



WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY

STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN SEPTEMBER 2023

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd
Company No: 9145032 (England)

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

Registered Office: 1 -2 Frecheville Court, off Knowsley Street, Bury BL9 0UF
T: 0161 764 7040 E: mail@kcp.co.uk www.kcp.co.uk



Cert Num: 6543-QMS-001

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third generation (artificial turf)
AC	Athletics Club
AGP	Artificial grass pitch
BC	Bowling Club
BCGBA	British Crown Green Bowling Association
CAT	Community Asset Transfer
CFA	County Football Association
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
CUA	Community use agreement
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
EA	England Athletics
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
GI	Green Infrastructure
GMA	Grounds Management Association
GPMF	Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund
HC	Hockey Club
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LCF	Lancashire Cricket Foundation
LFA	Lancashire Football Association
LFFP	Local Football Facilities Plan
MES	Match equivalent sessions
MUGA	Multi use games area
NC	Netball Club
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
TC	Tennis Club
TGR	Team generation rate
U	Under
WC	Wyre Council
WR	World Rugby

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Wyre council has commissioned a Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Study (PPOSS) to replace its existing Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) as part of a wider refresh of its green infrastructure (GI) evidence base. This new Strategy and Action Plan will inform the development of Wyre's Local Plan and support Wyre's ambition to embed a culture of 'moving more' by increasing physical activity across the Borough's communities. It provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports facilities and accompanying ancillary provision. It delivers:

- ◀ An overall aim for sporting activity across the borough.
- ◀ A series of objectives for the future protection, improvement and development of sporting provision and for the promotion of inclusive sporting activity
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations and scenarios.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations based on the stated objectives.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area and site-by-site action plan that prioritise and can address key issues.

1.1: Context

Wyre Local Plan and the Wider Wyre context

The current Wyre Local Plan was originally adopted in 2019 but recently updated and re-adopted in January 2023. The Local Plan contains two policies directly addressing green infrastructure:

- ◀ Policy CDMP4 Environmental Assets (parts 4-8) establishes the basis for the protection of green infrastructure across the borough, including the designation of green infrastructure on the Policies Map.
- ◀ Policy HP9 Green Infrastructure in New Residential Developments establishes green infrastructure standards to be met as part of residential developments on 11 dwellings or more.

To inform corporate policy on health and wellbeing, the Wyre Moving More Strategy and the emerging review of the adopted Local Plan, the council is updating the green infrastructure evidence base which will take into account relevant national and local policies, strategies and best practice, including:

- ◀ The NPPF21.
- ◀ Relevant national planning practice guidance.
- ◀ The government's 25 Year Environment Plan (and its first revision, the Environmental Improvement Plan 2023) and climate change policy.
- ◀ Wyre council's corporate policy on health and well-being, the environment and climate change.
- ◀ Up-to-date guidance from relevant organisations including Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: an approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy (2013) and Sport England's Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (2014).
- ◀ Any best practice identified as the study progresses.

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Specifically, the new PPOSS will provide robust and objective justification for future playing pitch provision and policy throughout the Borough. The purpose of the PPOSS is to provide the evidence required to protect playing fields and outdoor sports and physical activity facilities and ensure that sufficient land is available to meet existing and future requirements. In doing so, the PPOSS will:

- ◀ Support and inform corporate health and wellbeing policies including the new Wyre Moving More Strategy;
- ◀ Provide a robust evidence base to support the development of green infrastructure policies as part of the emerging review of the current Wyre Local Plan;
- ◀ Be capable of being a material consideration in the determination of planning applications;
- ◀ Provide a strategic framework that ensures the provision of outdoor sports and physical activity facilities meets local needs of residents (existing and future) and those of physical activity providers and sports clubs;
- ◀ Inform investment and funding decisions; and
- ◀ Identify any risks to provision as a result of potential climate change impacts, including flooding.

Wyre Moving More 2023-2028

The Wyre Moving More Strategy is a cross-sector multi-agency initiative facilitated and led by Wyre Council. It sets out a collective long-term commitment to:

Help Wyre residents to feel healthier, happier and better connected to their communities through physical activity.

Wyre Moving More takes a 'whole system' approach to addressing the issue of physical inactivity in Wyre. Local rates of inactivity are above both regional and national levels. According to Sport England's national Active Lives Survey, more than one third of adults and young people in Wyre are classed as inactive.

Taking a lead from the 'big issues' cited in Sport England's national Uniting the Movement strategy, Wyre Moving More makes the case for the multiple positive benefits that increased levels of physical activity can bring to individuals. This applies to mental and physical health and the benefits to be gained from creating more connected, equal and inclusive neighbourhoods. In this context, Wyre Moving More recognises that whilst overall levels of physical inactivity in Wyre are higher than regional and national levels, certain demographic groups (women and girls, those of lower socio-economic status, people with disabilities and people with long-term health conditions) have even higher levels of inactivity than the population as a whole.

The Wyre Moving More Strategy is built around three core delivery themes. These are:

- ◀ Health and wellbeing
- ◀ Children and young people
- ◀ Active environments

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A number of headline actions in relation to the creation of active environments have relevance to this PPOSS, including:

- ◀ Capitalise on opportunities to provide inclusive walking and cycling infrastructure and to facilitate Active Travel in Wyre.
- ◀ Improve the quality of, and opportunities for, physical activity in the outdoor environment including within / upon; parks, playing pitches, open spaces and waterways.
- ◀ Ensure that the emerging Local Plan for Wyre fully reflects opportunities to increase physical activity levels in both the built and outdoor environments.

There is a close cross-correlation between the strategic aims and objectives of the Wyre Moving More Strategy and this PPOSS; providing a robust and inclusive sporting offer benefits sport played for its own sake and can contribute towards improved physical and mental health and well-being.

1.2: Approach to developing the Strategy

Sport England Guidance

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

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

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

Sport England's 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (ANOG) has a similar staged approach, as follows:

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

Where not already implemented, the recommendations that come out of this strategy should be translated into local planning policy so that there is a mechanism in place to protect existing provision and to secure investment where the opportunity arises. As a guide, Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Guidance suggests that the lifespan of a PPOSS is three years, although this can be increased if it is regularly kept up to date.

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Agreed scope

The following types of playing pitches and outdoor sports were agreed for inclusion within the PPOSS.

- ◀ Football
- ◀ Cricket
- ◀ Rugby union
- ◀ Rugby league
- ◀ Hockey
- ◀ Tennis
- ◀ Netball
- ◀ Bowls
- ◀ Athletics (and running)
- ◀ Cycling
- ◀ Golf
- ◀ Archery
- ◀ Water based sports
- ◀ MUGAs
- ◀ Other sports i.e., baseball/softball and rounders

Further to the above, there is also a recognised role of informal recreational space (and informal outdoor sport activity) in meeting the changing demands of local communities and links to the current Wyre Green Infrastructure (GI) Audit and Strategy which are being developed in tandem with this study.

Study area

Wyre is a Lancashire coastal district that shares a boundary with the City of Lancaster, Blackpool, Fylde, Preston and Ribble Valley. Wyre is a borough of contrasts characterised by a distinct geographical polarity with the main urban area consisting of Fleetwood, Cleveleys, Thornton and Poulton-le-Fylde situated in the west of the borough and a large expanse of rural land to the east within which lies the town of Garstang and a number of rural villages.

The study area comprises the catchment areas relevant to each sport and activity with a focus on the Wyre council administrative area. Cross boundary issues will also be explored to determine the level of imported and exported demand, recognising, for example, that people travel to and make use of sports facilities irrespective of administrative boundaries. As none of the neighbouring authorities have up to date PPSs in place, it is not considered appropriate to review them and instead we have identified any cross boundary issues through up to date consultation with NGBs and clubs.

The results of the assessment of supply and demand/need will be provided for each sport and activity considered within the scope of this Study. To provide a spatial element suitable for land-use planning purposes, the results of the assessment will also be provided at the level of the Borough and more localised sub-areas in line with the GI Study overall taking into account the sports catchment areas.

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As detailed above, individual sports catchment areas do not necessarily fit into administrative boundaries and that should be taken into consideration during the decision-making process for planning and investment.

The following sub-areas (analysis areas) have been devised to allow for ease of reporting:

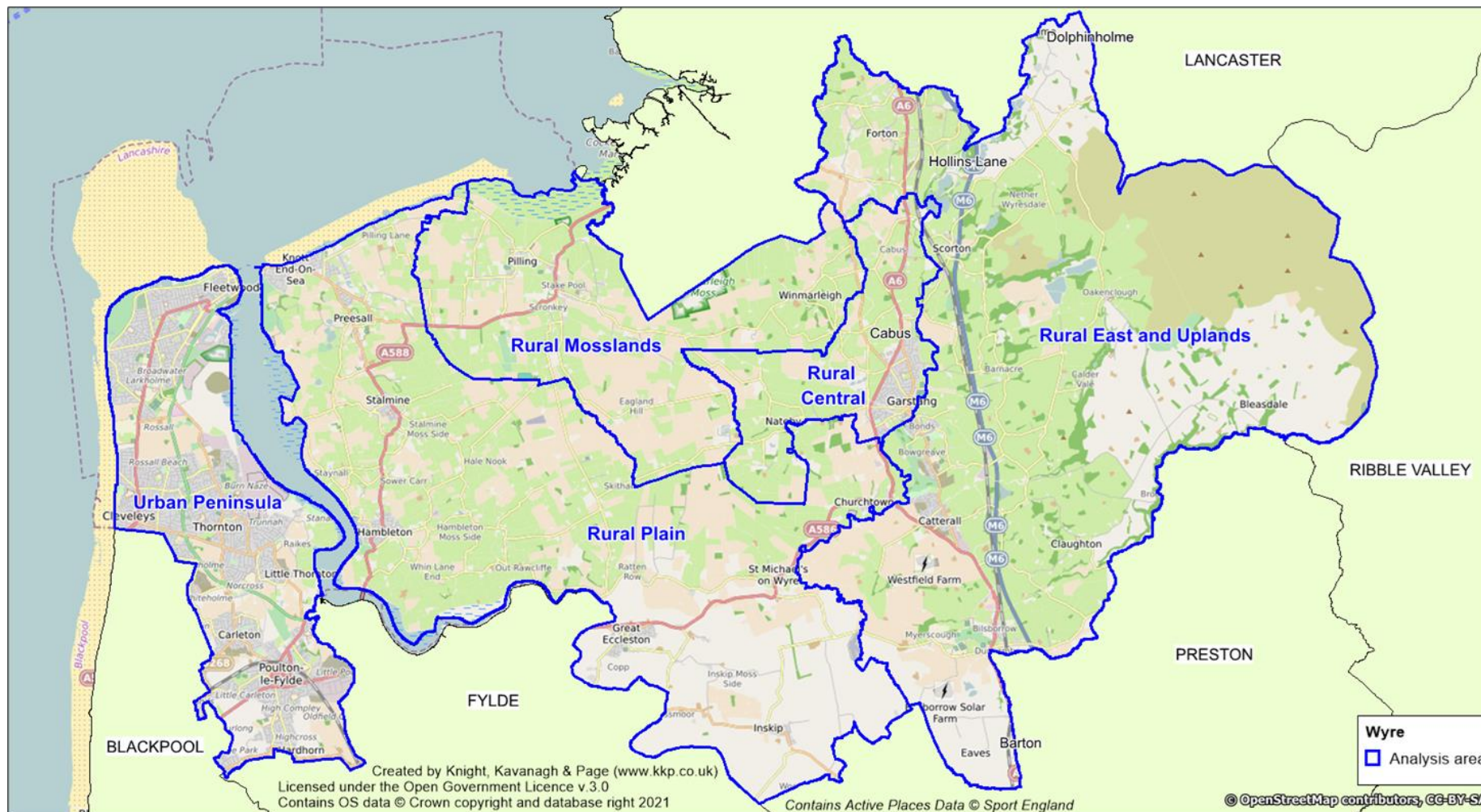
- ◀ Urban Peninsula (containing Fleetwood, Thornton, Cleveleys and Poulton-le-Fylde).
- ◀ Rural Plain (comprising the wards of Preesall, Hambleton with Stalmine and Great Eccleston).
- ◀ Rural Mosslands (comprising the ward of Pilling).
- ◀ Rural Central (comprising the ward of Garstang).
- ◀ Rural East and Uplands (comprising the wards of Wyresdale, Calder and Brock with Catterall).

For audit purposes (GI Audit) the broad sub-areas will be further sub-divided into sites within settlement boundaries and those outside of settlement boundaries. Site references used in this report are consistent with those used in the GI Audit. Settlement prefixes are used as follows:

- ◀ Bilsborrow BIL
- ◀ Calder Vale CAL
- ◀ Churchtown and Kirkland CHU
- ◀ Cleveleys CLE
- ◀ Fleetwood FL
- ◀ Forton FOR
- ◀ Garstang GAR
- ◀ Great Eccleston GRE
- ◀ Hambleton HAM
- ◀ Inskip INS
- ◀ Knott End Preesall KNP
- ◀ Pilling PIL
- ◀ Poulton-le-Fylde PLF
- ◀ Scorton SCO
- ◀ St Michaels STM
- ◀ Stalmine STA
- ◀ Thornton TH

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Figure 1.1: Wyre borough and sub-areas



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Consultation

A variety of consultation methods have been used to consult with outdoor sports clubs in Wyre to inform development of both the audit/assessment and the strategy recommendations. Firstly, face-to-face consultation (including some online video calls) was carried out with key clubs and leagues (as identified by the council and NGBs) from each sport, thus allowing for the collection of detailed demand information and an exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed. For all remaining clubs, telephone consultation or an online survey was utilised. The response rates of consultation are set out below:

Table 1.1: Summary of study response rates

Sport	Total number	Number responding	Response rate	Methods of consultation
Football clubs	27	17	64%	Face to face/video meeting Online survey Telephone
Football teams	295	254	86%	Face to face/video meeting Online survey Telephone
Cricket clubs	8	7	88%	Face to face/video meeting Online survey Telephone
Rugby union clubs	3	3	100%	Video meeting
Rugby league clubs	1	0 ¹	0%	Video meeting Telephone Online survey
Hockey clubs	1	1	100%	Video meeting
Tennis clubs	6	6	100%	Telephone Online Survey
Bowling clubs	33	13	39%	Online survey Telephone
Athletics clubs	1	0 ²	0%	Online survey Telephone
Golf clubs	5	2	40%	Online survey Telephone
Netball clubs	1	1	100%	Online survey
Archery clubs	1	1	100%	Telephone
Water sports clubs	5	0 ³	0%	Video meeting Telephone

¹Several attempts were made to contact Wyre Warriors ARLFC for consultation, however, no response was received. Therefore, information for this section was collated through online desktop research and support from the RFL.

² One athletics club has been identified in Wyre; Garstang Running Club and although the Club was not consulted, England Athletics provide information for this section of the report and through online desktop research.

³ There are currently five active water sport clubs/centre in Wyre. Attempts were made to contact all the clubs, along with the Royal Yachting Association, however, after multiple attempts, none responded. Therefore, information collated is from online desktop research.

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In addition, the following five key educational sites were consulted with due the important role that each site plays in supporting community sport, these sites make their pitches available for community use and were consulted with to better understand the management and usage of pitches across their sites.

- ◀ Fleetwood High School
- ◀ Garstang Community Academy
- ◀ Hodgson School
- ◀ Millfield Science and Performing Arts College
- ◀ Myerscough College

Steering group

In addition to above, a steering group has and will continue to lead the PPOSS during its development and will be responsible for the delivery of its recommendations and actions.

The membership of the steering group is representative of the different parties and key drivers behind the work; it is made up of representatives from the council, Sport England and relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs). It is and has been responsible for the direction of the PPOSS from a strategic perspective and for supporting and checking and challenging the work of the project team.

It will be important for the steering group to continue once the PPOSS has been finalised for several reasons, including a continuing responsibility to:

- ◀ Be a champion for provision in the area and promote the importance of the PPOSS.
- ◀ Support implementation of the recommendations and action plan.
- ◀ Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the study.
- ◀ Ensure that the work is kept up to date and refreshed through regular monitoring and review.

Scenarios

Scenarios are used in the development of the strategy to explore the key findings and issues from the Assessment Report in order to develop the recommendations and actions. To fully understand potential impact, relevant questions have been tested for, where relevant, on a sport by sport basis.

The following scenarios have been commonly applied on a sport by sport basis in this strategy:

- ◀ Improving the quality of poor sites (to standard/good quality) increases quality ratings and the carrying capacity of certain sites help to address overplay on the site/in the local area?

Pitch sport NGBs have set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its quality.

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Table 1.2: Capacity of playing pitches

Sport	Pitch type	No. of MES for a good quality pitch	No. of MES for a standard quality pitch	No. of MES for a poor quality pitch
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Football	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Football	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby league	Senior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Rugby league	Junior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Rugby league	Mini pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
Rugby union	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
Rugby union	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
Rugby union	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
Cricket	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	0 per season
Hockey	One AGP	4 matches per day	4 matches per day	0 matches per day

For non-pitch sports, capacity is not linked to the number of matches taking place but rather the number of members (and other users) attracted to a site. For example, for tennis, the LTA states that a hard court with sports lighting has capacity for 60 members, whereas a court without sports lighting has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts). Other sport specific capacity guidance is detailed within the relevant sections of this report.

- ◀ Securing tenure including securing community use at key sites on the supply and demand balance. Spare capacity is currently discounted from pitches that do not have secured community use so is added back into the analysis. This most often relates to schools which either do not currently offer community use or where clubs are using sites on annual rental basis. It also applies to club sites where usage is considered at risk beyond a three year period as there is no formal agreement in place.
- ◀ Impact of club aspirational future demand on supply and demand balance. Future participation increases reported by clubs (as identified in the Assessment Report) is considered more aspirational than the population growth identified through ONS data and applied in the Assessment Report. However, this scenario explores the impact that aspirational demand would have if it was realised.
- ◀ Specific site scenarios are also run on a sport by sports basis to test the impact of any known future changes to supply and demand for that particular analysis area. For example, current imported demand moving back into a neighbouring authority.
- ◀ Modelling the priority football sites identified in the Wyre Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) to test how these improvements might address any shortfalls identified. On completion of the PPOSS, pitch quality ratings and site-specific investment will be reflected in future LFFP updates.

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1.3: Headline findings

The table below highlights the quantitative headline findings identified for all main pitch sports included in the preceding Assessment Report. MES stands for match equivalent sessions and has been used as the comparable unit for natural grass pitches. Converting both the amount of play a site can accommodate (it's carrying capacity) and how much play takes place there (its current use) into the same unit of demand enables a comparison to be undertaken.

Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions.

Based on how they tend to be played, this unit for football and rugby union pitches relates to a typical week within the season for each sport.

For cricket pitches it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season. How much play a cricket pitch can accommodate is primarily determined by the number and quality of wickets on a pitch. Only one match is generally played per pitch per day. However, play is rotated across the wickets to reduce wear and allow for repair. Each wicket is able to accommodate a certain amount of play per season as opposed to a week.

Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Guidance does not advocate the conversion of MES to pitches as there is not always a case for providing pitches to meet the demand/shortfalls expressed. For example, improving the quality of pitches can also increase the capacity of existing pitches to accommodate such demand. For qualitative findings and site-specific findings, please see Part 3: Sport Specific Recommendations and Scenarios, and Part 5: Action Plan.

For artificial surfaces, how much play can be accommodated is primarily determined by availability, rather than how much play it can accommodate before its quality is adversely affected as with natural grass pitches. Therefore, hours in the peak period is used as the comparable unit. For the other non-pitch sports (i.e. tennis, bowls etc) capacity is in accordance with Paragraph B13 of the ANOG guidance.

Table 1.3: Quantitative headline findings

Facility type	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance ⁴	Future supply/ demand balance (2039)
Football – grass pitches (Wyre)	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 12.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 15.5 match equivalent sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
	Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions

⁴ Match equivalent sessions per week for football and rugby, per season for cricket

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Facility type	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance ⁴	Future supply/ demand balance (2039)
	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football – 3G pitches (Wyre)	11v11	Shortfall of 6 pitches	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for 3G pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Cricket pitches (Wyre)	Senior (Saturday)	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 44 match equivalent sessions a season
	Senior (Sunday)	Spare capacity of 16 match equivalent sessions a season	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
	Junior (midweek)	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 18 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union pitches (Wyre)	Senior	Shortfall of 6 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 10 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league pitches (Wyre)	Senior	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for rugby league pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Hockey suitable AGPs (Wyre)	Full size	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>

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

Table 1.4: Quantitative headline findings (non-pitch sports)

Sport	Current picture	Future picture (2039)
Tennis	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC currently has capacity issues.	When future demand is applied, only Moorland TC will be operating below recommended capacity with all other clubs operating above the recommended capacity due to number of courts.
Netball	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.
Bowls	All current demand is being accommodated; however, nine clubs are operating at or above recommended capacity levels.	Where future demand is expressed, it can adequately be accommodated on existing greens. However, Gardeners Arms (Thornton) BC would be operating above the recommended capacity level.

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Sport	Current picture	Future picture (2039)
Athletics	No formal athletic tracks in Wyre and there is insufficient demand for such.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.
Cycling	No dedicated cycling facilities in Wyre but there may be high latent demand for a facility.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.
Golf	Sufficient quantity, potential gap in demand for informal golf facility.	Sufficient quantity but a potential gap in demand for informal golf facility remains.
Archery	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Water sports	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
MUGAs	Demand unknown. Sufficient quantity in the urban peninsula although there are quality issues. No or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough.	Demand unknown. Unless the supply picture changes there will remain no or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough. Unless addressed, quality issues will remain.
Other sports⁵	There are no baseball/softball or rounders clubs in Wyre with the latter provision focused on schools with no community access.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

1.3: Overall summary

This section provides a summary of the key overarching issues which affect more than one sport or is a significant issue for one of the sports.

Strategic issues

Female provision/ancillary facilities - There is a notable lack of women's and girls' sports teams across the borough. This is predominantly linked to ancillary provision such as changing rooms which are not able to provide sufficient facilities for women and girls participants. Several council sites also do not offer any ancillary provision or access to changing and toilets are limited. For example, King George Fleetwood, Cottam Hall (unusable) and Civic Centre pitch sites in Poulton do not having changing provision to offer and at King George Thornton teams can use the toilets in the adjacent leisure centre but there are no on site facilities. Anecdotal evidence from consultation suggests that the quality of facilities often deters female participants from taking part in sports as they do not feel comfortable using poor quality or unsuitable facilities. The lack of appropriate facilities to support women and girls' participation in sport is a recognised national issue and therefore this is not unique to Wyre. Please refer to Appendix One: National Context which refers to some of the NGB targets/programmes relating to increasing participation and improving facilities for women and girls.

⁵ Base/softball and Rounders

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Pitch quality - It is considered that poor pitch quality is a key strategic issue across the borough. In general, shortfalls identified for grass pitches (i.e., football, cricket and rugby union and league) are being caused by poor quality pitches. For example, football pitches suffer from poor drainage often coupled with a basic level of maintenance such as cutting and lining of pitches, especially across council managed facilities. Rugby pitches are deemed poor quality predominantly due to lack of maintenance, with heavy use throughout the winter months this sees pitches become overplayed. This is also an operational issue (see below).

Community use of education sites - Several educational sites in Wyre are unavailable for community use, whilst some sites offer a mix of facilities both available and unavailable. In total of the 38 unavailable sports pitches (football, rugby union, cricket, rugby league, AGP's and 3G pitches) in Wyre, 33 (87%) are located across educational sites, with a total of 13 pitches across educational sites available for community use. This results in a total of 72% of sports pitches located on educational sites in Wyre as unavailable for community use. In our experience, this position is not uncommon throughout the country. This position has also worsened since Covid 19 when many schools closed to community use having previously been open.

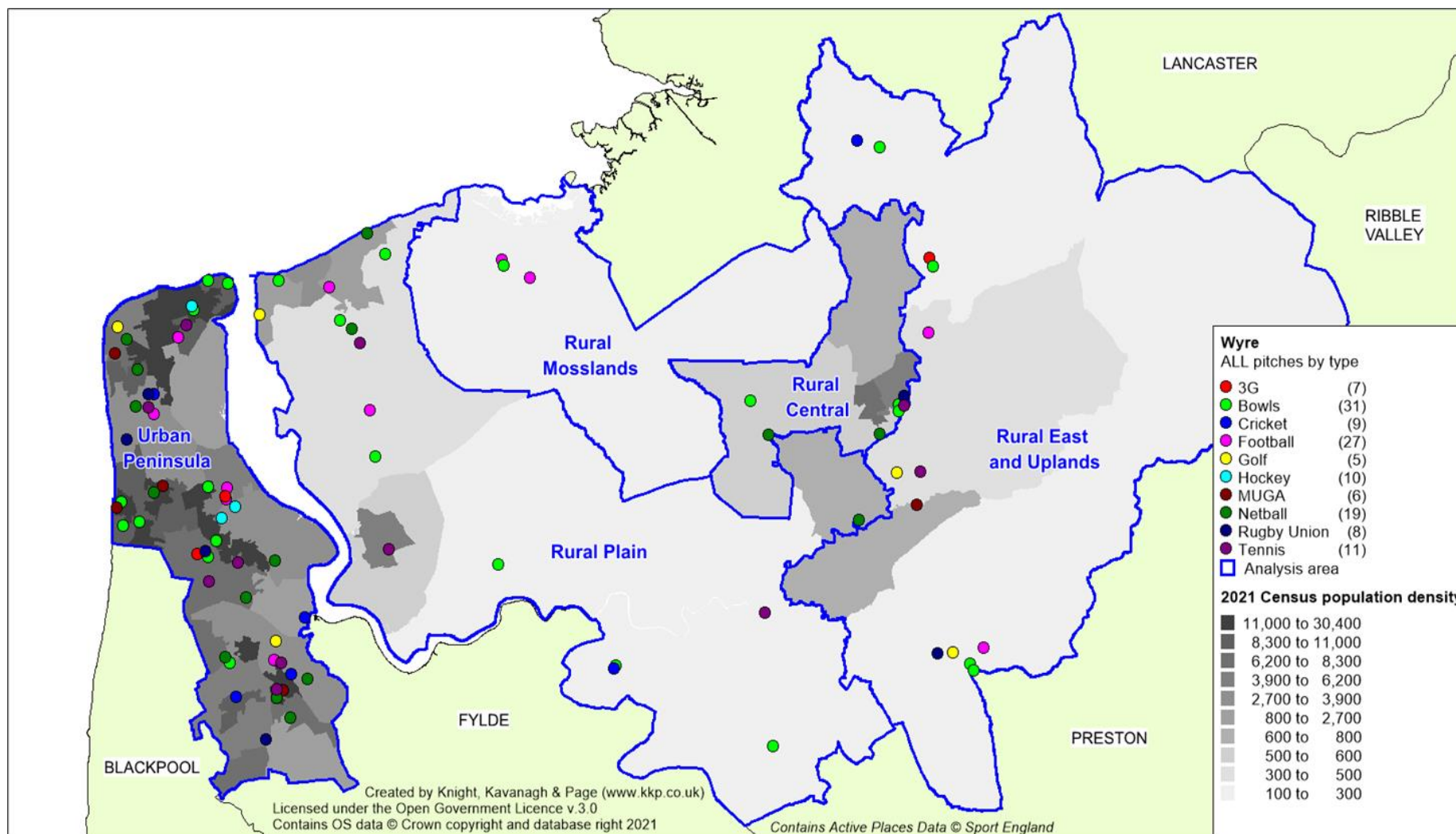
Sites unavailable for community use generally accommodate football pitches in the youth 11v11 format, rounders pitches and tennis courts (albeit quality varies). However, if these pitches/courts were made available for community use through secured agreements it could help to address some shortfalls identified in the Borough.

Spatial disparities - It is interesting to note in Wyre that there appears to be a spatial disparity with significantly less provision in the rural areas, as demonstrated in Figure 1.2 overleaf. Although this is not necessarily uncommon as demand is also less within these rural areas, it is an issue that is likely to prevent people from participating.

Of particular note is a lack of MUGAs in the rural areas of the borough compared to more populated areas, these types of facilities tend to be provided on a more local basis and as they provide for a range of sports to be played can be a good all round option to service a rural community.

