5	1.5	12

Accounting for club future demand aspirations

During consultation, eight clubs report aspirations to increase its number of teams that they provide, equating to a predicted growth of 52 teams. This has previously been discounted from calculations as it is considered to be more aspirational than future growth predicted via population growth; however, the table below explores the impact if such demand is realised.

Table 4.10: Supply and demand with club future demand aspirations accounted for

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
Football – grass pitches				
North	Knutsford	Adult	1	2
		Youth 11v11	7.5	8
		Youth 9v9	4	4
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0.5
	Macclesfield	Adult	0	0
		Youth 11v11	7	7
		Youth 9v9	8	8
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Poynton	Adult	0.5	3.5
		Youth 11v11	0	3.5
		Youth 9v9	0	3
		Mini 7v7	0	2.5
Mini 5v5		0	2.5	
Wilmslow	Adult	1.5	0	

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
		Youth 11v11	6.5	9
		Youth 9v9	2	4
		Mini 7v7	0	1
		Mini 5v5	0	1
Central	Alsager	Adult	1.5	1.5
		Youth 11v11	0	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Congleton	Adult	1.5	1.5
		Youth 11v11	6	6
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Holmes Chapel	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	5	5
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Middlewich	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	0.5	0.5
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
Sandbach	Adult	0.5	0.5	
	Youth 11v11	0	0	
	Youth 9v9	0	0	
	Mini 7v7	0	0	
	Mini 5v5	0	0	
South	Crewe	Adult	3	3
		Youth 11v11	5.5	6
		Youth 9v9	3	3
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Nantwich	Adult	0	0
		Youth 11v11	0	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
Cheshire East		Adult	5.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	38	45
		Youth 9v9	11	16
		Mini 7v7	0	3.5
		Mini 5v5	0	4

As seen, across Cheshire East, spare capacity would no longer exist on adult pitches and a shortfall would be evident on all pitch types. However, carrying out the scenarios previously referenced would still be sufficient to accommodate this level of growth across Cheshire East as a whole, notwithstanding some increased localised shortfalls.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.11: Impact of future demand aspirations in addition to actioning other scenarios

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
Football – grass pitches				
North	Knutsford	Adult	1	1
		Youth 11v11	7.5	2
		Youth 9v9	4	2
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0.5
	Macclesfield	Adult	0	1
		Youth 11v11	7	14.5
		Youth 9v9	8	2.5
		Mini 7v7	0	3
		Mini 5v5	0	4
	Poynton	Adult	0.5	1.5
		Youth 11v11	0	2.5
		Youth 9v9	0	3
		Mini 7v7	0	0.5
		Mini 5v5	0	3.5
	Wilmslow	Adult	1.5	3
		Youth 11v11	6.5	13
		Youth 9v9	2	0
		Mini 7v7	0	3
		Mini 5v5	0	5
Central	Alsager	Adult	1.5	3.5
		Youth 11v11	0	0
		Youth 9v9	0	0
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	1
	Congleton	Adult	1.5	3.5
		Youth 11v11	6	5.5
		Youth 9v9	0	1
		Mini 7v7	0	3
		Mini 5v5	0	1
	Holmes Chapel	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	5	1
		Youth 9v9	0	6
		Mini 7v7	0	2
		Mini 5v5	0	0
	Middlewich	Adult	0.5	0.5
		Youth 11v11	0.5	2.5
		Youth 9v9	0	4
		Mini 7v7	0	0
		Mini 5v5	0	0
Sandbach	Adult	0.5	0.5	
	Youth 11v11	0	0	
	Youth 9v9	0	0	
	Mini 7v7	0	0	
	Mini 5v5	0	1	
South	Crewe	Adult	3	8
		Youth 11v11	5.5	0
		Youth 9v9	3	6

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
		Mini 7v7	0	1
		Mini 5v5	0	1
	Nantwich	Adult	0	14.5
		Youth 11v11	0	5
		Youth 9v9	0	2
		Mini 7v7	0	5
		Mini 5v5	0	1
Cheshire East	Adult	5.5	23.5	
	Youth 11v11	38	59	
	Youth 9v9	11	24	
	Mini 7v7	0	2	
	Mini 5v5	0	0	

Converting pitch types

Currently, 11 sites across Cheshire East contain adult pitches that are being used by youth 11v11 teams (U16s). This means they are playing on the incorrect pitch type, although this is relatively common across the Country (the number doing it in Cheshire East has significantly declined over recent years). The sites in question are:

- ✦ Alsager Sports Hub
- ✦ Bunbury Playing Field
- ✦ Chorley Hall
- ✦ Haslington Playing Fields
- ✦ Jim Evison Playing Fields
- ✦ King George V Playing Fields
- ✦ Manchester Road (Knutsford Football Club)
- ✦ Mary Dendy Playing Fields
- ✦ Middlewich Town Football Club
- ✦ Mount Vernon
- ✦ Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club

Of these, the pitches at Haslington Playing Fields and Chorley Hall are used solely for youth 11v11 football. These should therefore be converted as no adult teams will be adversely affected.

Similarly, Mary Dendy Playing Fields, King George V Playing Fields and Jim Evison Playing Fields have enough adult pitches to accommodate the adult football being played at the sites even if one was to be converted to better accommodate the youth 11v11 activity.

The remaining six sites are not overly suitable for conversion. Instead, the youth 11v11 teams playing at the venues should be encouraged, where possible, to transfer demand to alternative sites. This, however, will rely on other scenarios being carried out (e.g., pitch quality improvements and securing tenure). Pitch hire costs may also be prohibitive.

Additional pitches

Should the previously mentioned scenarios be actioned, this would result in there being no requirement for new pitches to be established (other than those that may be needed to, for example, support housing growth). However, this is only if quality improvements and securing tenure across the relevant sites is achievable.

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As a guide, the table below explores how many additional pitches may be needed if no other scenarios were actioned. This shows a theoretical requirement for 49 pitches, equating to four adult, 34 youth 11v11 and 11 youth 9v9 pitches. Furthermore, all of these pitches would need to be provided to at least standard quality and offer long-term security of tenure.

Table 4.12: Potential future requirement for new pitches (by sub area)

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Number of new pitches potentially required	Number of disused pitches
Football – grass pitches					
North	Knutsford	Adult	1	1	-
		Youth 11v11	7.5	8	-
		Youth 9v9	4	4	-
		Mini 7v7	0	-	1
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-
	Macclesfield	Adult	0	-	-
		Youth 11v11	7	7	1
		Youth 9v9	8	8	1
		Mini 7v7	0	-	3
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-
	Poynton	Adult	0.5	-	-
		Youth 11v11	0	-	1
		Youth 9v9	0	-	-
		Mini 7v7	0	-	-
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-
	Wilmslow	Adult	1.5	-	1
		Youth 11v11	6.5	7	-
		Youth 9v9	2	2	-
		Mini 7v7	0	-	-
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-
Central	Alsager	Adult	1.5	--	1
		Youth 11v11	0	-	1
		Youth 9v9	0	-	-
		Mini 7v7	0	-	-
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-
	Congleton	Adult	1.5	-	-
		Youth 11v11	6	-	-
		Youth 9v9	0	-	-
		Mini 7v7	0	-	-
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-
	Holmes Chapel	Adult	0.5	1	1
		Youth 11v11	5	5	-
		Youth 9v9	0	-	-
		Mini 7v7	0	-	-
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-
	Middlewich	Adult	0.5	1	-
		Youth 11v11	0.5	1	-
		Youth 9v9	0	-	-
		Mini 7v7	0	-	-
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-
Sandbach	Adult	0.5	1	1	
	Youth 11v11	0	-	1	
	Youth 9v9	0	-	-	

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	Sub analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Number of new pitches potentially required	Number of disused pitches
South		Mini 7v7	0	-	1
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-
	Crewe	Adult	3	-	-
		Youth 11v11	5.5	6	1
		Youth 9v9	3	-	2
		Mini 7v7	0	-	4
		Mini 5v5	0	-	1
	Nantwich	Adult	0	-	-
		Youth 11v11	0	-	-
		Youth 9v9	0	-	1
		Mini 7v7	0	-	3
		Mini 5v5	0	-	-

Alternatively, when looking at the Borough as a whole, 49 new pitches are also theoretically required, although this breaks down as 38 youth 11v11 and 11 youth 9v9 pitches. This is further evidenced in the following table.

Table 4.13: Potential current requirement for new pitches (Borough-wide)

Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Number of new pitches potentially required
Adult	5.5	-
Youth 11v11	38	38
Youth 9v9	11	11
Mini 7v7	0	-
Mini 5v5	0	-

The potential need increases to 61 pitches when accounting for future demand (42 youth 11v11, 14 youth 9v9, three mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches).

Table 4.14: Potential future requirement for new pitches (Borough-wide)

Pitch type	Future supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Number of new pitches potentially required
Adult	2.5	-
Youth 11v11	42	42
Youth 9v9	14	14
Mini 7v7	2.5	3
Mini 5v5	1.5	2

Whilst it is unlikely that all of this provision will need to be delivered, it shows the importance of needing to action the other scenarios that have been set out to the fullest possible degree. Moreover, it also identifies a particular potential requirement for additional youth 9v9 and youth 11v11 pitches if other solutions are not possible.

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One option to consider for increasing the supply of pitches is to bring disused provision back into use (as identified in table 4.16). This relates to sites such as Brooke Dean Community College, Brook House Playing Field, Cranage Hall, Hazelbadge Road, Lanark Walk, Sandwich Drive and St Barnabas C of E Primary School. However, it should be noted that all but one of the disused sites provides only a single pitch (only Cumberland Arena – Razzler provides more), and in some instances only a mini pitch. Whilst this does not impact on the need for the provision from a planning policy perspective (as any disused provision cannot be said to be surplus to requirements given the shortfalls that exist), it means the impact of reinstatement will be somewhat limited.

Furthermore, many of the disused sites are in areas or provided pitch types where no current shortfalls exist. The only exception to this is in relation to youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches in Macclesfield (relevant to St Barnabas C of E Primary School and St Albans Catholic Primary School), adult pitches in Alsager (relevant to Portland Drive), adult pitches in Sandbach (relevant to Wheelock Playing Field) and youth 11v11 pitches in Crewe (relevant to Cumberland Arena – Razzler).

Increasing the supply of 3G pitches can also assist with reducing grass pitch shortfalls (see 3G scenarios below).

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality with a focus on overplayed pitches and pitches assessed as poor quality and utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to assist in the improvement and ongoing maintenance of provision.
- ◀ Support eligible organisations to access funding to improve pitches at their sites, such as through the Football Foundation's Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF).
- ◀ Explore opportunities for more club-led management and maintenance models and subsequent opportunities to access external funding to improve facilities.
- ◀ Provide security of tenure at sites, with a focus on those currently in use by clubs.
- ◀ Seek to gain community access to sites that are currently unavailable for community use, particularly within the education centre.
- ◀ Continue to convert pitches to a more appropriate pitch type where such demand is already being received and where no teams will be adversely affected (i.e., adult to youth 11v11).
- ◀ Increase the stock of pitches where other solutions cannot be carried out to a sufficient level, with a focus on youth provision given the shortfalls that exist.
- ◀ Consider bringing disused pitches back into use, particularly when they reside in areas with existing shortfalls, subject to a sustainable programme of use and appropriate quality being developed.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer, with a particular focus on multi-pitch sites and key sites for the growth of female and adult participation.
- ◀ Where appropriate, develop partnerships and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own sites.
- ◀ Where sports lighting is provided, encourage conversion of halogen systems to LED in order to improve energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact.
- ◀ Assess the need for new football provision linked to any large housing development (i.e., over 300 dwellings) and assess this through the production of a sport needs assessment to determine on or off site requirements.
- ◀ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site football provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality, with priority placed on priorities and needs identified in the PPOSS Action Plan and the LFFP.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls.

Third generation turf (3G) pitches

Assessment Report summary

3G – supply and demand summary

- Based on current demand at a Borough-wide level, there is a theoretical shortfall of at least 7.5 full size 3G pitches to meet football training requirements, increasing to 8.25 when accounting for future demand.
- When broken down by analysis area, deficits are identified in the north (Macclesfield, Knutsford, Poynton and Wilmslow), as well as central (Sandbach) and south (Crewe and Nantwich).
- There is also evidence to warrant the creation of additional World Rugby compliant 3G provision given the grass pitch shortfalls evident as this could be a solution to alleviating the deficits (subject to usage level and balance of multi-sport access, this could increase the overall need for 3G pitches).
- For other sports, there is a clear need for lacrosse to have sufficient access to 3G provision, whilst aspirations also exist for American football.

3G – supply summary

- There are 16 full size 3G pitches within Cheshire East, all of which are serviced by sports lighting.
- The pitch at Reaseheath Training Complex is the only pitch considered unavailable for community use.
- In addition, there are also 12 smaller sized 3G pitches, with seven sports-lit and available to the community.
- Plans and/or aspirations exist regarding establishing provision at Congleton Road, Egerton Youth Club, Jim Evison Playing Fields, King George V Playing Fields, Macclesfield Academy/College, Poynton High School, Sandbach Community Football Centre, Sir William Stanier School and Oakwood Farm.
- All but one of the full size 3G pitches are on the FA 3G Pitch Register and sanctioned to host competitive matches (the pitch at Alsager Leisure Centre is awaiting certification), whilst the pitch at Reaseheath College is also World Rugby compliant.
- Of the community available full size pitches, seven are assessed as good quality and eight are assessed as standard quality (none are poor).
- The oldest of the two 3G pitches at Nantwich Town Football Club requires imminent resurfacing due to its age.
- No ancillary facility issues have been identified, although aspirations exist for a separate clubhouse to be established at Congleton High School and for this to service the 3G pitch.

3G – demand summary

- The majority of 3G provision currently servicing Cheshire East is reported by providers and clubs as operating at or close to capacity at peak times, especially during winter months.
- Most of the community-based activity on the 3G pitches is football related, with the exception of rugby union and touch rugby demand at Reaseheath College.
- Demand is received from football clubs not only for training demand but also for match play, with 179 teams currently using 3G provision for this purpose.
- Small-sided commercial football leagues operate at several venues including Cumberland Arena, Nantwich Town Football Club, Sandbach Community Football Centre and Alexandra Soccer Centre.
- Some capacity does remain, such as on pitches operated by Everybody Health & Leisure, where 64 peak time midweek booking slots remain free across four of its five full size pitches in addition to 37 hours at weekends.
- A total of 45% of clubs report that they require additional access to 3G provision, with this representing a high proportion of unmet demand.
- Imported training demand is identified at Alsager Leisure Centre, whilst some 3G match play demand imports into Cheshire East due to the use of central venues by some leagues.
- If future demand from population projections and club aspirations is realised, this will further increase 3G requirements for both football and rugby union.
- In the Poynton Mitigation Strategy, it is recommended that Poynton Lacrosse Club has access to the proposed 3G pitch at Poynton High School in order to accommodate its training demand due to capacity issues on its grass pitches.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Scenarios

Accommodating football training demand

If all teams were to utilise 3G pitches to accommodate their training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a need for 20.5 full size 3G pitch equivalents in Cheshire East (rounded up from 20.42). This means a current shortfall of 7.5 full size 3G pitch equivalents based on the current supply.

Table 4.15: Current demand for 3G pitches in Cheshire East (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	Current full size 3G pitch requirement	Current number of full size 3G pitch equivalents ¹	Current shortfall
776	20.5	13	7.5

Alternatively, the table below considers the number of 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the respective analysis area that they play in. This shows an overall shortfall of 9.25 full size 3G pitches and identifies that there are specific shortfalls within Crewe, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Nantwich, Poynton, Sandbach and Wilmslow. The remaining analysis areas have sufficient capacity of 3G provision to meet the current levels of demand, with some theoretically over-supplied (Alsager and Middlewich).

Table 4.16: Current demand for 3G pitches in Cheshire East by analysis area

Analysis area	Sub area	Current demand	Current pitch requirement	Current number of full size pitches	Current shortfall
North	Knutsford	82	2.25	1	1.25
	Macclesfield	174	4.5	2	2.5
	Poynton	27	0.75	-	0.75
	Wilmslow	51	1.5	-	1.5
Sub total					6
Central	Alsager	19	0.5	1.5	
	Congleton	72	2	2	
	Holmes Chapel	34	1	1	
	Middlewich	29	0.75	1.25	
	Sandbach	70	1.75	1	0.75
Sub total					0.75
South	Crewe	149	4	2	2
	Nantwich	69	1.75	1.25	0.5
Sub total					2.5
Cheshire East		776	20.75	13	9.25

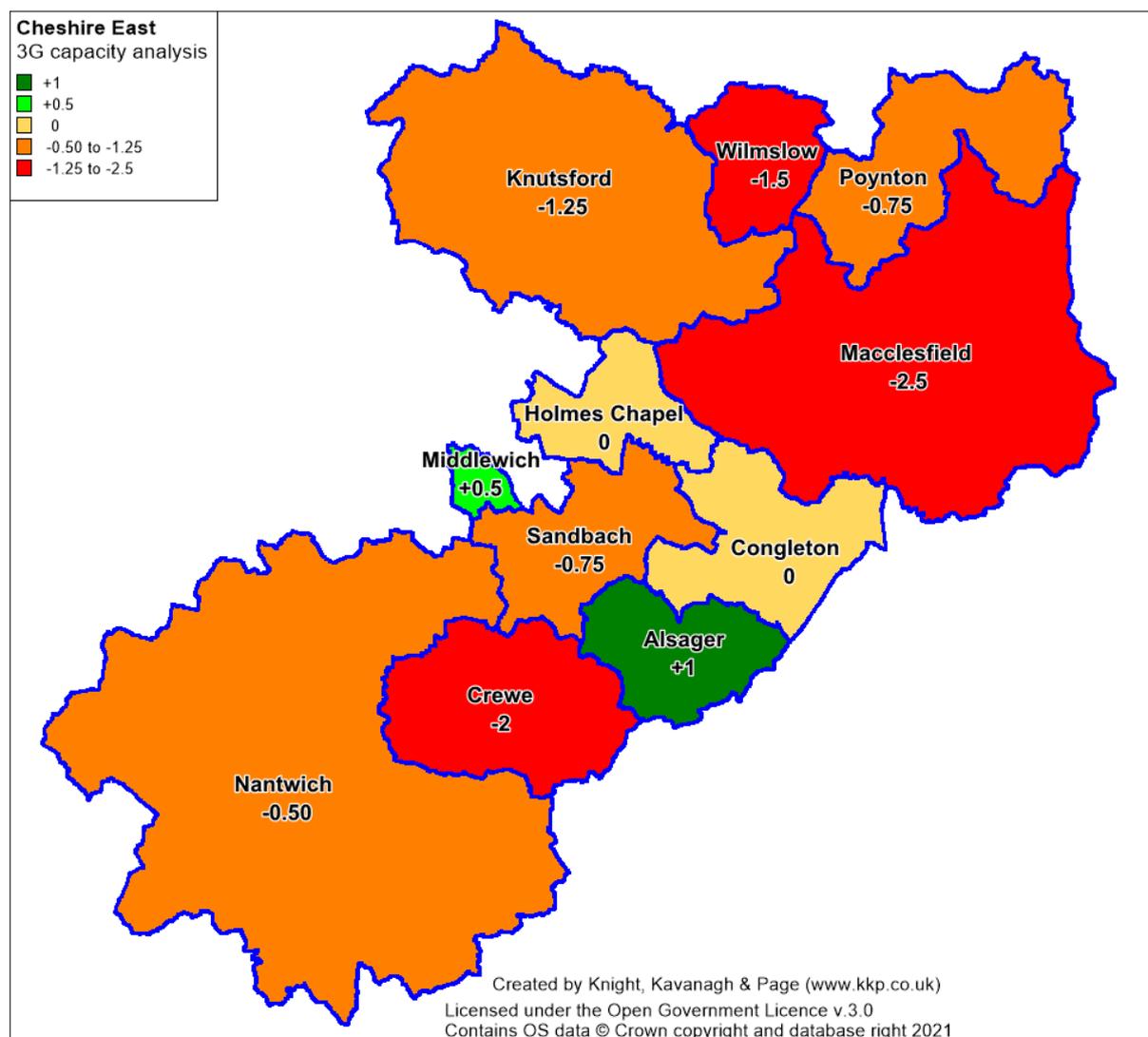
Overall, the number of 3G pitches required within the sub area modelling is higher than the broader analysis of provision across Cheshire East. This is in part due to a theoretical oversupply in Alsager and Middlewich, whilst it is also an impact of how the figures are rounded. In reality, clubs will travel to neighbouring analysis areas to access provision if required, especially if pitches are strategically located in close proximity, meaning that the wider analysis is a more accurate tool for determining overall need and that the number presented within the analysis area approach can be discounted.

¹ Discounts pitches unavailable for community use and those without sports lighting.

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A visual representation of the above can be seen in the figure below. This shows where the shortfalls and surpluses are located in proximity to each other as it is possible for an oversupply in some of the areas to meet a shortfall in adjacent areas. As an example, the theoretical oversupply in Alsager could meet some of the deficits in Sandbach and/or Crewe.

Figure 4.1: Current supply/demand balance for 3G pitches by analysis area



Club aspirational future demand

Factoring in aspirational future demand expressed by clubs increases the overall requirement to 21.75 full size 3G pitches, which is based on growth of 52 teams (equating to 1.5 additional pitches). This means a future potential shortfall of 8.75 pitches. Future demand from clubs has not previously been factored in as this is seen as being more aspirational than what is predicted via population growth.

Table 4.17: Future shortfall of 3G pitches to meet football training demand (club aspirations)

Future demand (number of teams)	3G full size pitch requirement	Current number of full size 3G pitches	Future shortfall
828	21.75	13	8.75

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At an analysis area level, 0.75 and 0.25 additional pitch requirements are identified in the Poynton and Wilmslow analysis areas, where 31 and 16 additional teams are expressed as future demand by clubs, respectively. This increases the overall future shortfall in the North, as well as to 10.25 3G pitches across Cheshire East.

Table 4.18: Future demand for 3G pitches by analysis area (club aspirations)

Analysis area	Sub area	Future demand	Future full size 3G pitch requirement	Current number of full size pitches	Future shortfall
North	Knutsford	86	2.25	1	1.25
	Macclesfield	174	4.5	2	2.5
	Poynton	58	1.5	-	1.5
	Wilmslow	67	1.75	-	1.75
Sub total					6
Central	Alsager	19	0.5	1.5	-
	Congleton	72	2	2	-
	Holmes Chapel	34	1	1	-
	Middlewich	29	0.75	1.25	-
	Sandbach	70	1.75	1	0.75
Sub total					0.75
South	Crewe	150	4	2	2
	Nantwich	69	1.75	1.25	0.5
Sub total					2.5
Cheshire East		828	21.75	13	10.25

Moss Rose Stadium (Macclesfield FC)

If Macclesfield FC is to be promoted into the Football League (as is its ambition), it may need to replace its full size 3G pitch with a grass pitch. It may also decide to do this beforehand to future proof its site, particularly when the existing surface reaches the end of its lifespan, or upgrade to a FIFA Quality Pro pitch. This would then reduce its useability.

Either scenario would in effect lead to a loss of one full size 3G pitch in Cheshire East, which would in turn increase the shortfall of pitches in Macclesfield and across the Borough. The current shortfall across the authority would increase to 7.5 full size pitches, whilst the localised shortfall in Macclesfield would increase to 3.5 full size pitches.

Table 4.19: Demand for 3G pitches in Cheshire East without the pitch at Moss Rose Stadium

Area	Current number of teams	Current full size 3G pitch requirement	Current number of full size 3G pitch equivalents ²	Current shortfall
Cheshire East	776	20.5	12	8.5
Macclesfield	174	4.5	1	3.5

Moreover, if the pitch at Moss Rose Stadium is lost, Macclesfield FC would need to accommodate the 49 youth and mini teams which currently uses the pitch for match/training demand. For this, the only solution would be for a new pitch to be provided within the Club's vicinity as the existing provision does not have the capacity to accommodate such usage.

² Discounts pitches unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Moving football match play demand to 3G pitches

In Cheshire East, currently 179 affiliated teams are registered as using 3G pitches for regular match play, which is already a relatively large number. However, to increase such demand, the FA is particularly keen to work with local authorities to understand the potential demand for full size 3G pitches should all competitive matches that are currently played on council pitches be transferred. At peak time for each format of play, this applies to 105 teams in Cheshire East.

Table 4.20: Number of teams currently using council grass pitches

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Adult	11v11	Sunday AM	32
Youth	11v11	Sunday AM	40
Youth	9v9	Saturday AM	19
Mini	7v7	Saturday AM	11
Mini	5v5	Saturday AM	3
Total			105

The FA suggests an approach for estimating the number of full size 3G pitches required to accommodate the above demand for competitive matches, as seen in the table below.

Table 4.21: Full size 3G pitches required for the transfer of council grass pitch demand

Format	No. of teams at peak time	No. of matches at peak time	No. of 3G units required per match ³	Total 3G units required	No. of 3G pitches required
Adult	32	16	32	512	8
Youth 11v11	40	20	32	640	10
Youth 9v9	19	9.5	10	95	1.48438
Mini 7v7	11	5.5	8	44	0.6875
Mini 5v5	3	1.5	4	6	0.09375

In total, 18 full size 3G pitches would be required to accommodate all matches played on council pitches (as peak time for adult and youth 11v11 demand is the same). As this is below the number of pitches currently needed to accommodate training demand, it is considered that this is achievable.

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

Table 4.22: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

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

³ Based on how pitches are split within a full size 3G pitch

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Based on the above programming and separate start times for the formats, the overall need is for 11.5 full size 3G pitches to accommodate all current mini match play demand. This is calculated based on 87 teams playing 5v5 football and 137 teams playing 7v7 football. This could therefore be accommodated on the current supply of pitches, with spare capacity to also cater for other forms of demand.

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

World Rugby produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. There is currently one World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in Cheshire East, located at Reaseheath College.

No additional grass pitches are necessarily required to meet current shortfalls for rugby union, providing that quality improvements to pitches and additional access to sports lit provision can be accommodated. When accounting for future demand, shortfalls could also be met through quality maximisation/improvement, additional access to existing sports-lit provision and training demand dispersion. However, the creation of additional provision could be explored as an alternative means to reducing deficits, or as a solution if other options are not feasible.

If more World Rugby compliant 3G pitches are to be sought, the Central and North analysis areas are seen as priority locations for provision if accessible to clubs such as Wilmslow RUFC and Sandbach RUFC. These have the largest shortfalls, with the former also expressing an aspiration to access such provision.

Other sporting requirements

Through Poynton Lacrosse Club and UKLacrosse Coaching LTD, there is clear training and match play lacrosse demand for access to the existing 3G pitch at Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club) and the planned 3G pitch at Poynton High School. In addition, Crewe Railroaders has expressed an interest in accessing a 3G pitch at King George V Playing Fields for American football training, if developed.

Although usage by lacrosse and American football clubs will take up capacity on 3G pitches, demand levels are relatively low for both sports and this therefore should not impact on overall requirements i.e., it will not cause issues for either football or rugby union. As such, the existing demand and aspirations should be supported.

Increasing the supply of full size 3G pitches

Based on the previous scenarios, there is an existing theoretical need for at least an additional 7.5 and up to 10.25 full size 3G pitches to meet the current demand in Cheshire East (based on the FA training model). To meet this demand, existing aspirations could be considered to determine if they should be supported. This therefore relates to plans at:

- ◀ Congleton Road (Macclesfield)
- ◀ Egerton Youth Club (Knutsford)
- ◀ Jim Evison Playing Fields (Wilmslow)
- ◀ King George V Playing Fields (Crewe)
- ◀ Macclesfield Academy/College (Macclesfield)
- ◀ Oakwood Farm (Wilmslow)
- ◀ Poynton High School (Poynton)
- ◀ Sandbach Community Football Centre (Sandbach)
- ◀ Sir William Stanier School (Crewe)

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The following table summarises where the localised shortfalls exist within the Borough and existing proposals that could meet such shortfalls.

Table 4.23: Summary of new 3G pitch requirements

Sub area	Current supply/ demand balance	Comments
Knutsford	1.25	A shortfall of 1.25 pitches that could mostly be met through future provision aspirations at Egerton Youth Club.
Macclesfield	2.5	A shortfall of 2.5 pitches that could mostly be met through future provision aspirations at Congleton Road and The Macclesfield Academy. However, the shortfall would increase to 3.5 pitches if existing provision at Moss Rose Stadium was to be lost, meaning outstanding need would remain.
Poynton	0.75	A shortfall of 0.75 pitches that could be met through future plans at Poynton High School (as per the Mitigation Strategy).
Wilmslow	1.5	A shortfall of 1.5 pitches that could be met through future provision aspirations at Jim Evison Playing Fields and Oakwood Farm.
Alsager	1	No new pitches required and no plans in place.
Congleton	0	Demand is being met and no plans in place.
Holmes Chapel	0	Demand is being met and no plans in place.
Middlewich	0.5	A minimal oversupply and no plans in place.
Sandbach	0.75	A shortfall of 0.75 pitches that could be met through future provision aspirations at Sandbach Community Football Centre.
Crewe	2	A shortfall of two pitches that could be met through future provision aspirations at King George V Playing Fields and Sir William Stanier School.
Nantwich	0.5	No plans in place to reduce shortfall.

The table below explores what impact these aspirational developments would have across Cheshire East, if they all came to fruition.

Table 4.24: Demand for 3G pitches by analysis area based on existing aspirations

Sub area	Current number of teams	Current 3G pitch requirement ⁴	Current number of full size 3G pitch equivalents	3G pitch proposals/aspirations	Potential shortfall
Knutsford	82	2.25	1	1	0.25
Macclesfield	174	4.5	2	2	0.5
Poynton	27	0.75	-	1	0.25
Wilmslow	51	1.5	-	2	0.5
Alsager	19	0.5	1.5	-	1
Congleton	72	2	2	-	0
Holmes Chapel	34	1	1	-	0
Middlewich	29	0.75	1.25	-	0.5
Sandbach	70	1.75	1	1	0.25
Crewe	149	4	2	2	0
Nantwich	69	1.75	1.25	-	0.5

⁴ Rounded to the nearest 0.25

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

As seen in Table 4.27, existing shortfalls would be eradicated in Poynton, Wilmslow, Sandbach and Crewe, with only Knutsford, Macclesfield and Nantwich still expressing a shortfall. This is minimal in all three areas, and some could potentially be met through a theoretical oversupply elsewhere. However, the shortfall in Macclesfield would be greater if the existing provision at Moss Rose Stadium was to be lost, which would then increase the priority of the area in terms of a need for increased provision.

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that the development of a 3G pitch would be subject to obtaining the necessary planning permission. Such a proposal would need to ensure that Sport England's Playing Field Policy as well as paragraph 103 of the NPPF are adhered to, in addition to relevant local planning policy and requirements.

The sites listed within this section of the report could, in theory, be suitable for future development to meet known shortfalls for 3G pitches. However, any brought forward will require a full feasibility study to be undertaken to determine if they are suitable. As such, those referenced should just be considered a starting point for discussion at this time and should be updated as part of the Stage E process.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Develop additional 3G pitches to alleviate identified shortfalls, with priority placed on establishing pitches in Knutsford, Macclesfield, Poynton, Wilmslow and Crewe.
- ◀ Explore creation of 3G pitches that are both football and rugby union compliant when alleviating shortfalls if they can cater for demand from Wilmslow RUFC or Sandbach RUFC, or support the creation of additional 3G pitches above and beyond football training shortfalls if they can be sustainable.
- ◀ Carry out further feasibility work to identify suitable locations for new 3G pitches and ensure this is done in consultation with the relevant stakeholders including Sport England and the appropriate NGBs.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet NGB compliant specifications based on proposed users and formats of use.
- ◀ Ensure all current and future 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability and seek to resurface provision when it is required.
- ◀ Encourage more football match play demand to transfer to 3G pitches, where possible, particularly from council sites and for mini demand.
- ◀ Support the expansion of central venue format play for football in line with the delivery of new 3G pitches.
- ◀ Seek FIFA/FA testing of all existing and new 3G pitches and ensure they are on the FA 3G Pitch Register so that they can be used for competitive football matches and ensure re-testing is carried out when it is required.
- ◀ For any pitches built to RFU/RFL specifications, seek World Rugby compliancy so that they can be used for full contact activity and ensure re-testing when it is required (every two years).
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches with external funding have community use agreements in place and seek to use this to also tie in access to grass pitch and other sporting provision, where relevant.
- ◀ Ensure appropriate continued and future access to 3G provision for other sports where it is desired e.g., for lacrosse and American football.
- ◀ Encourage conversion of halogen floodlighting systems to LED to improve energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Rugby union - grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Rugby union – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Despite 17 senior pitches displaying potential spare capacity, only one is considered to provide actual spare capacity (at Crewe Vagrants Sports Club).
- ◀ There are seven pitches across six sites that are overplayed by a combined 8.25 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ Overall, there is a shortfall of 7.25 match equivalent sessions to meet current demand, with this increasing to 15.5 match equivalent sessions when accounting for future demand.

