

Cheshire East Playing Pitch Strategy Assessment Report

Draft – June 2016

Acknowledgments

The Council acknowledges with grateful thanks the contribution and the input to this report of Cheshire East sports clubs, schools, Sport England and the five National Sport Governing Bodies in the production of this assessment.

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1. Introduction and Methodology

Introduction

The Council is committed to ensuring that high quality outdoor playing pitches are provided to meet the current and future needs of local communities across Cheshire East. Working with the range of partners and sports clubs this Assessment Report sets out the current playing pitch provision and their usage based on data collected from Cheshire sports clubs and schools. This is the first part of the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy and provides a platform to now consider the level and quality of playing pitch provision that the Council, its partners and local people aspire to.

Sport is central to our well being and participation in sport brings with it a range of benefits including better health. Getting the amount and quality of pitch provision right can improve participation in sport, support healthy lifestyles, enhance the vitality and viability of sports clubs, enable further investment centred on sport. The Council will now work to produce Action Plans based on the findings of this report in collaboration with national sporting bodies, sports clubs, schools listening to feedback through wider public consultation before finalising them. A Playing Pitch Strategy is a living document and as such the Council commits to regularly update it. This will start with a refresh of the data in 2017.

This Assessment Report is the factual evidence base illustrating the key issues arising from the baseline data that has been gathered. It then informs the preparation of a series of Action Plans. Specifically, the Assessment report:

- Identifies the current supply of playing pitches in Cheshire East.
- Outlines the current demand for playing pitches in Cheshire East currently and predicting requirement through to 2030 to align with the Cheshire East Local Plan Period.
- Evaluates the current quality of playing pitches and ancillary whether currently available for community use or not.
- Identifies the key issues relating to playing pitches in Cheshire East.
- Identifies lapsed / disused sites and provide an assessment of whether they should be protected to meet existing unmet demand, protected for future use or can be disposed of for an alternative use.

The study covers the Cheshire East priority outdoor pitch sports and their associate playing areas. They are:

- Cricket Pitches
- Football Pitches
- Third Generation Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)
- Hockey

- Lacrosse Pitches
- Rugby League Pitches
- Rugby Union Pitches

The Cheshire East PPS began as in-house collaborative project involving the Council's spatial planning, parks & green spaces and leisure development teams. During its preparation, and in line with the Council's move towards establishing alternative delivery vehicles, the parks & green spaces service became part of ANSA in 2014, a new company established to provide a range of environmental services and the leisure development team became part of Everybody Sport & Recreation, a charitable trust established in 2014 to deliver leisure services in partnership with the Council.

In July 2014 Everybody Sport & Recreation were commissioned by Cheshire East Council to draw together the work already completed into an assessment report and subsequently a strategy to set out the strategic direction and local priorities for facilities used for cricket, football, hockey, lacrosse and rugby.

Methodology

In agreement with Sport England and the relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) the report presents a supply and demand assessment of all grass based pitches in accordance with Sport England's 'Playing Pitch Guidance, An approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy' (2013).

All the sports included with the exception of lacrosse are covered directly within the guidance which has been agreed by Sport England and the relevant NGB. In the case of lacrosse a similar approach and format has been used working closely with English Lacrosse to ensure all parties are happy with the results.

The NGBs consulted in the process were:

- England and Wales Cricket Board
- England Hockey Board
- English Lacrosse
- Rugby Football League
- Rugby Football Union
- The Football Association

The process is a logical ten step approach which is broken into five sections. It is illustrated in the table below.

Stages A to C will be covered in this assessment report.

Table 2.1 - Developing & Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy, the 10 step approach

Stage	Step	Description
A	1	Prepare and tailor the approach
B	2	Gather supply information
	3	Gather demand information
C	4	Understand the situation at individual sites
	5	Develop the current and future pictures of provision
	6	Identify the key findings
D	7	Develop the recommendations & action plan
	8	Write and adopt the strategy
E	9	Apply and deliver the strategy
	10	Keep the strategy robust

Stage A / Step 1 – Prepare and Tailor the Approach

In order for the PPS to be robust the following questions have been asked and subsequently answered. They are:

- Why produce a playing pitch strategy?
- What are the aims of the PPS?
- What are the objectives of the PPS?
- What are the management arrangements?
- What is the geographical area to be analysed?
- What is the strategic context and how does the PPS link to other strategies?
- What is sport participation profile in Cheshire East?
- How will the population of Cheshire East change up to 2030?

Stage B / Steps 2 & 3 – Gather Supply and Demand Information and Views

To produce a robust PPS it needs to be based on the most accurate and up to date information available about the supply of and demand for playing pitches. This section provides an overview of how this is being achieved in Cheshire East.

Supply (Step 2)

This started with a full download from Sport England Active Places database followed by the input of local knowledge from the project team then a full check with the clubs and facility providers. The following information was gathered:

- Site name, location, ownership and management type
- Type and number of pitches at each site including details of over marking
- Accessibility of the pitches for the community
- Quality and maintenance of pitches and ancillary facilities
- Level of protection and security of tenure
- Views of users, providers and other parties

Demand (Step 3)

To accurately evaluate the demand on playing pitches existing NGB knowledge was sourced then checked with all facility users and providers. The following information was gathered:

- Number of sport clubs and teams with their match and training usage requirements (training was more difficult in some cases)
- Casual and other demand
- Educational demand
- Displaced demand (teams wanting to play in the borough who can't and those playing outside of the borough through choice e.g. central venue league)
- Unmet and latent demand
- Future demand (NGB priorities / targets and club aspirations)
- Trends and changes in demand (users views and knowledge)

To support the collection of supply and demand information outlined the following tasks were completed:

- Develop a master spreadsheet from the Sport England Active Places download
- Review local knowledge from NGBs and private facility owners
- Audit of local league and club websites, fixture lists and pitch booking records
- Conduct a survey with all education establishments
- Consult with all formal playing pitch users via an email / postal questionnaire followed up with a telephone / face to face conversation in complex situations and /or where the user would like it
- Establish existing pitch quality reports
- Undertake non-technical assessment of all other sites
- Present findings to NGBs and discuss key issues

A high proportion of clubs and teams engaged successfully in the exercise which involved a questionnaire being sent to all secretaries / main contacts which was followed up by a face to face or telephone conversation with clubs with complex facility issues and / or a high number of teams. This process was supported by the NGB contacts by providing contact information and following up non responders.

Table 1.1 – Consultation Response Rates

Sport	No. of Clubs	No. of Teams	Response Rate	
			Clubs	Teams
Cricket	38/39	236/238	97%	99%
Football	101/133	458/527	76%	87%
Hockey	8/8	81/81	100%	100%
Lacrosse	2/2	16/16	100%	100%
Rugby League	0	0	N/A	N/A
Rugby Union	7/7	94/94	100%	100%
Education	111/154		72%	

Stage C / Steps 4, 5 & 6 - Assess the Supply and Demand Information and Views

Understand the situation at individual sites (Step 4)

An overview for each site available to the community should be developed consisting of:

- A comparison between the amount of play a site can accommodate with how much play takes place there. This is then categorised throughout the assessment reports as illustrated below

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

- Whether there is any spare capacity during the peak period for relevant pitch types
- The key issues with, and views of, the provision at the site

Develop the current picture of provision (Step 5 – Part 1 of 2)

Site overviews should be used to help understand:

- The situation across all sites available to the community
- The situation across only those sites with secured community use

- The nature and extent of play taking place at sites with unsecured community use
- The nature and extent of any displaced, unmet and latent demand
- Key issues raised with the adequacy of provision
- The situation at any priority sites

Develop the future picture of provision (Step 5 – Part 2 of 2)

The current picture of provision and the future demand information from Stage B should be used to help understand:

- How population change will affect the demand for provision
- How participation targets and current/future trends may affect the demand for provision
- Whether there are any particular sports clubs or sites where demand is likely to increase
- How any forthcoming changes in supply may affect the adequacy of provision to meet demand

Identify the key findings and issues (Step 6)

The current and future pictures of provision, along with the site overviews, should be used to answer the following questions:

- What are the main characteristics of the current and future supply of and demand for provision?
- Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current and future demand?
- Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately managed?

All of these areas will be checked, challenged and agreed by the steering group.

Stages D & E / Steps 7 & 8 – Develop the Strategy, Deliver the Strategy and Keep it Up to Date

Along with the key findings identified in Stage C will be supported by testing a number of scenarios as identified by individual NGBs and ones specific to Cheshire East. Recommendations and actions in this section will then be established by and agreed with the steering group.

The strategy and site specific action plans will be completed in the light of the assessment findings. It is proposed that the implementation of the strategy will be overseen by a PPS Implementation and Delivery Group.

The strategy will be regularly reviewed in order to keep it up to date and robust for decision making.

All of Stages D and E will be covered in the accompanying **Strategy and Action Plan**.

2. Prepare and tailor the approach (Stage A)

The PPS has followed the Sport England 'Playing Pitch Guidance, An approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy' guidance in preparing the project to ensure it will be robust, therefore the following steps were undertaken.

Why produce a Playing Pitch Strategy?

The primary purpose of the PPS is to provide a strategic framework which ensures that the provision of outdoor playing pitches meet the local needs of existing and future residents within the Cheshire East Area. The Strategy will be produced in accordance with national planning guidance and provide robust and objective justification for future playing pitch provision throughout Cheshire East.

The production of the PPS will also support the following areas as identified as imperative to the project.

a. Corporate and strategic

- It ensures a strategic approach to playing pitch provision. During times of change for local authorities, a playing pitch strategy will provide direction and set priorities for pitch sports.
- It provides robust evidence for capital funding. As well as proving the need for developer contributions towards pitches and facilities a playing pitch strategy can provide evidence of need for a range of capital grants. Current funding examples include the Sport England Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund (for park improvements), the Football Foundation and the Big Lottery.
- It helps deliver government policies for social inclusion, environmental protection, community involvement, and healthy living.
- It helps demonstrate the value of leisure services during times of increasing scrutiny of non-statutory services.
- It helps the Best Value process through:
 - Consultation with pitch-based sports clubs, providers and organised leagues in Cheshire East
 - Consultation with regional officers from national governing bodies to gain a strategic perspective of sport delivery and growth
 - Challenges current systems for sports pitch ownership, management and maintenance
 - Comparison with other local authorities through various benchmarks
 - Competition, for example, for pitch and associated facility management / maintenance contracts

b. Planning

- It provides a basis for establishing new pitch requirements arising from new housing developments or improvements to existing where demand can be satisfied by increasing capacity
- It is one of the best tools for the protection of pitches threatened by development.

- It links closely with work being undertaken on open spaces to provide a holistic approach to open space improvement and protection.
 - It provides for an integrated approach towards land use planning and playing pitch provision through the Council's emerging Local Plan Strategy and through decisions on individual planning applications.
- c. Operational
- It can help improve current asset management, which should result in more efficient use of resources and reduced overheads.
 - It highlights locations where quality of provision can be enhanced.
- d. Sports development
- It helps identify where community use of school sports pitches is most needed.
 - It provides better information to residents and other users of sports pitches available for use. This includes information about both pitches and sports teams / user groups.
 - It promotes sports development and can help unlock latent demand by identifying where the lack of facilities might be suppressing the formation of teams / community needs.

What are the aims of the Playing Pitch Strategy?

The aims of the Playing Pitch Strategy are:

- Inform the review of emerging planning policy within the Local Development Framework, particularly the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy and subsequent Site Allocation Development Policies Document. The PPS covers the same time period as the Local Plan, to 2030.
- Provide adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting playing fields (in line with national planning policy in the National Planning Policy Framework).
- Inform land use decisions in respect of the future use of existing outdoor sports areas and playing pitches within Cheshire East.
- Provide a strategic framework for the provision and management of playing pitches in Cheshire East.
- Support external funding bids and maximise support for outdoor sport and physical activity facilities and playing pitches.
- Provide the basis for ongoing monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality, and accessibility of outdoor sport, physical activity facility provision, and playing pitches.

What are the objectives of the Playing Pitch Strategy?

The key objectives and requirements of the Strategy are to:

- Assess the current supply and demand balance in the study area and sub areas.
- Identify all pitches, irrespective of ownership, and assess which are publicly available and which are not.

- Assess the current and future need for pitch provision in the Cheshire East area taking account of proposed housing growth, changing demographics and the geographical focus of that growth.
- Assess the future pitch needs against the national governing bodies' county, regional and whole sport plans.
- Assess the quality and capacity of existing pitches and support facilities for both training and playing of matches.
- Identification of pitches that are underplayed, overplayed and played to their individual optimum capacity against national governing bodies' recommendations.
- Assess the accessibility of facilities.
- Identify locally specific needs for playing pitch provision.
- Establish a strategic framework and make recommendations in respect of future pitch provision in the CE area.
- Develop a site specific prioritised action plan for the study area and sub areas. The action plan will prioritise sites by sport with indicative timescales and key partners for delivery.

What are the management arrangements?

The project team has been responsible for the completion of the Playing Pitch Strategy with support from the steering group comprising representatives from the Council, NGBs and Sport England. A brief was created which was agreed by all steering group members to identify the aims, objectives and key drivers for the development of the Cheshire East Playing Pitch Strategy.

Assessment data was collated between August 2013 and July 2014 in line with the seasons of the sports collected. Since then the data has been analysed by the project team within this assessment report.

The PPS Guidance provides a checklist of items to cover during each stage. The checklists are used to help guide the Steering Group during preparation of the PPS. The checklists for Stage A (tailoring the approach) and Stage B (data collection) have been completed and signed off by the Steering Group and are included in Appendixes A & B along with the minutes of those Steering Group meetings. The Stage C checklist will be added once the public consultation of this Assessment Report has been undertaken and revised to take into account consultation responses.

What is the geographical area to be analysed?

The strategy covers the borough boundary area of Cheshire East; however the data gathered has been presented in such a way as to be further analysed by smaller analysis areas. There are also a number of sports teams from outside the specified area that use pitches within Cheshire East and sports teams from inside Cheshire East that use facilities outside of the borough. This cross boundary movement has been taken into consideration when producing this assessment report.

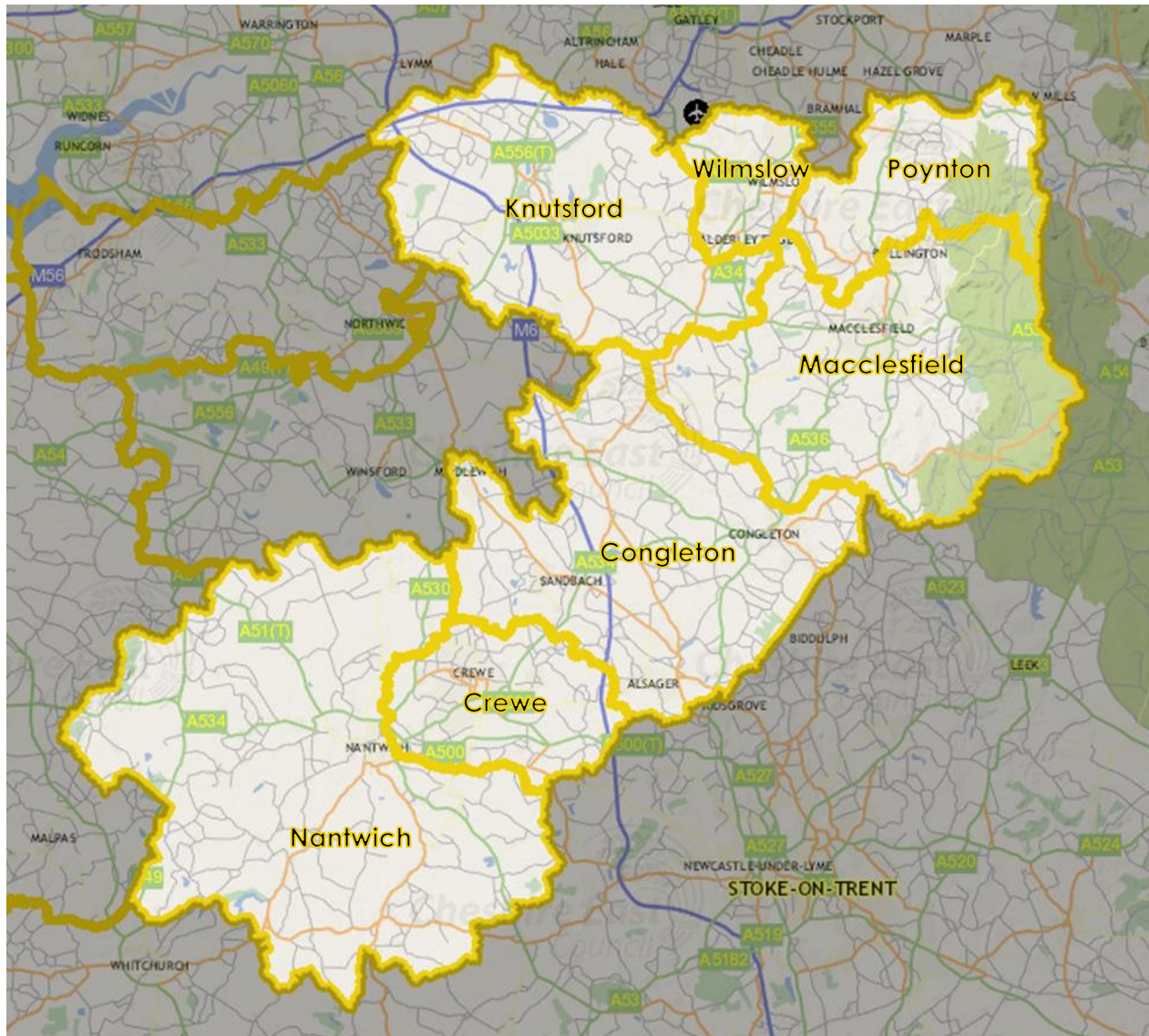
For the purpose of this analysis Cheshire East has been broken down into seven analysis areas. They are: Congleton, Crewe, Macclesfield, Knutsford, Nantwich,

Poynton and Wilmslow. They are the same as the borough's local area partnerships and are illustrated in Figure 2.1 overleaf.

The final three questions identified in 'Stage A / Step 1 – Prepare and Tailor the Approach' and illustrated below are covered in the following section Strategic Context & Local Profile.

- 1) What is the strategic context and how does the Playing Pitch Strategy link to other strategies?**
- 2) What is the sport participation profile in Cheshire East?**
- 3) How will the population of Cheshire East change up to 2030?**

Figure 2.1 – Map of analysis areas



3. Strategic Context & Local Profile

Introduction

This section is broken down into three distinct areas. Firstly it examines a number of key national, regional and local policies that will have an important influence on the strategy. Secondly it will provide a local and national analysis of sport and physical activity participation data relating to pitch sports. Thirdly it provides an overview of the current and future demographics of Cheshire East and the impact it has on pitch sports. This will then be elaborated upon in greater details in sections 4 to 9.

Strategic Context

National Level

Department for Communities and Local Government - National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how they are to be applied. It provides a framework for distinct local and neighbourhood plans, to reflect the needs and priorities of local communities. The key areas related to sport and physical activity are paragraphs 73 and 74.

Paragraph 73 recommends that:

'Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.'

Paragraph 74 states that:

'Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

Sport England – A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England

Sport England is a statutory consultee on all planning applications for development affecting playing field land. Since 1996 this has required local planning authorities on receipt of any relevant planning application to consult with Sport England prior to them making any decision whether or not to grant planning permission.

It is Sport England's policy to oppose any planning application which will result in the loss of playing field land unless it is satisfied that the application meets with one or more of five specific exceptions. As part of the process Sport England will consult with the relevant NGBs whose sports are covered by the planning application. The essence of these exceptions are incorporated within paragraph 74 of the NPPF.

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

In 2017, five years after the Olympic Games, Sport England aspires to transforming sport in England so that it is a habit for life for more people and a regular choice for the majority. The strategy will:

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

The focus on improving and increasing the usage of existing education based facilities is emphasised within the outcomes listed as:

- Every one of the 4,000 secondary school in England will be offered a community sport club on its site with a link to its NGB and a local club.
- All secondary schools will be supported to open their sports facilities for local community usage.
- Over £100 million will be invested into sports facilities through *People Places Play*.

National Governing Bodies

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

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) unveiled a new strategic plan in 2013 covering the period from 2014-2017. The plan is built on the following four pillars which were established in 2005 in *Building Partnerships* and continued in 2009s *Grounds to Play* strategies illustrating an ongoing theme in each document. They are:

- Energising people and partnerships through effective leadership and governance
- Building a Vibrant domestic game through operational excellence and delivering a competition structure with appointment to view
- Engaging participants through the maintenance of existing facilities, supporting club/school links, supporting volunteers and expanding women's and disabilities cricket
- Delivering Successful England teams and world class global events

The plan will look to take advantage of the groundwork undertaken in the previous plans with support of the established county board networks. A number of the targets will be relevant to the PPS, they are:

- Increase the subset of participation measured by Sport England's Active People Survey from 183,400 to 197,500.
- Expand the number of participants in women's and disabilities cricket by 10% by 2017.
- For each £1 provided in facility grants through the Sport England Whole Sport Plan grant programme ensure a multiplier of 3 with other funding partners.
- Provide an interest-free loan fund to community clubs of £10 million.
- Introduce a youth T20 competition engaging 500 teams by 2017.

There are links to the previous strategies *Grounds to Play* (2009) and *Building Partnerships* (2005) as it provided links and focus to the four pillars as follows:

- Enhance asset growth through continuing interest free loans to community clubs, expanding NatWest Cricket Force, seeking to support corporate or public sector cricket grounds under threat of closure through the England and Wales Cricket Trust, and seeking to expand partnerships for Indoor Cricket (*Grounds to Play*, 2009).
- The focus of this plan is on providing facilities to sustain participation levels rather than increasing participation (*Grounds to Play*, 2009).
- To further expand club/ school links and position a cricket club at the heart of a community, ECB will provide £1.5 million per annum capital improvement grants to local clubs that make their club facilities available to its local community and to local schools (*Grounds to Play*, 2009).
- Building participation by more than 20% per annum [as measured through ECB focus clubs and County Cricket Boards] (*Building Partnerships*, 2005).
- Developing women's cricket (*Building Partnerships*, 2005).
- Introducing grants and loans to clubs (*Building Partnerships*, 2005).

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

England Hockey (EH) have produced a business strategy based around five key aims. They are:

- Grow our participation
- Deliver international success
- Increase our visibility
- Enhance our infrastructure
- Be a strong and respected governing body

Two of the areas with have a particular impact of the PPS. They are 'grow our participation' and 'enhance our infrastructure' and within the strategy they have illustrated how they will develop these areas. They will:

Grow our participation

- Grow the number of adults playing regularly in our club network.
- Grow the number of young people playing hockey in schools and clubs.
- Grow the numbers of adults and young people playing informal hockey.

Enhance our infrastructure

- Develop and implement strategies for clubs, facilities, volunteers and umpires.

England Hockey - The Right Pitches in the Right Places

EH released their facility guidance document intended to support organisations wishing to build, or protect playing pitches for hockey.

It acknowledges that following mass instillation of AGPs in the 1990s there is a need to renew these as they are coming towards the end of their usable life. It identifies that significant investment is required to safeguard hockey for the future especially with the rising popularity of 3G AGPs suitable for a number of sports but not competitive hockey.

There are approximately 1000 sand filled or dressed and 50 water based pitches in England and As of 2011 affiliated hockey clubs are utilising around two thirds of them. Usage amounts to a total of 7,000 hours for clubs and 2,000 hours for single system activities. 95% of the pitches used are owned by education establishments (80+%) and local authorities with only 5% being owned by clubs, this illustrates a reliance on community usage from these organisation. In addition in many place hockey isn't the primary user so is competing with other sports such as football, rugby and lacrosse.

The aim of EH is to increase participation but it understands that this isn't possible with the correct facility provision. EH will be looking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers who have a sound understanding and are delivering the following:

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

English Lacrosse – The Future for the Lacrosse Community (2012-2022)

English Lacrosse launched its 10 year strategy in 2012 with the vision of developing lacrosse as a major team sport in England. To achieve this it identified three key priorities, two of which could affect participation levels. They are:

- More people participating more often
- [Achieve a] higher profile [for lacrosse]

The key outcomes relating to participation and therefore pitch provision are:

- Increased participation.
- Raising the profile and general awareness of lacrosse.
- Greater access to appropriate facilities.

They will look to achieve this by:

- Providing a range of playing opportunities and programmes which are attractive to a wide range of people.
- Continuing to extend the robust and wide ranging community club network working to develop new players.
- Extending the school, college and university network to develop new players
- Developing a robust and extensive recreational playing network.
- Developing the ability to resource the growth of the game through effective deployment of volunteers supported by staff.
- Developing commercial and governmental partnerships.
- Developing a network of well-managed, forward thinking clubs capable of contributing to the growth and success of Lacrosse.
- Improving the competitive structure providing easy access to appropriate opportunities for players of all levels.
- Developing a national facilities strategy.

Football Association – National Game Strategy for Participation & Development (2015-2019)

The FA's National Game Strategy that sets out the priority areas and targets for the 'National Game'. The areas included are:

- Participation
- Player development
- Better training and playing facilities
- Football workforce

Two of the areas with have a particular impact of the PPS. They are 'participation' and 'playing facilities' and the priorities listed in the National Game Strategy are:

Participation: More players playing football more often.

- Boost female youth participation by 11%.
- Retain and support the existing 119,000 affiliated male, female and disability teams.
- Increase over 16s playing every week by over 200,000 by offering a variety of formats available.
- Innovative programmes and grants to provide a range of playing opportunities in education, clubs, leagues and other community settings.

Facilities: £48M of FA investment in new and improved facilities through the Football Foundation.

- Create 100 new football turf pitches and improve 2,000 grass pitches.
- Invest in and roll out a new sustainable model for grassroots facilities in 30 cities through football hubs owned and operated by local communities.
- Ensure half of mini-soccer and youth matches are played on high quality artificial grass pitches.

Football Association – National Facilities Strategy (2013-2015) [new strategy currently in development]

The purpose of the FA National Facilities Strategy is to set out The Football Association's long term vision for the development of facilities to support the 'National Game'.

A couple of major issues raised in the document are that the FA believes that 80% of football is played on publicly owned and managed facilities and 84% of the respondents to the survey raised their most pressing issue as 'poor facilities'.

The FA has a focused vision for the future of facilities in England; to build, protect and enhance sustainable football facilities to improve the experience of the nation's favourite game. It aims to do this by:

- Building - Provide new facilities and pitches in key locations to FA standards in order to sustain existing participation and support new participation.
- Protecting - Ensure that playing pitches and facilities are protected for the benefit of current and future participants.
- Enhancing - Invest in existing facilities and pitches, ensuring that participation in the game is sustained as well as expanded.

To achieve this the FA will:

- Across the strategy period via the Football Foundation will invest in excess of £150 million into facility improvements in line with identified priorities, they are:
 - natural grass pitches improved – target: 3000.
 - a network of new Artificial Grass Pitches built – target: 100.
 - a network of refurbished Artificial Grass Pitches – target: 150.
 - on selected sites, new and improved changing facilities and toilets.
 - continue a small grants programmes designed to address modest facility needs of clubs.
 - ongoing support with the purchase and replacement of goalposts.
- Direct other sources of investment into FA facility priorities.
- Communicate priorities for investment across the grassroots game on a regular basis.
- Work closely with Sport England, the Premier League and other partners to ensure that investment is co-ordinated and targeted.

Rugby Football League – Community Rugby League Facility Strategy (2011-2015) [still being applied]

The RFL appreciates that facilities are one of the key components in the development of sport at all levels. They attract players of all ages and levels into a sport and contribute towards retaining participants and maintaining satisfaction levels. The purpose of this Strategy is:

- Provide evidence of the current facility provision and its quality and standards.
- Provide clear guidance on how, and the work required, to set appropriate quality standards and explain how those standards can be reached and maintained.

- Identify trends and demonstrate 'gaps' in both particular types of provision and in their geographic spread.
- Highlight those gaps to the Rugby Football League and its external partners.
- Act as a tool to work with external partners to address the gaps in provision and build strategic partnerships at national, regional and local level.
- Provide a framework and criteria for identifying future priorities for investment and the effective and efficient distribution of the capital element of the funding made available by Sport England to the RFL.

The key themes, not in a priority order as all merit a priority, are:

- Security of Tenure
- Club Management
- Playing Surfaces and Floodlighting
- Site and Clubhouse Improvement
- Access to other Facilities:
- Natural Grass; Artificial Turf; Indoor Facilities
- Primary and Secondary Schools, Higher and Further Education
- Performance
- Informal Rugby League
- Rugby Football League Management of Facilities

The recommendations outlined in the strategy suggest a change of direction for the RFL and partner investment in the development and improvement of facilities for the sport over the next 10 years. They are:

- Playing surfaces – improvement and maintenance
- Clubhouse improvement
- Security of tenure and quality facilities
- Wider access to places to play

The RFL are invested over £7 million into these priority areas.

Rugby Football Union – Seizing the Opportunity, RFU Strategic Plan (2012/13-2016/17)

The RFU believe that rugby enhances lives and clubs should be at the heart of communities. During the strategy period the Rugby World Cup will be hosted in England which the RFU will have a positive effect on rugby participation. The main area of the strategy that will affect the PPS is 'Rugby for Everyone' strand which is one of five priority areas. Their key aim within this is to:

- Increase the number of regular adult rugby participants from 190,000 to 215,000 by 2017.

The RFU plan to achieve this by:

- Retaining and developing existing XV a side players particularly in the 14 to 24 age group and to keep them enthused and involved through creating more opportunities to play and ensuring appropriate competition.
- Expanding and developing all formats of the game to recruit more boys and girls, men and women in clubs, schools, colleges and universities.
- Ensuring they have the right people to offer quality experiences by retaining, recruiting and developing high quality officials and volunteers.

- Promoting and supporting a safe rugby club environment to appeal to sports enthusiasts and supporting good club management, governance and investment in facilities.
- Enhancing the role and profile of rugby clubs in their local communities so that more people enjoy playing and being part of rugby union.

The key measures of success will be:

- Investing a minimum of £27 million of both direct and indirect investment in grassroots rugby.
- Increasing the number of over 16s playing regular XV a side rugby by 10% by 2017.
- Increasing the number of O2 Touch centres to 300, catering for 15,000 players by 2017.

Rugby Football Union – The National Facilities Strategy for Rugby Union in England (2013-2017)

The RFU National Facility Strategy helps to provide a framework for the RFU to establish and manage a network high quality and accessible facilities across England. The strategy is designed to:

- Recognise the role of facility development in the delivery of community rugby's core purpose and key drivers.
- Provide evidence-based conclusions on the current key facility issues affecting the sustainability and growth of rugby union in England.
- Set out priority areas for future investment.
- Outline a facility planning model to enable the delivery of this strategy at a local level.
- Highlight other key factors in the delivery of high quality facilities.
- Outline the need for and role of associated Investment Strategies in the delivery of this facility strategy.

The RFU National Facilities Strategy sets out the broad facility needs of the game and identifies investment priorities in order to:

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

The priorities for investment which have met the needs of the game for the previous period remain valid:

- Increase the provision of integrated changing facilities that are child- friendly and can sustain concurrent male and female activity at the club.
- Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches (this includes support for enhanced pitch maintenance programmes).
- Improve the quality and quantity of floodlighting
- Increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development outcomes

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

- Social, community and catering facilities, which can support diversification and the generation of additional revenues
- Facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs
- Pitch furniture, including quality rugby posts and pads

Local Level

Cheshire East Council – Three Year Plan, 2013-16

The Cheshire East Council Three Year Plan outlines its purpose as aiming 'to serve the people of Cheshire East through' three areas, they are:

- Fulfilling our community leadership role well
- Ensuring quality and value in public services
- Safeguarding the most vulnerable in society

Subsequently this is split into six outcomes, they are:

- Our local communities are strong and supportive
- Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy
- People have the life skills and education they need to thrive
- Cheshire East is a green and sustainable place
- People live well and for longer
- Cheshire East is a good place to live and work

Cheshire East Council – Local Plan (Public Consultation Version, 2016)

The Local Plan sets planning policies and allocates sites for development. It is the Statutory Development Plan for Cheshire East and is the basis for deciding planning applications.

The area of the Cheshire East Local Plan which particularly relates to playing pitches and leisure and recreation facilities are Policies SC1 (Leisure and Recreation) and SC2 (Outdoor Sports Facilities) which are quoted below.

Policy SC1 – Leisure and Recreation

In order to provide appropriate leisure and recreational facilities for the communities of Cheshire East, the Council will:

1. Seek to protect and enhance existing leisure and recreation facilities, unless they are proven to be surplus to requirements or unless improved alternative provision, of similar or better quality, is to be made.
2. Support and promote the provision of better leisure, community and recreation facilities, where there is a need for such facilities, the proposed facilities are of a type and scale appropriate to the size of the settlement, are accessible and support the objectives of the Local Plan Strategy. The Council will:
 - i. Encourage facilities that serve the Borough as a whole, and facilities that attract large numbers of people, to be located, where possible, within or adjoining Crewe or Macclesfield town centres;
 - ii. Require facilities serving Key Service Centres to be located in or adjacent to their town centre or highly accessible locations;

- iii. Require facilities intended to serve the everyday needs of a community or neighbourhood to be in or adjacent to the centres of Local Service Centres or other settlements; and
 - iv. Encourage the development of shared service centres that combine public services, health and community functions in modern accessible buildings.
3. Support proposals for facilities that would not be appropriate to be located in or adjacent to centres, provided they are highly accessible by a choice of transport, do not harm the character, amenity, or biodiversity value of the area, and satisfy the following criteria:
 - i. The proposal is a facility that:
 - a. supports a business use;
 - b. is appropriate in an employment area; or
 - c. supports an outdoor sports facility, education or related community / visitor facility; or
 - d. supports the visitor economy and is based on local cultural or existing visitor attractions.
 4. Work with agencies, services and businesses responsible for providing facilities to make sure that the needs and demands of communities are met.
 5. Make sure that appropriate developments contribute, through land assembly and financial contributions, to new or improved facilities where development will increase demand and / or there is a recognised shortage of local leisure, community and recreation facilities (further detail can be found in Policy SE6).

Policy SC2 – Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities

In order to provide appropriate indoor and outdoor sports facilities for the communities of Cheshire East, the Council will:

1. Protect existing indoor and outdoor sports facilities, unless:

Either:

 - i. They are proven to be surplus to need (as identified in an adopted and up to date needs assessment); or
 - ii. Improved alternative provision (a full quantity and quality replacement to accord with paragraph 74 of the NPPF and Sport England policy) will be created in a location well related to the functional requirements of the relocated use and its existing and future users.

And in all cases:

 - i. The proposal would not result in the loss of an area important for its amenity or contribution to the character of the area in general; and
2. Support new indoor and outdoor sports facilities where
 - i. They are readily accessible by public transport, walking and cycling; and
 - ii. The proposed facilities are of a type and scale appropriate to the size of the settlement; and
 - iii. Where they are listed in an action plan in any emerging or subsequently adopted Playing Pitch Strategy or Indoor Sports Strategy, subject to the criteria in the policy.

3. Make sure that major residential developments contribute, through land assembly and financial contributions, to new or improved sports facilities where development will increase demand and/or there is a recognised shortage.