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Figure 1.2: All outdoor sports provision mapped against population density



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Within the rural areas there is also an identified shortfall of youth 11v11 football pitches, 3G pitches for football training and netball courts. However, there are also shortfalls in the urban area so this may not just be a specific rural issue. There is also a lack of rounders pitches available for community use, however, this also applies across the borough and is likely to be a result of there not being enough demand for schools to make such provision available.

Bowls - Due to limited engagement with bowls clubs across Wyre, there is a need to better understand supply/demand based on improved engagement with the clubs.

Operational issues

Drainage and maintenance - A lack of good quality drainage systems or inadequate natural drainage on grass pitch sites in Wyre contributes to the high number of poor quality pitches identified. Most council sites also receive basic maintenance, which generally includes cutting and marking the pitches with no other work done (this mostly affects football pitches). These two issues combined play a significant part in the poor quality ratings of grass pitches. This has led to grass pitches being overplayed with limited peak time capacity available resulting in current and future shortfalls.

Rugby union club pitches across the Borough struggle with drainage, mainly down to location of pitches (etc. Garstang RUFC being located on the banks of the River Wyre and Fleetwood RUFC pitches being located at sea level) the sites struggle to drain water quickly. In addition, these pitches also receive limited amounts of maintenance and whilst drainage is the main issue onsite, improvements to maintenance of the pitches could help to address shortfalls.

Key club/site issues

Garstang Football, Cricket & Tennis Clubs (ID: GAR06), has in the previous years had planning permission permitted for an extension to the clubhouse onsite. At present, the ancillary provision provides poor quality facilities, which do not provide sufficiently for the sports clubs based onsite. In addition, the football club onsite requires the development of a 100 spectator standard in order to retain its place at Step 6 in the National League System.

Cottam Hall (ID: PLF10) football pitches are overplayed, mainly due draining poorly which has left the pitches of poor and standard quality. In addition, the pavilion onsite is also of poor quality, with clubs reporting the building could become condemned if work is not undertaken to improve and improve the safety of the building in the near future.

Wyre CC reports that it has unsecure tenure of its pitch at Cottam Hall. The Club currently rents the pitch onsite at Cottam Hall, having to negotiate an annual rent each term. Although, it is unlikely that the council will withdraw the pitch being available, the price of use for the pitch increases year on year and could in future be priced too high for the Club to afford.

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Shireshead & Forton CC has a growing women's and girls' section. At present the ECB notes that the existing clubhouse onsite at Shireshead and Forton Cricket Club (ID: FOR05) is small, outdated and no longer fit for purpose. The Club has plans drawn for a new changing block onsite and toilets onsite, which would be developed on the side of the current building.

There is currently no ancillary provision supporting the grass pitches at King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood) (ID: FL01), the previous building was subject to an arson attack and had to be demolished. The council is working with Fleetwood Gym FC on future ancillary provision needs for this site.

Garstang HC reports not having enough access to the full size AGP at Garstang Community Academy (ID: BOW06). The Club has grown significantly in recent years and now has demand for an additional training night. At present, there is no additional space for additional training at Garstang Community Academy, during the week with the Club offering some training on an ad-hoc basis at Rossall School. The pitch at Garstang Community Academy currently accommodates football training during the week, mainly due to lack of 3G pitches available within the Borough.

1.4: Conclusion

The existing position for most sports is that there is a mixture of shortfalls, spare capacity and sufficient capacity. The future position shows the exacerbation of current shortfalls and the creation of shortfalls for some sports and in some areas where demand is currently being met.

The current shortfalls identified are for adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 football pitches, 3G pitches, senior Saturday cricket and junior midweek cricket, senior rugby union pitches, senior rugby league pitches, hockey AGPs for midweek training and netball courts.

Where shortfalls are present, for the most part, they can be met by better utilising current provision, such as through improving quality, installing additional floodlighting, improving ancillary facilities and enabling access to existing unused provision, such as at unavailable school sites. However, the current shortfall for youth 11v11 football pitches is high, and with future demand this is only exacerbated further. Therefore, there is a possibility that new pitches of this type may be required. Further to this, for rugby union pitch improvements alone are insufficient to fully address current levels of overplay and as such additional access to grass pitches or new World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitches is also likely to be required.

Notwithstanding the above, there is a shortfall of 3G pitches that can only be met through increased provision. With resources to improve the quality of grass pitches being limited, an increase in 3G provision could also help to reduce grass pitch shortfalls through the transfer of play, which in turn can aid pitch quality improvements.

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Where demand is being met, this does not equate to a surplus of provision, with any spare capacity instead considered a potential solution to overcoming shortfalls. As such, there is a clear need to protect all existing provision until all demand is met, or there is a requirement to replace provision to an equal or better quantity and quality before it is lost, in line with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy. In addition, there remain some area and site specific issues that need resolving despite no overall capacity issues, such as those relating to quality and security of tenure.

PART 2: AIM AND OBJECTIVES

2.1: Aim

The overarching aim for this strategy is set out below.

'To provide an accessible, inclusive, high quality and sustainable network of outdoor sports facilities that provide opportunities for all residents to access good sport, physical activity and recreation facilities to the betterment of physical and mental health and wellbeing'.

The aim, and the objectives that follow, reflect the ambition of the council and its partners in delivering opportunities for its residents to have appropriate access to good quality sport and recreational facilities which meet both current and future needs.

The aim and objectives reflect Sport England's planning aim and objectives for sport. They are also in-line with the Wyre Moving More Strategy referred to above. Together the aim and objectives support the protection, enhancement and provision of appropriate sporting facilities across the borough and increased inclusive access to sporting activity.

2.2: Objectives

It is recommended that the following four core objectives are adopted by the council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall aim of the Strategy:

OBJECTIVE 1

To **protect** the existing supply of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities where it is needed for meeting current and future needs.

OBJECTIVE 2

To **enhance** playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities through improving quality and management of sites.

OBJECTIVE 3

To **provide** new playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so.

OBJECTIVE 4

To **support** inclusivity in physical activity and sport by improving provision for under-represented groups including women and girls.

PART 3: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES, SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

3.1: Football – grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Football supply and demand summary

- ◀ There are current capacity shortfalls across all pitch types, apart from mini 5v5 pitches.
- ◀ Future growth could lead to further exacerbation of shortfalls across the Borough on adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches, whilst a shortfall would be created for mini 5v5 pitches.

Football supply summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 73 grass football pitches within Wyre across 27 sites. Of these, 50 pitches across 15 sites are identified as being available for community use.
- ◀ Most available pitches in the Borough are in the Urban Peninsula Analysis Area (30 pitches - 60% of available pitches), followed by the Rural East and Uplands Analysis Area (11 pitches - 22%), the Rural Mosslands and Rural Plain analysis areas (four pitches each – 8%). The Rural Central Analysis Area has the least number of pitches (one pitch - 2%).
- ◀ In total, most pitches are rated as standard quality (23 pitches or 46%), 13 are rated as poor quality (26%) and 14 pitches (28%) are rated as good quality.
- ◀ Of the 15 sites that are actively used for community football, two sites (13%) are serviced by good quality ancillary facilities, eight sites (53%) by standard quality ancillary facilities and four sites (27%) are serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities. Whilst one site (7%) is not serviced by onsite clubhouse/changing room provision.

Football demand summary

- ◀ There are 295 teams identified as playing football in the Borough. This is made up of 33 adult men's, seven adult women's, 112 youth boys', 29 youth girls' and 114 mini soccer teams.
- ◀ The only known exported demand is from AFC Poulton, the Club exports demand for its First XI and exports to Boundary Park (Blackpool).
- ◀ The total future demand expressed by clubs amounts to 7.5 match equivalent sessions per week (as two teams equates to one match equivalent session playing on a home and away basis).
- ◀ There are eight pitches identified as having actual spare capacity, totalling five match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ In total, 10 pitches across just six sites are overplayed by a combined total of 20 match equivalent sessions per week. The most overplay is situated in the Urban Peninsula Analysis Area (14 match equivalent sessions), followed by the Rural Plain Analysis Area (3.5 match equivalent sessions).

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Scenarios

Improving pitch quality at overplayed sites

In order to improve the overall quality of grass football pitches, it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a match limit to each (weekly for football), as shown in the preceding Assessment Report.

In total, there are 10 pitches overplayed in Wyre across six sites by a combined amount of 20 match equivalent sessions per week. Improving quality of such provision will increase capacity across the sites and therefore reduce both current and future shortfalls.

To illustrate the above, Table 3.1 highlights that most current levels of overplay would be alleviated, apart from at King George Playing Field (Thornton) and Wyre Civic Centre, if quality improved to good at each site.

As a reminder, the capacity rating for each type and quality rating is:

Adult pitch quality	No. of adult matches per week	Youth pitch quality	No. of youth matches per week	Mini pitch quality	No. of mini matches per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

Qualitative pitch ratings are linked to a pitch capacity rating derived from NGB guidance and tailored to suit a local area. The quality and use of each pitch is assessed against the recommended pitch capacity to indicate how many match equivalent sessions a pitch could accommodate. This is compared to the number of matches actually taking place and categorised as follows and used throughout this report to demonstrate the capacity of pitches.

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

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Table 3.1: Impact on capacity if all pitches were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating ⁶	Good quality capacity rating ⁷
PLF10	Cottam Hall	Urban Peninsula	Adult	3	Poor	3	3
PLF10	Cottam Hall	Urban Peninsula	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	2	0
PLF26	Wyre Civic Centre	Urban Peninsula	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	5	3
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	Urban Peninsula	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	4	2
KNP02	Preesall Park	Rural Plain	Mini (7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2.5
KNP02	Preesall Park	Rural Plain	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	2	0
PIL15	Pilling Playing Field	Rural Mosslands	Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	1.5

As seen in table above, the youth 11v11 pitch at King George Playing Field (Thornton) and the youth 11v11 pitch at Wyre Civic Centre would remain overplayed. With the youth 11v11 pitch at Cottam Hall and Preesall Park having overplay addressed but being at capacity.

In addition to the above table, please note that quality improvements will not reduce overplay from the one adult pitch at Myerscough Sports Centre due to it already being good quality therefore the site is not included in the table.

Carrying out the improvements would not only improve capacity at the relevant sites, but also improve the capacity balance overall across Wyre as shown overleaf in Table 3.3. Current shortfalls on adult, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches would be alleviated, whilst overplay on youth 11v11 would be reduced but not alleviated. Likewise, future shortfalls would be alleviated on adult and mini 7v7 pitches, with overplay on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 reduced.

⁶ Match equivalent sessions

⁷ Match equivalent sessions

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Table 3.2: Summary of current supply and demand in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	2.5	5	2.5	1	3.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	13	12.5	3	15.5
Youth 9v9	0	0.5	0.5	2.5	3
Mini 7v7	1	1.5	0.5	1	1.5
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	1	0

Table 3.3: Impact of improving pitch quality on overall supply and demand in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	4.5	2	2.5	1	1.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	5	4.5	3	7.5
Youth 9v9	0	0	0	2.5	2.5
Mini 7v7	1	0	1	1	1
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	1	0

In addition, there are currently two match equivalent sessions per week of spare capacity discounted (aggregated from all pitch types) due to poor quality. Improving pitch quality at these sites (as listed in Table 3.1) would also provide and increase overall actual spare capacity, which can be used to accommodate demand from the remaining overplayed sites as well as future demand.

It is imperative to engage with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity. Where overplay is identified, play should be encouraged, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity, or quality, where possible, should be improved to increase capacity to appropriate levels. For more information on ways to improve quality please refer to Objective 2 within Part 4: Strategic Recommendations.

Notwithstanding the above, the alternative to use of grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches. Transferring play to 3G pitches can help alleviate overplay on grass pitches and it can also aid quality improvements through reduced use. For example, even if grass pitch improvements as shown in Table 3.3 were made, shortfalls would remain on youth 11v11 pitches, whilst there would still be future shortfalls on both youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. It is likely that due to the high level of shortfalls, there would still likely be a need for new grass pitches, as well as transferring some play onto 3G pitches.

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Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) pitch improvements

As improving the quality of all overplayed sites may not be feasible from an investment point of view, an alternative approach is to focus on improving strategic sites. To that end, the Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) identifies four sites for grass pitch improvements that are considered to be in need of investment and that are key for football across Wyre. The table overleaf identifies what the impact would be on the supply and demand balance of pitches at these sites if quality was improved to a good quality.

Table 3.4: Impact of LFFP quality improvements

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Current capacity rating (MES)	Good capacity rating (MES)
PLF10	Cottam Hall	Urban Peninsula	Adult	3	Poor	3	3
PLF10	Cottam Hall	Urban Peninsula	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	2	0
PLF10	Cottam Hall	Urban Peninsula	Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	0	2
PLF26	Wyre Civic Centre	Urban Peninsula	Mini (5v5)	2	Standard	3	7
PLF26	Wyre Civic Centre	Urban Peninsula	Mini (7v7)	2	Standard	5	9
PLF26	Wyre Civic Centre	Urban Peninsula	Youth (11v11)	1	Standard	5	3
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	Urban Peninsula	Mini (7v7)	1	Standard	0.5	2.5
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	Urban Peninsula	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	4	2
FL01	King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood)	Urban Peninsula	Adult	3 2	Standard Poor	0	7
FL01	King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood)	Urban Peninsula	Mini (5v5)	2	Poor	2	10
KNP02	Preesall Park	Rural Plain	Mini (7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2.5
KNP02	Preesall Park	Rural Plain	Youth (11v11)	1	Poor	2	0
KNP02	Preesall Park	Rural Plain	Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	0	2
-	-	-	-	-	Net Total	7	40

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Improving quality as set out in the table above would create 47 match equivalent sessions of additional potential capacity per week and create eight⁸ additional match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity per week, this is due to pitches at Cottam Hall and King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood), having actual spare capacity discounted at present due to poor pitch quality, with quality then improving actual spare capacity at peak time would be created.

In addition, the majority of the pitches that are currently overplayed would have the overplay alleviated, with only one youth 11v11 pitch at King George Playing Field (Thornton) and one youth 11v11 pitch at Wyre Civic Centre remaining overplayed.

The impact the improvements would have on the overall supply and demand balance is shown in the following table.

Table 3.5: Impact on current supply and demand balance if quality improved at LFFP sites in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Current total	Potential total
Adult	2.5	7.5
Youth 11v11	12.5	4.5
Youth 9v9	0.5	0.5
Mini 7v7	0.5	1
Mini 5v5	1	2

Overall shortfalls on adult and mini 7v7 pitches would be alleviated, whilst shortfalls on youth 11v11 would be reduced.

Table 3.6: Impact on future supply and demand if quality improved at LFFP sites in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Current total	Potential total
Adult	3.5	6.5
Youth 11v11	15.5	7.5
Youth 9v9	3	3
Mini 7v7	1.5	0
Mini 5v5	0	1

When factoring in future demand, there will still be levels of overplay on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitch types.

As the LFFP is a live document to be informed by an up-to-date PPOSS, it is recommended that the priority list is updated on the back of this study to account for changes in demand since the project was completed. To help guide this process, the table below comments on whether the PPOSS provides evidence to support the inclusion of the sites currently featured.

⁸Two MES of actual spare capacity on Adult pitches at Cottam Hall
Five MES of actual spare capacity on adult pitches at King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood)
One MES of actual spare capacity on mini 5v5 pitches at King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood)

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Table 3.7: Assessing LFFP priority list (grass pitch improvements)

Site ID	Site name	Comments	LFFP update recommendation
PLF10	Cottam Hall	Key site that is poor/standard quality	Retain for improvement
PLF26	Wyre Civic Centre	Key site that is standard quality	Retain for improvement
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	Key site that is poor/standard quality	Retain for improvement
TH25	Gamble Road Recreation Ground	Key site that is good quality	Remove from LFFP, pitches have undergone improvement
FL01	King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood)	Key site that is poor/standard quality	Retain for improvement
KNP02	Preesall Park	Key site that is poor/standard quality	Retain for improvement

Further to the above, where a PitchPower assessment has been undertaken and categorises pitches as 'poor' or 'basic' they are then eligible to apply for Grass Pitch Funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF). This is particularly key in Wyre as quality has clear scope for improvement and there are no sites current receiving GPMF. For further information on this please refer to Objective 2 within Part 4: Strategic Recommendations.

Impact of removing demand from Blackpool FC Girls off Cottam Hall

Blackpool FC Girls is currently based out of Cottam Hall in Wyre. The site currently accommodates five youth girls' teams (three on youth 11v11 and two on youth 9v9 pitches) and two mixed mini teams which are played as dedicated girls' teams (one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5). However, the Club imports demand into Wyre from neighbouring Blackpool. The main umbrella club, Blackpool FC is currently looking at a development project for a community sports centre development, planned off the east stand of Blackpool FC Stadium at Bloomfield Road (Blackpool). As part of this development the seven Blackpool FC Girls teams based at Cottam Hall would relocate onto this new development.

The table below analyses the impact of removing the demand from Blackpool FC Girls off the Cottam Hall pitches.

Table 3.8: Impact of removing Blackpool FC Girls demand from Cottam Hall

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current capacity rating	Capacity rating if demand removed	Capacity rating if demand removed and pitch quality good
PLF10	Cottam Hall	Urban Peninsula	Adult	3	3	2	4
PLF10	Cottam Hall	Urban Peninsula	Youth (11v11)	1	2	0.5	1.5
PLF10	Cottam Hall	Urban Peninsula	Youth (9v9)	1	0	1	3

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If the demand from the seven teams were removed from Cottam Hall, the site would see overplay reduced on the adult and youth 11v11 pitches, whilst the youth 9v9 pitch which is currently played to capacity would see one match equivalent session of spare capacity per week created. If/when improvements are made to the pitches to improve them to a good quality, all overplay would then be removed, creating actual spare capacity of two match equivalent sessions per week on adult pitches. This would then allow other teams from overplayed sites nearby to transfer to use the pitches.

The tables below shows how this demand being removed would affect the current and future supply and demand on a Boroughwide level (with and without any other pitch improvements taking place).

Table 3.9: Summary of current supply and demand in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	2.5	5	2.5	1	3.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	13	12.5	3	15.5
Youth 9v9	0	0.5	0.5	2.5	3
Mini 7v7	1	1.5	0.5	1	1.5
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	1	0

Table 3.10: Summary of supply and demand if Blackpool FC Girls demand was removed off Cottam Hall in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	2.5	4	1.5	1	2.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	11.5	11	3	14
Youth 9v9	0	0.5	0.5	2.5	3
Mini 7v7	1	1.5	0.5	1	1.5
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	1	0

Table 3.11: Summary of supply and demand if Blackpool FC Girls demand was removed off Cottam Hall with pitch improvements in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	4.5	2	2.5	1	1.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	11	10.5	3	13.5
Youth 9v9	0	0.5	0.5	2.5	3
Mini 7v7	1	1.5	0.5	1	1.5
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	1	0

The demand being removed from Cottam Hall would result in the overplay on adult and youth 11v11 pitches being reduced on a Boroughwide level. With adult pitches now having overplay of just 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week, whilst overplay on youth 11v11 pitches would remain significant with 11 match equivalent sessions per week. As the youth 9v9 pitch at Cottam Hall is played to capacity at peak time, the spare capacity created is not considered to offer actual spare capacity.

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If pitch improvements were to be made to bring the pitches to a good quality, overplay would be removed across all pitch types at Cottam Hall, reducing overplay on a Boroughwide level on youth 11v11 pitches. Whilst, on adult pitches overplay would be removed and actual spare capacity of two match equivalent sessions per week would be created, seeing adult pitches on a Boroughwide level have spare capacity, both now and in the future.

Providing security of tenure

Currently, 17 match equivalent sessions per week are played on unsecured pitches throughout Wyre. If these pitches were to fall out of use, shortfalls would be exacerbated on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches.

Table 3.12: Supply and demand balance without unsecure sites in match equivalent sessions

Pitch type	Current total	Unsecure usage	Potential total	Future demand	Potential future total
Adult	2.5	5	7.5	1	8.5
Youth 11v11	12.5	10	22.5	3	25.5
Youth 9v9	0.5	2	2.5	2.5	5
Mini 7v7	0.5	-	0.5	1	1.5
Mini 5v5	1	-	1	1	0

A total list of unsecure sites with community use are outlined below for reference:

- ◀ Fleetwood High School (ID: FL21)
- ◀ Myerscough Sports Centre (ID: BIL15)

All of the unsecured use is located at educational sites. Where there is external investment on school sites e.g., by an NGB or Sport England, there are opportunities to secure use as part of the funding agreement. There is also opportunities to secure community use agreements for sites where change of use or external investments have been provided in both new and existing school sites, this then can allow sites that currently play a key role in supporting community sport to offer secure tenure and protects the clubs' usage of the site.

Securing access to currently unavailable sites

There are currently 10 grass football pitches unavailable for community use with spare capacity at:

- ◀ Carter Charity (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School (ID: RP08)
- ◀ Millfield High School (ID: TH42)
- ◀ Pilling St Johns C of E Primary School (ID: PIL14)
- ◀ Preesall Fleetwood's Charity C of E Primary School (ID: PRE04)
- ◀ Rossall School (ID: FL90)
- ◀ St Aidan's Church of England High School (ID: PRE03)

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By securing access to sites above (for example through a community use agreement), spare capacity would significantly increase on mini 5v5. Whilst spare capacity is created on youth 9v9 and mini 7v7, whilst overplay is lessened on youth 11v11 pitches. Future demand would see mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches with spare capacity.

Table 3.13: Supply and demand balance including unavailable sites in match equivalent sessions

Pitch type	Current total	Unavailable usage	Potential total	Future demand	Potential future total
Adult	2.5	-	2.5	1	3.5
Youth 11v11	12.5	3	9.5	3	12.5
Youth 9v9	0.5	2	1.5	2.5	1
Mini 7v7	0.5	3	2.5	1	1.5
Mini 5v5	1	2	3	1	2

As with unsecured sites, most sites not currently offering community use are school sites. As the likelihood of gaining access to all school sites is considered improbable, initial focus should be on schools offering a large number of pitches, or pitch types that currently have shortfalls for example St Aidan's Church of England High School and Millfield High School.

Impact of potential relocation of Wyre Villa (STA02)

As part of the Call for Sites process, Wyre Villa Community Amateur Sports Club has recently identified aspirations to sell its site for housing development and replace it elsewhere (potentially at/adjoining St Aidan's Church of England High School). A planning application relating to this proposal has not yet been submitted.

The site is located in the Rural Plain Analysis Area and contains one standard quality adult pitch which makes up the majority of the site in addition to car parking, changing rooms and a court area. At present the pitch has 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week of actual spare capacity. The current relocation option is new provision at/adjoining St Aidan's Church of England High School which is also located in Rural Plain Analysis Area.

Table 3.14: Summary of current supply and demand in match equivalent sessions

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	2.5	5	2.5	1	3.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	13	12.5	3	15.5
Youth 9v9	0	0.5	0.5	2.5	3
Mini 7v7	1	1.5	0.5	1	1.5
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	1	0

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Table 3.15: Impact of losing Wyre Villa FC adult football pitch on supply and demand balance Supply and demand balance including unavailable sites in match equivalent sessions

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	2	5	3	1	4
Youth 11v11	0.5	13	12.5	3	15.5
Youth 9v9	0	0.5	0.5	2.5	3
Mini 7v7	1	1.5	0.5	1	1.5
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	1	0

As can be seen in Table 3.18, if the Wyre Villa FC pitch was to be lost, the current and future shortfalls would worsen slightly on adult pitches due to a reduction in actual spare capacity. Coupled with this and given the overall shortfall of pitches within Rural Plain Analysis Area, there is a need to fully replace the site on new playing field land in accordance with Sport England Playing Fields Policy.

It is also worth noting that the football pitches at St Aidan's Church of England School are poor quality and currently unavailable for community use.

Primary school playing fields

There are currently 27 primary school sites in Wyre, which have playing fields onsite as detailed in Table 3.19 below. These playing fields currently have no formal pitch markings on them and therefore, the sites have not been included within the pitch supply and demand analysis. The sites in are all considered unused playing fields and are unavailable for community use because no community clubs access the sites for formal sport, this is not to say the schools do not use the fields for sporting activity.

It should be noted that the playing fields onsite are generally small, however, could have the potential to accommodate mini and youth football pitches.

Table 3.16: Primary school sites with unmarked playing fields

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Active Places ID
GAR34	Garstang St Thomas C of E Primary School	PR3 1PB	Rural Central	6012846
RCL03	Nateby Primary School	PR3 0JH	Rural Central	6012275
BIL11	Bilsborrow John Cross C of E School	PR3 0RE	Rural East and Uplands	6012802
REU18	Calder Vale St John C of E Primary School	PR3 1SR	Rural East and Uplands	6012940
FOR08	Forton Primary School	PR3 0AS	Rural East and Uplands	6012806
GAR35	St Mary and Michael Catholic Primary School	PR3 1RB	Rural East and Uplands	6012639
PIL13	St William's Catholic Primary School	PR3 6AL	Rural Mosslands	6012819
CHU05	Kirkland & Catterall St Helens C of E Primary School	PR3 0HS	Rural Plain	6012829
GRE12	Great Eccleston Copp C of E Primary School	PR3 0ZN	Rural Plain	6012709

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Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Active Places ID
GRE9	St Marys Catholic Primary School	PR3 0ZJ	Rural Plain	30005035
HAM05	Hambleton Primary Academy	FY6 9BZ	Rural Plain	6012672
INS04	Inskip St Peter's Church of England Voluntary Aided School	PR4 0TT	Rural Plain	6012697
STA07	Stalmine Primary School	FY6 0LR	Rural Plain	6012807
STM07	St Michaels-on-the-Wyre C of E Primary School	PR3 0UA	Rural Plain	6012787
CLE27	Manor Beach Primary School	FY5 1EU	Urban Peninsula	6012814
CLE35	Northfold Community Primary School	FY5 2NL	Urban Peninsula	6013001
FL59	Charles Saer Community Primary School	FY7 8DD	Urban Peninsula	1069093
FL62	Flakefleet Primary School	FY7 7ND	Urban Peninsula	6012771
FL63	Larkholme Primary School	FY7 8QB	Urban Peninsula	6012699
PLF35	Carleton Green Community Primary School	FY6 7TF	Urban Peninsula	6012734
PLF36	Carr Head Primary School	FY6 8JB	Urban Peninsula	6012786
PLF38	Poulton-Le-Fylde St Chads C of E Primary School	FY6 7SR	Urban Peninsula	6012854
PLF39	Carleton St Hilda's C of E Primary School	FY6 7PE	Urban Peninsula	6012674
PLF74	Breck Primary School	FY6 7HE	Urban Peninsula	6014236
TH57	Royles Brook Primary School	FY5 2TY	Urban Peninsula	6012977
TH58	Thornton Cleveleys Baines' Endowed V.C. School	FY5 5BJ	Urban Peninsula	6012794
TH59	Stanah Primary School	FY5 5JR	Urban Peninsula	6012952

Due to the high levels of overplay in the Borough, these sites could be considered to help support both current and future demand. If community use was secured on these sites and formal pitches marked out these sites could be made accessible for community football clubs, this would in turn help to alleviate shortfalls across Wyre. Please note further feasibility is required on a site by site basis to fully determine which sites could accommodate 11v11 and 9v9 football pitches.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided) in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy.
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and assessed as poor or standard quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality.
- ◀ Use the LFFP as a guide to determine suitable sites for grass pitch investment and update the priority projects within it following this study.
- ◀ Utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to assist in the improvement and ongoing maintenance of provision.
- ◀ Work with clubs/sites to identify sites which are eligible to receive GPMF.
- ◀ Work to accommodate exported and future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity, sites previously utilised for football demand or at sites which are not currently available for community use.

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- ◀ Provide security of tenure for clubs using unsecure sites through community use agreements and support negotiation with private landowners and schools to secure appropriate access (e.g., via a community use agreement or lease arrangement).
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer.
- ◀ Where appropriate, develop partnerships and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own sites.