Rugby union – supply summary

- ◀ There are 44 grass rugby union pitches identified across 22 unique sites, with 34 pitches available for community use across 14 sites.
- ◀ There are no disused sites that previously accommodated rugby union pitches, although several sites that are still active previously provided provision.
- ◀ Macclesfield RUFC, Knutsford RUFC and Congleton RUFC all aspire to increase the number of pitches that they have access to.
- ◀ Tenure is unsecure for Knutsford RUFC at Knutsford Academy as no community use agreement is in place, whereas Holmes Chapel RUFC and Congleton RUFC utilise council provision without a long-term arrangement.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches, 13 are assessed as good quality, 17 are assessed as standard quality and four are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ Poor quality pitches are provided at Back Lane, Holmes Chapel Community Centre and Knutsford Academy (lower), with all of these in use by clubs.
- ◀ Congleton, Crewe & Nantwich, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Sandbach and Wilmslow rugby clubs all report development plans or issues with their changing and/or wider ancillary facilities.

Rugby union – demand summary

- ◀ Seven rugby union clubs play within Cheshire East consisting of 95 teams, which as a breakdown equates to 22 senior men's, three senior women's, 26 age grade boys', nine age grade girls' and 35 age grade mixed teams.
- ◀ There has been a small increase in participation recently, particularly relating to Sandbach RUFC, although Congleton RUFC has seen demand decline.
- ◀ Sandbach, Knutsford, Macclesfield and Wilmslow rugby clubs all train on pitches with sports lighting, with Crewe & Nantwich RUFC also accessing the World Rugby 3G pitch at Reaseheath College.
- ◀ Congleton RUFC is currently training at Congleton High School following the temporary loss of its area at Hankinson's Field (which it will re-use from 2023/2024), whilst Holmes Chapel RUFC is using a disused bowling green via portable lighting.
- ◀ Some training demand is exported from Cheshire East to access the World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at Lymm Rugby Club, in Warrington.
- ◀ Congleton RUFC reports that being spread across numerous sites is inhibiting its potential to grow, whereas Macclesfield RUFC identifies that it could accommodate more teams if it had more changing rooms on site (latent demand).
- ◀ Team generation rates predict a minimal growth of three teams, whilst Congleton, Crewe & Nantwich, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Sandbach and Wilmslow rugby clubs have plans to expand collectively by 18 teams.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

Improving pitch quality through enhanced maintenance and the installation of drainage systems would alleviate overplay on four of the seven overplayed pitches across Cheshire East. This is shown in the following table.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.25: Capacity of overplayed pitches if quality was maximised (M2/D3)

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating (match equivalent sessions)	Good quality rating (match equivalent sessions)
21	Sandbach Rugby Club	Senior	1	Good	2	1.5
28	Congleton Park	Senior	1	Poor	0.75	1.25
53	Hankinson's Field	Senior	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
81	Memorial Ground (Wilmslow Rugby Club)	Senior	1	Standard	3	1.5
104	Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club)	Senior	1	Good	1	0.5
243	Knutsford Academy (lower)	Senior	1	Poor	0.5	1.5
243	Knutsford Academy (lower)	Age grade	1	Poor	0.5	1.5

Overall, this would reduce current shortfalls from 7.25 match equivalent sessions to 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week across the Cheshire East as a whole, whilst reducing future shortfalls from 15.5 match equivalent sessions to 10.75.

Table 4.26: Supply and demand balance with quality improvements

Demand	Capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Current	7.25	2.5
Future	15.5	10.75

Three pitches, located across Sandbach Rugby Club, Memorial Ground (Wilmslow Rugby Club) and Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club) would remain overplayed even if quality was maximised, although at reduced levels.

Increasing access to training provision (sports-lit grass pitches)

Of the pitches that would remain overplayed despite quality improvements, all three are serviced by sports lighting. As such, using more or increasing the number of sports-lit pitches available at such sites could further reduce deficits as it could allow training demand to be dispersed.

At Sandbach Rugby Club, as two sports-lit pitches are already provided, if 1.5 match equivalent sessions of training demand is dispersed onto the second sports-lit pitch and if the quality of said pitch and the overplayed pitch is maximised (from M2/D1 to M2/D3), overplay at the site would be eradicated and both pitches would be at capacity. For clarity, see the table below outlining such a scenario.

Table 4.27: Improved quality and dispersed training demand at Sandbach Rugby Club (in match equivalent sessions)

No. of sports lit pitches	Potential capacity rating	Current competitive demand	Current training demand	Potential capacity rating
2	7	2	1.5	0

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Similarly, at Memorial Ground (Wilmslow Rugby Club), as two sports lit pitches are already provided, if 1.5 match equivalent sessions of training demand could be transferred onto the second sports-lit pitch and if the quality of the overplayed pitch could be maximised (from M1/D1 to M2/D3), overplay at the site would be alleviated and both pitches would be at capacity. For clarity, see the table below outlining such a scenario.

Table 4.28: Improved quality and dispersing training demand at Memorial Ground (in match equivalent sessions)

No. of sports lit pitches	Potential capacity rating	Current competitive demand	Current training demand	Potential capacity rating
2	6.5	1.5	5	0

At Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club), only one pitch is currently equipped with sports lighting. Therefore, at least one of the other pitches will also need to be serviced, which would then enable training demand to be dispersed. Furthermore, quality improvements could also take place to build additional capacity.

Table 4.29: Impact of servicing one additional pitch with sports lighting and dispersing training demand at Priory Park (in match equivalent sessions)

Site name	Sports lit?	NTA score	Quality rating	Pitch Capacity	Competitive demand	Training demand	Capacity rating
Current supply/demand balance							
Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club)	No	M2 / D1	Good	3	2	-	1
Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club)	Yes	M2 / D1	Good	3	-	4	1
Potential supply/demand balance with additional sports lighting							
Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club)	Yes	M2 / D1	Good	3	2	1	0
Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club)	Yes	M2 / D1	Good	3	-	3	0

If such scenarios are actioned, there would be no necessity for additional pitch stock.

World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

As an alternative means to alleviating overplay, securing access to existing or new World Rugby compliant 3G pitches could be sought, as set out within the 3G pitch scenarios. As such, any developments should first and foremost focus on satisfying demand from Sandbach, Macclesfield and Wilmslow (Central and North analysis areas) rugby clubs given their larger shortfalls and therefore be suitably located for such access.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Accommodating future demand from club aspirations

Future demand expressed through club aspirations and by the RFU based on its own targets projects the number of rugby union teams to grow by 18 teams across Cheshire East. This is broken down as eight teams each in both the North and Central analysis areas and two teams in the South Analysis Area. This has previously been discounted from calculations as it is considered to be more aspirational than future growth predicted via population growth; however, if such demand is realised, it will increase shortfalls throughout the Borough.

Table 4.30: Supply and demand balance with future demand aspirations accounted for

Analysis area	Current supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential supply/ demand balance (match equivalent sessions)
North	5	9.25
Central	3.25	7.75
South	1	0
Cheshire East	7.25	17

The table explores the impact of the future demand on a club-by-club basis and how it can be sufficiently accommodated.

Table 4.31: Summary of provision required to accommodate future demand aspirations

Club	Future team aspirations	Future demand (match equivalent sessions)	Comments
Congleton RUFC	1 x senior men's, 1 x junior boys 2 x junior girls, 1 x mixed	2.25	This could be met via the existing pitch stock with quality improvements (at Congleton Park & Hankinson's Field).
Crewe & Nantwich RUFC	1 x junior boys 1 x junior girls	1	The Club's existing pitch stock could meet this demand without any actions taken.
Knutsford RUFC	1 x senior men's, 1 x junior boys, 2 x mixed	1.5	The Club's existing pitch stock could meet this demand if quality was maximised at Knutsford Academy (lower).
Macclesfield RUFC	1 x senior men's, 1 x senior women's	1	To accommodate current demand, the Club would need to provide sports lighting to one additional pitch, whilst dispersing training demand. Future demand could then only be accommodated if quality across the two pitches was also maximised.
Sandbach RUFC	1 x senior men's, 1 x junior boys, 1 x junior girls	1.5	To accommodate current demand, the Club would need to maximise the quality of two pitches and disperse training demand. For future demand to be accommodated, all three additional pitches will also need to have quality maximised, or additional pitch stock (or a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch) would be needed.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Club	Future team aspirations	Future demand (match equivalent sessions)	Comments
Wilmslow RUFC	1 x senior men's, 1 x junior boys	1	To accommodate current demand, the Club would need to maximise the quality of one pitch and disperse training demand (at Memorial Ground). For future demand, this could be met via the existing pitch stock at Jim Evison Playing Fields.

Recommendations

- ✦ Protect existing pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ✦ Improve pitch quality at all sites used by clubs through improved maintenance and/or the installation of drainage systems, with a focus on those currently overplayed.
- ✦ Increase the level of sports lighting available to clubs with overplayed pitches, particularly those where a shortfall would remain following quality improvements.
- ✦ Explore access to new World Rugby compliant 3G pitches.
- ✦ Ensure future demand can be adequately accommodated, particularly in regard to women's and girls' demand.
- ✦ Improve the ancillary facilities servicing the clubs.
- ✦ Seek to provide increased security of tenure for clubs at their home grounds where it is required.
- ✦ Retain the stock of pitches at education sites for continued curricular and extra-curricular usage and encourage improved club links where possible.
- ✦ Assess the need for new rugby union provision linked to any large housing development (i.e., over 300 dwellings) and assess this through the production of a sport needs assessment to determine on or off site requirements.
- ✦ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby union provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ✦ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby union provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Rugby league – grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Rugby league – supply and demand summary

- ✦ As no demand is presently identified within Cheshire East, there is no current requirement to provide rugby league pitches within the Borough.
- ✦ Support should be given towards establish links with schools that could deliver rugby league-based activity.

Rugby league – supply summary

- ✦ There are currently no dedicated rugby league pitches in Cheshire East.
- ✦ The nearest pitches are located in neighbouring authorities including Warrington, Cheshire West & Chester and Manchester.

Rugby league – demand summary

- ✦ No current demand has been identified for rugby league in Cheshire East itself.
- ✦ Any residual need is unlikely to be sufficient for a club to be created, with individuals instead likely to travel outside of Cheshire East to form part of clubs in neighbouring authorities.
- ✦ The RFL identifies that moving forward, it would be interested in exploring any school-based demand in order to help grow the game locally.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Establish links with school to deliver rugby-league based activity to assist in growing the game.
- ◀ Ensure any localised demand is signposted to clubs in neighbouring authorities until such a time when a sufficient level may exist for the formation of a Cheshire East-based club.
- ◀ If a Cheshire East-based club does form, ensure it has an appropriate site to play at.

Hockey - artificial grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Hockey – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Seven sites have spare capacity for an increase in training demand and 11 have spare capacity for an increase in match play demand; however, most of these are unsuitable due to quality issues and/or a lack of sports lighting.
- ◀ Despite a theoretical surplus in the number of pitches provided, demand is not being adequately supplied, with seven of the eight clubs accessing poor quality provision and/or experiencing capacity issues.

Hockey – supply summary

- ◀ There are currently 16 full size hockey suitable AGPs in Cheshire East across 15 sites.
- ◀ Most of the pitches are sports-lit, although provision at Malbank School & Sixth Form College, Sandbach High School & Sixth Form Centre (Girls) and Cheshire College South & West is not.
- ◀ All of the full size AGPs are available for community use, however, four are currently unused for hockey purposes (at Cheshire College South & West, Fallibroome Academy, The Macclesfield Academy/Macclesfield College and Shavington Leisure Centre).
- ◀ In addition, there are also 17 smaller sized AGPs, although none are suitable to host purposeful hockey demand.
- ◀ Security of tenure is an issue across the full size pitch stock, with most education operators not providing any guarantees in regards to long-term access.
- ◀ Six pitches are assessed as good quality, two as standard quality and eight as poor quality, with all of the poor quality and one of the standard quality pitches at the end of their recommended lifespans.
- ◀ The pitches at Malbank School & Sixth Form College, the Edge Hockey Centre and Sandbach High School & Sixth Form Centre are considered to be serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.
- ◀ A common issue raised by clubs such as Alderley Edge, Macclesfield and Sandbach hockey clubs is that their social space is located separate to their pitches because there is no suitable space offered to the clubs at the sites that they use for matches.

Hockey – demand summary

- ◀ There are currently eight clubs fielding teams in Cheshire East.
- ◀ Combined, the clubs contribute a membership of 461 senior men, 400 senior women and 862 juniors and consist of 28 senior men's teams, 26 senior women's teams and 25 junior teams as well as nine other team varieties.
- ◀ There has been an increase of 75 senior men's, 83 senior women's and 32 junior members since data collected for the last update of the previous study.
- ◀ A variety of EH initiatives (e.g., Back to Hockey) have a presence in Cheshire East and are provided by clubs such as Alderley Edge, Crewe Vagrants, Macclesfield, Sandbach, Triton and Wilmslow hockey clubs.
- ◀ No exported or imported demand is identified, despite previous occurrences.
- ◀ Alderley Edge, Crewe Vagrants, Macclesfield and Wilmslow hockey clubs are considered to have latent demand in that they could field more teams if more pitch capacity was available.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

- ◀ Future demand is expressed by Alderley Edge, Crewe Vagrants, Sandbach and Wilmslow hockey clubs and collectively amounts to four senior men's, three senior women's and three junior teams.
- ◀ In addition to hockey usage, 126 football teams are identified as regularly accessing full size sand-based AGPs for training, in addition to other football activity, which takes capacity away from hockey clubs.

Scenarios

Accommodating current and future match play demand

With 16 full size pitches currently provided, there is theoretical capacity for 128 teams to be accommodated within Cheshire East based on one pitch being able to accommodate four match equivalent sessions (eight teams) within the peak period. However, with many pitches considered to be poor quality and with three pitches not being serviced by sports lighting, capacity is in actuality much more limited.

The table below explores how many teams can be accommodated across the supply if capacity is discounted at all sites that are poor quality and at all sites without sports lighting.

Table 4.32: Capacity of hockey pitches across Cheshire East

Site ID	Site	Pitch quality	Actual capacity (number of teams)
38	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	Standard	8
46	Fallibroome Academy	Poor	0
67	Knutsford Leisure Centre	Poor	0
75	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Poor	0
109	Sandbach High School & Sixth Form Centre (Girls)	Poor	0
110	Sandbach School (Boys)	Good	8
112	Shavington Leisure Centre	Poor	0
114	Cheshire College South & West	Poor	0
124	The Edge Hockey Centre	Standard	8
126	The King's School	Good	8
128	The Macclesfield Academy/Macclesfield College	Poor	0
141	Wilmslow High School	Poor	0
143	Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club	Good	8
162	Tytherington High School	Poor	8
253	Alsager Sports Hub	Good	8
Total			56

As seen, capacity only exists for 56 teams, which is insufficient to meet demand from the current presence of 63 senior teams.

The table below further explores requirements, this time on a club-by-club basis.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.33: Summary of hockey pitch capacity for match play on a club-by-club basis

Club name	Site/s used	Comments
Alderley Edge HC	The Edge Hockey Centre / The King's School / Wilmslow High School	The pitches at The Edge Hockey Centre and The King's School are used to capacity by the Club, whereas the pitch at Wilmslow High School has potential spare capacity for matches but is poor quality. This leads to the Club expressing latent demand.
Cheshire Blue HC	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Used for just one match; however, the pitch is poor quality.
Crewe Vagrants HC	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	The pitch is at capacity, leading to latent demand being expressed.
Knutsford HC	Knutsford Leisure Centre	Potential capacity remains at the site but the pitch is poor quality.
Macclesfield HC	The King's School / Tytherington High School	The pitch at The King's School is used to capacity, whereas the pitch at Tytherington High School has potential spare capacity, although this is somewhat limited due to football usage.
Sandbach HC	Sandbach School (Boys) / Sandbach High School (Girls)	Pitches have spare capacity for an increase in demand, although quality is poor at Sandbach High School (Girls).
Triton HC	Alsager Sports Hub	The pitch at Alsager Sports Hub has spare capacity for an increase in demand, whilst pitches at Sandbach School (Boys) and Sandbach High School (Girls) could be accessed if required, although the latter is poor quality.
Wilmslow HC	Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club	The pitch is used to capacity by the Club, leading to it expressing latent demand.

As seen, only Triton HC is currently being adequately provided for, with the remaining clubs either experiencing capacity issues and/or accessing poor quality pitches.

Furthermore, four clubs have future demand to increase their number of teams. If realised, this will grow overall demand by seven senior teams and relates to Alderley Edge HC (two senior teams), Crewe Vagrants HC (two senior teams), Sandbach HC (one senior team) and Wilmslow HC (two senior teams).

To adequately accommodate the current and future demand expressed, it is first and foremost clear that the following pitches are in need of improvement:

- ❖ Malbank School & Sixth Form College
- ❖ Knutsford Leisure Centre
- ❖ Sandbach High School (Girls)
- ❖ Wilmslow High School

EH's current priority is the re-surfacing of sports-lit pitches, meaning focus from the above list should be on Knutsford Leisure Centre and Wilmslow High School. The pitches at Malbank School & Sixth Form College and Sandbach High School (Girls) are not sports-lit.

Carrying out the improvements will create actual spare capacity for up to 40 additional teams and will ensure that most clubs have sufficient pitch access. The only exceptions are for Crewe Vagrants HC and Wilmslow HC, which currently use Crewe Vagrants Sports Club and Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club to capacity, respectively. Quality improvements do not exist at these sites and therefore alternative solutions are required.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

To overcome the shortfall for Crewe Vagrants HC, access to an additional existing pitch could be sought, with Shavington Leisure Centre and Malbank School & Sixth Form College providing nearby options if they were to be improved. No sports lighting is provided at the latter, although this is not likely to be required for when and how often it would need to be accessed.

For Wilmslow HC, access to the pitch at Wilmslow High School following quality improvements is an option, although resurfacing will be required to enable this. Alternatively, Wilmslow Phoenix Sport Club's aspirations to develop a second pitch for the Club to use could also be supported. Both of these options should be considered in terms of their feasibility.

For junior hockey matches, the need for pitches is generally less than it is for senior hockey. This is because younger age groups can play on half a pitch (meaning two fixtures can take place at one time) and there are also significantly less junior teams in Cheshire East than there are senior teams. As such, resolving issues for senior hockey should be sufficient to also meet demand adequately for junior hockey.

Accommodating current and future training demand

Capacity issues also exist in Cheshire East in regard to training demand. However, it is considered that adequately accommodating match play will also resolve this, in addition to increasing the supply of 3G pitches as set out earlier within this section of the report. This will free up midweek capacity on hockey pitches as football clubs transfer their demand away from the sand-based stock.

Converting sand-based AGPs to 3G

None of the AGPs currently in use for hockey should be considered for conversion unless replacement provision is provided within the locality. For clarity, this applies to pitches at the following sites:

- ◀ Alsager Sports Hub
- ◀ Crewe Vagrants Sports Club
- ◀ Knutsford Leisure Centre
- ◀ Malbank School & Sixth Form College
- ◀ Sandbach High School & Sixth Form Centre (girls)
- ◀ Sandbach School (boys)
- ◀ The Edge Hockey Centre
- ◀ The King's School
- ◀ Wilmslow High School
- ◀ Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club
- ◀ Tytherington High School

The remaining pitches could be suitable if they were considered to be strategically located by the Football Foundation and Cheshire FA. However, conversion should only be pursued if hockey capacity issues in the areas in which they reside are firstly overcome as until such a point, the provision provides an alternative solution. As a result, agreement from EH is also imperative.

Furthermore, any 3G conversion will need to be carried out in accordance with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect all pitches for continued hockey demand where existing hockey activity takes place or could take place in the future, in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Resurface pitches that have reached the end of their recommended lifespans and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability at all venues.
- ◀ Look to improve security of tenure for all clubs using school sites through long-term community use agreements.
- ◀ Explore options to improve the ancillary facility offer at sites used by clubs, particularly at Malbank School & Sixth Form College, the Edge Hockey Centre and Sandbach High School & Sixth Form Centre where quality is poor.
- ◀ Seek to increase capacity of pitches for hockey demand where capacity pressures exist through the transfer of football demand to existing and new 3G pitches.
- ◀ Only consider 3G conversion of hockey suitable pitches if the provision is not used for hockey and providing no hockey capacity issues exist in the area (please note that the conversion of sand-based AGPs to 3G is likely to require planning permission).
- ◀ Further explore feasibility of aspirations expressed at Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club for the creation of a second full size pitch.
- ◀ Assess the need for new hockey provision linked to any large housing development (i.e., over 300 dwellings) and assess this through the production of a sport needs assessment to determine on or off site requirements.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Cricket pitches

Assessment Report summary

Cricket – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Overall, there is currently an insufficient supply of cricket capacity in Cheshire East to cater for Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket.
- ◀ When considering future demand, the shortfalls worsen for each format.
- ◀ Actual spare capacity totals 24 match equivalent sessions for Saturday cricket, 120 match equivalent sessions for Sunday cricket and 84 match equivalent sessions for midweek cricket, whereas a total of 21 sites are overplayed by 250 match equivalent sessions.

Cricket – supply summary

- ◀ In total, there are 47 grass wicket cricket squares provided across 40 sites, with all squares available for community use.
- ◀ There are a total of 29 NTPs across the Borough, with 13 accompanying grass wickets squares and the remaining 16 being standalone.
- ◀ There are also five disused sites identified, including Chelford Cricket Club which previously provided a grass wicket square prior to the Club folding.
- ◀ Security of tenure issues are apparent for Audlem, Bunbury, Cholmondeley, Presbury and Rode Park & Lawton cricket clubs.
- ◀ The audit of grass wicket cricket squares found 39 to be good quality and nine to be standard quality (none are considered poor).
- ◀ Nine sites are categorised as having poor quality ancillary provision.
- ◀ 22 clubs report of aspirations for ancillary provision refurbishment.
- ◀ There are 30 sites serviced by practice nets in some form, although 25 clubs report a need for new, additional or improved provision.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Cricket – demand summary

- ◀ There are 33 clubs playing in Cheshire East which collectively provide 333 teams, equating to 128 senior men's, 16 senior women's and 189 junior teams.
- ◀ There has been an increase in demand in recent years, with demand rising from 297 teams in 2021 (a 11% increase).
- ◀ No clubs report any latent or unmet demand.
- ◀ Cheshire East imports teams from Didsbury, Friends United, Copthorne, Bowdon and Didsbury cricket clubs from Manchester, with these all playing matches at Mere Cricket Club.
- ◀ No exported demand is identified.
- ◀ A total of 18 clubs undertake All Stars cricket, whilst nine undertake Dynamo's and ten have women's and/or girls demand.
- ◀ Future demand from population forecasts equates to the predicted growth of five senior men's, one senior women's and eight junior teams.
- ◀ There are 15 clubs with future demand aspirations, with potential growth totalling one senior men's, eight senior women's and 17 junior teams.

Scenarios

Addressing overplay

Although a regular, sophisticated maintenance regime can sustain sites with minimal levels of overplay (e.g., at Ashley Cricket Club and Bunbury Cricket Club), a reduction in play is recommended to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality over time. Nevertheless, attempts should be made to reduce identified overplay, although many clubs do not necessarily believe that there is an issue and are able to accommodate such demand.

Improving the quality of overplayed squares is one way to increase capacity, the impact of which in Cheshire East is shown in the following table. This is based on good quality wickets having capacity for five match equivalent sessions per season, compared to standard quality wickets having capacity for four match equivalent sessions and poor quality wickets having no capacity (as they are not safe to use). There are currently 21 overplayed sites; however, 18 of these are already assessed as good quality and are therefore not included.

Table 4.34: Overplay if all overplayed squares were good quality (match equivalent sessions)

Site ID	Site name	No. of squares	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
63	Kerridge Cricket Club	1	Standard	23	13
103	Poynton Sports Club	1	Standard	31	19
161	Rostherne Cricket Club	1	Standard	6	15

As seen, improving quality will only have minimal impact as most squares are already considered to be good. Overplay would only be reduced on the squares at Kerridge Cricket Club and Poynton Sports Club, whilst it would be eradicated at Rostherne Cricket Club and spare capacity would be created.

In addition to the above, the proposed relocation of Poynton Sports Club to land north of Glastonbury Drive would alleviate overplay, providing the square is re-provided to a good quality and with at least 13 wickets (14 are identified in existing plans). This should therefore continue to be supported.

In total, 28 match equivalent sessions per week of overplay would be alleviated.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Of the squares that would remain overplayed, those at the following 11 sites are currently without an NTP:

- ◀ Alderley Edge Cricket Club
- ◀ Ashley Cricket Club
- ◀ Holmes Chapel Cricket Club
- ◀ Kerridge Cricket Club
- ◀ Lindow Cricket Club
- ◀ Mere Cricket Club
- ◀ Mobberley Cricket Club
- ◀ Poynton Sports Club
- ◀ Rode Park & Lawton Cricket Club
- ◀ Toft Cricket Club
- ◀ Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club

Cricket squares can be accompanied by NTPs, with these made of a synthetic material that allows users to play on a usable wicket all year round whilst not contributing towards playing demand on grass wickets. By the nature of its design, an NTP is able to accommodate significantly more demand than a natural cricket wicket (up to 60 match equivalent sessions per season), meaning they can contribute towards addressing overplay issues on grass cricket squares. As such, installing an NTP to accompany overplayed grass wicket squares can alleviate capacity issues as some demand could be transferred.

As a caveat, whilst the inclusion of an NTP for the management of fixtures can alleviate overplay issues, usage is subject to league rules and minimum pitch specifications. Generally, only junior fixtures can be played on the provision, in addition to some lower level senior play and midweek demand (e.g., recreational leagues and friendlies). Furthermore, undue pressure should not be placed on clubs and volunteers to install self-funded NTPs.

Hybrid wickets

Although not readily available within grassroots cricket, there may be potential in the future to address overplay through the installation of hybrid wicket/s on competitive senior pitches. The ECB has been working with SIS Pitches on the installation of hybrid cricket wickets at county cricket clubs (2019) and more recently recreational squares such as Perry Hall Park in Birmingham (2021).

A hybrid wicket combines natural turf grass with less than 5% of uniquely engineered, soft polyethylene yarn, which has already been used to improve golf tees, tennis courts and pitch surrounds. These wickets are to offer a greater capacity in addition to reducing time on repair works with a faster recovery time. Reports found that hybrid wickets improve surface stability, reduced wear, reduced bowler foot holes and significantly extended hours of playing time.

Ideally, once these become more readily available for community cricket clubs and have gone through the required testing, they could act as a way to increase levels of playing capacity on overplay squares. This would be particularly beneficial for those sites which are limited on space and cannot create additional wickets due to restrictions on things such as boundary length or ball strike.

Although it is difficult at this stage to understand what impact hybrid wickets could have on each site's capacity, it is suggested that it could potentially alleviate all the overplay on both junior and senior wickets. This is based on the assumption that more senior demand can take place on the hybrid wickets allowing for the outer senior wickets to be used/converted for junior demand. However, it should also be known that hybrid wickets are a new development and remain largely untested at grassroots level, meaning there is no data at present to formally promote them as a solution.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Providing security of tenure

In total, three squares in Cheshire East currently have spare capacity for additional Saturday cricket discounted due to unsecure tenure at their respective sites. These are identified at:

- ◀ Gorse Croft Farm (used by Audlem CC)
- ◀ Mossley Cricket Club (used by Congleton CC)
- ◀ Sandbach School (used by Haslington CC)

In addition, whilst a secured community use agreement is already established at The King's School, where six grass wicket squares are supplied, the site does not offer actual spare capacity due to a lack of ancillary facilities available to potential club-users. Providing suitable provision at the site would therefore create significant levels of additional capacity. This could be used by clubs in the Macclesfield and Wilmslow analysis areas.

The table below shows that just a small shortfall (22 match equivalent sessions per season) would exist for Saturday cricket across Cheshire East if security of tenure was provided at the four sites in addition to suitable access at The King's School. Furthermore, localised shortfalls would also remain in the Central Analysis Area for Saturday and midweek cricket.

Table 4.35: Capacity balance of grass cricket squares with security of tenure provided

Analysis area	Playing format	Match equivalent sessions per season		
		Current total	Potential additional actual spare capacity	Potential current total
North	Saturday	156	156	0
	Sunday	109	168	59
	Midweek	101	168	67
Central	Saturday	72	36	36
	Sunday	48	48	0
	Midweek	72	48	24
South	Saturday	2	12	14
	Sunday	38	12	50
	Midweek	18	24	42
Cheshire East	Saturday	226	204	22
	Sunday	130	228	98
	Midweek	166	240	74

Bringing disused provision back into use

Chelford CC folded in 2018 and the square has since been out of use. The site is currently subject to a planning application but represents a key opportunity to alleviate existing shortfalls and the shortfall that would remain for Saturday cricket even if other scenarios are actioned. As such, it is also clear that the provision cannot be permanently lost unless replacement provision is provided to an equal or better quantity and quality, as per national planning policy. Clubs from the Macclesfield, Knutsford and Wilmslow analysis areas would be potential users.

In addition, it should also be noted that a disused NTP is due to be brought back into use for the 2024 playing season at Alderley Park. This will be able to support recreational activity in the area and could supply a secondary venue for clubs with large junior sections.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Accommodating future demand

In total, 15 cricket clubs in Cheshire East express future demand, which if realised would exacerbate shortfalls for Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket. The table below explores the impact that future demand could have on a club-by-club basis to better understand what can and cannot be accommodated.

Table 4.36: Accommodating future demand (club-by-club)

Club	Future demand			Comments
	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior	
Alsager CC	-	-	1	Existing NTP can be used; however, general overplay will still exist.
Bollington CC	-	1	2	Capacity exists for one additional senior women's team and an additional three junior teams.
Bunbury CC	-	-	1	Existing NTP can be used; however, general overplay will still exist.
Crewe Vagrants CC	-	-	2	Insufficient capacity exists at Crewe Vagrants; however, demand could potentially be accommodated through greater utilisation of the NTP on-site.
Elworth CC	-	-	2	Existing NTP can be used; however, general overplay will still exist.
Haslington CC	-	1	2	Insufficient capacity exists; however, junior demand could potentially be accommodated through greater utilisation of the NTP on-site.
Langley CC	-	1	1	Insufficient capacity exists; however, junior demand could potentially be accommodated through greater utilisation of the NTP on-site.
Lindow CC	-	1	1	Insufficient capacity exists; however, junior demand could potentially be accommodated through greater utilisation of the NTP on-site.
Mobberley CC	-	1	-	Site is already overplayed so demand cannot be accommodated without an NTP being installed.
Over Peover CC	-	-	2	An NTP will require installation for sufficient capacity to exist.
Pott Shrigley CC	-	1	-	An NTP will require installation for sufficient capacity to exist.
Sandbach CC	1	1	1	Capacity exists for one additional senior women's team and junior demand could potentially be accommodated through greater utilisation of the NTP on-site.
Styal CC	-	1	1	An NTP will require installation for sufficient capacity to exist.
Wistaston Village CC	-	-	1	Capacity exists for four additional junior teams.