Participation in Sport and Physical Activity

An understanding of the overall population in Cheshire East and participation rates in sport and physical activity will support the analysis for cricket, football, hockey, lacrosse, rugby league and rugby union in the following sections. It will provide a theoretical understanding of current, latent and potential future demand therefore providing context playing pitch provision.

The summary of participation in sport and physical activity is drawn from the findings of the Sport England Active People surveys (APS) and Sport England Market Segmentation. The population estimates and predictions were compiled by the Cheshire East Council Research and Consultation team using population forecasts and population estimates from the Office for National Statistics.

Adult Participation in Sport and Physical Activity in Cheshire East

The APS measures the number of adults taking part in sport across England. The APS is the largest survey of its kind undertaken with 165,000 adults (age 14 and over) interviewed each year. The size of the survey means results can be published for a large number of different sporting activities and for every local authority area (500 participants per local authority area per year) in England and is used to measure the impact of Sport England and its key partners.

Activity levels in the local population have been consistently higher than the regional and national averages except in APS5 (2010/11) and APS8 (2013/14) where the participation figures have dropped by 4% and 5% for the respective APS periods for 1x30 per week. In the case of APS5 it returned to the level of APS4 in APS6, as APS8 is the most recent survey this cannot be seen whether this is the case. Similarly for 3x30 per week Cheshire East had been higher than the regional and national averages until APS7 which dropped by 5% however this recovered in APS8. Figures within the region and nationally have stayed fairly stable throughout the period.

When comparing to the geographically similar authorities only Bath & North East Somerset have seen a significant participation increase in both 1x30 and 3x30 per week. Both Cheshire West & Chester and Wiltshire have stayed fairly similar in both measures whilst Solihull is similar to Cheshire East with slight growth in 1x30 per week until a drop in APS8 which is mirrored in 3x30 per week.

The 'Nearest Neighbour' model used by Sport England was developed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) to aid local authorities in comparative and benchmarking exercises. It is widely used across both central and local government. The model uses a number of variables to calculate statistical similarity between local authorities. Examples of these variables include population, unemployment rates, tax base per head of population, council tax bands and mortality ratios.

The full results are found in table 3.1 overleaf.

Table 3.1 - 16+ participation in 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport one and three or more times per week

KPI		Cheshire East	North West	England	Nearest Neighbours			
					Bath & NE Somerset	Cheshire West & Chester	Solihull	Wiltshire
					%			
1x30 – 16+ participation in 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport per week	07/08	38.8	36.0	36.2	39.3	39.1	38.9	37.8
	08/09	38.8	36.3	36.1	43.2	40.5	33.3	37.5
	09/10	39.8	36.0	35.8	42.0	37.9	37.2	38.7
	10/11	35.3	35.5	35.2	41.6	39.3	36.9	36.6
	11/12	39.0	36.5	36.5	41.5	41.7	36.8	37.5
	12/13	39.5	36.1	36.2	45.6	37.3	42.8	33.4
	13/14	34.4	35.9	35.8	43.7	39.6	34.6	37.7
3x30 – 16+ participation in 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport 3 or more times per week	07/08	19.6	17.1	16.7	15.2	20.0	15.3	18.3
	08/09	17.8	17.3	16.8	21.6	21.4	12.1	16.5
	09/10	20.0	18.0	16.8	17.5	18.6	17.6	18.5
	10/11	17.1	17.3	16.6	20.7	19.9	17.5	16.6
	11/12	19.9	18.1	17.6	19.0	18.3	20.5	16.3
	12/13	14.9	18.1	17.8	19.6	18.4	20.1	17.2
	13/14	19.5	17.9	17.6	22.6	18.3	17.2	19.7

Source: Sport England, Active People Interactive

The APS also measures whether participants have participated in more, the same or less sport and / or recreational physical activity than last year.

In Cheshire East there have been a steady increase with more people participating in more sport and / or recreational physical activity and a greater decrease in the amount of people participating in less sport and / or recreational physical activity. This trend is not reflected at regional and national level as the levels have stayed the same in all areas.

For the geographical similar areas Bath & North East Somerset have seen more people participating in more sport and / or recreational physical activity whilst Cheshire West & Chester and Solihull have seen more people participating in less sport and / or recreational physical activity. In Wiltshire it had grown initially then dropped below the original level.

This is illustrated in table 3.2 overleaf.

Table 3.2 - ages 16+ participating more, the same or less sport and / or recreational physical activity than last year

KPI		Cheshire East	North West	England	Nearest Neighbours			
					Bath & NE Somerset	Cheshire West & Chester	Solihull	Wiltshire
					%			
ages 16+ participating more in sport than last year	08/09	20.1	24.8	23.1	*	26.3	*	18.4
	09/10	18.8	23.3	22.1	*	26.3	*	22.1
	10/11	17.0	22.0	21.8	28.0	21.7	25.2	25.2
	11/12	21.1	23.4	23.6	24.1	24.8	24.1	21.3
	12/13	24.6	24.0	23.5	28.2	26.2	26.2	12.0
	13/14	26.7	23.7	23.8	33.0	16.2	20.9	*
ages 16+ participating the same in sport than last year	08/09	50.6	49.0	50.4	44.8	56.3	54.6	54.1
	09/10	59.9	51.6	51.1	42.7	51.5	47.4	54.5
	10/11	61.9	53.8	52.9	48.9	60.1	52.2	57.4
	11/12	51.4	50.8	51.1	50.8	52.9	54.0	52.0
	12/13	49.1	49.7	50.2	45.9	47.6	56.0	54.3
	13/14	54.9	51.2	50.7	39.6	54.9	53.0	49.4
ages 16+ participating less in sport than last year	08/09	29.3	26.3	26.5	*	17.4	26.2	27.5
	09/10	21.3	25.1	26.8	29.4	22.2	30.5	23.5
	10/11	21.1	24.3	25.3	23.2	18.1	22.6	17.5
	11/12	27.5	25.8	25.3	25.2	22.3	21.8	26.7
	12/13	26.3	26.3	26.3	25.9	26.2	17.9	33.7
	13/14	18.4	25.1	25.6	27.3	28.9	26.1	31.4

Source: Sport England, Active People Interactive

Participation in organised sport in Cheshire East has stayed fairly even with a slight decrease recently. However when analysing the individual sections sports club membership and been in receipt of tuition or coaching have both dropped by over 10% each since 2007/08 whilst having taken part in an organised competition has stayed the same. This illustrates that less people are being coached and are members of sports clubs however they are still competing.

In comparison the regional and national figures for participation in organised sport has decreased by 5% and 4% respectively since 2007/08. Similarly to Cheshire East the regional and national figures for sports club membership and been in receipt of tuition or coaching have both dropped by over 10% each since 2007/08 with having taken part in an organised competition staying the same.

Participation in organised sport covers membership of a sports club in the last 28 days, having received tuition or coaching in the last 12 months and / or having taken part in an organised competition in the last 12 months.

This is illustrated in table 3.3 overleaf.

Table 3.3 - Participation in organised sport in Cheshire East

KPI		Cheshire East	North West	England	Nearest Neighbours			
					Bath & NE Somerset	Cheshire West & Chester	Solihull	Wiltshire
					%			
Taken part in any organised sport <i>any of the definitions below</i>	07/08	40.7	35.9	37.0	39.2	40.0	41.5	39.5
	08/09	41.5	36.0	37.0	41.5	40.6	39.2	40.6
	09/10	41.7	35.2	36.1	42.7	40.7	37.2	36.6
	10/11	41.0	35.3	36.3	42.1	40.3	42.9	40.5
	11/12	40.1	34.8	35.5	43.4	37.1	44.9	39.3
	12/13	36.9	33.4	35.4	43.4	37.3	39.7	36.4
	13/14	38.4	30.7	33.4	46.6	26.1	43.7	34.7
Has been a member of a sports club in the last 28 days	07/08	32.6	32.9	33.9	46.2	34.9	29.2	34.3
	08/09	29.6	24.9	25.1	26.8	28.3	29.6	24.2
	09/10	30.6	24.2	24.7	27.3	28.5	27.3	25.2
	10/11	30.1	24.2	24.1	29.1	28.1	26.2	21.3
	11/12	28.3	23.6	23.9	25.8	28.8	29.4	26.5
	12/13	26.5	23.1	23.3	27.0	28.2	30.9	26.3
	13/14	22.2	21.7	22.8	29.5	25.9	27.0	24.0
Has received tuition or coaching in the last 12 months	07/08	28.1	21.4	21.5	30.9	19.3	29.6	15.4
	08/09	23.0	21.6	21.6	23.7	24.6	19.0	19.8
	09/10	18.7	16.4	18.0	19.1	19.0	19.3	21.9
	10/11	19.8	16.5	18.1	21.0	20.2	17.9	21.0
	11/12	19.2	15.9	17.5	24.6	19.4	15.1	18.7
	12/13	19.0	15.9	17.5	22.9	19.0	20.7	20.8
	13/14	17.9	14.9	16.2	23.1	15.9	20.5	16.0
Has taken part in an organised competition in the last 12 months	07/08	18.4	15.0	16.8	23.6	19.7	22.4	17.0
	08/09	16.8	13.8	16.1	27.1	10.6	21.6	22.5
	09/10	11.7	14.6	16.4	24.9	16.3	11.2	13.4
	10/11	17.5	14.5	15.0	17.6	17.7	18.1	17.9
	11/12	17.1	14.5	14.6	17.2	19.1	13.4	18.6
	12/13	18.5	14.2	14.4	20.6	17.2	11.4	15.6
	13/14	19.0	14.5	14.4	18.7	19.6	14.6	17.2

Source: Sport England, Active People Interactive

National Sports Participation Trends

Nationally there is a decrease in participation in all sports included in playing pitch strategy between 2007 and 2014. The statistics are significant enough in cricket, football, hockey and rugby league to be classified as a decrease however rugby union is classified as no change. Lacrosse does not have a high enough number of participants to be measured through the Active People Survey. The findings are illustrated in table 3.4 overleaf.

Table 3.4 - National Participation in PPS Sports

Year	Cricket		Football		Hockey		Rugby League		Rugby Union	
	No. (000s)	%	No. (000s)	%	No. (000s)	%	No. (000s)	%	No. (000s)	%
07/08	2,048	0.49%	21,447	5.18%	998	0.24%	737	0.18%	1,856	0.46%
08/09	2,066	0.49%	21,227	5.08%	957	0.23%	820	0.20%	2,303	0.56%
09/10	1,719	0.41%	20,900	4.96%	868	0.21%	630	0.15%	2,075	0.50%
10/11	2,155	0.51%	21,170	4.98%	792	0.19%	523	0.12%	1,942	0.46%
11/12	1,834	0.43%	21,268	4.94%	1,092	0.25%	510	0.12%	1,789	0.42%
12/13	1,483	0.34%	18,391	4.25%	869	0.20%	511	0.12%	1,830	0.42%
13/14	1,672	0.39%	18,974	4.40%	855	0.20%	535	0.12%	1,599	0.38%
Trend	Decrease		Decrease		Decrease		Decrease		No Change	

Source: Sport England, Active People Interactive

Sport England Market Segmentation

Sport England Market Segmentation is made up of 19 'sport and leisure' segments to break down the adult population. The segments help to understand the attitudes, behaviours, motivations and perceived barriers to sports participation. Based on an Experian model, the segmentation tools aim to help develop tailored interventions, communicate more effectively with target markets and to better understand participation in the context of different stages of life.

No other segmentation data has used Active People, Taking Part and Sports Satisfaction survey's as inputs to their segmentation therefore other products are not able to offer the same level of detail when segmenting a population based on sport participation. An overview of each segment is given in table 3.5 below.

Table 3.5 - Sport England market segmentation summaries

Name	Title	Description	Top three participation sports nationally
Ben	Competitive Male Urbanites	Male (aged 18-25), recent graduates, with a 'work-hard, play-hard' attitude. Most sporty of 19 segments.	Football (33%) Keep fit/gym (24%) Cycling (18%)
Jamie	Sports Team Drinkers	Young blokes (aged 18-25) enjoying football, pints and pool.	Football (28%) Keep fit/gym (22%) Athletics (12%)
Chloe	Fitness Class Friends	Young (aged 18-25) image-conscious females keeping fit and trim.	Keep fit/gym (28%) Swimming (24%) Athletics (14%)
Leanne	Supportive Singles	Young (aged 18-25) busy mums and their supportive college mates. Least active segment of her age group.	Keep fit/gym (23%) Swimming (18%) Athletics (9%)
Helena	Career Focused Females	Single professional women, enjoying life in the fast lane (aged 26-45).	Keep fit/gym (26%) Swimming (23%) Cycling (11%)
Tim	Settling Down Males	Sporty male professionals (aged 26-45), buying a house and settling down with partner.	Cycling (21%) Keep fit/gym (20%) Swimming (15%)
Alison	Stay at Home Mums	Mums with a comfortable, but busy, lifestyle (aged 36-45).	Keep fit/gym (27%) Swimming (25%) Cycling (12%)

Name	Title	Description	Top three participation sports nationally
Jackie	Middle England Mums	Mums (aged 36-45) juggling work, family and finance.	Keep fit/gym (27%) Swimming (20%) Cycling (9%)
Kev	Pub League Team Mates	Blokes (aged 36-45) who enjoy pub league games and watching live sport.	Keep fit/gym (14%) Football (12%) Cycling (11%)
Paula	Stretched Single Mums	Single mum (aged 26-45) with financial pressures, childcare issues and little time for pleasure.	Keep fit/gym (18%) Swimming (17%) Cycling (5%)
Philip	Comfortable Mid-Life Males	Mid-life professional (aged 46-55), sporty males with older children and more time for themselves.	Cycling (16%) Keep fit/gym (15%) Swimming (12%)
Elaine	Empty Nest Career Ladies	Mid-life professionals who have more time for themselves since their children left home (aged 46-55).	Keep fit/gym (21%) Swimming (18%) Cycling (7%)
Roger & Joy	Early Retirement Couples	Free-time couples nearing the end of their careers (aged 56-65).	Keep fit/gym (13%) Swimming (13%) Cycling (8%)
Brenda	Older Working Women	Middle aged ladies (aged 46-65), working to make ends meet.	Keep fit/gym (15%) Swimming (13%) Cycling (4%)
Terry	Local 'Old Boys'	Generally inactive older men (aged 56-65), low income and little provision for retirement.	Keep fit/gym (8%) Swimming (6%) Cycling (5%)
Norma	Later Life Ladies	Older ladies (aged 56-65), recently retired, with a basic income to enjoy their lifestyles.	Keep fit/gym (12%) Swimming (10%) Cycling (2%)
Ralph & Phyllis	Comfortable Retired Couples	Retired couples (aged 66+), enjoying active and comfortable lifestyles.	Keep fit/gym (10%) Swimming (9%) Golf (7%)
Frank	Twilight Year Gents	Retired men (aged 66+) with some pension provision and limited sporting opportunities.	Golf (7%) Keep fit/gym (6%) Bowls (6%)
Elsie & Arnold	Retirement Home Singles	Retired singles or widowers (aged 66+), predominantly female, living in sheltered accommodation.	Keep fit/gym (10%) Swimming (7%) Bowls (3%)

The dominant segments in Cheshire East are:

Tim: 'Settling Down Males' accounts for 11.8% / 33,794 of the population [illustrated in yellow]. This is significantly higher than the national and regional average. The most popular activities are cycling, keep fit / gym and swimming. Therefore programmes targeting 'Tims' would benefit the most people.

Philip: 'Comfortable Mid-Life Males' accounts for 10.4% / 29,792 of the population [illustrated in light orange]. This is slightly higher than the national and regional average. The most popular activities are cycling, keep fit / gym and swimming.

This is illustrated in figure 3.1 and table 3.6 overleaf.

Figure 3.1 - Sport England Dominant Market Segment

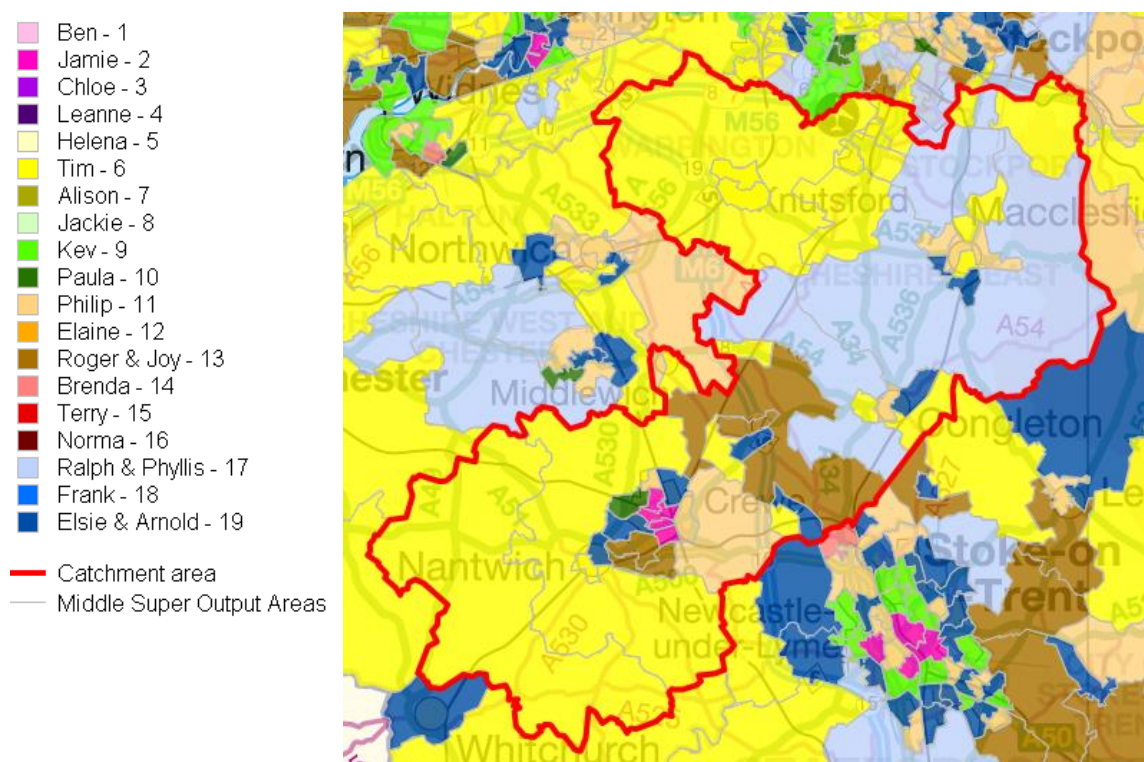


Table 3.6 - Sport England Market Segments Breakdown

Market Segment	Cheshire East	Cheshire & Warr.	North West	England	Cheshire East	Cheshire & Warr.	North West	England
	Population				%			
Ben	17,098	37,421	216,861	1,989,287	6	5.4	4	4.9
Jamie	8,723	23,901	301,632	2,162,891	3	3.4	5.6	5.4
Chloe	17,956	37,378	186,558	1,896,625	6.3	5.4	3.5	4.7
Leanne	7,061	20,553	243,937	1,711,607	2.5	2.9	4.5	4.3
Helena	16,918	38,200	232,745	1,829,866	5.9	5.5	4.3	4.5
Tim	33,794	74,530	389,041	3,554,150	11.8	10.7	7.2	8.8
Alison	15,663	35,205	175,194	1,766,560	5.5	5	3.2	4.4
Jackie	12,820	33,869	285,054	1,965,002	4.5	4.9	5.3	4.9
Kev	8,665	26,970	366,588	2,386,568	3	3.9	6.8	5.9
Paula	4,439	15,296	207,156	1,507,276	1.6	2.2	3.8	3.7
Philip	29,792	71,404	467,454	3,480,166	10.4	10.2	8.7	8.6
Elaine	22,581	52,308	327,824	2,444,113	7.9	7.5	6.1	6.1
Roger & Joy	22,464	53,171	350,619	2,723,835	7.9	7.6	6.5	6.8
Brenda	8,037	25,328	337,150	1,976,776	2.8	3.6	6.3	4.9
Terry	5,851	18,612	248,458	1,484,513	2	2.7	4.6	3.7
Norma	3,216	9,877	135,027	854,962	1.1	1.4	2.5	2.1
Ralph & Phyllis	20,557	41,789	174,742	1,700,496	7.2	6	3.2	4.2
Frank	10,658	28,930	248,748	1,612,960	3.7	4.1	4.6	4
Elsie & Arnold	19,858	53,214	497,314	3,206,387	6.9	7.6	9.2	8
Total	286,151	697,956	5,392,102	40,254,040	100	100	99.9	99.9

What does it mean for pitch sports?

It is also possible to analyse nationally which of the segments are currently participating and those that would like to play (latent demand).

Ben and Tim are most likely to be participating in all of the sports followed by Philip and Jamie with Chloe second highest in hockey.

Latent demand refers to those that identified they 'would like to play more sport' and the specific activity they suggested they would like to do, only one can be selected per person.

Tim and Ben are most likely to want to participate in all of the sports except for hockey where Ben is not in the top five. The female segments would like to participate in hockey with Chloe, Helena, Alison and Jackie all featuring in the top five segments.

Lacrosse is not included in the analysis as the participation rate is not large enough to be analysed accurately through the Active People Survey.

All findings are illustrated in tables 3.7 and 3.8 below.

Table 3.7 - Current Demand Top 5 Segments

Sport	Rank				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Cricket	Tim	Ben	Philip	Jamie	Kev
Football	Ben	Tim	Philip	Jamie	Kev
Hockey	Ben	Chloe	Tim	Philip	Helena
Rugby League	Ben	Tim	Jamie	Philip	Chloe
Rugby Union	Ben	Tim	Jamie	Philip	Chloe

Table 3.8 - Latent Demand Top 5 Segments

Sport	Rank				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Cricket	Tim	Philip	Ben	Jamie	Kev
Football	Ben	Tim	Philip	Jamie	Kev
Hockey	Chloe	Tim	Helena	Alison	Jackie
Rugby League	Ben	Tim	Jamie	Philip	Kev
Rugby Union	Ben	Tim	Philip	Jamie	Kev

Table 3.9 overleaf illustrates the data to support the findings suggested above.

Table 3.9 - Current and Latent Demand for each segment

Segment	Current Demand (Currently Play)										Latent Demand (Would like to Play)									
	Cricket		Football		Hockey		Rugby League		Rugby Union		Cricket		Football		Hockey		Rugby League		Rugby Union	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Ben	643	23.3	5702	29.8	200	19	525	40.5	1653	37.7	226	15.5	1020	27.6	39	6.7	141	32.4	351	33.1
Jamie	242	8.8	2446	12.8	37	3.5	200	15.4	529	12.1	163	11.2	475	12.9	31	5.3	73	16.8	115	10.8
Chloe	69	2.5	395	2.1	199	18.9	46	3.6	115	2.6	13	0.9	91	2.5	91	15.6	7	1.6	33	3.1
Leanne	33	1.2	254	1.3	30	2.8	36	2.8	52	1.2	6	0.4	59	1.6	33	5.7	6	1.4	6	0.6
Helena	47	1.7	191	1	66	6.3	19	1.5	22	0.5	13	0.9	29	0.8	57	9.8	4	0.9	4	0.4
Tim	808	29.3	5022	26.2	173	16.4	252	19.5	1316	30	404	27.8	878	23.8	60	10.3	84	19.3	250	23.6
Alison	44	1.6	181	0.9	60	5.7	12	0.9	30	0.7	0	0	19	0.5	55	9.4	10	2.3	5	0.5
Jackie	46	1.7	177	0.9	41	3.9	11	0.8	25	0.6	0	0	25	0.7	44	7.5	4	0.9	0	0
Kev	101	3.7	1049	5.5	19	1.8	47	3.6	106	2.4	116	8	238	6.4	9	1.5	15	3.4	49	4.6
Paula	10	0.4	122	0.6	5	0.5	10	0.8	5	0.1	10	0.7	13	0.4	13	2.2	4	0.9	0	0
Philip	486	17.6	2739	14.3	118	11.2	107	8.3	437	10	247	17	493	13.4	39	6.7	44	10.1	139	13.1
Elaine	29	1	91	0.5	36	3.4	0	0	15	0.3	4	0.3	19	0.5	37	6.3	7	1.6	10	0.9
Roger & Joy	89	3.2	247	1.3	18	1.7	11	0.8	39	0.9	69	4.7	72	2	18	3.1	3	0.7	45	4.2
Brenda	9	0.3	52	0.3	7	0.7	1	0.1	3	0.1	2	0.1	8	0.2	3	0.5	2	0.5	2	0.2
Terry	36	1.3	174	0.9	3	0.3	6	0.5	16	0.4	55	3.8	87	2.4	5	0.9	9	2.1	17	1.6
Norma	3	0.1	17	0.1	0	0	1	0.1	0	0	0	0	4	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ralph & Phyllis	40	1.4	139	0.7	31	2.9	4	0.3	19	0.4	64	4.4	40	1.1	29	5	11	2.5	15	1.4
Frank	21	0.8	129	0.7	4	0.4	7	0.5	6	0.1	55	3.8	98	2.7	6	1	11	2.5	17	1.6
Elsie & Arnold	6	0.2	38	0.2	8	0.8	0	0	2	0	8	0.5	24	0.7	14	2.4	0	0	3	0.3

Current and future demographics of Cheshire East

Housing Allocations in Cheshire East

The Cheshire East Local Plan is currently being developed and is at its examination stage. The Council is proposing to allocate a number of Strategic Sites for housing. These are listed in the table below. The housing figures for the third and final columns are taken from Appendix A. Proposed Growth Distribution in the Proposed Changes (Public Consultation) version of the Plan. They are illustrated in the table 3.10 below.

Table 3.10 - Housing Allocations in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Sub Area / Settlement	Area Summary	Strategic Housing Sites and Strategic Locations	Number of Homes
Congleton	Alsager	2000 new homes	Former MMU Campus	400
			Twyfords and Cardway	550
			White Moss Quarry	350
	Congleton	4150 new homes	Congleton Business Park Extension	625
			Giantswood Lane to Manchester Road	500
			Giantswood Lane South	150
			Manchester Road to Macclesfield Road	450
			Back Lane / Radnor Park Strategic Location	750
			Tall Ash Farm	225
			Lamberts Lane	225
	Middlewich	1950 new homes	Glebe Farm	525
			Brooks Lane Strategic Location	400
			Land off Warmingham Lane (Phase 2)	235
	Sandbach	2750 new homes	Land adjacent to J17 of M6, south east of Congleton Road Playing Fields	450
Congleton Total				5835
Crewe		7700 new homes	Central Crewe	400
			Basford East	850
			Basford West	370
			Leighton West	850
			Leighton	500
			Crewe Green	150
			Sydney Road (incl. extended site)	525
			South Cheshire Growth Village	650
			The Shavington / Wybunbury Triangle	400
			East Shavington	275
			Broughton Road	175
Crewe Total				5145
Knutsford		950 new homes	Land north of Northwich Road	175
			Land west of Manchester Road	75
			Land east of Manchester Road	250
			Parkgate Extension	200
			Land south of Longridge	150
			Alderley Park Opportunity Site	275
Knutsford Total				1125

Analysis Area	Sub Area / Settlement	Area Summary	Strategic Housing Sites and Strategic Locations	Number of Homes
Macclesfield		4250 new homes	Central Macclesfield	500
			South Macclesfield Development Area	1050
			Land off Congleton Road Playing Fields	300
			Land east of Fence Avenue	250
			Gaw End Lane	300
			Land south of Chelford Road	200
			Land between Chelford Road and Whirley Road	150
Macclesfield Total				2750
Nantwich		2050 new homes	Kingsley Fields	1100
Nantwich Total				1100
Poynton		650 new homes	Land adjacent to Hazelbadge Road	150
			Land at Sprink Farm	150
			Land south of Chester Road	150
Poynton Total				450
Wilmslow	Handforth (incl. NCGV)	2200 new homes	Land between Clay Lane and Sagars Road	250
			North Cheshire Growth Village	1650
	Wilmslow	900 new homes	Royal London	175
			Little Stanneylands	200
			Heathfield Farm	150
Wilmslow Total				2425

These figures comprise completions, commitments (proposed new homes with planning permission but not yet completed), Strategic Sites/Locations and future non-strategic allocations, the latter to be identified through the Council's Site Allocations and Development Policies Plan (SADPD). The SADPD will follow the preparation of the Local Plan Strategy.

There is an overall housing requirement for at least 36,000 new homes and proposals to achieve 31,400 additional jobs within the Local Plan period (2010-2030). The Council is planning positively to support growth in line with national planning policy. The Borough's population is projected to grow by around 58,100 people. The Local Plan also seeks to ensure that the right mix of new homes is provided to meet the needs of a growing workforce and support both current and future employers. This is set within the demographic context that Cheshire East will have a 65% increase in the population aged 65 and above and a 134% increase in the population aged 85 and above over the Plan period. (Paragraph 1.27 of the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy Proposed Changes Version March 2016). This is illustrated in table 3.11 overleaf.

Table 3.11 - Summary of housing growth across Cheshire East

Area	All Areas (Principal Towns, Key Service Centres, New Settlements, Local Service Centres and other settlements and rural villages)
Expected Level of Development	36000
Completions 01/04/10 to 30/09/15	4811
Commitments 30/09/15	11149
Local Plan Strategy Sites and Strategic Locations	18830
Further non strategic sites in the future Site Allocations and Development Policies Document	3231
Total	38021

The Local Plan Strategy plays a central role in achieving jobs growth in the Borough and the infrastructure and housing that are needed to support it. There is a need to provide for a wide range of employment opportunities, including highly skilled jobs, jobs that retain young people and attract new employees to live and work locally, limiting travel congestion. Therefore much of the new housing provision will need to attract people – particularly younger people - who do or can work in the sort of local, high-skill jobs that will help the Council achieve its aspirations for economic and social wellbeing.

Population indications affecting sport and physical activity participation

This section illustrates an indication of the population for Cheshire East and the individual analysis areas for all sports comparing 2012 to 2030 to mirror the Cheshire East Local Plan period. The housing allocation figures in table 3.10 have been used to develop indicative population growth. This is displayed by analysis area in table 3.12 below.

Table 3.12 - Indicative Population Growth in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Number of new homes	Indicative population growth
Congleton	5835	9400
Crewe	5145	8300
Knutsford	1125	1800
Macclesfield	2750	4400
Nantwich	1100	1800
Poynton	450	700
Wilmslow	2425	3900
Cheshire East	18830	30300

These figures are not population projections, but simply an approximate indication of what future population growth may be at this local level. These indicative figures are based on the crude assumption that population growth will average 1.61 per dwelling. This is taken from the fact that the Local Plan Housing Development Study¹ 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). In reality, population growth per dwelling will vary from LAP to LAP and site to site, depending on factors such as household formation rates, migration patterns and the type of dwellings being built, however there is insufficient data to quantify these variations at such a local geographical level. Therefore the population figures in the table above should be treated with considerable caution. (Figures are rounded to nearest 100 but the underlying calculations are based on unrounded estimates).

The methodology for analysing this information has been derived by Sport England Planning Team and applied to the population data and Local Plan proposed housing allocations for Cheshire East. Team Generation Rates (TGRs) have then been applied to this data in the individual sport sections. This is illustrated in table 3.12 overleaf.

¹ 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>

Table 3.12 - Population indications relating to housing allocations for Cheshire East

Analysis Area & Year			Cheshire East		Congleton		Crewe		Knutsford		Macclesfield		Nantwich		Poynton		Wilmslow	
Sport, Age & Gender			2012	2030	2012	2030	2012	2030	2012	2030	2012	2030	2012	2030	2012	2030	2012	2030
Cricket	7-18	Male	26100	28231	6500	7164	6300	6911	1600	1710	4700	4998	2500	2625	1700	1750	2700	2984
		Female	24700	26717	6100	6723	6100	6691	1600	1710	4400	4679	2500	2625	1600	1647	2500	2763
	18-55	Male	88300	95510	21300	23476	22300	24462	5700	6092	17100	18184	8400	8820	4800	4941	8800	9725
		Female	90000	97348	21600	23807	22300	24462	5800	6198	17400	18503	8400	8820	5100	5250	9300	10278
Football	6-9	Total	16200	17523	3900	4298	3900	4278	1000	1069	2900	3084	1700	1785	1000	1029	1700	1879
	10-15	Male	12900	13953	3200	3527	3100	3401	700	748	2400	2552	1200	1260	900	926	1400	1547
		Female	12500	13521	3000	3307	3000	3291	900	962	2300	2446	1200	1260	900	926	1300	1437
	16-45	Male	65200	70524	15400	16973	17200	18868	4000	4275	12600	13399	6100	6405	3300	3397	6500	7183
		Female	65800	71173	15500	17084	17400	19087	4000	4275	12700	13505	6100	6405	3400	3500	6800	7515
	Hockey	11-15	Male	10900	11790	2700	2976	2500	2742	700	748	2000	2127	1000	1050	700	721	1200
Female			10600	11465	2600	2866	2600	2852	700	748	1900	2020	1000	1050	700	721	1100	1216
16-55		Male	93000	100593	22500	24799	23400	25669	6000	6412	17900	19035	8900	9345	5100	5250	9300	10278
		Female	94200	101891	22700	25019	23400	25669	6000	6412	18200	19354	8900	9345	5300	5456	9700	10720
Lacrosse	10-18	Male	20000	21633	5000	5511	4800	5265	1200	1282	3600	3828	2000	2100	1400	1441	2000	2210
		Female	18900	20443	4600	5070	4600	5046	1200	1282	3400	3616	1900	1995	1300	1338	1900	2100
	19-45	Male	58100	62844	13600	14990	15500	17003	3600	3847	11400	12123	5400	5670	2800	2882	5800	6410
		Female	59400	64250	13900	15320	15800	17332	3600	3847	11600	12335	5400	5670	3000	3088	6200	6852
Rugby L.	7-11	Total	19900	21525	4800	5290	4800	5265	1300	1389	3600	3828	2000	2100	1200	1235	2100	2321
	12-18	Male	16000	17306	4100	4519	3800	4168	1000	1069	2900	3084	1600	1680	1100	1132	1600	1768
		Female	15000	16225	3700	4078	3700	4059	900	962	2700	2871	1500	1575	1000	1029	1500	1658
	19-45	Male	58100	62844	13600	14990	15500	17003	3600	3847	11400	12123	5400	5670	2800	2882	5800	6410
		Female	59400	64250	13900	15320	15800	17332	3600	3847	11600	12335	5400	5670	3000	3088	6200	6852
Rugby U.	7-12	Total	24100	26068	5900	6503	5800	6362	1600	1710	4400	4679	2400	2520	1500	1544	2500	2763
	13-18	Male	13900	15035	3500	3858	3300	3620	900	962	2500	2659	1400	1470	1000	1029	1400	1547
		Female	12900	13953	3200	3527	3200	3510	800	855	2300	2446	1300	1365	800	824	1300	1437
	19-45	Male	58100	62844	13600	14990	15500	17003	3600	3847	11400	12123	5400	5670	2800	2882	5800	6410
		Female	59400	64250	13900	15320	15800	17332	3600	3847	11600	12335	5400	5670	3000	3088	6200	6852

Population in 000s rounded to the nearest 100

4. Cricket

Introduction

Cricket in Cheshire East is governed by the Cheshire Cricket Board who have a paid development and coaching team supporting clubs and developing coaches, officials and young cricketers.