3.2: Third generation turf (3G) pitches

Assessment Report summary

3G supply and demand summary

- ◀ **There is considered to be an insufficient supply to accommodate both current and future demand for 3G pitches in Wyre.**

3G supply summary

- ◀ There are three 11v11 size 3G pitches in Wyre. Two of these pitches are located in the Urban Peninsula Analysis Area, whilst the remaining pitch is located in the Rural East and Uplands Analysis Area.
- ◀ All pitches have sports lighting, with all three pitches being available for community use.
- ◀ There are also nine smaller size 3G pitches servicing Wyre, all of which are available for community use. All but one community available pitches are all serviced by sports lighting.
- ◀ In Wyre three of the pitches are FA/FIFA compliant. Whilst the certificate for the pitch at Fleetwood High School has recently expired.
- ◀ There is one WR compliant 3G pitches in Wyre, at Myerscough Sports Centre.
- ◀ The 3G pitch at Myerscough Sports Centre is managed by the college onsite. Whilst the 3G pitches at Poolfoot Farm Sports and Leisure Complex is managed in house by the professional sports club.
- ◀ Of the three 11v11 size pitches two (67%) are good quality and one (33%) is standard quality. No 11v11 size 3G pitches in Wyre are poor quality.
- ◀ Of the nine small size 3G pitches six (67%) are good quality and three (33%) are standard quality, no small sized 3G pitches in Wyre are poor quality.
- ◀ The ancillary amenities at Poolfoot Farm Sports and Leisure Complex and Myerscough Sports Centre are rated as good quality with no issues arising during consultation.

3G demand summary

- ◀ All pitches are extensively used for affiliated football demand both for midweek training and competitive demand at the weekend. There is also use of both Myerscough Sports Centre and Fleetwood Rugby Club for rugby union training demand.
- ◀ The 11v11 size 3G pitches currently available for community use in Wyre are all operating at, or close to, capacity at peak times, especially during winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting).
- ◀ In Wyre 78% clubs that responded to consultation report that they require additional access to 3G provision, however, the exact number of teams that don't already access 3G pitches is unquantifiable.

Scenarios

Accommodating football training demand

To satisfy current football training demand (based on the FA's model of one 11v11 size 3G pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a theoretical need for eight 3G pitches (11v11 size) in Wyre.

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Table 3.17: Current demand for 3G pitches in Wyre (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	3G pitch requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall of pitches
295	8	2	6

When considering future demand for an additional 15 teams (based on growth identified in Stage C Assessment Report), the theoretical need remains the same i.e., eight 3G pitches (11v11 size).

Table 3.18: Future demand for 3G pitches in Wyre (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	3G pitch requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Future shortfall of pitches
310	8	2	6

Alternatively, the table below considers the number of 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the respective analysis area that they play in. This not only identifies where the potential needs exist across Wyre, but it can also be used to guide which areas should be targeted for new provision.

Table 3.19: Current demand for 3G pitches in Wyre by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G pitch requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall
Rural Central	2	0 (0.05)	0	-
Rural East and Uplands	67	2 (1.76)	0.5	1.5
Rural Mosslands	10	0.5 (0.26)	0	0.5
Rural Plain	19	0.5 (0.50)	0	0.5
Urban Peninsula	197	5 (5.18)	1.5	3.5
Wyre	295	8	2	6

This shows that there is currently a shortfall of six 3G pitches (11v11 size) across Wyre. When broken down by analysis area, the Urban Peninsula has the greatest demand and there is a shortfall of at least one pitch identified in the Rural East and Uplands and Urban Peninsula analysis areas.

When accounting for future demand for 3G pitch provision, the future number of teams has been worked out in each individual analysis area by proportionally working out the current number of teams within each analysis area and applying this to the total projected number of teams in the future for Wyre as a whole.

Table 3.20: Future demand for 3G pitches in Wyre by analysis area

Analysis area	Future number of teams	% of current demand	Future pitch requirement	Current number of available 11v11 size 3G pitches	Future pitch shortfall
Rural Central	2	1%	0 (0.05)	0	-
Rural East and Uplands	71	23%	2 (1.86)	0.5	1.5

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Analysis area	Future number of teams	% of current demand	Future pitch requirement	Current number of available 11v11 size 3G pitches	Future pitch shortfall
Rural Mosslands	10	3%	0.5 (0.26)	0	0.5
Rural Plain	19	6%	0.5 (0.50)	0	0.5
Urban Peninsula	208	67%	5.5 (5.47)	1.5	4
Wyre	310	100%	8.5	2	6.5

To service future demand, there is additional requirement for 0.5 3G pitches (11v11 size) in the Borough and which is identified within the Urban Peninsula Analysis Area. This equates to a shortfall of 6.5 pitches: 1.5 pitches in the Rural East and Uplands Analysis Area, 0.5 pitches in the Rural Mosslands and Rural Plain analysis areas and four in the Urban Peninsula Analysis Area.

Wyre Local Football Facility Plan 2019 (LFFP)

The LFFP for Wyre identifies the following for potential 3G pitch development:

- ◀ King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood) (Urban Peninsula Area) - New (11v11 size)
- ◀ Cottam Hall (Urban Peninsula Area) - New (11v11 size)

As the LFFP is a live document to be informed by an up to date PPOSS, the priority project list should be revisited following this study and updated/amended based on the findings, if necessary. To help further guide this process, the table below identifies what impact delivering the current projects would have on existing shortfalls.

Table 3.21: Impact of delivering Wyre LFFP 3G pitch projects

Analysis area	Current 3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall	No. of proposed pitches	Shortfall if delivered
Rural Central	0 (0.05)	0	-	0	0
Rural East and Uplands	2 (1.76)	0.5	1.5	0	1.5
Rural Mosslands	0.5 (0.26)	0	0.5	0	0.5
Rural Plain	0.5 (0.50)	0	0.5	0	0.5
Urban Peninsula	5 (5.18)	1.5	3.5	2	1.5
Total	8	2	6	2	4

If the pitches at King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood) and Cottam Hall are established the overall shortfall would reduce from six pitches to four pitches, with the specific shortfall in the Urban Peninsula Analysis Area reducing from 3.5 to 1.5, with shortfalls remaining the same in the Rural East and Uplands, Rural Mosslands, and Rural Plain analysis areas.

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As the LFFP does not identify enough pitches within Wyre there is a need to explore additional options for the development of 3G pitches in the Rural East and Uplands, Rural Mosslands, Rural Plain and Urban Peninsula analysis areas. The sites below currently operate extensive and successful community use programmes on a number of differing pitch types and therefore have been identified as potential sites to be further explored and considered for the development of 3G pitches in areas of need:

Rural East and Uplands:

- ◀ Myerscough Sports Centre (ID: BIL15) (2nd 3G onsite)
- ◀ Garstang Community Academy (ID: BOW06)

Rural Mosslands:

- ◀ Pilling Playing Field (ID: PIL05)

Rural Plain:

- ◀ St Aiden's Church of England High School (ID: PRE03) (Poulton-le-Fylde)

Urban Peninsula:

- ◀ Hodgson Academy (ID: PLF68) (Poulton-le-Fylde)
- ◀ Baines School (ID: PLF33) (Poulton-le-Fylde)
- ◀ King George's Playing Field (Thornton) (ID: TH13)
- ◀ Cardinal Allen Catholic High School (ID: FL61)
- ◀ Wyre Civic Centre (ID: PLF26)

It should be noted that further investigation is required to fully determine whether the sites listed would be suitable and are in fact in a position to take on additional pitches.

World Rugby (WR) compliant 3G pitches

WR produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union.

There is currently one WR compliant 3G pitch in Wyre at Myerscough Sports Centre. The pitch is used by Garstang RUFC for midweek training demand and utilised on a daily basis by Myerscough College Rugby Academy.

The small sided pitch at Fleetwood Rugby Club has a shock pad installed, however, this has not recently been tested and therefore isn't considered WR compliant. The Club reports using the pitch for weekly training demand; however, it is recommended that no contact training should take place until the pitch is tested and regains its compliance.

Although there is no aspiration from a rugby union club perspective for additional 3G pitches to have a shock pad and be WR compliant, given that quality improvements to grass rugby union pitches is insufficient to fully address current levels shortfalls one option may be to provide new WR compliant 3G pitches.

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Moving football match play demand to 3G pitches

Moving mini football match play to 3G pitches is supported by the FA.

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

Table 3.22: Programming formula for moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

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

Based on the above programming and separate start times for the formats, the overall need is theoretically for seven 11v11 size 3G pitches to accommodate all current mini match play demand. This is calculated based on 54 teams playing 5v5 football and 60 teams playing 7v7 football. As such, it is considered that to be able to transfer mini football onto 3G pitches, there is a need for the development of 4.5 additional 11v11 size 3G pitches, with a current supply of 2.5 pitches.

This approach is dependent on the programming of mini football being coordinated in such a way which allows for a full programme of use on either a Saturday or Sunday morning. Given the makeup of play in the Borough and the traditional home vs away approach for play, it is unlikely that this approach for full 3G use will ever be in place. However, pitches should be considered for this sort of activity when being provided as it does typically provide a more environment friendly facility for younger children.

In addition, due to high levels of overplay on youth 11v11 pitches, an alternative solution would be to utilise 3G pitches for match play. This would help to protect and remove demand off grass pitches to support the improvement of pitch quality, whilst also alleviating overplay on youth 11v11 pitches.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy.
- ◀ Develop additional 3G pitches to alleviate identified shortfalls for football, rugby union and rugby league.
- ◀ Carry out further feasibility work with key stakeholders to explore the presented options for 3G pitch developments across the Borough.
- ◀ Encourage more match play demand to transfer to 3G pitches, where possible, particularly from for mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 football.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA/RFU recommended dimensions and quality performance standards to meet performance testing criteria.
- ◀ Ensure all 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability.

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- ◀ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are on the FA register are re-tested every three years to sustain certification.
- ◀ Ensure that the existing World Rugby compliant pitch at Myerscough Sports Centre is re-tested every two years to sustain certification, whilst the small sided pitch at Fleetwood Rugby Club requires testing to be able to accommodate contact rugby training.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches with external funding have community use agreements in place and seek to use this to also tie in access to grass pitch and other sporting provision, where relevant.

3.3: Cricket pitches

Assessment Report summary

Cricket supply and demand summary

- ◀ **Overall, there is currently insufficient capacity of natural turf cricket squares to meet current demand for club cricket at a Borough wide level on Saturdays and midweek. Whilst there is currently sufficient capacity for cricket on Sundays in Wyre.**
- ◀ **When future demand is accounted for, shortfalls for Saturday and midweek cricket are further exacerbated whilst spare capacity on Sundays is lost.**

Cricket supply summary

- ◀ In total, there are ten grass wicket squares in Wyre, of which, eight are available for community use, the two unavailable grass squares are at Rossall School.
- ◀ A total of nine non-turf pitches (NTPs) are identified in Wyre. Of these six NTPs support existing grass wicket squares, with all others being standalone NTPs. Eight are available for community use.
- ◀ Within Wyre most clubs own or lease their home grounds, with three clubs owning their sites and four clubs leasing their grounds, whilst Wyre CC has an annual rental agreement at Cottam Hall, which is considered to offer unsecure tenure.
- ◀ The audit of grass wicket cricket squares in Wyre found six (60%) to be good quality and four (40%) to be of standard quality. None are assessed as poor. Of the eight community available squares five (62%) are rated as good quality and three (38%) are standard quality.
- ◀ The audit of ancillary facilities at available grass pitch cricket sites determines that two (25%) are accompanied by good quality provision, four squares (50%) accompanied by standard quality provision and two squares (25%) having poor quality supporting ancillary provision.
- ◀ Garstang, Fleetwood, Shireshead & Forton, Wyre and Fylde cricket clubs aspire to improve training facilities at their respective home venues.

Cricket demand summary

- ◀ In total, there are nine clubs generating 33 senior men's, three senior women's and 26 junior teams.
- ◀ No additional teams are expected to be generated by population growth alone.
- ◀ Four clubs aspire to add a total of three senior men's, two senior women's and two junior boys' teams.

Scenarios

Addressing overplay

A regular, sufficient maintenance regime can often sustain good quality sites with minimal levels of overplay (e.g. at Fleetwood Cricket Club and Thornton Cricket Club).

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Table 3.23: Summary of overplay on senior wickets

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of squares	Overplay (matches per season)
PLF19	Fylde Cricket Club	Urban Peninsula	1	8

Table 3.24: Summary of overplay on junior wickets

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of squares	Overplay (matches per season)
FL06	Fleetwood Cricket Club	Urban Peninsula	1	1
TH01	Thornton Cleveleys Cricket Club	Urban Peninsula	1	2
-	-	Total	2	3

Improving quality is one way to increase capacity, albeit many of the overplayed sites in Wyre are already good quality. The exception to this is the square at Fylde Cricket Club which has a standard quality square and is currently overplayed by eight match equivalent sessions a season.

Table 3.25: Overplay if square quality was improved to good quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of wickets	Wicket Type	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
PLF19	Fylde Cricket Club	Urban Peninsula	8	Senior	Standard	8	0
PLF19	Fylde Cricket Club	Urban Peninsula	4	Junior	Standard	4	8

As seen in the table above, improving the quality of the square at Fylde Cricket Club would alleviate identified overplay, however, the square would still be played to capacity on senior wickets. For more information on improving pitch quality please refer to Objective 2 within Part 4: Strategic Recommendations.

To fully alleviate overplay at Fleetwood Cricket Club and Thornton Cleveleys Cricket Club, the best solution would be to make use of NTPs already installed onsite for junior fixtures. As a caveat, whilst the use of NTPs for the management of fixtures would alleviate overplay issues, usage is subject to league rules and minimum pitch specifications.

Although not readily available within grassroots cricket, there may be potential in the future to address overplay through the installation of hybrid wicket/s on competitive senior squares. The ECB has been working with SIS Pitches on the installation of hybrid cricket wickets at county cricket clubs (2019) and more recently recreational squares such as Perry Hall Park in Birmingham (2021) and Didsbury Cricket Club in Manchester (2022).

Due to already good standing provision at Fleetwood Cricket Club, Thornton Cleveleys Cricket Club and Fylde Cricket Club (which if/when improved would still be played to capacity), there is scope to potentially explore the opportunity to install hybrid wickets in the future.

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

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

Although it is difficult at this stage to understand what impact hybrid wickets could have on each site's capacity, it is suggested that it could potentially alleviate all the overplay on both junior and senior wickets. This is based on the assumption that more senior demand can take place on the hybrid wickets allowing for the outer senior wickets to be used/converted for junior demand.

Impact of club aspirational demand on future site by site supply and demand

Future demand reported by club aspirations through participation increases is considered more aspirational, and it is unlikely that it will all be achieved. This scenario explores the impact that the clubs aspirational demand would have if all the future demand was realised.

The total future demand expressed by clubs is broken down club by club in Table 4.19, the future demand from club aspirations amounts to eight teams (three senior Saturday men's teams, two senior women's teams and three junior boys' teams).

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Table 3.26: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Analysis area	Club	Age group	Aspirational future demand (number of teams)	Day	Capacity balance ⁹	Match equivalent sessions required to accommodate future demand	Actual spare capacity at home site
Urban Peninsula	Fleetwood CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	12	12	No
Urban Peninsula	Fleetwood CC	Senior Women's	1	Sunday	12	12	Yes
Urban Peninsula	Fleetwood CC	Junior Boys	2	Midweek	1	10	No
Rural Central	Garstang CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	3	12	No
Rural East and Uplands	Shireshead & Forton CC	Senior Men's	1	Saturday	0	12	No
Rural East and Uplands	Shireshead & Forton CC	Senior Women's	1	Sunday	0	12	No
Urban Peninsula	Thornton Cleveleys CC	Junior Boys	1	Midweek	2	5	No

Fleetwood CC has spare capacity on its square; however, it does not have capacity to host an additional senior Saturday men's team. The Club currently has two Saturday men's teams and therefore, in order to cater for an additional senior Saturday men's team, it needs to look at an alternative facility to cater for this team. Likewise, its junior wickets are currently overplayed by one match equivalent, therefore it is considered that there is no actual spare capacity to accommodate further junior midweek teams on junior wickets. However, with spare capacity on senior wickets, there could be scope for junior teams to use these wickets to increase demand.

Garstang CC does not have capacity to host an additional senior Saturday men's team. The Club currently has two Saturday men's teams accessing the square on Saturdays and therefore, in order to cater for an additional senior Saturday men's team, it needs to look at an alternative facility to cater for this team. Previously the Club has accessed a second square and could potentially look to bring the square back into use to cater for this demand.

Shireshead & Forton CC does not have capacity to accommodate any further teams as its square is currently played to capacity. Therefore, in order to accommodate further senior men's and women's teams it would need to look for alternative provision.

⁹ Match equivalent sessions per season
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Thornton Cleveleys CC does not have capacity to accommodate any further junior midweek teams, this is due to the junior wickets being overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per season. The site currently has an NTP and therefore the Club should look to utilise this more to support junior cricket, this would allow growth in junior midweek teams.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy.
- ◀ Work with clubs and grounds staff to review quality issues on squares to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Address overplay via quality improvements and the installation of NTPs/Hybrid wickets as well as through greater utilisation of the NTPs already in place.
- ◀ Ensure clubs can realise future growth plans and continue to monitor increases in demand to ensure additional teams can be fielded.
- ◀ Improve the ancillary facilities, particularly those which have expressed issues and development plans and those of a standard/poor quality.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, ensure that any proposals for new squares will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing cricket sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).

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3.4: Rugby union pitches

Assessment Report summary

Rugby union supply and demand summary

- There is an insufficient supply of provision in Wyre to accommodate for both current and anticipated future levels of demand for rugby union.
- The priority for rugby union in Wyre is to ensure maintenance programmes are enhanced across club settings to improve quality of pitches to alleviate the overplay across senior pitches.

Rugby union supply summary

- There is a total of 13 rugby union pitches identified in Wyre. Of these, seven are available for community use. All pitches are senior size pitches. All unavailable pitches are located at education sites.
- There is one WR compliant 3G pitches in Wyre at Myerscough Sports Centre.
- Of the three clubs, two are considered to have secure tenure of their sites, whilst Thornton Cleveleys RUFC are considered to have unsecure tenure due to the nature of its one-year rolling lease of its pitches.
- Of the seven available rugby union pitches, there are two (29%) rated as standard quality and five (71%) rated as poor quality.
- Supporting ancillary provision is considered sufficient at all club sites apart from Garstang Rugby Union Club. The overarching sports club on this site are currently in the process are planning for a clubhouse development.

Rugby union demand summary

- There are three rugby union clubs in Wyre which in total generate demand equating to 26 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of six senior men's teams, one senior women's team, six junior boys' teams, one junior girls' team and 12 mini teams.
- Community club training typically takes place on grass pitch provision with sports lighting at King Georges Playing Fields (Thornton) and Fleetwood Rugby Club, whilst Garstang RUFC access Myerscough Sports Centre for 3G pitch for training.
- Future demand from participation increases is projected to nine teams (one senior men's, one senior women's, four junior boys, one junior girls and two mini teams), requiring additional match play capacity of four match equivalent sessions on senior pitches.
- The pitches at King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood) have actual spare capacity.
- There are four pitches overplayed across three sites by a total of nine match equivalent sessions per week.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

In order to improve the overall quality of grass rugby union pitches, it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a match limit to each (weekly for rugby union), as shown in the preceding Assessment Report.

Three community club sites in Wyre are overplayed. This translates to each site accommodating more demand than it should be accommodating, relative to the facility stock on each site. The scenarios below look at the impact of improvements to senior pitches at each of the sites through enhancing the existing maintenance regimes and through the installation of drainage solutions.

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate, set out below.

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Table 3.27: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

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

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Table 3.28: Rugby union supply vs demand balance (sites which are overplayed)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Security of tenure	No. of pitches	Technical score	Quality*	Sports lighting	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating (MES per week)
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	Urban Peninsula	Yes	Secure	1	M1 / D0	Poor	No	1.5	1.5	0
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	Urban Peninsula	Yes	Secure	1	M1 / D0	Poor	Yes-partial	4.5	1.5	3
GAR07	Garstang Rugby Union Football Club	Rural Central	Yes	Secure	2	M0 / D0	Poor	No	6	1	5
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	Urban Peninsula	Yes	Unsecure	1	M0 / D1	Poor	Yes-partial	2.5	1.5	1

Table 3.29: Improvements to existing maintenance regimes to reduce overplay by one increment

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Technical score	Quality*	Floodlit?	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Current capacity rating (MES per week)	Improved technical maintenance score	Improved quality rating	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	1	M1 / D0	Poor	No	1.5	1.5	0	M2 / D0	Standard	0.5
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	1	M1 / D0	Poor	Yes-partial	4.5	1.5	3	M2 / D0	Standard	2.5
GAR07	Garstang Rugby Union Football Club	2	M0 / D0	Poor	No	6	1	5	M1 / D0	Poor	4
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	1	M0 / D1	Poor	Yes-partial	2.5	1.5	1	M1 / D1	Standard	0.5

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The table above includes a one increment increase on the maintenance on pitches, undertaking these improvements will have an impact on capacity. The main 1st XV pitch at Fleetwood Rugby Club is currently at capacity and will see a small level of spare capacity generated, whilst the remaining pitch onsite will see overplay shortened from three match equivalent sessions to 2.5 per week. Both senior pitches at Garstang Rugby Union Football Club, are overplayed, the increase in maintenance on the pitches would see overplay reduced from five match equivalent sessions to four per week.

The senior pitch at King George Playing Field (Thornton) would see it's overplay reduced by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week from one match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 3.30: Improving on site drainage solutions to a D2 rating

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Technical score	Quality*	Floodlit?	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating (MES per week)	Improved technical drainage score	Improved quality rating	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	1	M1 / D0	Poor	No	1.5	1.5	0	M1 / D2	Standard	1
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	1	M1 / D0	Poor	Yes-partial	4.5	1.5	3	M1 / D2	Standard	2
GAR07	Garstang Rugby Union Football Club	2	M0 / D0	Poor	No	6	1	5	M0 / D2	Standard	3.75
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	1	M0 / D1	Poor	Yes-partial	2.5	1.5	1	M0 / D2	Standard	0.75

The table above illustrates that the impact of improving the drainage solutions at all sites to a D2 (pipe drained) rating. The improvements would have a similar impact as maintenance improvements for Fleetwood Rugby Club with the main 1st XV pitch currently played to capacity having a small level of capacity created and the other pitch having overplay reduced from three match equivalent sessions to two per week.

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Garstang Rugby Union Football Club would see its pitches have overplay reduced with drainage improvements from five match equivalent sessions per week to 3.75 match equivalent sessions per week. Similarly, improving the drainage systems in place on the overplayed pitch at King George Playing Field (Thornton) would see the overplay reduced from one match equivalent sessions per week to 0.75 per week.

Table 3.31: Improving maintenance and drainage

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Technical score	Quality*	Floodlit?	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating (MES per week)	Improved technical score	Improved quality rating	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	1	M1 / D0	Poor	No	1.5	1.5	0	M2 / D3	Good	2
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	1	M1 / D0	Poor	Yes-partial	4.5	1.5	3	M2 / D3	Good	1
GAR07	Garstang Rugby Union Football Club	2	M0 / D0	Poor	No	6	1	5	M2 / D3	Good	2.5
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	1	M0 / D1	Poor	Yes-partial	2.5	1.5	1	M2 / D3	Good	1

The above two tables show an improvement, to both the maintenance and drainage on rugby pitches. Table examines the improvement of both maintenance and drainage to the maximum M2/D3 rating. Fleetwood Rugby Club would see two match equivalent sessions worth of capacity created on its main 1st XV pitch, whilst overplay on the other pitch would be reduced from three match equivalent sessions to one per week.

Garstang Rugby Union Football Club would see the overplay across its pitches reduced with improvements to both maintenance and drainage. The pitches overplay would reduce from five match equivalent sessions to 2.5 per week.

The overplay at King Georg Playing Field (Thornton) would be alleviated with these improvements made to maintenance and drainage, whilst also creating a small amount of spare capacity.

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It is imperative to engage with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity. Where overplay is identified, play should be encouraged, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity, or quality, where possible, should be improved to increase capacity to appropriate levels. For more information on ways to improve quality please refer to Objective 2 within Part 4: Strategic Recommendations.

Overall, across the Borough, maximum improvements to provision would be insufficient to fully address current levels of shortfall; which would indicate that additional provision, either in the form of additional grass pitches or new World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitches, is required alongside pitch quality improvement.

World Rugby (WR) compliant 3G pitches

WR produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. There is currently one WR compliant 3G pitch in Wyre at Myerscough Sports Centre, the pitch is used by Garstang RUFC for midweek training demand and utilised on a daily basis by Myerscough College Rugby Academy. The small sided pitch at Fleetwood Rugby Club, has a shock pad installed, however, has not recently been tested and therefore isn't considered WR compliant. The Club reports using the pitch for weekly training demand; however, no contact training should take place until the pitch is tested and regains its compliance.

Although there is no aspiration from a rugby union club perspective for additional 3G pitches to have a shock pad and be WR compliant, given that quality improvements to grass rugby union pitches is insufficient to fully address current levels of shortfalls, one option may be to provide new WR compliant 3G pitches.

Impact of club aspirational demand on future supply and demand

Future demand reported by club aspirations through participation increases is considered more aspirational, and it is unlikely that it will all be achieved. This scenario explores the impact that the clubs aspirational demand would have if all the future demand was realised.

The total future demand expressed by clubs is broken down club by club in Table 4.27, the future demand from club aspirations amounts to four match equivalent sessions per week.

Broken down by analysis area this results in two match equivalent sessions per week in the Urban Peninsula Analysis Area and two match equivalent sessions per week in the Rural Central Analysis Area.

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Table 3.32: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Future team aspirations	Match equivalent sessions (MES) on a senior pitch ¹⁰
Fleetwood RUFC	Urban Peninsula	2 x age grade boys	1
Garstang RUFC	Rural Central	1 x senior women's	0.5
Garstang RUFC	Rural Central	1 x age grade girls	0.5
Garstang RUFC	Rural Central	2 x junior boys	1
Thornton Cleveleys RUFC	Urban Peninsula	1 x senior men's	0.5
Thornton Cleveleys RUFC	Urban Peninsula	2 x mixed age grade teams	0.5
-	-	Total	4

The table below shows what the impact would have overall on the supply and demand analysis if club aspirational demand came to fruition.

Table 3.33: Current supply and demand balance in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Rural Central	-	5	5	1	6
Rural East and Uplands	-	-	0	-	0
Rural Mosslands	-	-	0	-	0
Rural Plain	-	-	0	-	0
Urban Peninsula	3	4	1	3	4

Table 3.34: Impact of club aspirational future demand on supply and demand balance in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Rural Central	-	5	5	3	8
Rural East and Uplands	-	-	0	-	0
Rural Mosslands	-	-	0	-	0
Rural Plain	-	-	0	-	0
Urban Peninsula	3	4	1	5	6

It should be noted that if club aspirational demand was realised, there would still be levels of overplay across the Borough even after considering the aforementioned scenario on improving pitch quality. Alongside the tested additional match demand, it is likely that new team demand would also have further training demand, which, at this stage, cannot be tested. Therefore, in addition to these recommendations there will also be a need to consider alternative solutions such as the use of more 3G pitches to accommodate competitive demand.

¹⁰ Anticipated future junior demand is represented as 0.5 MES on a senior pitch whereas anticipated mini future demand is represented as 0.25 MES on a senior pitch.

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Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches and areas used for rugby union activity in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at all sites used by clubs through improved maintenance and/or the installation of drainage systems, particularly at sites containing overplayed pitches.
- ◀ Support clubs in taking part in the GMA pitch advisory service to explore technical requirements to help pitch improvement.
- ◀ Support clubs with aspirations to provide additional provision, either in the form of additional grass pitches or new World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitches.
- ◀ Support clubs with their aspirations to improve their ancillary facilities.

3.5: Rugby league pitches

Assessment Report summary

Rugby league supply and demand summary

- ◀ There are two dedicated rugby league pitches in Wyre, located at King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood). Both pitches are assessed as standard quality.
- ◀ There is a single affiliated rugby league club located in Wyre, Wyre Warriors ARLFC. It currently fields one men's and one women's team as well as a junior academy.
- ◀ Wyre Warriors ARLFC currently overplays the pitches at King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood) by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

In order to improve the quality of grass rugby league pitches, it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a match limit to each (weekly for rugby league), as shown in the preceding Assessment Report.