As seen, most clubs cannot achieve their future demand aspirations at sites currently used due to existing capacity issues. This is further shown by the overall impact it will have on the supply and demand balance across Cheshire East, as evidenced in the following table.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 4.37: Impact of future demand aspirations on the capacity of grass cricket squares

Analysis area	Playing format	Match equivalent sessions per season		
		Current total	Potential additional usage	Potential current total
North	Saturday	156	-	156
	Sunday	109	50	159
	Midweek	101	42	143
Central	Saturday	72	12	84
	Sunday	48	10	58
	Midweek	72	24	96
South	Saturday	2	-	2
	Sunday	38	20	18
	Midweek	18	30	12
Cheshire East	Saturday	226	12	238
	Sunday	130	80	210
	Midweek	166	96	262

As seen, the overall shortfall for Saturday cricket increases by 12 match equivalent sessions, whilst it grows by 80 match equivalent sessions for Sunday cricket and 96 match equivalent sessions for midweek cricket.

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that there are ways for most of the demand to be accommodated without exacerbating current shortfalls. This is if existing NTPs were to be fully utilised and additional NTPs were installed at relevant sites currently without them (only the future senior demand expressed by Sandbach CC could not be accommodated via an NTP).

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing cricket pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Improve quality at sites overplayed and/or assessed as standard quality, and ensure quality is sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Install NTPs at overplayed sites that are not currently serviced by such provision and seek to fully utilise NTPs already in existence where required.
- ◀ Consider bringing disused squares back into use as an alternative means to alleviating shortfalls and ensure appropriate mitigation should provision come forward for permanent loss (i.e., at Chelford Cricket Club).
- ◀ Support Poynton Sports Club's relocation to land north of Glastonbury Drive.
- ◀ Pursue improved security of tenure for clubs without ownership or a long-term lease arrangement in place.
- ◀ Seek to better utilise education sites and ensure appropriate provision is in place to support community usage (e.g., at the King's School).
- ◀ Continue to support ECB initiatives such as All Stars and Dynamos and ensure unaffiliated demand and recreational cricket is adequately provided for.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a need to do so e.g., at Aston, Bunbury, Audlem, Mere, Mossley, Over Peover, Rostherne and Toft cricket clubs.
- ◀ Improve existing and provide additional training facilities where there is demand.
- ◀ Assess the need for new cricket provision linked to any large housing development (i.e., over 300 dwellings) and assess this through the production of a sport needs assessment to determine on or off site requirements.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, ensure that any proposals for new squares will attract adequate demand.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing or new cricket sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).

Other grass pitch sports - lacrosse

Assessment Report summary

Other grass pitch sports – lacrosse supply and demand summary

- ◀ Poynton Lacrosse Club requires access to increased pitch capacity, meaning proposals relating to Poynton Sports Club's relocation to land north of Glastonbury Drive should be supported in addition to quality improvements at Mount Vernon.
- ◀ Norbury Lacrosse Club's demand can seemingly be accommodated, although the provision at Disley Amalgamated Sports Club needs to be carefully managed given that it is also used for football.
- ◀ As Wilmslow Lacrosse Club does not have any capacity issues, supply is considered sufficient to meet its demand, whilst UKLacrosse Coaching LTD should continue to be supported to help it grow and maximise its activity at Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club).

Other grass pitch sports – lacrosse supply summary

- ◀ There are seven senior lacrosse pitches located across four sites (Disley Amalgamated Sports Club, Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club, Poynton Sports Club and Mount Vernon), all of which are available for community use.
- ◀ AGPs at Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club and Poynton Sports Club also accommodate lacrosse training activity, whilst the smaller sized 3G pitch at Macclesfield Rugby Club is being used by UKLacrosse Coaching LTD.
- ◀ Poynton Sports Club is subject to a potential development that could entail the relocation of its three lacrosse pitches to land north of Glastonbury Drive, whilst a MUGA is to be built at Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club for Wilmslow Lacrosse Club's training activity.
- ◀ UKLacrosse Coaching LTD has aspirations to cover the 3G pitch at Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club), and the provision also requires appropriate line markings to maximise the lacrosse activity that it can accommodate.
- ◀ The pitches at Disley Amalgamated Sports Club, Poynton Sports Club and Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club are rated as standard quality, whereas the pitch at Mount Vernon is poor quality.
- ◀ Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities, Disley Amalgamated Sports Club by standard quality provision and Poynton Sports Club by poor quality provision, whilst Mount Vernon is without changing rooms.

Other grass pitch sports – lacrosse demand summary

- ◀ Poynton Lacrosse Club fields two senior men's teams, an u19s development team, four junior boys' teams and one junior girls' team, whilst Wilmslow Lacrosse Club fields two senior men's teams, one senior women's team, one junior boys' team and one junior girls' team.
- ◀ Norbury Lacrosse Club fields three senior men's, three junior boys' and three junior girls' teams, although most activity takes place in Stockport at the Club's home site.
- ◀ Demand at Wilmslow Lacrosse Club has decreased in recent years, which it attributes to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ◀ Poynton Lacrosse Club has significant latent demand linked to a lack of pitch capacity across Poynton Sports Club and Mount Vernon.
- ◀ Norbury Lacrosse Club, Poynton Lacrosse Club and Wilmslow Lacrosse Club all report aspirations to grow demand in the future.
- ◀ UKLacrosse Coaching LTD expects to achieve significant growth when it fully establishes itself at Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club), with some of this also likely to be imported due to no alternatives existing in the region.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Scenarios

Accommodating latent and future demand

Poynton Lacrosse Club reports that it could field up to an additional four teams if it had more available pitches, with its current pitches played to capacity at peak time. Due to this, as part of Poynton Sports Club's proposed relocation to land north of Glastonbury Drive, three senior lacrosse pitches are recommended, as opposed to the two currently provided. This is as per the Poynton Mitigation Strategy⁵, which based on the findings of the PPOSS should continue to be supported.

Wilmslow Lacrosse Club also expresses future demand, with this equating to two junior teams, which in effect will offset the recent loss of teams within this format. With 3.5 match equivalent sessions of capacity existing at Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club, this growth can be accommodated without any action being required.

Norbury Lacrosse Club also reports that it is focusing on increasing its junior demand and suggests that it could form teams from Cheshire East that will utilise Disley Amalgamated Sports Club now that it is accessing the site. In order for this to be accommodated without overplay being experienced, quality will need to improve from standard to good.

Finally, UKLacrosse Coaching LTD expects to achieve significant growth when it fully establishes itself at Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club), although to what extent is currently difficult to quantify due its infancy. As this activity will take place on smaller sized 3G provision, no capacity issues should be forthcoming (as the pitch is currently under-utilised), providing appropriate line markings are in place.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing lacrosse pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Ensure continued access to existing sites and pitches to enable continued access.
- ◀ Look to improve pitch quality at Mount Vernon and Disley Amalgamated Sports Club to better cater for lacrosse demand and to ensure future demand can be accommodated.
- ◀ Continue to support the relocation of Poynton Sports Club and ensure additional lacrosse provision is provided as part of this so that latent demand from Poynton Lacrosse Club can be realised.
- ◀ Look to provide appropriate lacrosse line markings on the 3G pitch at Priory Park.

Other grass pitch sports - American football

Assessment Report summary

Other grass pitch sports – American football supply and demand summary

- ◀ In isolation, the provision at Crewe Vagrants Sports Club is sufficient to cater for the needs of American football given that the American football and rugby union seasons run at separate times of the year.
- ◀ However, the presence of American football at a site that is otherwise heavily used for rugby union must be carefully managed as this adds to the maintenance requirements at the venue and makes post-season remedial work more difficult.

Other grass pitch sports – American football supply summary

- ◀ There are no dedicated American football pitches within Cheshire East, with a rugby union pitch at Crewe Vagrants Sports Club instead used.
- ◀ The pitch is of good quality.

⁵ [Poynton Mitigation Strategy](#)

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

- ◀ Activity has previously taken place at Cheshire College South & West and King George V Playing Fields.

Other grass pitch sports – American football demand summary

- ◀ There is one American football club, known as Crewe Railroaders.
- ◀ It fields just one team, playing the full contact version of American football.
- ◀ The Club carries out all its training sessions and plays all its matches at Crewe Vagrants Sports Club.
- ◀ It has an aspiration to access a 3G pitch at King George V Playing Fields, if developed.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing American football pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Ensure continued American football access to Crewe Vagrants Sports Club
- ◀ Explore potential American football use of the proposed 3G pitch at King George V Playing Fields, should it come to fruition.

Other grass pitch sports - rounders

Assessment Report summary

Other grass pitch sports – Rounders supply and demand summary

- ◀ The current level of supply is seemingly sufficient enough to meet community demand for rounders in Cheshire East, with the community available facilities able to adequately cater for any potential future demand.

Other grass pitch sports – Rounders supply summary

- ◀ There are currently 21 rounders diamonds identified across seven sites in Cheshire East, 15 of which are available for community use.

Other grass pitch sports – Rounders demand summary

- ◀ No formal rounders club demand currently exist in Cheshire East; however, a significant number of clubs are identified in neighbouring Manchester.
- ◀ All present demand is seemingly school-based.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing rounders pitches in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Ensure an element of community availability remains should any demand exist in the future.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Other grass pitch sports - baseball/softball

Assessment Report summary

Other grass pitch sports – Baseball/softball supply and demand summary

- ◀ Although there are currently no community available facilities for baseball/softball within Cheshire East, BSUK identifies that demand could exist in the Borough, meaning that a development that can cater for this could be pursued.

Other grass pitch sports – Baseball/softball supply summary

- ◀ There is only one softball diamond identified in Cheshire East, located at Malbank School & Sixth Form College.
- ◀ The provision is unavailable for community use.

Other grass pitch sports – Baseball/softball demand summary

- ◀ No formal baseball/softball club demand currently exists in Cheshire East.
- ◀ Consultation with BSUK identifies that, although it does not operate programmes in the area, the Borough is of interest as many of players are based South of Manchester.
- ◀ BSUK identifies that the possibility of exploring a project would be beneficial, whilst also noting that many schools play the sports locally.
- ◀ In addition, BSUK notes that it has been looking for a place to build its own facility in the north of England that can in time be developed to host elite players, international events and service the local community.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing provision at Malbank School & Sixth Form College in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Consider BSUK's aspiration to develop a facility for baseball/softball in the area.

Tennis courts

Assessment Report summary

Tennis – supply and demand summary

- ◀ For club-based tennis, four clubs (Croftside TC, Lindow LTC, Pownall Park TC and Prestbury TC) have potential capacity issues through using LTA guidelines. However, none of these clubs report any capacity issues themselves, and all remaining clubs have spare capacity, with spare capacity also existing across Cheshire East as a whole.
- ◀ For non-club activity, no capacity issues have been identified and it is therefore considered that all sites have capacity for additional growth, although this does not equate to a surplus of courts given the high levels of unmet/latent demand identified.
- ◀ It is clear that the existing supply can be improved upon through roll out of LTA products and, where required, quality improvements.

Tennis – supply summary

- ◀ There are 241 tennis courts identified in Cheshire East across 62 sites.
- ◀ Of the courts, 196 are categorised as being available for community use at 53 sites, compared to 45 that are unavailable at ten sites.
- ◀ There are also eight tennis courts that are considered disused across Wilmslow High School, Clare's Space Boutique Health Club and The Carrs Park.
- ◀ Alderley Park (Astra Zeneca), Total Fitness (Wilmslow), Mottram Hall and Clare's Space Boutique Health Club each offer access to padel tennis courts.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

- ◀ The majority of the courts are operated by schools (82 courts), although only 50% of these are available for community use, with more local authority and club operated courts considered to be accessible.
- ◀ Tenure is unsecure for Bunbury, Macclesfield, Styal, Wistaston Jubilee and Wrenbury & District tennis clubs.
- ◀ The majority of community available outdoor tennis courts (104 courts) have a macadam surface, although some artificial turf (65 courts), polymeric (19 courts), acrylic (three courts) and clay (two courts) surfaces are also evident.
- ◀ A total of 126 of the 196 community available tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing 64% of the provision.
- ◀ Of the courts, 101 are assessed as good quality (all available to the community), 93 as standard quality (with 76 available) and 47 as poor quality (19 available).
- ◀ Of the community available sites, 17 have good quality ancillary facilities, 13 have standard quality provision and three have poor quality provision, with an additional ten sites not currently serviced.

Tennis – demand summary

- ◀ There are 21 tennis clubs with membership, where known, equating to 4,028 members.
- ◀ For senior membership, a total of 11 clubs report an increase participation in comparison to five clubs which indicate a decrease, although more clubs report a decrease in junior participation.
- ◀ A total of 17 sites utilise LTA products, which can increase recreational tennis demand (e.g., Clubspark).
- ◀ A Local Tennis League known as the South & Mid Cheshire League is also in operation, whilst two sites are involved in the LTA Youth Start programme.
- ◀ The LTA reports that latent/unmet demand is high nationally, although no responding clubs in Cheshire East suggest any issues, which indicates that such usage is likely to fall outside of the club environment.
- ◀ 13 clubs express future demand aspirations, with this totalling 360 senior members and 405 junior members, whilst the LTA also expects future recreational demand via its insight tools.

Scenarios

Accommodating current and future demand

The LTA suggests that a court without sports lighting can accommodate a maximum of 40 members, whereas a court with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members. Based on this, four clubs could have current capacity issues in Cheshire East, with these being at Croftside Tennis Club, Lindow Lawn Tennis Club, Pownall Park Tennis Club and Prestbury Playing Fields.

Of the four clubs operating above the capacity guidance, each are equipped with sports lighting. However, one of the courts at Lindow Lawn Tennis Club is without such provision, meaning providing additional sports lighting at this site would reduce its shortfall, although it would remain. This is shown in the following table; the overall shortfall across the sites reduces from 179 members to 159 members.

Table 4.38: Impact of providing sports lighting at sites with capacity issues

Site ID	Site name	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Current Capacity rating (members)	Capacity rating with sports-lit courts (members)
247	Prestbury Playing Fields	8	Yes	11	11
274	Croftside Tennis Club	3	Yes	84	84
278	Lindow Lawn Tennis Club	2	Yes	64	44
		1	No		

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Current Capacity rating (members)	Capacity rating with sports-lit courts (members)
247	Prestbury Playing Fields	8	Yes	11	11
274	Croftside Tennis Club	3	Yes	84	84
283	Pownall Park Tennis Club	3	Yes	20	20

The only way to fully alleviate capacity issues across the sites would be to provide the clubs with access to additional provision. To that end, the following table explores the number of courts that could be required.

Table 4.39: Additional provision required to satisfy current demand

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Current capacity rating (members)	Capacity rating with sports-lit courts (members)	No. of additional courts required
247	Prestbury Playing Fields	Prestbury TC	20	20	One additional court with or without sports lighting.
274	Croftside Tennis Club	Croftside TC	11	11	One additional court with or without sports lighting.
278	Lindow Lawn Tennis Club	Lindow LTC	84	84	Two additional courts, one with sports lighting and one court without sports lighting.
283	Pownall Park Tennis Club	Pownall Park TC	64	44	One additional court with sports lighting or if sports lighting is not possible, two additional non-lit courts are needed.

When accounting for future demand, five clubs would not be able to accommodate their aspirations within capacity guidelines. Of sites used by these, Heyes Lane Tennis Club and one of the courts at Lindow Lawn Tennis Club is without sports lighting, meaning shortfalls at both of these sites would diminish (and be fully eradicated at the former) with the installation of additional sports lighting. However, for the remaining sites, additional courts would be required to meet future demand, as shown in the following table.

Table 4.40: Additional provision required to satisfy future demand

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Future capacity rating (members)	Future rating with sports-lit courts (members)	No. of additional courts required
10	Audlem Playing Fields	Audlem TC	12	12	One additional court with or without lighting.
62	Bunbury Playing Field	Bunbury TC	164	164	Three additional courts with sports lighting or if sports lighting is not possible, five additional non-lit courts are needed.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Future capacity rating (members)	Future rating with sports-lit courts (members)	No. of additional courts required
247	Prestbury Playing Fields	Prestbury TC	46	46	One additional court with sports lighting or if sports lighting is not possible, two additional non-lit courts are needed.
276	Heyes Lane Tennis Club	Heyes Lane TC	28	12	No additional courts if existing provision can be serviced.
278	Lindow Lawn Tennis Club	Lindow Lawn LTC	104	104	Two additional courts with sports lighting or if sports lighting is not possible, three additional non-lit courts are needed.

In total, a minimum of seven courts (six sports-lit courts) would be required to meet the future shortfall identified.

Notwithstanding the above, it must be noted that none of the clubs with current or future shortfalls express any capacity issues or any requirement for additional court space. As such, this is not considered to be a priority, although demand should continue to be monitored to ensure that this remains the case.

Where additional courts could be required, this does not necessarily mean that new sites need to be established. Instead, enabling access to existing provision at local authority sites or at school sites could be explored.

Improving the recreational tennis offer

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

In Cheshire East, four local authority sites offering tennis courts have been identified received for recent investment from the LTA. This relates to the following:

- ◀ Alderley Edge Park
- ◀ Bollington Recreation Ground
- ◀ Meriton Road Park
- ◀ South Park

These still need to go to cabinet approval before developments can take place. However, based on the findings of this study, such investment should be supported in order to better provide for and increase recreational demand, with quality and a lack of sports lighting currently a significant barrier to participation.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing courts in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ and local planning policy.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

- ◀ Improve court quality at club sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Support investment into local authority courts to better provide for recreational tennis and seek to maximise usage following funding.
- ◀ Explore the installation of sports lighting where it is not currently provided to increase the capacity of courts, especially at club and park sites that are or could be well used.
- ◀ Monitor clubs with capacity issues in order to understand if and when additional court access may be required.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision servicing courts where demand is, or could be, high.
- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via further utilisation of technology provided by the LTA (e.g., Clubspark) to support the customer journey and through investment into facilities and accompanying ancillary provision.
- ◀ Ensure appropriate off-court ancillary facilities are in place to support park tennis (e.g., toilets).
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Support opportunities to provide padel courts given its growing demand, providing that no existing in-use traditional courts are lost as a result (unless it can be evidence that this is of benefit to both padel and tennis).
- ◀ Where padel courts are to be provided (not to the detriment of tennis), prioritise sites with appropriate existing supporting infrastructure and management e.g., leisure centres.

Netball courts

Assessment Report summary

Netball – supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is a high level of demand for netball identified; however, it is also clear that most activity is taking place via indoor facilities, which in most instances seems to be preferred, although it is also being impacted upon by quality at some sites.
- ◀ The current supply of outdoor courts is sufficient in quantitative terms, although improvements to tenure, quality and access is needed to better meet what demand exists and to ensure that the sport can continue to grow.

Netball – supply summary

- ◀ There are 67 netball courts identified in Cheshire East across 22 sites, with 49 courts at 45 sites available for community use.
- ◀ There are also three netball courts that are now considered disused, with these located at Wilmslow High School.
- ◀ 55 courts are operated by education providers, with one managed by the Council, nine by a leisure trust and two by a community organisation.
- ◀ A total of nine sites are reported as being in use for netball activity across the Borough; however, no long-term security of tenure is provided at any of the venues.
- ◀ All but eight of the outdoor netball courts have a macadam surface (two are artificial and six are polymeric).
- ◀ Only 32 courts (48%) are serviced by sports lighting, although this represents a higher number than the national rate.
- ◀ 62 netball courts are overmarked (e.g., by tennis courts) compared to only five that are dedicated for netball use (standalone).
- ◀ Of the courts, six are assessed as good quality, 41 as standard quality and 20 as poor quality, with all the good quality courts available to the community as well as 28 standard quality courts and 15 poor quality courts.

Netball – demand summary

- ◀ There are 13 netball clubs based in Cheshire East, with these collectively catering for 1,274 members and mostly competing in the Cheshire Elite, Cheshire Junior and South Cheshire Premier netball leagues.
- ◀ The Cheshire Elite League consists of 12 teams and has recently been held via a central venue at Alderley Park (Astra Zeneca).

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- ◀ The Cheshire Junior Netball League uses five venues within Cheshire East and outside of the Borough, although these are all indoor venues.
- ◀ The South Cheshire Premier Netball League operates via a central venue format at Crewe Lifestyle Centre but uses indoor provision.
- ◀ Outdoor courts at Fallibroome Academy, The King's School, Tytherington High School, Shavington Academy and Sir William Stanier School are used to host club training activity.
- ◀ Play Netball runs unaffiliated leagues in the Borough across eight venues; however, no outdoor provision is currently utilised.
- ◀ Back to Netball, Netball Now, Bee Netball and Walking Netball are collectively in operation across eight school and leisure centre sites, predominately via indoor courts.
- ◀ Some demand is exported to league formats in neighbouring authorities, such as the Epic Netball League in Cheshire West & Chester and the Warrington & District Netball League in Warrington.
- ◀ A high proportion of demand is imported, with this identified from 16 clubs.
- ◀ Alsager, Knutsford and Sandbach netball clubs report growth aspirations equating to 20, five and 57 members, respectively.
- ◀ No clubs report any unmet or latent demand.

Scenarios

Securing tenure

The outdoor courts at the following sites are currently used by the community for netball:

- ◀ Fallibroome Academy
- ◀ Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre
- ◀ Middlewich Leisure Centre
- ◀ Poynton High School
- ◀ Sandbach High School & Sixth Form College
- ◀ Shavington Academy
- ◀ Sir William Stanier School
- ◀ The King's School
- ◀ Tytherington High School

None of these currently have a long-term usage agreement in place for any of the netball users, although some will be covered via the operator (e.g., at sites managed by Everybody Health & Leisure). For the remaining sites, secured access should also be pursued to ensure that netball demand can continue to be provided for.

Increasing sports-lit provision

The presence of sports lighting is considered to be key for outdoor netball court access as it can provide additional capacity, especially during winter months. Of the sites currently used, the following are not serviced:

- ◀ Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre
- ◀ Middlewich Leisure Centre
- ◀ Sandbach High School & Sixth Form College
- ◀ Sir William Stanier School
- ◀ Tytherington High School

Providing sports lighting at these venues would better accommodate demand and potentially encourage more usage, particularly in terms of midweek training and commercial league activity. It is particularly something that should be explored at the Everybody Health & Leisure sites given the operation model in place and the quantity of courts provided.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing courts in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Secure community use at sites that are currently in use or that could be used in the future.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs and for England Netball initiatives.
- ◀ Consider establishing additional sports lighting at venues in use for netball or at venues that could attract netball demand following installation.

Bowling greens

Assessment Report summary

Bowls – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Ten greens are currently operating above the capacity limit, whilst Mobberley Victory Hall is also forecast to have a shortfall when factoring in future demand.
- ◀ At the other end of the scale, the two greens located at South Park are the only greens in Cheshire East that currently operating below the recommended capacity range, although there are also 11 greens without a club assigned to them.
- ◀ Whilst there are clearly some capacity pressures, only two affected club reports any issues, suggesting that overall supply is considered sufficient to meet demand.
- ◀ Whilst no shortfalls are identified, it is also clear that most of the supply requires protection to ensure that demand can continue to be accommodated, meaning no in-use greens can be lost.

Bowls – supply summary

- ◀ There are 63 crown green bowls greens in Cheshire East provided across 60 sites.
- ◀ There are also seven disused greens identified at The Hop Pole, Brook Street, Travellers Rest, Bombardier Bowling Club, Rams Head, Knutsford Masonic Hall and Cotton Arms.
- ◀ Congleton Park, High Legh, Limes, Mottram, South Park Ladies and Waggon Horses bowls clubs all express unsecure tenure for use of their greens.
- ◀ 35 greens are serviced by sports lighting, which represents a significantly large amount.
- ◀ Across the Borough, 51 greens are assessed as good quality and 12 as standard quality (none are poor).
- ◀ Greens at Macclesfield Cricket Club, Wrenbury Recreation Ground, Mere Cricket Club, Brooks Lane and Dixon Court are serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Nine clubs have aspirations to improve their ancillary provision.

Bowls – demand summary

- ◀ There are 59 clubs using bowling greens in Cheshire East, with membership, where known, totalling 1,928 members and equating to 1,189 senior men, 722 senior women and 17 juniors.
- ◀ In contrast to a national trend of declining membership, nine clubs state that membership has increase in recent years, whilst only five identify a decrease.
- ◀ Four clubs state that their greens are available for pay and play, although take up is seemingly low.
- ◀ Marriot House Veterans BC and Wilmslow U3A BC report that their existing membership levels cannot be accommodated on the current level of provision available to them (unmet demand).
- ◀ 10 clubs quantify future demand aspirations collectively totalling 157 members (135 senior and 22 junior).

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Scenarios

Impact of accommodating current and future demand

The British Crown Green Bowls Association (BCGBA) does not have any specific guidance on bowling green capacity, stating that it can vary from site-to-site and from club-to-club. However, it states that any green used by at least 20 members is generally considered to be sustainable, whilst any green operating with a membership of over 80 may need additional resource to ensure that it is meeting the required level of demand.

In Cheshire East, where membership is known, ten greens are currently operating above the capacity limit, with these being:

- ◀ Alsager Bowling & Recreation Club
- ◀ Knutsford Bowling Club
- ◀ High Legh Bowls Club
- ◀ Packhorse Bowling & Social Club
- ◀ Poynton Workmen's Club
- ◀ Prestbury Bowls Club
- ◀ Rams Head Bowling Green
- ◀ Sandbach Park (x2)
- ◀ Wilmslow Bowling Club

Collectively, the greens are currently oversubscribed by 474 members, which could equate to the need for six additional greens if membership was combined.

When accounting for future demand (club aspirational demand), just one additional green is forecast to become oversubscribed (at Mobberley Victory Hall); however, the future deficit at this site is very minor with just one member oversubscribed. Together with the current oversubscribed greens (with some deficits worsening via future demand), a future shortfall of 579 members is calculated, which could equate to the need for seven additional greens if membership was combined.

Notwithstanding the above, of the affected clubs, only Marriot House Veterans BC, based at Sandbach Park, reports an existing capacity issue (due to sharing its green with other clubs). The remaining clubs each suggest that both current and future demand can be accommodated via their existing provision. In addition, capacity issues at Sandbach Park should be relieved to some extent when Limes BC returns to its usual home site (Limes Bowling Green).

Based on the above, it is considered that all current and future demand can be accommodated on the current supply of greens, although those clubs that are oversubscribed should continue to be monitored to ensure that this remains the case.

In addition, it should be noted that the oversubscribed greens at Alsager Bowling & Recreation Club, Knutsford Bowling Club, Prestbury Bowls Club and Wilmslow Bowling Club are not currently serviced by sports lighting. Whilst there is no guidance in place to determine how much additional capacity such provision creates, it is known to have a positive impact on accommodating demand. This could therefore be pursued, subject to any planning constraints.

Achieving club sustainability

The BCGBA suggests that clubs operating with a membership of below 20 could be unsustainable. In Cheshire East, only South Park Ladies BC has less than this and, subsequently, the Club may require support to ensure that it can remain sustainable. Avenues should be explored to increase membership levels.

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Unused greens

Across Cheshire East, there are 11 greens that do not currently have clubs assigned to them, with these being:

- ◀ Clare's Space Boutique Health Club
- ◀ Limes Bowling Green
- ◀ Legends Health & Leisure Centre (x2)
- ◀ Lower Withington Village Hall
- ◀ North Street Methodist Bowling Club
- ◀ Poynton Legion Club
- ◀ Railway Inn
- ◀ The Church Inn
- ◀ The White Lion
- ◀ Wrenbury Recreation Ground

Of these, only the provision at Limes Bowling Green is clearly required from a bowls perspective, with Limes BC only temporarily not based at the site due to an on-site fire. For the remaining greens, unless any demand has been missed, repurposing the provision to meet shortfalls for other sports or open space requirements could be explored, although retaining some provision as strategic reserve is also encouraged. This is particularly the case if any are located in close proximity to clubs with capacity issues.

The same also applies to the disused greens across Cheshire East. These are based at:

- ◀ Bombardier Bowling Club
- ◀ Brook Street
- ◀ Cotton Arms
- ◀ Knutsford Masonic Hall
- ◀ Rams Head
- ◀ The Hop Pole
- ◀ Traveller's Res

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect all existing greens that are in use (as well as the green as Limes Bowling Green) in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as poor and standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Explore installation of additional sports lighting at sites currently without, particularly those that are oversubscribed.
- ◀ Seek to improve ancillary facility quality where it is necessary.
- ◀ Support clubs operating with a high membership to ensure demand continues to be met on their existing provision.
- ◀ Support clubs operating with a low membership to ensure that they remain sustainable.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Archery

Assessment Report summary

Archery - supply and demand summary

- It is considered that there is currently insufficient provision to adequately cater for archery demand due to capacity pressures existing at Alsager Company of Archers and because North Cheshire Bowmen requires a larger grass area
- Greenbank Company of Archery is seemingly being adequately provided for, particularly given that it is no longer to be impacted upon by HS2 plans.

Archery - supply summary

- There is one dedicated outdoor archery range identified, situated in Nantwich and operated by commercial operators National Archery, although it is not affiliated to Archery GB.
- In addition, Alsager Company of Archers uses Cranberry Academy (in Alsager), Greenbank Company of Archers uses an area off Parkers Road (in Crewe), and North Cheshire Bowmen uses Knutsford Sports Club.
- The site used by Greenbank Company of Archers was previously subject to HS2 plans.
- Alsager Company of Archers also uses indoor provision at The Quinta Academy and St Mary's Church Hall, whilst Greenbank Company of Archers does at St Thomas More Catholic School.

Archery – demand summary

- Alsager Company of Archers currently consists of 98 members and provides beginner courses for newcomers looking to learn the sport.
- Greenbank Company of Archers is a Club which primarily focuses on offering beginner courses to newcomers, providing a four-week training course as well as individual taster sessions.
- North Cheshire Bowmen consists of 150 members (including ten juniors) and also offer beginner courses.
- The dedicated archery range in Nantwich offers community access via one-hour sessions and is also available to hire on a commercial basis.
- Unmet demand is identified at Alsager Company of Archers, whereby the Club currently has a waiting list of 40 people.
- North Cheshire Bowmen has demand to access a larger field than that provided at Knutsford Sports Club so that it can increase its activity.
- North Cheshire Bowmen identifies that it plans to continue increasing membership by around 10 members per year, tying this into recent growth from its beginner courses.
- Archery GB identifies that it would expect future growth to be high as this would reflect the national picture and recent trends.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- Protect all sites for continued archery activity in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- Protect sites from any prejudicial impacts (e.g., overshooting) from any potential development.
- Seek to provide North Cheshire Bowmen with a larger space to better accommodate its demand.
- Pursue resolution to capacity issues faced by Alsager Company of Archers.
- Sustain ground and ancillary facility quality and seek improvements where necessary.
- Support clubs in membership retention and potential growth.
- Should any new facilities be required, support dialogue with other NGBs to understand if facilities used for other sports could be accessed given that large playing field areas are suitable.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Golf courses

Assessment Report summary

Golf – supply and demand summary

- ◀ With 24 golfing sites in Cheshire East and a mix of standard hole courses, Par 3 courses and driving ranges, the Borough is well placed to meet demand, especially given the various operational structures in place and the variety of price points on offer.
- ◀ It is considered that supply is sufficient to meet demand, although memberships levels are high and some capacity pressures exist.
- ◀ There is a clear need to protect all existing provision and to support sites to ensure that any future demand can be absorbed.

Golf – supply summary

- ◀ Within Cheshire East, there are 24 golf venues that provide facilities.
- ◀ In total, there are 19 standard 18-hole courses and four standard 9-hole courses in addition to five Par 3 courses and 11 driving ranges (provided 207 bays).
- ◀ Disused provision is also identified at Alvaston Hall Country Club (9-hole course) and Brookfield Golf Club (18-hole course).
- ◀ Of the active sites, 17 operate at members clubs, six are proprietary sites and one is a municipal venue (Queen's Park Golf Club).
- ◀ Membership costs are above the national average (£904) across the Borough at £940, although nine sites have lower fees, suggesting a broad mix.
- ◀ Quality is relatively good, with no significant issues identified, especially at the members club sites such as Crewe, Malkin Bank, Prestbury and Wilmslow golf clubs.
- ◀ It is generally worse at sites such as Queens Park Golf Club, Woodside Park Golf Club and Adlington Golf Centre, although this would be expected given their lower price point and the target market.