Throughout this section the 'pitch' will refer to the entire playing area with 'wickets' making up the individual areas for matches to be played upon.

Consultation

All clubs in Cheshire East were consulted by an electronic questionnaire sent out by Cheshire Cricket Board Club Development Manager Mike Woollard. Responses were gained from 38 of the 39 cricket clubs in Cheshire East which equated to a 97% response rate. Consultation took place in August and September 2013.

Supply

There are 60 sites containing 65 playing pitches in Cheshire East. On these sites there are 524 cricket and 33 non turf wickets. Of these sites 40 are used by community clubs which equates to 67% of the sites being used. All of those not used by community clubs are based on education sites.

In total there are 33 non turf wickets however only 16 of these are at sites which are used by community clubs. All of those not used by the community are at education sites. All of the analysis areas except for Knutsford have an artificial wicket.

The analysis area of Congleton has both the most number of sites and the highest number of grass and artificial wickets both in total however Knutsford has the most number of grass wickets which are used by community clubs. Macclesfield has the highest number of pitches however as only 44% are used by the community they fall behind Congleton, Knutsford and Nantwich. This is primarily as a result of The Kings School in Macclesfield who have 6 pitches which aren't used by the community.

These findings are illustrated in table 4.1 below and on a site by site basis in table 4.2 overleaf.

Table 4.1 - Summary of Cricket Pitches across all sites in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Available for community use & Used				Not used by the community			
	Sites	Pitches	Wickets		Sites	Pitches	Wickets	
			Grass	Non Turf			Grass	Non Turf
Congleton	9	9	104	4	6	6	6	6
Crewe	3	3	37	2	3	3	0	3
Knutsford	8	8	103	0	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield	6	7	77	2	6	9	25	3
Nantwich	6	7	76	3	2	2	0	2
Poynton	2	2	22	2	1	1	0	1
Wilmslow	6	6	74	3	2	2	0	2
Cheshire East	40	42	493	16	20	23	31	17

Table 4.2 – Site Specific Summary of Cricket Pitches across Cheshire East

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitches	Number of wickets	
					Grass	Artificial
4	Alderley Edge Cricket Club	Wilmslow	Yes	1	20	0
5	Alderley Park	Knutsford	Yes	1	7	0
7	All Hallows Catholic College	Macclesfield	Unused	1	0	1
8	Alsager Cricket Club	Congleton	Yes	1	12	1
10	Alsager School (Alsager LC)	Congleton	Unused	1	0	1
14	Ashley Cricket Club	Knutsford	Yes	1	20	0
16	Aston Cricket Club	Nantwich	Yes	1	10	0
22	Beech Hall School	Macclesfield	No	1	1	0
29	Bollington Recreation Ground	Macclesfield	Yes	1	12	0
32	Booths Park	Knutsford	Yes	1	14	0
35	Brine Leas School	Nantwich	No	1	0	1
40	Bunbury Cricket Club	Nantwich	Yes	1	10	0
45	Chelford Cricket Club	Wilmslow	Yes	1	10	1
46	Cholmondeley Cricket Club	Nantwich	Yes	1	10	0
50	Congleton Cricket Club	Congleton	Yes	1	10	0
51	Congleton High School	Congleton	No	1	0	1
56	Crewe Vagrants	Nantwich	Yes	1	22	1
62	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club	Poynton	Yes	1	10	1
64	Eaton Bank Academy	Congleton	No	1	0	1
66	Elworth Cricket Club	Congleton	Yes	1	12	1
69	Eric Swan Sports Ground	Crewe	Yes	1	10	1
75	Gorse Croft Farm	Nantwich	Yes	1	10	0
77	Haslington Cricket Club	Crewe	Yes	1	13	0
85	Holmes Chapel Cricket Club	Congleton	Yes	1	9	1
86	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Congleton	No	1	0	1
92	Kerridge Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Yes	1	12	0
96	Knutsford Sports Club	Knutsford	Yes	1	15	0
99	Langley Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Yes	1	11	0
103	Lindow Cricket Club	Wilmslow	Yes	1	12	1
108	Macclesfield Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Yes	2	11	1
					8	1
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Unused	1	0	1
116	Marton Primary	Congleton	Unused	1	0	1
118	Mere Cricket Club	Knutsford	Yes	1	10	0
119	Middlewich Cricket Club	Congleton	Yes	1	18	0
124	Mobberley Cricket Club	Knutsford	Yes	1	17	0
128	Mossley Cricket Club	Congleton	Yes	1	10	1
130	Nantwich Cricket Club	Nantwich	Yes	2	14	1
					0	1
135	Over Peover Cricket Club	Knutsford	Yes	1	12	0
142	Pott Shrigley Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Yes	1	11	0
143	Pownall Hall School	Wilmslow	No	1	0	1

144	Poynton High School	Poynton	No	1	0	1
145	Poynton Sports Club	Poynton	Yes	1	12	1
146	Prestbury Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Yes	1	12	0
153	Rode Park Cricket Club	Congleton	Yes	1	16	0
154	Rostherne Cricket Club	Knutsford	Yes	1	8	0
156	Ruskin Sports College	Crewe	No	1	0	1
159	Sandbach Cricket Club	Congleton	Yes	1	7	0
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	Yes	2	10	0
			Unused		6	1
183	St Thomas More Catholic High School	Crewe	No	1	0	1
185	Styal Football Club	Wilmslow	Yes	1	17	0
193	The Kings School (Cumberland Street)	Macclesfield	No	2	9	0
					6	0
194	The Kings School (Derby Fields)	Macclesfield	No	3	9	0
					6	0
					3	0
195	The Kings School (Fence Avenue)	Macclesfield	No	1	0	1
198	The Oaks Academy (King's Grove School)	Crewe	No	1	0	1
203	Tytherington High School (Main)	Macclesfield	No	1	0	1
211	Weston Cricket Club	Crewe	Yes	1	14	1
220	Wilmslow High	Wilmslow	No	1	0	1
222	Wilmslow Leisure Centre	Wilmslow	Yes	1	7	1
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	Yes	1	8	0

Disused Sites

There is one site which is disused for cricket. It is:

- Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)

This site had usage only by MMU students playing minimal amounts of cricket. They are now using Crewe Vagrants to meet their needs. The site is subject to a planning application currently.

Proposed Sites

Elworth Cricket Club have purchased land adjacent to their original site. There are plans to have at least two grass wickets and a non turf practice facility on the site.

There is also a planning application for the Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager) site that will include cricket provision.

In addition discussions and feasibility studies are taking place regarding the development of the Alderley Park site.

Pitch Quality

The audit of pitch quality was carried out by ECB qualified umpires as part of their match reports for the Cheshire County League and Cheshire Cricket League [also known as TACS] and through the ECB non-technical assessment for all other pitches.

There are 44 'good' quality pitches (68%) and a further 21 'standard' quality pitches (32%) in Cheshire East. There are not any 'poor' quality pitches.

Of those sites that are used by community clubs there are 38 'good' quality pitches (90%) with the remaining four being of 'standard' quality (10%). This does include the Nantwich Nursery Ground which is not used for league matches.

The table 4.3 below illustrates pitch quality by analysis area.

Table 4.3 - Pitch quality overview of all pitches

Analysis Area	Available & Used			Available & Unused			Not Available		
	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
Congleton	8	1	0	1	2	0	0	3	0
Crewe	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Knutsford	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield	6	1	0	0	1	0	5	3	0
Nantwich	6	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Poynton	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Wilmslow	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Cheshire East	38	4	0	1	4	0	5	13	0

Pitches which are owned and maintained by clubs in Cheshire East tend to be of 'good' quality. All of these clubs have their own grounds men who are responsible for the preparation of the site. Similarly the two sites which are owned and managed by the local authority are both of 'good' quality.

Of the three sites used for league play Kerridge Cricket Club and Rostherne Cricket Club do not have covers which make preparation more difficult. In addition all three clubs play in the Cheshire cricket Alliance which is the lowest level in the Cheshire pyramid.

All of the pitches that are unused or not available are on education sites with the majority being non turf (78%) and of 'standard quality (74%). There is one 'good' pitch that is unused and five more that are not available for community use at Sandbach School (Congleton) and Kings School (Macclesfield).

Seven of the 40 sites (18%) used by community clubs have reported vandalism within the last three years. This has been in the form of damaging equipment, stealing equipment, damaging facilities and setting fire to practice facilities. Litter, dog foul and unofficial use has also been highlighted as issues at some sites.

The table 4.4 overleaf illustrates pitch quality by site.

Table 4.4 - Pitch quality by site

Good	Standard	Poor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alderley Edge Cricket Club ▪ Alsager Cricket Club ▪ Ashley Cricket Club ▪ Aston Cricket Club ▪ Bollington Recreation Ground ▪ Booths Park ▪ Bunbury Cricket Club ▪ Chelford Cricket Club ▪ Cholmondeley Cricket Club ▪ Club AZ ▪ Congleton Cricket Club ▪ Crewe Vagrants ▪ Disley Amalgamated Sports Club ▪ Eaton Bank Academy ▪ Elworth Cricket Club ▪ Eric Swan Sports Ground ▪ Gorse Croft Farm ▪ Haslington Cricket Club ▪ Holmes Chapel Cricket Club ▪ Knutsford Sports Club ▪ Langley Cricket Club ▪ Lindow Cricket Club ▪ Macclesfield Cricket Club ▪ Mere Cricket Club ▪ Middlewich Cricket Club ▪ Mobberley Cricket Club ▪ Nantwich Cricket Club ▪ Over Peover Cricket Club ▪ Pott Shrigley Cricket Club ▪ Poynton Sports Club ▪ Prestbury Cricket Club ▪ Rode Park Cricket Club ▪ Rostherne Cricket Club ▪ Ruskin Sports College ▪ Sandbach Cricket Club ▪ Sandbach School ▪ Styal Football Club ▪ The Kings School (Cumberland Street) ▪ The Kings School (Derby Fields) ▪ Weston Cricket Club ▪ Wilmslow Leisure Centre ▪ Wilmslow Phoenix 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All Hallows Catholic College ▪ Alsager School (Alsager LC) ▪ Beech Hall School ▪ Brine Leas School ▪ Congleton High School ▪ Eaton Bank Academy ▪ Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre ▪ Kerridge Cricket Club ▪ Malbank School & Sixth Form College ▪ Marton Primary ▪ Mossley Cricket Club ▪ Nantwich Cricket Club ▪ Pownall Hall School ▪ Poynton High School ▪ Rostherne Cricket Club ▪ Ruskin Sports College ▪ St Thomas More Catholic High School ▪ The Kings School (Fence Avenue) ▪ The Oaks Academy (King's Grove School) ▪ Tytherington High School (Main) ▪ Wilmslow High 	

Ancillary Facilities

All of the sites used by clubs have ancillary facilities including changing facilities, toilets and a kitchen as a minimum with all but one site having showers. Over half of the clubs (59%) class their pavilion as being 'good' with 28% describing their pavilion as being 'acceptable' with the remaining four clubs (10%) believing their facilities are 'unacceptable'.

One of the clubs who class their pavilion as being 'unacceptable' is Langley CC who are currently undertaking a development project to improve their ancillary facilities.

Security of Tenure

Of the 40 sites that are used by the community 48% (19) of them are owned by clubs, 42% (17) are leased and 10% (four) are rented. Of those that are leased 13 have leases that are ten years or longer left on the agreements.

The other four have leases that have a year or less left. They are:

- Bunbury CC – local land owner – one year left, have since agreed a 10 year extension.
- Chelford CC – local land owner – one year rolling lease agreement
- Over Peover CC – local land owner [former club president] – one year rolling lease agreement
- Prestbury CC – local land owner – expired, currently in the process of agreeing a new lease, this has now been extended although no confirmation of details length.

None of these clubs have illustrated that there is concern with these agreements being continued however if there was this would cause issues for these clubs.

Of the four sites that are rented two are rented from the local authority (Bollington Recreation Ground & Rectory Field), one from a school (Sandbach School) and one from a land owner (Gorse Croft Farm) therefore the only site that is not classed as being secure is Gorse Croft Farm where Audlem CC play. This has however been a long term agreement and the club have not raised any issues with the agreement in terms of security.

Training

Training for cricket typically takes place in artificial grass cricket nets therefore not having an effect on the carry capacity of grass wickets or in some cases on grass wickets themselves. Where training takes places on grass wickets this has been included in the calculations. In addition some training takes place, particularly during the winter, at indoor sites.

Artificial Wickets

There are 33 artificial wickets in Cheshire East, 16 are at sites available for community use. Of those on sites not available for community use they are all education sites. From the returned questionnaires artificial wickets are not being used for competitive match play.

Demand

Participation in cricket in Cheshire East varies from small clubs with one or two senior teams to large clubs with multiple junior teams at various age groups. There are 39 cricket clubs with 31 having junior sections which equates to 79% of clubs having at least one junior team. Within these clubs there are 268 teams playing regular competitive cricket. In addition there a number of casual teams that are not recognised as clubs by the ECB however are included within the individual clubs capacity analysis, this includes community leagues organised by clubs e.g. Aston CC eight-a-side league. Table 4.5 summarises the cricket teams by each analysis area.

Table 4.5 - Number of cricket clubs and teams in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Number of clubs		Number of teams			
	Total	With junior provision	Open Age (18-55)		Junior (7-18)	
			Mens	Womens	Boys	Girls
Congleton	8	8	22	0	38	1
Crewe	3	3	8	1	12	1
Knutsford	9	5	23	0	19	0
Macclesfield	5	4	16	0	14	0
Nantwich	7	5	21	0	24	1
Poynton	2	2	7	0	12	0
Wilmslow	5	4	15	0	13	1
Cheshire East	39	31	116	1	147	4

Knutsford has the most clubs with nine with Congleton having the most with junior sections (8). Knutsford has the most senior teams (23), Congleton the most junior teams (38) and Crewe has the most female teams (2). Overall Congleton has the most teams with 61.

Table 4.6 - Number of cricket teams by club in Cheshire East

Club	Analysis Area	Number of teams			
		Open Age (18-55)		Junior (7-18)	
		Mens	Womens	Boys	Girls
Alderley Edge CC	Wilmslow	3	0	11	1
Alderley Park CC	Knutsford	2	0	0	0
Alsager CC	Alsager	4	0	6	0
Ashley CC	Knutsford	4	0	6	0
Aston CC	Nantwich	2	0	4	0
Audlem CC	Nantwich	3	0	0	0
Bollington CC	Macclesfield	4	0	4	0
Bunbury CC	Nantwich	3	0	8	1
Chelford CC	Nantwich	3	0	1	0
Cholmondley CC	Nantwich	2	0	0	0
Congleton CC	Congleton	3	0	4	0
Crewe CC	Nantwich	4	0	6	0
Disley CC	Poynton	3	0	4	0
Elworth CC	Sandbach	3	0	6	0
Haslington CC	Crewe	3	0	6	0
Holmes Chapel CC	Sandbach	2	0	3	0
Kerridge CC	Macclesfield	2	0	0	0
Knutsford CC	Knutsford	3	0	0	0

Club	Analysis Area	Number of teams			
		Open Age (18-55)		Junior (7-18)	
		Mens	Womens	Boys	Girls
Langley CC	Macclesfield	4	0	1	0
Lindow CC	Wilmslow	3	0	5	0
Macclesfield CC	Macclesfield	4	0	11	0
Mere CC	Knutsford	2	0	0	0
Middlewich CC	Middlewich	3	0	5	1
Mobberley CC	Knutsford	3	0	3	0
Mossley CC	Congleton	2	0	4	0
Nantwich CC	Nantwich	4	0	5	0
Over Peover CC	Knutsford	2	0	1	0
Pott Shrigley CC	Knutsford	3	0	3	0
Poynton CC	Poynton	4	0	8	0
Prestbury CC	Macclesfield	3	0	5	0
Rode Park & Lawton CC	Congleton	3	0	6	0
Rostherne CC	Knutsford	1	0	0	0
Sandbach CC	Sandbach	3	0	4	0
Styal CC	Wilmslow	3	0	1	0
Toft CC	Knutsford	4	0	9	0
Weston CC	Crewe	3	0	2	0
Wilmslow CC	Wilmslow	3	0	1	0
Wilmslow Wayfarers CC	Wilmslow	3	0	0	0
Wistaston CC	Crewe	3	1	4	1

Note - both mens and junior boys teams can contain female participants

Unmet Demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision which in turn is hindering its growth. There are no clubs in Cheshire East that are reporting unmet demand.

Displaced Demand

Displaced demand generally relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area which takes place outside the area. There is no displaced demand identified for cricket.

Latent Demand

Clubs were asked if they had more pitches would they have more teams. No clubs identified access to pitches as the reason for not having more teams.

Sport England's Market Segmentation tool allows analysis of the 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in cricket but are not currently doing so' – latent demand. It identifies at a latent demand 1,455 people who would like to play cricket. The segment that would like to participate the most is Tim [Settling Down Males] with 404 (27.8%). 2.4 of females (35) would like to play cricket, the highest segment is Chloe [Fitness Class Friends] with 13 (0.9%).

Capacity Analysis

Capacity analysis in cricket is measured on a seasonal rather than weekly basis. This is due to wickets being rotated throughout the season to allow areas to repair and reduce wear. Therefore this is more accurate method and is determined the number of wickets and their availability.

The adequacy of facilities for cricket is measured by comparing the amount of wickets available against the level of use of these wickets. This is considered at a site specific level, by analysis area and then compiled in order to present a picture for Cheshire East as a whole.

In order to accurately calculate supply and demand in cricket the following assumptions have been made:

- All matches take place on grass wickets.
- All senior teams play 10 home matches per year.
- All junior teams play 8 home matches per year.
- All additional usage (training, friendly and other) usage is included within the capacity analysis at a rate of 10 match equivalents per year.

To calculate pitch supply the ECB suggests that a good quality wicket should be able to carry:

- 5 matches per season per grass wicket (adults)
- 7 matches per season per grass wicket (juniors)
- 60 matches per season per non turf wicket (adults)
- 80 matches per season per non turf wicket (juniors)

Demand is therefore measured in terms of the number of home games that each team will play per season.

This information is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

Peak Period

The peak period for cricket has been identified as Saturday afternoon however it should be noted that senior cricket is played on Sunday afternoons and weekday evenings with junior cricket taking places primarily on weekday evenings.

Table 4.7 - Site Specific Capacity of Sites used by the Community

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Level of security	Quality	No of Grass Wickets	Capacity	Actual Play	No of Grass Wickets Used	Capacity Rating	
						(match equivalents per season)			(wickets)	(match equivalents per season)
4	Alderley Edge Cricket Club	Wilmslow	Secure	Good	20	100 – 140	111	19	1	5 – 7
5	Alderley Park (Alderley Park CC)	Knutsford	Secure	Good	7	40 – 49	30	6	1	5 – 7
8	Alsager Cricket Club	Congleton	Secure	Good	12	60 – 84	88	14.9	-2.9	14 – 20
14	Ashley Cricket Club	Knutsford	Secure	Good	20	100 – 140	88	14.9	5.1	25 – 35
16	Aston Cricket Club	Nantwich	Secure	Good	10	50 – 70	62	10.6	-0.6	3 – 4
29	Bollington Recreation Ground (Bollington CC)	Macclesfield	Secure	Good	12	60 – 84	102	18.6	-6.6	33 – 46
32	Booths Park (Toft CC)	Knutsford	Secure	Good	14	80 – 98	88	14.9	-0.9	4 – 6
40	Bunbury Cricket Club	Nantwich	Unsecure	Good	10	50 – 70	127	21.3	-11.3	56 – 79
45	Chelford Cricket Club	Wilmslow	Unsecure	Good	10	50 – 70	58	11.1	-1.1	5 – 7
46	Cholmondeley Cricket Club	Nantwich	Secure	Good	10	50 – 70	30	6	4	20 – 28
50	Congleton Cricket Club	Congleton	Secure	Good	10	50 – 70	62	10.6	-0.6	3 – 4
56	Crewe Vagrants (Crewe CC)	Nantwich	Secure	Good	22	110 – 154	108	18.9	3.1	15 – 21
62	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club (Disley CC)	Poynton	Secure	Good	10	50 – 70	92	16.6	-6.6	33 – 46
66	Elworth Cricket Club	Congleton	Secure	Good	12	60 – 84	98	16.9	-4.9	24 – 34
69	Eric Swan Sports Ground (Wistaston CC)	Crewe	Secure	Good	10	50 – 70	100	17.7	-7.7	38 – 53
75	Gorse Croft Farm (Audlem CC)	Nantwich	Unsecure	Good	10	50 – 70	60	12	-2	10 – 14
77	Haslington Cricket Club	Crewe	Secure	Good	13	65 – 91	68	10.9	2.1	10 – 14
85	Holmes Chapel Cricket Club	Congleton	Secure	Good	9	45 – 63	74	13.4	-4.4	22 – 30
92	Kerridge Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Secure	Standard	12	60 – 84	36	6.3	5.7	28 – 39
96	Knutsford Sports Club (Knutsford CC)	Knutsford	Secure	Good	15	75 – 105	60	12	3	15 – 21

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Level of security	Quality	No of Grass Wickets	Capacity	Actual Play	No of Grass Wickets Used	Capacity Rating	
						(match equivalents per season)			(wickets)	(match equivalents per season)
99	Langley Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Secure	Good	11	55 – 77	78	15.1	-4.1	20 – 28
103	Lindow Cricket Club	Wilmslow	Secure	Good	12	60 – 84	100	17.7	-5.7	28 – 39
108	Macclesfield Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Secure	Good	11	55 – 77	78	12.9	-1.9	9 – 13
				Good	8	40 – 56	60	9.7	-1.7	8 – 11
118	Mere Cricket Club	Knutsford	Secure	Good	10	50 – 70	20	4.0	6	30 – 42
119	Middlewich Cricket Club	Congleton	Secure	Good	18	90 – 126	98	16.9	1.1	5 – 7
124	Mobberley Cricket Club	Knutsford	Secure	Good	17	85 – 119	84	15.4	1.6	8 – 11
128	Mossley Cricket Club	Congleton	Secure	Standard	10	50 – 70	72	12.6	-2.6	13 – 18
130	Nantwich Cricket Club	Nantwich	Secure	Good	14	80 – 98	90	15.7	-1.7	8 – 11
135	Over Peover Cricket Club	Knutsford	Unsecure	Good	12	60 – 84	58	11.1	0.9	4 – 6
142	Pott Shrigley Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Secure	Good	11	55 – 77	54	9.4	1.6	8 – 11
145	Poynton Sports Club	Poynton	Unsecure	Good	12	60 – 84	114	19.1	-7.1	35 – 49
146	Prestbury Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Secure	Good	12	60 – 84	74	13.4	-1.4	7 – 9
153	Rode Park Cricket Club	Congleton	Secure	Good	16	80 – 112	78	12.9	3.1	15 – 21
154	Rostherne Cricket Club	Knutsford	Secure	Standard	8	40 – 56	30	6	2	10 – 14
159	Sandbach Cricket Club	Congleton	Secure	Good	7	40 – 49	82	14.6	-7.6	38 – 53
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	Secure	Good	10	50 – 70	20	4	6	30 – 42
185	Styal Football Club (Styal CC)	Wilmslow	Secure	Good	17	85 – 119	98	16.8	0.2	1
211	Weston Cricket Club	Crewe	Secure	Good	14	80 – 98	56	10.3	3.7	18 – 25
222	Wilmslow Leisure Centre (Wilmslow CC)	Wilmslow	Secure	Good	7	40 – 49	58	11.1	-4.1	20 – 28
223	Wilmslow Phoenix (Wilmslow Wayfarers CC)	Wilmslow	Secure	Good	8	40 – 56	30	6	2	10 – 14

Supply and Demand Analysis

Spare Capacity

We need to identify whether the potential capacity can be classified as spare capacity due to its availability in the peak period.

Of the 17 pitches identified none are available in the peak period therefore there is no actual spare capacity. This is illustrated in table 4.8 below.

Table 4.8 - Actual spare capacity

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	No of Pitches	Spare capacity (sessions per season)	Pitches available in peak period
4	Alderley Edge Cricket Club	Wilmslow	1	5 – 7	0
5	Alderley Park	Knutsford	1	5 – 7	0
14	Ashley Cricket Club	Knutsford	1	25 – 35	0
46	Cholmondeley Cricket Club	Nantwich	1	20 – 28	0
56	Crewe Vagrants	Nantwich	1	15 – 21	0
77	Haslington Cricket Club	Crewe	1	10 – 14	0
92	Kerridge Cricket Club	Macclesfield	1	28 – 39	0
96	Knutsford Sports Club	Knutsford	1	15 – 21	0
118	Mere Cricket Club	Knutsford	1	30 – 42	0
119	Middlewich Cricket Club	Congleton	1	5 – 7	0
124	Mobberley Cricket Club	Knutsford	1	8 – 11	0
142	Pott Shrigley Cricket Club	Macclesfield	1	8 – 11	0
153	Rode Park Cricket Club	Congleton	1	15 – 21	0
154	Rostherne Cricket Club	Knutsford	1	10 – 14	0
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	1	30 – 42	0
211	Weston Cricket Club	Crewe	1	18 – 25	0
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	1	10 – 14	0

It is worth noting there is availability on Sundays and weekday evenings to allow for off-peak play.

Since the analysis took place a number of clubs have experiencing issues with the availability of players resulting in the concession of some Second XI matches. If this continues there could potentially be more availability and 'actual spare capacity' at the following grounds:

- Cholmondeley Cricket Club
- Pott Shrigley Cricket Club
- Rostherne Cricket Club

In addition Mere CC has dropped out of the league structure therefore there is 'actual spare capacity' at Mere Cricket Club.

Overplay

Overplay in Cheshire East is quite high with many large clubs only having access to one playing pitch. In addition with training facilities being an issue it is leading to additional usage for training which is impacting the facilities. This results in 22 pitches being overplayed.

This equates to an additional 87.5 wickets being required across to Cheshire East to accommodate all of the match equivalents identified. This can be quantified as requiring 8.8 grounds based on a ground with ten grass wickets to meet the demand. This is illustrated in tables 4.9 And 4.10 below.

Table 4.9 - Overplay summary by ground

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	No of Pitches	Capacity Rating	
				wickets	match equivalents per season
9	Alsager Cricket Club	Congleton	1	-2.9	14 – 20
16	Aston Cricket Club	Nantwich	1	-0.6	3 – 4
29	Bollington Recreation Ground	Macclesfield	1	-6.6	33 – 46
32	Booths Park (Toft CC)	Knutsford	1	-0.9	4 – 6
40	Bunbury Cricket Club	Nantwich	1	-11.3	56 – 79
45	Chelford Cricket Club	Wilmslow	1	-1.1	5 – 7
50	Congleton Cricket Club	Congleton	1	-0.6	3 – 4
62	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club	Poynton	1	-6.6	33 – 46
66	Elworth Cricket Club	Congleton	1	-4.9	24 – 34
69	Eric Swan Sports Ground	Crewe	1	-7.7	38 – 53
75	Gorse Croft Farm	Nantwich	1	-2	10 – 14
85	Holmes Chapel Cricket Club	Congleton	1	-4.4	22 – 30
99	Langley Cricket Club	Macclesfield	1	-4.1	20 – 28
103	Lindow Cricket Club	Wilmslow	1	-5.7	28 – 39
108	Macclesfield Cricket Club	Macclesfield	2	-3.6	18 – 25
128	Mossley Cricket Club	Congleton	1	-2.6	13 – 18
130	Nantwich Cricket Club	Nantwich	1	-1.7	8 – 11
145	Poynton Sports Club	Poynton	1	-7.1	35 – 49
146	Prestbury Cricket Club	Macclesfield	1	-1.4	7 – 9
159	Sandbach Cricket Club	Congleton	1	-7.6	38 – 53
222	Wilmslow Leisure Centre	Wilmslow	1	-4.1	20 – 28

Table 4.10 - Overplay summary by analysis area

Analysis Area	Grounds Overplayed	Overplay		Ground Requirements (based on 10 wickets each)
		wickets	match equivalents per season	
Congleton	6	23	115 – 161	2.3
Crewe	1	7.7	38 – 53	0.8
Knutsford	1	0.9	4 – 6	0.9
Macclesfield	5	15.7	79 – 110	1.6
Nantwich	4	15.6	78 – 110	1.6
Poynton	2	13.7	69 – 96	1.4
Wilmslow	3	10.9	55 – 77	1.1
Cheshire East	22	87.5	438 – 613	8.8

Future Demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts. Team generation rates are used below as the basis for

calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth. The table 4.11 below illustrates the team generation rates.

Table 4.11 - Team generation rates for cricket

Analysis Area	Age Group	Current	Future	Current number of teams	TGR	Future number of teams	Additional teams based on TGR
		population within age group					
Cheshire East	Boys 7-18	26100	28231	147	177.6	159.0	12.0
	Girls 7-18	24700	26717	4	6175.0	4.3	0.3
	Men 18-55	88300	95510	116	761.2	125.5	9.5
	Women 18-55	90000	97348	1	90000.0	1.1	0.1
Congleton	Boys 7-18	6500	7164	38	171.1	41.9	3.9
	Girls 7-18	6100	6723	1	6100.0	1.1	0.1
	Men 18-55	21300	23476	22	968.2	24.2	2.2
	Women 18-55	21600	23807	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Crewe	Boys 7-18	6300	6911	12	525.0	13.2	1.2
	Girls 7-18	6100	6691	1	6100.0	1.1	0.1
	Men 18-55	22300	24462	8	2787.5	8.8	0.8
	Women 18-55	22300	24462	1	22300.0	1.1	0.1
Knutsford	Boys 7-18	1600	1710	19	84.2	20.3	1.3
	Girls 7-18	1600	1710	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Men 18-55	5700	6092	23	247.8	24.6	1.6
	Women 18-55	5800	6198	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Macclesfield	Boys 7-18	4700	4998	14	335.7	14.9	0.9
	Girls 7-18	4400	4679	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Men 18-55	17100	18184	16	1068.8	17.0	1.0
	Women 18-55	17400	18503	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nantwich	Boys 7-18	2500	2625	24	104.2	25.2	1.2
	Girls 7-18	2500	2625	1	2500.0	1.1	0.1
	Men 18-55	8400	8820	21	400.0	22.1	1.1
	Women 18-55	8400	8820	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Poynton	Boys 7-18	1700	1750	12	141.7	12.4	0.4
	Girls 7-18	1600	1647	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Men 18-55	4800	4941	7	685.7	7.2	0.2
	Women 18-55	5100	5250	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wilmslow	Boys 7-18	2700	2984	13	207.7	14.4	1.4
	Girls 7-18	2500	2763	1	2500.0	1.1	0.1
	Men 18-55	8800	9725	15	586.7	16.6	1.6
	Women 18-55	9300	10278	0	0.0	0.0	0.0

In terms of pitch provision this is illustrating that there would be:

- An additional 12 junior teams that would require an additional 96 matches (8 matches per season) which equates to 14 pitches or 1.4 squares (10 pitches per square)
- An additional 9 senior teams that would require an additional 90 matches (10 matches per season) which equates to 18 pitches or 1.8 squares (10 pitches per square)
- The area with the biggest increase in demand is Congleton [6.2 teams, 54 matches & 9 pitches] followed by Wilmslow [3 teams, 27 matches & 5 pitches] and Knutsford [2.9 teams, 26 matches & 5 pitches].

- The increased demand in Poynton is not large enough to create any full teams.

In addition each of the clubs were asked about their growth plans over the next five years. Their responses are displayed in table 4.12 below.

Table 4.12 - Cricket club growth aspirations

Club	Analysis Area	Demand	Pitch Requirements	
			wickets	match equivalents per season
Alderley Edge CC	Wilmslow	1 mens	2	10
Ashley CC	Knutsford	1 juniors	1.1	8
Bollington CC	Macclesfield	1 juniors	1.1	8
Bunbury CC	Nantwich	1 juniors	1.1	8
Chelford CC	Nantwich	2 juniors	2.3	16
Congleton CC	Congleton	1 juniors	1.1	8
Disley CC	Poynton	1 juniors	1.1	8
Haslington CC	Crewe	1 mens	2	10
Knutsford CC	Knutsford	1 womens & 2 juniors	4.3	26
Langley CC	Macclesfield	1 mens & 3 juniors	5.4	34
Lindow CC	Wilmslow	1 juniors	1.1	8
Macclesfield CC	Macclesfield	2 juniors	2.3	16
Middlewich CC	Middlewich	1 juniors	1.1	8
Over Peover CC	Knutsford	1 juniors	1.1	8
Pott Shrigley CC	Knutsford	1 juniors	1.1	8
Poynton CC	Poynton	2 juniors	2.3	16
Rode Park & Lawton CC	Congleton	1 mens & 1 juniors	3.1	18
Sandbach CC	Sandbach	2 juniors	2.3	16
Styal CC	Wilmslow	1 juniors	1.1	8
Wilmslow CC	Wilmslow	1 juniors	1.1	8
Total			38.1	250

The planned future demand would equate to a need for 38 wickets which is 3.8 squares (10 pitches per square). This could be catered for across Cheshire East outside of the peak period however not always at the clubs preferred home grounds. This would be an issue for the following clubs and their sites:

- Alderley Edge CC - Alderley Edge Cricket Club
- Bollington CC - Bollington Recreation Ground
- Bunbury CC - Bunbury Cricket Club
- Chelford CC - Chelford Cricket Club
- Congleton CC - Congleton Cricket Club
- Disley CC - Disley Amalgamated Sports Club
- Langley CC - Langley Cricket Club
- Lindow CC - Lindow Cricket Club
- Macclesfield CC - Macclesfield Cricket Club
- Middlewich CC - Middlewich Cricket Club
- Over Peover CC - Over Peover Cricket Club
- Poynton CC - Poynton Sports Club

- Sandbach CC - Sandbach Cricket Club
- Styal CC - Styal FC (Styal CC)
- Wilmslow CC - Wilmslow Leisure Centre (Wilmslow CC)

There would also be issues with Alderley Edge CC (Alderley Edge Cricket Club), Haslington CC (Haslington Cricket Club) Langley CC (Langley Cricket Club) and Rode Park & Lawton CC (Rode Park Cricket Club) with access in the peak period.

Scenario Testing

Non Turf Practice Facilities

Within the club questionnaire 10 clubs suggested they would like to improve their practice facilities. In a number of instances these clubs have illustrated they are practicing on the grass wickets which is having an impact on the carry capacity of the grounds. In this scenario we will look at the clubs that have suggested they would like to develop their practice facilities and remove the training usage from their wickets to illustrate the impact this has on their grounds. This is illustrated in table 4.13.