The one community club site in Wyre is overplayed. This translates to the site accommodating the exact amount of demand or more demand than it should be accommodating, relative to the facility stock on each site. The scenario below looks at the impact of improvements to senior pitches at each of the sites through enhancing pitch quality.

As a guide, the RFL has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate, set out below.

Table 3.35: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

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

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Table 3.36: Improvements to existing maintenance regimes to reduce overplay by one increment

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Quality	MES per week	Pitch capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating (MES per week)	Improved quality rating by one quality increment	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
FL01	King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood)	2	Standard	4.5	4	0.5	Good	1.5

The table above includes a one quality increment on pitches, undertaking these improvements will have an impact on capacity. The pitches at King George Playing Fields (Fleetwood) are currently overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week, however, improvements from standard quality to good quality would see overplay alleviated and 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week of spare capacity created.

It is imperative to engage with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity. Where overplay is identified, play should be encouraged, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity, or quality, where possible, should be improved to increase capacity to appropriate levels. For more information on ways to improve quality please refer to Objective 2 within Part 4: Strategic Recommendations.

World Rugby/RFL Community Standard compliant 3G pitches

World Rugby (WR) produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union, in order for suitable to host rugby league the pitch must meet RFL Performance Standard certification, it is recognised that WR compliant pitches typically achieve the RFL Community Standard certification, however, if a pitch was only built to an RFL Community Standard, this would not necessarily meet all the requirements for a WR22 pitch. It should be noted however, that a WR22 compliant pitch would not meet RFL Stadium criteria, which is required to host Super League and Championship RFL fixtures. It should be noted that the frequency of testing for WR22 and RFL Community Standard are slightly different with WR22 stipulating retesting every three years, whilst RFL Community Standard requires retesting every two years.

From a rugby league perspective, there is no identified demand for access to 3G pitches for training or matches, particularly given that improving quality will address shortfalls. However, if a new 3G pitch is provided in Urban Peninsula Analysis Area this should consider having a shock pad to be able to accommodate rugby league demand in the future.

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Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union/league pitches and areas used for rugby league activity in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy.
- ◀ Support Wyre Warriors ARLFC and the wider sports club in developing/improving ancillary provision onsite at King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood).

3.6: Hockey pitches

Assessment Report summary

Hockey supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is currently sufficient supply to cater for current hockey match play demand, however there is only capacity for future demand to grow a further one senior team at peak time (Saturdays) with any further growth having to access Garstang Community Academy on Sundays for matches.
- ◀ However, it is considered that due to club aspirations for growth and current capacity on the pitch at Garstang Community Academy there is insufficient supply to cater for current and future training demand.

Hockey supply summary

- ◀ There are two full size sand based AGPs across two sites in Wyre. The pitches are both supported by sports lighting. Of the two pitches one is deemed available for community use, whilst the pitch at Rossall School isn't available for bookings, however, due to links with Garstang HC offers some availability to the Club for use where required.
- ◀ There are eight small sized sand based AGPs in the Borough across eight sites. Three of which are available for community use.
- ◀ The full size hockey suitable AGP at Garstang Community Academy is located on an educational site and is managed by North West School Hire.
- ◀ The full size community available hockey suitable AGPs in Wyre are rated as good quality.

Hockey demand summary

- ◀ There is one community hockey club based in Wyre. The Club accommodates a total of 15 teams (two senior men's, four senior women's, one senior mixed, and eight junior teams).

Scenarios

Protecting sand-based AGPs

Both AGPs currently in use for hockey should be protected as hockey suitable unless replacement provision is provided within the locality and agreed with England Hockey (for reference any replacement provision would need to be built and full community accessible before the feasibility of developing a pitch could be considered). This is because it is considered unfeasible for demand, whether this is community club demand or curricular/extracurricular demand, to be amalgamated onto fewer pitches given the nature of Wyre and long drive-time distances between provision.

For clarity, this means that the pitches at the following sites require protection:

- ◀ Garstang Community Academy (ID: BOW06)
- ◀ Rossall School (ID: FL90)

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There is a need to protect the above provision in order to accommodate current levels of demand in addition to provide capacity for future/latent demand.

In addition, to accommodate all potential future growth, there is a need to establish secure match play use at Rossall School (which is already used on an adhoc basis for training).

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect full size hockey suitable pitches in Wyre in line with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and Guidance.
- ◀ Support Garstang HC in strengthening relationship with Garstang Community Academy, in order to secure additional use of AGP for training demand.
- ◀ Work with the provider to develop secured use of Rossall School to accommodate future match play and training.
- ◀ Pursue long-term security of tenure for clubs through community use agreements. In conjunction look to develop the management and accessibility of provision to ensure its accessibility based on club requirements in order to allow demand to grow.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have sinking funds in place at all sites to ensure long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Explore opportunities to upgrade the floodlighting at Garstang Community Academy to LED.
- ◀ Ensure Garstang HC has appropriate access to ancillary facilities to meet the needs of the Club.
- ◀ Ensure that no 3G pitch conversions take place that are detrimental to hockey and revisit hockey demand if a conversion is proposed to ensure that the pitch in question is not required for hockey. Please note that the conversion of sand based AGPs to 3G pitches is likely to require planning permission.
- ◀ Ensure any new 3G pitch developments do not make sand-based provision in the locality unsustainable following the transfer of football activity.

3.7: Athletics

Assessment Report summary

Athletics supply and demand summary

- ◀ **There is not deemed to be sufficient demand for a formal athletics track within Wyre, although the feasibility of providing an alternative facility such as a compact track, mini track or an active track should be explored.**
- ◀ Emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other activities taking place in Wyre, with a focus on retaining and increasing participation and growing the various initiatives that are in place such as RunTogether and Park Run.
- ◀ No formal athletics tracks are identified in Wyre, with the closest facility located in Blackpool at Stanley Park Athletics Arena.
- ◀ Garstang Running Club is the only club with a current focus on athletics activity in Wyre.
- ◀ Fleetwood Promenade is the only location where a Park Run takes place in Wyre.
- ◀ England Athletics believes that demand is likely to increase in the future, particularly for initiatives such as Park Run.
- ◀ Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies significant latent demand amounting to 2,290 people.

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Scenarios

Although there is not sufficient demand for a formal athletics track in Wyre, further feasibility of providing an alternative facility such as a compact track, mini track or an active track should be explored.

England Athletics is currently exploring three alternative approaches in designing new athletics provision across the Country. Traditional 400m athletic tracks are becoming increasingly problematic to sustain and refurbish with any new facilities generally considered impractical due to cost and the amount of land required for such a development.

These three designs, outlined below, present alternative approaches to athletics provision as to offer more affordable and feasible means of creating athletics tracks. It should be noted England Athletics has developed each of these with the German manufacturer 'Polytan' which help design each type of facility.

Compact track

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

Mini track

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

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

Active track

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

Recommendations

- ◀ Explore future opportunities for alternative athletics provision, should demand exist.
- ◀ Support clubs, running groups, events and England Athletics initiatives such as Park Run and pursue increased participation, where possible.

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3.8: Tennis courts

Assessment Report summary

Tennis supply and demand summary

- ◀ Current supply is broadly sufficient to meet club-based demand although St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC is currently operating above the recommended capacity at St Michael's-on-Wyre Tennis Club.
- ◀ After considering club future demand aspirations, only Moorland LTC will be operating below its home venue's recommended capacity.
- ◀ Away from clubs, although no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, precedence should be placed on improving the supply in ways that can meet unmet and latent demand identified.

Tennis supply summary

- ◀ There are 34 tennis courts identified in Wyre across 11 sites. Of these, 23 courts across eight sites are available for community use.
- ◀ The majority are operated by sports clubs, although education, commercial and private owners also manage tennis courts in Wyre.
- ◀ Most courts have a macadam surface, with 28 being of this type compared to the remaining six having an artificial surface.
- ◀ In Wyre, nine of the tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing 26% of the provision. Only Garstang & District and Moorland tennis clubs are serviced by floodlit provision.
- ◀ Of the courts, 20 are assessed as good quality, three as standard quality and 11 as poor quality.
- ◀ All tennis clubs within Wyre report ancillary provision at their respective home sites to be of good or adequate quality, with no major issues raised.

Tennis demand summary

- ◀ A total of six tennis clubs are identified in Wyre that have a total of 574 members. Moorland LTC is the largest with 120 members whilst Hambleton TC is the smallest with 61 members.
- ◀ No court providers report high levels of community access, including the various education providers.
- ◀ A number of LTA Youth Red sessions are operated by Cartmell Tennis Coaching across Wyre.

Scenarios

Increasing casual play and play

In October 2021, the Government and the LTA announced a package of £30 million for investment and improvements for public tennis courts. The Government is to put £22 million whilst the LTA invest £8.4 million into the package. The investment is to be made into public tennis courts which are currently accessed as poor or unplayable quality, the investment will be to bring the courts back to a quality that will benefit the local community.

Using the above funding the LTA has developed a package of support for LAs to grow the use of park tennis courts by removing key barriers to participation. The three products are ClubSpark, Rally and Gate Access and can be used individually or in combination. The products are used to provide a remote booking and access system.

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Instead of providing free access, some local authorities are now securing their courts as per a membership scheme that allows members access through the use of a fob system following payment of a small yearly fee. Not only does this deter unofficial use of courts but it also allows official use to be tracked, thus providing data on how well and how often courts are being accessed. In addition, it provides income generation that can go towards ongoing maintenance of the courts.

At present, no park sites within Wyre have been identified for LTA Investment by the LTA. There is currently one site under council management at Fleetwood memorial Park (Urban Peninsula Analysis Area), the site has two courts rated as standard quality. The site is suitable for investment and should be explored so by the council and LTA.

Accommodating current and future demand

The LTA suggests that a hard court without sports lighting can accommodate 40 members whereas a hard court with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members. For air domed courts, membership of 100 is considered applicable and permanent indoor courts can accommodate 200 members.

It should be noted that the abovementioned figures relate to LTA viability guidelines for clubs and are not the maximum capacity. The figure relates to what most clubs, based on the level of provision, would find sustainable. As grass courts are only available for 12 weeks of the year they are not included in membership numbers.

The table overleaf identifies the capacity balance at all sites currently used by clubs, taking into account both current demand and future demand.

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Table 3.37: Capacity analysis (club courts)

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Club users	Current demand (members)	Future demand (members)	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Capacity (members)	Current capacity balance (members)	Future capacity balance (members)
GAR06	Garstang Football, Cricket & Tennis Clubs	Rural Central	Garstang & District TC	100	70	2	Yes	120	20	50
STM03	St Michael's-on-Wyre Tennis Club	Rural Plain	St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC	110	14	2	No	80	30	44
HAM04	Hambleton Village Hall	Rural Plain	Hambleton TC	61	20	2	Yes	120	59	39
PLF76	Moorland Tennis Club	Urban Peninsula	Moorland LTC	120	40	4	Yes No	360	240	200
TH09	Thornton Lawn Tennis Club	Urban Peninsula	Thornton LTC	71	56	2	No	80	9	47
PLF23	St Chad's Tennis Club	Urban Peninsula	St Chads LTC	112	50	3	No	120	8	42

As shown, in the table above, current supply is broadly sufficient to meet club-based demand although St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC is currently operating above the recommended capacity at St Michael's-on-Wyre Tennis Club. However, after considering club future demand aspirations, only Moorland LTC and Hambleton TC will be operating below their home venue's recommended capacity. All other clubs will exceed recommended capacity levels at their respective home venues.

With the above being said, St Michael's-on-Wyre Tennis Club (x2), Thornton Lawn Tennis Club (x2) and St Chad's Tennis Club (x3) have courts with no sports lighting. If sports lighting were to be developed at St Michael's-on-Wyre Tennis Club, this would create additional capacity for 40 members (based on sports lighting providing an additional capacity for 20 members per court) and would enable St Michael's TC's current demand to be catered for, however, with future demand aspirations the site would still be overplayed marginally by four members. Similarly, if the two courts at Thornton Lawn Tennis Club had sports lighting installed, overplay would be reduced in the future from 47 members to only seven members.

In comparison, if the three courts at St Chad's Tennis Club had sports lighting installed, future demand overplay would be alleviated and the site would have spare capacity of 18 members.

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It is recommended that assistance is given, where possible, to St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC, Thornton LTC and ST Chad's LTC to support development of sports lighting, to help cater for the clubs current and future demand.

Padel tennis

One of the LTAs key strategies is to find new ways to grow participation and padel is an innovative format of tennis that is fun, flexible, easy to play and extremely sociable. Padel is played mainly in a doubles format on an enclosed court about a third of the size of a tennis court and can be played in groups of mixed ages and abilities, as it is not power dominant. The rules are broadly the same as tennis, although you serve under-arm and the walls are used as part of the game with the ball allowed to bounce off them.

One of the fastest growing sports across Europe, it has also been integrated into the LTA and is now recognised as a format of tennis. This has provided a platform to facilitate the growth of the sport, with tennis venues throughout Great Britain exploring the potential opportunities it can bring to a facility.

There are currently no padel tennis courts in Wyre; however, given its increasing popularity, demand for provision is likely to exist or may in the future.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs or that are well used for recreational demand.
- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via utilisation of technology provided by the LTA to support the customer journey and through investment into facilities and accompanying ancillary provision.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Install additional sports lighting at club-based venues, particularly at sites operating above the capacity guidance.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision at club sites, where it is required.
- ◀ Support opportunities to provide padel courts given its growing demand, providing that no existing in-use traditional courts are lost as a result.

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3.9: Bowling greens

Assessment Report summary

Bowls supply and demand summary

- ◀ Nine clubs are operating at or above recommended capacity levels and therefore need to be monitored to ensure that supply remains adequate.
- ◀ In general, future demand expressed can be accommodated on existing greens. However, if future demand is realised, Gardeners Arms (Thornton) BC would then be operating above the recommended capacity.

Bowls supply summary

- ◀ There are 34 bowling greens in Wyre located across 31 sites, of which, three sites are accommodating more than one green. All greens are available for community use.
- ◀ The Urban Peninsula Analysis Area has the most greens with 17 (50%), this is followed by the Rural Plain Analysis Area with eight (24%). The least amount of provision is in the Rural Mosslands Analysis Area with one (3%) green.
- ◀ Most bowling greens are owned and managed by the Local Authority, private ownerships or the respective sports club.
- ◀ Most greens (30 or 88%) are rated as good quality, with three greens (9%) rated as standard quality and one green (3%) at Gardeners Arms Bowling Green rated as poor quality.

Bowls demand summary

- ◀ There are 33 bowling clubs identified as playing in Wyre although only 12 have responded to consultation requests to date. Where known, membership of the responsive clubs totals 876.
- ◀ The largest club according to known membership is currently Guys Thatched Hamlet BC, with 140 members, followed by Jubilee Gardens BC with 98 members. The smallest club is Fleetwood Cricket and Sports BC with only 42 members.
- ◀ Of responding clubs, five clubs highlight plans to increase membership. These aspirations total 97 additional members.

Scenarios

Accommodating current and future demand

British Crown Green Bowling Association does not have any specific guidance on bowling green capacity, stating that it can vary from site-to-site and from club-to-club. However, as a guide, it states that any green operating with a membership of close to or over 60 may need additional resource to ensure that it is meeting its required level of demand. Nine clubs indicate that they are operating with memberships of 60 or above. The clubs are:

- ◀ Carleton BC (75 members)
- ◀ Guys Thatched Hamlet BC (140 members)
- ◀ Hambleton BC (64 members)
- ◀ Jubilee Gardens BC (98 members)
- ◀ Knott End WMC BC (63 members)
- ◀ Park Club BC (80 members)
- ◀ Preesall BC (72 members)
- ◀ Stalmine BC (74 members)
- ◀ Thornton NPL BC (62 members)

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Of these, no clubs currently reports any capacity issues, with Hambleton BC, Jubilee Gardens BC, Preesall BC and Stalmine BC all expressing an aspiration to further increase their memberships. All nine clubs should be closely monitored to ensure that their greens do not become oversubscribed.

Club sustainability

Bowls England suggests that clubs operating with a membership of below and around 20 could be unsustainable. In Wyre, there is currently no teams operating around this threshold. Fleetwood Cricket and Sports BC has the lowest membership of 42 members.

Although Fleetwood Cricket and Sports BC, has the lowest amount of known members in the Borough, the Club operates well above sustainable membership number of 20. However, with it being the Club with the least members, it offers the most concern if membership numbers start to slip.

All clubs should be monitored to ensure they remain sustainable.

Winter bowling

Wyre Borough Council own and manage a number of bowling greens that can be used for winter bowling. These sites have two greens which can help with the rotation for routine maintenance and management of the greens to be played all year round. These sites include:

- ◀ Ashdell Bowling Club
- ◀ Fleetwood Memorial Park

The start of the season 2023/24 has seen a rise in usage of the winter bowling use at Ashdell Bowling Club. The Council will continue to monitor and carry out a wider review of this in the future.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of greens that are in use in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99.
- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as standard/poor quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Seek to improve ancillary facility quality where it is necessary.
- ◀ Support Carleton BC, Guys Thatched Hamlet BC, Hambleton BC, Jubilee Gardens BC, Knott End WMC BC, Park Club BC, Preesall BC, Stalmine BC and Thornton NPL BC to ensure demand continues to be met, given high levels of membership.
- ◀ Ensure greens at Fleetwood Cricket and Sports BC remain sustainable through enhancement and better promotion of their facilities.
- ◀ Mitigate any permanent loss of greens at disused sites through replacement provision or through appropriate enhancements to other facilities.
- ◀ Improve levels of engagement with bowling clubs.
- ◀ Monitor and carry out a review of winter bowling in Wyre.

3.10: Cycling

Assessment Report summary

Cycling supply and demand summary

- ◀ **High demand for cycling is identified within Wyre, both currently and when taking into account latent demand.**

Cycling supply summary

- ◀ There are no dedicated cycling facilities in Wyre. Cleveleys Road Club, Garstang Cycling Club and Cybele Cycling Club are on and off-road cycling clubs.
- ◀ Despite the above, there is an extensive network of cycling routes across the Borough catering to a range of ages and abilities and varying in distance and elevation.

Cycling demand summary

- ◀ Cleveleys Road Club meets most days on the corner of Mains Lane and Shard Road in Poulton-le-Fylde. Rides are typically 30-50 miles.
- ◀ Garstang Cycling Club runs organised rides, typically on Saturdays and starting from the Royal Oak Hotel in Garstang. Less formal, social rides also occur throughout the week.
- ◀ Cybele Cycling Club is a newly formed cycling club catering for all levels of cyclists from beginners to Team GB representatives. It currently has approximately 40 members.
- ◀ There are no Go-Ride accredited cycling clubs or Breeze programmes operating within Wyre.
- ◀ The council operates Wyre Family Rides and Wyre Wheels sessions.
- ◀ Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 8,254 people who would like to participate in the sport within Wyre which equates to 7.3% of the Borough's population. This is very high when compared to the national average of approximately 3.4%.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure continued access to sites and routes used for formal cycling.
- ◀ Consider creation of a Cycling Network that can link up with school and park sites.
- ◀ Explore the creation and/or more regular access to traffic free provision.
- ◀ Ensure all clubs/groups have home bases to operate from and pursue improved security of tenure where it is required.

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3.11: Golf courses

Assessment Report summary

Golf – supply and demand summary

- ◀ **With five golf facilities in Wyre and a mix of 18-hole and 9-hole courses, supply is well placed to meet demand.**
- ◀ **Notwithstanding the above, there may be a gap in demand for an informal golf facility in the more rural areas of Wyre.**

Golf – supply summary

- ◀ There are currently five golf venues in Wyre.
- ◀ All five golf sites within Wyre provide one standard hole course, with three 18-hole courses (Fleetwood, Garstang and Knott End golf clubs) and two 9-hole courses (Myerscough and Poulton-le-Fylde golf clubs) in place.
- ◀ No Par 3 course or driving range is identified in Wyre although Tee Time Golf Centre provides both of these facilities close to the boundary of the Authority in Blackpool.
- ◀ Fleetwood, Knott End and Myerscough golf clubs are members clubs whereas Garstang and Poulton-le-Fylde golf clubs are proprietary facilities; no municipal courses are provided.
- ◀ In Wyre, membership to all courses (where known) is lower than the national average for membership costs although Fleetwood Golf Club provides the most expensive membership in the Borough at £840 which suggests the facility is relatively high-end.
- ◀ In terms of quality of the golf facilities, it is relatively good across Wyre with no significant issues identified.

Golf – demand summary

- ◀ Club-specific membership figures are no longer available via England Golf although average membership across the four affiliated clubs in Wyre (Knott End, Myerscough, Fleetwood and Poulton-le-Fylde) equates to 532 which exceeds the national average.
- ◀ Average affiliated golf membership in Wyre has almost doubled from 2015.
- ◀ Membership has increased collectively across the clubs by 948 members since 2015.
- ◀ England Golf's mapping tool identifies a significant amount of potential demand, with Poulton-le-Fylde Golf Club shown to have the highest population base.
- ◀ Pay and play usage is unknown but is likely to be highest at sites such as Garstang, Poulton-le-Fylde and Myerscough golf clubs given the operational structure in place and the lower price point.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Retain all current affiliated golf facilities in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99.
- ◀ Sustain course quality and seek improvements where necessary through implementation of appropriate maintenance regimes.
- ◀ Support clubs in membership retention and potential growth.
- ◀ Encourage clubs and providers to work more collaboratively in terms of creating pathways for existing and new players.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing golf sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).

3.12: Netball courts

Assessment Report summary

Netball supply and demand summary

- ◀ **There is an insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.**
- ◀ **This is due to a low supply of available community available courts and a mixed quality offer. Wyre NC suggests that it is in need for outdoor courts with sports lighting.**

Netball supply summary

- ◀ There are 37 outdoor netball courts identified in Wyre across 19 sites, of which, nine are available for community use across three sites.
- ◀ Most provision is in the Urban Peninsula Analysis Area with a total of 22 (59%) courts identified. This is followed by the Rural Plain Analysis Area with seven (19%) courts, the Rural Central and Rural East and Uplands with four each (11%) courts. The Rural Mosslands Analysis Area has no netball court provision.
- ◀ Although not uncommon across the Country, netball provision within the Borough is located on current educational sites.
- ◀ Most courts (14 or 38%) are rated as standard quality, whilst 12 (32%) courts are rated as good quality. The remaining 11 courts (30%) are rated as poor quality.
- ◀ Of the nine community available courts, three (33%) are good quality and six (67%) are standard quality.
- ◀ Additionally, it should be noted that only three courts are accompanied by sports lighting these are located at Rossall School and are available for community use.
- ◀ All of the outdoor netball courts in Wyre have a macadam surface.

Netball demand summary

- ◀ England Netball identifies one club within the Borough.
- ◀ Wyre NC has 305 members (35 senior members and 270 junior members). Accessing provision at Rossall School and Hodgson Academy.
- ◀ Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 307 people who would like to participate in the sport within Wyre.

Scenarios

Future access to provision of netball courts

Currently, there is an insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough. This is due to a low supply of available community available courts and a mixed quality offer. When reviewing provision by individual analysis areas, residents in Rural Central, Rural East and Uplands and Rural Mosslands analysis areas have access to no provision. Consequently, there are no opportunities within these settlements for competitive or recreational netball offers to be established (i.e. back to netball).

This position is exacerbated when reviewing provision by ownership and management type where there is a reliance on the education sector to provide the better quality courts in the Borough which although are available for community use, are less well advertised and known to be accessible.

It is known that most competitive play occurs outside of the Borough on a central venue basis and as such from a competitive point of view there is a limited need for outdoor courts. However, from a recreational perspective, the supply is inadequate and is likely to be preventative for alternate opportunities to emerge and grow, such as Netball Now.

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Therefore, it should be explored to further gain access to educational sites within the analysis areas currently not catered for. In addition, the quality of courts across the Borough is in need of improving. Finally, with no courts either available or unavailable in the Rural Mosslands Analysis Area signifies that there is a potential need to develop a small offer to ensure that there is access to facilities.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs and for England Netball initiatives.
- ◀ Explore the opportunity to gain secured access to current educational sites which do not offer community use to broaden the community available facilities across Wyre, specifically in the in Rural Central, Rural East and Uplands and Rural Mosslands analysis areas.
- ◀ Ensure that secured community use of courts is provided as part of any new/replacement school provision.
- ◀ Consider establishing additional floodlighting at club-based venues or at venues that could attract netball demand following installation.

3.13: Archery

Assessment Report summary

Archery supply and demand summary

- ◀ **Archery is well catered for within Wyre, with both formalised and informal archery offers available within the Borough.**

Archery supply summary

- ◀ Bowbearers of Wyresdale have setup an archery course in Wyresdale Park. There are two parts to the course, the smaller of which caters for archers with mobility issues and is wheelchair friendly.
- ◀ Indoor provision is also available at Preesall Indoor Archery and Air Rifle Centre, including six indoor lanes and 12 covered outdoor lanes.

Archery demand summary

- ◀ Bowbearers of Wyresdale currently has around 50 members from 10 to 80 years old with an even split of male and female members. It is actively looking to grow its membership base.
- ◀ Blackpool Bowmen Archery Club resides very close to the authority boundary and draws 21 members from Wyre.
- ◀ Bowmen of Pendle and Samlesbury, Lancaster University Archery Club and Lonsdale Archers also accommodate exported demand from Wyre.

Scenarios

N/A

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Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure existing provision is retained and supporting facilities remain of sufficient quality in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99.
- ◀ Support clubs to maximise demand and fully utilise the unique facilities offered.
- ◀ Explore the opportunity to secure long-term lease for Bowbearers of Wyersdale at its facility in Wyersdale Park.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing archery sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through over-shooting issues).

3.14: Water Sports

Assessment Report summary

Water sports supply and demand summary

- ◀ **Wyre is well provided for when it comes to outdoor water sports, with access to the Morecambe Bay, Fleetwood Boating Lake, the River Wyre and the Irish Sea. A variety of water sports are offered across the Borough by a number of clubs.**
- ◀ Morecambe Bay, Fleetwood Boating Lake, the River Wyre and the Irish Sea are all accessible from Wyre and are utilised by water sports clubs based within the Borough.
- ◀ Active Powerboat Training provides Level 1 and 2 Powerboat Training Courses from Knott End.
- ◀ Blackpool & Fleetwood Yacht Club operates a number of racing, sailing and cruising sessions from Blackpool & Fleetwood Yacht Club and Fleetwood Marina.
- ◀ Garstang Canoe & Kayak Club is based out of Garstang Sports Club and runs canoeing and kayaking sessions on the River Wyre.
- ◀ The Outdoor Adventure Group operates canoeing and kayaking sessions at Fleetwood Boating Lake.
- ◀ Wardleys Marine Yacht Club is based in Hambleton and operates as a base for yacht cruising on Morecambe Bay.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure existing provision is retained and supporting facilities remain of sufficient quality.
- ◀ Support clubs to maximise demand and fully utilise the unique facilities offered.

3.15: Multi use games areas (MUGAs)

Assessment Report summary

MUGA supply and demand summary

- ◀ **The Urban Peninsula Analysis Area is well served for MUGAs although quality is generally poor, with only one good quality MUGA is identified. When looking at the locations of the current supply of MUGAs in Wyre it is evident that there is a lack of supply in the Rural analysis areas.**
- ◀ Across Wyre there are a total of 11 MUGAs with most of this provision located within the Urban Peninsula Analysis Area with seven MUGAs (64%). The Rural East and Uplands and the Rural Plain analysis areas both have two MUGAs (18%). All other analysis areas have no MUGA facilities.
- ◀ The LFFP for Wyre identified Marine Gardens (Urban Peninsula) for the development of a MUGA.
- ◀ In total across Wyre, one MUGA is accessed as good quality (9%), four MUGAs are assessed as standard quality (36%), whilst six (55%) are assessed as poor quality
- ◀ Three community available MUGAs are serviced by sports lighting.

Scenarios

Improving quality

More than half of provision is assessed as poor quality with six MUGAs assessed as poor quality with significant issues surrounding grip, court markings and evidence of moss/lichen at Jubilee Gardens MUGA, Martindale Avenue Park, Jean Stansfield (Vicarage) Memorial Park Poulton Youth Space and North Drive Park.