Golf – demand summary

- ◀ In Cheshire East, the average membership across the clubs that affiliate to England Golf is currently 470, which is substantially above the national average (384).
- ◀ Membership has increased significantly recently, with the average membership in 2018 noted as 388 (an 18% growth).
- ◀ Whilst pay and play usage is not known as it is not something that is tracked by England Golf, it would be expected that demand would be highest at the municipal and proprietary sites.
- ◀ Imported demand into the Borough is expected to be higher than what would ordinarily be considered given the number and variety of golf courses that are provided across the Borough.
- ◀ It is clear based on the high average membership level that some clubs will be facing capacity pressures and it is known that Wilmslow Golf Club, Prestbury Golf Club and Crewe Golf Club all have some level of restriction in place regarding new members.
- ◀ Using an England Golf tool, High Legh Park Country Club is identified as having the largest potential demand, whereas Shrigley Hall Hotel Golf & Country Club has the smallest potential demand.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect all in-use sites for continued golf activity in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Sustain course and ancillary facility quality and seek improvements where necessary.
- ◀ Support clubs in membership retention and potential growth and encourage clubs and providers to work more collaboratively in terms of creating pathways for players.

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing golf sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).
- ◀ For the two disused sites, separate needs assessments will be required to identify requirements should they come forward for development – until such a time, they should also be protected in line with national and local planning policy.

Athletics

Assessment Report summary

Athletics – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Cheshire East is relatively well provided for in relation to athletics tracks, with two synthetic 400-metre facilities provided and with these covering both the northern and southern areas of the Borough; however, demand is also notable, with large clubs attached to both sites.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on protecting the provision, with quality improvements also likely to be required in the near future to ensure they remain sufficient to accommodate the level of demand received.
- ◀ The Central Analysis Area is not currently provided for by any formal athletics facilities, meaning this area could be a focus area for the creation of new provision, tied into England Athletics' current focus on providing new, innovative facilities.
- ◀ Away from track and field activity, emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other activities taking place in Cheshire East, with a focus on retaining and increasing participation and growing the various initiatives that are in place.

Athletics – supply summary

- ◀ There are two dedicated athletics facilities in Cheshire East, with both providing purpose-built 400 metre tracks (at Cumberland Arena and Macclesfield Leisure Centre).
- ◀ An additional, non-traditional running track is located at Wilmslow Rugby Club, with this providing a 600-metre single-lane track with a cinder surface.
- ◀ The tracks at both Cumberland Arena and Macclesfield Leisure Centre are operated by the Everybody Health & Leisure on behalf of the Council.
- ◀ Both tracks are standard quality, primarily due to their age.
- ◀ The track at Macclesfield Leisure Centre will require resurfacing in 2026, whilst both the track and the cage at Cumberland Area need improving in the near future.
- ◀ The track at Macclesfield Leisure Centre is currently TrackMark accredited, whilst the throwing cage at Cumberland Arena is not compliant.
- ◀ The ancillary facilities servicing the provision is adequate.

Athletics – demand summary

- ◀ There are 13 affiliated clubs in Cheshire East taking part in athletics or running activities.
- ◀ Crewe & Nantwich Athletic Club is based at the Cumberland Arena and currently caters for 260 members.
- ◀ Macclesfield Harriers Athletic Club is a large club catering for 750 members and utilises the track at Macclesfield Leisure Centre.
- ◀ Wilmslow Running Club utilises the cinder running track at Wilmslow Rugby Club, whilst all remaining clubs generally do not use dedicated provision.
- ◀ In addition, there are six weekly Park Run events, which is a considerable number, as well as three Junior Park Run events.
- ◀ All clubs suggest that they are open to accommodating new members, suggesting that most people wanting to participate can do so, meaning capacity is not a barrier to any unmet/latent demand.

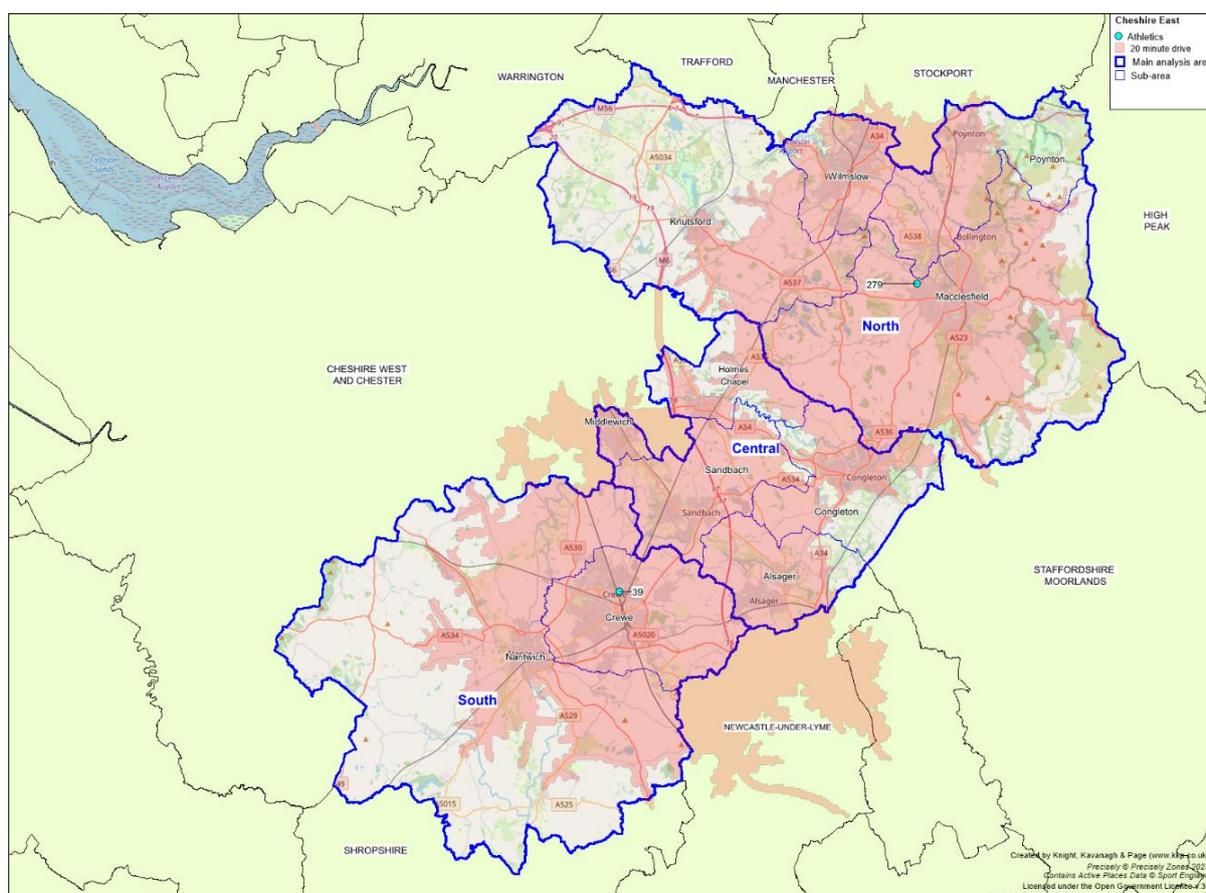
CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Scenarios

Additional provision

As seen by the 20-minute drive-time map overleaf, there are areas in Cheshire East not being serviced by formal track provision. These could be targeted for the creation of new provision, especially in or close to the small corridor within Central Analysis Area given the northern and southern location of the existing two tracks. This would ensure all demand across the Borough could be accommodated.

Figure 4.2: Service areas of athletics tracks in Cheshire East (20-minute drive-time)



England Athletics is currently exploring three alternative approaches in designing new athletics provision with three designs known as compact track, mini track and active track.

The first of the three alternative designs is a 'compact track', featuring a 60-metre sprint straight with an accompanying jump lane and shot put space. This provision is the smallest of the three and is installed at sites with limited available land.

A 'mini track' features a 140-metre four lane oval track with a six lane 60-metre sprint, as well as accompanying shot put and jumping provision. An advantage to a mini track design is it leaves a large space in the centre of the oval track to be used for either various field events such as long jump/ triple jump, or alternatively it can be used for other sports such as football pitches or an outdoor gym.

Mini track sites also feature a new design of shot-put practice areas in which it flattens a natural slope and athletes throw into a hill allowing for the put to roll back to the participant thus reducing time spent retrieving the put after each throw.

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Finally, an ‘active track’ is a synthetic loop with no fixed shape or distance (similar to a formula one circuit), in which a track is drawn to fit its natural surroundings such as an existing park or school field. This is installed at sites where a 400-metre oval would not be feasible as it allows for adaptations to the shape in order to suit land in its current state.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protecting existing track facilities in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Sustain quality and make improvements via re-surfacing when necessary to ensure that demand can continue to be met.
- ◀ Work towards achieving TrackMark status at Cumberland Arena and ensure provision at Macclesfield Leisure Centre remains compliant.
- ◀ Look to improve the throwing facilities as a priority at Cumberland Arena as they are not currently compliant.
- ◀ Explore if an opportunity exists in areas without purpose-built facilities for the creation of alternative forms of provision linked to England Athletics' current priorities.
- ◀ Support clubs, running groups, events and England Athletics initiatives such as Park Run and pursue increased participation, where possible.
- ◀ Ensure all clubs/groups continue to have home bases to operate from and pursue improved security of tenure where it is required.

Cycling

Assessment Report summary

Cycling – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Formal cycling provision at Tipkinder Park (Shanaze Reade BMX Track) requires protection to ensure competitive demand can continue to be met, whilst the protection of provision at Lanark Walk, Lacey Green Park, Picton Drive, Weston Pump Track and Windmill Park should also be seen as a priority.
- ◀ With dedicated provision only existing in the North and South analysis areas, demand for the creation of facilities within the Central Analysis Area could be explored, and any provision should complement what is already in place to ensure a broader range of activities can be catered for across the Borough.

Cycling – supply summary

- ◀ In Cheshire East, there are six purpose built outdoor cycling facilities at Tipkinder Park (Shanaze Reade BMX Track), Weston Pump Track and Windmill Park, Picton Drive, Lanark Walk and Lacey Green Park
- ◀ The provision at Tipkinder Park was completely remodelled in 2009 and is deemed to be of a very high standard.
- ◀ The pump track at Windmill Park is also assessed as good quality following improvement work in 2023.
- ◀ The remaining facilities are of adequate quality.

Cycling – demand summary

- ◀ There are ten prominent cycling clubs based in Cheshire East.
- ◀ Macclesfield Wheelers is the largest club, catering for 250 members.
- ◀ Congleton Ghost Riders BMX utilises the BMX track at Tipkinder Park (Shanaze Reade BMX Track), whilst all remaining clubs do not access dedicated provision nor do they have demand to.
- ◀ One club is identified as offering Go-Ride programmes, with this known as Cheshire Ghostriders BMX.
- ◀ In addition, there are eight Cycle UK groups within Cheshire East.
- ◀ Whilst levels of future and latent demand are identified, the nature of cycling means that most of this will not require space at a dedicated facility or within a club.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing formal provision across the six existing sites in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Ensure continued access to sites and routes used for formal cycling.
- ◀ Ensure all clubs/groups have home bases to operate from and pursue improved security of tenure where it is required.
- ◀ Support British Cycling initiatives and ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place to accommodate such demand.
- ◀ Explore the potential creation of off-road cycling provision in the Central Analysis Area to better accommodate demand from across Cheshire East (e.g., at Hankinson's Field).⁶

⁶ For more information relating to facility types, see <https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/facilities>.

PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The strategic recommendations reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed across Cheshire East based on the sport-by-sport and overall findings. As such, they apply across outdoor sports facilities in the Borough and may not be specific to just one sport or one area.

OBJECTIVE 1

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

Recommendations:

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

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

The PPOSS shows that all existing playing field and outdoor sport sites cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. As such, all provision requires protection or appropriate mitigation until all identified shortfalls have been overcome. This includes underused and poor quality sites as there is a requirement for such provision to help meet and alleviate the identified shortfalls i.e., following improvements.

When shortfalls are evident, provision can only be permanently lost when the current picture changes to the extent that the site in question is no longer needed as a result of no shortfalls existing, or unless appropriate mitigation is provided and agreed upon by all stakeholders, in line with national planning policy. NPPF paragraph 103 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

Should facilities be taken out of use for any reason (e.g., council budget restraints), it is imperative that the land is retained so that it can be brought back into use in the future. This means that land containing provision should not be altered (except to improve play) and should remain free from tree cover and permanent built structures, unless the current picture changes to the extent that the site in question is no longer needed (subject to being informed by a review of the PPOSS or a separate needs assessment), or unless replacement provision is provided to an equal or greater quantity and quality.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The PPOSS should be used to help inform development management decisions that affect existing or new playing pitch and outdoor sport provision as well as accompanying ancillary facilities. All applications should be assessed on a case-by-case basis taking into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of provision used within the last five years and will use the PPOSS to help assess that planning application against its Playing Fields Policy.

Policy Exception E1:

‘A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Sport England that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport’.

Policy Exception E2

‘The proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field and does not affect the quantity and quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use’.

Policy Exception E3

The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:

- ◀ Reduce the size of any playing pitch;
- ◀ Result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas);
- ◀ Reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain quality;
- ◀ Result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site;
- ◀ Prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site’.

Policy Exception E4:

‘The playing field or fields to be lost as a result of the proposed development would be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new playing field site or sites:

- ◀ of equivalent or better quality and
- ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity;
- ◀ in a suitable location and;
- ◀ subject to equivalent or better management arrangements.

Policy Exception E5

The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice of use, of the area of playing field’.

Disused sites

Disused sites that have been unused for more than five years should also be protected from development or replaced in accordance with Sport England’s policy exceptions as they currently provide a solution to reducing identified shortfalls. As such, any disused sites are included within the Action Plan together with a recommendation in relation to bringing the site back into use or to mitigate permanent loss to address the shortfalls identified. This is despite Sport England not being a statutory consultee on such applications.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The lawful use of a disused playing field is still that of a playing field until such time as it is developed for a non-pitch sport use or its use is formally changed through the planning system. There is no positive obligation, under planning law, for a playing field to be actively used as such. The below lists known disused playing pitch sites currently within the Borough:

- ◀ Alderley Park – Monks Heath (SK10 4TS)
- ◀ Brooke Dean Community College (SK9 3QN)
- ◀ Brook House Playing Field (CW2 6NA)
- ◀ Chelford Cricket Club (SK11 9AJ)
- ◀ Cranage Hall (CW4 8EW)
- ◀ Knutsford Masonic Hall (WA16 9BQ)
- ◀ Lanark Walk (SK10 3ES)
- ◀ Marton Primary School (SK11 9HD)
- ◀ Sandwich Drive (SK10 2UD)
- ◀ St Barnabas C of E Primary School (SK11 7QA)

In addition, the following are known disused non-pitch sites. These are still protected by Paragraph 103 of the NPPF.

- ◀ Alvaston Hall Country Club (CW5 6PD)
- ◀ Bombardier Bowling Club (CW1 2RP)
- ◀ Brookfield Golf Club (CW3 0JQ)
- ◀ Brook Street Bowling Green (WA16 8EB)
- ◀ Cotton Arms (CW5 8HG)
- ◀ Knutsford Masonic Hall (WA16 9BQ)
- ◀ Rams Head (SK12 2AE)
- ◀ The Carrs Park (SK9 4AA)
- ◀ The Hop Pole (CW2 7RQ)
- ◀ Traveller's Rest (CW6 9JA)

For information regarding what was supplied across the sites, please see the Action Plan within this document.

In addition to above, there are some existing playing field sites which may be able to or have previously accommodated more pitches than are presently marked. There may also be sites which are no longer prepared and used for formal sport but that still serve another function, such as a public open space or park. These sites should therefore not be considered disused as they continue to operate as part of the green infrastructure typology.

Sites in Cheshire East can also be protected for community use through additional status, such as through Community Right to Bid as Assets of Community Value. An Asset of Community Value is land or buildings nominated by a local voluntary or community group and which the Council decides meets the requirements to be listed as an asset of community value. The statutory rules about assets of community value can be found in sections 87 – 103 of the Localism Act.

If the owner of land or buildings that are listed as Assets of Community Value wants to sell them, they must contact the Council which will notify the community group that nominated the asset. The community group then has the opportunity to register its interest as a potential bidder, triggering a six-month moratorium period during which, subject to certain exceptions, the owner can only sell the asset if it is to a community interest group. Only after the moratorium period can the owner sell to whomever they choose.

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Furthermore, playing field sites can be protected through Fields in Trust (FIT) King George V or Queen Elizabeth II programmes. Protection for these is a legal agreement between FIT and the landowner of a space that they will retain for use as a green space, usually a public park, playing field or recreation ground, in perpetuity (e.g., King George V Playing Field, in Crewe).

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

A number of school, commercial and private sites are being used in Cheshire East for competitive play, predominantly for football, hockey and netball. In some cases, use of such facilities has been classified as secure; however, it is not necessarily formalised and relevant organisations should seek to establish appropriate community use agreements, including access to changing provision where required/available. This is especially the case for sites that have unsecured community use despite receiving high levels of use, as is the case at venues such as Wilmslow High School, Tytherington High School and The Macclesfield Academy / Macclesfield College.

Not having fully formalised usage presents a risk for those clubs using these sites as community use could technically be terminated at any time. Securing community use will therefore help to create additional capacity and could help to address deficiencies.

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

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

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

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

Relevant clubs could also be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)⁷. They should also be signposted to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies or local businesses.

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

⁷ <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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

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

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

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

In addition, clubs should be made fully aware of the associated responsibilities/liabilities when considering leases of multi-use public playing fields. It is important in these instances that the sites remain available for other purposes and for other users.

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

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

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

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

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

Whilst community sport should ultimately be sought at all educational sites, priority should be placed on firstly exploring community use options at larger venues offering several pitches (e.g., at Poynton High School). Securing access to such sites will have a bigger impact on reducing shortfalls throughout the analysis areas that they are based within. However, it is also noted that smaller sites and particularly primary schools can also serve a significant purpose as they can be at the heart of local communities, particularly in more rural areas.

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

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

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

OBJECTIVE 2

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

Recommendations:

- d) Improve quality
- e) Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) to the management and improvement of sites.
- f) Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding.
- g) Secure developer contributions.

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Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

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

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

Addressing quality issues

Quality in Cheshire East is variable with most facilities assessed as standard quality, although poor quality provision is more prevalent than good quality provision (albeit not for all sports e.g., cricket and bowls). Where facilities are assessed as standard or poor quality and/or overplayed, maintenance regimes should be reviewed and, where possible, improved to ensure that what is being done is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring continuance of existing maintenance of good quality pitches is also essential.

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

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

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

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

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

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

For rugby union, rugby league and cricket, the respective NGBs are now also utilising Pitch Power, with reports being produced similar to those for football.

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

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

As improving all sites is unlikely to be feasible from a budgetary and logistical perspective, key sites with a larger number of pitches/facilities should be prioritised, particularly where they are well used or could be well used following improvements. The table below identifies sites in Cheshire East that could be focused on for each relevant sport, based on their current status and issues.

Table 5.2: Key sites requiring quality improvements (by sport)

Sport	Sites for improvement
Football	All Hallows Catholic College Back Lane Barony Sports Complex Congleton Road Cranage Playing Fields Deva Playing Fields Eaton Bank Academy Egerton Youth Club Jasmine Park Jim Evison Playing Fields King George V Playing Fields Poynton High School Sutton Lane Playing Field The Peacock Sports Ground Wilmslow High School

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Sport	Sites for improvement
Rugby union	Congleton Park Hankinson's Field Memorial Ground (Wilmslow Rugby Club) Knutsford Academy (lower)
Rugby league	-
Hockey	Knutsford Leisure Centre Shavington Leisure Centre Wilmslow High School
Cricket	Kerridge Cricket Club Poynton Sports Club Rostherne Cricket Club
Lacrosse	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club Mount Vernon
American football	King George V Playing Fields
Rounders	-
Baseball/softball	-
Tennis	Alderley Edge Park Bollington Recreation Ground Meriton Road Park South Park
Netball	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre Middlewich Leisure Centre Sandbach High School & Sixth Form College Sir William Stanier School Tytherington High School
Bowls	Brooks Lane Bowling Green Dixon Court Knutsford Bowling Club Macclesfield Cricket Club Mere Cricket Club Parkside Bowls Club Prestbury Bowls Club Wrenbury Recreation Ground
Archery	Knutsford Sports Club
Golf	-
Athletics	Cumberland Arena Macclesfield Leisure Centre
Cycling	Weston Pump Track

Addressing overplay

In order to improve the overall quality of the outdoor facility stock, it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing quality (e.g., via a non-technical site assessment and/or technical PitchPower assessments) and allocating a match/usage limit to each.

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

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Table 5.2: Carrying capacity of pitches

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

For non-pitch sports, capacity is not linked to the number of matches taking place but rather the number of members (and other users) attracted to a site. For example, for tennis, a hard court is said to have capacity for 60 members if it is serviced by sports lighting, whereas a non-lit has court has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts). For bowls, a green is considered at capacity if it has over 80 members, whilst a membership of under 20 could be unsustainable.

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

For rugby union, additional sports lighting, in conjunction with quality improvements, can further reduce levels of overplay at club sites as it allows clubs to spread training demand across a greater number of pitches or unmarked areas. If permanent sports lighting is not possible, portable sports lighting can be provided as an alternative.

Similarly, additional sports lighting can help resolve capacity issues for both tennis and netball as it can allow for greater court usage, especially during winter months.

For cricket, an increase in NTPs and, in time, hybrid wickets is key to alleviating overplay as this allows for the transfer of junior demand from grass wickets. It also does not require any additional playing pitch space as NTPs can be installed in situ with existing squares.

The table below identifies sites in Cheshire East that are currently overplayed for each sport.

Table 5.3: Overplayed sites (by sport)

Sport	Sites for improvement
Football	All Hallows Catholic College Alsager Sports Hub Congleton High School Congleton Road Eaton Bank Academy Egerton Youth Club Eric Swan Sports Ground

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Sport	Sites for improvement
	Gawsworth Primary School Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre Hurdsfield Community Primary School Ilford Playing Fields (Mobberley) Jasmine Park Jim Evison Playing Fields Lacey Green Pavilion Malbank School & Sixth Form College Middlewich Primary School Middlewich Town Football Club Sandbach Community Football Centre St John's Road The Macclesfield Academy/Macclesfield College The Peacock Sports Ground Tytherington Pitches (Rugby Drive) Upcast Lane
Rugby union	Congleton Park Hankinson's Field Memorial Ground (Wilmslow Rugby Club) Knutsford Academy (lower) Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club) Sandbach Rugby Club
Rugby league	-
Hockey	-
Cricket	Alderley Edge Cricket Club Alsager Cricket Club Ashley Cricket Club Bunbury Cricket Club Congleton Sports & Social Club Crewe Vagrants Disley Amalgamated Sports Club Elworth Cricket Club Kerridge Cricket Club Langley Cricket Club Lindow Cricket Club Macclesfield Cricket Club Mobberley Cricket Club Nantwich Cricket Club Poynton Sports Club Rode Park & Lawton Cricket Club Rostherne Cricket Club Toft Cricket Club Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club
Lacrosse	-
American football	-
Rounders	-
Baseball/softball	-
Tennis	Croftside Tennis Club Lindow Lawn Tennis Club Pownall Park Tennis Club Prestbury Playing Fields

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Sport	Sites for improvement
Netball	-
Bowls	Alsager Bowling & Recreation Club Knutsford Bowling Club High Legh Bowls Club Packhorse Bowling & Social Club Poynton Workmen's Club Prestbury Bowls Club Rams Head Bowling Green Sandbach Park Wilmslow Bowling Club
Archery	-
Golf	-
Athletics	-
Cycling	-

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

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

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

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

Table 5.3: Proposed tiered site criteria

Criteria	Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Site location	Strategically located in the Borough. Priority sites for NGBs.	Strategically located within the analysis area.	Serves the local community.
Site layout	Accommodates three or more grass pitches, generally including provision of an AGP (or with the potential).	Accommodates two or more grass pitches.	Accommodates one or two pitches.
Type of sport	Multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.	Generally single sport provision but may cater for more at a basic level.
Management	Management control allows for wide community use, i.e., through the local authority, a leisure operator or a school/college/university with a community use agreement.	Management control generally allows for wide community use but may include sites that are owned or leased by clubs/other organisations.	Management control can be via the local authority, schools, clubs and other providers.

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Criteria	Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Maintenance regime	Maintenance regime aligns or could align with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns or could align with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime or an in-house maintenance contract.
Ancillary facilities	Good quality ancillary facilities on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches; may include wider social/function facilities.	Good quality ancillary facility on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Limited or no changing room access on site.

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

Examples in Cheshire East include:

- ◀ Alsager Sports Hub
- ◀ Egerton Youth Club
- ◀ King George V Playing Fields
- ◀ Sandbach Community Football Centre

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

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

Larger key centres in Cheshire East include Alderley Park, Cumberland Arena and Congleton Park.

Local sites refer to those sites offering less provision or that are of less value to the wider community when compared to key centre and hub sites, although they can be valuable in the immediate area and to any local teams/users. Primarily they are sites with one pitch/facility or a low number of pitches/facilities that service just one or two sports.

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

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

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

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

Furthermore, to address community need, target priority areas and reduce provision duplication, a coordinated approach to strategic investment is required. In delivering this recommendation, the Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners through the PPOSS Steering Group as well as with neighbouring local authorities. Cross-border developments can accommodate demand from within Cheshire East and lessen requirements within the Borough (and vice versa). An example of this could relate to ongoing development proposals at both Moss Farm Leisure Complex and Knights Grange Leisure Complex, both of which already host significant demand from Cheshire East. The sites are located in Cheshire West & Chester.

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

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

Recommendation (g) – Secure developer contributions

The Council has a Draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which seeks to set out a process for securing playing pitch and outdoor sport requirements (amongst other needs) resulting from housing growth/developments. This is to be adopted in early 2024 and once finalised should be used in conjunction with the PPOSS. The PPOSS supports the SPD.

The Draft SPD identifies that:

- ◀ Planning obligations relating to open space, outdoor sport and green infrastructure connectivity will be sought for residential and non-residential developments of 10 units or more, or where the site has an area of 0.5 hectares or more or for commercial developments where the floorspace is over 1,000sqm or site area more than one hectare.
- ◀ Open space, outdoor sport and green infrastructure will, unless otherwise agreed, be provided on site. If agreed, off-site provision of part or all of the requirements will be provided by means of a commuted sum to the Council.
- ◀ Where the provision of open space, outdoor sport and green infrastructure is on site, management and maintenance in perpetuity will need to be demonstrated and will be secured via S106.
- ◀ Where all or some of the open space, outdoor sport and green infrastructure is to be provided off site via a commuted sum, it will be accompanied by a commuted sum for maintenance.
- ◀ Where the offsite provision of open space or green infrastructure connectivity is countryside, or contains countryside elements, a commuted sum for maintenance will also be required.
- ◀ Where provision is of strategic significance, it should be conveyed to the Council with a commuted sum for maintenance of a minimum of 20 years. The Council may work with third party organisations to undertake long term management and maintenance.

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- Major developments of 300 dwellings or more will require a specific Sports Needs Assessment and sometimes in combination with indoor, outdoor and other provisions for health and wellbeing. Where smaller developments below this threshold have been identified as requiring provision on site or where developments will have an impact on existing sports facilities, a Sports Needs Assessment will be required.

In addition, the SPD identifies that Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator will be used where proposals exceed 300 dwellings, with, as mentioned above, a separate needs assessment also required to support this. Other, smaller developments are to use an updated per dwelling or per square meter calculation.

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

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

Where it is determined that new provision is required to accompany development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that also contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality. To determine what supply of provision is provided, it is imperative that the PPOSS findings are taken into consideration and that for particularly large developments consultation takes place with the relevant NGBs and Sport England. This is due to the importance of ensuring that the stock of facilities provided is correct to avoid provision becoming unsustainable and unused.

The preference from the Council, Sport England and the NGBs is generally for multi-pitch (or multi-facility) and potentially multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for further development in the future. This is because single pitches/facilities are more likely to become under-used (or unused), unviable and unsustainable, although it should be noted that there are certain circumstances in which they can be acceptable. An example of this is in rural areas whereby insufficient demand could exist to support a larger development.

Where new provision is agreed as not appropriate but where contributions to existing sites are instead to be sought, the PPOSS Action Plan should be used to identify suitable sites within the locality that should receive the funding. This may involve directing investment into provision most likely to receive demand from the housing development, or into provision that is most in need (e.g., due to quality issues).

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The above can also form the basis of the sports needs assessment process, where this is required. Such an assessment can use the findings of the PPOSS and then the calculator to determine what is required, where it is required, and what the associated costs will be.

In addition, it should also be noted that Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator currently only identifies needs for the main pitch sports of football, rugby union, rugby league, hockey and cricket. As such, other pitch sports (e.g., lacrosse) and non-pitch sports (e.g., tennis and bowls) are not covered by it. This emphasises the need for a sport needs assessment whereby these can also be considered, again utilising the PPOSS and NGB consultation to assist.

For further information, please see Part 7 of this report.

OBJECTIVE 3

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

Recommendations:

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

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

The Council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the preceding Assessment Report and the sport-by-sport specific recommendations (Part 4) as well as the following Action Plan (Part 6). First and foremost, it is imperative that the current levels of provision are protected and maintained to ensure that the overall picture does not worsen in the future.

To reduce the identified shortfalls, there is not necessarily a need for a significant level of new provision, with the current provision instead able to be better utilised to overcome most deficits. Maximising use of existing provision through a combination of the following will help to reduce shortfalls and accommodate future demand:

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity and/or to artificial surfaces.
- ◀ The re-designation of facilities e.g., converting an unused pitch (or pitch type) for one sport to instead cater for another sport (or another pitch type).
- ◀ Securing community use at education sites including those currently unavailable.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage and secure tenure.
- ◀ Exploring lease/management arrangements with appropriate clubs/organisations.
- ◀ Establishing additional sports lighting.
- ◀ Installing artificial surfaces (e.g., 3G pitches and NTPs).

The PPOSS identifies priority sites that should be focused upon, including those that are presently overplayed and/or poor quality as well as unused and unsecure sites that are particularly large. It also advises how issues can be overcome. This is done on a site-by-site basis in the preceding Action Plan.

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

Better utilising the stock of provision across Cheshire East will lessen the need for new provision. Although there are identified shortfalls, most current and future demand is currently being met and most existing shortfalls can be addressed via quality improvements and/or improved access to sites that are presently used minimally or that are currently unavailable. Adding to the current stock is therefore not recommended as a priority solution across the Borough, although for certain sports and in specific areas it could be required. This is especially the case for cricket, rugby union and tennis given the substantial deficits identified.

In relation to football and hockey, there is also a specific shortfall of artificial pitches that can only be met through increased provision.

Large scale housing developments and the establishment of new schools may also necessitate the need for new provision. Where new schools are developed, there is an opportunity to combine the building of the School to the development of a new multi-sport site that can be of a benefit to the School as well as the wider community, subject to any design issues and providing that long-term security of tenure can be provided.

For housing developments, as outlined in Recommendation (g), the Council's emerging SPD and Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator should be used to inform requirements. See Part 7 for further information.

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PART 6: ACTION PLAN

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

Please note that if a site is not identified/included in the Action Plan, it does not mean that it is not needed or that it is not playing field or sports facility. Where provision is not recorded within the PPOSS, it is still considered to exist for planning purposes and will continue to do so. Furthermore, any exclusion does not mean that the provision is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

Also note that where national planning policy requirements are referenced within any recommendation actions, this refers to meeting the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy.

Site hierarchy

The Council should make it a high priority to work with NGBs and other partners to comprise a priority list of actions based on local priorities, NGB priorities and available funding. As stated in Recommendation (e), to allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. This is done via classifying sites as hub sites, key centres or local sites.