Table 4.13 - Improvement to practice facilities and impact on carry capacity

Club	Ground	Intended Development	Current training usage (match equivalents per season)	Capacity Rating		Change
				Current	Adjust	
				(wickets)		
Bunbury CC	Bunbury Cricket Club	Non turf wicket	20	-11.3	-9.3	+2
Chelford CC	Chelford Cricket Club	Nets	20	-1.1	0.9	+2
Elworth CC	Elworth Cricket Club	Practice facilities away from square	20	-4.9	-2.9	+2
Langley CC	Langley Cricket Club	Non turf wicket & nets	10	-4.1	-3.1	+1
Lindow CC	Lindow Cricket Club	New nets	20	-5.7	-3.7	+2
Macclesfield CC	Macclesfield Cricket Club	Nets	0	0	0	0
Poynton CC	Poynton Sports Club	Mobile net	10	-7.1	-6.1	+1
Prestbury CC	Prestbury Cricket Club	Nets	20	-1.4	0.6	+2
Wilmslow CC	Wilmslow Leisure Centre	Nets	20	-4.1	-2.1	+2
Wistaston CC	Eric Swan Sports Ground	New multi lane nets	10	-7.7	-6.7	+1

By supporting the clubs to develop their practice facilities it could potentially free up 15 wickets that could be used for matches. In addition it would take Chelford

Cricket Club and Prestbury Cricket Club from being overused to having some capacity. This is not actual spare capacity as it is not available in the peak period.

Since the analysis took place the following sites have upgraded their facilities. They are:

- Langley CC - Non turf wicket
- Lindow CC - three bay artificial nets
- Macclesfield CC - three bay artificial nets

Classification of peak and off-peak

It can be argued that although technically the highest demand is Saturday afternoons this could be extended to include Sunday afternoon and weekday evenings to the peak period. If this was the case then all grounds with spare capacity could be utilised. By doing this it would give availability for 52.1 wickets which could carry 260 – 364 match equivalents per season. This would equate to 5.2 grounds based on a ground with ten grass wickets. The extent of this is illustrated in table 4.14 below.

Table 4.14 – Changes in classification of peak time and impact on carry capacity

Analysis Area	Grounds with Spare Capacity	Spare Capacity		Ground Capacity (based on 10 wickets each)
		(wickets)	(match equivalents per season)	
Congleton	3	10.2	51 – 71	1
Crewe	2	5.8	29 – 40	0.6
Knutsford	6	21.7	108 – 151	2.1
Macclesfield	2	7.3	36 – 51	0.7
Nantwich	2	4.1	20 – 28	0.4
Poynton	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	2	3	15 – 21	0.3
Cheshire East	17	52.1	260 – 364	5.2

Utilising overplayed sites with non turf wickets for competitive junior play

11 sites with 13 non turf wickets are currently hosting junior matches however a number are not using them to support overplay. Within the capacity analysis those clubs that have illustrated usage of non turf pitches for junior play and practice sessions have been factored in to the calculations. All of the non turf have considerable capacity to carry additional usage. They are:

- Alsager Cricket Club
- Disley Amalgamated Sports Club
- Elworth Cricket Club
- Eric Swan Sports Ground
- Holmes Chapel Cricket Club
- Lindow Cricket Club
- Macclesfield Cricket Club x 2
- Mossley Cricket Club
- Nantwich Cricket Club x 2

- Poynton Sports Club
- Wilmslow Leisure Centre

In addition the following sites also have non turf wickets that could help cope with any additional future demand. They are:

- Crewe Vagrants
- Weston Cricket Club

Availability at disused and unavailable sites

There are three sites [Sandbach School, The Kings School (Cumberland Street) & The Kings School (Derby Fields)] that are based on education sites and are not used by the community. All sites have grass wickets and are used for school matches. There is already usage [Haslington CC & Sandbach CC] of the main cricket pitch at Sandbach School which is supported by a pavilion. There is also some usage of The Kings School's pitches but this is informal for tournaments [Prestbury CC] or occasional additional matches.

Across the six pitches there 39 wickets that offer a theoretical carry capacity of 195 – 273 match equivalents per season. There is capacity in the peak period however there is likely to be issues with ancillary facilities required for senior cricket. They may be more suitable for providing junior matches and tournaments where additional facilities are provided. The main pitch at The Kings School (Cumberland Street) does have the facilities required to play adult matches so could be used to increase capacity for teams in Macclesfield.

There are also five sites [All Hallows Catholic College, Alsager School (Alsager LC), Malbank School & Sixth Form College, Marton Primary & Sandbach School] that have non turf wickets that are available but unused. None have been assessed but could offer additional provision for junior matches.

Conclusions

This section will consider the extent in which current provision can accommodate current and future demand.

As illustrated earlier there is no actual spare capacity within the peak period. There is however 17 grounds that have 52.1 wickets of potential capacity outside of the peak period.

In addition there is the potential to utilise non turf wickets for junior provision. Spare capacity exists on these wickets however 11 of the sites with non turf wickets are experiencing overplay on the grass wickets.

The table 4.15 overleaf illustrates actual spare capacity within the peak period (Saturday afternoon) against overplay and the future demand illustrated using team generation rates. In order to quantify capacity an average square of ten wickets (50 – 70 match equivalent sessions) has been used.

Looking at current demand there is an overall shortfall of 88 wickets across Cheshire East through overplay. There is shortfall in all analysis areas during the peak period (Saturday afternoons).

When analysing future demand there is an additional demand for 33 wickets to cater for the calculated future needs. This calculation is based on the future population anticipated in Cheshire East and does not include participation trends in cricket which has illustrated a decline.

Table 4.15 - Current & future capacity of cricket grounds in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Supply	Current Demand		Future	
	Spare Capacity	Overplay	Total	Demand	Total
	cricket grounds (based on 10 wickets each)				
Congleton	0	2.3	-2.3	0.9	-3.2
Crewe	0	0.8	-0.8	0.3	-1.1
Knutsford	0	0.9	-0.9	0.5	-1.4
Macclesfield	0	1.6	-1.6	0.3	-1.9
Nantwich	0	1.6	-1.6	0.4	-2
Poynton	0	1.4	-1.4	0.1	-1.5
Wilmslow	0	1.1	-1.1	0.5	-1.6
Cheshire East	0	8.8	-8.8	3.3	-12.1

Potential Actions Required

Preventing overplay

22 pitches on 21 sites are currently overplayed however 11 of the sites have non turf facilities that could support junior competitive play and help reduce or alleviate overplay at the sites.

The other 10 pitches that are overplayed could consider options to explore provision of a non turf wicket at their sites to support competitive junior play and senior practice.

Non turf practice facilities

A number of clubs are currently using grass wickets to practice on. This usage is having an effect on carry capacity and this is a particular issue at the nine overplayed sites that are using grass wickets to practice on. As illustrated previously there is the potential to free up 15 wickets across Cheshire East through the provision of non turf practice facilities at the sites identified.

Accommodating future demand

It is anticipated that the future demand calculated could be catered for outside of the peak period at selected grounds across Cheshire East. There are issues with capacity in the peak period with no grounds illustrating capacity therefore senior cricket would need to be scheduled on Sundays and midweek.

In addition by preventing overplay through the utilisation of non turf pitches for junior play and developing and updating non turf practice more site could have potential capacity to cater for future demand.

Cricket Summary

- In total there are 60 sites containing 65 playing pitches in Cheshire East. On these sites there are 524 cricket and 33 artificial wickets.
- 40 sites (67%) are used by community clubs. All of those not used by community clubs are based on education sites.
- There are 44 'good' quality pitches (68%) and a further 21 'standard' quality pitches (32%) in Cheshire East. There are not any 'poor' quality pitches.
- There are 39 cricket clubs with 268 teams in Cheshire East. 31 clubs (79%) have junior sections.
- There is no actual spare capacity. 17 pitches are identified as having spare capacity however none of these are accessible in the peak period therefore it is not actual spare capacity.
- 22 pitches are overplayed, an additional 87.5 wickets would be required to accommodate all of the match equivalent sessions identified.
- Population projections suggest:
 - An additional 12 junior teams that would require an additional 96 matches (8 matches per season) which equates to 14 pitches or 1.4 squares (10 pitches per square).
 - An additional 9 senior teams that would require an additional 90 matches (10 matches per season) which equates to 18 pitches or 1.8 squares (10 pitches per square).
 - The area with the biggest increase in demand is Congleton [6.2 teams, 54 matches & 9 pitches] followed by Wilmslow [3 teams, 27 matches & 5 pitches] and Knutsford [2.9 teams, 26 matches & 5 pitches].

5. Football

Introduction

Cheshire FA is the primary body responsible for the administration and development of football in Cheshire East. In terms of administration it covers discipline, rules and regulations, cup competitions and representative matches, development of clubs and facilities, volunteers, referees, coaching courses and delivering national football schemes. Other elements of administration including league organisation and refereeing is often managed separately.

FA Youth Development Review

The FA has consulted widely and has been encouraged to produce pitch size guidance for mini soccer, youth and senior football. Playing smaller-sided games has been proved to give children an increased number of touches of the ball, also providing more goals and scoring attempts, more one-v-one encounters and more chance to attempt dribbling skills. It is this increased contact time with the ball that the FA believe will help children enjoy the game more while providing them with better preparation for the 11-a-side a game. The introduction of 9v9 football, by the FA, is designed to help bridge the gap between mini soccer at U10s and 11-a-side at U11s and will see the introduction of a new intermediate sized pitch.

The new formats have been adopted within Cheshire East with some facilities being adapted or being over marked. It should be noted that over marking of natural turf pitches is not desirable because it affects the capacity, quality and accessibility of those pitches. The sizes for each age groups is illustrated in table 5.1 below.

Table 5.1 – Football playing pitch sizes from FA Youth Development Review

Age	Format	Pitch Size (length x width)		Recommended size of goal posts (height x width)	
		metres	yards	metres	feet
Mini Soccer	U7/U8	5 v 5	37 x 27	40 x 30	1.83 x 3.66 6 x 12
	U9/U10	7 v 7	55 x 37	60 x 40	
Youth	U11/U12	9 v 9	73 x 46	80 x 50	2.13 x 4.88 7 x 16
	U13/U14	11 v 11	82 x 50	90 x 55	2.13 x 6.40 7 x 21
	U15/U16		91 x 55	100 x 60	2.44 x 7.32 8 x 24
	U17/U18		100 x 64	110 x 70	
Senior Football					

Consultation

All clubs in Cheshire East were consulted by an electronic questionnaire sent out to the main club contacts as identified by Cheshire Football Association Development Manager Alex Bedford.

Supply

There are 324 grass football pitches in Cheshire East situated across 187 sites. Of these 252 are available for community use which equates to 78% of the pitches being available for community use. The analysis area with the most sites and pitches available for community use and used is Congleton. These findings are illustrated in table 5.2 and on a site by site basis in table 5.3 below.

Table 5.2 - Summary of Football Pitches across all sites in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Available & Used		Available & Unused		Not Available	
	Sites	Pitches	Sites	Pitches	Sites	Pitches
Congleton	24	51	20	30	16	19
Crewe	9	24	7	11	14	18
Knutsford	7	18	3	4	1	1
Macclesfield	20	29	4	5	12	17
Nantwich	10	19	9	13	9	9
Poynton	11	18	1	2	2	5
Wilmslow	10	20	5	8	3	4
Cheshire East	91	179	49	73	57	73

Table 5.3 - Site Specific Summary of Football Pitches across Cheshire East

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitch Type & No. of pitches				
				Adult	Junior		Mini	
					11 v 11	9 v 9	7 v 7	5 v 5
1	Acton Primary	Nantwich	Not Available				1	
2	Adlington Primary	Macclesfield	Not Available					1
3	Alderley Edge Community Primary	Wilmslow	Unused				1	
5	Alderley Park	Knutsford	Used	1	1			
7	All Hallows Catholic College	Macclesfield	Not Available		2			
9	Alsager Highfields Primary	Congleton	Unused					1
10	Alsager School (Alsager LC)	Congleton	Used	1	1			
			Unused		1			
12	Ash Grove Academy	Macclesfield	Used				1	
13	Ashdene Primary	Wilmslow	Unused					1
15	Astbury St Mary's CE Primary	Congleton	Not Available					1
17	Audlem Playing Fields	Nantwich	Used	1				
18	Audlem St James' CE Primary	Nantwich	Not Available				1	
19	Back Lane Playing Fields	Congleton	Used	2	1			
			Unused	1	1		1	
20	Barnaby Road Playing Fields	Poynton	Used	1				
21	Barony Sports Complex	Nantwich	Used	3		2		
22	Beech Hall School	Macclesfield	Used	1				
23	Beechwood Primary	Crewe	Unused					1
24	Bickerton Holy Trinity Primary	Nantwich	Unused					2
25	Black Firs Primary	Congleton	Unused				1	

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitch Type & No. of pitches				
				Adult	Junior		Mini	
					11 v 11	9 v 9	7 v 7	5 v 5
26	Bollinbrook Primary	Macclesfield	Used			1		
27	Bollington ATAX Playing Fields	Macclesfield	Used			1		
28	Bollington Cross Playing Field	Macclesfield	Used	1				
29	Bollington Recreation Ground	Macclesfield	Used	1				
30	Bollington St John's Primary	Macclesfield	Not Available			1		
31	Booth Street Ground (Congleton Town)	Congleton	Used	1				
33	Brereton Primary	Congleton	Unused				1	
34	Bridgemere Primary	Nantwich	Unused				1	
35	Brine Leas School	Nantwich	Unused		3	1		
36	Broken Cross Community School	Macclesfield	Used				1	
37	Broken Cross Playing Fields	Macclesfield	Not Available		2			
38	Buglawton Primary	Congleton	Used				1	
39	Bunbury Aldersley Primary	Nantwich	Unused			1		
41	Bunbury Playing Field	Nantwich	Used	1		1		
42	Calveley Primary	Nantwich	Not Available					1
43	Carnival Field	Wilmslow	Used	1				
44	Cedar Avenue	Congleton	Used			1		
47	Chorley Hall	Wilmslow	Used			1		
48	Christ The King Primary	Macclesfield	Used			1		
49	Cledford Primary	Congleton	Unused			1		
50	Congleton High School	Congleton	Used	1	3			
53	Congleton Road Playing Fields	Macclesfield	Used	3		2		
54	Cranage Playing Fields	Congleton	Used	1				
			Unused		1			
55	Cranberry Academy	Congleton	Not Available					2
58	Cumberland Sport Arena (Main)	Crewe	Used	2		1		
59	Daven Primary	Congleton	Unused				1	
60	Dean Oaks Primary	Wilmslow	Not Available				1	
61	Deva Close	Poynton	Used	2		1		
62	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club	Poynton	Used	2				
63	Disley Primary	Poynton	Not Available				1	
64	Eaton Bank Academy	Congleton	Used		2	2		4
65	Egerton Youth Club	Knutsford	Used	4			2	
67	Elworth Hall Primary	Congleton	Unused				1	
68	Elworth Primary	Congleton	Not Available				2	
69	Eric Swan Sports Ground	Crewe	Used	1		1		
70	Excalibur Primary	Congleton	Not Available				1	

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitch Type & No. of pitches				
				Adult	Junior		Mini	
					11 v 11	9 v 9	7 v 7	5 v 5
71	Fallibroome Academy	Macclesfield	Not Available	1				
72	Forge Fields	Congleton	Used	1				
73	Goostrey Playing Fields	Congleton	Used	1			1	
74	Goostrey Primary	Congleton	Not Available				1	
76	Gresty Road (Crewe Alex)	Crewe	Not Available	1				
78	Haslington Playing Fields	Crewe	Used		1			
			Unused	1				
79	Haslington Primary	Crewe	Unused					1
80	Havannah Primary	Congleton	Not Available					1
81	Hazelbadge Road Playing Field	Poynton	Used	1				
82	Hermitage Primary	Congleton	Used		1			
83	Highfields Community Primary	Nantwich	Unused				1	
84	Hollinhey Primary	Macclesfield	Used		1			
85	Holmes Chapel Cricket Club	Congleton	Used					1
86	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Congleton	Used		2			
87	Holmes Chapel Primary	Congleton	Used			1		
			Unused				1	
88	Hungerford Primary	Crewe	Unused				1	
89	Hurdsfield Community Primary	Macclesfield	Not Available			1		
90	Ivy Bank Primary	Macclesfield	Not Available			1		
91	Jim Evison Playing Fields	Wilmslow	Used		3	2	2	
92	Kerridge Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Used	1				
93	King George V Playing Field (Macclesfield)	Macclesfield	Used	1				
94	King George V Playing Fields (Crewe)	Crewe	Used	6		1		
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	Used		4			
			Unused	1				
97	Lacey Green Pavilion	Wilmslow	Used	2				
98	Lacey Green Primary Academy	Wilmslow	Used				2	1
100	Legends Health & Leisure Centre	Crewe	Used	2				
101	Leighton Academy	Crewe	Not Available				2	
102	Lindow Community Primary	Wilmslow	Used				2	
104	Little Bollington Primary	Knutsford	Not Available				1	
105	Lostock Hall Primary	Poynton	Used				1	
106	Lower Park Primary	Poynton	Unused				2	
107	Mablins Lane Community Primary	Crewe	Not Available				1	

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitch Type & No. of pitches				
				Adult	Junior		Mini	
					11 v 11	9 v 9	7 v 7	5 v 5
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Used		2			
111	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Congleton	Used	2	1			
		Congleton	Not Available	2			1	
113	Manchester Road [Knutsford FC]	Knutsford	Used	1				
114	Manor Park Primary & Nursery	Knutsford	Unused				2	
115	Marlfields Primary	Congleton	Used				2	
117	Mary Dendy Playing Fields	Knutsford	Used	3				
120	Middlewich High School	Congleton	Used		1			
121	Middlewich Primary	Congleton	Not Available				2	
122	Millfields Primary	Nantwich	Not Available				1	
123	Milton Park	Congleton	Unused		1			
125	Monks Coppenhall Primary	Crewe	Not Available				1	
126	Moss Rose (Macclesfield Town)	Macclesfield	Not Available	1				
127	Mossley CE Primary	Congleton	Not Available				1	
129	Mount Vernon	Poynton	Used	1				
131	Nether Alderley Primary	Macclesfield	Unused					1
132	Newtown Playing Field	Poynton	Used	1				
134	Offley Primary	Congleton	Not Available				1	
137	Pear Tree Primary	Nantwich	Unused					1
138	Pebble Brook Primary	Crewe	Not Available				1	
139	Peover Playing Fields	Knutsford	Used	1				
140	Peover Superior Endowed Primary	Knutsford	Unused			1		
141	Pikemere School	Congleton	Unused				1	
144	Poynton High School	Poynton	Not Available	1	2	1		
145	Poynton Sports Club	Poynton	Used	1				
147	Prestbury Playing Fields	Macclesfield	Used				1	
148	Puss Bank Primary	Macclesfield	Used				2	
149	Radbroke Hall	Knutsford	Used	1				
150	Rainow Primary	Macclesfield	Not Available				1	
151	Reaseheath College	Nantwich	Used	2				
152	Rode Heath Primary	Congleton	Not Available				1	
155	Rugby Drive Playing Fields	Macclesfield	Used	2				
156	Ruskin Sports College	Crewe	Used	1				
			Unused		2			
157	Sandbach Community Football Centre	Congleton	Used	5	3			
158	Sandbach	Congleton	Unused			1		

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitch Type & No. of pitches				
				Adult	Junior		Mini	
					11 v 11	9 v 9	7 v 7	5 v 5
	Community Primary							
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	Unused		4			
163	Scholar Green Primary	Congleton	Unused				1	
164	Seddon Street Ground	Congleton	Used	1				
165	Shavington High School	Crewe	Used	2	1			
166	Shavington Primary	Crewe	Unused				1	
167	Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre	Crewe	Used		4			
168	Smallwood Primary	Congleton	Unused			1		
169	Sound & District Primary	Nantwich	Not Available				1	
170	South Cheshire College	Crewe	Used	1				
171	St Alban's Catholic Primary	Macclesfield	Unused			1		
172	St Anne's Catholic Primary	Nantwich	Not Available					1
173	St Anne's Fulshaw Primary	Wilmslow	Unused				1	1
174	St Benedict's Catholic Primary	Wilmslow	Used				1	
175	St Gabriel's Catholic Primary	Congleton	Not Available					1
176	St John's Primary	Congleton	Not Available				1	
177	St Mary's Primary (Congleton)	Congleton	Not Available				1	
178	St Mary's Primary (Crewe)	Crewe	Not Available				1	
179	St Mary's Primary (Middlewich)	Congleton	Used			1		
180	St Michael's Community Academy	Crewe	Not Available				1	
181	St Oswald's Worleston Primary	Nantwich	Unused			1		
182	St Paul's Catholic Primary	Poynton	Used				2	
183	St Thomas More Catholic High School	Crewe	Not Available		1	1		
184	Stapeley Broad Lane Primary	Nantwich	Not Available				1	
185	Styal Football Club	Wilmslow	Used	1				
186	Styal Primary	Wilmslow	Unused					1
187	Sutton Lane	Congleton	Used	2				
			Unused	1		1	2	
188	Terra Nova School	Congleton	Used				2	
			Unused		2			
189	The Berkeley Primary	Crewe	Not Available				1	
190	The Dingle Primary	Crewe	Not Available				1	
191	The Edge Hockey	Wilmslow	Not Available		1	1		

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitch Type & No. of pitches				
				Adult	Junior		Mini	
					11 v 11	9 v 9	7 v 7	5 v 5
	Centre							
192	The Goodwill Hall (Faddiley Common)	Nantwich	Used	1				
195	The Kings School (Fence Avenue)	Macclesfield	Not Available		3			
196	The Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	Used	1	2	1		
197	The Marlborough Primary	Macclesfield	Used				1	
198	The Oaks Academy (King's Grove School)	Crewe	Unused		3	1		
199	The Peacock	Nantwich	Used		2			
200	The Quinta Primary (Academy)	Congleton	Used				1	
201	The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)	Nantwich	Used	1				
202	Tytherington High School (Beech Lane)	Macclesfield	Unused		2			
203	Tytherington High School (Main)	Macclesfield	Not Available		1			
204	Upcast Lane Football Pitch	Wilmslow	Used		1			
205	Upton Priory Primary	Macclesfield	Used				1	
			Unused			1		
206	Vernon Primary	Poynton	Used			1	1	1
207	Victoria Park	Macclesfield	Used	1				
208	Vine Tree Primary	Crewe	Not Available				1	1
209	Warmingham Primary	Congleton	Not Available				1	
210	Weaver Primary	Nantwich	Unused					1
212	Weston Playing Field	Macclesfield	Used	1				
213	Weston Village Primary	Crewe	Not Available				1	
214	Wheelock Playing Field	Congleton	Unused	1				
215	Wheelock Primary	Congleton	Not Available				1	
216	Whirley Primary	Macclesfield	Not Available				2	
217	Willaston Primary	Nantwich	Not Available				1	
218	Willaston White Star FC	Nantwich	Used	1				
219	Wilmslow Grange Primary	Wilmslow	Not Available				1	
221	Wilmslow High School	Wilmslow	Not Available	1	2			
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	Used	1				
225	Wistaston Church Lane Primary	Crewe	Not Available				1	1
226	Wistaston Green Primary	Crewe	Not Available				1	
227	Wood Park	Congleton	Unused		2			
228	Wood Park Stadium (Alsager Town)	Congleton	Used	1				
229	Woodcocks Well CE	Congleton	Not Available					1

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitch Type & No. of pitches				
				Adult	Junior		Mini	
					11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5
	Primary							
230	Worth Primary	Poynton	Used					2
231	Wrenbury Primary	Nantwich	Not Available			1		
232	Wrenbury Recreation Ground	Nantwich	Used	2				
233	Wybunbury Delves Primary	Nantwich	Unused					1
Totals				94	73	41	85	32

Disused Sites

There are five sites which are classed as disused for football. They have been used for football within the past five years. They are:

- Brookhouse Playing Field – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch
- Brookfield Park – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch
- Portland Drive – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch
- St Johns Road – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch and 1 Junior 11v11 pitch
- Wybunbury Playing Fields – 1 Junior 9v9 pitch

There are an additional six sites that can also be classed as disused however are situated in parks and are more commonly used as informal playing areas. All are owned by Cheshire East Council and are maintained in line with their public open space maintenance schedules. They contain goalposts but cannot currently be booked for matches. If demand was there this could be offered as a playing pitch. They are:

- Green Street [Bradwall Road] – 1 Mini 7v7 pitch
- Hassall Road – 1 Junior 11v11 pitch
- Joey The Swan Playing Fields – 1 Junior 9v9 pitch and 1 Mini 7v7 pitch
- Lanark Walk – 1 Mini 7v7 pitch
- Mablins Lane Playing Field – 1 Mini 7v7 pitch
- McLaren Street Playing Fields – 1 Mini 7v7 pitch

Lapsed Sites

There are three sites which are classed as lapsed for football. They have not been used for football within the past five years. They are:

- Bisto FC – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch
- Cranage Hall – 1 Mini 7v7 pitch
- Crewe Hall – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch

New Sites

There is one new site for football. It is:

- Jasmine Park – 2 junior pitches and changing pavilion

Proposed Sites

There are three proposed sites for football. They are:

- Alderley Park
- Back Lane Playing Fields
- Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)

There is also a planning application for the Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager) site that will include grass football pitch provision and a 3G AGP.

In addition discussions and feasibility studies are taking place regarding the development of the Alderley Park site.

Back Lane forms part of a strategic site in Congleton that is at the early planning stage. This will include football and rugby.

Ownership / Management

There are a number of pitch providers in Cheshire East. The largest is the council who manage their pitches through an outsourcing arrangement with ANSA. ANSA were previously part of Cheshire East Council and were set up as part of an initiative to privatise priority services. There has been criticism for the quality and maintenance of these pitches as there is minimal end of season work and inadequate drainage. In order to prevent deterioration ANSA have enforced closures of all pitches when this has been recommended by grounds staff. Other pitch providers include schools, academies, private sports clubs, parish councils and the leisure trust [Everybody Sport & Recreation].

Quality

The quality of football pitches has been assessed via a combination of site visits using non-technical assessments, the expertise of Cheshire FA staff and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating. The quality of the pitches across Cheshire East are summarised in table 5.3 below.

The majority of football pitches in Cheshire East are classed as 'standard' with 249 out of 325 (77%). There are 19 'good' pitches and 57 'poor' pitches. The gradings are broken down by analysis area in table 5.3 below and by each individual site in tables 5.7 and 5.8 in the capacity analysis section.

Table 5.3 - Pitch quality breakdown of pitches available for community use

Analysis Area	Senior Pitches			Youth Pitches (9v9 & 11v11)			Mini Pitches (5v5 & 7v7)			All Pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
Congleton	7	14	1	6	23	7	0	38	4	13	74	12
Crewe	2	14	1	0	13	4	0	14	5	1	41	10
Knutsford	0	11	0	0	4	2	0	5	0	0	20	2
Macclesfield	1	9	5	0	15	10	0	9	3	0	33	18
Nantwich	3	9	0	0	14	0	0	12	3	3	35	3
Poynton	0	6	4	0	2	3	0	7	3	0	15	10
Wilmslow	0	6	0	0	11	1	0	13	1	0	30	2
Cheshire East	13	69	11	6	81	27	0	98	19	17	248	57

Good quality pitches are typically found where there is a dedicated groundsman looking after them, often on club sites. They are:

- Cumberland Arena
- Gresty Road (Crewe Alexandra)
- Moss Rose (Macclesfield Town)
- Reaseheath College
- Sandbach Community Football Centre
- Sandbach School
- Seddon Street Ground
- The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)
- Wood Park Stadium (Alsager Town)

A number of these sites are not currently used by the community however in most cases due to the condition there is capacity at the sites for additional play.

Poor scoring pitches are located on local authority facilities and education sites. They are located at the following sites that are used by community clubs:

- Back Lane Playing Fields
- Barnaby Road Playing Fields
- Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre
- Jim Evison Playing Fields
- Kerridge Cricket Club
- King George V Playing Field (Macclesfield)
- King George V Playing Fields (Crewe)
- Knutsford Academy
- Mount Vernon
- Newtown Playing Field
- Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre
- The Macclesfield Academy
- Vernon Primary
- Victoria Park
- Weston Playing Field

Key issues at these sites are poor drainage and maintenance schedules. There are also pitches at some of these sites that are rated as 'standard'.

Ancillary Facilities

The non-technical assessments assessed the ancillary facilities servicing pitches. 48% pitches (155) are not served by any ancillary facilities. These are typically on education sites or some sites owned by the local authority. Of those pitches that are serviced by ancillary facilities there are 15 'good' (%), 53 'standard' and 106 'poor'.

Changing facilities are an issue for many clubs especially those using council owned sites where the facilities are not up to modern standards and at some sites are not available. A number of clubs are keen to explore potential opportunities to access dedicated sites with multiple pitches with good quality ancillary facilities. This is a particular want of the multi team clubs with substantial junior sections where as well as changing provision they would like a kitchen to serve refreshments from as well as an area to store equipment.

Demand

There are a total of 129 clubs with 498 teams in Cheshire East in the 2013/14 season. There are the largest number of teams in Congleton which also has the most number of teams in all categories. This is due to having at least one club offering junior provision in each town (Alsager, Congleton, Holmes Chapel, Middlewich and Sandbach). There are larger numbers of clubs in both Crewe and Macclesfield however these tend to be smaller often single team clubs.

There are 41 teams that regularly play fixtures on 3G pitches. They are primarily junior teams participating in the Alex Soccer Centre League however there is also usage of 3G pitches in the South Cheshire Youth League. Four senior teams play regularly on 3G, they are; Alex Soccer Centre U18 Girls, two Nantwich Town teams and Ocean Wanderers. In addition we were told that additional matches take place on 3G to support grass pitches in particular at Nantwich Town and Sandbach United, if conditions and long term preservation of pitches dictate. This is a trend that is anticipated to increase in the future.

There are also four clubs with a total of ten teams from outside of Cheshire East that are using pitches. They are:

- Betley FC
- Hale United FC
- High Lane
- Stoke City FC

Both Crewe Alexandra and Macclesfield Town have been omitted from the assessment as they would not provide information during the survey. It has been recorded that Crewe Alexandra [Gresty Road] and Macclesfield Town [Moss Rose] are not available for community use. Some teams with links to these clubs including Macclesfield Ladies FC and some using Crewe Alex Soccer Centre have been included. Stoke City FC Under 21s have been included as at the time of the survey were using The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town) for their home games.

This is summarised by analysis area in table 5.4 below and by individual clubs in table 5.5 below.

Table 5.4 - Number of football clubs and teams in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Number of clubs	Number of teams playing matches					
		Adult (16-45)		Youth (10-15)		Mini (6-9)	Total
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls		
Congleton	24	43	3	62	7	28	143
Crewe	35	37	1	27	0	13	78
Knutsford	10	20	1	15	2	5	43
Macclesfield	25	22	2	25	0	5	54
Nantwich	15	18	1	18	0	13	50
Poynton	9	18	2	18	0	15	53
Wilmslow	11	22	1	35	0	19	77
Cheshire East	129	180	11	200	9	98	498

Table 5.5 - Number of football teams by club in Cheshire East

Club Name	Analysis Area	Number of teams playing matches				
		Adult (16-45)		Youth (10-15)		Mini (6-9)
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls	
AFC Alsager	Congleton	2	0	9	0	1
AFC Barkode	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
AFC Crewe Town	Crewe	1	0	1	0	2
AFC Leopard	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
AFC Prestbury Nomads	Macclesfield	0	0	1	0	0
Alderley United FC	Wilmslow	1	0	9	0	3
Alex Soccer Centre FC	Crewe	1	1	1	0	0
Alsager Arms FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Alsager Cricket Club FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Alsager Town FC	Congleton	4	0	1	0	0
Athletico Macclesfield FC	Macclesfield	0	0	1	0	0
Audlem FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0
Bank Corner FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Betley FC	None	3	0	5	0	0
Bexton	Knutsford	1	0	0	0	0
Bollington United JFC	Macclesfield	1	0	5	0	0
Bollington Veterans FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Boot And Shoe Villa FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0
Britannia FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Brookfield Rangers FC	Crewe	1	0	1	0	0
Bunbury Youth FC	Nantwich	0	0	4	0	3
Chelford Vets FC	Knutsford	1	0	0	0	0
Cheshire Blades FC	Crewe	0	0	0	0	0
Cheshire Cougars FC	Crewe	0	0	0	0	1
Cheshire Phoenix	Wilmslow	0	0	1	0	0
Club AZ	Wilmslow	2	0	0	0	0
Congleton Athletic FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Congleton Rovers FC	Congleton	3	0	10	0	8
Congleton Town FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Congleton Vale Rovers FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Crewe Arrows FC	Crewe	0	0	2	0	1
Crewe Athletic FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Crewe Cavaliers	Crewe	0	0	3	0	2

Club Name	Analysis Area	Number of teams playing matches				
		Adult (16-45)		Youth (10-15)		Mini (6-9)
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls	
Crewe Cobras FC	Crewe	0	0	1	0	0
Crewe Corinthians FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Crewe FC	Crewe	4	0	4	0	2
Crewe Sharks FC	Crewe	0	0	0	0	1
Crewesaders FC	Crewe	0	0	1	0	0
Cricketers Arms FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Curshaws FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
D & C Athletic FC	Wilmslow	1	0	0	0	0
Disley AFC	Poynton	2	0	0	0	0
Dolphin Inn FC	Wilmslow	1	0	0	0	0
Eagles FC	Crewe	0	0	0	0	2
Egerton FC	Knutsford	8	1	15	2	5
Faddiley FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0
FC Dragons	Nantwich	2	0	0	0	0
FC Plumley Celtic	Knutsford	1	0	0	0	0
Golden Lion FC (Macclesfield)	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Golden Lion FC (Middlewich)	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Goostrey FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Goostrey Youth	Congleton	0	0	2	0	0
Haslington FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Hale United FC	None	3	0	2	0	0
Henbury & Broken Cross JFC	Macclesfield	0	0	1	0	0
High Lane	None	3	0	1	0	0
Higher Poynton FC	Poynton	1	0	0	0	0
Holmes Chapel Hurricanes FC	Congleton	3	0	6	0	4
Holy Trinity Hurdsfield FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Inter Macc FC	Macclesfield	2	0	1	0	0
Knutsford FC	Knutsford	4	0	0	0	0
Knutsford Shaw Heath FC	Knutsford	1	0	0	0	0
Lacey Green FC	Wilmslow	1	0	0	0	0
Leighton FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
LLD Dynamo FC	Crewe	0	0	2	0	0
Lord Byron FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Lostock Rangers	Poynton	3	1	0	0	1
Macclesfield Boys Junior FC	Macclesfield	3	1	9	0	3
Macclesfield Ladies FC	Macclesfield	0	1	0	0	0
Macclesfield Panthers	Macclesfield	0	0	1	0	0
Macclesfield Saints JFC	Macclesfield	1	0	1	0	0
Macclesfield Team Parish FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield Vets FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Mary Dendy FC	Knutsford	1	0	0	0	0
Middlewich Town FC	Congleton	4	0	7	0	2
MMU Cheshire FC	Crewe	13	0	0	0	0
Mobberley Rangers Veterans FC	Knutsford	1	0	0	0	0
Moulton Verdin FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Mow Cop Hornets FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Nantwich Pumas JFC	Nantwich	0	0	1	0	0
Nantwich Town FC	Nantwich	5	1	13	0	10
Nantwich Young Farmers FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0
Navigation FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
NHB FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0

Club Name	Analysis Area	Number of teams playing matches				
		Adult (16-45)		Youth (10-15)		Mini (6-9)
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls	
Ocean Wanderers FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Pack Horse FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Park Royal FC	Macclesfield	0	0	1	0	0
Peover FC	Knutsford	1	0	0	0	0
Poynton FC	Poynton	3	0	0	0	0
Poynton Junior FC	Poynton	3	0	6	0	0
Poynton Legion FC	Poynton	2	0	0	0	0
Poynton Vets FC	Poynton	1	0	0	0	0
Poynton Workmens Club FC	Poynton	1	0	0	0	0
Prestbury FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Queens Macclesfield FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Radbroke Hall FC	Knutsford	1	0	0	0	0
Railway Hotel Cr FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0
Railway Inn FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Railway View FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Red Dot FC	Crewe	0	0	1	0	0
Richmond Rovers FC	Poynton	1	0	7	0	11
Rising Sun FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Rookery Rangers FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Ruskin Park Rovers FC	Crewe	0	0	5	0	2
Salvador FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0
Sandbach Athletic FC	Sandbach	0	0	1	0	0
Sandbach Town FC	Congleton	2	0	0	0	0
Sandbach United FC	Congleton	8	2	18	4	8
Santa Maria	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Semtex FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Square One FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Stoke City FC	None	1				
Styal FC	Wilmslow	3	0	0	0	0
Sydney Arms FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
The Cougars FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Tytherington Juniors FC	Macclesfield	3	0	4	0	2
Vale Hoppers FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Vale Juniors FC	Congleton	3	1	8	3	5
Westlands FC	Wilmslow	1	0	0	0	0
Weston Rangers FC	Macclesfield	1	0	0	0	0
Wick FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0
Wickstead FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0
Willaston White Star FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow Albion FC	Wilmslow	4	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow Sports Community FC	Wilmslow	3	0	7	0	7
Wilmslow Town FC	Wilmslow	5	1	18	0	9
Wistaston Athletic FC	Crewe	2	0	3	0	0
Wistaston Blackcats FC	Crewe	0	0	1	0	0
Wistaston United FC	Crewe	1	0	0	0	0
Wistaston Wolves FC	Crewe	0	0	1	0	0
Wrenbury FC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0

Unmet Demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that cannot access pitches to play either on a club-by-club basis or a league that has a waiting list. There are no examples of this raised by the clubs in Cheshire East

Displaced Demand

Displaced demand refers to Cheshire East teams that are currently accessing pitches outside of the area for their home fixtures, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, quality or league availability issues.