Although increasing all the quality of all poor quality MUGAS should be a longer term aim, MUGAs at Martindale Avenue Park and Jean Stansfield (Vicarage) Memorial Park Poulton Youth Space should be considered a priority.

Increasing provision

As there is no supply of MUGAs in the rural analysis areas, if opportunities arise for funding to install new provision, this should be explored in existing sites where this type of provision could compliment current facilities.

In addition, the Wyre Local Football Facility Plan identified potential for development of a MUGA at Marine Gardens (ID: FL36) (Urban Peninsula Analysis Area).

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of MUGAs in line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99.
- ◀ Look to improve the quality of poor MUGAs across the Borough as a priority.
- ◀ Work with relevant stakeholders to explore opportunities for new provision through the FF Playzone Programme, particularly within the urban analysis areas.

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3.16: Other sports

Assessment Report summary

Other sports supply and demand summary

Baseball/Softball

- ◀ There is no baseball or softball club based in Wyre. The closest club is Lytham St Annes Softball Club, which accesses provision at YMCA Ansdell Arena and Landsdowne Road Playing Field (Fylde).
- ◀ All demand likely to travel to neighbouring authority of Fylde to access Softball/baseball activity.

Rounders

- ◀ There are 21 rounders pitches across 21 sites in Wyre. All these pitches are located at school sites and considered to be unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Activity on the dedicated rounders pitches is from school activity only.
- ◀ Fleetwood Town FC Community Trust runs a community session throughout the summer at Fleetwood Memorial Park on Thursdays from 6-7pm. This is the only known community activity in the Borough.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ In line with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England's Playing Field Policy look to protect and improve the quality of rounders and baseball/softball pitches across the Borough and work with relevant stakeholders to establishing new provision where appropriate.

PART 4: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The strategic recommendations for the Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis which culminated in the production of the Assessment Report, as well as key drivers identified for the study, including the Wyre Local Plan review and Wyre Moving More Strategy. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed, which apply across outdoor sports facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.

OBJECTIVE 1

To **protect** the existing supply of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities where it is needed for meeting current and future needs

Recommendations:

- a. Ensure, through the use of the PPOSS, that playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. To work with educational establishments to encourage community use of pitch sporting facilities, particularly where demand is not being met by appropriate community-based facilities.

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

The PPOSS Assessment shows that all currently used outdoor sports sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because shortfalls would occur both now and, in the future, if they were lost. Consideration should also be given to the protection of underused and poor quality sites from development or replacement as they may offer potential to meet shortfalls, particularly for football and rugby, in the future.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 99 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

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In line with Wyre Local Plan policy CDMP4 Environmental Assets part 4 (Green Infrastructure) development proposals are expected to protect and enhance the functionality and interconnectivity of Green Infrastructure as a whole. Should outdoor sports facilities be taken out of use for any reason (e.g. council budget restraints), land should ideally be retained so that it can be brought back into use in the future.

Although there are some identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions i.e., for rugby union, youth football, cricket played on a Saturday and netball courts, most demand is currently being met and most shortfalls are likely able to be addressed through quality improvements. However, qualitative improvements should be secured as a sports development initiative and should not be used to mitigate the loss of playing field arising from a non-sport development. It is therefore, not recommended as a priority to identify 'new' sites for provision.

The PPOSS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new outdoor sports and ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis taking into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing fields and will use the PPOSS to help assess that planning application against its Playing Fields Policy¹¹.

Sport England's Playing Fields Policy exception E1 only allows for development of disused playing fields if a Playing Pitch Strategy (in this case PPOSS) shows a clear excess in the quantity of playing pitch provision at present and in the future across all playing pitch sport types and sizes.

Policy Exception E1:

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

Where the PPOSS cannot demonstrate that the site, or part of a site, is clearly surplus to requirements then replacement of the site, or part of a site, will be required to comply with the remaining Sport England policy exceptions.

Policy Exception E2

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

¹¹[Link to Sport England Playing Fields Policy](#)

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Policy Exception E3

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

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

Policy Exception E4:

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

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

Policy Exception E5

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

Disused sites

Disused sites will also be considered in accordance with Local Plan policy and Sport England’s policy exceptions. They provide a potential solution to reducing any identified shortfalls for football and rugby union. A disused site is a site where pitches were once, but are no longer, marked out and remain undeveloped.

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

Table 4.1: Disused outdoor sports sites in Wyre

Site ID	Site name	Disused facility
TH38	Wyre Park	Adult football pitch. Disused <i>circa</i> 2020. Fylde Coast Soccer Looking to bring back into use as formal football provision.
HAM15	Lancaster Road Playing Field	Youth 11v11 football pitch. Disused <i>circa</i> 2018.

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Site ID	Site name	Disused facility
CAL01	Off Strickens Lane	One grass cricket square with six grass wickets. Disused <i>circa</i> 2002.
FL02	Nautical College	One grass cricket square with nine grass pitches. Educational playing field last maintained for cricket <i>circa</i> 2016. Now no formal sports pitches marked on playing field.
CLE07	North Drive Bowling Green	One disused bowling green.
FL68	Marine Hall	Two disused bowling greens.
PIL06	Golden Ball Hotel	Two disused bowling greens.
RMS10	Patten Arms Bowls Club	One disused bowling green.
HAM03	Bob Williamson Park	Youth 11v11 football pitch. Disused <i>circa</i> 2010. Pitch is no longer marked; One set of goalposts remain installed. Acting as an open playing field.
BOW07	Turnpike	Adult football pitch. Disused <i>circa</i> 2018.
FOR04	School Lane Playing Fields	Mini 7v7 football pitch, that has both sets of goalposts installed. Pitch is currently not maintained or marked for sport. Acting as an open playing field.
PIL08	Off School Lane	Youth 11v11 football pitch. Disused <i>circa</i> 2010. Part of open field now fenced off, no longer maintained for sport. Acting as an open playing field.
STA03	Hall Gate Lane	Youth 11v11 football pitch. Disused <i>circa</i> 2018. Pitch is currently not maintained or marked for sport. Acting as an open playing field.
CHU01	Kirkland Village Hall Rec pitch	Youth 9v9 football pitch, that has both sets of goalposts installed. Pitch is currently not maintained or marked for sport. Acting as an open playing field.
FL23	Former High School Playing Field	Previously marked for football. Educational playing field. No longer maintained as formal sports pitches. Part allocated for housing development.

The recommendation for all disused sites in Wyre (as also included within the action plan) is to protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy. This should include consideration as to whether these sites may be brought back into use.

For the purposes of the GI audit report, 'Outdoor Sports' refers to sites considered by WBC to have a primary function as sports provision including dedicated grass pitches and artificial pitches (i.e. floodlit, available for use in evenings and weekends). Outdoor

Sports are categorised into three subtypes:

Formal	Dedicated club/private sites. Typically, only available for sports club members to use.
Informal	Sites with sports provision which are also available for wider public use.
Disused	Sites where sports provision exist but are no longer marked out/operational and remain unused.

In addition to above, there are some existing playing field sites which may be able to or have previously accommodated more pitches than are presently marked. Where known, these will be identified in action plan.

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There may also be sites which are no longer prepared and used for formal sport but serve another function, such as a public open space or park. These sites should not be considered disused as they continue to operate as part of the green infrastructure typology.

Sites in Wyre can also be protected for community use through additional status, such as through Community Right to Bid as Assets of Community Value (ACV).

An Asset of Community Value (ACV) is land or buildings nominated by a local voluntary or community group and which the council decides meets the requirements to be listed as an asset of community value. The statutory rules about assets of community value can be found in sections 87 – 103 of the Localism Act¹².

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

No playing field and outdoor sport sites are currently designated as ACVs in Wyre.

Furthermore, playing field sites can be protected through Fields in Trust (FIT) King George V (KGV) or Queen Elizabeth II (QE2) programmes. Protection is a legal agreement between FIT and the landowner of a space that they will retain it for use as a green space, usually a public park, playing field or recreation ground, in perpetuity. In Wyre, only King George V Playing Field, Fleetwood is currently protected by the FIT and is a designated KGV Playing Field.

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

A number of school, commercial and private sites are being used in Wyre for competitive play, predominantly for football as an example at Poolfoot Farm Sports and Leisure Complex on 3G pitches. In some cases, use of pitches has been classified as secure; however, use is not necessarily formalised, meaning relevant organisations should seek to establish appropriate community use agreements, including access to changing provision where required/available. This is especially the case for sites that have unsecured community use despite receiving high levels of use.

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

¹² [Link to legislation Land of community value](#)

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In the context of the October 2021 Comprehensive Spending Review¹³, which announced public spending cuts, it is increasingly important for the council to work with voluntary sector organisations to enable them to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities. To facilitate this, where practical, it should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds, providing that this is to the benefit of sport.

The council as well as parish and town councils should further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted via long-term lease agreements (a minimum of 25 years is often recommended by Sport England and NGBs) so that clubs are in a position to apply for external funding. This is particularly the case at poor quality, low value local authority sites, possibly with inadequate or no ancillary facilities, so that quality can subsequently be improved, and sites developed.

Local sports clubs with or entering into lease agreements should be supported by partners to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership work. For example, such clubs should be encouraged to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate income via their facilities.

All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)¹⁴. They should also be encouraged to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies and local businesses.

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

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

Table 4.2: Recommended criteria for lease of council sport sites to clubs/organisations

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

¹³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-launches-vision-for-future-public-spending>

¹⁴ <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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Club	Site
Ideally, clubs should have already identified any match funding required for initial capital investment identified.	Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards the improvement of the site.

The council could also establish a series of core outcomes to derive from clubs taking on a lease arrangement to ensure that the most appropriate clubs are assigned to sites. For example, outcomes may include:

- ◀ Increasing participation.
- ◀ Supporting the development of coaches and volunteers.
- ◀ Commitment to quality standards.
- ◀ Improvements (where required) to facilities, or as a minimum retaining existing standards.

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

Recommendation (c) - To work with educational establishments to encourage community use of pitch sporting facilities, particularly where demand is not being met by appropriate community-based facilities.

To maximise community use a more coherent, structured relationship with schools is recommended. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train. In Wyre, there are 33 pitches across educational sites which are unavailable for community use, whilst there are there are 13 available pitches. Pitches are considered unavailable for a number of reasons, with one of the main reasons being poor pitch quality.

According to the assessment, poor quality is an issue at school sites, for example, 14 out of 18 unavailable school football pitches are assessed as poor quality. Further to this anecdotal evidence from consultation with clubs suggests that resistance from schools to open up provision is also an issue, which may relate to several things such as the cost of opening up facilities and wanting to protect provision for school use, especially where it is poor quality.

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

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

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As a priority, community use options should be explored at large schools offering numerous pitches, such as St Aidan's Church of England High School. Securing access to such sites will significantly reduce shortfalls throughout the analysis areas that they are based within.

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

Where new schools are provided in major new residential developments, they should be designed to facilitate community access, with opportunities for meeting the community's outdoor sports needs explored at the outset to maximise the potential for facility provision to be made within the developments, if appropriate. An example of this is ensuring the provision of youth 11v11 and/or mini 5v5 grass football pitches, given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students.

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

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OBJECTIVE 2

To enhance playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities through improving quality and management of sites

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

There are several ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality and these are explored below.

Ground Maintenance Association (GMA) Pitch Advisory Service

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation, the Pitch Advisory Service (PAS, formerly the Grounds and Natural Turf Improvement Programme) was launched in 2014 and is funded by the Football Foundation and Sport England, working in association with its partners the ECB, RFU and RFL.

Its aim is to raise the standards of sports surfaces as well as the understanding of sports turf management practices among grassroots clubs across England and Wales. The PAS provides an enhanced network of support and expertise available to those maintaining natural turf pitches, particularly at a local level.

The service can be utilised by grassroots clubs, organisations and local authorities with the simple aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide members of the programme with advice/practical solutions via a report which will also identify the key enhanced maintenance works required along with machinery requirements.

Pitch providers are encouraged to complete a self-assessment of pitches using the Football Foundation PitchPower app. In August 2022, PitchPower was re-launched, with enhanced capability to support use beyond football pitches and is now accessible for the assessment of natural turf pitches for cricket, rugby league and rugby union. Please note that PitchPower produces a Performance Quality Standard (PQS) assessment report, different for each of the sports.

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Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF)

Eligible clubs and organisations can also utilise the report as an evidence base to acquire potential funding streams, for example, to obtain the required maintenance equipment. If a PitchPower assessment categorises pitches as 'poor' or 'basic' they are then eligible to apply for Grass Pitch Funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund¹⁵, a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help organisations enhance or sustain the quality of their grass pitches. The fund is a key part of the Football Foundation's Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 20,000 good quality grass pitches by 2030. Clubs with good quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding to sustain good quality.

All applicants must have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs (except for pitches used for National League System play), leagues, County FAs, community organisations, charities, education organisations and parish/town councils. Local authorities are not currently eligible applicants, however, eligible organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have permission of the landowner via a service level agreement.

The council is not presently eligible to access the GPMF as an applicant, however, can undertake technical assessment of pitches using the PitchPower app. Opportunities to access the fund to support presently council managed sites include establishment of a service level agreement with a resident club for maintenance responsibilities, or transfer of long-term management to the club/organisation through leasehold or community asset transfer (CAT), both enabling the club/organisation to apply to the fund. This is particularly key in Wyre as quality has clear scope for improvement and there are no sites current receiving GPMF.

Furthermore, the Football Foundation also launched a new Groundskeeping Community online platform in 2019 which provides a resource of expert advice for grounds staff, enabling them to connect with peers, discover new tips and tricks and share advice on best industry practice. Users can seek guidance from the GMA regional pitch advisors, who are available to answer questions and update members on changes to industry standards.

Addressing quality issues

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

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

¹⁵ <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/grass-pitch-maintenance-fund>

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The ongoing climate emergency will likely produce more frequent and extreme weather events in the form of flooding, heatwaves and droughts, which supports the need to improve drainage and water management to build resilience against varying weather conditions.

Based upon an achievable target using existing quality scoring to provide a baseline, a standard should be used to identify deficiencies and investment should be focused on those sites which fail to meet the proposed quality standard (using the site audit database as provided in electronic format). The Strategy approach to outdoor sports facilities achieving these standards should be to enhance quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.

As detailed in the accompanying Assessment Report, the PPOSS refers to outdoor sports facilities and ancillary facilities separately as being of 'Good', 'Standard' or 'Poor' quality. For example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements and vice versa (e.g. a good quality pitch may be serviced by poor quality changing facilities).

Good quality refers to pitches that have, for example, good grass cover, an even surface, are free from vandalism and litter. For rugby union, a good quality pitch is also pipe and/or slit drained. In terms of ancillary facilities, good quality refers to access for disabled people, sufficient provision for referees, juniors/women/girls and appropriate provision of showers, toilets and car parking.

Standard quality refers to pitches that have, for example, adequate grass cover, minimal signs of wear and tear and goalposts may be secure but in need of minor repair. For rugby union, drainage is natural but adequate. In terms of ancillary facilities, standard quality refers to adequately sized changing rooms, storage provision and provision of toilets.

Poor quality refers to provision with, for example, inadequate grass cover, uneven surfaces and poor drainage. For rugby, pitches will have inadequate natural drainage. In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate changing rooms with no showers, no running water and/or old, dated interiors. If a poor quality site receives little or no usage that is not to say that no improvement is needed, it may instead be the case that it receives no demand because of its quality, thus an improvement in said quality will attract demand to the site, potentially from overplayed standard or good quality sites.

Without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, good quality pitches may be underutilised. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer and therefore key sites should be given priority for improvement. Also, key sites without a suitable offer may not be able to establish or grow participation in key sport development areas with specific requirements, such as disability or women and girls' sport.

To prioritise investment into key sites it is recommended that the PPOSS Steering Group works up a list of criteria, relevant to Wyre, to provide a steer on future investment.

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Addressing overplay

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

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

Table 4.3: Carrying capacity of pitches

Sport	Pitch type	No. of MES for a good quality pitch	No. of MES for a standard quality pitch	No. of MES for a poor quality pitch
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Football	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Football	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby league	Senior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Rugby league	Junior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Rugby league	Mini pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
Rugby union	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
Rugby union	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
Rugby union	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
Cricket	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	0 per season
Hockey	One AGP	4 matches per day	4 matches per day	0 matches per day

For non-pitch sports, capacity is not linked to the number of matches taking place but rather the number of members (and other users) attracted to a site. For example, for tennis, a hard court is said to have capacity for 60 members if it is serviced by sports lighting, whereas a non-lit has court has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts).

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

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

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

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

Improving changing provision

There is a need to address changing provision at some sites in Wyre (these are detailed in the Action Plan). As previously mentioned, without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, good quality pitches may be underutilised. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer and therefore key sites should be given priority for improvement.

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

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 6: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

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

Partners, led by the council, should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision is directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities as well as accompanying ancillary facilities.

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

Although some investment in new provision will not be made by the council directly, it is important that the Steering Group seeks to direct and lead a strategic and co-ordinated approach to facility development by education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector. This is to address community needs whilst avoiding duplication of provision.

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One of sport's greatest contributions is its positive impact on public health and it is therefore important to lever in investment from other sectors such as, for example, health and wellbeing. Sport and physical activity can have a profound effect on peoples' lives, and plays a crucial role in improving community cohesion, educational attainment and self-confidence.

Recommendation (g) –Secure developer contributions/on-site provision

Until superseded, current Local Plan Policy HP9 Green Infrastructure in New Residential Developments and its associated Guidance for Applicants will be used to determine whether developer contributions towards off-site GI provision are appropriate. Current Local Plan policy is that priority is given to on-site GI provision across six typologies including playing pitches, although the policy does allow the council to seek developer contributions towards off-site GI provision. This can include the provision of new or improved playing fields.

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

Where it is determined that new or improved sport provision is required as a result of development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality including creating new provision where none currently exists. To determine what supply of provision is provided, it is imperative that the PPOSS findings are taken into consideration and that for particularly large developments consultation takes place with the relevant NGBs and Sport England. This is due to the importance of ensuring that the stock of facilities provided is correct to avoid provision becoming unsustainable and unused. The preference is for multi-pitch and potentially multi-sport sites to be developed, supported by a clubhouse and adequate parking facilities which consider the potential for future AGP development. This is because single-pitch facilities are more likely to become under-used (or unused), unviable and unsustainable.

Looking ahead it is important that this strategy informs future local plan policies and guidance by supporting the provision of sport and recreational facilities through new housing development. It is recommended that the council use the review of the Local Plan to consider how playing pitch needs identified in this report can be addressed in line with the recommendations contained therein. It is also recommended that the council review its current Green Infrastructure Guidance for Applicants in the light of this PPOSS and any emerging Green Infrastructure policy arising from the current review of the Local Plan. Sport England will be able to provide the necessary advice in relation to playing pitch provision.

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

It is recommended that through the on-going review of the Wyre Local Plan, consideration is given to adopting a policy requiring the use of the Sport England calculator to determine the additional demand for pitches and to estimate the likely developer contribution. If should a policy is adopted, the council should work with Sport England to develop a process and guidance for obtaining developer contributions.

Where a developer contribution is sought to deliver new or improved playing pitches and any ancillary facilities, Sport England recommends that a number of objectives should be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

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

PPOSS Steering Group meetings will provide the opportunity to discuss matters of strategic importance including the progress of the current Local Plan review and implications for the protection and provision of playing pitches and associated facilities. PPOSS Steering Group meetings should take place regularly following adoption of the study as part of the ongoing monitoring and evaluation process. It is recommended that these take place every 6-12 months and inform the annual review/update (see Part 8 for further information).

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OBJECTIVE 3

To provide new playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so

Recommendations:

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

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

The Steering Group should use and regularly update the Action Plan within this Strategy for improvements to the council's own facility stock whilst recognising the need to support partners. The Action Plan lists improvements to be made to each site focused upon both qualitative and quantitative improvements as appropriate for each area.

Although there are identified shortfalls, most current and future demand is currently being met and most shortfalls can be addressed via quality improvements and/or improved access to sites that are presently used minimally or currently unavailable. However, for some sports even maximising quality improvements is not sufficient to accommodate all potential demand. The following table provides a summary of the sports which require new provision:

Table 4.4: Summary of new outdoor sports provision required

Potential new provision required	Comments
3G pitches (11v11 size)	Shortfall of 6 pitches (to accommodate all football training) that can only be met through increased provision
Youth football pitches	After maximising improvements shortfalls would remain on youth 11v11 pitches, whilst there would still be future shortfalls on both youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. Therefore, there would still be a need for new grass pitches, as well as transferring some match play onto 3G pitches.
Rugby union pitches	Maximising improvements to provision would be insufficient to fully address current levels of shortfall; which would indicate that additional provision, either in the form of additional grass pitches or new World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitches is also required.
Cricket pitches	To address all overplay at Fleetwood Cricket Club, Thornton Cleveleys Cricket Club and Fylde Cricket Club there is scope to potentially explore the opportunity to install hybrid wickets in the future. Future demand for Saturday cricket cannot be accommodated on existing provision and therefore access to new pitches.

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Potential new provision required	Comments
Netball courts	With no courts either available or unavailable in the Rural Mosslands Analysis Area signifies that there is a potential need to develop a small offer to ensure that there is access to facilities.
Athletics facilities	Although there is not sufficient demand for a formal athletics track in Wyre, further feasibility of providing an alternative facility such as a compact track, mini track or an active track should be explored to accommodate entry level athletics.

For any new schools being planned, there is an opportunity to combine the building of a school to the development of a new multi-sport site that will be of a benefit to a school as well as the wider community via a community use agreement.

Any new provision, whether that be at a school or as a result of housing growth, should also consider the council's wider sporting need. This means that the focus should not solely be on outdoor sports facilities but also provision for wider recreational activity.

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

The council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the preceding Assessment Report and the Sport Specific Issues, Scenarios and Recommendations (Part 3) as well as the following Action Plan (Part 5).

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

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity.
- ◀ The re-designation of facilities e.g. converting an unused facility (or facility type) for one sport to instead cater for another sport (or another pitch type).
- ◀ Securing long-term access at school sites including those currently unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.

Unmet demand, changes in sport participation and trends and proposed housing growth should also be recognised and factored into future facility planning. Assuming that an increase in participation and housing growth occurs, it will impact on the future need for certain types of sports provision.

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OBJECTIVE 4

To support inclusivity in physical activity and sport by improving provision for under-represented groups including women and girls.

Recommendations:

- j. Identify and address reasons for under-representation in sporting activity including the provision of appropriate facilities.
- k. Review and improve the sporting offer where there is limited local access to activities.
- l. Promote sport and physical activity as a means of improving health and wellbeing in the borough in-line with the Wyre Moving More Strategy.

Recommendation (j) Identify and address reasons for under-representation in sporting activity including the provision of appropriate facilities.

The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train. In Wyre, pricing policies at facilities can be a barrier to access but also physical access, poor quality and resistance from providers to open up provision is also an issue.

As identified as a key strategic issue within the Assessment Report, there is a lack of women's and girls' teams across the Borough. Although this is not an uncommon issue across the country, this is predominantly linked to ancillary provision such as changing rooms which are not able to provide sufficient facilities for women and girls participants.

Several council sites also do not offer any ancillary provision or access to changing and toilets are limited. In addition, anecdotal evidence suggests that the quality of facilities often deters female participants from taking part in sports as they do not feel comfortable using poor quality or unsuitable facilities. A number of clubs which have women's and girl's teams utilising Cottam Hall specifically report that changing facilities onsite are not sufficient to cater for women's and girls' sports.

Improving accessibility for women and girls is a key theme across NGB facility strategies, as can be seen in Appendix 1. For example, The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28) has a target to:

Deliver 1,000 changing pavilions/clubhouses, linked to multi-pitch or hub sites, supporting growth (particularly in women and girls' football), sustainability and providing a facility infrastructure to underpin investment in coaching, officials and football development.

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Linking to this the Football Foundation is committed to delivering facilities that provide equal access to women and girls playing football across the country. These facilities will be designed with women and girls as a forethought. It identifies the following as important to making facilities accessible:

- ◀ Well-lit facilities so women and girls feel safe on their way to and from training or a game.
- ◀ Showers and toilets in individual cubicles.
- ◀ Sessions timetabled at times that are more appealing to women and girls.

Therefore, continuing to work in partnership with NGBs to further identify issues and prioritise delivery of actions relating to improving opportunities for women and girls and other under-represented groups is recommended.

Recommendation (k) Review and improve the sporting offer where there is limited local access to activities.

One of sport's key contributions is its positive impact on public health, both physical and mental health and well-being. This is recognised in the Council's corporate health priorities. Sport and physical activity can have a profound effect on peoples' lives, and plays a crucial role in improving community cohesion, educational attainment and self-confidence. This may be especially important for disadvantaged groups, older people, those in poor health and those who traditionally do not participate in such activities including women and girls. Participation also has the potential to enhance social skills and attributes useful in employment or volunteering.

As detailed earlier, there appears to be a spatial disparity in Wyre with significantly less provision in the rural areas, as demonstrated in Figure 1.2. Although this is not necessarily uncommon as demand is also less within these rural areas, it is an issue that is likely to prevent people from participating.

The National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) encourage increased and wider participation through a range of initiatives which are referred to in more detail in the sport-specific sections and Appendix 1. Individual clubs also aspire to widen and increase membership including through these specific initiatives.

In addition, Wyre Council runs a number of initiatives for all ages including the TRY Sport programme for children that are inactive and the holiday activity and food programme for children and young people who are benefits related free school meals. It is important that such activities are maximised to benefit clubs, sports and the population of Wyre.

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Recommendation (I) Promote sport and physical activity as a means of improving health and wellbeing in the borough in-line with the Wyre Moving More Strategy.

This can be achieved through making linkages with local and national strategies, some of which are detailed below.

Sport England: Uniting the Movement (2021)¹⁶

Sport England contends that sport and physical activity have a big role to play in improving the physical and mental health of the nation, supporting the economy, reconnecting communities and rebuilding a stronger society for all following the Pandemic. Its strategy contains a ten-year vision to transform lives and communities via sport and physical activity.

In seeking to tackle the inequalities long seen in sport and physical activity, it suggests that providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove barriers to activity, have never been more important. The three Strategy objectives are:



As well as advocating sport and physical activity, via building evidence and partnership development, the Strategy identifies what it terms the five big issues that people and communities need to work together to address. They are cited as being some of the most significant challenges to an active nation over the next decade and the greatest opportunities to make a lasting difference. Each is a building block that, on its own, would make a difference, but when tackled collectively could change things profoundly. They are:

- ◀ *Recover and reinvent*: Recovering from the biggest crisis in a generation and reinventing as a vibrant, relevant and sustainable network of organisations providing sport and physical activity opportunities that meet the needs of different people.
- ◀ *Connecting communities*: Focusing on sport and physical activity's ability to make better places to live and bring people together.
- ◀ *Positive experiences for children and young people*: Unrelenting focus on positive experiences for all children and young people as the foundations for a long and healthy life.
- ◀ *Connecting with health and wellbeing*: Strengthening the connections between sport, physical activity, health and wellbeing, so more people can feel the benefits of, and advocate for, an active life.
- ◀ *Active environments*: Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.

To address these issues, the right conditions for change need to be created: involving people, organisations and partnerships to help convert plans and ideas. This includes

¹⁶ <https://www.sportengland.org/about-us/uniting-movement>

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a range of actions, including the development of effective investment models and applying innovation and digital technology to ensure sport and physical activity are more accessible. The specific impact of Sport England's Strategy will be realised via funded programmes, supported, interventions made and partnerships forged.

Wyre Moving More Strategy

As detailed earlier, Wyre Moving More is the borough's physical activity strategy and is the key local strategy which the PPOSS should dovetail and create linkages to the PPOSS. Delivery of the recommendations and actions within the PPOSS help to promote sport and physical activity as a means of improving health and wellbeing across the borough.

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PART 5: ACTION PLAN

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

Please note that if a site is not identified/included in the PPOSS it does not mean that it is not needed or that it is not playing field or sports facility.

Site hierarchy

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

The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in an Authority-wide context i.e., they accommodate the majority of demand, or the recommended action has the greatest impact on addressing shortfalls identified either on a sport-by-sport basis or across the council area as a whole.