Partners

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

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

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

Priority

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

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

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

Costs

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

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

These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at:
<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>

Timescales

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

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

Aim

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

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

KNUTSFORD – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary - pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Knutsford	Adult	1 match equivalent session	2 match equivalent sessions
Knutsford	Youth 11v11	7.5 match equivalent sessions	8 match equivalent sessions
Knutsford	Youth 9v9	4 match equivalent sessions	4 match equivalent sessions
Knutsford	Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
Knutsford	Mini 5v5	At capacity	4 match equivalent sessions
Football – 3G pitches			
Knutsford	Full size	1.25 pitches	1.25 pitches
Rugby union pitches			
Knutsford	Senior	1 match equivalent session	2.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league pitches			
Knutsford	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Knutsford	Senior	24 match equivalent sessions	46 match equivalent sessions

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating with spare capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	None of the greens within Knutsford are currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass pitch sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality to reduce/alleviate overplay at sites (e.g. at Egerton Youth Club and Ilford Playing Fields). ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where required and provide ancillary facilities at sites that are currently without (e.g. at Manchester Road (Knutsford Football Club and Mary Dendy Playing Fields)). ◀ Seek to provide security of tenure for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity (e.g. at Nuffield Fitness & Wellbeing Centre (Radbroke Hall)).

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability (e.g. at Alderley Park (Astra Zeneca)). ◀ Support aspirations to provide an additional full size pitch given the large shortfalls on grass pitches (e.g. at Egerton Youth Club) providing it meets national and local planning policy.
Rugby union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to eradicate overplay (e.g. at Knutsford Academy (lower)). ◀ Look to provide improved ancillary provision (e.g. at Knutsford Academy (lower)). ◀ Seek to provide improved security of tenure via a community use agreement (e.g. at Knutsford Academy (lower)).
Rugby league	◀ N/A
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Resurface pitch to improve quality and protect for long-term hockey usage (e.g. at Knutsford Leisure Centre).
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Transfer demand to sites with actual spare capacity to alleviate overplay (e.g. at Toft Cricket Club). ◀ Improve quality of squares to alleviate overplay (e.g. at Rostherne Cricket Club and Alderley Park). ◀ Seek to alleviate overplay via the installation of an NTP (e.g. Mere Cricket Club and Mobberley Cricket Club). ◀ Support ancillary development plans/improvements (e.g. at Over Peover Cricket Club and Alderley Park). ◀ Support the pavilion development plans at Toft CC ◀ Explore opportunities to utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites and/or through future demand (e.g. at Alderley Park (Monks Heath)). ◀ Bring the disused provision at Alderley Park (Monks Heath) back into use.
Other grass pitch sports	◀ N/A
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand (e.g. at The Mere Golf Resort & Spa). ◀ Await decision of retrospective planning application at Alderley Park (Astra Zeneca) before deciding upon next steps and ensure continued dialogue with the LTA.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand (e.g. at Knutsford Academy (lower)).
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Monitor membership levels to ensure that clubs do not experience capacity pressures (e.g. at Knutsford Bowling Club). ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Mere Cricket Club).
Archery	◀ N/A
Golf	◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	◀ N/A
Cycling	◀ N/A

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

KNUTSFORD – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
8	1208724	Ashley Cricket Club	WA15 0QP	Cricket	Commercial	One good quality 18-wicket grass square (15 senior wickets and three junior wickets). The junior wickets are overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per season. Ashley CC aspires to make refurbishments to its clubhouse.	Alleviate overplay through transfer of some demand. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	ECB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
20	1041626	Toft Cricket Club	WA16 8QX	Cricket	Commercial	One good quality 19-wicket grass square (18 senior wickets and one junior wicket). The junior wicket is overplayed by seven match equivalent sessions per season and the site is serviced with poor quality ancillary facilities. Toft CC aspires to redevelop its clubhouse, as well as improvements to its scoreboard and irrigation system.	Improve quality of ancillary facilities and alleviate overplay through transfer of some demand. Look to support the Club with its pavilion developments, ancillary development and square improvement plans.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
32	1036086	Alderley Park (Astra Zeneca)	SK10 4TS	Football	Leisure Trust	One poor quality adult pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality. Discussions are also ongoing regarding a planned youth 11v11 football pitch at the site and for this to essentially be moved to Macclesfield Leisure Centre (utilising the centre of the athletics track at the site), together with a smaller size 3G pitch.	Improve quality to provide actual spare capacity. Also ensure potential relocation of the planned youth 11v11 meets planning policy requirements.	Trust, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				3G		One smaller size 3G pitch that is serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for continued use and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	Trust, FA, FF		M	L	L	
				Tennis		Retrospective planning permission is being sought for the construction of padel on two existing tennis courts.	Await decision of retrospective planning application before deciding upon next steps and ensure continued dialogue with the LTA.	Trust, LTA		M	S	L	

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
44	6016072	Egerton Youth Club	WA16 6SL	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch, three standard quality youth 11v11 pitches and one standard quality youth 9v9 pitch. Each is overplayed by a combined total of 13.5 match equivalent sessions. The site is home to Egerton FC (Regional feeder league) and Altrincham FC Women (Tier 7).	Improve quality to reduce overplay and seek to disperse demand onto 3G provision to fully eradicate it. This may require second 3G pitch on site as desired by the Club. Also ensure the site meets the minimum requirements to progress through the football pyramid.	Club, FA, FF	Hub	H	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				3G		One full size 3G pitch that is assessed as good quality, having been resurfaced in 2022. The Club also reports aspirations for a second full size pitch at the site.	Support aspirations to provide an additional full size pitch given the large shortfalls on grass pitches, providing it can meet national planning policy. Also ensure a sinking fund is in place for the long-term sustainability of the existing pitch and seek FA testing every three years so that it can remain on the pitch register.			H	M	H	
66	1041711	Knutsford Academy (lower)	WA16 0BL	Rugby union	School	One senior and one age grade pitch, both of which are poor quality and available for community use. Both pitches are overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Knutsford RUFC reports a need for additional changing provision at the site and it is without security of tenure.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and seek to provide improved security of tenure via a community use agreement. Also improve ancillary provision.	School, RFU	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
				Netball		Three poor quality macadam courts that available for community but without sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand.			L	S	L	
67	1041711	Knutsford Leisure Centre	WA16 0BL	Football	Leisure Trust	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, both of which are standard quality and available for community use. Used to capacity at peak time.	Sustain quality.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as poor quality having not been resurfaced since its installation in 2003. Used by Knutsford HC.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and protect for long-term hockey usage. Also ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.			H	S	H	

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
68	1036566	Knutsford Sports Club	WA16 6SZ	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 11-wicket grass square that is utilised by Knutsford CC.	Sustain quality and explore opportunities to install an NTP on site.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
				Tennis		Seven good quality polymeric courts utilised by Knutsford TC.	Sustain quality.	Club, LTA		L	L	L	Protect
77	6002259	Manchester Road (Knutsford Football Club)	WA16 0NU	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch that has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions. The site is serviced with poor quality ancillary facilities and the Club's lease with Tatton Estates has now expired.	Secure tenure via a new, long-term lease arrangement and also provide improved ancillary facilities.	Club, FA, FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
80	6005685	Mary Dendy Playing Fields	SK9 7TT	Football	Council	Three adult and one youth 9v9 pitch, all of which are good quality. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Provide improved ancillary provision. Also consider creation of youth 11v11 provision given demand already received (one adult pitch could be converted).	FA, FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
87	1041627	Mobberley Cricket Club	WA16 7RD	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality eight-wicket grass square (five senior wickets and three junior wickets). The senior wickets are overplayed by 11 match equivalent sessions per season. Mobberley CC aspires to refurbish the changing rooms.	Seek to alleviate overplay via the installation of NTP. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
94	1036238	Nuffield Fitness & Wellbeing Centre (Radbroke Hall)	WA16 9EU	Football	Commercial	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users in order to establish actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch that is available for community use and is serviced with sports lighting.	Retain for continued commercial/recreational usage.	EH		L	L	L	
98	1041627	Peover Superior Endowed Primary School	WA16 8TU	Football	School	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch that is available for community use and is played to capacity.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and seek to provide users with greater security of tenure via a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
152	N/A	Chelford Cricket Club	SK11 9BR	Cricket (disused)	Council	Site previously accommodated a grass wicket square prior to the Club folding.	Explore feasibility of bringing the playing field back into use given local shortfalls and ensure replacement provision is provided in line with national planning policy should a proposal come forward that will result in permanent loss.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Provide

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
156	N/A	Mere Cricket Club	WA16 0TD	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 11-wicket grass square that is overplayed by 11 match equivalent sessions per season. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Install an NTP to alleviate overplay and improve quality of ancillary facilities. Support any possible improvements to pavilion to improve quality.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
				Bowls		One good quality green with poor ancillary facilities.	Explore options to improve ancillary provision.	BCGBA		M	M	M	
158	N/A	Over Peover Cricket Club	WA16 8TZ	Cricket	Private	One good quality 13-wicket grass square with potential spare capacity of 41 match equivalent sessions per season. Serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities but plans are in place to redevelop its clubhouse.	Support clubhouse redevelopment plans to improve quality.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
161	N/A	Rostherne Cricket Club	WA16 6RY	Cricket	Private	One standard quality nine-wicket grass square (seven senior wickets and two junior wickets). The senior wickets are overplayed by four match equivalent sessions per season and the junior wickets are also overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per season. The site has poor quality ancillary facilities and no training provision currently.	Seek to relieve overplay through quality improvements. Also improve quality of the ancillary facilities and explore establishing practice nets on site.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
194	N/A	Little Bollington Primary	WA14 4SZ	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local pitch shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
197	N/A	Manor Park Primary School	WA16 8DB	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
203	N/A	Nether Alderley Primary School	SK10 4TP	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
255	N/A	Booths Park	WA16 8QX	Rugby union	Council	One standard quality pitch that is serviced with sports lighting and is played to capacity.	Ensure any additional demand is met by quality improvements to ensure no future overuse.	RFU	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
258	N/A	Alderley Park (Monks Heath)	SK10 4TS	Cricket	Leisure Trust	One standard quality ten-wicket grass square that has actual spare capacity of 30 match equivalent sessions per season. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Utilise actual spare capacity via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand and improve the quality of the ancillary facilities, especially pavilion facilities.	Trust, ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Cricket (disused)		Site previously accommodated an NTP which is no longer maintained.	The NTP is due to be brought back into use for the following season.			M	S	L	
260	N/A	Iford Playing Fields	WA16 7QB	Football	Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
261	N/A	Over Peover Parish Playing Field	WA16 8TY	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve quality to provide actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
271	N/A	Clare's Space Boutique Health Club	WA16 7RN	Tennis	Private	One padel court. An additional padel court is also under construction.	Protect provision and seek to sustain quality.	LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
				Tennis (disused)		Two disused macadam courts which are no longer maintained.	Retain as strategic reserve should demand at the site increase.	LTA		L			
				Bowls		One good quality green that is serviced with sports lighting and good quality ancillary provision.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA		L			
277	N/A	High Legh Tennis Club	WA16 0RU	Tennis	Sports Club	Three good quality macadam courts.	Sustain quality.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
286	N/A	The Mere Golf Resort & Spa	WA16 6LJ	Tennis	Commercial	Three standard quality artificial turf courts.	Improve court quality to better cater for and to attract demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
290	N/A	Knutsford Bowling Club	WA16 6SL	Bowls	Private	One standard quality green accompanied by standard quality ancillary provision. The Club has plans to refurbish its pavilion and has secured funding. The green is currently operating above capacity by 17 members.	Improve green quality and support ancillary development plans. Also continue to monitor membership levels to ensure that the Club does not experience capacity pressures. As part of this, explore the potential creation of sports lighting.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
291	N/A	The Church Inn	WA16 7RD	Bowls	Private	One standard quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary provision.	Improve green quality to better accommodate demand.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
301	N/A	Cross Town Bowling & Social Club	WA16 8LY	Bowls	-	One good quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary provision. Primarily used by Cross Town BC.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
310	N/A	Brook Street Bowling Green	WA16 8EB	Bowls (disused)	Council	Site previously provided a green but is now used as a seating area.	Retain land as strategic reserve for all sports or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national planning policy.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
311	N/A	Manchester Road Bowling Green	WA16 0GJ	Bowls	-	One good quality bowling green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary provision. Primarily used by Cranford BC.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
322	N/A	Dixon Court	SK11 9AX	Bowls	-	One good quality bowling green primarily used by Chelford BC that is accompanied by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Explore options to improve ancillary facilities.	BCGBA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
328	N/A	High Legh Bowls Club	WA16 6LR	Bowls	Parish Council	One good quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
329	N/A	Knutsford Masonic Hall	WA16 9BQ	Bowls (disused)	Private	Site previously accommodated a green, circa 2005.	Retain land as strategic reserve for all sports or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national planning policy.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
333	N/A	Mobberley Victory Hall	WA16 7JD	Bowls	Parish Council	One good quality green. Mobberley Victory Hall BC has plans to improve the green and surrounding area.	Support the Club with its aspirations to improve the green and surrounding area.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
334	N/A	Railway Inn	WA16 6LA	Bowls	-	One good quality green without a club currently attached.	Retain land as strategic reserve for all sports or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national planning policy.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
351	N/A	Heyrose Golf Club	WA16 0HZ	Golf	Proprietary	An 18-hole proprietary golf course that is accompanied by a 12-bay driving range.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
352	N/A	High Legh Park Country Club	WA16 0WA	Golf	Proprietary	An 18 and 9-hole proprietary golf course that is accompanied by a 14-bay driving range.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
353	N/A	Knutsford Golf Club	WA16 6HS	Golf	Sports Club	A members owned 18-hole golf course	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
362	N/A	Wilmslow Golf Club	WA16 7AY	Golf	Sports Club	A members owned 18-hole golf course that is accompanied by a 17-bay driving range.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	N/A	Peover Playing Fields	WA16 8TU	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously provided a mini 7v7 football pitch but no longer does so, although it is still in use recreationally.	Retain as strategic reservest7.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	N/A	Marton Primary School	SK11 9HD	Cricket (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated an NTP which is no longer maintained.	Engage with the School to determine if it has demand for the provision to be re-established.	ECB, CCB	Local	L	S	L	Protect

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

MACCLESFIELD – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Macclesfield	Adult	At capacity	At capacity
Macclesfield	Youth 11v11	7 match equivalent sessions	7 match equivalent sessions
Macclesfield	Youth 9v9	9 match equivalent sessions	9 match equivalent sessions
Macclesfield	Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
Macclesfield	Mini 5v5	At capacity	At capacity
Football – 3G pitches			
Macclesfield	Full size	2.5 pitches	2.5 pitches
Rugby union pitches			
Macclesfield	Senior	At capacity	1 match equivalent session
Rugby league pitches			
Macclesfield	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Macclesfield	Senior	29 match equivalent sessions	79 match equivalent sessions

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating with significant spare capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	Two of the greens within Macclesfield are currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass pitch sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality to reduce/alleviate overplay at sites (e.g. at The Macclesfield Academy). ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where required (e.g. at Bollington Recreation Ground) and provide ancillary facilities at sites that are currently without (e.g. at Congleton Road). ◀ Seek to provide security of tenure for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity (e.g. at Ash Grove Academy). ◀ Explore opportunities to bring lost provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining playing field land (e.g. at St Alban's Catholic Primary School).

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability (e.g. at Moss Rose Stadium). ◀ Once the pitch reaches the end of its lifespan (ten years), look to resurface the pitch at All Hallows Catholic College to improve quality. ◀ Support 3G aspirations to meet area shortfalls (e.g. at Congleton Road and Macclesfield Academy), providing national planning policy is met.
Rugby union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Rugby league	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ N/A
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore community use options at sites currently unavailable (e.g. at Beech Hall School). ◀ Resurface pitches at Fallibroome Academy and The Macclesfield Academy to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. ◀ Consider best surface type (sand-based or 3G), taking into account previous hockey usage against 3G pitch shortfalls and subject to meeting national and local planning policy requirements.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality of squares to alleviate overplay (e.g. at Kerridge Cricket Club). ◀ Seek to alleviate overplay via the installation of an NTP (e.g. Kerridge Cricket Club). ◀ Support ancillary development plans/improvements (e.g. at Macclesfield Cricket Club). ◀ Pursue security of tenure for Macclesfield CC's second pitch at Parkside. ◀ Utilise actual spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.
Other grass pitch sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality (e.g. at Tytherington High School). ◀ Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Bollington Recreation Ground).
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand (e.g. at Tytherington High School).
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Macclesfield Cricket Club and Parkside Bowls Club) and provide ancillary provision at sites currently without (e.g. at Victoria Park).
Archery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ N/A
Golf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Support the refurbishment of the athletics track at Macclesfield Leisure Centre to better cater for and to attract demand.
Cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

MACCLESFIELD – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Power Places Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
7	30003835	Ash Grove Academy	SK11 7TF	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is available for community use. The pitch has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
13	1200743	Beech Hall School	SK10 2EG	Football	School	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch that is available for community use and played to capacity.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch that is unavailable for community use despite being serviced with sports lighting.	Explore community use options with the School to accommodate recreational demand given the presence sports lighting.	School, EH		L	S	L	
16	6005977	Bollington Cross (Atax)	SK10 5EA	Football	Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch that is at capacity.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
17	6006025	Bollington Cross Playing Field	SK10 5EA	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch.	Explore feasibility to develop a smaller size 3G pitch to service demand from rural part of Macclesfield, subject to it meeting Sport England's Playing Fields Policy. Bollington FC has aspirations for one youth 9v9 pitch and the land is directly next to the leisure centre.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
18	1208656	Bollington Recreation Ground	SK10 5JT	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch that is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Provide improved ancillary provision.	FA, FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
				Cricket		One good quality 12-wicket grass square with spare capacity of 18 match equivalent sessions per season. Bollington CC aspires to make refurbishments to its scoreboard and improve its outfield maintenance.	Utilise actual spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Look to support the Club with its development plans.	ECB, CCB		M	S	M	
				Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting.	Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand.	LTA		M	S	M	
				Bowls		One good quality green used by Bollington BC with membership numbers of 28.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA		M	L	L	

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Site ID	Active Power Places Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
35	6005662	Congleton Road	SK11 7XB	Football	Council	Three youth 11v11 pitches and one youth 9v9 pitch, the latter of which is overplayed by one match equivalent session. Each pitch is assessed as poor quality and the site is also serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and provide improved ancillary provision. Also support plans for a full size 3G pitch to be provided to reduce area shortfalls, providing it can meet national planning policy.	FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
46	1038237	Fallibroome Academy	SK10 4AF	Football	School	One poor quality adult pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality to provide spare capacity and then explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Rugby union		Two standard quality senior pitches that are both unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, RFU		L	L	L	
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as poor quality having not been resurfaced since its installation in 2005. Not currently used for community hockey.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Consider best surface type, taking into account previous hockey usage against 3G pitch shortfalls, although any conversion will need to meet national planning policy requirements.	School, EH, FF, FA		H	M	H	
				Tennis		Five standard quality macadam courts. Available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.	Retain as community available and seek to maximise usage.	School, LTA		M	L	L	
63	30004157	Kerridge Cricket Club	SK10 5AH	Football	Sports Club	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of which are standard quality.	Ensure quality is sustained given dual use nature of the provision (cricket outfield).	Club, FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				Cricket		One standard quality ten-wicket grass square that is overplayed by 23 match equivalent sessions per season. Kerridge CC aspires to make refurbishments to its clubhouse.	Seek to alleviate overplay through improving quality and the installation of an NTP. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	Club, ECB, CCB		M	M	M	
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green used by Kerridge BC.	Sustain quality.	Club, BCGBA		L	S	L	
64	6005674	Windmill Park	SK11 7JD	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch.	Sustain quality to ensure no future overplay.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
				Cycling		One good quality pump track following recent renovation.	Retain for community demand and seek to sustain quality.	British Cycling		L	L	L	

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Site ID	Active Power Places Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
74	1042526	Macclesfield Cricket Club	SK10 3JE	Cricket	Sports Club	Two good quality grass squares one of which accommodates 14 wickets (ten senior and four junior), whilst the other accommodates eight senior wickets, four junior wickets and an NTP. Both are overplayed and the site has poor quality ancillary facilities. Plans are in place for a clubhouse and changing room refurbishment.	Seek to transfer additional demand to NTPs or to an alternative pitch with capacity to eradicate overplay and support plans to improve ancillary provision. Support the club with security of tenure of second ground.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green that is accompanied by poor quality ancillary facilities. Used by Macclesfield Crown Green BC.	Improve ancillary facilities.	Club, BCGBA		M	S	M	
79	30003745	Marlborough Primary School	SK10 2HJ	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to establish actual spare capacity.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
88	6004609	Moss Rose Stadium	SK11 7SP	3G	Sports Club	One full size 3G pitch that is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as good quality having been installed in 2021. However, the site is home to Macclesfield Town FC (Tier 3), which has aspirations to enter the Football League, which would in turn mean needing to convert the pitch to grass.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and seek FA testing every year so that it remains on the register and can be used for competitive matches. Should the pitch be converted to grass (or FIFA Quality Pro), explore opportunities for the creation of an alternative 3G pitch elsewhere in the area given that the shortfall will have increased, subject to meeting national planning policy requirements.	Club, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	M	M	Protect Provide
97	1044328	Parkroyal Community School	SK11 6QX	Hockey	School	One smaller size sand-based pitch that is unavailable for community use and is without sports lighting.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
115	30002466	South Park	SK11 7RG	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Tennis		Eight good quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting.	Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand.	LTA		M	S	M	

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Site ID	Active Power Places Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Bowls		Two good quality bowling greens that are used by South Park Ladies BC.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA		M	L	L	
128	1038139	The Macclesfield Academy/ Macclesfield College	SK11 8JR	Football	School	One adult, two youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, all of which are standard quality and available for community use. The youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches are both overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions respectively, whilst the adult pitch has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and seek to provide security of tenure to club users.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use and is serviced with sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as poor quality having not been resurfaced since its installation in 1990. Not currently used for club hockey.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Consider resurfacing as a 3G pitch given local shortfalls, providing hockey demand can continue to be adequately accommodated elsewhere and subject to meeting national planning policy requirements.	School, EH		H	S	H	
132	6005683	Tytherington Pitches	SK10 2JD	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch that are standard quality. The latter is overplayed.	Improve quality to alleviate overplay.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
134	6005701	Victoria Park	SK10 1GA	Football	Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch that is played to capacity.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green that is without any ancillary facilities. Used by Victoria Park BC.	Explore options to provide ancillary facilities on site to better accommodate demand.	BCGBA		M	S	M	
136	6005659	Weston Playing Field	SK11 8SR	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
138	30003977	Whirley Primary School	SK10 3JL	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is available for community use by has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
151	N/A	All Hallows Catholic College	SK11 8LB	Football	School	Two poor quality youth 11v11 pitches that are overplayed by a combined total of 1.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Active Power Places Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				3G		One full size 3G pitch that is available for community use and serviced with sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as standard quality having been installed in 2014.	Once the pitch reaches the end of its lifespan (1-2 years), look to resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	School, FA, FF		H	S	H	
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular demand.	ECB, CCB		L	S	L	
153	N/A	Langley Cricket Club	SK11 0DE	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 12-wicket grass square (nine senior wickets, two junior wickets and a single NTP). Langley CC aspires to make refurbishments to its clubhouse and changing rooms.	Sustain quality and look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
162	N/A	Tytherington High School	SK10 2EE	Football	School	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, both of which are standard quality and have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via a community use agreement. Explore the feasibility of developing a full size 3G pitch, subject to meeting national planning policy requirements.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				Rugby union		One poor quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, RFU		M	S	L	
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as good quality following recent resurfacing and is used by Macclesfield HC. The School has plans to develop additional classroom and social space on site, with this proposed to include some changing room provision.	Protect as hockey suitable and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Also consider proposal for additional building on site against national and local planning policy.	School, EH		M	S	M	
				Cricket		One standalone NTP.	Retain for curricular demand.	School, ECB, CCB		L	L	L	
				Rounders		One rounders diamond that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular demand.	School, RE		L	L	L	

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Site ID	Active Power Places Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Tennis		Three poor quality macadam courts that are unavailable for community use and do not have sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and explore sports lighting potential to support community access.	School, LTA		M	S	M	
				Netball		Two poor quality courts overmarked on the tennis courts.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and explore sports lighting potential to support community access.	School, EN		M	S	M	
172	N/A	Bollinbrook Primary School	SK10 3AT	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
173	N/A	Bollington St John's Primary	SK10 5EF	3G	School	One smaller size 3G pitch that is unavailable for community use and is without sports lighting.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
176	N/A	Broken Cross Community School	SK11 8UD	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
178	N/A	Christ the King Primary	SK11 7SF	Football	School	One mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
190	N/A	Hollinhey Primary School	SK11 0EE	Football	School	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch that has spare capacity due to unsecure tenure.	Provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
191	N/A	Hurdsfield Community Primary School	SK10 2LW	Football	School	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch that is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
192	N/A	Ivy Bank Primary School	SK11 8PB	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
206	N/A	Puss Bank Primary School	SK10 1QJ	Football	School	Two mini 7v7 pitches that have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
207	N/A	Rainow Primary School	SK10 5UB	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Active Power Places Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
214	N/A	St Alban's Catholic Primary School	SK10 3HJ	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one youth 9v9 pitch and one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field land for all potential sports in accordance with national planning policy.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
230	N/A	Upton Priory Primary School	SK10 3ED	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches that have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
244	N/A	Pott Shrigley Cricket Club	SK10 5RT	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 16-wicket grass square (12 senior wickets and four junior wickets). The senior wickets have actual spare capacity of 34 match equivalent sessions, whilst the junior wicket has spare capacity of four match equivalent sessions.	Sustain quality. Support club with its development plans to improve ancillary and training facilities.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
248	N/A	Jasmine Park	SK10 3GH	Football	Council	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches that are overplayed by a combined total of 3.5 match equivalent sessions. The site is home to Macclesfield FC Women (Tier 7).	Improve quality to eradicate overplay. Ensure the site meets the minimum requirements to progress through the football pyramid.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
250	N/A	St Gregory's Catholic Primary School	SK10 5HS	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
251	N/A	Dean Valley Primary School	SK10 5HR	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
268	N/A	Gawsworth Primary School	SK11 9QU	Football	School	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
269	N/A	Fermain Academy	SK11 8LH	Football	School	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch that is played to capacity. A planning application has been submitted with a plan to replace the football pitch with a new youth centre, including a pavilion, recreational sports area, MUGA and gardening area as well as associated car parking.	Ensure any planning application accords with national planning policy and protect provision until this occurs.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect

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Site ID	Active Power Places Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
279	N/A	Macclesfield Leisure Centre	SK10 4AF	Football	Council	Discussions are ongoing regarding the relocation of a planned youth 11v11 football pitch to the site (utilising the centre of the athletics track at the site) from Alderley Park, together with a smaller size 3G pitch.	Ensure potential relocation of the planned youth 11v11 meets planning policy requirements.	FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	M	Provide
				Athletics		One standard quality eight lane synthetic athletics track. England Athletics states this track will require surfacing in 2026.	Support the refurbishment of the athletics track to better cater for and to attract demand.	EA		H	M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
312	N/A	Macclesfield Tennis Club	SK11 8JR	Tennis	Council	Four standard quality macadam courts, six standard quality artificial turf courts five of which are accompanied by sports lighting, and one standard quality acrylic court.	Explore sports lighting potential for other courts to better cater for and to attract demand.	LTA	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
313	N/A	Packhorse Bowling & Social Club	SK10 3AT	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality.	Club, BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
330	N/A	Lower Withington Village Hall	SK11 9DX	Tennis	Parish Council	One standard quality macadam court that is without sports lighting.	Improve court quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand.	Parish Council, LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green that is unused by a team.	Sustain quality.	Parish Council, BCGBA		L	S	L	
331	N/A	West Park	SK10 3BJ	Tennis	Council	One standard quality court that is without sports lighting.	Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Netball	Council	One standard quality court that is without sports lighting.	Improve quality of court.	EN	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Bowls	Council	One good quality bowling green rented by West Park BC.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
339	N/A	Gawsworth Village Hall	SK11 9QY	Tennis	Parish Council	One poor quality macadam court that is without sports lighting.	Improve court quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand.	Parish Council, LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
354	N/A	Macclesfield Golf Club	SK11 7EA	Golf	Sports Club	One members 18-hole golf course.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	S	L	Protect
359	N/A	Shrigley Hall Hotel Golf & Country Club	SK10 5SB	Golf	Proprietary	One 18-hole proprietary golf course that is accompanied by a six-hole par-3 provision.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	S	L	Protect
361	N/A	The Tytherington Club	SK10 2JP	Golf	Proprietary	One 18-hole proprietary golf course that is accompanied by a 10-bay driving range but does not offer pay and play.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	S	L	Protect

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Site ID	Active Power Places Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
375	N/A	Parkside Bowls Club	SK10 3JE	Bowls	Council	One good quality green that is accompanied by poor quality ancillary facilities.	Explore options to improve ancillary facilities to better cater for.	BCGBA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
378	N/A	Lanark Walk	SK10 3ES	Football (disused)	Council	A disused site that previously accommodated a mini football pitch.	Now used recreationally; retain as strategic reserve.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
				Cycling		One standard quality pump track.	Retain for continued community use and sustain quality.	British Cycling		L	L	L	
-	N/A	Sandwich Drive	SK10 2UD	Football (disused)	Council	A disused site that previously accommodated a mini pitch as recently as 2021.	Retain as strategic reserve.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	N/A	St Barnabas C of E Primary School	SK11 7QA	Football (disused)	Private	A disused playing field that reportedly previously accommodated a pitch. Development plans exist in relation to it.	Ensure any development meets national planning policy requirements.	FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

POYNTON – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Poynton	Adult	0.5 match equivalent sessions	3.5 match equivalent sessions
Poynton	Youth 11v11	At capacity	3.5 match equivalent sessions
Poynton	Youth 9v9	At capacity	3 match equivalent sessions
Poynton	Mini 7v7	At capacity	2.5 match equivalent sessions
Poynton	Mini 5v5	At capacity	2.5 match equivalent sessions
Football – 3G pitches			
Poynton	Full size	0.75 pitches	1.5 pitches
Rugby union pitches			
Poynton	Senior	1 match equivalent session	1 match equivalent session
Rugby league pitches			
Poynton	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Poynton	Senior	51 match equivalent sessions	51 match equivalent sessions

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating with significant spare capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	Three of the greens within Poynton are currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Provide ancillary facilities at sites that are currently without (e.g. at Deva Close). ◀ Seek to provide security of tenure for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity (e.g. at Lostock Hall Primary School). ◀ Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity (e.g. at Mount Vernon). ◀ Ensure replacement football provision from Poynton Sports Club is delivered to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Support 3G aspirations to meet area shortfalls (e.g. Poynton High School). ◀ Ensure lacrosse demand can be adequately accommodated on the 3G pitch at Priory Park, together with other usage received (e.g., football and rugby union).
Rugby union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to reduce overplay (e.g. Priory Park). ◀ Explore sports lighting potential (e.g. at Priory Park). ◀ Consider the creation of a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at Priory Park or nearby as a resolution to capacity issues.
Rugby league	◀ N/A
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure any hockey demand catered at Poynton Sports Club can continue to be accommodated in the Borough following proposed development.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Retain provision at The King's School community available and seek to improve ancillary provision to enable it. Once established, seek to maximise usage via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites. ◀ Seek to relieve overplay through greater use of the NTP and/or the transfer of some demand to a site with spare capacity (e.g. at Disley Amalgamated Sports Club). ◀ Ensure replacement cricket provision from Poynton Sports Club is delivered to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy.
Other grass pitch sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to build future capacity and to avoid overplay (e.g. at Disley Amalgamated Sports Club). ◀ Ensure replacement lacrosse provision is delivered from Poynton Sports Club to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy. ◀ Provide ancillary provision (e.g. at Mount Vernon).
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality (e.g. at Arnold Rhodes Recreation Ground). ◀ Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Disley Amalgamated Sports Club). ◀ Ensure tennis needs at Poynton High School can continue to be met if a 3G pitch is delivered. ◀ Ensure replacement tennis provision from Poynton Sports Club is delivered to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy.
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure netball needs at Poynton High School can continue to be met if a 3G pitch is delivered.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure replacement bowls provision from Poynton Sports Club is delivered to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy.
Archery	◀ N/A
Golf	◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	◀ N/A
Cycling	◀ Protect provision.