In total there are 8 clubs and a total of 38 teams that are displaced in Cheshire East. In most cases it is a result of the competition that the clubs are competing in being in a neighbouring authority area. These include the Timperley & District Junior Football League in Stockport and Trafford (Alderley United FC, Lostock Rangers, Wilmslow Sports Community FC and Wilmslow Town FC).

It is seemingly an issues for girls provision in Cheshire East as there are not any leagues with the area, the two leagues accessed are in Northwich (Cheshire Girls Football League) and Stoke-on-Trent (North Staffs Lads & Dads - Girls section)

Richmond Rovers are registered in Cheshire East but also have links to neighbouring Stockport with a lease agreement on Norbury Playing Fields that is used by the club as a base with play mixed between Poynton and Stockport. They also have to train extensively outside of Cheshire East due to lack of provision within the area.

Mow Cop Hornets are registered as a Cheshire East team however they are on the border with Staffordshire and play in Kidsgrove as it is closer than alternative options available in Cheshire East.

The table 5.6 below illustrates the latent demand illustrated by the clubs.

Table 5.6 - Displaced demand in football

Club Name	Analysis Area	Number of teams playing matches				
		Adult (16-45)		Youth (10-15)		Mini (6-9)
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls	
Alderley United FC	Wilmslow	0	0	4	0	2
Egerton FC	Knutsford	0	0	0	2	0
Lostock Rangers	Poynton	3	1	0	0	0
Mow Cop Hornets FC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0
Richmond Rovers	Poynton	1	1	5	0	3
Vale Juniors FC	Congleton	0	1	0	3	1
Wilmslow Sports Community FC	Wilmslow	0	0	0	0	5
Wilmslow Town FC	Wilmslow	0	0	0	0	5

There are also other examples of perceived displacement within Cheshire East that are not captured within the analysis. Examples of this include central venue leagues such as the South Cheshire Youth League that has clubs travelling between Congleton, Crewe and Nantwich for fixtures.

Latent Demand

Clubs were asked if more pitches were available on site or locally whether they would have more teams. No clubs illustrated that pitch capacity was the issues

hindering the amount of teams playing. A number of clubs have illustrated a plan to develop more teams in the future which is picked up in the capacity analysis.

Sport England's Market Segmentation tool allows analysis of the 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in football but are not currently doing so' – latent demand for football. It identifies at a latent demand 3,692 people. The highest segment that would like to participate is Ben [Competitive Male Urbanites] at 27.6% which is 1020 people. 6.4% of females (238) would like to take part in football with the highest segment being Chloe [Fitness Class Friends] with 91 (2.5%).

Capacity Analysis

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

As a guide, The FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its current quality (pitch capacity).

Senior 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

Education sites

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that the carrying capacity at such sites will need to be adjusted. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is community based use.

Where local information is available from a school and/or users, an informed judgement has been made to adjust the pitch capacity to one which reflects the carrying capacity for community use.

The following capacity table has been used to identify the carrying capacity of pitches at education sites where there is no information available on school usage and the ability of pitches to carry additional community use.

Senior pitches		Youth pitches		Mini pitches	
Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week
Good	2	Good	3	Good	5
Standard	1	Standard	1	Standard	3
Poor	0	Poor	0	Poor	1

This information is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

Peak Period

The peak period has been identified as Sunday mornings for participation in both junior and senior football.

Table 5.7 – Site specific football usage at each site currently available for community use and used

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
								(match equivalents per week)		
5	Alderley Park	Knutsford	Used	Unsecure	1	Adult	Standard	0.5	2	1.5
					1	Youth 11v11	Standard	0.5	2	1.5
10	Alsager School (Alsager LC)	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	1	Adult	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
					1	Youth 11v11	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
12	Ash Grove Academy	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1.5	4	2.5
17	Audlem Playing Fields	Nantwich	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	0.5	2	1.5
19	Back Lane Playing Fields	Congleton	Used	Secure	2	Adult	Standard	2	4	2
					1	Youth 11v11	Poor	1	1	0
20	Barnaby Road Playing Fields	Poynton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Poor	1	1	0
21	Barony Sports Complex	Nantwich	Used	Secure	3	Adult	Standard	3	6	3
					2	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	4	3
22	Beech Hall School	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	1	Adult	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
26	Bollinbrook Primary	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	2	2	0
27	Bollington ATAX Playing Fields	Macclesfield	Used	Secure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	2	1
28	Bollington Cross Playing Field	Macclesfield	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	2.5	2	-0.5
29	Bollington Recreation Ground	Macclesfield	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	2.5	2	-0.5
31	Booth Street Ground (Congleton Town)	Congleton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	2	2	0
41	Bunbury Playing Field	Nantwich	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
					1	Youth 9v9	Standard	2	2	0
43	Carnival Field	Wilmslow	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	2	2.5	-0.5
44	Cedar Avenue	Congleton	Used	Secure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	2	2	0
47	Chorley Hall	Wilmslow	Used	Secure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
48	Christ The King Primary	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
51	Congleton High School	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	1	Adult	Standard	3	2	-1
					3	Youth 11v11	Standard	9	6	-3
53	Congleton Road Playing Fields	Macclesfield	Used	Secure	3	Adult	Standard	5	6	1
					2	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	4	3
54	Cranage Playing Fields	Congleton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1	2	1
58	Cumberland Sport Arena	Crewe	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Good	0.5	3	2.5

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
								(match equivalents per week)		
	(Main Pitch & Razzer)				1	Adult	Standard	2	2	0
					1	Youth 9v9	Standard	2	2	0
61	Deva Close	Poynton	Used	Secure	2	Adult	Standard	4	2	2
					1	Youth 9v9	Standard	2	2	0
62	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club	Poynton	Used	Secure	2	Adult	Standard	2	4	2
64	Eaton Bank Academy	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	2	Youth 11v11	Standard	4	4	0
					2	Youth 9v9	Standard	4	4	0
					4	Mini 5v5	Standard	6	16	10
65	Egerton Youth Club	Knutsford	Used	Secure	4	Adult	Standard	8	11	-3
					2	Mini 7v7	Standard	2	8	6
69	Eric Swan Sports Ground	Crewe	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
					1	Youth 9v9	Standard	3	2	-1
72	Forge Fields	Congleton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1	2	1
73	Goostrey Playing Fields	Congleton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1	2	1
					1	Mini 7v7	Standard	0.5	4	3.5
78	Haslington Playing Fields	Crewe	Used	Secure	1	Youth 11v11	Standard	0.5	2	1.5
81	Hazelbadge Road Playing Field	Poynton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
82	Hermitage Primary	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 11v11	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
84	Hollinhey Primary	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 11v11	Standard	2.5	2	-0.5
85	Holmes Chapel Cricket Club	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Standard	1	4	3
86	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Congleton	Used	Secure	2	Youth 11v11	Poor	2.5	2	-0.5
87	Holmes Chapel Primary	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
91	Jim Evison Playing Fields	Wilmslow	Used	Secure	2	Youth 11v11	Standard	7	4	-3
					1		Poor	3	1	-2
					2	Youth 9v9	Standard	5	4	-1
					2	Mini 7v7	Standard	2	8	6
92	Kerridge Cricket Club	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	1	Adult	Poor	1	1	0
93	King George V Playing Field (Macclesfield)	Macclesfield	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Poor	2.5	1	-1.5

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
								(match equivalents per week)		
94	King George V Playing Field (Crewe)	Crewe	Used	Secure	5	Adult	Standard	3	10	7
					1		Poor	0.5	1	0.5
					1	Youth 9v9	Poor	2	2	0
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	Used	Unsecure	2	Youth 11v11	Standard	3	4	1
					2		Poor	3.25	2	-1.25
97	Lacey Green Pavilion	Wilmslow	Used	Secure	2	Adult	Standard	1	4	3
98	Lacey Green Primary Academy	Wilmslow	Used	Unsecure	2	Mini 7v7	Standard	3.5	8	4.5
					1	Mini 5v5	Standard	1.5	4	2.5
100	Legends Health & Leisure Centre	Crewe	Used	Secure	2	Adult	Standard	0.5	4	3.5
102	Lindow Community Primary	Wilmslow	Used	Unsecure	2	Mini 7v7	Standard	3.5	8	4.5
105	Lostock Hall Primary	Poynton	Used	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	2.5	4	1.5
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Used	Unsecure	2	Youth 11v11	Standard	5	4	1
111	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	2	Adult	Standard	2.5	4	1.5
					1	Youth 11v11	Standard	1	2	1
113	Manchester Road [Knutsford FC]	Knutsford	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	3.5	2	-1.5
115	Marlfields Primary	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	2	Mini 7v7	Standard	2.5	8	5.5
117	Mary Dendy Playing Fields	Knutsford	Used	Secure	3	Adult	Standard	4	6	2
120	Middlewich High School	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 11v11	Standard	2.5	2	-0.5
129	Mount Vernon	Poynton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Poor	1.5	1	-0.5
132	Newtown Playing Field	Poynton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Poor	1	1	0
139	Peover Playing Fields	Knutsford	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	0.5	2	1.5
145	Poynton Sports Club	Poynton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	2	2	0
148	Puss Bank Primary	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	2	Mini 7v7	Standard	2.5	8	5.5
149	Radbroke Hall	Knutsford	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
151	Reaseheath College	Nantwich	Used	Unsecure	2	Adult	Good	5.5	6	0.5
155	Rugby Drive Playing Fields	Macclesfield	Used	Secure	2	Adult	Standard	3	4	1
156	Ruskin Sports College	Crewe	Used	Unsecure	1	Adult	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
157	Sandbach Community Football Centre	Congleton	Used	Secure	5	Adult	Good	12.5	15	2.5
					3	Youth 11v11	Good	7.5	12	4.5

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
								(match equivalents per week)		
164	Seddon Street Ground	Congleton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Good	2.5	3	0.5
165	Shavington High School	Crewe	Used	Unsecure	2	Adult	Standard	3	4	1
					1	Youth 11v11	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
167	Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre	Crewe	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 11v11	Standard	2	2	0
					3		Poor	4.5	3	-1.5
170	South Cheshire College	Crewe	Used	Unsecure	1	Adult	Standard	2.5	2	-0.5
174	St Benedict's Catholic Primary	Wilmslow	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	2	2	0
179	St Mary's Primary (Middlewich)	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	3	2	-1
182	St Paul's Catholic Primary	Poynton	Used	Unsecure	2	Mini 7v7	Standard	4	8	4
185	Styal Football Club	Wilmslow	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1	2	1
187	Sutton Lane	Congleton	Used	Secure	2	Adult	Standard	1	4	3
188	Terra Nova School	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	2	Mini 7v7	Standard	4	8	4
192	The Goodwill Hall (Faddiley Common)	Nantwich	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	0.5	2	1.5
196	The Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 11v11	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
					1		Poor	1	1	0
197	The Marlborough Primary	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1.5	4	2.5
199	The Peacock	Nantwich	Used	Unsecure	2	Youth 11v11	Standard	5	4	-1
201	The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)	Nantwich	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Good	1	3	2
204	Upcast Lane Football Pitch	Wilmslow	Used	Secure	1	Youth 11v11	Standard	1	2	1
205	Upton Priory Primary	Macclesfield	Used	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1.5	4	2.5
206	Vernon Primary	Poynton	Used	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	3	2	-1
					1	Mini 7v7	Poor	2	2	0
					1	Mini 5v5	Poor	2	2	0
207	Victoria Park	Macclesfield	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Poor	2	1	-1
212	Weston Playing Field	Macclesfield	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Poor	1	1	0
218	Willaston White Star FC	Nantwich	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	1.5	2	0.5
228	Wood Park Stadium (Alsager Town)	Congleton	Used	Secure	1	Adult	Good	3	3	0

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
								(match equivalents per week)		
230	Worth Primary	Poynton	Used	Unsecure	2	Mini 5v5	Standard	4	8	4
232	Wrenbury Recreation Ground	Nantwich	Used	Secure	2	Adult	Standard	1.5	4	2.5

Table 5.8 – Site specific football usage at each site currently available for community use and unused

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
								(match equivalents per week)		
3	Alderley Edge Community Primary	Wilmslow	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
9	Alsager Highfields Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Standard	1	4	3
13	Ashdene Primary	Wilmslow	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Standard	1	4	3
19	Back Lane Playing Fields	Congleton	Unused	Secure	1	Adult	Poor	0	1	1
					1	Youth 11v11	Poor	0	1	1
					1	Mini 7v7	Poor	0	2	2
23	Beechwood Primary	Crewe	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Poor	1	2	1
24	Bickerton Holy Trinity Primary	Nantwich	Unused	Unsecure	2	Mini 5v5	Standard	2	8	6
25	Black Firs Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
33	Brereton Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
34	Bridgemere Primary	Nantwich	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
35	Brine Leas School	Nantwich	Unused	Unsecure	3	Youth 11v11	Standard	3	6	3
					1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	2	1
36	Broken Cross Community School	Macclesfield	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Poor	1	2	1
38	Buglawton Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
39	Bunbury Aldersley Primary	Nantwich	Unused	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	2	1
49	Cledford Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Poor	1	1	0
54	Cranage Playing Fields	Congleton	Unused	Secure	1	Youth 11v11	Standard	0	2	2
59	Daven Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
67	Elworth Hall Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
78	Haslington Playing Fields	Crewe	Unused	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	0	2	2
79	Haslington Primary	Crewe	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Standard	1	4	3
83	Highfields Community Primary	Nantwich	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
87	Holmes Chapel Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
88	Hungerford Primary	Crewe	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Poor	0	2	2
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	Unused	Unsecure	1	Adult	Standard	1	2	1
106	Lower Park Primary	Poynton	Unused	Unsecure	2	Mini 7v7	Standard	2	8	6
114	Manor Park Primary & Nursery	Knutsford	Unused	Unsecure	2	Mini 7v7	Standard	2	8	6

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
								(match equivalents per week)		
123	Milton Park	Congleton	Unused	Secure	1	Youth 11v11	Standard	0	2	2
131	Nether Alderley Primary	Macclesfield	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Poor	0	2	2
137	Pear Tree Primary	Nantwich	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Standard	1	4	3
140	Peover Superior Endowed Primary	Knutsford	Unused	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	2	1
141	Pikemere School	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
147	Prestbury Playing Fields	Macclesfield	Unused	Secure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	0	4	4
156	Ruskin Sports College	Crewe	Unused	Unsecure	2	Youth 11v11	Standard	2	4	2
158	Sandbach Community Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	2	1
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	3	Youth 11v11	Good	3	12	9
					1		Standard	1	2	1
163	Scholar Green Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
166	Shavington Primary	Crewe	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
168	Smallwood Primary	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	2	1
171	St Alban's Catholic Primary	Macclesfield	Unused	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Poor	1	1	0
173	St Anne's Fulshaw Primary	Wilmslow	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Standard	1	4	3
					1	Mini 5v5	Standard	1	4	3
181	St Oswald's Worleston Primary	Nantwich	Unused	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	2	1
186	Styal Primary	Wilmslow	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Poor	1	2	1
187	Sutton Lane	Congleton	Unused	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	0	2	2
					1	Youth 9v9	Standard	0	2	2
					2	Mini 7v7	Standard	0	8	8
188	Terra Nova School	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	2	Youth 11v11	Standard	2	4	2
196	The Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	Unused	Unsecure	1	Adult	Poor	1	1	0
					1	Youth 9v9	Poor	1	1	0
198	The Oaks Academy (King's Grove School)	Crewe	Unused	Unsecure	3	Youth 11v11	Standard	3	6	3
					1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	2	1
200	The Quinta Primary (Academy)	Congleton	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 7v7	Poor	1	2	1
202	Tytherington High School (Beech Lane)	Macclesfield	Unused	Unsecure	2	Youth 11v11	Poor	2	2	0

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
								(match equivalents per week)		
205	Upton Priory Primary	Macclesfield	Unused	Unsecure	1	Youth 9v9	Standard	1	2	
210	Weaver Primary	Nantwich	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Standard	1	4	3
214	Wheelock Playing Field	Congleton	Unused	Secure	1	Adult	Standard	0	2	2
221	Wilmslow High School	Wilmslow	Unused	Unsecure	1	Adult	Standard	1	2	1
					2	Youth 11v11	Standard	2	4	2
227	Wood Park	Congleton	Unused	Secure	2	Youth 11v11	Poor	0	2	2
233	Wybunbury Delves Primary	Nantwich	Unused	Unsecure	1	Mini 5v5	Standard	1	4	3

Supply and Demand Analysis

Spare Capacity

We need to identify whether the potential capacity can be classified as actual spare capacity due to its availability in the peak period.

The only poor pitch with capacity is King George V Playing Field (Crewe). This has been omitted from the calculations.

A total of 65 pitches are showing spare capacity on Sunday mornings, the peak period. 25.5 are adult pitches which could cater for an additional 51 teams playing home and away matches. There are 12.5 youth and 27 mini pitches available in the peak period. This is illustrated in table 5.9 below and in greater detail on a site by site basis in table 5.11 overleaf.

Table 5.9 - Number of pitches with spare capacity in the peak period

Analysis Area	Adult	Youth		Mini		Total
		11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5	
Congleton	6.5	3	0.5	4	5	19
Crewe	8	1	0	0	0	9
Knutsford	1.5	1.5	0	2	0	5
Macclesfield	1	0.5	4	4.5	0	10
Nantwich	4	0	1	0	0	5
Poynton	1.5	0	0	2.5	2	6
Wilmslow	3	0.5	0.5	6	1	11
Cheshire East	25.5	6.5	6	19	8	65
		12.5		27		

There are a potential 151 match equivalents available across Cheshire East. This is particularly relevant for youth and mini pitches as they do not always play in the peak period with matches taking place on Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons across the various leagues. There is spare capacity of 8 youth and 66 mini match equivalents which could cater for up to 8 youth and 66 mini teams. This is illustrated in table 5.10 below.

Table 5.10 - Spare capacity in match equivalents across Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Adult	Youth		Mini		Total
		11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5	
Congleton	13	6.5	0.5	13	13	46
Crewe	15	2	0	0	0	17
Knutsford	5.5	2.5	0	6	0	14
Macclesfield	2.5	0.5	4.5	13	0	20.5
Nantwich	12	1	3	0	0	16
Poynton	4.5	0	0	5.5	4	14
Wilmslow	4.5	1	0.5	15	2.5	23.5
Cheshire East	57	13.5	8.5	52.5	19.5	151
		22		72		

Table 5.11 - Spare capacity at each site

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	No of Pitches & Pitch Type		Spare capacity (matches per week)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
5	Alderley Park	Knutsford	1	Adult	1.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
			1	Youth 11v11	1.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
10	Alsager School (Alsager LC)	Congleton	1	Adult	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
			1	Youth 11v11	0.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
12	Ash Grove Academy	Macclesfield	1	Mini 7v7	2.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
17	Audlem Playing Fields	Nantwich	1	Adult	1.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
19	Back Lane Playing Fields	Congleton	2	Adult	2	1	Potential to sustain more play
21	Barony Sports Complex	Nantwich	3	Adult	3	0	No spare capacity at peak time
			2	Youth 9v9	3	1	Potential to sustain more play
22	Beech Hall School	Macclesfield	1	Adult	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
27	Bollington ATAX Playing Fields	Macclesfield	1	Youth 9v9	1	1	Potential to sustain more play
41	Bunbury Playing Field	Nantwich	1	Adult	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
47	Chorley Hall	Wilmslow	1	Youth 9v9	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
48	Christ The King Primary	Macclesfield	1	Youth 9v9	0.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
53	Congleton Road Playing Fields	Macclesfield	3	Adult	1	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
			2	Youth 9v9	3	2	Potential to sustain more play
54	Cranage Playing Fields	Congleton	1	Adult	1	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
58	Cumberland Sport Arena	Crewe	1	Adult	2.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
61	Deva Close	Poynton	2	Adult	2	0	No spare capacity at peak time
62	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club	Poynton	2	Adult	2	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
64	Eaton Bank	Congleton	4	Mini 5v5	10	4	Potential to sustain more play
65	Egerton Youth Club	Knutsford	2	Mini 7v7	6	2	Potential to sustain more play
69	Eric Swan Sports Ground	Crewe	1	Adult	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
72	Forge Fields	Congleton	1	Adult	1	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
73	Goostrey Playing Fields	Congleton	1	Adult	1	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
			1	Mini 7v7	3.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
78	Haslington Playing Fields	Crewe	1	Youth 11v11	1.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
81	Hazelbadge Road Playing Field	Poynton	1	Adult	0.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
82	Hermitage Primary	Congleton	1	Youth 11v11	0.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
85	Holmes Chapel Cricket Club	Congleton	1	Mini 5v5	3	1	Potential to sustain more play

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	No of Pitches & Pitch Type		Spare capacity (matches per week)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
87	Holmes Chapel Primary	Congleton	1	Youth 9v9	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
91	Jim Evison Playing Fields	Wilmslow	2	Mini 7v7	6	2	Potential to sustain more play
94	King George V Playing Field (Crewe)	Crewe	5	Adult	7	2.5	Potential to sustain more play
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	2	Youth 11v11	1	1	Potential to sustain more play
97	Lacey Green Pavilion	Wilmslow	2	Adult	3	1.5	Potential to sustain more play
98	Lacey Green Primary Academy	Wilmslow	2	Mini 7v7	4.5	2	Potential to sustain more play
			1	Mini 5v5	2.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
100	Legends Health & Leisure Centre	Crewe	2	Adult	3.5	1.5	Potential to sustain more play
102	Lindow Community Primary	Wilmslow	2	Mini 7v7	4.5	2	Potential to sustain more play
105	Lostock Hall Primary	Poynton	1	Mini 7v7	1.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	2	Youth 11v11	1	0	No spare capacity at peak time
111	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Congleton	2	Adult	1.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
			1	Youth 11v11	1	1	Potential to sustain more play
115	Marfields Primary	Congleton	2	Mini 7v7	5.5	1.5	Potential to sustain more play
117	Mary Dendy Playing Fields	Knutsford	3	Adult	2	0	No spare capacity at peak time
139	Peover Playing Fields	Knutsford	1	Adult	1.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
148	Puss Bank Primary	Macclesfield	2	Mini 7v7	5.5	2	Potential to sustain more play
149	Radbrooke Hall	Knutsford	1	Adult	0.5	0	No spare capacity at peak time
151	Reaseheath College	Nantwich	2	Adult	0.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
155	Rugby Drive Playing Fields	Macclesfield	2	Adult	1	0	No spare capacity at peak time
156	Ruskin Sports College	Crewe	1	Adult	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
157	Sandbach Community Football Centre	Congleton	5	Adult	2.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
			3	Youth 11v11	4.5	0	No spare capacity at peak time
164	Seddon Street Ground	Congleton	1	Adult	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
165	Shavington High School	Crewe	2	Adult	1	2	Potential to sustain more play
			1	Youth 11v11	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
182	St Paul's Catholic Primary	Poynton	2	Mini 7v7	4	2	Potential to sustain more play
185	Styal Football Club	Wilmslow	1	Adult	1	1	Potential to sustain more play
187	Sutton Lane	Congleton	2	Adult	3	1	Potential to sustain more play
188	Terra Nova School	Congleton	2	Mini 7v7	4	2	Potential to sustain more play

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	No of Pitches & Pitch Type		Spare capacity (matches per week)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
192	The Goodwill Hall (Faddiley Common)	Nantwich	1	Adult	1.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
196	The Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	1	Youth 11v11	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
197	The Marlborough Primary	Macclesfield	1	Mini 7v7	2.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
201	The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)	Nantwich	1	Adult	2	1	Potential to sustain more play
204	Upcast Lane Football Pitch	Wilmslow	1	Youth 11v11	1	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
205	Upton Priory Primary	Macclesfield	1	Mini 7v7	2.5	1	Potential to sustain more play
218	Willaston White Star FC	Nantwich	1	Adult	0.5	0	No spare capacity at peak time
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	1	Adult	0.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
230	Worth Primary	Poynton	2	Mini 5v5	4	2	Potential to sustain more play
232	Wrenbury Recreation Ground	Nantwich	2	Adult	2.5	0.5	Potential to sustain more play

Overlay

Overlay occurs when there is more play accommodated than the site is able to sustain (which is often dependent upon pitch quality). Overlay occurs at 19 sites on 35 pitches.

To meet the demand across Cheshire East there is a need to provide an additional 27.75 match equivalents by improving these facilities or transferring demand to alternate pitches.

This is illustrated in table 5.12 by site and 5.13 by analysis area and pitch type below.

Table 5.12 - Overlay summary by site

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	No of Pitches & Pitch Type		Capacity Rating (matches per week)
28	Bollington Cross Playing Field	Macclesfield	1	Adult	-0.5
29	Bollington Recreation Ground	Macclesfield	1	Adult	-0.5
43	Carnival Field	Wilmslow	1	Adult	-0.5
51	Congleton High School	Congleton	1	Adult	-1
			3	Youth 11v11	-3
65	Egerton Youth Club	Knutsford	4	Adult	-3
			1	Youth 9v9	-1
84	Hollinhey Primary	Macclesfield	1	Youth 11v11	-0.5
86	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Congleton	2	Youth 11v11	-0.5
91	Jim Evison Playing Fields	Wilmslow	3	Youth 11v11	-5
			2	Youth 9v9	-1
93	King George V Playing Field (Macclesfield)	Macclesfield	1	Adult	-1.5
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	2	Youth 11v11	-1.25
113	Manchester Road [Knutsford FC]	Knutsford	1	Adult	-1.5
120	Middlewich High School	Congleton	1	Youth 11v11	-0.5
129	Mount Vernon	Poynton	1	Adult	-0.5
167	Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre	Crewe	3	Youth 11v11	-1.5
170	South Cheshire College	Crewe	1	Adult	-0.5
179	St Mary's Primary (Middlewich)	Congleton	1	Youth 9v9	-1
199	The Peacock	Nantwich	2	Youth 11v11	-1
206	Vernon Primary	Poynton	1	Youth 9v9	-1
207	Victoria Park	Macclesfield	1	Adult	-1

Table 5.13 - Overlay summary by analysis area and pitch type

Analysis Area	Grounds Overplayed	Pitch Type					Match Equivalents Required
		Adult	Youth		Mini		
			11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5	
Congleton	4	1	6	1	0	0	-6
Crewe	2	1	3	0	0	0	-2
Knutsford	3	5	2	1	0	0	-6.75
Macclesfield	5	4	1	0	0	0	-4
Nantwich	1	0	2	0	0	0	-1
Poynton	2	1	0	1	0	0	-1.5
Wilmslow	2	1	3	2	0	0	-6.5
Cheshire East	19	13	17	5	0	0	-27.75

Future Demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts. Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth. The table 5.14 below illustrates the team generation rates.

Table 5.14 - Team generation rates for football

Analysis Area	Age Group	Current	Future	Current number of teams	TGR	Future number of teams	Additional teams based on TGR
		population within age group					
Cheshire East	Total 6-9	16200	17523	98	165.3	106.0	8.0
	Boys 10-15	12900	13953	200	64.5	216.3	16.3
	Girls 10-15	12500	13521	9	1388.9	9.7	0.7
	Men 16-45	65200	70524	180	362.2	194.7	14.7
	Women 16-45	65800	71173	11	5981.8	11.9	0.9
Congleton	Total 6-9	3900	4298	28	139.3	30.9	2.9
	Boys 10-15	3200	3527	62	51.6	68.3	6.3
	Girls 10-15	3000	3307	7	428.6	7.7	0.7
	Men 16-45	15400	16973	43	358.1	47.4	4.4
	Women 16-45	15500	17084	3	5166.7	3.3	0.3
Crewe	Total 6-9	3900	4278	13	300.0	14.3	1.3
	Boys 10-15	3100	3401	27	114.8	29.6	2.6
	Girls 10-15	3000	3291	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-45	17200	18868	37	464.9	40.6	3.6
	Women 16-45	17400	19087	1	17400.0	1.1	0.1
Knutsford	Total 6-9	1000	1069	5	200.0	5.3	0.3
	Boys 10-15	700	748	15	46.7	16.0	1.0
	Girls 10-15	900	962	2	450.0	2.1	0.1
	Men 16-45	4000	4275	20	200.0	21.4	1.4
	Women 16-45	4000	4275	1	4000.0	1.1	0.1
Macclesfield	Total 6-9	2900	3084	5	580.0	5.3	0.3
	Boys 10-15	2400	2552	25	96.0	26.6	1.6
	Girls 10-15	2300	2446	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-45	12600	13399	22	572.7	23.4	1.4
	Women 16-45	12700	13505	2	6350.0	2.1	0.1
Nantwich	Total 6-9	1700	1785	13	130.8	13.7	0.7
	Boys 10-15	1200	1260	18	66.7	18.9	0.9
	Girls 10-15	1200	1260	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-45	6100	6405	18	338.9	18.9	0.9
	Women 16-45	6100	6405	1	6100.0	1.1	0.1
Poynton	Total 6-9	1000	1029	15	66.7	15.4	0.4
	Boys 10-15	900	926	18	50.0	18.5	0.5
	Girls 10-15	900	926	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-45	3300	3397	18	183.3	18.5	0.5
	Women 16-45	3400	3500	2	1700.0	2.1	0.1
Wilmslow	Total 6-9	1700	1879	19	89.5	21.0	2.0
	Boys 10-15	1400	1547	35	40.0	38.7	3.7
	Girls 10-15	1300	1437	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-45	6500	7183	22	295.5	24.3	2.3
	Women 16-45	6800	7515	1	6800.0	1.1	0.1

In terms of pitch provision this is illustrating that there would be:

- Across Cheshire East there is a projected growth of 40 teams which would require an additional 20 match equivalents per week.

There is capacity for 61.5 match equivalents across 65 pitches in the peak period to cater for this demand.

- The largest growth would be in boys (10-15) teams with an additional 16 teams across Cheshire East which equates to 8 match equivalents per week.

There are particular capacity issues anticipated in Congleton, Crewe, Knutsford, Poynton, Nantwich and Wilmslow as they are already overplayed therefore increased demand will compound this problem. Increased usage of education sites and improved quality can support.

- Growth in adult mens (16-45) would equate to an additional 14 teams requiring an additional 7 match equivalents across Cheshire East.

There are capacity issues in Knutsford and Macclesfield both currently and in the future. In Knutsford there is a lack of local authority owned provision to meet demand. Within Macclesfield there are issues with the quality of the facilities available. Increased usage of education sites and improved quality can support.

- There is a projection for an additional 8 mini (6-9) teams that would require an additional 4 match equivalents per week or one mini pitch.

There is likelihood this could be catered for within the existing mini leagues primarily on AGPs especially as the majority of this growth is in Congleton (2.9) and Crewe (1.3). It could also be catered for on grass in Congleton but could not in Crewe due to lack of capacity.

However in Wilmslow (2.0) there is no access to suitable AGP surfaces for competitive play there this would need to be played on grass where there is capacity to do so.

- Both girls (10-15) and women (16-45) will see small increase but not enough to increase demand enough to form a team.

In addition each of the clubs were asked about their growth plans over the next five years. In total 12 clubs have illustrated a clear growth ambition labelling the teams they are looking to add. Clubs plan to add 20 teams which will require an additional 10 match equivalents per week to meet their playing demands.

Their responses are displayed in tables 5.15 by analysis area and 5.16 by club.

Table 5.15 - Football team growth aspirations by analysis area

Analysis Area	Adult	Youth		Mini		Total
		11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5	
Congleton	1	0	0	0	0	1
Crewe	0	1	1	0	4	6
Knutsford	2	4	0	0	0	6
Macclesfield	0	0	0	1	0	1
Nantwich	0	0	1	0	0	1
Poynton	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	1	2	0	0	2	5
Cheshire East	4	7	2	1	6	20

Table 5.16 - Football club growth aspirations

Club	Analysis Area	Demand	Pitch Requirements	
			Type	Match Equivalents
Alderley United FC	Wilmslow	1 U16 boys & 1 U14 boys	Youth 11v11	1
Brookfield Rangers FC	Crewe	1 U8 mini	Mini 5v5	0.5
Bunbury Youth FC	Nantwich	1 U12 boys	Youth 9v9	0.5
Cheshire Phoenix	Wilmslow	1 U6 mini & 1 U8 mini	Mini 5v5	1
Congleton Rovers FC	Congleton	1 U21 mens	Adult	0.5
Crewe FC	Crewe	2 U8 mini & 1 U15 girls	Mini 5v5	1
			Youth 11v11	0.5
Egerton FC	Knutsford	1 U14 girls, 1 U16 girls, 1 U18 girls & 1 disability open age mens	Youth 11v11	1
			Adult	1
Knutsford FC	Knutsford	2 U16 mens	Youth 11v11	1
Lacey Green FC	Wilmslow	1 open age mens	Adult	0.5
Park Royal FC	Macclesfield	1 U9 boys	Mini 7v7	0.5
Rookery Rangers FC	Crewe	1 U8 boys	Mini 5v5	0.5
Wistaston Athletic FC	Crewe	1 U11 boys	Youth 9v9	0.5

In addition there were responses from a number of clubs illustrating that they are looking to develop more teams but at the time of the consultation they were not in a position to say exactly which age groups they were expecting growth in. They are:

- AFC Alsager
- Alsager Town FC
- Cheshire Blades FC
- Holmes Chapel Hurricanes FC
- Macclesfield Boys Junior FC
- Middlewich Town FC
- Nantwich Town FC
- Richmond Rovers FC
- Sandbach United FC
- Tytherington Juniors FC
- Vale Juniors FC
- Wilmslow Albion FC
- Wilmslow Sports Community FC
- Wilmslow Town FC

Scenario Testing

Competitive opportunities on 3G AGP pitches

By increasing the number of competitive matches taking place on 3G AGPs it can remove some of the capacity pressures on grass pitches. This is an initiative the FA is supporting, particularly for mini football.