Table 5.1: Tiered site criteria

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

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Criteria	Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Ancillary facilities	Good quality ancillary facilities on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches; may include wider social/function facilities.	Good quality ancillary facility on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Limited or no changing room access on site.

Hub sites are of Authority wide importance where users are willing to travel to access the range and high quality of facilities offered and are likely to be multi-sport. These have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

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

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

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

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

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

Partners

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

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

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

Priority

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

The majority of key centres have **medium** priority actions. These have analysis area importance and are identified on the basis of the impact that they will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment, although not to the same extent as high priority actions.

The **low** priority actions tend to be for single pitch or single sport sites and often club or education sites with local specific importance but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment for specific users. Whilst low priority, there may be opportunities to action some of the recommendations made against such sites relatively quickly e.g., through S106 funding.

Costs

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

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

These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at: [Link to Sport England Cost Guidance](#)

Timescales

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

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

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Objectives

Each action seeks to meet at least one of the four objectives of the Strategy; **Enhance, Provide, Protect, Support.**

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

5.1: Rural Central Analysis Area

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Central	Adult	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Central	Youth 11v11	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Central	Youth 9v9	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Central	Mini 7v7	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Central	Mini 5v5	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 12.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 15.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
3G pitches	Rural Central	11v11	<i>Sufficient supply</i>	<i>Sufficient supply</i>
3G pitches	Wyre	11v11	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Rural East and Uplands, Rural Mosslands, Rural Plain and Urban Peninsula analysis areas.	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for 3G pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Cricket pitches	Rural Central	Saturday	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 12 match equivalent sessions a season
Cricket pitches	Rural Central	Sunday	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket pitches	Rural Central	Midweek	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Cricket pitches	Wyre	Saturday	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 44 match equivalent sessions a season
Cricket pitches	Wyre	Sunday	Spare capacity of 16 match equivalent sessions a season	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket pitches	Wyre	Midweek	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 18 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union pitches	Rural Central	Senior	Shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 6 match equivalent sessions
	Wyre	Senior	Shortfall of 6 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 10 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Wyre	Provision	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for rugby league pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Hockey suitable AGPs	Wyre	Full size, floodlit	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>
Tennis courts	Wyre	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC currently has capacity issues.	When future demand is applied, only Moorland TC will be operating below recommended capacity with all other clubs operating above the recommended capacity due to number of courts.
Netball courts	Wyre	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.
Bowling greens	Wyre	Greens	All current demand is being accommodated; however, nine clubs are operating at or above recommended capacity levels.	Where future demand is expressed, it can adequately be accommodated on existing greens. However, Gardeners Arms (Thornton) BC would be operating above the recommended capacity level.
Athletics	Wyre	Provision	No formal athletic tracks in Wyre and there is insufficient demand for such.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

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Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Cycling	Wyre	Provision	No dedicated cycling facilities in Wyre but there may be high latent demand for a facility.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.
Golf courses	Wyre	Courses	Sufficient quantity, potential gap in demand for informal golf facility.	Sufficient quantity but a potential gap in demand for informal golf facility remains.
Archery	Wyre	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Water sports	Wyre	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
MUGAs	Wyre	Courts	Demand unknown. Sufficient quantity in the urban peninsula although there are quality issues. No or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough.	Demand unknown. Unless the supply picture changes there will remain no or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough. Unless addressed, quality issues will remain.
Other sports	Wyre	Provision	There are no baseball/softball or rounders clubs in Wyre with the latter provision focused on schools with no community access.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
GAR06	Garstang Football, Cricket & Tennis Clubs	6016144	PR3 1EB	Football	Sports Club	<p>One standard quality adult pitch, which is played to capacity at peak times. Ancillary facilities are rated as poor quality. This site is available for community use.</p> <p>Overarching sports club onsite has plans drawn up for the development of the Clubhouse. This will include new changing rooms, toilets showers and social space. The Club is currently raising funds for the project. In addition, Garstang FC reports that to retain its place in the North West Counties Football League, it needs to meet requirements for Step 6 football, at present this means a 100 spectator stand is required.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Support the clubhouse development onsite, to improve ancillary provision offer.</p> <p>Where in-line with local planning policy, look to develop 100 spectator standard to ensure club meets requirement to retain place in Step 6 of the NLS.</p>	Sports Club LFA FF	Hub site	M	S-M	H	Protect Enhance Provide Support
GAR06	Garstang Football, Cricket & Tennis Clubs	6016144	PR3 1EB	Cricket	Sports Club	<p>One good quality square that supports 15 grass wickets and one NTP.</p> <p>Garstang CC have a long-term lease on the site. Ancillary provision for the site is rated as poor quality. There is a fixed net training facility available onsite site, which consists of two good quality lanes.</p> <p>This square has spare capacity of five MES per season. With potential spare capacity to accommodate Sunday and Midweek teams, however this is discounted as spare capacity on the square is not large enough to accommodate this demand.</p> <p>Overarching sports club onsite has plans drawn up for the development of the Clubhouse. This will include new changing rooms, toilets showers and social space. The Club is currently raising funds for the project.</p>	<p>Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Support the clubhouse development onsite, to improve ancillary provision offer.</p>	Sports Club LCF ECB	Hub site	M	S-M	H	Protect Enhance Provide Support
GAR06	Garstang Football, Cricket & Tennis Clubs	6016144	PR3 1EB	Tennis	Sports Club	<p>Two good quality macadam courts with sports lighting, which are available for community use. This site is used by Garstang & District Tennis Club, which has current spare capacity for 20 members. Future demand is 70 members which would put the club 50 members beyond their maximum capacity of 120.</p>	<p>Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Monitor club membership to ensure courts can cater for demand.</p>	Sports Club LTA	Hub site	L	L	L	Protect

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
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Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
GAR07	Garstang Rugby Union Football Club	1040877	PR3 1EB	Rugby union	Sports club	Two poor quality (M0/D0) senior pitches, with no sports lighting. Pitches are overplayed by 5 MES per week. The supporting ancillary provision for Garstang RUFC is of poor quality. Overarching sports club onsite has plans drawn up for the development of the Clubhouse. This will include new changing rooms, toilets showers and social space. The Club is currently raising funds for the project.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance and installation of purpose drainage. Support the clubhouse development onsite, to improve ancillary provision offer. Both should look to reduce the impact of flooding on the site.	Sports Club RFU	Hub site	M	S-M	H	Protect Enhance Provide Support
GAR07	Garstang Rugby Union Football Club	1040877	PR3 1EB	Cricket <i>(Disused)</i>	Sports club	One grass square (four grass wickets) was previously available onsite. It continues to be maintained for rugby union pitches, with Garstang CC moving its third XI matches to Sunday's. However, the Club suggests demand exists now to move the team back onto Saturdays to play fixtures, with the potential requirement of bringing the pitch back into use.	Explore the opportunity to re-establish grass wicket square to cater for Garstang CC third XI on Saturdays.	Sports Club LCF ECB	Hub site	L	M	L-M	Protect Provide
GAR08	Garstang Subscription Bowls Club	-	PR3 5DZ	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality green, which is home to Garstang Subscription BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
RCL02	Nateby Bowling Club	-	PR3 0LU	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to Nateby BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
GAR04	Crown Hotel Bowls Club	-	PR3 1EA	Bowls	Private	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to Crown Hotel BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Private BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
RCL03	Nateby Primary School	6012275	PR3 0JH	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam court, with no sports lighting. This court is not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
RCL03	Nateby Primary School	6012275	PR3 0JH	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
GAR34	Garstang St Thomas C Of E Primary School	6012846	PR3 1PB	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam courts and one good quality macadam courts. No sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Look to improve and sustain court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
GAR34	Garstang St Thomas C Of E Primary School	6012846	PR3 1PB	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy and explore potential future options for the pitch.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

5.2: Rural East and Uplands Analysis Area

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Football (grass pitches)	Rural East and Uplands	Adult	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Rural East and Uplands	Youth 11v11	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Rural East and Uplands	Youth 9v9	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Rural East and Uplands	Mini 7v7	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Rural East and Uplands	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 12.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 15.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
3G pitches	Rural East and Uplands	11v11	Insufficient supply. Shortfall of 1.5 11v11 size 3G pitch	No change from the current situation
3G pitches	Wyre	11v11	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Rural East and Uplands, Rural Mosslands, Rural Plain and Urban Peninsula analysis areas.	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for 3G pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Cricket	Rural East and Uplands	Saturday	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 12 match equivalent sessions a season
Cricket	Rural East and Uplands	Sunday	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions a season

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Cricket	Rural East and Uplands	Midweek	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Wyre	Saturday	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 44 match equivalent sessions a season
Cricket	Wyre	Sunday	Spare capacity of 16 match equivalent sessions a season	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Wyre	Midweek	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 18 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Rural East and Uplands	Senior	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Rugby union	Wyre	Senior	Shortfall of 6 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 10 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Wyre	Provision	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for rugby league pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Hockey	Wyre	Full size, floodlit	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>
Tennis	Wyre	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC currently has capacity issues.	When future demand is applied, only Moorland TC will be operating below recommended capacity with all other clubs operating above the recommended capacity due to number of courts.
Netball	Wyre	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.
Bowls	Wyre	Greens	All current demand is being accommodated; however, nine clubs are operating at or above recommended capacity levels.	Where future demand is expressed, it can adequately be accommodated on existing greens. However, Gardeners Arms (Thornton) BC would be operating above the recommended capacity level.
Athletics	Wyre	Provision	No formal athletic tracks in Wyre and there is insufficient demand for such.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Cycling	Wyre	Provision	No dedicated cycling facilities in Wyre but there may be high latent demand for a facility.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.
Golf	Wyre	Courses	Sufficient quantity, potential gap in demand for informal golf facility.	Sufficient quantity but a potential gap in demand for informal golf facility remains.
Archery	Wyre	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Water sports	Wyre	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
MUGAs	Wyre	Courts	Demand unknown. Sufficient quantity in the urban peninsula although there are quality issues. No or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough.	Demand unknown. Unless the supply picture changes there will remain no or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough. Unless addressed, quality issues will remain.
Other sports	Wyre	Provision	There are no baseball/softball or rounders clubs in Wyre with the latter provision focused on schools with no community access.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
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Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
FOR05	Shireshead and Forton Cricket Club	6016093	PR3 0AS	Cricket	Sports club	<p>One good quality square that supports 13 grass wickets.</p> <p>The square has spare capacity of one MES per season, with potential spare capacity to accommodate further midweek teams. However, this is discounted as the square does not offer enough spare capacity.</p> <p>The changing room quality at this site has been rated as standard quality. Shireshead & Forton CC is currently having plans drawn up for a new changing block at its site. This would be developed on the side of the existing clubhouse. The new changing block would allow the current function area to be extended and allow the Club to host larger functions to bring in greater revenue.</p> <p>There are also 2 standard quality fixed net training lanes.</p>	<p>Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve existing ancillary provision and develop additional ancillary provision.</p>	Sports club LCF ECB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide Support
BIL02	Bilsborrow Playing Field	6003265	PR3 0SA	Football	Parish Council	<p>One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, which is played to capacity at peak times.</p> <p>One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch, which has a spare capacity of 1 MES at peak times.</p> <p>Ancillary provision of standard quality.</p>	<p>Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and maximise spare capacity to accommodate exported/future demand.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision quality.</p>	Parish Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CAT07	Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field (Catterall)	6004425	PR3 1XN	Football	Parish Council	<p>Two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches. The pitches have spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week at peak time, however, this is discounted due to poor pitch quality.</p> <p>These pitches are available for community use. Ancillary facilities for these pitches are rated as standard quality.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and maximise spare capacity to accommodate exported/future demand.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.</p>	Parish Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CAT09	Catterall Village Hall Youth Facility	-	PR3 1XN	MUGA	Parish Council	<p>One standard quality MUGA with no sports lighting.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p>	Parish Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
REU39	Woodacre Hall Playing Fields	3000298 5	PR3 1BN	Football	Council	<p>One poor quality adult pitch. Pitch has spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week, however, the actual spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.</p> <p>Ancillary provision of poor quality.</p>	<p>Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and maximise spare capacity to accommodate exported/future demand.</p>	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
							Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.						
FOR06	Forton Bowling Green	-	PR3 0AS	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to Forton BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
BOW04	Garstang Golf Club	1200171	PR3 1YE	Golf	Sports club	18-hole golf course.	Look to improve and sustain course quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
BIL08	Guy's Thatched Hamlet	6016090	PR3 0RS	Bowls	Private	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to Guys Thatched Hamlet BC. This green is serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Private BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
BIL08	Guys Thatched Hamlet	6016090	PR3 0RS	Cricket	Private	One standard quality standalone non-turf pitch.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Private LCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
SCO01	Scorton Bowling Club	-	PR3 1BL	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green that is currently home to Scorton Subscription BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
SCO02.2	Scorton Playing Field MUGA	6004047	PR3 1AU	3G/ MUGA	Council	One small-sized (36x16) good quality 3G pitch, with no sports lighting. This pitch is available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
SCO12	Wyresdale Park	-	PR3 1BA	Archery	Sports club	Bowbearers of Wyresdale practices both target archery and field archery and primarily shoots in Wyresdale Park.	Look to improve and sustain quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to secure of long-term lease agreement for Bowbearers of Wyresdale onsite.	Sports Club AGB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
BIL07	Roebuck Bowls Club	-	PR3 0RE	Bowls	Private	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to Guys Thatched Hamlet BC. This green is serviced by sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Private BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
CAL01	Off Strickens Lane	-	PR3 1SH	Cricket (Disused)	Sports Club	Previously a grass wicket square which accommodated six grass wicket squares, however, has not been maintained for formal cricket use since circa 2002.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy. Explore opportunities to bring back into use to meet shortfalls.	Sport Club LCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FOR04	School Lane Playing Fields	-	PR3 0AS	Football (Disused)	Council	In previous years a mini 7v7 football pitch has been marked onsite, at present both sets of goalposts are installed. However, the pitch is currently not maintained or marked for sport and is acting as an open playing field.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy. Explore opportunities to bring back into use to meet shortfalls.	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
BOW07	Turnpike	-	PR3 1YD	Football (Disused)	Lancashire County Council	Previously maintained an adult football pitch. The pitch has not been marked or maintained since 2017 and now lies disused.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy. Explore options to bring back into use to meet shortfalls.	LCC LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
GAR42	Garstang Community Academy	1201140	PR3 1YE	Football	Education	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch, which is played to capacity. The pitch is not available for community use.	Seek to establish access for community use to reduce shortfalls. Explore feasibility to develop 11v11 3G pitch to meet the identified shortfall.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
GAR42	Garstang Community Academy	1201140	PR3 1YE	AGP	Education	One good quality hockey suitable, sand-dressed full-sized (99x61) AGP. This AGP has sports lighting and is available for community use. This site is used by Garstang Hockey Club, and currently reports that they cannot gain additional access on the pitch for additional training sessions due to football club training demand on the pitch. Ancillary facilities for this pitch are rated as standard quality.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Work with the School and Club to allow hockey club to gain more slots for training demand. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision quality.	School EH	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
GAR42	Garstang Community Academy	1201140	PR3 1YE	Tennis	Education	Four poor quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting or access for the community.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
GAR42	Garstang Community Academy	1201140	PR3 1YE	Netball	Education	Four poor quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting or access for the community.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
GAR42	Garstang Community Academy	1201140	PR3 1YE	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
BIL15	Myerscough Sports Centre	1010099	PR3 0RY	Football	Education	One good quality adult pitch which is overplayed by 2 MES. Two good quality youth 11v11 pitches which are overplayed by 1 MES. Ancillary facilities for this site are rated as being of good quality.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	College LFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
BIL15	Myerscough Sports Centre	1010099	PR3 0RY	3G	Education	One 11v11 size (120x75) standard quality 3G pitch, with sports lighting and access for the community. The pitch is on the FA 3G Pitch Register and is also WR compliant.	Explore feasibility to develop a second 11v11 3G pitch to meet the identified shortfall. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required.	College LFA FF	Key centre	L	M	L	Protect Provide

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
							Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.						
BIL15	Myerscough Sports Centre	1010099	PR3 0RY	AGP	Education	One half-size (60x40) poor quality sand-filled pitch, with community access but no sports lighting. This pitch is suitable for hockey.	Explore the opportunity to resurface pitch like for like.	College EH	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
BIL15	Myerscough Sports Centre	1010099	PR3 0RY	Rugby Union	Education	Two (M2/D1) good quality senior pitches. These pitches have no sports lighting and are not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintained for continued college use.	College RFU	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
REU18	Calder Vale St John C Of E Primary School	6012940	PR3 1SR	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FOR08	Forton Primary School	6012806	PR3 0AS	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
BIL16	Myerscough Golf Club	-	PR3 0RY	Golf	Education	One 9-hole golf course.	Look to improve and sustain course quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	College EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

5.3: Rural Mosslands Analysis Area

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Mosslands	Adult	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Mosslands	Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Mosslands	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Mosslands	Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Mosslands	Mini 5v5	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 12.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 15.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
3G pitches	Rural Mosslands	11v11	Insufficient supply. Shortfall of 0.5 11v11 3G pitches.	No change from the current situation.
3G pitches	Wyre	11v11	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Rural East and Uplands, Rural Mosslands, Rural Plain and Urban Peninsula analysis areas.	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for 3G pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Cricket	Rural Mosslands	Saturday	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Rural Mosslands	Sunday	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Rural Mosslands	Midweek	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Cricket	Wyre	Saturday	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 44 match equivalent sessions a season
Cricket	Wyre	Sunday	Spare capacity of 16 match equivalent sessions a season	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Wyre	Midweek	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 18 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Rural Mosslands	Senior	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Rugby union	Wyre	Senior	Shortfall of 6 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 10 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Wyre	Provision	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for rugby league pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Hockey	Wyre	Full size, floodlit	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>
Tennis	Wyre	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC currently has capacity issues.	When future demand is applied, only Moorland TC will be operating below recommended capacity with all other clubs operating above the recommended capacity due to number of courts.
Netball	Wyre	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.
Bowls	Wyre	Greens	All current demand is being accommodated; however, nine clubs are operating at or above recommended capacity levels.	Where future demand is expressed, it can adequately be accommodated on existing greens. However, Gardeners Arms (Thornton) BC would be operating above the recommended capacity level.
Athletics	Wyre	Provision	No formal athletic tracks in Wyre and there is insufficient demand for such.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Cycling	Wyre	Provision	No dedicated cycling facilities in Wyre but there may be high latent demand for a facility.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.
Golf	Wyre	Courses	Sufficient quantity, potential gap in demand for informal golf facility.	Sufficient quantity but a potential gap in demand for informal golf facility remains.
Archery	Wyre	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Water sports	Wyre	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
MUGAs	Wyre	Courts	Demand unknown. Sufficient quantity in the urban peninsula although there are quality issues. No or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough.	Demand unknown. Unless the supply picture changes there will remain no or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough. Unless addressed, quality issues will remain.
Other sports	Wyre	Provision	There are no baseball/softball or rounders clubs in Wyre with the latter provision focused on schools with no community access.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
PIL15	Pilling Playing Field	30006937	PR3 6AB	Football	Community Organisation	One standard quality adult pitch, with actual spare capacity of one MES at peak times. One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch, with an actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES at peak time. One standard quality mini 7v7, with an actual spare capacity of 1 MES at peak time. One standard quality youth 9v9, which is currently overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Ancillary facilities at this site are rated as standard. This site has March 2023 PitchPower report.	Support Cockerham Juniors (Lancaster based) to explore opportunities to access funds to improve the grass pitches through GPMF. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision quality.	Community Organisation LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PIL05	Pilling Reading Room Bowling Club	-	PR3 6HA	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality green, which is serviced by sports lighting. This site is home to Pilling Reading Room BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
PIL06	Golden Ball Hotel	-	PR3 6AA	Bowls (Disused)	Private	Two disused bowling greens at rear of the site. Currently overgrown and are therefore unable to currently be used for bowls. This green has not been maintained due to a lack of demand. Wider site subject to a current planning application which seeks to convert one green to amenity greenspace.	Explore potential future options for the greens in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99.	Private BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
RMS10	Patten Arms Bowls Club	-	PR3 0JU	Bowls (Disused)	Private	One disused bowling green onsite. The green at this site has been converted into a beer garden by the landlord.	Explore potential future options for the green in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99.	Private BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
PIL08	Off School Lane	-	PR3 6HB	Football (Disused)	TBC	In previous years, one youth 11v11 pitch has been marked onsite. The pitch has not been marked or maintained since circa 2010, now fenced off.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy and explore opportunities to bring back into use to meet shortfalls identified.	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
PIL14	Pilling St Johns C Of E Primary School	6012867	PR3 6HA	Football	Education	Two poor quality mini 5v5 pitches, with are not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PIL14	Pilling St Johns C Of E Primary School	6012867	PR3 6HA	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

5.4: Rural Plain Analysis Area

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Plain	Adult	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Plain	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 2 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Plain	Youth 9v9	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Plain	Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Rural Plain	Mini 5v5	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 12.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 15.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
3G pitches	Rural Plain	11v11	Insufficient supply. Shortfall of 0.5 11v11 3G pitches.	No change from the current situation.
3G pitches	Wyre	11v11	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Rural East and Uplands, Rural Mosslands, Rural Plain and Urban Peninsula analysis areas.	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for 3G pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Cricket	Rural Plain	Saturday	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Rural Plain	Sunday	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Rural Plain	Midweek	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Wyre	Saturday	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 44 match equivalent sessions a season

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Cricket	Wyre	Sunday	Spare capacity of 16 match equivalent sessions a season	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Wyre	Midweek	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 18 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Rural Plain	Senior	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Rugby union	Wyre	Senior	Shortfall of 6 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 10 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Wyre	Provision	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for rugby league pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Hockey	Wyre	Full size, floodlit	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>
Tennis	Wyre	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC currently has capacity issues.	When future demand is applied, only Moorland TC will be operating below recommended capacity with all other clubs operating above the recommended capacity due to number of courts.
Netball	Wyre	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.
Bowls	Wyre	Greens	All current demand is being accommodated; however, nine clubs are operating at or above recommended capacity levels.	Where future demand is expressed, it can adequately be accommodated on existing greens. However, Gardeners Arms (Thornton) BC would be operating above the recommended capacity level.
Athletics	Wyre	Provision	No formal athletic tracks in Wyre and there is insufficient demand for such.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.
Cycling	Wyre	Provision	No dedicated cycling facilities in Wyre but there may be high latent demand for a facility.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Golf	Wyre	Courses	Sufficient quantity, potential gap in demand for informal golf facility.	Sufficient quantity but a potential gap in demand for informal golf facility remains.
Archery	Wyre	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Water sports	Wyre	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
MUGAs	Wyre	Courts	Demand unknown. Sufficient quantity in the urban peninsula although there are quality issues. No or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough.	Demand unknown. Unless the supply picture changes there will remain no or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough. Unless addressed, quality issues will remain.
Other sports	Wyre	Provision	There are no baseball/softball or rounders clubs in Wyre with the latter provision focused on schools with no community access.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
KNP02	Preesall Park	6015973	FY6 0EJ	Football	Council	One poor quality youth 11v11, which is currently overplayed by 2 MES. One standard quality youth 9v9, which is played to capacity. One poor quality mini 7v7 which is currently overplayed by 1.5 MES. The site is identified on the LFFP for pitch improvement. Clubs that use the site report drainage issues, stating the pitch is unplayable in the winter months. Ancillary provision for this site have been rated as standard, with the site being listed on the LFFP as a priority for ancillary facility refurbishment.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore opportunity to improve ancillary provision quality. Retain site on the LFFP priority list for pitch improvement and ancillary provision refurbishment.	Council LFA FF	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Support
KNP02.2	Preesall Park MUGA	6015973	FY6 0EJ	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with type one/two surfacing. The MUGA has no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect
STA02	Wyre Villa FC	6002918	FY6 0PJ	Football	Sports club	One standard quality adult pitch, with 0.5 MES actual spare capacity at peak times. Ancillary facilities for this site are rated as standard quality. As part of the Call for Sites process, Wyre Villa Community Amateur Sports Club has recently identified aspirations to sell its site for housing development and replace it elsewhere (potentially at/adjoining St Aidan's Church of England High School). No formal planning has ever been submitted in respect of this.	If the site was to be lost, the current and future shortfalls would worsen slightly on adult pitches due to a reduction in actual spare capacity. Coupled with this and given the overall shortfall of pitches within Rural Plain Analysis Area, there is a need to fully replace the site on new playing field land in accordance with Sport England Playing Fields Policy.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
HAM15	Lancaster Road Playing Field	-	PR3 6BN	Football (Disused)	TBC	Site previously contained a youth 11v11 pitch. However, this pitch has not been marked-out or maintained since 2018.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy and explore opportunities to bring back into use to meet shortfalls identified.	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
HAM03	Bob Williamson Park	30009086	FY6 9DA	Football (Disused)	Parish Council	One youth 11v11 pitch has previously been marked onsite. The pitch has not been marked or maintained since circa 2010. The site is now maintained as public open space, with one set of goalposts still installed for recreational use.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy and explore opportunities to bring back into use to meet shortfalls identified.	Parish Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
RP06	Out Rawcliffe Bowls Club	-	PR3 6TB	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to Out Rawcliffe BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
GRE02	Great Eccleston Cricket Club	1041297	PR3 0XN	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality cricket square that supports 11 grass wickets and one non-turf wicket. Square has spare capacity of four MES per week, with potential spare capacity to accommodate Sunday and midweek teams. However, this is discounted as the square does not offer enough spare capacity. Ancillary provision quality at this site is rated as good.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club LCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
GRE01	Hall Lane Bowling Green, Great Eccleston	-	PR3 0XN	Bowls	Sports club	One standard quality bowling green, which is currently home to Great Eccleston BC. Great Eccleston BC aspires to develop sports lighting on the green.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
STM03	St Michael's on Wyre Tennis Club	-	PR3 0UA	Tennis	Sports club	Two good quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. This site is available for community use. Serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision quality.	Sports club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
STM01	Hall Lane, St Michael's	-	PR3 0UA	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to St Michael's on Wyre BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
HAM04	Hambleton Village Hall	-	FY6 9BY	Tennis	Community Organisation	Two good quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting. This site does have access for the community.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
HAM04	Hambleton Village Hall	-	FY6 9BY	Bowls	Community Organisation	One good quality bowling green with sports lighting, which is currently home to Hambleton BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
KNP04	Knott End Bowling Club	-	FY6 0BP	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to Knott End WMC BC. The Club is looking at developing a new shelter and new toilets around the green.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop new shelter and toilets around the green.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
KNP17	Knott End Golf Club	1101648	FY6 0AA	Golf	Sports club	One 18-hole golf course.	Look to improve and sustain course quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
INS01	Inskip Bowling Club	-	PR4 0TS	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to Inskip Subscription BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
KNP12	Preesall Bowling Club	-	FY6 0NW	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green, with sports lighting. This site is currently home to Preesall BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
STA04	Bowling Green, Hall Gate Lane	-	FY6 0LA	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality green, which is currently home to Stalmine BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
RP13	Goose Green Bowls Club	-	FY6 0HL	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality green, which is currently home to Goose Green BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
INS02.1	School Lane MUGA	-	PR4 0TR	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA with type one/two surfacing. The MUGA has no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect
STA09	Carr Lane Bowls Club	-	FY6 0LA	Bowls (Disused)	Sports club	This site is currently disused. The green is overgrown and is therefore unable to currently be used for bowls. This green has not been maintained due to a lack of demand.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99. Explore opportunities to bring back into use if demand exists.	Council BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
STA03	Hall Gate Lane	-	FY6 6HB	Football (Disused)	Council	A youth 11v11 football pitch has been marked onsite in the past, last being maintained and marked for formal use in circa 2018. The pitch is no longer maintained for sport and instead maintained as an open playing field.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy and explore opportunities to bring back into use to meet shortfalls identified.	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
CHU01	Kirkland Village Hall Rec pitch	-	PR3 0HS	Football (Disused)	Parish Council	Previously had a youth 9v9 pitch marked. At present, the pitch has both sets of goalposts installed, however, is not marked or maintained for formal use. Now amenity greenspace.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy and explore opportunities to bring back into use to meet shortfalls identified.	Parish Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
RP08	Carter Charity (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School	6012823	FY6 0HH	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch. This pitch is not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
RP08	Carter Charity (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School	6012823	FY6 0HH	AGP	Education	One standard sand-filled AGP (30x20) with sports lighting. This site is not available for the community. Playing surface is suitable for hockey.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
RP08	Carter Charity (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School	6012823	FY6 0HH	Netball	Education	One poor quality macadam court, with no sports lighting or access for the community.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PRE04	Preesall Fleetwood's Charity C Of E Primary School	6012869	FY6 0NN	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch, which is not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PRE04	Preesall Fleetwood's Charity C Of E Primary School	6012869	FY6 0NN	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam court, with no sports lighting and not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PRE04	Preesall Fleetwood's Charity C Of E Primary School	6012869	FY6 0NN	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
PRE03	St Aidan's Church Of England High School	1201736	FY6 0NP	Football	Education	One poor quality adult pitch. One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch. One poor quality 7v7 pitch. These pitches are not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use. Seek to establish secured access for community use to help reduce shortfalls. Explore feasibility to develop 11v11 3G pitch to meet the identified shortfall.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
PRE03	St Aidan's Church Of England High School	1201736	FY6 0NP	Cricket	Education	Standalone non-turf pitch available at this site.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PRE03	St Aidan's Church Of England High School	1201736	FY6 0NP	Rugby Union	Education	One poor quality (M0/D1) senior rugby pitch, which is not available for community use.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PRE03	St Aidan's Church Of England High School	1201736	FY6 0NP	Tennis	Education	Four poor quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting or access for the community.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PRE03	St Aidan's Church Of England High School	1201736	FY6 0NP	Netball	Education	Four poor quality macadam courts with sports lighting, which are accessible to the community.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PRE03	St Aidan's Church Of England High School	1201736	FY6 0NP	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
HAM05	Hambleton Primary Academy	6012672	FY6 9BZ	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CHU05	Kirkland & Catterall St Helens C Of E Primary School	6012829	PR3 0HS	Netball	Education	One poor quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CHU05	Kirkland & Catterall St Helens C Of E Primary School	6012829	PR3 0HS	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL64	St Marys Catholic Primary School	30005035	PR3 0ZJ	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
STA07	Stalmine Primary School	6012807	FY6 0LR	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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5.5: Urban Peninsula Analysis Area

Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Football (grass pitches)	Urban Peninsula	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Urban Peninsula	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 13.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Urban Peninsula	Youth 9v9	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Urban Peninsula	Mini 7v7	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Urban Peninsula	Mini 5v5	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 12.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 15.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 7v7	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions
Football (grass pitches)	Wyre	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
3G pitches	Urban Peninsula	11v11	Insufficient supply. Shortfall of 3.5 11v11 3G pitches.	No change from the current situation.
3G pitches	Wyre	11v11	Insufficient supply. Shortfalls in the Rural East and Uplands, Rural Mosslands, Rural Plain and Urban Peninsula analysis areas.	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for 3G pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Cricket	Urban Peninsula	Saturday	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 20 match equivalent sessions a season
Cricket	Urban Peninsula	Sunday	Spare capacity of 16 match equivalent sessions a season	Spare capacity of 8 match equivalent sessions a season

^[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

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Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Cricket	Urban Peninsula	Midweek	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 18 match equivalent sessions a season
Cricket	Wyre	Saturday	Shortfall of 8 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 44 match equivalent sessions a season
Cricket	Wyre	Sunday	Spare capacity of 16 match equivalent sessions a season	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Cricket	Wyre	Midweek	Shortfall of 3 match equivalent sessions a season	Shortfall of 18 match equivalent sessions a season
Rugby union	Urban Peninsula	Senior	Shortfall of 1 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 4 match equivalent sessions
Rugby union	Wyre	Senior	Shortfall of 6 match equivalent sessions	Shortfall of 10 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	Wyre	Provision	Shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions	Future population growth does not increase demand sufficiently to increase the requirement for rugby league pitches. Therefore, no change from the current situation.
Hockey	Wyre	Full size, floodlit	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity for weekend matches, Insufficient quantity for midweek training</i>
Tennis	Wyre	Courts	Capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts can be meet current and future demand at the majority of tennis club sites, only St Michaels-on-Wyre LTC currently has capacity issues.	When future demand is applied, only Moorland TC will be operating below recommended capacity with all other clubs operating above the recommended capacity due to number of courts.
Netball	Wyre	Courts	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.	Insufficient supply of outdoor netball courts to service the Borough.
Bowls	Wyre	Greens	All current demand is being accommodated; however, nine clubs are operating at or above recommended capacity levels.	Where future demand is expressed, it can adequately be accommodated on existing greens. However, Gardeners Arms (Thornton) BC would be operating above the recommended capacity level.

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2039)
Athletics	Wyre	Provision	No formal athletic tracks in Wyre and there is insufficient demand for such.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.
Cycling	Wyre	Provision	No dedicated cycling facilities in Wyre but there may be high latent demand for a facility.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.
Golf	Wyre	Courses	Sufficient quantity, potential gap in demand for informal golf facility.	Sufficient quantity but a potential gap in demand for informal golf facility remains.
Archery	Wyre	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
Water sports	Wyre	Provision	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>	<i>Sufficient quantity</i>
MUGAs	Wyre	Courts	Demand unknown. Sufficient quantity in the urban peninsula although there are quality issues. No or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough.	Demand unknown. Unless the supply picture changes there will remain no or very limited supply in the rural parts of the borough. Unless addressed, quality issues will remain.
Other sports	Wyre	Provision	There are no baseball/softball or rounders clubs in Wyre with the latter provision focused on schools with no community access.	No specific future demand identified so position likely to remain unchanged.

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STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
FL01	King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood)	6017547	FY7 8BD	Football	Council/YMCA	<p>One standard quality adult pitch that is currently played to capacity. One poor quality mini 5v5 pitch with one MES per week of potential spare capacity, however, capacity is discounted due to poor quality. The site has been identified on the LFFP for pitch improvement.</p> <p>There is no ancillary provision at this site. The previous building was subject to an arson attack and had to be demolished. Wyre Council plans to develop a purpose-built clubhouse again and has been in talks for some time to get this completed. Fleetwood Gym FC has worked with the Council to draw up plans and reports once built it will take the building on a lease to maintain and run the facility.</p> <p>This site is used by Fleetwood Gym FC, who state all pitches onsite struggle with drainage. The pitches onsite often hold water and cannot support multiple matches per day. Site is identified on the LFFP for the potential development of an 11v11 3G pitch onsite.</p>	<p>Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and maximise spare capacity to accommodate exported/future demand.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop ancillary provision onsite and look to establish relationship with Fleetwood Gym FC to oversee and manage facility.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop 11v11 3G pitch onsite. Possible opportunity for RU and RL compliancy to reduce shortfalls.</p>	Council LFA FF	Hub	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide Support
FL01	King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood)	6017547	FY7 8BD	Rugby Union	Council/YMCA	<p>Two standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitches, with no sports lighting. Spare capacity of three MES per week.</p> <p>Fleetwood RUFC use this site on an ad-hoc basis.</p> <p>There is no ancillary provision at this site. The previous building was subject to an arson attack and had to be demolished.</p> <p>Wyre Council plans to develop a purpose-built clubhouse again and has been in talks for some time to get this completed. Fleetwood Gym FC has worked with the Council to draw up plans and reports once built it will take the building on a lease to maintain and run the facility.</p> <p>Marked for rugby league in the summer.</p>	<p>Improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance and installation of purpose drainage.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop ancillary provision onsite and look to establish relationship with Fleetwood Gym FC to oversee and manage facility.</p>	Council RFU	Key centre	H	S-M	H	Protect Enhance Provide Support
FL01	King George's Playing Fields (Fleetwood)	6017547	FY7 8BD	Rugby league	Council/YMCA	<p>Two standard quality rugby league pitches. Pitches are overplayed by 0.5 MES per week.</p> <p>Marked for rugby union in the winter and used by Fleetwood RUFC as overspill pitches on an ad-hoc basis.</p>	<p>Improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance and installation of purpose drainage.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop ancillary provision onsite and look to establish</p>	Council RFL	Key centre	H	S-M	H	Protect Enhance Provide Support

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Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
						There is no ancillary provision at this site. The previous building was subject to an arson attack and had to be demolished. Fleetwood Gym FC has worked with the Council to draw up plans for a new build which it will take on a lease to maintain and run.	relationship with Fleetwood Gym FC to oversee and manage facility.						
PLF10	Cottam Hall	6017587	FY6 7RN	Football	Council	Three poor quality adult pitches, which are overplayed by 3 MES. One standard quality youth 11v11, which is overplayed by 2 MES. One standard quality youth 9v9, that is currently played to capacity. Poulton FC, which use the site, state that the poor quality pitches are prone to flooding which had resulted in several matches being called off. The ancillary facilities at this site are rated as being poor quality and currently unusable. The council is currently looking into undertaking a study to look at options for the pavilion, to see how it can be operated in the future. Site is identified on the LFFP for the potential development of an 11v11 3G pitch onsite.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to develop 11v11 3G pitch onsite. Site is subject to public consultation on developing a masterplan: Link to Wyre.gov.uk article	Council LFA FF	Hub site	H	M	M-H	Protect Enhance Support
PLF10	Cottam Hall	6017587	FY6 7RN	Cricket	Council	One standard quality cricket square that supports 12 grass wickets. This site is available for community use and is currently home to Wyre CC, however, currently offers unsecure tenure for the Club through annual rental agreement. Ancillary provision quality is rated as poor. There is spare capacity of 21 MES per season, with potential spare capacity for further teams on Sunday and midweek. However, potential spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Look to secure tenure of pitch for Wyre CC. Site is subject to public consultation on developing a masterplan: Link to Wyre.gov.uk article	Council LCF ECB	Hub site	M	M	M-H	Protect Enhance Support
FL21	Fleetwood High School	1009694	FY7 8HE	3G	Education	One small size (73x69) standard quality 3G pitch, with sports lighting. This pitch is available for community use. FA accreditation for this site has expired in February 2022 and therefore cannot be currently utilised for matches.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can be used for competitive match play. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms &	School LFA FF	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
							Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.						
FL21	Fleetwood High School	1009694	FY7 8HE	Football	Education	One standard quality youth 11v11. Potential spare capacity of one MES per week. However spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. One standard quality youth 9v9, which is played to capacity. Ancillary facilities at this site are rated as standard quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and maximise spare capacity to accommodate exported/future demand. Explore opportunity to access funding to improve pitch quality, potentially through GPMF. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL21	Fleetwood High School	1009694	FY7 8HE	Netball	Education	Four good quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting. These courts are not available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
TH38	Wyre Park	1040875	FY5 4BL	Football (Disused)	Sports club	This site is disused. The site previously had an adult pitch marked and maintained with a clubhouse previously which got demolished and is yet to be replaced since the mid-2000s. Fylde Coast Soccer has recently gained a 35-year lease onsite. The Club is planning to bring the site back to use over the coming years as, since becoming disused, the site has become overgrown. The Club is currently unsure exactly what pitches will be maintained and marked onsite, however due to the current state of the site, the plan is to have pitches ready for use for the start of the 2024/25 season.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy. Support Fylde Coast Soccer in developing the site and bringing it back into use for football for the start of the 2024/25 season. Explore opportunity to the club to access GPMF to improve the quality of pitches.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	H	S-M	M	Protect Provide Support
FL61	Cardinal Allen Catholic High School	1009628	FY7 8AY	Football	Education	One poor quality youth 9v9. This site is not available for community use. There is also a disused area of the site which appears to be an old redgra pitch.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and seek to establish access for community use to reduce shortfalls. Explore feasibility to develop an 11v11 3G pitch onsite or at KGV adjacent. Possible opportunity for RU and RL compliancy to reduce shortfalls.	School LFA FF	Local	H	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
FL61	Cardinal Allen Catholic High School	1009628	FY7 8AY	Tennis	Education	Three poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. These courts are not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL61	Cardinal Allen Catholic High School	1009628	FY7 8AY	Netball	Education	Two poor quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting. These courts are not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
PLF26	Wyre Civic Centre	6010119	FY6 7PU	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11, which is currently overplayed by five MES per week. Two standard quality mini 7v7 pitches, which are played to capacity at peak time. Two standard quality mini 5v5 pitch, also played to capacity at peak time. The site has been identified on the LFFP for pitch improvement. Ancillary facilities at the site are rated as poor quality. The site has been identified on the LFFP for ancillary provision improvement.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Retain on LFFP priority list for grass pitch and ancillary provision improvement. Explore feasibility to develop 11v11 3G pitch at this site.	Council LFA FF	Key centre	M	M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
PLF19	Fylde Cricket Club	1208607	FY6 7EU	Cricket	Sports club	One standard quality square, which consists of 12 grass wickets and one NTP. The ancillary provision onsite is rated as standard quality. The Club aspires to continue the development of its clubhouse and ancillary provision. Fylde CC aspires to build new net facilities due to the current facilities being of poor quality. The senior wickets on the square are overplayed by eight MES per season. The junior wickets have spare capacity, however, this is discounted as there is not enough to host an additional midweek junior teams.	Improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to develop purpose built net provision onsite to replace current poor facilities.	Sports club LCF ECB	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide Support
TH18	Gardeners Arms Bowling Green	-	FY5 4BL	Bowls	Private	One poor quality bowling green, which is home to Gardeners Arms (Thornton) BC. Gardeners Arms (Thornton) BC states that the clubhouse/hut flooring is rotting at the Gardeners Arms Bowling Green. The Club suggests that the flooring needs replacing in the next few years, however, it is currently struggling to gain funds to undertake this.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Private BCGBA	Local	M	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
PLF68	Hodgson Academy	1004604	FY6 7EU	Football	Education	One poor quality youth 11v11. One poor quality youth 9v9. These pitches are not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and seek to establish access for community use to reduce shortfalls. Explore feasibility to develop 11v11 3G pitch to meet the identified shortfall.	School LFA FF	Local	M	M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
PLF68	Hodgson Academy	1004604	FY6 7EU	AGP	Education	One poor quality, small size (44x34) sand filled AGP. This pitch has no sports lighting but is available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to resurface pitch like for like.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
PLF68	Hodgson Academy	1004604	FY6 7EU	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam courts, with sports lighting. These courts are available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PLF33	Baines School	1009187	FY6 8BE	Football	Education	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch. Not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and seek to establish access for community use to reduce shortfalls. Explore feasibility to develop 11v11 3G pitch to meet the identified shortfall.	School LFA FF	Local	M	M	H	Protect Enhance Provide
PLF33	Baines School	1009187	FY6 8BE	Rugby Union	Education	One poor quality (M0/D0) senior pitch. There is no community access for this site.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and install purpose-built drainage for continued school use.	School RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PLF33	Baines School	1009187	FY6 8BE	AGP	Education	One good quality small sized (40x25) sand-filled AGP which is suitable for hockey. There is sports lighting for this pitch but it is not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CLE29	Jubilee Gardens Bowling Green	-	FY5 1DW	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green, which is home to Jubilee Gardens BC. The pavilion at Jubilee Gardens Bowling Green is of poor quality. Jubilee Gardens BC states that after a Council surveyor visited the building, it was suggested that a portacabin pavilion replace the current building. This is yet to happen, but the Club is keen to pursue this if a kitchen, toilets and storage for its green keeper can be provided within it.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite, through potential portacabin pavilion installation.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	1200253	FY7 8AY	3G	Sports club	One good quality, small size (52x35), FA registered 3G pitch with sports lighting. This pitch is available for community use. Pitch has a shock pad built in however, has not been recently tested for WR compliance and therefore cannot support contact rugby training demand.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the FA 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure pitch is tested for WR compliance to support rugby union training demand onsite. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	Sports club LFA FF RFU	Local	M	S	M	Protect Provide

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
FL05	Fleetwood Rugby Club	1200253	FY7 8AY	Rugby Union	Sports club	Two poor quality (M1/D0) senior pitches. One pitch has partial sports lighting and is overplayed by five MES per week due to Fleetwood RUFC match and training demand. The other pitch has no sports lighting and is played to capacity. Both pitches are available for community use. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance and installation of purpose drainage.	Sports club RFU	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
TH42	Millfield High School	1010271	FY5 5DG	Football	Education	Two poor quality youth 9v9 pitches. These pitches are not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and explore options to secure community use to help address shortfalls.	School LFA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
TH42	Millfield High School	1010271	FY5 5DG	Netball	Education	Three good quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting or access for the community.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL90	Rossall School	1103454	FY7 8JW	Football	Education	Three good quality youth 11v11 pitches and one good quality youth 9v9 pitch. These pitches are not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and explore options to secure community use to help address shortfalls.	School LFA FF	Local	M	S	L	Protect
FL90	Rossall School	1103454	FY7 8JW	Cricket	Education	One good quality square with ten grass wickets and one standard quality square supporting five grass wickets. Not available for community use.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FL90	Rossall School	1103454	FY7 8JW	Rugby Union	Education	Two good quality (M2/D1) senior pitches. These pitches are not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FL90	Rossall School	1103454	FY7 8JW	AGP	Education	One standard quality full size (101x63), sand dressed AGP with floodlighting. This pitch is suitable for hockey. There is no community access for this pitch. However, due to close relations with the Club, the pitch is used as a satellite pitch for Garstang HC on an ad-hoc basis for training.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Work with the provider to develop secured use to accommodate future hockey match play and training.	School EH	Local	M	M	M-H	Protect Enhance
FL90	Rossall School	1103454	FY7 8JW	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL90	Rossall School	1103454	FY7 8JW	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels for maintenance. for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
PLF76	Moorland Tennis Club	-	FY6 7HJ	Tennis	Sports club	Four good quality artificial courts with sports lighting. Three good quality macadam courts with no sports lighting.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop sports lighting on courts currently without any sports lighting.	Sports club LTA	Local	M	L	L-M	Protect Provide
TH09	Thornton Lawn Tennis Club	-	FY5 4DE	Tennis	Sports club	Two good quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. These courts are available for community use. This site is used by Thornton LTC. The club currently has 71 members, with a total capacity of 80. Future demand is predicted to be an additional 56 members, which would leave the club oversubscribed.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop sports lighting on courts currently without any sports lighting.	Sports club LTA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Provide
PLF23	St Chad's Tennis Club	-	FY6 7BE	Tennis	Sports club	Two good quality artificial courts and one standard quality macadam court. None of the courts have sports lighting.	Look to sustain and improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop sports lighting on courts currently without any sports lighting.	Sports club LTA	Local	M	M	M	Protect Provide
TH39	YMCA (Thornton)	1004643	FY5 3SX	3G	YMCA	Two standard quality, small sized (35x18) 3G pitches that have sports lighting and are available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Explore opportunity to develop 11v11 3G pitch at this site to reduce shortfalls.	YMCA LFA FF	Local	M	M	H	Protect Enhance provide
FL27	Fleetwood Town (Highbury Stadium)	6020703	FY7 6TX	Football	Sports club	One good quality adult pitch. Unavailable for community use. Elite stadia pitch for Fleetwood Town FC.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance fort continued elite use.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
TH29.2	Fleetwood Town FC Training Ground	30008499	FY5 4HX	Football	Sports club	Three good quality adult pitches. One good quality mini 5v5 pitch. Unavailable for community use. Elite training ground for Fleetwood Town FC.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance fort continued elite use.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
TH29.2	Fleetwood Town FC Training Ground	30008499	FY5 4HX	3G	Sports club	Fleetwood Town FC is currently in the process of building an air dome 3G pitch at Fleetwood Town FC Training Ground. The development will replace a section of grass on part of the training ground which is currently utilised for training. However, no dedicated pitch has been marked in this area.	Support development of new air dome 3G. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	H	Protect Provide Support

**WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
						The development work has started and is likely to be completed in 2023. The development is to support the football club to increase its youth academy level. The Club reports that although the facility will be primarily for academy football, if/where possible the facility will offer slots for community use.	Look to secure hours of use for community where possible.						
TH25	Gamble Road Recreation Ground (Thornton Cleveleys FC)	1041557	FY5 4JF	Football	Sports club	Two good quality adult pitches, with 0.5 actual spare capacity at peak time. Two good quality youth 11v11 pitches, which are played to capacity at peak time. One good quality youth 9v9, which is played to capacity at peak time. One good quality mini 7v7, which is played to capacity at peak time. Two good quality mini 5v5 pitches, that are played to capacity at peak time. Ancillary facilities at this site are rated as good quality.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance and maximise spare capacity to accommodate exported/future demand.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
TH28	Hassra Sports Ground	1208669	FY5 5EE	Football	Community Organisation	One standard quality adult pitch, which has an actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES at peak time. Ancillary facilities at this site are rated as standard quality.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and maximise spare capacity to accommodate exported/future demand. Explore opportunity to access funding to improve pitch quality, potentially through GPMF. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Community Organisation LFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH28	Hassra Sports Ground	1208669	FY5 5EE	Cricket	Community Organisation	One standard quality square that supports 15 grass wickets and 1 non-turf wicket. This site is currently home to Norcross CC. Ancillary provision of standard quality. The square has spare capacity of 20 MES per season, with actual spare capacity to accommodate further teams on Sundays and midweek. Norcross CC highlights that it aspires to develop fixed net provision.	Improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility to develop fixed net facility.	Community Organisation LCF ECB	Key centre	L	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
TH28	Hassra Sports Ground	1208669	FY5 5EE	AGP	Community Organisation	One small size (30x15), sand filled AGP which is rated as poor quality. This pitch has no sports lighting but is available for community use.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to resurface pitch like for like.	Community Organisation EH	Key centre	L	M	M	Protect Enhance
TH28	Hassra Sports Ground	1208669	FY5 5EE	Tennis	Community Organisation	Three good quality macadam courts, with sports lighting. These courts are available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation LTA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect

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STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
TH28	Hassra Sports Ground	1208669	FY5 5EE	Bowls	Community Organisation	One good quality bowling green. Currently used by Norcross BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Community Organisation BCGBA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	30010033	FY5 3SX	Football	Council/YMCA	One poor quality youth 11v11, which is currently overplayed by four MES. One standard quality mini 7v7, which is played to capacity at peak time. Ancillary facilities are rated as standard quality. Fylde Coast Soccer club state that the pitches onsite have drainage issues, this causes the pitches to be unplayable during most of the winter months.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision.	Council LFA FF	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH13	King George Playing Field (Thornton)	30010033	FY5 3SX	Rugby Union	Council/YMCA	One poor quality (M0/D1) senior pitch, with partial sports lighting. Pitch is overplayed by one MES per week due to Thornton Cleveleys RUFC match and training demand. An additional senior rugby union pitch was previously marked at King George Playing Field (Thornton). There are still dual rugby/football posts installed onsite, however, the pitch is not marked for either sport. The pitch is still maintained and could be brought back into use if required.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance and installation of purpose drainage. Explore the opportunity to bring second pitch onsite back to use to help alleviate overplay on existing pitch. Increase the amount & efficiency of sports lighting on site to enable Thornton Cleveleys RUFC sufficient space to accommodate midweek training demand.	Council RFU	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH12	Ashdell Bowling Club	-	FY5 5FH	Bowls	Sports club	Two good quality greens, that are currently home to Ashdell BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
PLF06	Carleton Bowling Club	-	FY6 7NE	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green that is serviced by sports lighting. This site is home to Carleton BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
CLE34	Cleveleys Working Mens Club Bowling	-	FY5 1BN	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality green that is serviced by sports lighting. This site is home to Cleveleys WMC BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FL41	Fleetwood Bowling Club	-	FY7 6BP	Bowls	Sports club	Two good quality bowling greens, one of which has sports lighting. This site is home to Fleetwood BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FL06	Fleetwood Cricket Club	1036487	FY7 8AS	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality square that supports 15 grass wickets and one non-turf wicket. The ancillary facilities onsite have been rated as standard quality. There are also two fixed lane training facilities that are of standard quality. The square has spare capacity of 11 MES per season. With actual spare capacity to accommodate additional teams on Sundays and midweek.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite.	Sports club LCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
FL06	Fleetwood Cricket Club	1036487	FY7 8AS	Bowls	Sports club	One good quality bowling green. Which is home to Fleetwood Cricket and Sports BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FL70	Fleetwood Golf Club	1101647	FY7 8AF	Golf	Sports club	One 18-hole golf course.	Look to improve and sustain course quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL50	Fleetwood Memorial Park	1040858	FY7 7AE	Tennis	Council	Two standard quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting. These courts are available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL50	Fleetwood Memorial Park	1040858	FY7 7AE	Bowls	Council	Two good quality bowling greens. This site is home to Highbury Sports & Social BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FL50	Fleetwood Memorial Park	1040858	FY7 7AE	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA, with type one/two surface. No sports lighting is available.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CLE11.3	Jubilee Gardens MUGA	-	FY5 1DW	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA, with type one/two surfacing. There is no sports lighting available for this MUGA.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL36	Marine Gardens	-	FY7 6HF	Bowls	Council	One good quality bowling green, which is home to Marine Gardens BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
PLF31	Memorial Park Jean Stansfield Bowling Green	-	FY6 7NE	Bowls	Council	One good quality bowling green, which is currently home to Poulton Municipal BC.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
PLF25	Jean Stansfield (Vicarage) Memorial Park Poulton Youth Space	-	FY6 7BE	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with type one/two surfacing. Sports lighting is present at this site.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CLE36	North Drive Play Area	-	FY5 2QD	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with type one/two surfacing. There is no sports lighting for this site.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CLE07	North Drive Park	-	FY5 2QD	Bowls (Disused)	Council	This site is currently disused. The green is overgrown and is therefore unable to currently be used for bowls. This green has not been maintained due to a lack of demand.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99. Explore opportunities to bring back into use if demand exists.	Council BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
TH29.1	Poolfoot Farm Sports and Leisure Complex	1057941	FY5 4HX	3G	Sports club	This site has two good quality 11v11 3G pitches. One is 108x70, with the other being 105x70. These pitches are both on the FA 3G pitch register, with one being FIFA compliant. Both have sports lighting and are available for community use. There are also four small sized (30x20) good quality 3G pitches with sports lighting and community access.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure pitch is on the FA 3G Register and is retested for compliance so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms & Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
PLF72	Poulton-Le-Fylde Golf Club	1014011	FY6 7HJ	Golf	Sports club	This site has a 9-hole golf course.	Look to improve and sustain course quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CLE06	Cleveleys Park Bowling Club	-	FY5 2BL	Bowls	Sports club	One standard quality bowling green, which is currently home to Park Club BC.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL44	The Strawberry Gardens Bowling Green	-	FY7 6TF	Bowls	Private	One good quality bowling green.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
TH31	Thornton NPL Bowling Club	-	FY5 4LD	Bowls	Sports club	One standard quality bowling green which is serviced by sports lighting. This site is currently home to Thornton NPL BC.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH01	Thornton Cleveleys Cricket Club	1208748	FY5 5LA	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality cricket square that supports 11 grass wickets and one non-turf wicket. The square is currently played to capacity. The changing room quality at the site has been rated as good quality. There are also two good quality, fixed net training facilities available at the site.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club LCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FL14.1	Martindale Avenue Park	-	FY7 8DX	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with type one/two surfacing. The MUGA is serviced by sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL45	Milton Street Football Area	-		MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA with type five surfacing. The MUGA is serviced by sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL45.1	Milton Street Basketball	-		MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with type one/two surfacing. The MUGA has no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL68	Marine Hall	-	FY7 6HF	Bowls (Disused)	Council	There are two disused bowling greens at this site. The greens are currently overgrown and are therefore unable to currently be used for bowls.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99. Explore opportunities to reinstate if demand exists.	Council BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FL02	Nautical College	-	FY7 8JZ	Cricket (Disused)	Education	Previously maintained a grass square with nine grass wickets. However, has not been maintained for formal cricket use since circa 2015.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy. Explore opportunities to reinstate if demand exists.	College LCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
FL23	Former High School Fields	-	FY7 7JY	Football (Disused)	Education	Previously marked for football. An educational playing field, which is no longer maintained as formal sports pitches. Part allocated for housing development.	Protect the site in accordance with Wyre Local Plan Policy CDMP4 taking into account the NPPF paragraph 99 and Sport England Playing Fields Policy. Explore opportunities to reinstate to address shortfalls.	School LCF ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect

WYRE COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STUDY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Active Places ID	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
PLF33	Baines School	1009187	FY6 8BE	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to improve and sustain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PLF74	Breck Primary School	6014236	FY6 7HE	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels for maintenance. for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PLF39	Carleton St Hilda's C Of E Primary School	6012674	FY6 7PE	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PLF39	Carleton St Hilda's C Of E Primary School	6012674	FY6 7PE	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels for maintenance. for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
PLF36	Carr Head Primary School	6012786	FY6 8JB	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL59	Charles Saer Community Primary School	1069093	FY7 8DD	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL65	Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School	30005677	FY7 6QN	AGP	Education	One standard small sized (37x20) sand-filled AGP, with no sports lighting. This site is not available for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
FL63	Larkholme Primary School	6012699	FY7 8QB	Netball	Education	One standard quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This site is not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CLE27	Manor Beach Primary School	6012814	FY5 1EU	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels for maintenance. for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
CLE35	Northfold Community Primary School	6013001	FY5 2NL	Netball	Education	One good quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is not available for community use.	Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
PLF38	Poulton-Le-Fylde St Chads C Of E Primary School	6012854	FY6 7SR	Netball	Education	One poor quality macadam court with no sports lighting. This court is not available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH57	Royles Brook Primary School	6012977	FY5 2TY	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels for maintenance. for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH51	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	6013000	FY5 4HL	AGP	Education	One good small sized (33x15) sand-filled AGP, with no sports lighting or access for the community.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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TH51	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	6013000	FY5 4HL	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels for maintenance. for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH59	Stanah Primary School	6012952	FY5 5JR	Netball	Education	Two poor quality macadam courts, with no sports lighting or access for the community.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance for continued school use.	School EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH58	Thornton Cleveleys Baines' Endowed V.C. School	6012794	FY5 5BJ	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels for maintenance. for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH53	Thornton Primary School	6012929	FY5 4JP	AGP	Education	One small size (15x12) sand-filled AGP with no sports lighting or access for the community. This pitch is suitable for hockey.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
TH53	Thornton Primary School	6012929	FY5 4JP	Rounders	Education	Rounders pitches onsite for school use only.	Look to sustain and improve pitch quality with enhanced levels for maintenance. for continued school use.	School ER	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

PART 6: DELIVER THE STRATEGY AND KEEP IT ROBUST AND UP TO DATE

Delivery

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

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

To help ensure that the PPOSS is well used, it should be regarded as key evidence, guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch and outdoor sports provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on the how current demand is being met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand, as well as when development proposals come forward or when funding bids are made. For this to be achieved, the Steering Group needs to have a clear understanding of how the PPOSS can be applied and therefore delivered.