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

POYNTON – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
41	6005762	Deva Close	SK12 1HH	Football	Council	One adult and two youth 11v11 pitches, all of which have spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality. The site is serviced with poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity and provide improved ancillary provision.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
42	1208102	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club	SK12 2JR	Football	Sports Club	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, both of which are standard quality and played to capacity.	Improve quality to avoid future overplay.	Club, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				3G		One smaller size 3G pitch that is serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for continued recreational use.	Club, FA, FF		L	L	L	
				Lacrosse		One standard quality lacrosse pitch that is accessed by Norbury LC as a secondary venue. The pitch is currently played to capacity.	Improve quality to build future capacity and to avoid overplay.	Club, EL		M	M	L	
				Cricket		One good quality 15-wicket grass square (12 senior wickets, two junior wickets and an NTP). The junior wickets are overplayed by 20 match equivalent sessions per season.	Seek to relieve overplay through greater use of the NTP and/or the transfer of some demand to a site with spare capacity.	Club, ECB, CCB		M	S	L	
				Tennis		One good quality artificial turf court that is without sports lighting.	Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for demand.	Club, LTA		M	S	L	
73	6008596	Lower Park Primary School	SK12 1HE	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users by establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
85	6005964	Midway Playing Fields	SK12 1LR	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
93	6005965	Newtown Playing Field	SK12 2RH	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch with spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
102	1041692	Poynton High School	SK12 1PU	Football	School	One adult, one youth 9v9 and three mini 7v7 pitches, all of which are poor and unavailable for community use. A Mitigation Strategy relating to sites in the area identify that the pitches should be improved as part of wider plans and made available to the community.	Improve quality and establish community use via a long-term community use agreement. Also explore feasibility of developing a full size 3G pitch, subject to meeting national planning policy requirements.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use. As part of the site's potential development plans, it is suggested there is a need to improve quality of the pitch to better cater for curricular demand.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, RFU		M	S	L	
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain and improve for curricular demand.	School, ECB, CCB		M	S	L	
				Tennis		16 poor quality macadam tennis courts, with four serviced by sports lighting. These are situated where the proposed 3G pitch will reside.	Ensure tennis needs at the School can continue to be met if a 3G pitch is delivered (e.g., via marking them out elsewhere on site).	School, LTA		M	L	L	
				Netball		Four poor quality macadam courts. These are situated where the proposed 3G pitch will reside.	Ensure netball needs at the School can continue to be met if a 3G pitch is delivered (e.g., via marking them out elsewhere on site).	School, EN		M	L	L	
103	1036696	Poynton Sports Club	SK12 1AG	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch that has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Subject to development plans, with a Mitigation Strategy produced in 2021 outlining that the provision should be replaced via land North of Glastonbury Drive. The site is also serviced with poor quality ancillary provision.	Ensure replacement provision is delivered to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy.	Club, FA, FF	Key Centre	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch that is both available for community use and is serviced with sports lighting. No replacement is outlined in the Mitigation Strategy due to limited usage.	Ensure any demand catered for can continue to be accommodated in the Borough following proposed development.	Club, EH		L	L	L	
				Lacrosse		Two standard quality lacrosse pitches that are both at capacity. Subject to development plans, with a Mitigation Strategy produced in 2021 outlining that the provision should be replaced via land North of Glastonbury Drive.	Ensure replacement provision is delivered to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy.	Club, EL		H	S	H	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Cricket		One standard quality 12-wicket grass square (seven senior wickets and five junior wickets). The senior wickets are overplayed by 30 match equivalent sessions per season. Subject to development plans, with a Mitigation Strategy produced in 2021 outlining that the provision should be replaced via land North of Glastonbury Drive.	Ensure replacement provision is delivered to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy.	Club, ECB, CCB		H	S	H	
				Tennis		One good quality macadam court and six good quality artificial turf courts with a current capacity balance of 180. Subject to development plans, with a Mitigation Strategy produced in 2021 outlining that the provision should be replaced via land North of Glastonbury Drive.	Ensure replacement provision is delivered to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy.	Club, LTA		H	S	H	
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green. Subject to development plans, with a Mitigation Strategy produced in 2021 outlining that the provision should be replaced via land North of Glastonbury Drive.	Ensure replacement provision is delivered to a good quality and in line with the recommendations set out in the Mitigation Strategy.	Club, BCGBA		H	S	H	
104	1208746	Priory Park (Macclesfield Rugby Club)	SK10 4AE	3G	Sports Club	One smaller size 3G pitch serviced with sports lighting. Aspirations exist at for a dome to be established over the 3G pitch to make it an indoor/covered facility as it is thought that this will better cater for box lacrosse demand. UKLacrosse Coaching LTD has entered into a three year agreement for use of the pitch.	Ensure lacrosse demand can be adequately accommodated at the site together with other usage received (e.g., football and rugby union).	Club, FA, FF, RFU, EL	Key Centre	M	L	S	Protect Enhance Provide
				Rugby union		Three senior pitches and one age grade pitch, all of which are good quality. One of the senior pitches is serviced with sports lighting and receives training demand, leading to the pitch being overplayed by one match equivalent session.	Improve quality to reduce overplay and consider providing additional sports lighting to fully alleviate it. Alternatively, consider the creation of a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch on site or nearby as a resolution to capacity issues, subject to meeting national planning policy requirements.	Club, RFU		M	S	M-H	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
126	1203220	The King's School	SK10 4RH	Rugby Union	School	Five standard quality senior pitches, all of which are available for community use but are currently unused.	Retain as community available should demand arise in the future.	School, RFU	Key Centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				Hockey		Two full size pitches, both of which are good quality and are available for community use and equipped with sports lighting. Used by Alderley Edge and Macclesfield hockey clubs.	Sustain quality and ensure the pitches remain as hockey suitable. A sinking fund should be in place for long-term sustainability.	School, EH		L	L	L	
				Cricket		Three good quality grass squares and three standard quality grass squares. Combined, these squares have spare capacity of 173 equivalent match sessions per season but are unable to accommodate increased demand due to a lack of ancillary facilities.	Retain as community available and seek to improve ancillary provision to enable it. Once established, seek to maximise usage via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites.	School, ECB, CCB		H	S	M	
				Tennis		Six good quality polymeric courts with sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	School, LTA		L	L	L	
				Netball		Six good quality polymeric courts overmarked on the tennis courts.	Sustain quality.	School, EN		L	L	L	
159	N/A	Prestbury Cricket Club	SK10 4DG	Cricket	Private	One good quality 14-wicket grass square (12 senior wickets and two junior wickets). The senior wickets have spare capacity of 23 match equivalent sessions per season, whilst the junior wickets has potential spare capacity of two equivalent match sessions per season. Prestbury CC aspires to make refurbishments to its clubhouse and changing rooms and install a new two bay practise facility on site.	Sustain quality and look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans, including the provision of a new non-turf practice facility.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
165	N/A	Adlington Primary School	SK10 4JX	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
182	N/A	Disley Primary School	SK12 2DY	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
195	N/A	Lostock Hall Primary School	SK12 1XG	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 5v5 pitches that have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
240	N/A	Worth Primary School	SK12 1QA	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
						capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	establishing a community use agreement.						
247	N/A	Prestbury Playing Fields	SK10 4JJ	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Tennis		Three good quality artificial clay courts and five good quality artificial turf courts. Service by sports lighting. The courts have a capacity shortfall of 11 members.	Sustain quality and monitor usage levels to ensure capacity remains sufficient.	LTA		M	L	L	
249	N/A	Mount Vernon	SK12 1TG	Football	Council	One adult pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Lacrosse		One poor quality lacrosse pitch that is played to capacity and is without ancillary facilities.	Improve quality and provide appropriate ancillary provision.	EL		M	S	M	
254	N/A	Arnold Rhodes Recreation Ground	SK12 2HF	Tennis	Council	One poor quality macadam court that is without sports lighting and ancillary facilities.	Improve quality to better cater for and to attract community demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
281	N/A	Mottram Hall	SK10 4QT	Tennis	Commercial	One good quality padel court that is accompanied by good quality ancillary facilities. Without sports lighting	Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
316	N/A	Poynton Workmen's Club	SK12 1RG	Bowls	-	One good quality green.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
327	N/A	Rams Head	SK12 2AE	Bowls	Private	One good quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary provision.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
				Bowls (disused)		Site previously accommodated a green.	Retain as strategic reserve for all potential sports.	BCGBA		L	L	L	
335	N/A	Poynton Legion Club	SK12 1JY	Bowls	-	One good quality green that is currently unused.	Retain land as strategic reserve for all sports or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national planning policy.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
336	N/A	Prestbury Bowls Club	SK10 4XP	Bowls	-	One good quality green that is occupied by Prestbury BC. The site has poor quality ancillary facilities	Improve ancillary provision and explore potential creation of sports lighting due to high membership.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
342	N/A	Adlington Golf Centre	SK10 4NG	Golf	Proprietary	Two nine-hole proprietary courses that are accompanied by a 41-bay driving range.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	S	L	Protect
348	N/A	Davenport Golf Club	SK12 1TS	Golf	Private	An 18-hole members golf course.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	S	L	Protect
349	N/A	Disley Golf Club	SK12 2JX	Golf	Private	An 18-hole members golf course.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	S	L	Protect

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
356	N/A	Mottram Hall Golf & Country Club	SK10 4QT	Golf	Private	An 18-hole members golf course that is accompanied by a ten-bay driving range.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	S	L	Protect
357	N/A	Prestbury Golf Club	SK10 4BJ	Golf	Private	An 18-hole members golf course.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	S	L	Protect
368	N/A	Higher Poynton Tennis Club	SK12 1TL	Tennis	Council	Two standard quality clay courts that are without sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and attract demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
371	N/A	Mottram Village Hall	SK10 4QP	Bowls	Parish Council	One good quality green occupied by Mottram BC.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
-	N/A	Hazelbadge Road	SK12 1HE	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously provided a football pitch but no longer does so, although it is still in use recreationally.	Retain as strategic reserve and consider bringing back into use if a sustainable football programme can be developed given local shortfalls.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

WILMSLOW – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Wilmslow	Adult	1.5 match equivalent sessions	At capacity
Wilmslow	Youth 11v11	6.5 match equivalent sessions	9 match equivalent sessions
Wilmslow	Youth 9v9	2 match equivalent sessions	4 match equivalent sessions
Wilmslow	Mini 7v7	At capacity	1 match equivalent sessions
Wilmslow	Mini 5v5	At capacity	1 match equivalent sessions
Football – 3G pitches			
Wilmslow	Full size	1.5 pitches	1.75 pitches
Rugby union pitches			
Wilmslow	Senior	3 match equivalent sessions	4 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league pitches			
Wilmslow	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Wilmslow	Senior	52 match equivalent sessions	84 match equivalent sessions

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating with significant spare capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	One of the greens within Wilmslow are currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to eradicate overplay (e.g. at Upcast Lane). ◀ Provide ancillary facilities at sites currently without (e.g. Upcast Lane). ◀ Seek to provide security of tenure for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity (e.g. at The Wilmslow Academy). ◀ Consider Jim Evison Playing Field and Wilmslow High School as potential sites for the development of full size 3G pitches (World Rugby complaint or not) given its strategic location and the area shortfall that exists.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand (e.g. at Carnival Field).
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect provision.
Rugby union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect provision. Improve quality to reduce overplay (e.g. Memorial Ground (Wilmslow Rugby Club)). Consider the development of a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at Memorial Ground (Wilmslow Rugby Club) or nearby (e.g., at Jim Evison Playing Fields) as a means to transferring demand from the pitches.
Rugby league	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect provision. Resurface pitch at The Edge Hockey Centre and Wilmslow High School to improve quality and ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability. Provide ancillary provision (e.g. at The Edge Hockey Centre). Further explore feasibility of aspirations expressed at Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club for the creation of a second full size pitch.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect provision. Seek to relieve overplay through the installation of an NTP (e.g. at Alderley Edge Cricket Club and Lindow Cricket Club). Support clubs to develop ancillary provision, in particular changing and clubhouse facilities (e.g. Alderley Edge CC, Styal CC and Lindow CC).
Other grass pitch sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect provision. Sustain quality and ensure appropriate access across the AGP and MUGA at Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club to adequately accommodate training demand away from the grass pitches.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect provision. Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Styal Playing Fields). Explore options to provide ancillary facilities to better cater for and to attract demand (e.g. at Styal Playing Fields). Consider bringing disused courts back into use to cater for localised recreational demand (e.g. at The Carrs Park).
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect provision. Explore options to provide ancillary facilities to better cater for and to attract demand (e.g. at Alderley Edge Union Club).
Archery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Golf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect provision.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

WILMSLOW – NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	1036068	Alderley Edge Cricket Club	SK9 7HN	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 19-wicket grass square (13 senior wickets and six junior wickets). The junior wickets are overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per season. Alderley Edge CC aspires to make refurbishments to its clubhouse and changing rooms, as well as a continued grounds improvement scheme.	Seek to alleviate overplay through installation of NTP. Look to support the Club with its ancillary and square development plans.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
				Tennis		14 good quality artificial turf courts with a current spare capacity balance of 140.	Sustain quality.	Club, LTA		L	L	L	
27	6005710	Carnival Field	SK9 5NG	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch that offers actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
30	6005699	Chorley Hall	SK9 7TG	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch that is played to capacity.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and consider conversion to youth 11v11 given demand received.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
61	1208664	Jim Evison Playing Fields	SK9 4LY	Football	Council	Three adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, all of which are standard quality. Both the youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by a combined total of four match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay. Also consider as a potential site for the development of a full size 3G pitch given its strategic location and the area shortfall that exists, subject to national planning policy requirements being met. This could be both compliant for football and rugby union. Finally, consider creation of youth 11v11 pitch provision given demand already received (one adult pitch could be converted).	FA, FF	Key Centre	H	S	M-H	Protect Enhance
				Rugby Union		Two senior and two age grade pitches, all of which are poor quality and without sports lighting. Both of the age grade pitches are played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to better accommodate demand and to build future capacity.	RFU		M	S	M	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim	
69	6005725	Lacey Green Pavilion	SK9 4BU	Football	Council	Two poor quality youth 11v11 pitches that are overplayed by three match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance	
70	30002950	Lacey Green Primary Academy	SK9 4DP	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches that have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect	
72	1044198	Lindow Community Primary School	SK9 6EH	Football	School	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of which are standard quality and have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect	
81	1036505	Memorial Ground (Wilmslow Rugby Club)	SK9 5PZ	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One good quality senior pitch and one standard quality senior pitch, the latter of which is overplayed by three match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality and seek dispersion of training demand across the pitches to alleviate overplay. Alternatively, consider the development of a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch on site or nearby (e.g., at Jim Evison Playing Fields) as a means to transferring demand from the pitches, subject to national planning policy requirements being met.	Club, RFU	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide	
95	1041658	Oakwood Farm	SK9 4HP	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch that is played to capacity. The Club has an aspiration to install a full size 3G pitch.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and explore the feasibility of developing a full size 3G pitch given local shortfalls, subject to national planning policy requirements being met.	FA, FF	Local	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide	
101	30003411	Pownall Hall School	SK9 5DW	Football	School	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of which are standard quality and have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide	
				3G		One smaller size 3G pitch that is unavailable for community use but is serviced with sports lighting.	Explore community use options to accommodate recreational demand given the presence of sports lighting.			School, FA, FF	L	M		L
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.			School, ECB, CCB	L	S		L

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
120	6016012	Styal Playing Fields	SK9 4JE	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch that offers actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session.	Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	Club, FA, FF	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
				Cricket		One good quality eight-wicket grass square (seven senior wickets and one junior wicket). Styal CC aspires to make refurbishments to its clubhouse and changing rooms.	Sustain quality and look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	Club, ECB, CCB		M	S	M	
				Tennis		Three poor quality macadam courts that are without ancillary facilities and sports lighting. Used by Styal TC.	Improve quality and explore options for ancillary facilities and sports lighting potential to better cater for demand.	Club, LTA		M	S	M	
124	1044870	The Edge Hockey Centre	SK9 7QN	Hockey	Sports Club	One full size sand-based pitch that is serviced by sports lighting. Assessed as standard quality having last been resurfaced in 2011 and serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Retain as hockey suitable and provide improved ancillary provision.	Club, EH	Key Centre	H	M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
131	1041691	Wilmslow Leisure Centre (The Rectory Field)	SK9 1BU	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality seven-wicket grass square (six senior wickets and one junior wicket as well as a single NTP).	Sustain quality and explore opportunities to provide permanent on-site practice facilities.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Provide
133	6015985	Upcast Lane	SK9 6EH	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch and one poor quality youth 11v11 pitch, the latter of which is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and provide improved ancillary provision.	Club, FA, FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
141	1201174	Wilmslow High School	SK9 1LZ	Football	School	Two adult, two youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches, all of which are standard quality and unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls, with quality improvements potentially required to enable this.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
				Rugby Union		Three standard quality senior pitches that are available for community use but currently unused.	Retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School, RFU		L	L	L	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use and serviced with sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as poor quality having not been resurfaced since 2007. Used minimally by Alderley Edge HC	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Retain as hockey suitable providing access remains required by Alderley Edge HC and subject to Wilmslow HC's capacity issues.	School, EH		H	S	M	
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, ECB		L	S	L	
				Tennis		Eight standard quality artificial turf courts that are without sports lighting and four disused polymeric courts which are undergoing construction.	Explore sports lighting to better cater for and to attract community demand.	School, LTA		M	S	M	
				Netball (disused)		Four disused polymeric courts which are undergoing construction.	Ensure netball needs can continue to be met during construction period and protect provision in line with national planning policy.	School, EN		M	S	M	
142	1004970	Wilmslow Leisure Centre	SK9 1BU	Hockey	Council	One smaller size sand-based pitch serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for continued recreational use.	FF, FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
143	1038181	Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club	SK9 4HP	Hockey	Council	One full size sand-based pitch serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as good quality having been resurfaced in 2019. Planning consent has also been granted for the development of a second full size pitch at the site.	Further explore feasibility of a second full size pitch given capacity issues faced by Wilmslow HC and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability across the site.	EH	Key Centre	H	S	H	Protect Provide
				Cricket		One good quality ten-wicket grass square (five senior wickets and five junior wickets). Both the senior and junior wickets are overplayed by ten and six match equivalent sessions per week respectively.	Seek to alleviate overplay through installation of an NTP.	ECB, CCB		M	S	M	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Lacrosse		Three standard quality lacrosse pitches that have spare capacity for 3.5 match equivalent sessions. The full size AGP is also used for lacrosse activity by Wilmslow Lacrosse Club, whilst a MUGA is to be established for the purpose of accommodating training demand. This is to free up capacity on the AGP for hockey and football .	Sustain quality and ensure appropriate access across the AGP and MUGA to adequately accommodate training demand away from the grass pitches.	EL		M	L	L	
154	N/A	Lindow Cricket Club	SK9 6EH	Cricket	Trust	One good quality 15 wicket grass square (six senior wickets and nine junior wickets). The senior wickets are overplayed by 34 match equivalent sessions per season. Lindow CC aspires to make refurbishments to its clubhouse.	Seek to alleviate overplay through installation of an NTP. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	Trust, ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
166	N/A	Alderley Edge Community Primary School	SK9 7UZ	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is available for community use and has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch that is neither available for community use nor is it serviced with sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, EH		L	L	L	
168	N/A	Ashdene Primary School	SK9 6LJ	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is available for community use and has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch that is neither available for community use nor is it serviced with sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, EH		L	L	L	
181	N/A	Dean Oaks Primary School	SK9 2LX	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is available for community use and has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
216	N/A	St Anne's Fulshaw Primary	SK9 5JQ	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is available for community use and has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
217	N/A	St Benedict's Catholic Primary	SK9 3AE	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is available for community use and has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
227	N/A	Styal Primary School	SK9 4JE	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
267	N/A	The Wilmslow Academy	SK9 2LX	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
274	N/A	Croftside Tennis Club	SK9 6JL	Tennis	Community Organisation	Three standard quality artificial turf courts utilised by Croftside TC.	Improve quality of courts to better cater for demand.	Community Organisation, LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
276	N/A	Heyes Lane Tennis Club	SK9 7LT	Tennis	Sports Club	Three standard quality polymeric courts utilised by Heyes Lane LTC that are without sports lighting	Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand.	Club, LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
278	N/A	Lindow Lawn Tennis Club	SK9 6EF	Tennis	Sports Club	Three good quality artificial turf courts two of which are serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	Club, LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
280	N/A	Meriton Road Park	SK9 3HB	Tennis	Council	Two standard quality macadam courts. The site is without ancillary facilities.	Improve quality to better cater for demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
283	N/A	Pownall Park Tennis Club	SK9 5DN	Tennis	Sports Club	Three good quality polymeric courts primarily used by Pownall Park LTC.	Sustain quality.	Club, LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
288	N/A	Total Fitness (Wilmslow)	SK9 3PE	Tennis	Commercial	Four padel tennis courts with a planning application submitted for the creation of additional provision.	Retain for continued commercial use and support plans for the creation of additional courts if considered viable/sustainable.	LTA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Provide
292	N/A	Alderley Edge Park	SK9 7UY	Tennis	Council	Two standard quality artificial turf courts that are without ancillary facilities.	Improve court quality to better cater for and to attract demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
295	N/A	Alderley Edge Union Club	SK9 7NL	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality green that is without ancillary facilities.	Explore options to provide ancillary facilities to better cater for and to attract demand.	Club, BCGBA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
296	N/A	Waggon & Horses Bowling Green	SK9 3JZ	Bowls	Commercial	One good quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
298	N/A	Wilmslow Bowling Club	SK9 6JA	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality bowling green accompanied by good quality ancillary facilities primarily used by Wilmslow BC.	Sustain quality and explore potential creation of sports lighting due to high membership.	Club, BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
299	N/A	Wilmslow Royal British Legion Club	SK9 5EG	Bowls	-	One good quality green.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
300	N/A	Wilmslow Conservative Club	SK9 5EG	Bowls	-	One good quality green.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
317	N/A	The Carrs Park	SK9 4AA	Tennis (disused)	Council	Two disused macadam courts which are no longer maintained.	Consider bringing courts back into use to cater for localised recreational demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Provide
343	N/A	Alderley Edge Golf Club	SK9 7RU	Golf	Membership	An 18-hole members golf course.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
360	N/A	Styal Golf Club	SK9 4JN	Golf	Proprietary	An 18-hole proprietary golf course accompanied by a nine-hole par-3 provision and 34-bay driving range.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
367	N/A	Handforth Hall Tennis Club	SK9 3AW	Tennis	Sports Club	Three standard quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting	Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract demand.	Club, LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
379	N/A	Picton Drive	SK9 2SQ	Cycling	Council	One standard quality pump track built in 2018.	Retain for continued community use and sustain quality.	British Cycling	Local	L	L	L	Protect
380	N/A	Lacey Green Park	SK9 4BU	Cycling	Council	One standard quality BMX track built in 2018.	Retain for continued community use and sustain quality.	British Cycling	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	N/A	Brooke Dean Community College	SK9 3QN	Football (disused)	School	A disused site that previously accommodated an adult football pitch.	Ensure any development of the site meets national planning policy requirements.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

ALSAGER – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Alsager	Adult	1.5 match equivalent sessions	1.5 match equivalent sessions
Alsager	Youth 11v11	At capacity	At capacity
Alsager	Youth 9v9	At capacity	At capacity
Alsager	Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
Alsager	Mini 5v5	At capacity	At capacity
Football – 3G pitches			
Alsager	Full size	At capacity	At capacity
Rugby union pitches			
Alsager	Senior	At capacity	At capacity
Rugby league pitches			
Alsager	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Alsager	Senior	31 match equivalent sessions	37 match equivalent sessions

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating with significant spare capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	One of the greens within Alsager are currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass pitch sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⚡ Protect provision. ⚡ Improve quality to eradicate overplay (e.g. at Alsager Sports Hub). ⚡ Provide ancillary facilities at sites that are currently without (e.g. at Wood Park). ⚡ Explore opportunities to bring lost provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve (e.g. at Portland Drive).
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⚡ Protect provision. ⚡ Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability (e.g. at Alsager Leisure Centre and Alsager Sports Hub).
Rugby union	⚡ N/A
Rugby league	⚡ N/A

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability (e.g. at Alsager Sports Hub).
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Seek to relieve overplay through greater utilisation of NTPs (e.g. at Alsager Cricket Club) and at club-sites where they do not exist (e.g. at Rode Park & Lawton Cricket Club). ◀ Improve ancillary provision at Rode Park Cricket Club and Alsager Cricket Club. ◀ Support Alsager CC with ground drainage improvements.
Other grass pitch sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality of courts at Alsager Leisure Centre. ◀ Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Alsager Leisure Centre).
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Alsager Leisure Centre).
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Archery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ N/A
Golf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ N/A
Cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ N/A

ALSAGER – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim				
4	1039286	Alsager Cricket Club	ST7 2NW	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 12-wicket grass square (nine senior wickets, two junior wickets and an NTP). The senior wickets are overplayed by five equivalent match sessions per season, whilst the junior wickets are overplayed by 12 equivalent match sessions per season. Alsager CC aspires to make refurbishments to its outfield's drainage.	Alleviate overplay through greater use of the NTP and/or via the transfer of some demand to a site with spare capacity. Look to support the Club with its square improvement plans.	Club, ECB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance				
5	1004924	Alsager Leisure Centre	ST7 2HP	Football	Everybody Health & Leisure	One adult, two youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, all of which are standard quality and available for community use.	Sustain quality.	Everybody Health & Leisure, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide				
				3G		One full size 3G pitch that is serviced by sports lighting. In early 2023, the pitch was converted from a hockey suitable AGP into a full size 3G pitch. The pitch is assessed as good quality.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Register for FA accreditation so that it can be used for competitive matches. Monitor usage levels and seek to maximise activity given that it is a new pitch.			Everybody Health & Leisure, FA, FF	M	L		L			
				Cricket		One standalone NTP.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.				Everybody Health & Leisure, ECB, CCB	L		L	L		
				Rounders		Four rounders diamonds.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.					Everybody Health & Leisure, RE		L	L	L	
				Tennis		Four poor quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand.							Everybody Health & Leisure, LTA	M	S	M
				Netball		Three poor quality macadam courts that are overmarked on the tennis courts	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand.								Everybody Health & Leisure, EN	M	S
37	30003922	Cranberry Academy	ST7 2LE	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 5v5 pitches that are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local				L			S	L

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
86	6009786	Milton Park	ST7 2ES	Football	Council	One youth 11v11 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
99	6016026	Pikemere School	ST7 2SW	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
100	6010011	Portland Drive	ST7 3BS	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously accommodated one adult pitch, last provided in 2016.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve for all sports.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	M	Protect Provide
145	6018651	Wood Park	ST7 2BS	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch that is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Provide improved ancillary provision.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
146	6009995	Wood Park Stadium (Alsager Town Football Club)	ST7 2DP	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch that offers one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity. The site is home to Alsager Town FC (Tier 6).	Sustain quality. Ensure the site meets the minimum requirements to progress through the football pyramid.	Club, FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
160	N/A	Rode Park & Lawton Cricket Club	ST7 3QT	Cricket	Private	One good quality 11-wicket grass square (nine senior wickets and two junior wickets). The senior wickets are overplayed by four match equivalent sessions per season, whilst the junior wickets are overplayed by ten match equivalent sessions per season. Rode Park & Lawton CC aspires to make refurbishments to its changing rooms.	Alleviate overplay through installation of an NTP. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
167	N/A	Alsager Highfields Primary School	ST7 2NW	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
185	N/A	Excalibur Primary School	ST7 2RQ	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
208	N/A	Rode Heath Primary School	ST7 3SH	Football	School	Two standard quality mini 5v5 pitches that are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
210	N/A	Scholar Green Primary School	ST7 3HF	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim	
253	N/A	Alsager Sports Hub	ST7 2TL	Football	Everybody Health & Leisure	One adult, two youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches, all of which are standard quality. The adult pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions, whilst the youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.	Everybody Health & Leisure, FA, FF	Hub	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide	
				3G		One full size 3G pitch that is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as good quality having been installed in 2019.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and ensure FA testing every three years so that it can continue to be used for competitive matches.			Everybody Health & Leisure, FA, FF	H	L		L
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as good quality having been installed in 2019.	Protect and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.				Everybody Health & Leisure, EH	H		L
270	N/A	Alsager Lawn Tennis Club	ST7 2AP	Tennis	Sports Club	Four good quality artificial turf courts primarily used by Alsager LTC.	Sustain quality.	Club, LTA	Local	L		L	L	Protect
302	N/A	Alsager Bowling & Recreation Club	ST7 2NA	Bowls	Council	One good quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality and explore potential creation of sports lighting due to high membership.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect	
344	N/A	Alsager Golf & Country Club	ST7 2UR	Golf	Private	An 18-hole members golf course.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect	
355	N/A	Malkins Bank Golf Club	CW11 4XN	Golf	Private	An 18-hole members golf course that is accompanied by an eight-bay driving range.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect	
373	N/A	Rode Heath Bowling Club	ST7 3SB	Bowls	-	One good quality green.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect	
-	N/A	Cedar Avenue	ST7 2QP	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously provided a youth 11v11 football pitch but no longer does so, although it is still in use recreationally.	Retain as strategic reserve and consider bringing back into use if a sustainable football programme can be developed given local shortfalls.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect	

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

CONGLETON – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Congleton	Adult	1.5 match equivalent sessions	1.5 match equivalent sessions
Congleton	Youth 11v11	6 match equivalent sessions	6 match equivalent sessions
Congleton	Youth 9v9	At capacity	At capacity
Congleton	Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
Congleton	Mini 5v5	At capacity	At capacity
Football – 3G pitches			
Congleton	Full size	At capacity	At capacity
Rugby union pitches			
Congleton	Senior	0.75 match equivalent sessions	3.5 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league pitches			
Congleton	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Congleton	Senior	15 match equivalent sessions	15 match equivalent sessions

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating with significant spare capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	None of the greens within Congleton are currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass pitch sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to eradicate overplay (e.g. at St John's Road). ◀ Seek to provide security of tenure for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity (e.g. at Eaton Bank Academy). ◀ Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand (e.g. Back Lane).
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability (e.g. at Congleton High School). ◀ Provide ancillary provision where it is currently without (e.g. at Congleton High School and Eaton Bank Academy).