One full size AGP can accommodate, at any one time, either:

- Four 5v5 pitches
- Two 7v7 pitches
- Two 9v9 pitches
- One youth 11v11 pitch

In order to test this scenario all mini football not currently taking place on 3G AGPs will be theoretically moved to test how many pitches would be required. For this test the peak period is taken a Sunday morning and three slots are allocated (9 – 10am, 10 – 11am and 11am – 12noon).

The supply in the peak period is 12 match equivalents for mini 5v5 and 6 match equivalents for mini 7v7 per week on a full size AGP.

There are currently 34 mini 5v5 teams and 44 mini 7v7 teams that do not currently play on 3G AGPs either through the clubs provision or in the Alex Soccer Centre central venue league.

This equates to a total requirements of 17 match equivalents for mini 5v5 teams and 22 match equivalents for mini 7v7 teams. The requirements on a 3G AGP in peak period would require an additional 1.4 for mini 5v5 teams and an additional 3.7 for mini 7v7 teams totalling 5.1. This would require 6 3G AGPs to cater for this demand.

In addition there are another 16 mini teams playing outside of the analysis area. This is due to a lack of competitive opportunities in Cheshire East for these teams either in the North of the analysis area or for girls. This would require two AGPs if all play is allocated in the peak time.

Availability at disused sites

There are 78 pitches across 53 sites that are available for community use but are unused. This could offer a potential 147 match equivalents per week. The majority, 64 pitches at 45 sites, are on educational sites.

In addition there are eight sites with 14 pitches that are on secure sites with a capacity of 30 match equivalents per week. They are:

- Back Lane Playing Fields – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch, 1 Junior 11v11 pitch & 1 Mini 7v7 pitch
- Cranage Playing Fields – 1 Junior 11v11 pitch
- Haslington Playing Fields – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch
- Milton Park – 1 Junior 11v11 pitch
- Prestbury Playing Fields – 1 Mini 7v7 pitch
- Sutton Lane – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch, 1 Junior 9v9 pitch & 1 Mini 7v7 pitch
- Wheelock Playing Field – 1 Adult 11v11 pitch
- Wood Park – 1 Junior 11v11 pitch

The pitches at Back Lane and Wood Park are classed as poor therefore improvements may be required before the community would want to use them.

Conclusions

This section will consider the extent in which current provision can accommodate current and future demand. It is broken down into adult, youth and mini football.

Adult Football

There is spare capacity within the peak period (Sunday mornings) for 23.5 match equivalents. This is offset against overplay of 10.5 match equivalents giving a balance of 13 match equivalents being available currently. There is an anticipated future demand of 7.8 match equivalents to give a future capacity analysis of 5.2 match equivalents across Cheshire East. This is illustrated in table 5.17 below as actual spare capacity within the peak period (Sunday morning) against overplay and the future demand illustrated using team generation rates.

There is particular concern in Macclesfield and Knutsford as they are illustrating overplay currently and in the future. In particular in Knutsford there is a lack of local authority owned provision to meet demand. Within Macclesfield there are issues with the quality of the facilities available.

Table 5.17 - Current & future capacity of adult football pitches in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Supply	Current Demand		Future	
	Spare Capacity	Overplay	Total	Demand	Total
	(match equivalents)				
Congleton	6.5	1	5.5	2.4	3.1
Crewe	7	0.5	6.5	1.8	4.7
Knutsford	1.5	4.5	-3	0.7	-3.7
Macclesfield	1	3.5	-2.5	0.8	-3.3
Nantwich	3.5	0	3.5	0.5	3
Poynton	1	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2
Wilmslow	3	0.5	2.5	1.2	1.3
Cheshire East	23.5	10.5	13	7.8	5.2

Youth Football

There is spare capacity within the peak period (Sunday mornings) for 11 match equivalents. This is offset against overplay of 17.25 match equivalents which illustrates overplay of 6.25 match equivalents currently. There is an anticipated future demand of 8.5 match equivalents to give a future capacity analysis of -14.75 match equivalents across Cheshire East. This is illustrated in table 5.18 overleaf as actual spare capacity within the peak period (Sunday morning) against overplay and the future demand illustrated using team generation rates.

There is already overplay across Congleton, Crewe, Knutsford, Poynton and Wilmslow currently. This will continue within the future and will also include Nantwich.

Table 5.18 - Current & future capacity of youth football pitches in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Supply	Current Demand		Future	
	Spare Capacity	Overplay	Total	Demand	Total
	(match equivalents)				
Congleton	2.5	5	-2.5	3.5	-6
Crewe	1	1.5	-0.5	1.3	-1.8
Knutsford	1.5	2.25	-0.75	0.6	-1.35
Macclesfield	4	0.5	3.5	0.8	2.7
Nantwich	1	1	0	0.4	-0.4
Poynton	0	1	-1	0.3	-1.3
Wilmslow	1	6	-5	1.8	-6.8
Cheshire East	11	17.25	-6.25	8.5	-14.75

Mini Football

There is spare capacity within the peak period (Sunday mornings) for 27 match equivalents. There is no overplay currently. This gives a balance of 27 match equivalents being available currently. There is an anticipated future demand of 4 match equivalents to give a future capacity analysis of 23 match equivalents across Cheshire East. This is illustrated in table 5.19 below as actual spare capacity within the peak period (Sunday morning) against overplay and the future demand illustrated using team generation rates.

There is considerable capacity within Congleton, Macclesfield, Poynton and Wilmslow both now and in the future. In Crewe and Nantwich there is an additional anticipated future demand which is illustrating overplay. This is due to there not being any grass mini pitches in either Crewe or Nantwich that are used by the community as they use 3G AGPs to meet demand. As all the mini football in this area is already played at central venue leagues this could be expanded outside of the peak period if required to meet future demand.

Table 5.19 - Current & future capacity of mini football pitches in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Supply	Current Demand		Future	
	Spare Capacity	Overplay	Total	Demand	Total
	(match equivalents)				
Congleton	9	0	9	1.4	7.6
Crewe	0	0	0	0.6	-0.6
Knutsford	2	0	2	0.2	1.8
Macclesfield	4.5	0	4.5	0.2	4.3
Nantwich	0	0	0	0.3	-0.3
Poynton	4.5	0	4.5	0.2	4.3
Wilmslow	7	0	7	1	6
Cheshire East	27	0	27	4	23

Potential Actions Required

Preventing overplay

Overplay occurs at 19 sites on 35 pitches. The main areas affected are Macclesfield and Knutsford and pitch types are adult and youth 11v11 pitches.

To meet the demand across Cheshire East there is a need to provide an additional 27.75 match equivalents. This could be achieved by improving some facilities however this may not add capacity within the peak period. Alternatively exploring usage at education sites could offer a solution. The sites in table 5.8 are available for community use but are currently unused.

Utilising 3G AGPs

By increasing the number of competitive matches taking place on 3G AGPs it can remove some of the capacity pressures on grass pitches. This is an initiative the FA is supporting, particularly for mini football.

One full size AGP can accommodate, at any one time, either:

- Four 5v5 pitches
- Two 7v7 pitches
- Two 9v9 pitches
- One youth 11v11 pitch

There are 41 teams that regularly play fixtures on 3G pitches. They are primarily junior teams participating in the Alex Soccer Centre League however there is also usage of 3G pitches in the South Cheshire Youth League.

Four senior teams play regularly on 3G, they are; Alex Soccer Centre U18 Girls, two Nantwich Town teams and Ocean Wanderers. In addition we were told that additional matches take place on 3G to support grass pitches in particular at Nantwich Town and Sandbach United, if conditions and long term preservation of pitches dictate. This is a trend that is anticipated to increase in the future.

There are currently eight full size 3G AGPs with seven having been tested to be able host competitive fixtures. Through careful planning these pitches could help support the current and future demand in Cheshire East.

It is worth noting that hire prices on 3G AGPs can be considerable higher than grass pitches therefore clubs may not be willing to look at this option.

Football Summary

- There are 324 grass football pitches in Cheshire East situated across 187 sites. Of these 252 are available for community use which equates to 78% of the pitches being available for community use.
- There are a number of pitch providers in Cheshire East. The largest is the council who manage their pitches through an outsourcing arrangement with ANSA. Other pitch providers include schools, academies, private sports clubs, parish councils and the leisure trust [Everybody Sport & Recreation].
- The majority of football pitches in Cheshire East are classed as 'standard' with 249 out of 325 (77%). Good quality pitches are typically found where there is a dedicated groundsman looking after them, often on club sites. Poor scoring pitches are most commonly located on council facilities with some education sites. Key issues at these sites are poor drainage and maintenance schedules. There are also pitches at some of these sites that are rated as 'standard'.
- Changing facilities are an issue for many clubs especially those using council owned sites where the facilities are not up to modern standards and at some sites are not available. A number of clubs are keen to explore potential opportunities to access dedicated sites with multiple pitches with good quality ancillary facilities.
- There are a total of 129 clubs with 498 teams in Cheshire East in the 2013/14 season.
- There are 41 teams that regularly play fixtures on 3G pitches. They are primarily junior teams however four senior teams play regularly on 3G.
- There are also four clubs with a total of ten teams from outside of Cheshire East that are using pitches in Cheshire East.
- In total there are 8 clubs and a total of 38 teams that are displaced in Cheshire East. In most cases it is a result of the competition that the clubs are competing in being in a neighbouring authority area.
- There is spare capacity of 61.5 match equivalents in the peak period – 151 match equivalents in total.
- Overplay occurs at 19 sites on 35 pitches. To meet the demand across there is a need to provide an additional 27.75 match equivalents by improving these facilities or transferring demand to alternate pitches.
- Population projections suggest:
 - A projected growth of 40 teams which would require an additional 20 match equivalents per week.
 - The largest growth would be in boys (10-15) teams with an additional 16 teams across Cheshire East which equates to 8 match equivalents per week.
 - Growth in adult mens (16-45) would equate to an additional 14 teams requiring an additional 7 match equivalents across Cheshire East.

- There is a projection for an additional 8 mini (6-9) teams that would require an additional 4 match equivalents per week or one mini pitch.
- There is likelihood this could be catered for within the existing mini leagues primarily on AGPs especially as the majority of this growth is in Congleton (2.9) and Crewe (1.3). It could also be catered for on grass in Congleton but could not in Crewe due to lack of capacity.
- However in Wilmslow (2.0) there is no access to suitable AGP surfaces for competitive play there this would need to be played on grass where there is capacity to do so.
- Both girls (10-15) and women (16-45) will see small increase but not enough to increase demand enough to form a team.
- 12 clubs have illustrated a clear growth ambition labelling the teams they are looking to add. Clubs plan to add 20 teams which will require an additional 10 match equivalents per week to meet their playing demands.
- To move all 5v5 and 7v7 mini soccer there would need to be six full size 3G AGPs which in conjunction with bringing displaced demand back into Cheshire East would require an additional two therefore eight in total to cater for the demand.

6. Third Generation Artificial Grass Pitches (3G AGPs)

Introduction

In addition to grass pitches competitive football matches and in particular training takes place of artificial grass pitches or AGPs. There are several surface types that fall into the category of an AGP. The three main groups are:

- rubber crumb (3G)
- sand (filled or dressed)
- water based.

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

World Rugby produced the 'Performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby' more commonly known as 'Regulation 22'. This provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitches appropriate for rugby union. The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the standard. This allows full contact rugby activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts.

The table below categorises the types of 3G AGP surface and their uses.

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

Supply

There are eight full size 3G AGPs in Cheshire East. All of the pitches are available for community use and used.

The analysis are of Congleton has the most full size 3G AGPs with three followed by Crewe with two. The analysis area of Poynton and Wilmslow do not have any 3G AGPs which causes issues for teams having to train in other analysis areas, on alternative surfaces or outside of Cheshire East.

These findings are illustrated in table 6.1 and on a site by site basis in table 6.2 overleaf.

Table 6.1 - Summary of full size 3G AGPs across all sites in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Sites	Pitches
Congleton	3	3
Crewe	2	2
Knutsford	1	1
Macclesfield	1	1
Nantwich	1	1
Poynton	0	0
Wilmslow	0	0
Cheshire East	8	8

Table 6.2 - Site Specific Summary of full size 3G AGPs across Cheshire East

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Pitches	Pitch Type	Floodlit
6	Alexandra Soccer Centre	Crewe	1	Medium pile 3G	Yes
7	All Hallows Catholic College	Macclesfield	1	Medium pile 3G	Yes
58	Cumberland Sports Arena	Crewe	1	Medium pile 3G	Yes
65	Egerton Youth Club	Knutsford	1	Medium pile 3G	Yes
86	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Congleton	1	Medium pile 3G	Yes
120	Middlewich High School	Congleton	1	Medium pile 3G	Yes
157	Sandbach Community Football Centre	Congleton	1	Medium pile 3G	Yes
201	The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)	Nantwich	1	Medium pile 3G	Yes

Based on data from Sport England's Active Places

Additional provision

In addition to the eight full size 3G AGPs there are also five small 3G AGPs, 18 full size sand based AGPs and eight small sand based AGPs in Cheshire East that are available for community use (total 31).

Crewe has the most with eight in total followed by Macclesfield with seven. Poynton only has one. These findings are illustrated in table 6.3 and on a site by site basis in table 6.4 overleaf.

Table 6.3 - Summary of other AGPs across all sites in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Small 3G AGPs		Full size sand AGPs		Small sand AGPs	
	Sites	Pitches	Sites	Pitches	Sites	Pitches
Congleton	1	1	5	5	0	0
Crewe	2	2	3	3	3	3
Knutsford	0	0	1	1	1	1
Macclesfield	1	1	4	4	2	2
Nantwich	1	1	2	2	0	0
Poynton	0	0	0	0	1	1
Wilmslow	0	0	3	3	1	1
Cheshire East	5	5	18	18	8	8

Table 6.4 – Site Specific Summary of other AGPs across Cheshire East

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Pitches	Pitch Type & Size*	Floodlit
				* if small (m)	
6	Alexandra Soccer Centre	Crewe	1	Small 3G AGP (60 x 51)	Yes
10	Alsager School (Alsager LC)	Congleton	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
21	Barony Sports Complex	Nantwich	1	Small 3G AGP (40 x 33)	Yes
22	Beech Hall School	Macclesfield	1	Small sand AGP (Unsure)	No
51	Congleton High School	Congleton	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
57	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	Nantwich	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
62	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club	Poynton	1	Small sand AGP (46 x 35)	Yes
69	Eric Swan Sports Ground	Crewe	1	Small sand AGP (Unsure)	Yes
71	Fallibroome Academy	Macclesfield	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
109	Macclesfield RUFC (Priory Park)	Macclesfield	1	Small 3G AGP (60x40)	Yes
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	1	Full size sand AGP	No
111	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Congleton	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
112	Manchester Metropolitan University (Crewe)	Crewe	1	Small 3G AGP (60x40)	Yes
136	Parkroyal School	Macclesfield	1	Small sand AGP (40 x 30)	No
149	Radbrooke Hall	Knutsford	1	Small sand AGP (30 x 20)	Yes
156	Ruskin Sports College	Crewe	1	Small sand AGP (78 x 36)	Yes
160	Sandbach High School	Congleton	1	Full size sand AGP	No
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
164	Seddon Street	Congleton	1	Small 3G AGP (53 x 27)	Yes
165	Shavington High School	Crewe	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
167	Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre	Crewe	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
170	South Cheshire College	Crewe	1	Full size sand AGP	No
191	The Edge Hockey Centre	Wilmslow	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
193	The Kings School (Cumberland Street)	Macclesfield	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
196	The Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
198	The Oaks Academy (King's Grove School)	Crewe	1	Small sand AGP (87 x 40)	No
203	Tytherington High School (Main)	Macclesfield	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
221	Wilmslow High School	Wilmslow	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes
222	Wilmslow Leisure Centre	Wilmslow	1	Small sand AGP (25 x 15)	Yes
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	1	Full size sand AGP	Yes

Based on data from Sport England's Active Places

Future provision

There is a planned 3G AGP that will have a shock pad suitable for rugby use at Reaseheath College (Nantwich) which will replace a grass rugby pitch.

Poynton High School are currently undertaking a feasibility study to put a 3G pitch on their site. Demand is high from local clubs who travel to Macclesfield and outside of Cheshire East currently.

The planning application at Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager) has included provision of a 3G AGP as well as a sand based AGP. This application has not received planning permission currently.

A number of sand based AGPs are coming towards the end of their useable lives. Congleton High School have illustrated an interest in changing the surface to 3G and this may be explored at other sites too. Consideration is required as to where hockey usage is high and cannot be provided for elsewhere.

Ownership / Management

Of the eight sites in Cheshire East four are managed by football clubs themselves [Alexandra Soccer Centre, Egerton Youth Club, Sandbach Community Football Centre & The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)] with one being managed by a school [All Hallows Catholic College].

The other three are managed by a leisure trust Everybody Sport & Recreation either solely [Cumberland Sports Arena] or through dual-use agreements [Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre & Middlewich High School].

Quality

A surface of a 3G typically lasts for approximately 10 years but this depends heavily on usage levels and maintenance quality.

Across Cheshire East one is 11 years old [Cumberland Sports Arena] with another two eight years old [Alexandra Soccer Centre & The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)] so will need to consider preplacement in the next few years. The other five are all six years old or newer so do not need to consider replacement in the next few years.

These findings are illustrated in table 6.5 overleaf.

Table 6.5 - Pitch quality by site

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Surface type	Year built (refurb)	Quality	FA Pitch Register
6	Alexandra Soccer Centre	Crewe	Medium pile 3G	1999 (2007)	Good	FA Approved
7	All Hallows Catholic College	Macclesfield	Medium pile 3G	2015	Good	FIFA Approved
58	Cumberland Sports Arena	Crewe	Medium pile 3G	2005	Standard	None
65	Egerton Youth Club	Knutsford	Medium pile 3G	2010	Good	FA Approved
86	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Congleton	Medium pile 3G	2015	Good	FA Approved
120	Middlewich High School	Congleton	Medium pile 3G	2013	Good	FA Approved
157	Sandbach Community Football Centre	Congleton	Medium pile 3G	2011	Good	FA Approved
201	The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)	Nantwich	Medium pile 3G	2007	Good	FA Approved

Based on data from Sport England's Active Places & FA 3G Pitch Register

Availability

The availability to train and play matches can have an effect on the amount of teams that each club has. Training takes place predominantly on weekday evening with matches at weekends.

Usage of sand based AGPs is also common for football particularly in analysis areas without 3G AGPs [Macclesfield and Wilmslow] as well as within Congleton in Alsager and Congleton particularly although access issues arise in Knutsford and Sandbach.

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours a week (Monday to Thursday 17.00-21.00; Friday 17.00-19.00; Saturday and Sunday 09.00-17.00). This has been applied in conjunction with findings from consultation to provide a total number of hours available for community use per week during peak periods.

In the main, availability of provision in the peak period is generally good. Where there is provision on education sites, this is generally made available after school and at weekends.

It should be noted that, whilst technically available for community use, usage at the facilities that are managed by clubs [Alexandra Soccer Centre, Egerton Youth Club, Sandbach Community Football Centre & The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)] is predominately from the clubs themselves. Any remaining capacity is let out to other community users, however, this is limited and often outside of the peak period.

The findings are illustrated in table 6.6 overleaf.

Table 6.6 - Pitch availability by site

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Opening Times	Hours in peak period
6	Alexandra Soccer Centre	Crewe	Mon-Fri 10.00-22.00, Sat 09.00-19.30, Sun 09.00-22.00	34
7	All Hallows Catholic College	Macclesfield	Mon-Fri 18.00 -22.00, Weekend 09.00-17.00	29
58	Cumberland Sports Arena	Crewe	Mon-Fri 17.00-21.30, Weekend 09.00-18.00	34
65	Egerton Youth Club	Knutsford	Every day 09.00-22.00	34
86	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Congleton	Mon, Wed & Fri 17.00-22.00, Tue & Thu 18.00-22.00, Weekend 09.00-17.30	32
120	Middlewich High School	Congleton	Mon-Fri 18.00 -22.00, Weekend 09.00-19.30	29
157	Sandbach Community Football Centre	Congleton	Mon-Fri 09.00-22.00, Weekend 09.00-20.00	34
201	The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)	Nantwich	Every day 09.00-22.00	34

Based on data from Sport England's Active Places

Demand

The FA considers high quality 3G AGPs as vital in developing coaches and players. They can support intensive use so are assets for both playing and training. Primarily 3G AGPs have been installed for training and community use, however, they are increasingly being used for competition which The FA is supportive of.

Research conducted by Sport England into the use of AGPs suggests that provision has two principal roles: midweek training for football and rugby and weekend matches for football. Pitches are often sub-divided for training purposes.

As identified in the football section there are a total of 129 clubs with 498 teams in Cheshire East in the 2013/14 season. There are the largest number of teams in Congleton which also has the most number of teams in all categories. This is due to having at least one club offering junior provision in each town (Alsager, Congleton, Holmes Chapel, Middlewich and Sandbach). There are larger numbers of clubs in both Crewe and Macclesfield however these tend to be smaller often single team clubs. This is summarised by analysis area in table 6.7 below

Table 6.7 - Number of football clubs and teams in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Number of clubs	Number of teams playing matches					
		Adult (16-45)		Youth (10-15)		Mini (6-9)	Total
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls		
Congleton	24	43	3	62	7	28	143
Crewe	35	37	1	27	0	13	78
Knutsford	10	20	1	15	2	5	43
Macclesfield	25	22	2	25	0	5	54
Nantwich	15	18	1	18	0	13	50
Poynton	9	18	2	18	0	15	53
Wilmslow	11	22	1	35	0	19	77
Cheshire East	129	180	11	200	9	98	498

Training demand

Accessing good quality and affordable training facilities is an issue for most clubs. During the winter outdoor training is only possible at floodlit facilities. Football training tends to dominate use of 3G AGPs and they are in high demand for mid-week training. Peak hours are 6pm – 9pm Tuesday to Thursday and some clubs report that provision is not accessible at this time.

Many teams access sand based or indoor facilities. There are also cross border issues to be aware of such as teams based within Poynton travelling into Stockport to access 3G AGPs. This is also happening from neighbouring authorities such as Cheshire West & Chester based clubs accessing Middlewich Leisure Centre.

The FAs ambition is to provide all affiliated teams in England the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G AGP alongside priority access for every Charter Standard Community Club through a partnership agreement. The FA Standard is calculated by using the latest Sport England research 'AGPs State of the Nation March 2012'.

Two scenarios will be tested using the current 3G pitch supply against the current number of teams in each analysis area. The scenarios are as follows.

- Scenario 1 – 60 teams training on each 3G AGP

Using the assumption that 51% of AGP usage is by clubs and factoring in the amount of training slots available per pitch per hour from 5pm – 10pm Monday – Friday (peak football training time) it is estimated that one full size AGP can service 56-60 teams.

Using this scenario there is a shortfall of three 3G AGPs across Cheshire East. This is across two analysis areas Poynton (-1) and Wilmslow (-2).

- Scenario 2 – 40 teams training on each 3G AGP

This is based on the belief that 40 teams can use one 3G AGP for training requirements taking into account capacity used by non-club based usage such as social users and small sided leagues.

Using this scenario there is a shortfall of eight 3G AGPs across Cheshire East. The only analysis area that does not have a capacity issue is Crewe. Congleton, Knutsford and Macclesfield are short of one 3G AGP whilst Poynton and Wilmslow are short of two each.

The findings are illustrated in table 6.8 below.

Table 6.8 - Current demand for 3G AGPs in Cheshire East (Scenario 1 & 2)

Analysis Area	Current Number of teams	Current Number of 3G AGPs	Scenario 1 (60 teams)		Scenario 2 (40 teams)	
			3Gs Required	Capacity Rating	3Gs Required	Capacity Rating
Congleton	143	3	3	0	4	-1
Crewe	78	2	2	0	2	0
Knutsford	43	1	1	0	2	-1
Macclesfield	54	1	1	0	2	-1
Nantwich	50	1	1	0	2	-1
Poynton	53	0	1	-1	2	-2
Wilmslow	77	0	2	-2	2	-2
Cheshire East	498	8	11	-3	16	-8

Neither of the scenarios take into account potential usage on the small 3G AGPs or the potential future AGPs which could add capacity in Congleton, Nantwich and Poynton.

Playing demand

Improving grass pitch quality is a way to increase capacity, albeit often expensive and requires increased maintenance. An alternative is to increase the use of 3G AGPs for competitive matches, a move the FA is supporting.

There are 41 teams that regularly play fixtures on 3G pitches. They are primarily junior teams participating in the Alex Soccer Centre League however there is also usage of 3G pitches in the South Cheshire Youth League. Four senior teams play regularly on 3G, they are; Alex Soccer Centre U18 Girls, two Nantwich Town teams and Ocean Wanderers. In addition we were told that additional matches take place on 3G to support grass pitches in particular at Nantwich Town and Sandbach United, if

conditions and long term preservation of pitches dictate. This is a trend that is anticipated to increase in the future.

Seven of the eight 3G AGPs are either FA or FIFA approved to host competitive matches. They are:

- Alexandra Soccer Centre
- All Hallows Catholic College
- Cumberland Sports Arena
- Egerton Youth Club
- Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre
- Middlewich High School
- Sandbach Community Football Centre
- The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)

In addition there a number of midweek leagues taking place on 3G that have not been picked up through the club analysis. Companies such as Cheshire FA, Soccer Sixes, Leisure Leagues and Match Night Sports Leagues run leagues throughout Cheshire East.

One full size AGP can accommodate, at any one time, either:

- Four 5v5 pitches
- Two 7v7 pitches
- Two 9v9 pitches
- One youth 11v11 pitch

Scenario 3 – Mini football on 3G AGP pitches

In order to test this scenario all mini football not currently taking place on 3G AGPs will be theoretically moved to test how many pitches would be required. For this test the peak period is taken a Sunday morning and three slots are allocated (9 – 10am, 10 – 11am and 11am – 12noon).

The supply in the peak period is 12 match equivalents for mini 5v5 and 6 match equivalents for mini 7v7 per week on a full size AGP.

There are currently 34 mini 5v5 teams and 44 mini 7v7 teams that do not currently play on 3G AGPs either through the clubs provision or in the Alex Soccer Centre central venue league.

This equates to a total requirements of 17 match equivalents for mini 5v5 teams and 22 match equivalents for mini 7v7 teams. The requirements on an 3G AGP in peak period would require an additional 1.4 for mini 5v5 teams and an additional 3.7 for mini 7v7 teams totalling 5.1. This would require 6 3G AGPs to cater for this demand.

In addition there are another 16 mini teams playing outside of the analysis area. This is due to a lack of competitive opportunities in Cheshire East for these teams either in the North of the analysis area or for girls. This would require two AGPs if all play is allocated in the peak time.

The total number of 3G AGPs required would be eight in addition to the provision already taking place on 3G AGPs through the Alex Soccer Centre League and South Cheshire Youth League. This accounts for considerable usage at Alexandra

Soccer Centre, Cumberland Sports Arena, Sandbach Community Football Centre and the Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town).

Capacity Analysis

Usage of 3G AGPs has been gathered from club and site questionnaires to develop a picture of supply vs demand. The table 6.8 overleaf summarises the capacity for each 3G AGP.

This information is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

Peak period

The peak period for matches is classed as Sunday mornings for both junior and seniors although there is current and potential match usage outside of this time throughout the weekend.

The peak period for training is classed as Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 6 – 9pm. This is the most popular times as determined by clubs and facility providers. There is also training usage outside of this time.

Table 6.8 - Availability and usage of full size 3G AGPs

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Hours in peak period	Capacity in peak period		Comments
				Matches	Training	
6	Alexandra Soccer Centre	Crewe	34	Limited capacity	No capacity	Usage by clubs for training in peak period and small sided leagues. Limited capacity for training sessions in peak period. Used by Alexandra Soccer Centre League at weekends. Spare capacity for weekend matches.
7	All Hallows Catholic College	Macclesfield	29	Spare capacity	Limited capacity	Usage by clubs for training in peak period and small sided leagues. Limited capacity for training sessions in peak period. Spare capacity for weekend matches.
58	Cumberland Sports Arena	Crewe	34	Limited capacity	Limited capacity	Usage by clubs for training in peak period and small sided leagues. Limited capacity for training sessions in peak period. Used by South Cheshire Youth League at weekends. Spare capacity for weekend matches.
65	Egerton Youth Club	Knutsford	34	Spare capacity	No capacity	Fully booked during the week at peak time by Egerton Football Club. Potential capacity for additional weekend matches.
86	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Congleton	32	Spare capacity	Limited capacity	Usage by clubs for training in peak period and small sided leagues. Limited capacity for training sessions in peak period. Spare capacity for weekend matches.
120	Middlewich High School	Congleton	29	Spare capacity	Limited capacity	Usage from teams from Northwich & Winsford as well as Cheshire East clubs. Limited capacity for training sessions in peak period. Spare capacity for weekend matches.
157	Sandbach Community Football Centre	Congleton	34	Limited capacity	No capacity	Fully booked during the week at peak time by Sandbach United. Also hired out to other small clubs for training. Used by South Cheshire Youth League at weekends. Potential capacity for additional weekend matches.
201	The Weaver Stadium (Nantwich Town)	Nantwich	34	Limited capacity	No capacity	Fully booked during the week at peak time by Nantwich Town. Used by South Cheshire Youth League at weekends. Potential capacity for additional weekend matches.

Supply & Demand Analysis

Based on the three scenarios run there is a deficit of 3G AGPs to meet the calculated demand in two scenarios and enough to meet the demand. In order to provide one full size 3G AGP for each 40 teams during the peak period there would need to be an additional eight 3G AGPs. To provide one full size 3G AGP for each 60 teams during the peak period there would need to be an additional three full size 3G AGPs. For the scenario of moving all 5v5 and 7v7 mini soccer there would need to be six full size 3G AGPs which in conjunction with bringing displaced demand back into Cheshire East would require an additional two therefore eight in total.

Spare Capacity

There is minimal spare capacity at the full size 3G AGPs in Cheshire East for midweek training in the peak period therefore it cannot be classed as actual spare capacity. At the weekend there is capacity to increase the number of competitive matches taking place on full size 3G AGPs. The following sites have spare capacity:

- All Hallows Catholic College
- Egerton Youth Club
- Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre
- Middlewich High School

There is also scope to increase the amount of matches taking place at sites at weekends through careful planning and programming of facilities.

Additional Capacity

In addition to the eight full size 3G AGPs there are also five small 3G AGPs, 18 full size sand based AGPs and eight small sand based AGPs in Cheshire East that are available for community use (total 31). None of the sand based AGPs are suitable for competitive play however some of the small 3G AGPs could be used for mini soccer. All could be utilised to meet training demand that cannot be catered for on the eight full size 3G AGPs.

Third Generation Artificial Grass Pitches (3G AGPs) Summary

- There are eight full size 3G AGPs in Cheshire East. All of the pitches are available for community use and used.
- There is a planned 3G AGP that will have a shock pad suitable for rugby use at Reaseheath College (Nantwich) which will replace a grass rugby pitch.
- Of the eight sites in Cheshire East four are managed by football clubs themselves, three are managed by a leisure trust Everybody Sport & Recreation either solely or through dual-use agreements and one being managed by a school.
- Five pitches are six years old or under, two are eight years old and one is 11 years old. The typical life of a 3G AGP is 10 years so one will need replacing shortly and another two in the next few years.
- Availability is good with all eight 3G AGPs being available for 29 hours plus in the peak period. Five are available for the full 34 hours identified by the Sport England's Facilities Planning Model as the peak period.
- Scenario Testing Results
 - In order to provide one full size 3G AGP for each 40 teams during the peak period there would need to be an additional eight 3G AGPs (total 16).
 - To provide one full size 3G AGP for each 60 teams during the peak period there would need to be an additional three full size 3G AGPs (total 11).
 - To move all 5v5 and 7v7 mini soccer there would need to be six full size 3G AGPs which in conjunction with bringing displaced demand back into Cheshire East would require an additional two therefore eight in total on top the mini usage at four sites.
- There is minimal spare capacity at the full size 3G AGPs in Cheshire East for midweek training in the peak period therefore it cannot be classed as actual spare capacity. At the weekend there is capacity to increase the number of competitive matches taking place on full size 3G AGPs.
- In addition to the eight full size 3G AGPs there are also five small 3G AGPs, 18 full size sand based AGPs and eight small sand based AGPs in Cheshire East that are available for community use (total 31). All have various levels of community use.

7. Hockey

Introduction

England Hockey (EH) is the National Governing Body for hockey. The game is played predominantly on sand based or sand filled artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Although competitive play cannot take place on third generation turf (3G) pitches, 40mm pitches may be suitable, in some instances, for beginner training and are preferred to poor grass or tarmac surfaces. For adults, a full size pitch for competitive matches must measure 100x60 yards.

In 2012, EH released its facility guidance (The Right Pitches in the Right Places) which is intended to assist organisations wishing to build or protect hockey pitches for hockey. It identifies that many existing hockey AGPs are nearing the end of their useful life as a result of the installation boom of the 90's. Significant investment is needed to update the playing stock and protect the sport against inappropriate surfaces for hockey as a result of the rising popularity of AGPs for a number of sports.

EH is seeking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers which have a sound understanding of the following:

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

Consultation

All clubs in Cheshire East were consulted by an electronic questionnaire sent out to the main club contacts as identified by England Hockey Relationship Manager Julie Longden. Responses were gained from all eight hockey clubs in Cheshire East which equated to a 100% response rate. Consultation took place in February 2014.

Supply

There are 18 full size sand based or sand filled pitches in Cheshire East. All of the pitches are available for community use however 14 are used by hockey clubs. All of those not used are on education sites.

The analysis area of Congleton has the most pitches (5) followed by Macclesfield (4). Poynton is the only analysis area not to have an AGP.

These findings are illustrated in table 7.1 and on a site by site basis in table 7.2 overleaf.

Table 7.1 - Summary of Hockey AGPs across all sites in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Available & Used		Available & Unused		Not Available	
	Sites	Pitches	Sites	Pitches	Sites	Pitches
Congleton	5	5	0	0	0	0
Crewe	1	1	2	2	0	0
Knutsford	1	1	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield	2	2	2	2	0	0
Nantwich	2	2	0	0	0	0
Poynton	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	3	3	0	0	0	0
Cheshire East	14	14	4	4	0	0

Table 7.2 - Site Specific Summary of Hockey AGPs across Cheshire East

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitches	Floodlit
10	Alsager School (Alsager LC)	Congleton	Yes	1	Yes
51	Congleton High School	Congleton	Yes	1	Yes
57	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	Nantwich	Yes	1	Yes
71	Fallibroome Academy	Macclesfield	Yes	1	Yes
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	Yes	1	Yes
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Yes	1	No
111	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Congleton	Yes	1	Yes
160	Sandbach High School	Congleton	Yes	1	No
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	Yes	1	Yes
165	Shavington High School	Crewe	Yes	1	Yes
167	Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre	Crewe	Unused	1	Yes
170	South Cheshire College	Crewe	Unused	1	No
191	The Edge Hockey Centre	Wilmslow	Yes	1	Yes
193	The Kings School (Cumberland Street)	Macclesfield	Unused	1	Yes
196	The Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	Unused	1	Yes
203	Tytherington High School (Main)	Macclesfield	Yes	1	Yes
221	Wilmslow High School	Wilmslow	Yes	1	Yes
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	Yes	1	Yes

Since the assessment took place there has been increased community usage at The Kings School (Cumberland Street) from Macclesfield Hockey Club.