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
Rugby union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Back Lane).
Rugby league	◀ N/A
Hockey	◀ N/A
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Mossley Cricket Club). ◀ Seek to relieve overplay through greater utilisation of NTPs (e.g. at Congleton Sports & Social Club).
Other grass pitch sports	◀ N/A
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Eaton Bank Academy). ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Congleton Lawn Tennis Club).
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Eaton Bank Academy).
Bowls	◀ Protect provision.
Archery	◀ N/A
Golf	◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	◀ N/A
Cycling	◀ N/A

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

CONGLETON – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
11	6009947	Back Lane	CW12 4RB	Football	Council	Two adult and two youth 11v11 pitches, all of which are standard quality. The adult pitches offer 1.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity.	Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand for all pitch typologies.	FA, FF	Key Centre	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
				Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch that is without sports lighting. The site is serviced by poor quality provision.	Improve pitch quality and ancillary facility quality to better cater for demand.	RFU		M	S	M	
15	6009947	Black Firs County Primary	CW12 4QJ	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				3G		One smaller size 3G pitch that is unavailable for community use and is without sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, FA, FF		L	L	L	
				Netball		One standard quality macadam court that is unavailable for community use and without lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, EN		L	L	L	
19	6016160	Booth Street Stadium (Congleton Town FC)	CW12 4BJ	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch. The site is home to Congleton Town FC (Step 5), Congleton Town FC Reserves (Regional feeder league) and Congleton Town Ladies (Tier 7).	Sustain quality. Ensure the site meets the minimum requirements to progress through the football pyramid.	Club, FA, FF	Local	M	L	L	Protect
24	30002877	Buglawton Primary School	CW12 2EL	Football	School	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch that is available for community use. The pitch has spare capacity discounted due to tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
33	1208560	Congleton Sports & Social Club	CW12 4DG	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality ten wicket grass square (six senior wickets, three junior wickets, and one NTP). The senior wickets are overplayed by eight match equivalent sessions per season, whilst the junior wickets are overplayed by seven match equivalent sessions per season. Congleton CC aspires to make refurbishments to its changing rooms and improvements to its grounds maintenance.	Alleviate overplay through transfer of some demand to a site with spare capacity and/or through greater utilisation of the NTP. Look to support the Club with its ancillary and square development plans.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green.	Sustain quality.	Club, BCGBA		L	L	L	
34	1208560	Congleton High School	CW12 4NS	Football	School	Two adult, two youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are standard quality. The adult pitches offer 0.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity.	Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				3G		One full size 3G pitch that is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as standard quality having last been resurfaced in 2016 and aspirations exist for a separate clubhouse to be established at the School to service the provision.	Once the pitch reaches the end of its ten-year lifespan (2026), resurface the pitch to improve quality. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and ensure FA testing every three years so that the pitch can continue to be used for competitive matches. Also support plans to develop ancillary provision to service the pitch.	School, FA, FF		H	M	H	
				Cricket		One standalone NTP.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, ECB, CCB		M	S	L	
				Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts, three of which are serviced by sports lighting.	Explore options to improve quality to better accommodate and to attract more demand.	School, LTA		M	S	M	
				Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts. Two of the courts are overmarked on tennis courts and have sports lighting available.	Explore options to improve quality to better accommodate and to attract more demand.	School, EN		M	S	M	
43	1200863	Eaton Bank Academy	CW12 1NT	Football	School	Two youth 11v11, one mini 7v7 pitch and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are available for community use. The youth 11v11 pitches are standard quality and overplayed by five match equivalent sessions, the mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity and the mini 5v5 pitches have spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				3G		One full size 3G pitch that is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as good quality having been installed in 2020.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and ensure FA testing every three years so that the pitch can continue to be used for competitive matches.	School, FA, FF		M	M	L	
				Tennis		Five poor quality macadam courts that are unavailable for community use and are without sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential given quantity of courts provided and to enable community usage.	School, LTA		M	M	M	
				Netball		Three poor quality macadam courts that are over marked on the tennis courts.	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential given quantity of courts provided and to enable community usage.	School, EN		M	M	M	
117	1040058	St John's Road	CW12 2AU	Football	Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
157	N/A	Mossley Cricket Club	CW12 3BN	Cricket	Private	One standard quality 13-wicket grass square (12 senior wickets and one NTP). The wickets have spare capacity of 42 match equivalent sessions per season, but the site is serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities. Congleton CC aspires to install solar panels at the site.	Improve ancillary facility quality and ground and square improvement plans. Look to support the Club with its solar panel aspirations, subject to proposals meeting national planning policy requirements.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
169	N/A	Astbury St Mary's CE Primary	CW12 4RG	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
180	N/A	Daven Primary School	CW12 3AH	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
188	N/A	Havannah Primary School	CW12 5DF	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
198	N/A	Marfields Primary School	CW12 4BT	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
202	N/A	Mossley CE Primary	CW12 3JA	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
220	N/A	St Mary's Primary School (Congleton)	CW12 1HT	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
229	N/A	The Quinta Academy	CW12 4LX	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
272	N/A	Congleton Lawn Tennis Club	CW12 1JR	Tennis	Sports Club	Six macadam courts (three sports-lit) and three artificial turf courts, all of which are good quality. The Club has plans for ancillary improvement.	Support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	Club, LTA	Local	L	M	M	Protect Enhance
303	N/A	The Railway Bowling Club	CW12 3JS	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green that is accompanied by standard quality ancillary provision.	Sustain quality.	Club, BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
345	N/A	Astbury Golf Club	CW12 4RE	Golf	Private	One 18-hole course that is a private membership course.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
346	N/A	Congleton Golf Club	CW12 3LZ	Golf	Private	One 18-hole course that is a private membership course.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

HOLMES CHAPEL – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Holmes Chapel	Adult	0.5 match equivalent sessions	0.5 match equivalent sessions
Holmes Chapel	Youth 11v11	5 match equivalent session	5 match equivalent session
Holmes Chapel	Youth 9v9	At capacity	At capacity
Holmes Chapel	Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
Holmes Chapel	Mini 5v5	At capacity	At capacity
Football – 3G pitches			
Holmes Chapel	Full size	At capacity	At capacity
Rugby union pitches			
Holmes Chapel	Senior	At capacity	At capacity
Rugby league pitches			
Holmes Chapel	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Holmes Chapel	Senior	4 match equivalent sessions	

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating at a balanced capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	None of the greens within Congleton are currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass pitch sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to eradicate overplay (e.g. at Holmes Chapel Cricket Club). ◀ Seek to provide security of tenure for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity (e.g. at Terra Nova School).
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Once the pitch at Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre reaches the end of its lifespan (ten years), look to resurface to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.
Rugby union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Seek to provide security of tenure for clubs (e.g. at Holmes Chapel Community Centre).

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
Rugby league	◀ N/A
Hockey	◀ N/A
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Seek to relieve overplay through installation of an NTP (e.g. at Holmes Chapel Cricket Club). ◀ Explore options to provide on-site practise facilities at Holmes Chapel Cricket Club.
Other grass pitch sports	◀ Protect provision.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre).
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre).
Bowls	◀ Protect provision.
Archery	◀ N/A
Golf	◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	◀ N/A
Cycling	◀ N/A

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

HOLMES CHAPEL – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
31	1000417	Club at Cranage Hall	CW4 8EW	Football	Commercial	A disused area that previously accommodated an adult football pitch.	Ensure any development meets national planning policy requirements.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
				Tennis		One poor quality macadam court that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	LTA	Local	L	S	L	
				Bowls		One good quality green.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA		L	S	L	
36	1000417	Cranage Playing Fields	CW4 8FB	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch and one poor quality youth 9v9 pitch that are played to capacity.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
49	30002845	Goostrey Playing Fields	CW4 8NB	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch.	Sustain quality to avoid future overplay.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
				Tennis		Three poor quality artificial turf courts with sports lighting.	Improve quality to better cater for and to attract community demand.	LTA		M	S	L	
55	30002515	Hermitage Primary School	CW4 7NP	Football	School	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
56	1006713	Holmes Chapel Community Centre	CW4 8AA	Rugby Union	Council	One poor quality senior pitch that is without permanent sports lighting. Holmes Chapel RUFC rents use of the pitch.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand and provide improved security of tenure for the Club via a longer term agreement.	RFU	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
57	1039288	Holmes Chapel Cricket Club	CW4 7BE	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality eight-wicket square overplayed by four match equivalent sessions. The site is without practice facilities. Holmes Chapel CC aspires to replace its sightscreens.	Alleviate overplay through installation of an NTP and explore options to provide practice facilities on site to better cater for demand. Look to support the Club with sightscreens.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
				Tennis		Three good quality macadam courts.	Sustain quality.	Club, LTA		L	L	L	
				Bowls		One good quality green.	Sustain quality.	Club, BCGBA		L	L	L	
58	1004943	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	CW4 7DZ	Football	School	One adult and one youth 11v11, both of which are standard and overplayed.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
				3G		One full size 3G pitch that is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as standard quality having been installed in 2015. Reportedly being block booked even if usage is not required.	Once it reaches the end of its lifespan (2025), re-surface to improve and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Also ensure FA testing every three years so that it remains suitable for matches. Ensure all bookings are being utilised.	School, FA, FF		H	M	M	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.	Improve quality to better cater for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, RFU		M	S	L	
				Rounders		Three rounders diamonds.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, RE		L	L	L	
				Tennis		Five standard quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand.	School, LTA		M	S	M	
				Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts that are overmarked on the tennis courts.	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand.	School, EN		M	S	M	
59	30002968	Holmes Chapel Primary School	CW4 7EB	Football	School	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, both of which are standard quality and have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
122	30002888	Terra Nova School	CW4 8BT	Football	School	One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches, all of which are standard quality and have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch that is unavailable for community use despite being equipped with sports lighting.	Explore community use options given the presence of sports lighting.	School, EH, FF, FA		M	S	L	
				Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts that are unavailable for community use, with two serviced by sports lighting. A planning application has been submitted that would result in the loss of two courts for the erection of a sports hall and associated drainage and servicing, sub-station, car parking and hard and soft landscaping.	Ensure any development proposals adhere to national planning policy requirements and that tennis activity is not adversely affected.	School, LTA		M	S	L	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts that are overmarked on the tennis courts. A planning application has been submitted that would result in the loss of two courts for the erection of a sports hall and associated drainage and servicing, sub-station, car parking and hard and soft landscaping.	Ensure any development proposals adhere to national planning policy requirements and that netball activity is not adversely affected.	School, EN		M	S	L	
340	N/A	Swettenham Club	CW12 2LA	Bowls	-	One standard quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
363	N/A	Woodside Park Golf Club	CW4 8HJ	Golf	Proprietary	One nine-hole Par 3 course, accompanied by a 30-bay driving range; offering pay and play provision.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

MIDDLEWICH – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Middlewich	Adult	0.5 match equivalent sessions	0.5 match equivalent sessions
Middlewich	Youth 11v11	0.5 match equivalent sessions	0.5 match equivalent sessions
Middlewich	Youth 9v9	At capacity	At capacity
Middlewich	Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
Middlewich	Mini 5v5	At capacity	At capacity
Football – 3G pitches			
Middlewich	Full size	At capacity	At capacity
Rugby union pitches			
Middlewich	Senior	At capacity	At capacity
Rugby league pitches			
Middlewich	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Middlewich	Senior	At capacity	At capacity

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating at a balanced capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	None of the greens within Middlewich are currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass pitch sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality to eradicate overplay (e.g. at Middlewich Town Football Club). ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Middlewich Town Football Club and Sutton Lane).
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Resurface the pitches at Middlewich High School and Middlewich Town Football Club to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.
Rugby union	◀ N/A
Rugby league	◀ N/A

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	◀ N/A
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Support Middlewich CC's plans for ancillary provision improvement (e.g. clubhouse redevelopment).
Other grass pitch sports	◀ N/A
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Middlewich High School).
Netball	◀ N/A
Bowls	◀ Protect provision.
Archery	◀ N/A
Golf	◀ N/A
Athletics	◀ N/A
Cycling	◀ N/A

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

MIDDLEWICH – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
82	30002744	Middlewich Cricket Club	CW10 9EZ	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 18-wicket grass square (13 senior wickets and five junior wickets). Site has poor quality ancillary facilities; however, clubhouse development plans are being developed as well as aspirations for additional grounds maintenance equipment.	Support plans to improve ancillary provision and additional maintenance equipment. Support plans to redevelop the clubhouse.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
83	1004950	Middlewich High School (Leisure Centre)	CW10 9BU	3G	School	One full size 3G pitch that is available for community use and serviced with sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as standard quality having last been resurfaced in 2012.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Also ensure FA testing every three years so that it remains suitable for competitive matches.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	H	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
				Tennis		Three poor quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand.	School, LTA		M	S	M	
84	6021441	Middlewich Town Football Club	CW10 9DR	Football	Sports Club	One standard quality adult pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. The site is home to Middlewich Town FC (Regional feeder league).	Improve quality to eradicate overplay. Ensure the site meets the minimum requirements to progress through the football pyramid.	Club, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				3G		One smaller size 3G pitch that is serviced with sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as poor quality.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	Club, FA, FF		M	S	M	
121	6021441	Sutton Lane	CW10 0RE	Football	Council	Three standard quality youth 11v11 pitches and one poor quality youth 9v9 pitch. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve pitch and ancillary facility quality to better cater for and to attract more demand.	FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
179	N/A	Cledford Primary School	CW10 0DD	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
199	N/A	Middlewich Primary School	CW10 9BS	Football	School	One youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches, all of which are standard quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions, whilst the youth 11v11 pitch has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
294	N/A	The Royal British Legion Bowling Green	CW10 9AS	Bowls	Private	One standard quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality of the green to better accommodate demand.	BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
314	N/A	Brooks Lane Bowling Green	CW10 0JG	Bowls	Private	One good quality green that is accompanied by poor quality ancillary provision.	Look to improve ancillary facilities.	BCGBA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

SANDBACH – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Sandbach	Adult	0.5 match equivalent sessions	0.5 match equivalent sessions
Sandbach	Youth 11v11	At capacity	At capacity
Sandbach	Youth 9v9	At capacity	At capacity
Sandbach	Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
Sandbach	Mini 5v5	At capacity	At capacity
Football – 3G pitches			
Sandbach	Full size	0.75 pitches	0.75 pitches
Rugby union pitches			
Sandbach	Senior	2.5 match equivalent sessions	4 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league pitches			
Sandbach	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Sandbach	Senior	22 match equivalent sessions	62 match equivalent sessions

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating with a significant shortfall.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	Two of the greens within Sandbach are currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass pitch sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Alleviate overplay via the transfer of demand to a site with spare capacity (e.g. at Sandbach Community Football Centre). ◀ Explore opportunities to bring lost provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining such sites as strategic reserves (Wheelock Playing Field).
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Resurface the pitch at Sandbach Community Football Centre to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. ◀ Consider the aspirations of Sandbach United FC for a second full size 3G pitch to be established given area shortfalls.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
Rugby union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Alleviate overplay at Sandbach Rugby Club through maximising quality and via dispersing demand across pitches at the site and explore sports lighting potential at the aforementioned site. ◀ Provide ancillary provision for sites currently without (e.g. at Congleton Park (Hankinson's Field)).
Rugby league	◀ N/A
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore options to improve quality at Sandbach High School & Sixth Form College to and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Sandbach High School & Sixth Form College). ◀ Provide ancillary provision (e.g. at Sandbach School). ◀ Seek to improve security of tenure for clubs (e.g. at Sandbach High School).
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Alleviate overplay through transfer of some demand to a site with spare capacity and/or via greater utilisation of the NTP (e.g. at Elworth Cricket Club). ◀ Utilise spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand (e.g. at Sandbach Cricket Club). ◀ Look to provide security of tenure at Sandbach School for club-users. ◀ Support clubs with ancillary development plans (e.g. Elworth changing rooms).
Other grass pitch sports	◀ N/A
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Sandbach Park (top green)).
Netball	◀ Protect provision.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Monitor usage levels at clubs operating below capacity to ensure that greens are not experiencing capacity pressures.
Archery	◀ N/A
Golf	◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	◀ N/A
Cycling	◀ N/A

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

SANDBACH – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
21	1042154	Sandbach Rugby Club	CW11 1GH	Rugby Union	Council	Five good quality senior pitches that are available for community use, two of which are serviced by sports lighting. One of the sports lit pitches is overplayed by two match equivalent sessions.	Alleviate overplay through maximising quality and via dispersing demand across pitches at the site. The latter may necessitate a need for increased sports lit provision.	RFU	Key Centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
28	N/A	Congleton Park (Hankinson's Field)	CW12 1JG	Rugby Union	Council	One poor quality senior pitch that is without sports lighting. The pitch is overplayed by 0.75 match equivalent sessions and the site is without ancillary facilities.	Improve pitch quality and provide an ancillary facility quality to better cater for demand.	RFU	Local	M	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide
				Cycling		Identified as a potential location for the creation of a formal facility (e.g., skate park).	Further explore suitability, subject to meeting national planning policy requirements.	British Cycling		M	S	L	
45	1039287	Elworth Cricket Club	CW11 3BF	Cricket	Commercial	One good quality 14-wicket grass square and an NTP that is overplayed by 12 match equivalent sessions per season. Also, one good quality four wicket grass junior square that is overplayed by ten match equivalent sessions per season. Elworth CC aspires to make refurbishments to its clubhouse and changing rooms.	Alleviate overplay through transfer of some demand to a site with spare capacity and/or via greater utilisation of the NTP. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
47	6009919	Forge Fields	CW11 3RD	Football	Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch that is played to capacity.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
96	6010737	Offley Primary School	CW11 1GY	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
107	1042075	Sandbach Community Football Centre	CW11 3LZ	Football	Council	Two adult, five youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches, all of which are good quality. The two adult pitches are overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. The site is home to Sandbach United FC (Tier 6) and Sandbach United Ladies (Tier 8).	Alleviate overplay via the transfer of demand to a site with spare capacity or to the 3G pitch (if capacity exists). Ensure the site meets the minimum requirements to progress through the football pyramid.	FA, FF	Hub	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				3G		One full size 3G pitch that is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as standard quality having not been resurfaced since 2011. The Club has aspirations to develop a second full size 3G pitch at its home ground.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Also ensure FA testing three years so that the pitch can continue to be used for competitive matches. Explore feasibility of developing a second full size 3G pitch on site, although resurfacing of the existing 3G pitch must be prioritised and delivered first.	FA, FF		H	S	M-H	
108	1040074	Sandbach Cricket Club	CW11 3LZ	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 17-wicket grass square (12 senior wickets and five junior wickets). The senior wickets have spare capacity of 30 match equivalent sessions per season, with availability for increased Sunday cricket, whereas the junior wickets also have spare capacity of two match equivalent sessions per season. Sandbach CC aspires to make refurbishments to its scoreboard and car park.	Utilise spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans, subject to meeting national planning policy requirements.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
109	1200857	Sandbach High School & Sixth Form College	CW11 3NT	Football	School	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch that is available for community use.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use but is without sports lighting. Sandbach HC rents use of the pitch. It is assessed as poor quality, having not been resurfaced since 2004 and is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Explore options to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Also improve ancillary facilities and seek to provide improved security of tenure via establishing a community use agreement.	School, EH		H	S	M	
				Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts that are unavailable for community use and are without sports lighting.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, LTA		L	L	L	
				Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts that are overmarked on the tennis courts.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, EN		L	L	L	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
110	1200738	Sandbach School	CW11 3NS	Football	School	One adult, three youth 11v11 and two mini 7v7 pitches, all of which are poor quality and unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and then explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
				Rugby Union		One standard quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, RFU		L	S	L	
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. Sandbach HC rents use of the pitch. It is assessed as good quality having been resurfaced in 2020 but is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Seek to provide security of tenure for Sandbach HC through a longer-term agreement with the School and explore options to provide improved ancillary provision. Also ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	School, EH		M	M	L	
				Cricket		One standard quality 12-wicket square that is available for community use and used by Haslington CC. Spare capacity of 36 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality and look to provide security of tenure to club-users.	School, ECB, CCB		M	S	L	
137	6009808	Wheelock Playing Field	CW11 4RD	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously accommodated one adult pitch, last provided in 2016.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
174	N/A	Brereton Primary School	CW11 1RN	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
183	N/A	Elworth Hall Primary School	CW11 1TE	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field as strategic reserve for all relevant sports.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
184	N/A	Elworth Primary School	CW11 3FY	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
209	N/A	Sandbach Community Primary School	CW11 4NS	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
219	N/A	St John's Primary School	CW11 2LE	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
236	N/A	Wheelock Primary School	CW11 4PY	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
265	N/A	Hassall Road	CW11 4HN	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously accommodated one youth 11v11 pitch which is no longer marked out.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve for all relevant sports..	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
284 a	N/A	Sandbach Park (top green)	CW11 1FJ	Tennis	Council	One good quality macadam court that is without sports lighting.	Sustain quality and explore sports lighting potential to better accommodate recreational demand.	LTA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Bowls		One good quality green that is accompanied by standard quality ancillary provision. The green is operating above capacity by eight members.	Continue to monitor usage levels to ensure that the green is not experiencing capacity pressures.	BCGBA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
284 b	N/A	Sandbach Park (bottom green)	CW11 1FJ	Bowls	Council	One good quality green that is accompanied by standard quality ancillary provision. The green is operating above capacity by 12 members.	Continue to monitor usage levels to ensure that the green is not experiencing capacity pressures.	BCGBA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
337	N/A	Limes Bowling Green	CW11 1DA	Bowls	-	One good quality green that is currently with ancillary provision due to a recent fire at the site. Limes BC are currently playing at Sandbach Park due to this.	Ensure that the facilities are adequate enough to cater for Limes BC to return to play at the site.	BCGBA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
350	N/A	Elton Driving Range	CW11 3TT	Golf	Proprietary	One dedicated 16-bay driving range, equipped with sports lighting and offering pay and play provision.	Retain for continued community use.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
358	N/A	Sandbach Golf Club	CW11 1FH	Golf	Private	One nine-hole course.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

CREWE – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Crewe	Adult	3 match equivalent sessions	3 match equivalent sessions
Crewe	Youth 11v11	5.5 match equivalent sessions	6 match equivalent sessions
Crewe	Youth 9v9	3 match equivalent sessions	3 match equivalent sessions
Crewe	Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
Crewe	Mini 5v5	At capacity	At capacity
Football – 3G pitches			
Crewe	Full size	2 pitches	2 pitches
Rugby union pitches			
Crewe	Senior	1 match equivalent session	1 match equivalent session
Rugby league pitches			
Crewe	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Crewe	Senior	12 match equivalent sessions	16 match equivalent sessions

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating with significant spare capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	One of the greens within Crewe is currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass pitch sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality to reduce/alleviate overplay at sites (e.g. at The Peacock Sports Ground). ◀ Seek to provide security of tenure for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity (e.g. at Legends Health & Leisure Centre). ◀ Explore opportunities to bring lost provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining playing field land (e.g. at Weston Village Primary School).

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Consider Sir William Stanier School as a potential site for the development of a full size 3G pitch given plans in place and the area shortfall that exists. ◀ Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand (e.g. at Ruskin Community High School).
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability (e.g. at Alexandra Soccer Centre). ◀ Resurface pitch to improve quality (e.g. at Apollo Buckingham Health Sciences Campus). ◀ Support 3G aspirations to meet area shortfalls (e.g. at King George V Playing Fields).
Rugby union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Rugby league	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ N/A
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore options to improve quality at South Cheshire College. ◀ Resurface pitch at Shavington Leisure Centre to improve quality and consider as a resolution to capacity issues faced by Crewe Vagrants HC. ◀ Should capacity issues be resolved without the need for access to either site, consider surface requirements given 3G pitch shortfalls, subject to agreement from EH. ◀ Ensure a sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Utilise actual spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand (e.g. at Weston Cricket Club). ◀ Support Haslington CC in its plans for changing room refurbishment and drainage improvements. ◀ Support Wistaston CC in its plans for a new net facility. ◀ Explore opportunities to bring the lost provision back into use, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve (e.g. at Cumberland Arena (razzer)).
Other grass pitch sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve quality (e.g. at Eric Swan Sports Ground). ◀ Explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand (e.g. at Legends Health & Leisure Centre). ◀ Look to provide ancillary provision where it is currently without (e.g. at High Town Tennis Club).
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Further explore strategic need for the green at Legends Health & Leisure Centre given lack of demand and consider if provision could be repurposed for other sporting or open space requirements. ◀ Monitor usage levels to ensure that greens are not experiencing capacity pressures (e.g. at Sydney Post Office Club).
Archery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ N/A
Golf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Resurface track at Cumberland Arena imminently to improve quality and then seek TrackMark accreditation. ◀ Look to improve throwing facilities at Cumberland Arena.
Cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision.

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

CREWE – SOUTH ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim	
3	1103330	Alexandra Soccer Centre	CW2 5AF	3G	Commercial/ Sports club	One full size 3G pitch that is serviced by sports lighting and a smaller sized pitch also with sports lighting. Assessed as good quality having been recently resurfaced in 2022.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and ensure FA testing every three years so that it can continue to be used for competitive matches.	Club, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect	
14	6005247	Beechwood Primary School	CW1 2PH	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance	
39	1011522	Cumberland Arena	CW1 2BD	Football	Everybody Health & Leisure	One good quality adult pitch that offers one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity. The site is home to Crewe Alexandra Ladies FC (Tier 5) and Crewe FC (Regional feeder league).	Sustain quality. Ensure the site meets the minimum requirements to progress through the football pyramid.	Everybody Health & Leisure, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	L	L	Protect Provide	
				3G		One full size 3G pitch that is serviced with sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as standard quality having been resurfaced in 2017.	Once the pitch reaches the end of its lifespan (2027), resurface the pitch to improve quality. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and ensure FA testing every three years so that it can continue to be used for competitive matches.			Everybody Health & Leisure, FA, FF	M	M		L
				Athletics		One standard quality synthetic six lane track that was built in 2009. The site's throwing facilities are not currently TrackMark compliant.	Improve throwing cage imminently and then seek TrackMark accreditation. Also, look to improve the track at the site in the near future.			Everybody Health & Leisure, EA	H	M		H
51	1208635	Haslington Cricket Club	CW1 5SE	Cricket	Commercial	One good quality 14-wicket grass square and an NTP. Haslington CC has plans to refurbish the changing rooms and improve its outfield's drainage.	Sustain quality and support Haslington CC in its plans for changing room refurbishment and improvements to its drainage.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance	
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green.	Sustain quality.			BCGBA	L	L		L
52	1041729	Haslington Playing Fields	CW1 5SE	Football	Council	One adult pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity and consider conversion to youth 11v11 football given demand received.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim			
60	30002473	Hungerford Primary School	CW1 5HA	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance			
65	6007227	King George V Playing Fields	CW2 8TT	Football	Council	Three adult and three youth 9v9 pitches, all of which are poor quality and have spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality. Crewe FC has created plans to develop a full size 3G pitch as part of an asset transfer agreement on a piece of land at the site. Relating to this, the Council is progressing with a tender to select a football development partner for the site, with this to scheduled to be released in early 2024.	Secure a football development partner for this site and improve quality to establish actual spare capacity. Also support 3G pitch plans given area shortfalls, subject to meeting Sport England's Playing Fields Policy, and consider creation of youth 11v11 pitch provision given demand already received (one adult pitch could be converted).	FA, FF	Key Centre	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide			
71	6007227	Legends Health & Leisure Centre	CW2 8WD	Football	Commercial	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches, both of which have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Look to provide security of tenure for clubs, enabling actual spare capacity.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect			
				Tennis		Four poor quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore sports lighting potential to better cater for and to attract community demand.	LTA		L				M	L	Protect Enhance
				Bowls		Two standard quality bowling greens without an affiliated club.	Further explore strategic need for the greens given lack of demand and consider if provision could be repurposed for other sporting or open space requirements.	BCGBA		L				M	L	
76	1200756	Apollo Buckingham Health Sciences Campus	CW1 5DU	3G	University	One smaller size 3G pitch that is available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as poor quality having exceeded its recommended lifespan.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	University FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide			
106	1201163	Ruskin Community High School	CW2 7JT	Football	School	One adult and two youth 11v11 pitches, all of which are standard quality. The adult pitch offers one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity.	Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand for all pitch typologies.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect			

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based that is available for community use and serviced with sports lighting.	Retain for continued recreational use and consider surface requirements when due for renewal given that all community usage is football related (including training activity). This is subject to a conversion meeting Sport England's Playing Fields Policy.	School, FA, FF		M	M	L	
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, ECB, CCB		L	S	L	
111	1041822	Shavington Academy	CW2 5DH	Football	School	Two adult, one youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitch, all of which are standard quality. The adult pitches offer two match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity.	Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand	School, ECB, CCB		L	S	L	
				Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting and available for community use.	Sustain quality and explore opportunities to maximise community demand.	School, LTA		L	S	L	
				Netball		Three standard quality macadam courts that are overmarked on the tennis courts. Sports-lit and available for community use.	Sustain quality and explore opportunities to maximise community demand.	School, EN		L	S	L	
112	1004962	Shavington Leisure Centre	CW2 5DJ	Hockey	School	One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use and serviced with sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as poor quality having not been resurfaced since 2004. It is currently unused for hockey provision.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. As part of this, consider it as a resolution to the capacity issues faced by Crewe Vagrants HC, or if this can be dealt with elsewhere, consider potential 3G conversion, subject to agreement from EH and it meeting Sport England's Playing Fields Policy.	School, EH	Local	H	S	H	Protect Provide

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
113	1004935	Sir William Stanier School	CW1 4EB	Football	School	One adult and three youth 11v11 pitches, all of which are poor quality and have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement. Explore feasibility to develop a 3G pitch at this site to reduce shortfalls in Crewe, subject to meeting national planning policy requirements.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
				Rugby Union		One poor quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, RFU		L	L	L	
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch that is available for community use and serviced with sports lighting.	Retain for continued recreational use and consider surface requirements when due for renewal given that all community usage is football.	School, FF, FA		L	M	L	
				Rounders		Four rounders diamonds.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand	School, RE		L	L	L	
				Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand	School, LTA		L	L	L	
				Netball		Three standard quality courts that are overmarked on the tennis courts	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand	School, EN		L	L	L	
114	1200693	Cheshire College South & West	CW2 8AB	Football	School	One good quality adult pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use but without sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as poor quality having been resurfaced in 2011. It is unused for hockey provision.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Consider requirements against lack of hockey demand and 3G pitch shortfalls, especially if sports lighting could be provided, subject to meeting Sport England's Playing Fields Policy.	School, EH, FA, FF		H	S	H	
119	1200761	St Thomas More Catholic High School	CW2 8AE	Football	School	One adult and one youth 11v11 pitch, both of which are standard quality. The adult pitch has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure, whilst the youth 11v11 pitch offers no community use.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users and explore enabling community use on the unavailable pitch as part of this.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Rugby Union		One standard quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand	School, RFU		L	L	L	
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand	School, ECB, CCB		L	L	L	
				Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts that are unavailable for community use and without sports lighting	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand	School, LTA		L	L	L	
123	30004054	The Berkeley Academy	CW2 6RU	Football	School	One adult pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
129	1200844	The Oaks Academy	CW2 7NQ	Football	School	One youth 11v11, two youth 9v9 and two mini 5v5 pitches, all of which are poor quality. Both the youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches are played to capacity, whilst mini 5v5 pitches have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch that is available for community use but is without sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand	School, FA, FF		L	L	L	
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand	School, ECB, CCB		L	L	L	
130	30002984	The Peacock Sports Ground	CW5 6NE	Football	Council	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches that are overplayed by a combined total of 5.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim		
135	1041728	Weston Cricket Club	CW2 5NA	Cricket	Commercial	One good quality 17-wicket grass square (11 senior wickets, five junior wickets and an NTP). The senior wickets have spare capacity of 26 match equivalent sessions per season, whilst junior wickets have spare capacity of 25 match equivalent sessions per season. Weston CC aspires to make refurbishments to its changing rooms.	Utilise spare capacity via transfer of demand from sites with overplay or via future demand. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance		
139	6007369	Willaston White Star Football Club	CW5 6PY	Football	Sports Club	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches that are currently played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain quality to ensure no future overplay.	Club, FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect		
144	6015986	Eric Swan Sports Ground	CW2 8EZ	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance		
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch serviced by sports lighting.	Retain for continued recreational use.	EH		L				S	L
				Cricket		One good quality ten-wicket grass square with spare capacity of nine match equivalent sessions per season. Wistaston Village CC aspires to replace its sightscreens and refurbish its scoreboard and install a NTP net facility	Utilise spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans and new net facility.	ECB, CCB		M				S	M
				Tennis		Two poor quality artificial turf courts with sports lighting.	Improve quality to better cater for and to attract community demand.	LTA		M				S	L
				Netball		Two poor quality artificial turf courts with sports lighting.	Improve quality to better cater for and to attract community demand.	EN		M				S	L
149	30003973	Wistaston Church Lane Primary School	CW2 8EZ	Football	School	One mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, both of which are standard quality and unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect		
150	N/A	Crewe Alexandra Football Club	CW2 6EB	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult stadia pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for continued professional club use.	Club, FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect		