Triton Hockey Club [Alsager] have been working with the developers on the Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager) site to look at the feasibility to provide a new pitch and clubhouse for their use as part of a multi-sport hub site. This work is ongoing.

Both Malbank School & Sixth Form College and Shavington High School are used by Deeside Ramblers who are from outside of Cheshire East (Cheshire West & Chester) due to a lack of accessible facilities locally to meet their needs.

In addition there are eight small sand based AGPs in Cheshire East. None of the sites are currently used by clubs but could be used for training. They are illustrated in table 7.3 overleaf.

Table 7.3 - Site Specific Summary of Small Sand Based AGPs across Cheshire East

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Size (m)	Floodlighting
22	Beech Hall School	Macclesfield	Unused	Unsure	No
62	Disley Amalgamated Sports Club	Poynton	Unused	46 x 35	Yes
69	Eric Swan Sports Ground	Crewe	Unused	Unsure	Yes
136	Parkroyal School	Macclesfield	Unused	40 x 30	No
149	Radbroke Hall	Knutsford	Unused	30 x 20	Yes
156	Ruskin Sports College	Crewe	Unused	78 x 36	Yes
198	The Oaks Academy (King's Grove School)	Crewe	Unused	87 x 40	No
222	Wilmslow Leisure Centre	Wilmslow	Unused	25 x 15	Yes

Ownership / Management

Of the eighteen sites available for community use eleven are managed by the education establishment themselves [Congleton High School, Fallibroome Academy, Malbank School & Sixth Form College, Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager), Sandbach High School, Sandbach School, South Cheshire College, The Kings School (Cumberland Street), The Macclesfield Academy, Tytherington High School (Main) and Wilmslow High School].

A further four are managed under a dual use arrangement between the school and Everybody Sport & Recreation [Alsager School (Alsager LC), Knutsford Academy, Shavington High School and Sir William Stanier].

Crewe Vagrants Sports Club is owned and managed by the club. The Edge Hockey Centre is owned by Ryleys School and leased to Alderley Edge Hockey Club who also manage it. Wilmslow Phoenix is leased from Cheshire East Council and managed by Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club.

Ancillary Facilities

All of the pitches have ancillary facilities ranging from basic changing and toilet facilities at all sites to more extensive club house facilities. A common issue raised is that the social facilities are not on the same site as their pitches with the exception of Crewe Vagrants Sports Club (Crewe Vagrants Hockey Club) and Wilmslow Phoenix (Wilmslow Hockey Club).

Quality

The typical life span of an AGP carpet is 10-12 years, but this depends heavily on the type of sub base used, quality of the carpet installed, usage levels and maintenance quality. Across Cheshire East there is a need to look at resurfacing a number of carpets as they are reaching the end of their usable life.

Of the 14 available for community use and used six are due for resurfacing [Alsager School (Alsager LC), Congleton High School, Crewe Vagrants Sports Club, Malbank School & Sixth Form College, Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager) and Wilmslow Phoenix]. There are an additional five that are due for resurfacing in the next couple of years [Fallibroome Academy, Knutsford Academy, Sandbach High School, Sandbach School, Shavington High School].

The carpet at the remaining three sites The Edge Hockey Centre is five years old with both Tytherington High School (Main) and Wilmslow High School being resurfaced nine years ago.

In addition three of the sites not currently used by community clubs are newer and could be utilised by community clubs. Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre is seven years old, South Cheshire College is five years old and The Kings School (Cumberland Street) is four years old. In period between collecting the data and presenting the findings The Kings School (Cumberland Street) AGP is now being used for community use.

The pitch at Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager) is part of a proposed development site and is currently in use by Triton Hockey Club. England Hockey, Sport England and the club have been in consultation with the developers and Cheshire East Council to discuss future provision locally and ensure their current and future needs are catered for.

These findings are illustrated in table 7.4 below.

Table 7.4 - Pitch quality by site

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Surface Type	Floodlit	Year built	Year resurfaced
10	Alsager School (Alsager LC)	Congleton	Sand Dressed	Yes	1995	n/a
51	Congleton High School	Congleton	Sand Dressed	Yes	2001	n/a
57	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	Nantwich	Sand Filled	Yes	1994	n/a
71	Fallibroome Academy	Macclesfield	Sand Dressed	Yes	2005	n/a
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	Sand Filled	Yes	1990	2003
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Sand Filled	No	2001	n/a
111	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Congleton	Sand Dressed	Yes	1990	n/a
160	Sandbach High School	Congleton	Sand Filled	No	2004	n/a
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	Sand Filled	Yes	2002	2003
165	Shavington High School	Crewe	Sand Filled	Yes	1994	2004
167	Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre	Crewe	Sand Filled	Yes	2008	n/a
170	South Cheshire College	Crewe	Sand Filled	No	2011	n/a
191	The Edge Hockey Centre	Wilmslow	Sand Dressed	Yes	2011	n/a
193	The Kings School (Cumberland Street)	Macclesfield	Sand Filled	Yes	1989	2012
196	The Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	Sand Filled	Yes	1990	n/a
203	Tytherington High School (Main)	Macclesfield	Sand Filled	Yes	1995	2007
221	Wilmslow High School	Wilmslow	Sand Filled	Yes	1965	2007
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	Sand Dressed	Yes	2004	n/a

Based on data from Sport England's Active Places

Availability

The availability to play matches and train can limit the amount of teams that each club has. A major pressure area is Saturday afternoon when four matches can be played on any single AGP potentially limiting the amount of teams a club can have on their preferred home ground.

Usage of sand based AGPs is also common for football particularly in analysis areas without 3G AGPs [Poynton and Wilmslow] as well as within Congleton in Alsager and Congleton particularly although access issues arise in Knutsford and Sandbach.

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours a week (Monday to Thursday 17.00-21.00; Friday 17.00-19.00; Saturday and Sunday 09.00-17.00). This has been applied in conjunction with findings from consultation to provide a total number of hours available for community use per week during peak periods.

In the main, availability of provision in the peak period is generally good. Where there is provision on education sites, this is generally made available after school and at weekends. Availability is limited at the sites without floodlights to weekend usage.

The findings are illustrated in table 7.5 below.

Table 7.5 - Pitch availability by site

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Opening Times	Hours in peak period
10	Alsager School (Alsager LC)	Congleton	Mon-Thu 18.00-22.00, Fri 17.00-22.00, Sat 09.00-21.00 & Sun 09.00-16.00 (no floodlights on Sun)	29
51	Congleton High School	Congleton	Mon-Fri 17.45-22.00, Sat 10.00-17.00, Sun 10.00-17.00	28.25
57	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	Nantwich	Mon-Fri 08.30-22.00, Weekend 09.00-22.00	34
71	Fallibroome Academy	Macclesfield	Mon-Fri 18.00-22.00, Weekend 09.00-22.00	29
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	Mon-Fri 17.00-22.00, Sat 12.00-18.00, Sun 10.00-18.00	30
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Weekend 09.00-17.00	16
111	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Congleton	Theoretically Mon-Fri 09.00-22.00, Weekend 09.00-20.00. Only open when being used by clubs, no casual bookings.	34
160	Sandbach High School	Congleton	Weekend 09.00-17.30	16
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	Mon-Fri 18.00-22.00, Weekend 09.00-18.00	29
165	Shavington High School	Crewe	Mon-Fri 17.00-22.00, Sat 09.00-19.00, Sun 09.00-20.00	34
167	Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre	Crewe	Mon-Fri 17.00-23.00, Weekend 09.30-20.30	33
170	South Cheshire College	Crewe	Weekend 09.00-17.00	16
191	The Edge Hockey Centre	Wilmslow	Mon-Fri 09.00-21.00, Weekend	34

			09.00-18.00	
193	The Kings School (Cumberland Street)	Macclesfield	Mon-Fri 17.30-21.00, Weekend 12.00-21.00	25.5
196	The Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	Mon-Fri 17.30-21.00, Weekend 00.00-23.59	31.5
203	Tytherington High School (Main)	Macclesfield	Mon-Fri 17.00-22.00, Weekend 09.00-22.00	34
221	Wilmslow High School	Wilmslow	Mon-Fri 17.00-22.00, Weekend 09.00-22.00	34
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	Mon-Fri 09.00-22.00, Weekend 09.00-20.00	34

Based on data from Sport England's Active Places

Demand

Participation in hockey in Cheshire East varies from small clubs to larger clubs with multiple adult and junior teams. In total there are eight clubs in Cheshire East with 71 teams playing regular competitive hockey.

Table 7.6 – Number of hockey clubs and teams in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Number of clubs	Number of teams					
		Open Age (16-55)			Junior (11-15)		
		Mens	Womens	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Congleton	3	7	4	11	2	1	3
Crewe	1	1	1	2	0	0	0
Knutsford	1	3	2	5	0	0	0
Macclesfield	1	4	4	8	4	3	7
Nantwich	1	4	3	7	1	2	3
Poynton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	2	11	10	21	5	1	6
Cheshire East	9	30	24	54	12	7	19

Table 7.7 – Number of hockey players in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Number of players				
	Open Age (16-55)		Junior (11-15)		Total
	Mens	Womens	Boys	Girls	
Congleton	92	43	57	34	226
Crewe	0	0	0	0	0
Knutsford	25	10	25	15	75
Macclesfield	62	44	27	51	184
Nantwich	60	35	15	25	135
Poynton	0	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	171	96	92	175	534
Cheshire East	410	228	216	300	1154

Table 7.8 - Number of hockey teams and players by club in Cheshire East

Club	Analysis Area	Number of teams				Current number of players			
		Open Age (16-55)		Junior (11-15)		Open Age (16-55)		Junior (11-15)	
		Mens	Womens	Boys	Girls	Mens	Womens	Boys	Girls
Alderley Edge Hockey Club	Wilmslow	7	6	4	0	98	42	75	152
Crewe Vagrants Hockey Club	Nantwich	4	3	1	2	60	35	15	25
Knutsford Hockey Club	Knutsford	3	2	0	0	25	10	25	15
Macclesfield Hockey Club	Macclesfield	4	4	4	3	62	44	27	51
Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) Hockey Club	Crewe	1	1	0	0	TBC	TBC	0	0
Sandbach Hockey Club	Congleton	1	0	0	0	20	0	0	0
South Cheshire Hockey Club	Congleton	2	2	0	0	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Triton Hockey Club	Congleton	4	2	2	1	72	43	57	34
Wilmslow Hockey Club	Wilmslow	4	4	1	1	73	54	17	23

Site usage

Each club was asked for their home site and any other sites they use for competitive matches or training purposes. The findings are displayed in table 7.9 below.

Table 7.9 – Site usage and preferred home site by each club

Club	Analysis Area	Site(s) Used for Matches	Site(s) Used for Training
		Preferred home ground in bold	
Alderley Edge Hockey Club	Wilmslow	The Edge Hockey Centre Fallibroome Academy Wilmslow High School	The Edge Hockey Centre
Crewe Vagrants Hockey Club	Nantwich	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club
Knutsford Hockey Club	Knutsford	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford Academy
Macclesfield Hockey Club	Macclesfield	Tytherington High School (Main) Fallibroome Academy	Tytherington High School (Main)
MMU Hockey Club	Crewe	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club
Sandbach Hockey Club	Congleton	Sandbach High School	Sandbach School
South Cheshire Hockey Club	Congleton	Congleton High School	Congleton High School
Triton Hockey Club	Congleton	Alsager School (Alsager LC) Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager) Alsager School (Alsager LC)
Wilmslow Hockey Club	Wilmslow	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow Phoenix

In addition Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club use Malbank School & Sixth Form College and Shavington High School. This is displaced demand from Cheshire West and Chester. Neither of these sites are used by hockey clubs in Cheshire East.

Unmet Demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision which in turn is hindering its growth. There are no clubs in Cheshire East that are reporting unmet demand.

Displaced Demand

Displaced demand generally relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area which takes place outside the area.

Due to the format of competitions that Macclesfield Hockey Club (5 junior teams) and Triton Hockey Club (2 junior teams) play in they play at central venues in Belle Vue, Manchester and Timperley, Stockport. Therefore seven teams from Cheshire East are displaced.

This is through choice rather than necessity. It is also worth noting that both of these teams could be catered for inside the assessment area if the competition format changed.

Latent Demand

Clubs were asked if they had more pitches would they have more teams. Alderley Edge Hockey Club believe they could have an additional four teams (1 mens, 1 ladies and 2 junior), Macclesfield an additional two teams (1 mens, 1 ladies), and Triton an additional two teams (1 mens, 1 ladies). This could require an additional 4.5 hours of usage in the peak period to cater for this demand. Wilmslow also believe they could get up to an additional 8 teams at various age groups.

Sport England's Market Segmentation tool allows analysis of the 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in hockey but are not currently doing so' – latent demand. It identifies at a latent demand 583 people. The highest segment that would like to participate is Chloe [Fitness Class Friends] at 15.6% which is 91 people followed by Tim [Settling Down Males] at 10.3% which is 60 people.

Capacity Analysis

The capacity to provide competitive match and training opportunities is limited by availability of AGPs.

In order to accurately calculate supply and demand for hockey the following assumptions have been made:

- All matches last for 1.5 hours
- All senior matches take place on Saturdays (unless advised otherwise)
- All junior matches do not take place on Saturdays (unless advised otherwise)
- All teams play an equal number of home and away matches
- All clubs play on their preferred home ground to its capacity (unless advised otherwise)

To calculate capacity on individual pitches following assumptions have been made:

- Pitches with floodlights can carry four matches
- Pitches without floodlights can carry three matches

This information is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

Peak Period

The peak period for hockey has been identified as Saturday afternoons which can cater for four matches if the AGP has floodlights or three matches without.

Table 7.10 – Availability and usage of Hockey AGPs

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Hours in peak period	Hockey usage	Other usage	Spare capacity	Capacity for hockey	Comments
				(%)				
10	Alsager School (Alsager LC)	Congleton	29	28%			At capacity	Used by Triton Hockey Club for matches and junior training as well as football clubs for training purposes.
51	Congleton High School	Congleton	28.25	18%			Spare capacity for matches	Used by South Cheshire Hockey Club for matches and training. Heavily used by Congleton Rovers FC for training purposes. School has started exploring resurfacing options including 3G.
57	Crewe Vagrants Sports Club	Nantwich	34	53%	30%	17%	At capacity	Used by Crewe Vagrants Hockey Club for matches and training as well as football clubs for training purposes. Also used by MMU Cheshire Hockey Club.
71	Fallibroome Academy	Macclesfield	29	7%			Spare capacity for matches	Used primarily by football clubs and is also used by Alderley Edge and Macclesfield Hockey Clubs.
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	30	22%			Spare capacity for matches	Used by Knutsford Hockey Club for matches and training as well as football clubs for training purposes.
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	16	3%			Spare capacity for matches	Does not have floodlights so is only available at weekends. Used infrequently by Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club as an overspill facility and by local football and rugby clubs.
111	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Congleton	34	16%			Spare capacity for matches	Subject to a planning application with proposals to replace the AGP. May cause capacity issues if AGP is unavailable for a period of time. Used by Triton Hockey Club for training and matches.
160	Sandbach High School	Congleton	16	10%	0%	90%	Spare capacity for matches	Does not have floodlights so is only available at weekends. Used by Sandbach Hockey Club for matches.
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	29	7%			Spare capacity for matches	Used primarily by local football clubs. Used for training purposes by Sandbach Hockey Club.

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Hours in peak period	Hockey usage	Other usage	Spare capacity	Capacity for hockey	Comments
				(%)				
165	Shavington High School	Crewe	34	1%			Spare capacity for matches	Used primarily by local football and rugby clubs as well as infrequently by Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club.
167	Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre	Crewe	33	0%			No hockey use currently	Used primarily by local football clubs for training purposes. No hockey goals.
170	South Cheshire College	Crewe	16	0%	0%	100%	No hockey use currently	Does not have floodlights so is only available at weekends. Used primarily by students during the week. No hockey goals.
191	The Edge Hockey Centre	Wilmslow	34	70%	18%	12%	At capacity	Used by Alderley Edge Hockey Club for matches and training as well as football clubs for training purposes.
193	The Kings School (Cumberland Street)	Macclesfield	25.5	0%			No hockey use currently	Not used by hockey clubs at time of analysis. Has since been used by Macclesfield Hockey Club for matches and training.
196	The Macclesfield Academy	Macclesfield	31.5	0%			No hockey use currently	Used primarily by local football clubs for training purposes. No hockey goals.
203	Tytherington High School (Main)	Macclesfield	34	34%			At capacity	Used by Macclesfield Hockey Club for matches and training as well as football clubs for training purposes.
221	Wilmslow High School	Wilmslow	34	2.5			Spare capacity for matches	Used by Alderley Edge Hockey Club for matches and by football clubs for training purposes.
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	34	37%	47%	16%	At capacity	Used by Wilmslow Hockey Club for matches and training as well as football and lacrosse clubs for training purposes.

The Kings School is now used by Macclesfield Hockey Club for matches and training.

Supply and Demand Analysis

Based on the 52 adult teams in Cheshire East (discounting Manchester Metropolitan University Hockey Club as they play mid-week in BUCS competitions) there is a requirement for seven pitches (rounded up from 6.5) to meet demand at peak time (Saturday). This is factoring in home and away games and on the assumption that pitches that are floodlit therefore can host four matches per week.

In Cheshire East there is additional peak time usage by Badgers (U15) and Beavers (U13) teams from Alderley Edge (2 Badgers & 2 Beavers) and Triton (1 Badgers & 1 Beavers) which requires another one pitch (rounded up from 0.75). Therefore the overall total is eight pitches (rounded up from 7.25). This is factoring in home and away games and on the assumption that pitches are floodlit therefore can host four matches per week.

In Cheshire East there are currently 15 floodlit AGPs suitable for hockey as well as an additional three that do not have floodlights that are available for community use during the peak period. There is enough supply to meet the demand. There are 14 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (11 floodlit and 3 non-floodlit) which equates to a potential carry capacity of 53 matches on Saturdays.

There are however are a number of current and future issues that need consideration. They are:

- There is a particular capacity issue in Wilmslow where 21 teams are situated which results in a requirement for three AGPs to meet the demand. Alderley Edge Hockey Club already use pitches in Macclesfield (4 miles) as well as Wilmslow High School to meet demand. Any demand for further senior teams at Wilmslow Hockey Club will require additional pitch access to meet this demand.
- Of the 14 AGPs used by clubs for community use only three (The Edge Hockey Centre – 5 years, Tytherington High School (Main) – 9 years & Wilmslow High School – 9 years) are under 10 years old. The other 11 all need to be resurfaced in the near future. If any of these facilities were to become unusable it could have effect hockey usage in Cheshire East.
- The Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager) site is subject to a planning application including the replacement of the sand based AGP. Depending on the outcome of this application there could potentially be consequences to the Triton usage of this site for matches and training. The training usage can be catered for on the Alsager School (Alsager LC) site although there may need to be some flexibility with current bookings at the site. There is also potential for the current match usage to be catered for on this site applying EHB guidance that four matches can be catered for on a Saturday although this is not the clubs preferred option. In addition if the application includes the replacement of a sand based AGP there could be a period of time, depending how the project is planned, when the new and old AGPs are not available. There is potential for this usage to be catered for either at Alsager School (Alsager LC) or other local AGPs such as Congleton High School (5 miles), Sandbach School (3 miles) or Sandbach High School (3 miles).

Spare Capacity

We need to identify whether the potential capacity can be classified as spare capacity due to its availability in the peak period.

There are nine sites showing spare capacity equating to a potential 24 match equivalent sessions in the peak period. Seven have floodlights while two do not.

Of the sites showing spare capacity there is the most within Congleton with 4 sites and 12.5 match equivalents per week. In particular there is growth potential in Sandbach which has two pitches and potentially 6.5 match equivalents per week.

It is illustrated by analysis area in table 7.11 and by site in table 7.12 below.

Table 7.11 - Actual spare capacity by analysis area

Analysis Area	No. of Pitches available in peak period			Capacity Rating (match equivalents)		
	With Floodlights	Without Floodlights	Total	With Floodlights	Without Floodlights	Total
Congleton	3	1	4	10	2.5	12.5
Crewe	1	0	1	3.5	0	3.5
Knutsford	1	0	1	2	0	2
Macclesfield	1	0	1	1.5	0	1.5
Nantwich	0	1	1	0	2.5	2.5
Poynton	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	1	0	1	2	0	2
Cheshire East	7	2	9	19	5	24

Table 7.12 - Actual spare capacity by site

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Capacity Rating in peak period (match equivalents)
51	Congleton High School	Congleton	3
71	Fallibroome Academy	Macclesfield	1.5
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	2
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	2.5
111	Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager)	Congleton	3
160	Sandbach High School	Congleton	2.5
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	4
166	Shavington High School	Crewe	3.5
221	Wilmslow High School	Wilmslow	2

There is also potential to utilise some of the pitches that are available for community but are unused for hockey. All sites have availability in the peak period. They are:

- Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre – Crewe
- South Cheshire College – Crewe
- The Kings School (Cumberland Street) – Macclesfield
- The Macclesfield Academy – Macclesfield

Since the analysis was undertaken The Kings School (Cumberland Street) is being used by Macclesfield Hockey Club for matches and training.

Future Demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts. Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth.

Analysis Area	Age Group	Current	Future	Current number of teams	TGR	Future number of teams	Additional teams based on TGR
		population within age group					
Cheshire East	Boys 10-18	10900	11790	12	908.3	13.0	1.0
	Girls 10-18	10600	11465	7	1514.3	7.6	0.6
	Men 19-45	93000	100593	30	3100.0	32.4	2.4
	Women 19-45	94200	101891	24	3925.0	26.0	2.0
Congleton	Boys 11-15	2700	2976	2	1350.0	2.2	0.2
	Girls 11-15	2600	2866	1	2600.0	1.1	0.1
	Men 16-55	22500	24799	7	3214.3	7.7	0.7
	Women 16-55	22700	25019	4	5675.0	4.4	0.4
Crewe	Boys 11-15	2500	2742	0	0	0	0
	Girls 11-15	2600	2852	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-55	23400	25669	1	23400.0	1.1	0.1
	Women 16-55	23400	25669	1	23400.0	1.1	0.1
Knutsford	Boys 11-15	700	748	0	0	0	0.0
	Girls 11-15	700	748	0	0	0	0.0
	Men 16-55	6000	6412	3	2000.0	3.2	0.2
	Women 16-55	6000	6412	2	3000.0	2.1	0.1
Macclesfield	Boys 11-15	2000	2127	4	500.0	4.3	0.3
	Girls 11-15	1900	2020	3	633.3	3.2	0.2
	Men 16-55	17900	19035	4	4475.0	4.3	0.3
	Women 16-55	18200	19354	4	4550.0	4.3	0.3
Nantwich	Boys 11-15	1000	1050	1	1000.0	1.1	0.1
	Girls 11-15	1000	1050	2	500.0	2.1	0.1
	Men 16-55	8900	9345	4	2225.0	4.2	0.2
	Women 16-55	8900	9345	3	2966.7	3.2	0.2
Poynton	Boys 11-15	700	721	0	0	0	0.0
	Girls 11-15	700	721	0	0	0	0.0
	Men 16-55	5100	5250	0	0	0	0.0
	Women 16-55	5300	5456	0	0	0	0.0
Wilmslow	Boys 11-15	1200	1326	5	240.0	5.5	0.5
	Girls 11-15	1100	1216	1	1100.0	1.1	0.1
	Men 16-55	9300	10278	11	845.5	12.2	1.2
	Women 16-55	9700	10720	10	970.0	11.1	1.1

In terms of pitch provision this is illustrating that there would be:

- An additional 1 boys (10-18) team that would requiring 0.5 match equivalents per week.
- An additional 2 mens (16-55) and womens (16-55) would be required across Cheshire East requiring an additional two match equivalents in the peak period between them.

1 mens and womens team could be formed in Wilmslow which would have to be catered for at Wilmslow High School or outside of the peak period with capacity already being reached at The Edge Hockey Centre and Wilmslow Phoenix.

- No change in girls (10-18) teams.

Scenario Testing

AGP Resurfacing Requirements

As identified earlier within this section 11 of the AGPs that are used by hockey clubs are due to be resurfaced in the near future. There is a risk that this may not be undertaken or alternatively they may be resurfaced as a 3G AGP and not suitable for competitive hockey usage. This scenario looks at the impact it would have on the theoretical carry capacity if some of the AGPs were to become unavailable for community use. This does not take into account local issues.

The findings illustrate that theoretically if up to four AGPs were lost or changed to 3G the current demand for competitive hockey could be catered for within the peak period. It is worth noting that any proposals to change sand based AGPs to 3G would need more careful consideration but could be feasible in areas where there is a lack of demand for hockey. The findings are illustrated in table 7.13 below.

Table 7.13 – Effect on carry capacity of removing or changing the surface of AGPs

Number of AGPs unavailable or changed to 3G	Amended carry capacity	Supply vs Demand analysis
	(based on 4 match equivalents per Saturday)	
2	45	19
4	37	11
6	29	3
8	21	-5

Conclusions

This section will consider the extent in which current provision can accommodate current and future demand.

Based on the current demand, 52 adult teams discounting Manchester Metropolitan University Hockey Club as they play mid-week in BUCS competitions, there is a requirement for seven pitches (rounded up from 6.5) at peak time (Saturday). This is factoring in home and away games and on the assumption that pitches that are floodlit therefore can host four matches per week.

There is additional peak time usage by Badgers (U15) and Beavers (U13) teams from Alderley Edge (2 Badgers & 2 Beavers) and Triton (1 Badgers & 1 Beavers) which requires another one pitch (rounded up from 0.75). Therefore the overall total is eight pitches (rounded up from 7.25). This is factoring in home and away games and on the assumption that pitches are floodlit therefore can host four matches per week.

There are 14 AGP pitches that are used by hockey clubs (11 floodlit and 3 non-floodlit) which equates to a potential carry capacity of 53 matches on Saturdays.

The future demand using TGRs is anticipating an additional five teams (2 mens [16-55], 2 womens [16-55] and 1 boys [10-18]). This can be catered for on the existing facilities across Cheshire East.

There is some slight concern according to projections 1 mens and womens team could be formed in Wilmslow. There is already a capacity issue locally with Alderley

Edge Hockey Club already using pitches in Macclesfield (4 miles) as well as Wilmslow High School to meet demand. Usage at Wilmslow High School or playing outside of the peak period would be required with capacity already being reached at The Edge Hockey Centre and Wilmslow Phoenix.

Potential Actions Required

AGP surface renewal plan

The main area of concern when planning for the future is the age of the AGP surfaces. Of the 14 AGPs used by clubs for community use only three (The Edge Hockey Centre – 5 years, Tytherington High School (Main) – 9 years & Wilmslow High School – 9 years) are under 10 years old. The other 11 all need to be resurfaced in the near future.

Hockey Summary

- There are 18 full size sand based or sand filled pitches in Cheshire East. All of the pitches are available for community use however 14 are used by hockey clubs. All of those not used are on education sites.
- Of the eighteen sites available for community use eleven are managed by the education establishment themselves, four are managed under a dual use arrangement between the school and Everybody Sport & Recreation with the other three being managed by the clubs themselves.
- The typical life span of an AGP carpet is 10-12 years. Of the 14 available for community use and used six are due for resurfacing, an additional five that are due for resurfacing in the next couple of years and the carpet at the other three sites has considerable wear left in them.
- There are eight clubs in Cheshire East with 71 teams playing regular competitive hockey.
- In addition Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club (Cheshire West & Chester) use Malbank School & Sixth Form College and Shavington High School.
- There is displaced demand of seven junior teams, however this is due to the competition they compete in rather than a lack of facilities.
- Clubs have a perceived latent demand of eight teams. Two of these are each at Alderley Edge and Triton Hockey Clubs which cannot be catered for at their respective home grounds although could be catered for within a mile of their home ground. The other demand can be catered for within existing facilities.
- Based on the 52 adult teams in Cheshire East (discounting MMU Hockey Club) there is a requirement for seven pitches (rounded up from 6.5) to meet demand at peak time.
- In Cheshire East there are currently 15 floodlit AGPs suitable for hockey as well as an additional three that do not have floodlights that are available for community use during the peak period. There is enough supply to meet the demand. There are 14 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (11 floodlit and 3 non-floodlit) which equates to a potential carry capacity of 53 matches on Saturdays.
- There are nine sites showing spare capacity equating to a potential 24 match equivalent sessions in the peak period. Seven have floodlights while two do not.
- There is also potential to utilise some of the pitches that are available for community but are unused for hockey. All sites have availability in the peak period.
- Population projections suggest an additional five teams (2 mens [16-55], 2 womens [16-55] and 1 boys [10-18] requiring an additional 2.5 match equivalents per week.

7. Lacrosse

Introduction

English Lacrosse is the Governing Body of Sport for Lacrosse in England. The role of the Body is to control, promote and develop the sport Lacrosse across the country.

Participation in Lacrosse in Cheshire East is limited to north of the borough in two community clubs. English Lacrosse are keen to expand further into Macclesfield and the surrounding areas.

Consultation

Both clubs within Cheshire East were consulted through a questionnaire and this was checked with the lead contact Doug Martin from English Lacrosse along with their development aims for the area in July 2014.

Supply

There a total of seven lacrosse pitches in Cheshire East based across three sites all of which are available for community use although there are some additional junior pitches over marked on senior pitches. The management and maintenance of the sites is split with two being managed and maintained by the clubs themselves and the other being maintained by the local authority.

Lacrosse pitches are located in two analysis areas (Poynton and Wilmslow) to the North East of the borough. This is reflective of the location of the two community clubs Poynton Lacrosse Club and Wilmslow Lacrosse Club.

These findings are illustrated in tables 7.1 and 7.2 below.

Table 7.1 - Summary of Lacrosse Pitches across all sites in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Number of sites	Number of pitches	
		Junior	Senior
Congleton	0	0	0
Crewe	0	0	0
Knutsford	0	0	0
Macclesfield	0	0	0
Nantwich	0	0	0
Poynton	2	0	3
Wilmslow	1	0	4
Cheshire East	3	0	7

Table 7.2 – Site Specific Summary of Lacrosse Pitches across Cheshire East

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Management
129	Mount Vernon	Poynton	Yes	1	Senior	Local Authority
145	Poynton Sports Club	Poynton	Yes	2	Senior	Club
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	Yes	4	Senior	Club

Pitch Quality

The Sport England 'Playing Pitch Guidance, An approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy' guidance does not include lacrosse guidance therefore English Lacrosse has been consulted to support the process of determining pitch quality. The quality of the pitches across Cheshire East are summarised in table 7.3 below.

Table 7.3 – Pitch quality overview of all Lacrosse Pitches across Cheshire East

	Good	Standard	Poor
Poynton	0	2	1
Wilmslow	1	3	0
Cheshire East	1	5	0

Ancillary Facilities

Both clubs within Cheshire East have access to ancillary facilities at their home grounds which include changing rooms, parking, kitchen access and a bar. The site at Mount Vernon does not have any ancillary facilities and is therefore identified as spare site used by Poynton Lacrosse Club.

Security of Tenure

All sites in Cheshire East have a secure tenure with one being owned by the club, one being on a long term lease from the local authority to the club and the other being owned and managed by the local authority.

Poynton Lacrosse Club is a club within the larger Poynton Sports Club which owns all of the facilities on site which includes a football pitch, crown green bowls rink, six tennis courts and a cricket pitch which the lacrosse pitch is over marked on.

Wilmslow Lacrosse Club is part of Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club which leases the ground from Cheshire East Council. There is 27 years left on the 35 year lease. The site also includes an artificial grass pitch used primarily for hockey, a football pitch and a cricket pitch which also includes two lacrosse pitches in the outfield.

Demand

Club based lacrosse in Cheshire East is split between the two clubs Poynton and Wilmslow. One team from each club, Under 19s, plays in a central venue league at Timperley which is outside of the analysis area. This is seen as displaced demand although this is through choice rather than necessity as facilities are available to cater for this demand. This is displayed by in tables 7.4 by analysis area and 7.5 by club overleaf.

Table 7.4 – Lacrosse teams in Cheshire East by analysis area

Analysis Area	Open Age (19-45)		Junior (10-18)		Total
	Mens	Womens	Boys	Girls	
Congleton	0	0	0	0	0
Crewe	0	0	0	0	0
Knutsford	0	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield	0	0	0	0	0
Nantwich	0	0	0	0	0
Poynton	4	0	5	0	9
Wilmslow	3	1	3	0	7
Cheshire East	7	1	8	0	16

Table 7.5 – Lacrosse teams in Cheshire East by club

Club	Analysis Area	Open Age (19-45)		Junior (10-18)		Total
		Mens	Womens	Boys	Girls	
Poynton Lacrosse Club	Poynton	4	0	5	0	9
Wilmslow Lacrosse Club	Wilmslow	3	1	3	0	7

Since the analysis took place Poynton Lacrosse Club have developed a girls junior team. They are looking to develop two further junior girls teams in 2016/17.

Training

Both clubs use artificial grass surfaces at their home ground to train on. Poynton Lacrosse Club have access to sand based AstroTurf tennis courts whilst Wilmslow Lacrosse Club used a full sized sand based AstroTurf which is also used for football and hockey. Both facilities are floodlit and neither raise capacity issues.

Leagues

Both clubs play in the North of England Men's Lacrosse Association (NEMLA) league and cup competitions. Wilmslow also play in the North Women's Lacrosse Association (NWLA) league.

Unmet Demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision which in turn is hindering its growth. There is not any evidence of unmet demand in lacrosse in Cheshire East.

Latent Demand

The clubs were asked if they had access to appropriate facilities, either at the club or locally, would they have more teams. Poynton Lacrosse Club illustrated that could field an additional 4 junior teams if they had more facilities. This illustrates that the current access to facilities is hindering the development of the sport.

The Sport England Market Segmentation tool does not work for lacrosse as the sample size is not large enough to produce a valid result therefore we cannot use this to suggest latent demand as in the other sports.

Displaced Demand

Displaced demand generally relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area which takes place outside the area.

Due to the format of the NEMLA Under 19s competition all games are played at a central venue in Timperley which is outside of Cheshire East therefore two teams from Cheshire East are displaced. This is through choice rather than necessity. It is also worth noting that both of these teams could be catered for inside the assessment area if the competition format changed.

Capacity Analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate competitive play, training and other activity over a season is generally determined by pitch quality. Pitch quality affects the playing of the game therefore has an impact on the overall lacrosse playing experience.

In order to accurately calculate supply and demand in lacrosse the following assumptions have been made:

- All teams play an equal number of matches at home and away therefore 0.5 match equivalents per week is calculated for each team.
- All senior matches are played on senior pitches.
- All junior matches (U12, U14 & U16) are either played on dedicated junior pitches (where supplied) or over marked on senior pitches.
- Only competitive matches are played on grass pitches, all training takes places on AGPs.
- All adult matches take place on Saturday afternoon.
- All junior boys matches take place on Saturday mornings, all junior girls games take place on Sunday mornings.

As lacrosse is not recognised in the Sport England 'Playing Pitch Guidance, An approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy' guidance therefore a pitch quality and capacity needed to be established for each pitch. To make it simpler the FA's guidance was adopted.

Lacrosse pitch capacity ratings

Pitch quality	Matches per week
Good	3
Standard	2
Poor	1

This information is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

The Peak Period

To establish true spare capacity the peak period needs to be established. The peak time for adults is Saturday afternoon and Saturday morning for juniors.

Table 7.6 – Site Specific Capacity of Sites

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
							(match equivalents per week)		
129	Mount Vernon	Poynton	Secure	1	Senior	Standard	0.5	2	1.5
145	Poynton Sports Club	Poynton	Secure	2	Senior	Standard	3.5	4	0.5
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	Secure	1	Senior	Good	2	3	1
				3		Standard	1.5	6	4.5

Poynton Sports Club has an additional junior pitch which is over marked on the senior pitches therefore is counted within the calculations for that pitch.

All pitches at Oakwood Farm can be over marked as junior pitches.

Supply and Demand Analysis

Spare Capacity

We need to identify whether the potential capacity can be classified as actual spare capacity due to its availability in the peak period.

All lacrosse sites in Cheshire East have some spare capacity. Oakwood Farm has the most spare capacity with 5.5 match equivalents per week. This is illustrated in table 7.7 below.

Table 7.7 – Actual spare capacity

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Pitch Type	No. of pitches	Capacity Rating (match equivalents)	Pitches available in peak period
129	Mount Vernon	Poynton	Senior	1	1.5	1.5
145	Poynton Sports Club	Poynton	Senior	2	0.5	0
223	Wilmslow Phoenix	Wilmslow	Senior	4	5.5	4.5

Latent Demand

Poynton Lacrosse Club illustrated they could have an additional 4 junior teams if they had access to suitable facilities. There would need to be an additional 2 match equivalents to host this latent demand. Through usage at Mount Vernon three of these teams could be accommodated, this is however not the club's preferred site due to pitch quality and lack of changing provision.

Future Demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts. Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth. The table 7.8 below illustrates the team generation rates.

Table 7.8 - Team generation rates for lacrosse

Analysis Area	Age Group	Current	Future	Current number of teams	TGR	Future number of teams	Additional teams based on TGR
		population within age group					
Cheshire East	Boys 10-18	20000	21633	8	2500.0	8.7	0.7
	Girls 10-18	18900	20443	0	0	0	0
	Men 19-45	58100	62844	7	8300.0	7.6	0.6
	Women 19-45	59400	64250	1	59400.0	1.1	0.1
Congleton	Boys 11-15	5000	5511	0	0	0	0
	Girls 11-15	4600	5070	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-55	13600	14990	0	0	0	0
	Women 16-55	13900	15320	0	0	0	0
Crewe	Boys 11-15	4800	5265	0	0	0	0
	Girls 11-15	4600	5046	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-55	15500	17003	0	0	0	0
	Women 16-55	15800	17332	0	0	0	0

Knutsford	Boys 11-15	1200	1282	0	0	0	0
	Girls 11-15	1200	1282	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-55	3600	3847	0	0	0	0
	Women 16-55	3600	3847	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield	Boys 11-15	3600	3828	0	0	0	0
	Girls 11-15	3400	3616	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-55	11400	12123	0	0	0	0
	Women 16-55	11600	12335	0	0	0	0
Nantwich	Boys 11-15	2000	2100	0	0	0	0
	Girls 11-15	1900	1995	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-55	5400	5670	0	0	0	0
	Women 16-55	5400	5670	0	0	0	0
Poynton	Boys 11-15	1400	1441	5	280.0	5.1	0.1
	Girls 11-15	1300	1338	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-55	2800	2882	4	700.0	4.1	0.1
	Women 16-55	3000	3088	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	Boys 11-15	2000	2210	3	666.7	3.3	0.3
	Girls 11-15	1900	2100	0	0	0	0
	Men 16-55	5800	6410	3	1933.3	3.3	0.3
	Women 16-55	6200	6852	1	6200.0	1.1	0.1

In terms of pitch provision this is illustrating that there would be:

- No change across Cheshire East

In addition each of the clubs were asked about their growth plans over the next five years. Both clubs are looking to grow with Poynton looking to add three teams and Wilmslow one junior team. This would result in an additional 1.5 match equivalents in Poynton and 0.5 match equivalents in Wilmslow being required. This is illustrated in table 7.9 below.

Table 7.9 - Growth aspirations in lacrosse clubs

Club	Analysis Area	Team Type			Number of match equivalents (per week)
		Open Age		Junior	
		Mens	Womens		
Poynton Lacrosse Club	Poynton	1	0	2	1.5
Wilmslow Lacrosse Club	Wilmslow	0	0	1	0.5

Since the original analysis took place Poynton Lacrosse Club have developed a girls junior team. They are looking to develop two further junior girls teams in 2016/17. This would require 1.5 match equivalents per week outside of the peak period so can be catered for between Poynton Sports Club and Mount Vernon although they will be at capacity.

Conclusions

This section will consider the extent in which current provision can accommodate current and future demand.

As illustrated earlier there is actual spare capacity within the peak period with five pitches offering six match equivalents in the peak period (Saturday afternoon for adults and Saturday morning for juniors).

The table 7.10 below illustrates actual spare capacity within the peak period (Saturday afternoon for adults and Saturday morning for juniors) against overplay and the future demand illustrated using team generation rates.

There is currently minimal spare capacity in Poynton but this is not at Poynton Lacrosse Club's preferred home ground. There is considerable capacity at Wilmslow Phoenix which could allow future growth to be catered for.

There are no lacrosse pitches in any other analysis areas other than Poynton and Wilmslow therefore this would not allow for growth into neighbouring areas such as Knutsford and Macclesfield.

Table 7.10 - Current & future capacity of lacrosse pitches in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Supply	Current Demand		Future	
	Spare Capacity	Overplay	Total	Demand	Total
	(match equivalents)				
Congleton	0	0	0	0	0
Crewe	0	0	0	0	0
Knutsford	0	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield	0	0	0	0	0
Nantwich	0	0	0	0	0
Poynton	1.5	0	1.5	0	1.5
Wilmslow	4.5	0	4.5	0	4.5
Cheshire East	6	0	6	0	6

Lacrosse Summary

- In total there are seven lacrosse pitches on three sites in Cheshire East. All of these pitches are available for community use and used.
- There are two main sites (Wilmslow Phoenix and Poynton Sports Club) which host the two Lacrosse clubs.
- The majority of the pitches are rated as standard quality with one good pitch.
- There is currently 16 teams based within Cheshire East.
- There is displaced demand of two teams, however this is due to the competition they compete in rather than a lack of facilities.
- Clubs have a latent demand of five teams, four of these are at Poynton which cannot cater for this demand with their current facilities.
- All pitches in Cheshire East have some spare capacity, total 7.5 match equivalents, however only 6 match equivalents are available in the peak period.
- Population projections suggest there neither an increase or decrease in teams across Cheshire East.

8. Rugby League

Introduction & Overview

Rugby League is governed by the Rugby Football League (RFL). It is responsible for the administration of Super League, the Challenge Cup, the Championships and England national rugby league teams. The RFL also manages and develops Community Rugby League through the RFL Community Board.

Current picture and history

Cheshire East does not currently have any community rugby league clubs or teams training or competing. There is however an education based club at Manchester Metropolitan University that train and compete from Crewe Vagrants using the rugby union pitches therefore have been accounted for within the calculations for rugby union pitches.

There has historically been rugby league activity with nomadic teams linked to rugby union clubs as well as the Crewe & Nantwich Steamers who played initially at Legends in Crewe and then the Barony in Nantwich. The club ran from 2003 to 2010 and was at its peak in 2009 when it fielded two teams. Unfortunately due to other commitments from the management team and a lack of personnel stepping forward to replace them the club folded prior to the 2011 season.

9. Rugby Union

Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the national governing body for rugby union. It employs one development officer supported by community rugby coaches and regional staff with specific roles such as facility development to support clubs in Cheshire East. Their aim is to get more people playing rugby at all ages and levels.

The Cheshire RFU is the constituent body that administers rugby in Cheshire responsible for the running of competitions and fielding representative sides.

Consultation

All clubs in Cheshire East were consulted by an electronic questionnaire sent out to the main club contacts as identified by Cheshire Rugby Development Officer David Westhead. Responses were gained from all eight rugby union clubs in Cheshire East which equated to a 100% response rate. Consultation took place in July 2014.

Supply

There are a total of 55 rugby union pitches at 21 sites across Cheshire East. Of those over half of the sites, 11 equating to 57%, are used by community clubs. This represents 36 pitches which is 65% of the pitches.

A further two sites [Reaseheath College & Sandbach School] with five pitches are available for community but are not used whilst seven sites [Fallibroome Academy, Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre, St Thomas More Catholic High School, Terra Nova School, The Kings School (Cumberland Street), The Kings School (Derby Fields) & Wilmslow High School] with 15 pitches are not available for community use. All of the sites that are not currently used or available are found at education sites.

The analysis area of Congleton has the highest number of sites and pitches with seven sites and 22 pitches. However only three of these sites are currently used by community clubs. The analysis areas of Crewe and Poynton don't have any sites that are available for community use. It is worth noting that Crewe Vagrants as used by Crewe and Nantwich RUFC is on the edge of the analysis areas of Crewe and Nantwich.

The sites with the highest number of pitches are found primarily at community clubs with Sandbach having 10 pitches (5 senior, 2 junior & 3 mini) of varying sizes and Macclesfield seven pitches (5 senior & 2 junior).

There are a number of education sites that have identified as being available for community use but unused. They are Alsager School (1 pitch), Reaseheath College (1 pitch) and Sandbach School (3 pitches). All three sites have also identified access to changing facilities. Reaseheath College is in the process of a planning application to change this grass based pitch into a 3G AGP suitable for rugby. This will be the first such facility in Cheshire East.

The findings are illustrated by analysis area in table 9.1 and on a site by site basis in table 9.2 below.

Table 9.1 - Summary of Rugby Union Pitches across all sites in Cheshire East

Analysis Area	Available & Used		Available & Unused		Not Available	
	Sites	Pitches	Sites	Pitches	Sites	Pitches
Congleton	4	15	1	3	2	3
Crewe	0	0	0	0	1	1
Knutsford	1	2	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield	1	7	0	0	3	8
Nantwich	4	7	1	1	0	0
Poynton	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	2	5	0	0	1	3
Cheshire East	12	36	2	4	7	15

Table 9.2 - Site Specific Summary of Rugby Union Pitches across Cheshire East

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Pitch Type & No. of pitches		
				Senior	Junior	Mini
11	AP Club (Holmes Chapel RUFC)	Congleton	Used	1	0	0
19	Back Lane Playing Fields	Congleton	Used	2	0	0
21	Barony Sports Complex	Nantwich	Used	1	0	0
35	Brine Leas School	Nantwich	Used	3	0	0
52	Congleton Park / Hankinson's Field	Congleton	Used	2	0	0
56	Crewe Vagrants	Nantwich	Used	2	0	0
71	Fallibroome Academy	Macclesfield	Not Available	1	0	0
86	Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre	Congleton	Not Available	2	0	0
91	Jim Evison Playing Fields	Wilmslow	Used	2	0	0
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	Used	2	0	0
109	Macclesfield RUFC (Priory Park)	Macclesfield	Used	5	2	0
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Used	1	0	0
151	Reaseheath College	Nantwich	Unused	1	0	0
161	Sandbach RUFC	Congleton	Used	5	2	3
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	Unused	3	0	0
183	St Thomas More Catholic High School	Crewe	Not Available	1	0	0
188	Terra Nova School	Congleton	Not Available	1	0	0
193	The Kings School (Cumberland Street)	Macclesfield	Not Available	0	3	0
194	The Kings School (Derby Fields)	Macclesfield	Not Available	4	0	0
221	Wilmslow High School	Wilmslow	Not Available	3	0	0
224	Wilmslow RUFC (Memorial Ground)	Wilmslow	Used	2	1	0
Totals				45	8	3

Disused Sites

There are five sites which are closed for rugby union. They are:

- Alsager School – 1 senior rugby union pitch
- Congleton High School – 1 senior rugby union pitch
- Eaton Bank High School – 1 senior rugby union pitch
- Egerton Youth Club – 1 senior rugby union pitch
- Manchester Metropolitan University (Alsager) – 2 senior rugby union pitches

The pitches at Alsager School, Congleton High School and Eaton Bank High School are being used for football therefore are included in the football section of the report. Both Congleton High School and Eaton Bank High School pitches are used by community football clubs.

Egerton Youth Club is the former home of Knutsford Rugby Club. Since they left the site to play at Knutsford Academy it has been used for football by Egerton Football Club.

New sites

Since the data was collected and analysed some new pitches have opened. These have not been included in the assessment. They are:

- Crewe Vagrants – 1 senior & 2 junior rugby union pitches
- Booths Hall – 1 junior rugby union pitch

Crewe & Nantwich RUFC have developed an additional three pitches to allow more play on their preferred home site.

Knutsford RUFC have leased a former football pitch near their social base at Toft Cricket Club. The site is used for training with temporary floodlights and junior training and matches.

Proposed Sites

There is a proposed alteration to the Reaseheath College site to develop the grass rugby pitch into a 3G AGP suitable for competitive rugby use. This has received planning permission.

Quality

Rugby union pitch quality is measured in two ways; through the maintenance programme and the level of drainage. Each of these is graded in one of the categories which is then calculated to represent the amount of play that can be carried on each particular pitch. The table below illustrates the drainage and maintenance categories and the amount of match equivalents that those types of pitch can carry.

Table 9.3 - Pitch capacity ratings (RFU)

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

All pitches in Cheshire East were assessed by a mixture of club questionnaires and non-technical assessments. All scores were then agreed by the RFU who had the final say on grading and carry capacity. These ratings can be translated into categories to provide an overall pitch quality rating as illustrated in table 9.5 below.

Table 9.4 - Pitch quality ratings translated into categories

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

There are a mixture of pitch qualities with 21 (58%) of those available and used by the community being 'good'. These are mostly found at club sites where a dedicated groundsman maintains them.

There are also 8 poor pitches which include those accessed by Acton Nomads RUFC, Congleton RUFC and Holmes Chapel RUFC. These have an impact on the ability to develop new teams due to carry capacity and to attract new players due to poor playing facilities. Table 9.5 below illustrates the ratings.

Table 9.5 - Pitch quality overview of all pitches

Analysis Area	Available & Used			Available & Unused			Not Available		
	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
Congleton	10	0	5	0	3	1	0	1	2
Crewe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Knutsford	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	8	0
Nantwich	6	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Poynton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	2
Cheshire East	21	7	8	1	3	1	0	10	5

Ancillary facilities

The ancillary facilities are generally good as they are privately managed by the clubs. Holmes Chapel RUFC have labelled the changing rooms at the AP Club as poor. Congleton RUFC have illustrated that their current facilities do not meet their requirements and are keen to develop new facilities off site. Acton Nomads have had issues with their clubhouse as the site is subject of a planning application.

Demand

Demand in rugby union tends to take two forms; competitive / friendly matches and training sessions.

Competitive / Friendly Matches

Nine rugby union clubs operate in Cheshire East, eight community clubs and Manchester Metropolitan University's teams who play at Crewe Vagrants. There are a total of 94 teams within these clubs. Of the eight community clubs six have junior sections (75%). The analysis area of Congleton has the most teams in all categories. The findings are illustrated in tables 9.6 and 9.7 below.

Table 9.6 - Number of teams by analysis area

Analysis Area	Number of teams playing matches			
	Senior (19 – 45)	Colts (U18 & 19)	Youth (U13 – 17)	Mini/Midi (U7 – 12)
Congleton	9	3	7	12
Crewe	2	0	0	0
Knutsford	1	0	3	7
Macclesfield	4	1	4	7
Nantwich	7	2	4	6
Poynton	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	3	1	4	7
Cheshire East	26	7	22	39

Table 9.7 - Number of teams by club

Team Name	Analysis Area	Number of teams playing matches						
		Senior (19–45)		Colts (U18&19)		Youth (U13–17)		Mini / Midi (U7–12)
		Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Acton Nomads RUFC	Nantwich	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congleton RUFC	Congleton	3	0	1	0	3	0	6
Crewe & Nantwich RUFC	Nantwich	6	0	2	0	4	0	6
Holmes Chapel RUFC	Congleton	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Knutsford RUFC	Knutsford	1	0	0	0	3	0	7
Macclesfield RUFC	Macclesfield	4	0	1	0	4	0	7
Manchester Metropolitan University	Crewe	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sandbach RUFC	Congleton	5	0	2	0	4	0	6
Wilmslow RUFC	Wilmslow	3	0	1	0	4	0	7

Training

In addition to competitive match play the training requirements of each club has been mapped to be added to the capacity analysis. This is illustrated in table 9.8 below.

Table 9.8 - Training requirements by club and site

Team Name	Site(s) Used for Training	Team Training Requirements				Agreed Match Equivalents (per week)
		Senior (19–45)	Colts (U18&19)	Youth (U13–17)	Mini/Midi (U7–12)	
Acton Nomads RUFC	Barony Sports Complex	1	0	0	0	0.5
Congleton RUFC	Congleton Park / Hankinson's Field	4	0	1	0	2.5
Crewe & Nantwich RUFC	Brine Leas School	0	0	2	0	1
	Crewe Vagrants	2	0	2	0	2
Holmes Chapel RUFC	AP Club (Holmes Chapel RUFC)	1	0	0	0	0.5
Knutsford RUFC	Knutsford Academy	1	0	3	0	2
Macclesfield RUFC	Macclesfield RUFC (Priory Park)	4	0	0	0	2
Manchester Metropolitan University	Crewe Vagrants	2	0	0	0	1
Sandbach RUFC	Sandbach RUFC	6	2	4	0	6
Wilmslow RUFC	Wilmslow RUFC (Memorial Ground)	3	0	0	0	1.5

Unmet Demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that cannot access pitches to play either on a club-by-club basis or a league that has a waiting list. There are no examples of this raised by the clubs in Cheshire East

Displaced Demand

Displaced demand generally relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area which takes place outside the area. There is no displaced demand identified for rugby union.

Latent Demand

Clubs were asked that if they had more pitches would they have more teams. No clubs illustrated that access to pitches and / or ancillary facilities currently were the reason for not having more teams.

Sport England's Market Segmentation tool allows analysis of the 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in rugby union but are not currently doing so' – latent demand for rugby union. It identifies at a latent demand 1,061 people. The highest segment that would like to participate is Ben [Competitive Male Urbanites] at 33.1% which is 351 people. 56 are females (5.3%) with the highest segment being Chloe [Fitness Class Friends] with 3.1% (33).

Capacity Analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate competitive play, training and other activity over a season is generally determined by pitch quality. Pitch quality affects the playing experience therefore the enjoyment of playing rugby.

To enable an accurate supply and demand assessment of rugby pitches, the following assumptions are applied to site by site analysis:

- All sites that are used for competitive rugby matches are included on the supply side.
- All competitive play is on senior sized pitches (except for where mini / junior pitches are provided).
- Ages U13 upwards, teams play 15 v15 and use a full pitch.
- Mini teams (U7-U12) play on half of a senior pitch i.e. two teams per senior pitch.
- For senior and youth teams the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis (assumes half of matches will be played away).
- Mini teams, play per week is set at 0.25 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis and playing across half of one adult team.
- All senior male competitive club rugby takes place on a Saturday afternoon.
- All senior female competitive club rugby takes place on a Sunday afternoon.
- All junior male rugby takes place on a Sunday morning.
- All junior female rugby takes place on a Sunday morning.
- All BUCS university rugby takes place on a Wednesday afternoon.
- Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by the addition of team equivalents.

Team equivalents have been calculated on the basis that 30 players (two teams) train on the pitch for 90 minutes (team equivalent of one) per night (where possible using the information provided by clubs through the questionnaires).

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

Pitch capacity ratings (RFU)

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

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

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

Peak Period

The peak period for rugby union has been established as Saturday afternoon for men, Sunday mornings for boys and Sunday afternoons for women and girls.

Table 9.9 - Site specific capacity of sites used by the community

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
11	AP Club (Holmes Chapel RUFC)	Congleton	Used	Unsecure	1	Senior	Poor	1	1.5	0.5
19	Back Lane Playing Fields	Congleton	Used	Secure	2	Senior	Poor	1.5	3	1.5
21	Barony Sports Complex	Nantwich	Used	Secure	1	Senior	Poor	1	1.5	0.5
35	Brine Leas School	Nantwich	Used	Secure	3	Senior	Good	5	9	4
52	Congleton Park / Hankinson's Field	Congleton	Used	Secure	2	Senior	Poor	3	4	-1
					1	Training		1.5	2.5	-1
56	Crewe Vagrants	Nantwich	Used	Secure	2	Senior	Standard	6.5	9	-2.5
91	Jim Evison Playing Fields	Wilmslow	Used	Secure	2	Senior	Poor	2.25	3	0.75
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	Used	Secure	2	Senior	Good	5	6	1
109	Macclesfield RUFC (Priory Park)	Macclesfield	Used	Secure	3	Senior	Good	6.5	9.5	3
					2		Standard	1	4	3
					2	Junior	Standard	2	4	2
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Used	Secure	1	Senior	Good	2	3	1
161	Sandbach RUFC	Congleton	Used	Secure	5	Senior	Good	11	16.25	5.25
					2	Junior	Good	1.5	6.5	5
					3	Mini	Good	1.5	9.75	8.25
224	Wilmslow RUFC (Memorial Ground)	Wilmslow	Used	Secure	2	Senior	Standard	4	4	0
					1	Junior	Poor	1	2	1

Crewe and Nantwich RUFC Under 7s and Under 8s haven't been included in the calculations as they train and play on play on the AGP at Crewe Vagrants. If this was to become unavailable it would add 0.5 match equivalents per week.

Table 9.10 - Site specific capacity of sites available but unused by the community

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Community Use	Level of security	No. of pitches	Pitch Type	Quality	Actual Play	Capacity	Capacity Rating
151	Reaseheath College	Nantwich	Unused	Secure	1	Senior	Good	1	3	2
162	Sandbach School	Congleton	Unused	Secure	3	Senior	Standard	3	6	3

Supply and Demand Analysis

Spare Capacity

We need to identify whether the potential capacity can be classified as actual spare capacity due to its availability in the peak period.

There are 7 sites illustrating potential spare capacity however both Knutsford Academy and Memorial Ground (Wilmslow RUFC) do not have capacity in the peak period. This equates to a total of 5 sites and 17 pitches that have actual spare capacity. These are broken down as 13 senior pitches, 2 junior and 2 mini pitches.

It is illustrated by analysis area in table 9.11 below and by site in table 9.12 overleaf.

Table 9.12 - Actual spare capacity by analysis area

Analysis Area	Pitch Type	No. of pitches	Capacity Rating (match equivalents)	Pitches available in peak period	
				Junior	Senior
Congleton	Senior	8	7.25	5	5.5
	Junior	5	13.25	4	N/A
	Total	13	20.5	9	5.5
Crewe	Senior	0	0	0	0
	Junior	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0
Knutsford	Senior	2	1	0	1.5
	Junior	0	0	0	0
	Total	2	1	0	1.5
Macclesfield	Senior	7	8	3	5
	Junior	0	0	0	0
	Total	7	8	3	5
Nantwich	Senior	5	5.5	4	4.5
	Junior	0	0	0	0
	Total	5	5.5	4	4.5
Poynton	Senior	0	0	0	0
	Junior	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	Senior	2	0.75	1	2
	Junior	1	1	0	N/A
	Total	3	1.75	1	2
Cheshire East	Senior	24	22.5	13	18.5
	Junior	6	14.25	4	N/A
	Total	30	36.75	17	18.5

Note - junior and mini pitches have been grouped together in table 9.11

Table 9.12 - Actual spare capacity by site

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	Pitch Type	No. of pitches	Capacity Rating (match equivalents)	Pitches available in peak period		Comments
						Junior	Senior	
11	AP Club (Holmes Chapel RUFC)	Congleton	Senior	1	0.5	1	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
19	Back Lane Playing Fields	Congleton	Senior	2	1.5	1	2	Potential to sustain more play
21	Barony Sports Complex	Nantwich	Senior	1	0.5	1	0.5	Potential to sustain more play
35	Brine Leas School	Nantwich	Senior	3	4	2	3	Potential to sustain more play
91	Jim Evison Playing Fields	Wilmslow	Senior	2	0.75	1	2	Potential to sustain more play
95	Knutsford Academy	Knutsford	Senior	2	1	0	1.5	Potential to sustain more play
109	Priory Park (Macclesfield RUFC)	Macclesfield	Senior	7	8	3	5	Potential to sustain more play
110	Malbank School & Sixth Form College	Nantwich	Senior	1	1	1	1	Potential to sustain more play
161	Sandbach RUFC	Congleton	Senior	5	5.25	3	3	Potential to sustain more play
			Junior	2	5	2	N/A	Potential to sustain more play
			Mini	3	8.25	2	N/A	Potential to sustain more play
224	Wilmslow RUFC (Memorial Ground)	Wilmslow	Junior	1	1	0	N/A	No spare capacity at peak time

Overplay

Overplay occurs when more play is accommodated at a site than it is able to sustain. It takes place at two sites. They are:

- Congleton Park / Hankinson's Field
- Crewe Vagrants

At Congleton Park / Hankinson's Field it is due to the quality of the pitch. Most of the demand could be catered for at the other pitches that Congleton RUFC access at Back Lane however this is not their preferred pitch. If the quality is improved the pitches would not be overplayed. It is worth noting that it is the aim of the club and the local authority to develop a strategic site in Congleton to support participation growth in physical activity.

At Crewe Vagrants it is due to the amount of usage. Since the analysis took place the site has increased its capacity by one adult and two mini pitches which would mean this site is not now overplayed.

Future Demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts. Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth. The table 9.12 below illustrates the team generation rates.

Table 9.12 - Team generation rates for rugby union

Analysis Area	Age Group	Current	Future	Current number of teams	TGR	Future number of teams	Additional teams based on TGR
		population within age group					
Cheshire East	Total 7-12	24100	26068	39	617.9	42.2	3.2
	Boys 13-18	13900	15035	22	631.8	23.8	1.8
	Girls 13-18	12900	13953	0	0	0	0
	Men 19-45	58100	62844	32	1815.6	34.6	2.6
	Women 19-45	59400	64250	1	59400.0	1.1	0.1
Congleton	Total 7-12	5900	6503	12	491.7	13.2	1.2
	Boys 13-18	3500	3858	7	500.0	7.7	0.7
	Girls 13-18	3200	3527	0	0	0	0
	Men 19-45	13600	14990	12	1133.3	13.2	1.2
	Women 19-45	13900	15320	0	0	0	0
Crewe	Total 7-12	5800	6362	0	0	0	0
	Boys 13-18	3300	3620	0	0	0	0
	Girls 13-18	3200	3510	0	0	0	0
	Men 19-45	15500	17003	1	15500.0	1.1	0.1
	Women 19-45	15800	17332	1	15800.0	1.1	0.1
Knutsford	Total 7-12	1600	1710	7	228.6	7.5	0.5
	Boys 13-18	900	962	3	300.0	3.2	0.2
	Girls 13-18	800	855	0	0	0	0
	Men 19-45	3600	3847	0	0	0	0
	Women 19-45	3600	3847	0	0	0	0
Macclesfield	Total 7-12	4400	4679	7	628.6	7.4	0.4
	Boys 13-18	2500	2659	4	625.0	4.3	0.3
	Girls 13-18	2300	2446	0	0	0	0
	Men 19-45	11400	12123	5	2280.0	5.3	0.3

Nantwich	Women 19-45	11600	12335	0	0	0	0
	Total 7-12	2400	2520	6	400.0	6.3	0.3
	Boys 13-18	1400	1470	4	350.0	4.2	0.2
	Girls 13-18	1300	1365	0	0	0	0
	Men 19-45	5400	5670	9	600.0	9.5	0.4
Poynton	Women 19-45	5400	5670	0	0	0	0
	Total 7-12	1500	1544	0	0	0	0
	Boys 13-18	1000	1029	0	0	0	0
	Girls 13-18	800	824	0	0	0	0
	Men 19-45	2800	2882	0	0	0	0
Wilmslow	Women 19-45	3000	3088	0	0	0	0
	Total 7-12	2500	2763	7	357.1	7.7	0.7
	Boys 13-18	1400	1547	4	350.0	4.4	0.4
	Girls 13-18	1300	1437	0	0	0	0
	Men 19-45	5800	6410	4	1450.0	4.4	0.4

In terms of pitch provision this is illustrating that there would be:

- An additional three mini / midi (7-12) team across Cheshire East which would require an additional 0.75 match equivalents per week.
- An additional one boys (13-18) team across Cheshire East which would require an additional 0.5 match equivalents per week.
- An additional two mens (19-45) team across Cheshire East which would require an additional 1 match equivalents per week.
- No change in the number of girls (13-18) or womens (19-45) teams.
- Congleton is the only area where growth would require additional teams, it requires one mini / midi (7-12) and one mens (19-45) team requiring an additional 0.75 match equivalents per week.

In addition each of the clubs were asked about their growth plans over the next five years. Their responses in displayed in table 9.13 below.

Table 9.13 - rugby union club growth aspirations

Club	Analysis Area	Team Type					Number of match equivalents (per week)
		Open Age		Youth		Mini / Midi	
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls		
Crewe & Nantwich RUFC	Nantwich	0	1	0	0	0	0.5
Knutsford RUFC	Knutsford	2	0	0	0	0	1
Sandbach RUFC	Congleton	0	1	0	0	0	0.5
Wilmslow RUFC	Wilmslow	2	0	1	0	0	1.25

The future demand can be catered for Knutsford RUFC and Sandbach RUFC and their current sites. The demand for Wilmslow RUFC can be met between the Memorial Ground (Wilmslow RUFC) and Jim Evison Playing Fields.

For Crewe & Nantwich RUFC the site will be further overplayed however with the increase in pitch capacity mentioned previously this will not be an issue and the site will be able to cater for this demand.

Rugby Union Summary

- There are a total of 56 rugby union pitches at 22 sites across Cheshire East.
- 11 sites (52%) are used by community clubs. This represents 36 pitches which is 64% of the pitches.
- There are 22 'good' quality pitches (39%), 20 'standard' quality pitches (36%) and 14 'poor' quality pitches (25%) in Cheshire East. Of those available to the community there are 21 'good' quality pitches (58%), 7 'standard' quality pitches (19%) and 8 'poor' quality pitches (22%)
- There are 9 rugby clubs with 94 teams in Cheshire East. 6 community clubs (75%) have junior sections.
- Five sites and 17 pitches show actual spare capacity. These are broken down as 13 senior pitches, 2 junior and 2 mini pitches. This equates to a potential 36.75 match equivalents (22.5 senior & 14.25 junior)
- Two pitches are overplayed, both clubs have access to other pitches however they are not their preferred sites. Since the analysis took place Crewe Vagrants has increased capacity by one adult and two mini pitches which would mean this site is not now overplayed.
- Population projections suggest:
 - An additional three mini / midi (7-12) team across Cheshire East which would require an additional 0.75 match equivalents per week.
 - An additional one boys (13-18) team across Cheshire East which would require an additional 0.5 match equivalents per week.
 - An additional two mens (19-45) team across Cheshire East which would require an additional 1 match equivalents per week.
 - No change in the number of girls (13-18) or womens (19-45) teams.

Appendix A - Stage A Checklist

Stage A Checklist: Prepare and tailor the approach	Comments
1. Is it clear why the PPS is being developed (the drivers) and what it seeks to achieve (the benefits)?	Yes, outlined in the brief (p.1&2).
2. Has an initial scoping meeting been held including all relevant parties?	Yes, initial internal discussions followed by the initial steering group meeting.
3. Has the level of support Sport England and each of the main pitch sport NGBs can provide to the particular project been agreed?	Yes, as outlined in Sport England's PPS documents.
4. Has a steering group been established to lead the work and is it representative of the drivers behind the work and providers and users of pitches in the area?	Yes, details outlined in the brief (p.6).
5. Has a partnership approach been developed and has it been confirmed what support, advice and/or resources each party can bring to the work?	Yes, all relevant NGBs involved, relevant LA officers and SE support. Offers as outlined by SE in the new methodology.
6. Has the study area been defined and agreed by all relevant parties?	Yes, areas aligned with CEC local plan and outlined in the brief (p.8).
7. Has high level officer and political support been secured and are such relevant individuals part of the Steering Group?	Yes, relevant NGB support and chaired by CEC member Cllr Topping.
8. Has a vision for pitch provision for the study area been developed alongside specific objectives and is there agreement on how far forward the strategy should look?	Yes, objectives are outlined in the brief (p.2) and the strategy will last for three year as outlined in the brief (p.10).
9. Has a strong project team been established which is supported by adequate resources and has the necessary skills to develop the PPS?	Yes, as outlined in the brief on (p.5).
10. Has a realistic timescale and project plan been agreed with all relevant parties, including the NGBs, which sets out the overall timescale and when elements of the work will be undertaken?	Yes, the timescale is aiming for completion by May 2014 as outlined in the brief (p.8) and the project timescale is attached to the minutes.
11. Has some thought been given to how the work will be structured and presented?	Yes, although a final format hasn't been developed as yet.
12. Have any issues or features which make the study area different been identified along with the impact this may have on pitch provision and the approach to undertaking the strategy?	Yes, the rural nature of the area is being considered as some playing pitches and clubs are situated in rural areas leading to consideration in future planning.
13. Has an understanding been developed of how the population in the study area participates in sport and what this may mean for pitch provision now and in the future?	Yes, using SE Market Segmentation will support this as well as the NGBs projections and CEC Local Plan.
14. Alongside the main pitch sports has the inclusion of other pitch sports been considered and is there agreement on which should be included in the strategy?	Yes, lacrosse has been included due to its strong links to North Cheshire East and planned growth throughout the borough.
15. Is it clear how the sports to be included are governed in the area, what the league structure is and how this can help with developing the strategy?	Yes, with support from the NGBs the structure and key players in governing the sport have been identified.

16. Has an indication been provided on the potential nature of any sub areas, do they represent how the sports are played in the study area and will these be reviewed once relevant information is gathered during Stage B and before Stage C?	Yes, current sub areas align with the local plan although this will be reviewed as the PPS progresses.
17. Has a strong and locally specific brief been developed which builds in the work undertaken to prepare and tailor the approach to developing the strategy?	Yes, as agreed by the steering group.
18. Have the project brief and project plan been signed off by the Steering Group?	Yes, signed off during the first steering group meeting and project plan is an evolving document.
19. If external consultancy support is to be procured is this to be done after Stage A is complete but before work on Stage B commences?	Not applicable.