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
187	N/A	Haslington Primary School	CW1 5SL	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
193	N/A	Leighton Academy	CW1 3PP	Football	School	An artificial area is provided with two mini 7v7 pitches marked out. However, this is not considered to be 3G, with no rubber crumb infill. No sports lighting is provided, and community use is not offered.	Further explore surface with the School to determine suitability for use.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	
196	N/A	Mablins Lane Community Primary School	CW1 3YR	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Hockey		One smaller size sand-based pitch that is unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.			School, EH	L	S	
201	N/A	Monks Coppenhall Primary School	CW1 4LY	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field as strategic reserve for all sports.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
205	N/A	Pebble Brook Primary School	CW2 6PL	3G	School	One smaller size 3G pitch that is unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
211	N/A	Shavington Primary School	CW2 5BP	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
221	N/A	St Mary's Primary School (Crewe)	CW2 8AD	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
223	N/A	St Michael's Community Academy	CW1 3SL	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field as strategic reserve for all sports..	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
228	N/A	The Dingle Primary	CW1 5SD	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field as strategic reserve for all sports..	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
235	N/A	Weston Village Primary School	CW2 5LZ	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field as strategic reserve for all sports..	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
237	N/A	Willaston Primary School	CW5 6QQ	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and then explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
238	N/A	Wistaston Green Primary School	CW2 8QS	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
245	N/A	Cumberland Arena (Razzer)	CW1 2BD	Football (disused)	Everybody Health & Leisure	Site previously provided two youth 11v11 football pitches but no longer does so, although it is still in use recreationally.	Retain as strategic reserve and consider bringing back into use if a sustainable football programme can be developed given local shortfalls and providing quality can be improved to a sufficient level.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
				Cricket (disused)		Site previously accommodated an NTP which is no longer maintained.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use, whilst as a minimum retaining the site as strategic reserve for all sports..						
266	N/A	Joey the Swan Playing Fields	CW2 8RP	Football	Community Organisation/ Council	One adult and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of poor quality with spare capacity discounted.	Improve quality to alleviate overplay.	Community Organisation, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
273	N/A	Crewe Hall	CW1 6UZ	Tennis	Commercial	Two good quality macadam courts that are both equipped with sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
289	N/A	The White Lion	CW2 5NA	Bowls	Private	One good quality green that is accompanied by good quality ancillary provision.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
293	N/A	Queens Park	CW2 7SE	Bowls	Council	One good quality green.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	M	L	L	Protect
304	N/A	Coppenhall Working Men's Club	CW1 4NJ	Bowls	-	One standard quality green.	Improve quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
305	N/A	Crewe Bowling Club	CW1 6ED	Bowls	-	One good quality green that is equipped with sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
306	N/A	High Town Tennis Club	CW2 7PL	Tennis	Trust	Two standard quality acrylic courts that are without sports lighting. The site is also without a clubhouse facility.	Look to provide ancillary provision to better accommodate and attract demand.	Trust, LTA	Local	M	M	H	Protect Provide
307	N/A	North Street Methodist Bowling Club	CW1 4JJ	Bowls	-	One good quality green that is equipped with sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
308	N/A	Sydney Post Office Club	CW1 5LU	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality green that is currently operating above capacity by 120 members.	Continue to monitor usage levels to ensure that the green is not experiencing capacity pressures.	Club, BCGBA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
309	N/A	The Hop Pole	CW2 7RQ	Bowls (disused)	Private	Site previously accommodated a green, now used as a seating area.	Retain land as strategic reserve for all sports or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national planning policy.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
325	N/A	Bombardier Bowling Club	CW1 2RP	Bowls (disused)	Private	Site previously accommodated a green, circa 2007.	Retain land as strategic reserve for all sports or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national planning policy.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
326	N/A	North Ward Club	CW1 4AD	Bowls (disused)	-	Site previously accommodated a green which has now been built on.	Retain land as strategic reserve for all sports or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national planning policy.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
338	N/A	Shavington Social Club	CW2 5DL	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality green.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Club, BCGBA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
347	N/A	Crewe Golf Club	CW1 5TB	Golf	Private	One standard 18-hole course..	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
364	N/A	Wychwood Park Golf Club	CW2 5GP	Golf	Private	One standard 18-hole course accompanied by a 15-bay driving range.	Sustain quality.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect
369	N/A	Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club	CW2 8EZ	Tennis	Parish Council	Two good macadam courts, both of which are equipped with sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	Parish Council, LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
374	N/A	Queen's Park Golf Club	CW2 7SU	Golf	Council	One nine-hole course.	Explore option to improve quality to better accommodate and increase pay and play usage.	England Golf	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
376	N/A	Weston Pump Track	CW2 5LW	Cycling	Council	One standard quality pump track built in 2018.	Retain for continued community use and sustain quality.	British Cycling	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
377	N/A	Tipkinder Park (Shanaze Reade BMX Track)	CW2 7SF	Cycling	-	One good quality BMX racetrack, built in 2009. The track caters for Congleton Ghost Riders BMX Club, who hold sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.	Retain for continued community use and sustain quality.	British Cycling	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	N/A	Brook House Playing Field	CW2 6NA	Football (disused)	Council	A disused site which previously provided a youth football pitch.	Now used recreationally; retain as strategic reserve.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	N/A	Mclaren Street Playing Field	CW1 3SP	Football (disused)	Council	Site previously provided a youth 9v9 football pitch but no longer does so, although it is still in use recreationally.	Retain as strategic reserve and consider bringing back into use if a sustainable football programme can be developed given local shortfalls.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	N/A	Alvaston Hall Country Club	CW5 6BD	Golf (disused)	Private	A disused nine-hole course.	Ensure any permanent development is in line with national planning policy. A separate needs assessment will be required to identify whether or not the provision can be deemed surplus to requirements.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

NANTWICH – CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Sub area summary – pitch sports

Sub area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Nantwich	Adult	At capacity	At capacity
Nantwich	Youth 11v11	At capacity	At capacity
Nantwich	Youth 9v9	At capacity	At capacity
Nantwich	Mini 7v7	At capacity	At capacity
Nantwich	Mini 5v5	At capacity	At capacity
Football – 3G pitches			
Nantwich	Full size	0.5 pitches	0.5 pitches
Rugby union pitches			
Nantwich	Senior	At capacity	1 match equivalent session
Rugby league pitches			
Nantwich	Senior	No current supply or demand	No current supply or demand
Cricket pitches			
Nantwich	Senior	10 match equivalent sessions	28 match equivalent sessions

Sub area summary – remaining sports

Sport	Headline findings
Hockey	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Tennis	Club demand is currently operating with significant spare capacity.
Netball	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Bowls	One of the greens within Crewe is currently operating above capacity.
Archery	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Golf	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Athletics	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Cycling	Supply is adequate to meet demand.
Other grass pitch sports	Supply is adequate to meet demand.

Priority recommendations

Sport	Headline findings
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve pitch quality to reduce/alleviate overplay at sites (e.g. at Malbank School & Sixth Form College). ◀ Explore opportunities to bring lost provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining playing field land (e.g. at Bunbury Aldersey Primary School). ◀ Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand (e.g. at Brookfield Park). ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Barony Sports Complex).
3G pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Resurface pitches to improve quality and ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability (e.g. Barony Sports Complex and Nantwich Town Football Club).

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport	Headline findings
Rugby union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Support Crewe & Nantwich RUFC in its ancillary facility development plans at Crewe Vagrants Sports Club.
Rugby league	◀ N/A
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve ancillary provision. ◀ Resurface the pitch at Crewe Vagrants Sports Club. ◀ Explore options to improve quality at Malbank School & Sixth Form College. ◀ Seek to provide the Crewe Vagrants HC with access to a secondary site to relieve its capacity issues. ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability.
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Pursue security of tenure for Bunbury CC, Audlem CC and Cholmondeley CC at their respective home grounds. ◀ Alleviate overplay via greater utilisation of NTPs (e.g. at Bunbury Cricket Club). ◀ Seek greater utilisation of NTPs to alleviate overplay issues (e.g. at Nantwich Cricket Club). ◀ Utilise actual spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand (e.g. at Aston Cricket Club). ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Aston Cricket Club).
Other grass pitch sports	◀ Protect provision.
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Look to provide ancillary provision where it is currently without (e.g. at Audlem Playing Fields, Bunbury Playing Field, Nantwich Tennis Club and Wrenbury Recreation Ground).
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Explore options for community use at Brine Leas School given the quantity of courts provided and the presence of sports lighting.
Bowls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Protect provision. ◀ Improve ancillary provision (e.g. at Wrenbury Recreation Ground). ◀ Monitor usage levels to ensure that greens are not experiencing capacity pressures (e.g. at Park Road Bowling Club). ◀ Retain lost provision as strategic reserves or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national and local planning policy (e.g. at Traveller's Rest).
Archery	◀ N/A
Golf	◀ N/A
Athletics	◀ N/A
Cycling	◀ N/A

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

NANTWICH – SOUTH ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
9	1041727	Aston Cricket Club	CW5 8DE	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 12-wicket grass square (eight senior wickets and four junior wickets). The senior wickets have spare capacity of 12 match equivalent sessions per season and is unused on a Sunday, whilst the junior wickets have spare capacity of eight match equivalent sessions per season with availability midweek. Site has poor quality ancillary facilities.	Utilise spare capacity via transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand and improve quality of ancillary facilities.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
10	6007154	Audlem Playing Fields	CW3 0AH	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch that is played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain quality.	FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
				Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts utilised by Audlem TC. The site is without any ancillary facilities.	Sustain quality and explore options to provide ancillary facilities.	LTA		L	M	M	
12	1018908	Barony Sports Complex	CW5 5QY	Football	Everybody Health & Leisure	Four adult pitches that have spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality. Site has been earmarked for improvement to its ancillary facilities.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity for clubs and pursue renovations to ancillary provision on site.	Everybody Health & Leisure, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
				3G		One smaller size 3G pitch serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is poor quality, having exceeded its recommended lifespan.	Resurface pitch to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability.	Everybody Health & Leisure, FA, FF		M	S	M	
				Tennis		Three standard quality macadam courts with sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	Everybody Health & Leisure, LTA		M	S	M	
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green that is used by Barony Park BC.	Sustain quality.	Everybody Health & Leisure, BCGBA		M	L	L	
22	1018908	Brine Leas School	CW5 7DY	Football	School	Three youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch, all of which are standard quality but have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Rugby Union		Two standard quality senior pitches that are unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, RFU		L	L	L	

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, ECB, CCB		L	L	L	
				Rounders		One rounders diamond that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, RE		L	L	L	
				Tennis		Six standard quality macadam courts that are unavailable for community use but with sports lighting.	Explore options for community use given quantity of courts provided and the presence of sports lighting.	School, LTA		L	S	L	
				Netball		Five standard quality macadam courts that are equipped with sports lighting.	Explore options for community use given quantity of courts provided and the presence of sports lighting.	School, EN		L	S	L	
23	6007165	Brookfield Park	CW5 7AD	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch that offers one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity.	Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	FA, FF	Local	L	M	L	Protect
25	1041722	Bunbury Cricket Club	CW6 9NR	Cricket	Commercial	One good quality 12-wicket grass square (nine senior wickets, two junior wickets and one NTP). The senior wickets have spare capacity of 23 match equivalent sessions per season, whilst the junior wicket is overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per season. Site has poor quality ancillary facilities. Bunbury CC aspires to acquire additional grounds maintenance equipment.	Alleviate overplay via greater utilisation of the NTP, improve quality of ancillary facilities. Pursue security of tenure, current lease expires in 2024.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
26	6016318	Calveley School	CW6 9LE	Football	School	One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and then explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Tennis		One poor quality macadam court that is unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, LTA		L	S	L	
				Netball		One poor quality macadam court that is overmarked on the tennis court.	Improve quality to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, EN		L	S	L	

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim			
29	1041721	Cholmondeley Cricket Club	SY14 8AH	Cricket	Private	One good quality eight-wicket grass square with spare capacity of 28 equivalent match sessions per season.	Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Pursue a security of tenure.	ECB, CCB	Local	L	M	L	Protect			
38	1208642	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	CW5 7EP	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Three good quality senior pitches, one of which is serviced by sports lighting. The pitches offer one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity. Crewe & Nantwich RUFC aspires to refurbish the existing changing provision at the site, whilst extending the clubhouse so that it provides two additional changing rooms, dedicated refereeing provision, a physio room and increased storage space. The Club is also trying to acquire funding to improve the site's car parking, both in terms of quality and size.	Sustain quality and support Crewe & Nantwich RUFC in its ancillary facility development plans.	Club, RFU	Key Centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide			
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is serviced by sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as standard quality having been resurfaced in 2013. Crewe Vagrants HC, as part of the Sports Club, own freehold of the site. Operating at capacity.	Resurface pitch as a hockey suitable surface to improve quality and ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability. Also seek to provide the Club with access to a secondary site to relieve its capacity issues.			Club, EH				H	M	H
				Cricket		One good quality 17-wicket grass square (14 senior wickets, two junior wickets and one NTP). The senior wickets have spare capacity of 42 match equivalent sessions per season and is unused on Sunday, whereas the junior wickets are overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per season. Crewe CC aspires to make refurbishments to its changing rooms and acquire additional grounds maintenance equipment.	Alleviate overplay via greater utilisation of the NTP. Look to support the Club with its ancillary development plans and grounds maintenance ambitions.			Club, ECB, CCB				M	S	M

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
48	30002848	Goodwill Hall Playing Fields	CW5 8JY	Football	Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve pitch and ancillary facility quality to better cater for demand.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
62	30003146	Bunbury Playing Field	CW6 9QP	Football	Council	One adult and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of which are standard quality. The site is serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve ancillary provision.	FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts used by Bunbury TC. The Club has plans for clubhouse refurbishment.	Sustain quality and support the Club in its planned ancillary refurbishment.	LTA		L	S	M	
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green used by Bunbury BC.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA		L	L	L	
75	1200932	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	CW5 5HD	Football	School	Three poor quality adult pitches that are overplayed by one match equivalent session.	Improve quality to eradicate overplay.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Rugby Union		One standard quality senior pitch that is available for community use but unused.	Retain as community available should demand arise in the future.	School, RFU		L	L	L	
				Hockey		One full size sand-based pitch that is available for community use but without sports lighting. The pitch is assessed as poor quality having not been resurfaced since its installation in 2001. Used by Cheshire Blues HC and serviced by limited ancillary provision.	Protect as hockey suitable and explore options to improve quality. Also ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and look to provide improved ancillary provision.	School, EH		M	S	M	
				Cricket		One standalone NTP that is unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, ECB, CCB		L	L	L	
				Tennis		Six standard quality macadam courts that are without sports lighting.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, LTA		L	L	L	
				Netball		Four standard quality macadam courts that are overmarked on the tennis courts.	Retain for curricular and extra-curricular demand.	School, EN		L	L	L	
89	1208638	Nantwich Cricket Club	CW5 6HH	Cricket	Sports Club	One good quality 14-wicket grass square (12 senior wickets and two junior wickets) and a standalone NTP. The junior wickets are overplayed by six match equivalent sessions per season. Nantwich CC aspires to install a new irrigation system.	Seek greater utilisation of the NTP to alleviate overplay issues. Look to support the Club with its aspirations for a new irrigation system.	Club, ECB, CCB	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
90	30003669	Nantwich Primary Academy	CW5 5LX	Hockey	School	One smaller size sand-based pitch that is unavailable for community use and without sports lighting.	Retain for continued curricular and extra-curricular use.	School, EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
91	1037543	Nantwich Town Football Club	CW5 5BS	3G	Sports Club	Two full size 3G pitches, both serviced by sports lighting. One is assessed as standard quality having not been resurfaced since 2007, whilst the other is a stadia pitch recently installed (FIFA Quality Pro). The condition of the pitch installed in 2007 is becoming more problematic despite achieving FA certification. The site is home to Nantwich Town FC (Step 4) and Nantwich Town Ladies (Tier 7), and the older 3G pitch receives significant levels of community use from other clubs.	For the older 3G pitch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resurface to alleviate quality concerns. - Ensure a sinking fund is in place across the site for long-term sustainability. - Ensure FA testing every three years so that it can continue to host competitive matches. For the new 3G pitch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustain quality. - Ensure a sinking fund is in place across the site for long-term sustainability. - Ensure annual FA testing every three years so that it can continue to host competitive matches for the level played at. - Ensure it can enable progress through the football pyramid, if and when required. 	Club, FA, FF	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
105	1037543	Reaseheath College	CW5 6DF	Football	School	One good quality adult pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. The site is home to Egerton FC Women (Tier 8).	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement. Ensure the site meets the minimum requirements to progress through the football pyramid.	School, FA, FF	Key Centre	L	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
				3G		One full size World Rugby complaint 3G pitch that is available for community use. The pitch is assessed as standard quality having been installed in 2016.	Once the pitch reaches the end of its lifespan (2026), resurface the pitch to improve quality. Ensure a sinking fund is in place for long-term sustainability and ensure FA and RFU testing so that they can continue to be used by both sports for full range of activity.	School, FA, FF		H	M	H	
147	1041863	Wrenbury Recreation Ground	CW5 8EW	Football	Everybody Health & Leisure	One youth 11v11 and one mini 5v5 pitch, both of which are poor quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is played to capacity, whilst the mini 5v5 pitch has spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve quality to establish actual spare capacity.	Everybody Health & Leisure, FA, FF	Local,	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Tennis		Two good quality macadam courts used by Wrenbury TC. The site is without ancillary facilities.	Explore options for providing ancillary facilities to better cater for demand.	Everybody Health & Leisure, LTA		M	M	M	
				Bowls		One good quality bowling green that is accompanied by poor quality ancillary facilities. Used by Wrenbury BC.	Improve quality of ancillary facilities.	Everybody Health & Leisure, BCGBA		M	S	M	
148	6007237	Wynbury Playing Fields	CW5 7SD	Football	Council	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that is played to capacity.	Improve quality to better accommodate demand.	FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
163	N/A	Reaseheath Training Complex (Crewe Alexandra Football Club)	CW5 6DF	Football	Sports Club	Two adult, two youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches, all of which are good quality and unavailable for community use due to being used by a professional club (Crewe Alexandra FC).	Protect for continue professional club use.	Club, FA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
				3G		One full size 3G pitch. The pitch is exclusively used by Crewe Alexandra FC. In addition, one smaller size pitch is also provided.	Protect for continue professional club use.	Club, FA, FF		L	L	L	
164	N/A	Acton Primary School	CW5 8LG	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
170	N/A	Audlem St James CE Primary	CW3 0HH	Football	School	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Improve quality and then explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
171	N/A	Bickerton Holy Trinity Primary School	SY14 8AP	Football	School	Two mini 5v5 pitches that have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
175	N/A	Bridgemere Primary School	CW5 7PX	Football	School	One mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.	Improve quality and then explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
177	N/A	Bunbury Aldersey Primary School	CW6 9NR	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one youth 9v9 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field land.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	M	L	Protect Provide
189	N/A	Highfields Community Primary School	CW5 6HA	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field land for all sports.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	M	L	Protect Provide
200	N/A	Millfields Primary School	CW5 5HP	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
204	N/A	Pear Tree Primary School	CW5 7GZ	Football	School	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
215	N/A	St Anne's Catholic Primary	CW5 7DA	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
224	N/A	St Odwald's Worleston Primary	CW5 6DP	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field land for all sports.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	M	L	Protect Provide
226	N/A	Stapeley Broad Lane Primary	CW3 7QL	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
233	N/A	Warmingham Primary School	CW11 3QN	Football (disused)	School	Site previously accommodated one mini 7v7 pitch.	Explore opportunities to bring the provision back into use given local shortfalls, whilst as a minimum retaining the playing field land for all sports.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	M	L	Protect Provide

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
234	N/A	Weaver Primary School	CW5 7AL	Football	School	Two youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and four mini 7v7 pitches, all of which are standard quality and have spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
241	N/A	Wrenbury Primary School	CW5 8EN	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that is unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
242	N/A	Wybunbury Delves Primary School	CW5 7NE	Football	School	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Seek to provide security of tenure to club users via establishing a community use agreement.	School, FA, FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
275	N/A	Gorse Croft Farm (Audlem Cricket Club)	CW3 0HU	Cricket	Commercial	One good quality ten-wicket grass square with spare capacity of 26 match equivalent sessions per season.	Utilise the actual spare capacity that exists via the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand. Pursue security of tenure for Audlem CC. Support plans to develop ancillary facilities.	ECB, CCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
				Tennis		One poor quality macadam court that is equipped with sports lighting.	Improve quality to better accommodate community demand.	LTA		L	S	L	
282	N/A	Nantwich Tennis Club	CW5 6PF	Tennis	Sports Club	Four macadam and two artificial turf courts, all of which are good quality and equipped with sports lighting. The Club has aspirations for ancillary refurbishment of its clubhouse.	Support the Club with its ancillary development plans.	Club, LTA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
315	N/A	Park Road Bowling Club	CW5 7AH	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green that is equipped with sports lighting. The green is currently operating above capacity by 26 members.	Continue to monitor usage to ensure the Club does not experience capacity pressures.	Club, BCGBA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
319	N/A	Traveller's Rest	CW6 9JA	Bowls (disused)	Private	Site previously accommodated a green which is no longer maintained.	Retain land as strategic reserve for all sports, or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national planning policy.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
320	N/A	Audlem & District Bowls Club	CW3 0HH	Bowls	-	One good quality green that is equipped with sports lighting.	Sustain quality.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
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Site ID	Active Places Power Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
341	N/A	Cotton Arms	CW5 8HG	Bowls (disused)	Private	Site previously accommodated a green which is no longer maintained.	Retain land as strategic reserve for all sports, or, if proposed for permanent loss, ensure appropriate mitigation in line with national planning policy.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
-	N/A	Brookfield Golf Club	CW3 0JQ	Golf (disused)	Private	A disused 18-hole course.	Ensure any permanent development is in line with national planning policy. A separate needs assessment will be required to identify whether or not the provision can be deemed surplus to requirements.	England Golf	Local	L	L	L	Protect

PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The Council's Draft SPD sets out a process to securing new pitch provision and/or developer contributions from housing growth. This entails use of Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator for developments over 300 dwellings, which should therefore be followed (commuted sums are to be used for smaller developments).

The PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sports (football, rugby union, rugby league, hockey and cricket) based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2030 (in line with the Cheshire East Local Plan Review). This future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual provision required. Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator adds to this, where it is to be used, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converting the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required. It also gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision and splits the total pitch requirement into natural turf pitches to meet peak period demand, artificial grass pitches to meet training demand, and the additional number of changing rooms required.

The scenarios below are provided as a guide to show the potential additional demand for pitch sports that could be generated from housing growth in Cheshire East, thus showing how the calculator works and what it provides. They are based on proposed housing figures in the emerging Local Plan Review, meaning that they are subject to change; however, they are only being used as a guide to show the potential additional demand for pitch sports that could be generated from the growth.

The demand is shown in match equivalent sessions per week for most sports, except for cricket, where match equivalent sessions are by season. Training demand is expressed in either hours or match equivalent sessions; where expressed in hours, it is expected that demand will be to either a 3G pitch (to accommodate football demand) or an AGP (to accommodate hockey demand), whereas when expressed in match equivalent sessions, it is expected training will take place on sports-lit grass pitches (rugby).

The indicative figures are based on the assumption that population growth will average 1.61 per dwelling. This is taken from the fact that the Local Plan Housing Development Study⁸ projects population growth of 58,100 and identifies a need for 36,000 dwellings (implying an average increase of 58,100/36,000 or 1.61 people per dwelling).

Please note that the scenarios can be updated as required over the Local Plan period and throughout the lifespan of the PPOSS to reflect population projections, team generation rates and change in the average household size.

Scenario 1: Likely demand generated for pitch sports from outstanding housing growth requirement over the Local Plan period (2030)

Factoring in housing completions to March 2023, the remaining housing growth required in Cheshire East during its Local Plan period is for 12,817 new dwellings. This equates to a population growth of 20,635 people.

⁸ Cheshire East Housing Development Study, ORS, June 2015. Local Plan Examination Library Reference PS E033: <http://cheshireeast-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning/cs/library>

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Table 7.1: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from outstanding housing growth

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 12,817 dwellings	
	Match demand per week ⁹	Training demand ¹⁰
Adult football	4.24	41.17 hours
Youth football	10.40	
Mini soccer	5.95	
Rugby union	1.82	2.06 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	-
Adult hockey	1.43	4.30 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.66	1.30 hours
Cricket	156.59	N/A

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs. Should new pitches be required to accommodate all of this demand, the capital cost is estimated at £4,436,549 and the total life cycle cost (per annum) is £661,558.¹¹

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ¹²	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ¹³
Adult football	4 (4.24)	£449,991	£94,948
Youth football	10 (10.40)	£892,591	£187,444
Mini soccer	6 (5.95)	£180,144	£37,830
Rugby union	2 (1.82)	£294,647	£63,054
Rugby league	-	-	-
Cricket	3 (3.34)	£1,113,800	£224,988
Sand based pitches	0 (0.38)	£329,014	£10,199
3G	1 (1.08)	£1,176,361	£43,094

Further to the above, the calculator also estimates that there will be a need to provide 34.05 changing rooms to support the pitch provision which is identified in the table above. The total capital cost to deliver this level of provision is £6,490,864. However, it should be noted that changing rooms may not be required per pitch, depending on the facility mix and site layout, and that providing a rounded offer may be possible (e.g., including officials changing rooms).

Scenario 2: Likely demand generated for one development

As per the SPD, it is advisable to use the Playing Pitch Calculator for each specific development of over 300 dwellings in Cheshire East to determine the linked pitch requirements and/or the off-site contributions required. The scenario below therefore looks at an example development consisting of 500 dwellings, which equates to a population growth of 805 people.

⁹ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

¹⁰ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable pitch

¹¹ Sport England Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces April 2012

¹² Sport England Facilities Costs Third Quarter 2022 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

¹³ Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

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Table 7.3: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from example development

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 500 dwellings	
	Match demand per week ¹⁴	Training demand ¹⁵
Adult football	0.17	1.61 hours
Youth football	0.41	
Mini soccer	0.23	
Rugby union	0.07	0.08 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0	-
Adult hockey	0.06	0.17
Junior & mixed hockey	0.03	0.05
Cricket	6.11	N/A

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs. Should new pitches be required to accommodate all of this demand, the capital cost is estimated at £173,090¹⁶ and the total life cycle cost (per annum) is £25,811.¹⁷

Table 7.4: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches		
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ¹⁸	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ¹⁹
Adult football	0 (0.17)	£17,559	£3,705
Youth football	0 (0.41)	£34,822	£7,313
Mini soccer	0 (0.23)	£7,027	£1,476
Rugby union	0 (0.07)	£11,496	£2,460
Rugby league	-	-	-
Cricket	0 (0.13)	£43,456	£8,778
Sand based pitches	0 (0.01)	£12,837	£398
3G	0 (0.04)	£45,892	£1,681

Further to the above, the calculator also estimates that there will be a need to provide 1.33 changing rooms to support the pitch provision which is identified in the table above. The total capital cost to deliver this level of provision is £253,260.

Conclusions

The tables above show that up to 2030, demand will be generated for each pitch sport in Cheshire East to a lesser or greater extent, although this position is indicative and does not provide information on where the housing is likely to be located, how many dwellings will actually be provided or which existing playing fields the additional demand is likely to migrate to. Nevertheless, it does indicate that growth could be significant enough to warrant the creation of additional pitches.

¹⁴ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

¹⁵ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable pitch

¹⁶ Capital cost is based on 2022 third quarter calculations.

¹⁷ Sport England Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces April 2012

¹⁸ Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

¹⁹ Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

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Where new pitches/facilities are required, consideration should be given to providing multi-pitch sites with suitable ancillary provision, including appropriate clubhouse/changing rooms and car parking. Single pitch/facility sites which have been provided traditionally by developers are generally not considered to provide long term sustainable provision for the relevant sports, although given the nature of Cheshire East, they can be acceptable within rural areas where demand tends to be lower and more dispersed.

Notwithstanding the above, experience and the 500 dwelling scenario show that only significantly large housing sites are likely to generate demand in their own right. Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, the Action Plan in this document should be consulted to determine whether the additional demand can be accommodated via existing provision (in which case no further action is required), or whether contributions should be sought to enhance existing provision in the locality to accommodate the increased demand. This can be through, for example, improving quality, or providing new or improved ancillary provision. As part of this, consultation with appropriate NGBs should be used to assist in the selection of suitable sites and suitable enhancements, and the Council should also continue pooling S106 contributions from major housing schemes to invest in priority sites.

For large scale housing developments (i.e., those over 300 dwellings), a separate sport needs assessment should be carried out to determine and evidence requirements and whether this will be met via new on-site provision or off-site contributions. This process should involve use of Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator and the findings of the PPOSS, in addition to consultation with relevant NGBs. Requirements for sports not covered by the Playing Pitch Calculator should also be considered as part of this (where sport needs assessments are not required, the Council will be considering non-pitch sport via commuted sums).

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

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

Delivery

The PPOSS seeks to provide guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across Cheshire East in relation to playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities as well as supporting ancillary facilities. By addressing the issues identified in the Assessment Report and by using the strategic framework presented in this Strategy, the current and future sporting and recreational needs of the Borough can be satisfied. The Strategy identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and identifies how best to resolve this moving forward.

It is important that this document is used in a practical manner, is engaged with partners and encourages partnerships to be developed, to ensure that outdoor sports facilities are regarded as a vital aspect of community life and which contribute to the achievement of Council priorities. The creation of this document should therefore be regarded as only part of the planning process. The success of the Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach. To that end, each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPOSS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence.

To help ensure the PPOSS is well used, it should be regarded as a key document within the study area, guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch and outdoor sport provision, being used to attract and distribute both internal and external investment, and being used as an evidence base to support or oppose any development proposals. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on the how the current demand is being met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. The Steering Group also needs to have a clear understanding of how the PPOSS can be applied and therefore delivered.

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

Monitoring and updating

It is important that there is regular monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPOSS being signed off by the Steering Group, Sport England and the NGBs would consider it and the information on which it is based to be out of date. The nature of the supply and in particular the demand for provision is likely to change year-on-year, meaning that without any form of review and update it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust. This makes it less likely to be able to be used as an evidence base for any funding bids or development proposals.

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The monitoring and review process should continue to be led by the local authority and supported by all members of the Steering Group. To extend the lifespan of the PPOSS for as long as possible, it is advised that regular Steering Group meetings take place to review the study. Ideally, these should take place twice yearly, aligned to the split of summer and winter sport seasons and in line with affiliation periods. This process should not be regarded as a particularly resource intensive task; however, it should highlight:

- ◀ Actions undertaken since the adoption of the PPOSS or since the last review, as well as any actions that have been attempted but have been unsuccessful (and for what reason).
- ◀ Any changes required to the priority afforded to each remaining action (as the priority of some may change following the delivery of others or for more general reasons e.g., alterations in participation trends or focus areas).
- ◀ Any significant changes to supply and demand information and what this may mean for the overall assessment work and the key findings and issues.
- ◀ Any development of a specific sport or particular format of a sport.
- ◀ Any new or emerging issues (e.g., development pressures) and opportunities (e.g., S106 contributions or club aspirations).
- ◀ Any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area (e.g., via PitchPower).
- ◀ Priority actions to be focused on before the next review.
- ◀ How the PPOSS has been applied to date and the lessons learnt.

It is also possible that between reviews, the Steering Group could also operate as a 'virtual' group; prepared to comment on suggestions and updates electronically - when and where relevant.

The process should also be considered particularly key in Cheshire East due to the ongoing Strategic Leisure Review, which might impact upon the sites currently managed by Everybody Health & Leisure from May 2029 onwards. As the majority of these represent key sites within the areas that they reside, any impact on the provision should be closely monitored via the Stage E process and future PPOSS updates.

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Checklist

To help ensure the PPOSS is delivered and is kept robust and up to date, the Steering Group can refer to Sport England's Stage E Checklist, as shown below.

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