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

Monitoring and updating

Once the PPOSS is complete, it is advised that the Steering Group is kept together, with twice-yearly meetings recommended and often encouraged by Sport England and the NGBs. The purpose of these meetings is to:

- ◀ Act as a focal point for promoting the value and importance of the PPOSS and provision in the area.
- ◀ Monitor, evaluate and review progress with the delivery of the recommendations and action plan.

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- ◀ Share lessons learnt from how the PPOSS has been used and how it has been applied to a variety of circumstances.
- ◀ Ensure the PPOSS is used effectively to input into any new opportunities to secure improved provision and influence relevant programmes and initiatives.
- ◀ Maintain links between all relevant parties with an interest provision in the area.
- ◀ Review the need to update the PPOSS along with the supply and demand information and assessment work on which it is based.

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

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

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

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


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

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Checklist

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

[Link to sportengland assessing needs and playing pitch strategy guidance](#)

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

APPENDIX ONE: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

National context

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

Department of Media Culture and Sport Get Active: A Strategy for the Future of Sport and Physical Activity (2023)

The Government published its new strategy for sport in August 2023. The 2015 government sport strategy, Sporting Future: A New Strategy for a More Active Nation, was a fundamental re-framing of sport and physical activity in the UK. It set out five outcomes delivered by sport and physical activity:

- ◀ Physical wellbeing
- ◀ Mental wellbeing
- ◀ Individual development
- ◀ Social and community development
- ◀ Sustainable economic development

This new strategy builds on the foundations of Sporting Future and retains these five outcomes at its core. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of three core priorities, with seven indicators to achieve these priorities as follows:

- ◀ **Being unapologetically ambitious in making the nation more active**
 - ◀ Ensuring everyone is focused on increasing physical activity, meaning fewer inactive children, and narrowing the gap on inactivity where groups are not being reached, with visible progress across the country by 2030
 - ◀ Focusing on evidence, data and metrics
 - ◀ Setting the future direction for facilities and spaces where people can be active
- ◀ **Making sport and physical activity more inclusive and welcoming for all that everyone can have confidence that there is a place for them in sport**
 - ◀ Helping the sector to be welcoming to all
 - ◀ Improving how issues and concerns are dealt within the sector
- ◀ **Moving towards a more sustainable sector that is more financially resilient and robust**
 - ◀ Supporting the sector to access additional, alternative forms of investment
 - ◀ Working towards a more environmentally sustainable sector

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Delivering against these priorities will help create a more active nation and a more sustainable sport sector. These aims are complementary; greater participation, stronger governance and confidence in the sector will help to drive investment, which in turn helps to attract new audiences. The vision is to make sport and physical activity accessible, resilient, fun and fair, for now and the years to come – for the benefit of individuals and the country.

Sport England Uniting the Movement: Our 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport (2021-2031)

Sport and physical activity makes people happier and healthier, and movement is the lens through which we can make that happen. It does the same thing for our communities, with life-changing, sustainable benefits that have huge economic and social value. That's why Sport England wants sport and physical activity to be recognised as essential to help overcome these national challenges.

The Strategy recognises the need to invest in sport and physical activity through NGBs, other sports bodies and local sports clubs, organisations and community groups to increase engagement for different groups as part of our core purpose. It states that there is now a need to go further in promoting movement in general as the means to unlock sport and activity for some people.

Tackling inequalities

There are deep-rooted inequalities in sport and physical activity, which means that there are people who feel excluded from being active because the right options and opportunities aren't there. These inequalities are at the very core of the Uniting the Movement.

Sport England plans on having a laser focus on tackling inequalities in all that it does, because providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity is vitally important.

National Planning Policy Framework (2023)

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

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

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

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

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

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

The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

The Football Association's (FA) National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a ten-year period.

The Strategy sets out shared aims and objectives it aims to deliver on in conjunction with The Premier League, Sport England and the Government, to be delivered with support of the Football Foundation.

These stakeholders have clearly identified the aspirations for football to contribute directly to nationally important social and health priorities. Alongside this, the strategy is clear that traditional, affiliated football remains an important priority and a core component of the game, whilst recognising and supporting the more informal environments used for the community and recreational game.

Its vision is: *"Within 10 years we aim to deliver great football facilities, wherever they are needed"*

£1.3 billion has been spent by football and Government since 2000 to enhance existing football facilities and build new ones. However, more is needed if football and Government's shared objectives for participation, individual well-being and community cohesion are to be achieved. Nationally, direct investment will be increased – initially to £69 million per annum from football and Government (a 15% increase on recent years).

The NFFS investment priorities can be broadly grouped into six areas, recognising the need to grow the game, support existing players and better understand the different football environments:

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- ◀ **Improve 20,000 Natural Turf pitches**, with a focus on addressing drop off due to a poor playing experience;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 3G AGP ‘equivalents’** (mix of full size and small sided provision, including MUGAs - small sided facilities are likely to have a key role in smaller / rural communities and encouraging multi-sport offers), enhancing the quality of playing experience and supporting a sustainable approach to grass roots provision;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 changing pavilions/clubhouses**, linked to multi-pitch or hub sites, supporting growth (particularly in women and girls football), sustainability and providing a facility infrastructure to underpin investment in coaching, officials and football development;
- ◀ **Support access to flexible indoor spaces**, including equipment and court markings, to support growth in futsal, walking football and to support the education and skills outcomes, exploiting opportunities for football to positively impact on personal and social outcomes for young people in particular;
- ◀ **Refurbish existing stock to maintain current provision**, recognising the need to address historic under-investment and issues with refurbishment of existing facilities;
- ◀ **Support testing of technology and innovation**, building on customer insight to deliver hubs for innovation, testing and development of the game.

Time for Change: The FA Strategy (2020-2024)

The new FA strategy aims to take the FA and English football forward with bold leadership and ambitious targets to build on the progress of the last four years. It identifies six Game Changer objectives and eight Serve the Game objectives which demonstrate its determination to substantially change the fabric of the game and address key societal issues.

The Game Changer objectives are:

- ◀ Win a major tournament
- ◀ Serve two million + through a transformed digital platform
- ◀ Equal opportunities for every girl
- ◀ Deliver 5,000 quality pitches
- ◀ A game free from discrimination
- ◀ Maximise the appeal and revenue of the FA cups and Women’s Super League

These are underpinned by its eight Serve the Game objectives, which are:

- ◀ Trusted, progressive regulation and administration
- ◀ Safe and inclusive football pathways and environment
- ◀ Personalised and connected learning experiences
- ◀ Maximum investment into the game
- ◀ Diverse, high performance workforce and inclusive culture
- ◀ World class venues and events
- ◀ Strong reputation and clear brand identity
- ◀ Technology enabled and insight driven

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England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Inspiring Generations (2020-2024)

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic plan in 2019. The strategic plan aims to connect communities and improve lives by inspiring people to discover and share their passion for cricket

The plan sets out six important priorities and activities, these are:

- ◀ ***Grow and nurture the core***
 - ◀ Create an infrastructure investment fund for First Class County Clubs (FCCs)
 - ◀ Introduce a new Community Investment Funding for FCCs and County Cricket Boards (CCBs)
 - ◀ Invest in club facilities
 - ◀ Develop the role of National Counties Cricket
 - ◀ Further invest in County Competitions
- ◀ ***Inspire through elite teams***
 - ◀ Increase investment in the county talent pathway
 - ◀ Incentivise the counties to develop England Players
 - ◀ Drive the performance system through technology and innovation
 - ◀ Create heroes and connect them with a new generation of fans
- ◀ ***Make cricket accessible***
 - ◀ Broaden crickets appeal through the New Competition
 - ◀ Create a new digital community for cricket
 - ◀ Install non-traditional playing facilities in urban areas
 - ◀ Continue to deliver South Asian Action Plans
 - ◀ Launch a new participation product, linked to the New Competition
- ◀ ***Engage children and young people***
 - ◀ Double cricket participation in primary schools
 - ◀ Deliver a compelling and coordinated recreational playing offer from age five upwards
 - ◀ Develop our safeguarding to promote safe spaces for children and young people
- ◀ ***Transform women's and girls' cricket***
 - ◀ Grow the base through participation and facilities investment
 - ◀ Launch centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure
 - ◀ Invest in girls' county age group cricket
 - ◀ Deliver a girls' secondary school programme
- ◀ ***Support our communities***
 - ◀ Double the number of volunteers in the game
 - ◀ Create a game-wide approach to Trust and Foundations through the cricket network
 - ◀ Develop a new wave of officials and community coaches
 - ◀ Increase participation in disability cricket

The Rugby Football Union Strategy 2021 Onwards

Through the strategy, the RFU aims to enrich lives, introduce more people to rugby union and develop the sport for future generations. The goal is to achieve this by strengthening and uniting rugby union in England and producing consistently winning England teams.

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Eight key strategic priorities are identified with all investment decisions aligned to these. The strategy also outlines the RFU's core activities which form the backbone of its business operations and services to the game.

The priorities include four 'Game Objectives' and four 'Driving Objectives' as detailed below.

Game Objectives:

- ◀ Enjoyment – enable positive player experiences on and off the field
- ◀ Winning England – create the best possible high-performance system for England Rugby
- ◀ Welfare – enhance player welfare to protect and support the wellbeing of players
- ◀ Flourishing rugby communities – support clubs to sustain and grow themselves and to reflect society

Driving Objectives:

- ◀ Diversity & Inclusion – drive rugby union in England to reflect the diversity of society
- ◀ Understand – build a deep understanding of players, volunteers and fans to shape the future of the game
- ◀ Connect – connect with and grow the rugby community and create exceptional experiences

Commercial and operational excellence – ensure a sustainable and efficient business model delivered by an inspired workforce.

Rugby Football League Strategic Plan 2015 – 2021

The RFL is currently in the process of developing a new facilities strategy. However, its most recent strategy aims to establish rugby league as “a growing sport, available throughout the country, that is recognised as providing positive experience for all participants and spectators, in environments that are welcoming, inclusive, vibrant, safe and comfortable - encouraging people to return again and again, featuring:

- ◀ Financially viable and sustainable professional clubs creating stable employment opportunities, showcasing local, national and international playing talent, and leading the sport's development - and making a difference - in their own communities;
- ◀ Welcoming community clubs, putting players first, offering recreational enjoyment for children and adults alike in a safe and inclusive environment;
- ◀ A central organisation that stands out for excellence, innovation, mutual respect, integrity and inclusion that understands its role in servicing the wider sport;
- ◀ A sports that lives its values in all its decisions and actions.

This vision is underpinned by 13 core principles, including:

- ◀ **An integrated whole sport.** Each constituent part of the sport will have a responsibility to ensure the good health of the entire game;

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- ◀ **Return on investment.** Investment will be targeted to ensure the sustainability of member clubs, and growth in the number and quality of players thus seeking an effective return for the game;
- ◀ **Financial parameters.** Financial distributions will be undertaken to ensure the whole of the game will move forward together;
- ◀ **Geographic expansion.** Geographic expansion of the sport should be carried out in a proportionate and sustainable manner.

Rugby League World Cup ‘Inspired by 2021’ Legacy Programme

The Rugby League World Cup 2021 will develop a £10 million legacy programme with funds driven into local clubs and community projects. The government investment, delivered by Sport England, is part of RLWC 2021’s ambitious plan to grow the sport and make it more visible, engaging and welcoming to current and potential participants.

The funding will be split into large transformational community projects, such as changing room improvements and new artificial grass pitches with the remaining funding used for smaller scale initiatives such as supplying new kit and equipment to promote club and community development. The investment will focus on the following four key areas:

- ◀ Creating welcoming environments
- ◀ Encouraging participation growth
- ◀ Building community engagement
- ◀ Cultivating further investment

England Hockey Strategy

England Hockey is currently in the process of developing a new facilities strategy, however, the current facilities strategy can be found [here](#) and is summarised below.

Vision: For every hockey club in England to have appropriate and sustainable facilities that provide excellent experiences for players.

Mission: More, Better, Happier Players with access to appropriate and sustainable facilities

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

- ◀ **PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision**
 - There are currently over 800 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (club, school, universities) across the country. It is important to retain the current provision where appropriate to ensure that hockey is maintained across the country.
- ◀ **IMPROVE: To improve the existing facilities stock (physically and administratively)**
 - The current facilities stock is ageing and there needs to be strategic investment into refurbishing the pitches and ancillary facilities. England Hockey works to provide more support for clubs to obtain better agreements with facilities providers & education around owning an asset.

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- ◀ **DEVELOP:** To strategically build new hockey facilities where there is an identified need and ability to deliver and maintain. This might include consolidating hockey provision in a local area where appropriate.

England Hockey has identified key areas across the country where there is a lack of suitable hockey provision and there is a need for additional pitches, suitable for hockey. There is an identified demand for multi pitches in the right places to consolidate hockey and allow clubs to have all of their provision catered for at one site.

England Athletics Strategic Plan – Athletics & Running: for everyone, forever – 2017 and beyond

This plan sets out England Athletics' mission, vision and strategic priorities that will direct how they work as an organisation during the coming years: what they do and how they will do it.

Vision: Make athletics and running the most inclusive and popular sport in England, led by a network of progressive clubs and organisations and supported by a sustainable, respected and trusted governing body.

For England Athletics to achieve this vision, they will focus on three values:

- Pride – taking pride in their work and demonstrating to athletes that they recognise the importance of their role in bettering athletics.
- Integrity – demonstrate integrity to earn respect and to build effective partnerships.
- Inclusivity – promote inclusivity in all their actions.

Mission: To grow opportunities for everyone to experience athletics and running, to enable them to reach their full potential.

In order to achieve their mission, England Athletics will have three strategic priorities.

1. To expand the capacity of the sport by supporting and developing its volunteers and other workforce. The target is to achieve a 6% increase every year of licensed leaders, coaches and officials.
2. To sustain and increase participation and performance levels in our sport. To achieve this, England Athletics' current targets are to increase the number of club registered athletes from (149,000 to 172,000), engage 135,000 people through the RunTogether programme and to increase athlete performance levels across all events and disciplines by 1% every year.
3. To influence participation in the wider athletics market. Their target here is to increase the number of regular athletes or runners by at least one million.

England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)

The purpose of this document is to set out our long term vision for athletics facilities in England. Facilities form a vital component of the overall England Athletics strategy.

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The development, protection and enhancement of facilities will support our strategic plan and help England Athletics contribute to the delivery of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's Sporting Futures: A New Strategy for Sport and Sport England's strategy Towards an Active Nation. Appropriate facilities help to attract and inspire new participants and provide the foundation and focus for a significant proportion of the England Athletics family.

The England Athletics Strategic Plan notes that the sport increasingly needs to become financially sustainable and that a business-like and innovative approach is a vital component of its future success. Facilities are fundamental, but they are also expensive to create and to maintain. The sport therefore faces a significant challenge to develop, improve and maintain facilities, most of which are currently operated and funded by third parties.

This strategy sets out a challenge to all those involved with the delivery of the sport to be innovative and business like in the operation and development of facilities at a time of financial challenge, as it aims "To create an innovative and inspiring network of sustainable athletic facilities, with the capacity to meet both current and future demand across England".

Tennis in Britain - LTA Strategy

The LTA's vision for 2019 – 2023, Tennis Opened Up includes seven strategies relating to three objectives which are built around its mission 'to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable'.

Objectives

- ◀ Increase the number of fans on our database from [623,602] to [1,000,000] by 2023.
- ◀ More people playing more often;
 - Increase the number of adults playing tennis each year from [7.7% (4,018,600)] of the population to [8.5% (4,420,460)], and the frequency of adults playing tennis twice a month 2.5% 1,311,800 to 1.9% 1,500,000 by 2023.
 - The number of children playing tennis once a week from 550,000 to 700,000 (7.9% to 10% of the population) by 2023.
- ◀ Enable 5 new players to break into the top 100 by 2023 and inspire the tennis audience.

Strategies

1. Visibility -Broaden relevance and increase visibility of tennis all year round to build engagement and participation with fans and players.
2. Innovation - Innovate in the delivery of tennis to widen its appeal.
3. Investment - Support community facilities and schools to increase the opportunities to play
4. Accessibility - Make the customer journey to playing tennis easier and more accessible for anyone
5. Engagement - Engage and collaborate with everyone involved in delivering tennis in Britain, particularly coaches and volunteers to attract and maintain more people in the game.

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6. Performance - Create a pathway for British champions that nurtures a diverse team of players, people and leaders.
7. Leadership - Lead tennis in Britain to the highest standard so it is a safe, welcoming, well-run sport.

British Crown Green Bowling Association

Please note there is no current facility guidance provided by British Crown Green Bowling Association responsible for crown green bowls in England.

<https://www.bcgba.org.uk/>

British Cycling Lead our Sports – Inspire our communities¹⁷

British Cycling’s Strategy identifies seven key priorities for cycling before the Paris Olympics in 2024. These priorities are:

- ◀ Inspiring Performances
- ◀ Grow Communities
- ◀ Engage the Next Generation
- ◀ Flagship Events
- ◀ Cycling for Everyone
- ◀ Work Together
- ◀ Equipped for Success

The seven priorities are not everything that British Cycling will do, but that can have the greatest impact over the next 36 months. The priorities are all interconnected and are cross interdependencies – achieving one strategic priority is often reliant upon achieving the other. For each of the priorities, the Strategy sets out the measures of success:

Priority	Sub priority	Measures
Inspiring Performances	Sustain inspirational global elite cycling success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Win 10 Olympic and 15 Paralympic medals. ◀ Creation of a development plan to support elite non Olympic and Paralympic disciplines. ◀ Increase by 10% the number of riders in the talent pathway across ethnic communities, disability and low socioeconomic backgrounds.
Grow Communities	Grow and serve our cycling communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Diversify and grow our cycling communities. ◀ Grow membership from 150k to 250k. ◀ Increase affiliated clubs and groups by 20%
Engage the Next Generation	Encourage more children and young people to make cycling a lifelong habit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Increase the number of children and young people in clubs or groups by 20%. ◀ Increase by 10% the number of children and young people participating across ethnic communities, disability and low socio-economic backgrounds.

¹⁷ [British Cycling Lead our Sports](#)

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Priority	Sub priority	Measures
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased awareness and perception of British Cycling in a younger audience through yearly tracking.
Flagship Events	Host world class major events to excite and inspire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve major event hosting targets across disciplines. Support the legacy impact of both the 2022 Commonwealth Games and the Cycling World Championships 2023. Increase the opportunities for British riders to perform on home soil.
Cycling for Everyone	Ensure cycling is open to everyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put in place robust tracking and increased diversity in facilitators and governance. 90% of our communities to believe cycling is an inclusive activity and a sport for them. Increase participation in our sport across genders, ages, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation and low socioeconomic backgrounds by 10%.
Work Together	Work together with everyone who makes cycling happen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 25% increase in the percentage of cycling facilitators that feel appreciated for the work they do. Retain, grow and diversify the range of partners in line with our strategic priorities.
Equipped for Success	Deliver our strategy effectively and efficiently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% increase in the diversity of the industries represented in the British Cycling partnership portfolio. Grow and diversify income streams.

England Golf Course Planner – Strategic Direction (2021-2025)

England Golf has always had a mission to lead, support, inspire and deliver for its community of golfers, golf clubs and counties. To help enable this, its Course Planner forms the core of its strategy, with 18 guiding principles established that are designed to best position growth in the game:

- Strengthen governance in all aspects of the sport
- Deliver safeguarding throughout the golfing community
- Utilise data and technology to enhance decision making
- Drive equality and equity in everything it does
- Support golf clubs with member recruitment and retention
- Connect and engage with all golfers
- Inspire and educate golf's network of volunteers
- Increase golf's influence
- Advocate and inform on all elements of sustainability
- Drive diversity at all levels of golf
- Create more opportunities for junior and young adults
- Promote the health and wellbeing of golf
- Inspire more women and girls to play golf
- Develop greater access for disabled people
- Enthuse all golfers through relatable role models
- Communicate a positive perception change for golf
- Deliver an excellent talent development pathway

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- ◀ Host best-in-class competitions for all golfers

England Netball

In November 2021 England Netball launched a 10-year 'Adventure Strategy' for the game with a new brand identity for the organisation.

England Netball's 'Adventure Strategy' shares a purpose-led ambition for the game, to build on the momentum the sport has seen in recent years and take it to new heights for the decade ahead.

The 'Adventure Strategy' outlines the intention to:-

- ◀ accelerate the development and growth of the game at every level, from grassroots to the elite,
- ◀ elevate the visibility of the sport, and
- ◀ lead a movement to impact lives on and beyond the court.

At the heart of its purpose, England Netball, with its proud and unique female foundations, will remain dedicated to increasing opportunities for women and girls to play the game as a priority, working tirelessly to address the gender participation gap in sport that has widened since the global pandemic.

Underpinned by years of engaging with and delivering netball for female communities, the organisation pledges to understand, support and nurture women and girls more deeply at every life stage, at every age.

The organisation is also committed to opening the sport to new audiences in every community, so netball better represents the rich diversity of the country it proudly represents, and ensures the sport continues to evolve and adapt to thrive in the future, helping to create a truly inclusive sport for all where everyone can belong, flourish and soar. A recent partnership announcement with England Men's and Mixed Netball Association (EMMNA) to help develop and grow male participation in the game, supports this commitment as England Netball pledges to promote difference and embrace the opportunity to make the sport a possibility within everyone's reach.

Transforming netball for children and young people is a strategic priority to protect the future of the sport. Working with schools and policy makers to extend physical literacy within, and after the school day with a focus on netball specific provision will pave the way for greater community participation. The organisation will accelerate the expansion of its Bee Netball programme for young children, whilst supporting teens and young women to stay in the game to keep them physically active and in the game for life.

Facility Development

The facility development aspirations stated within the Strategy are to:-

- ◀ Take a fresh look at the spaces required to support the sport, creating accessible places in every community to allow netball to be incorporated into how and where women and girls live their lives;

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- ◀ Protect, enhance, and extend the network of homes that house the sport at a local and regional level;
- ◀ Develop an elite domestic professional competition that supports full time athletes underpinned by a world class infrastructure and environments.
- ◀ For England Netball to achieve its ambitions to make the game accessible to wider audiences and in every community, it encourages Local Authorities to adopt policies within Playing Pitch Strategies and Built Facilities Strategies that:-
- ◀ Facilitates informal netball activity within neighbourhood multi use games areas for example by installing combined outdoor basketball and netball goals and art courts in Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs).
- ◀ Incorporates the cultural and health needs of women and girls within any designs for improved or new facilities.
- ◀ Protects and enhances netball facilities within all Primary and Secondary School environments so they offer a positive first experience of the sport for students and the wider community during out of school hours.
- ◀ Supports the installation of floodlights on outdoor courts to increase all year-round use.
- ◀ Facilitates the development of netball growth programmes, club training and competition within public leisure centres.
- ◀ Where appropriate, supports the development of netball homes and performance environments that enable local women and girls to pursue a career in netball as an elite athlete, official, coach or administrator.

Archery GB's Strategic Plan (2021-2026)

This Strategic Plan aims to enrich lives through archery and rebuild, reimagine and re-present archery in the next five years. To do this, it has six strategic ambitions:

- ◀ Membership structure – an effective and efficient governance and delivery structure for the whole sport, with a member-centric membership offer.
- ◀ Empowering workforce – connections that engage, recruit and support the thousands of people who create opportunities for archery to happen.
- ◀ Diversity throughout – a diverse and inclusive organisation that enables everyone to be themselves and develop in a way that suits them.
- ◀ Archer recruitment – a revitalised club network, rebuilding from the damage of Covid-19, new groups, partnerships, places that increase the breadth of our archery communities.
- ◀ Digital first – putting digital transformation at the heart of the organisation, leveraging technology to modernise systems and resources.
- ◀ Pathway & podium – redefine GB performance archery and be the pioneers on the world archery stage.

BaseballSoftballUK's Strategic Plan (2020-24)

This Strategic Plan aims to have more people playing baseball and softball in more places. Its strategic priorities to achieve this include:

- ◀ Targeted participation growth

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To encourage and enable growth, working with a range of partners and organisations to reach new audiences:

- a) Coordinating a children and young people participation plan that establishes local youth leagues particularly for baseball and girls fastpitch, underpinned by strong schoolclub links.
- b) Further developing adult baseball and softball in the Higher Education and the workplace.
- c) Facilitating and enhancing playing opportunities for LGBTQ+ people, women and girls, lower socio-economic communities, BAME people and those with a disability.

◀ Talent development

We will build an effective and efficient talent identification and development pathway:

- a) Supporting home-grown talent from all communities, reducing financial barriers that prevent talent from blossoming.
- b) Developing and communicating clear performance pathways from grassroots to elite.
- c) Delivering regular high-quality coaching opportunities, in appropriate facilities.

◀ Efficient grassroots support services

Spanning baseball and softball, we will support grassroots organisations to be stronger, safer and sustainable:

- a) Offering services that add value in safeguarding, integrity, administration, technology and marketing, through collaborative working.
- b) Coordinating UK-wide and home country development plans for baseball, and for slowpitch and fastpitch softball, spanning grassroots, talent and workforce development.
- c) Supporting grassroots organisations to become an important part of their local community.
- d) Taking a leading role in enabling the improvement and creation of appropriate local playing facilities.

◀ Organisational sustainability

Build the organisation and sports to be more financially sustainable, including:

- a) Increasing and diversifying our partnerships and funding sources.
- b) Realising the potential of our workforce, assets, services and relationships.
- c) Increasing funding from events, fundraising and sponsorship.

APPENDIX TWO: GLOSSARY

Exported/imported demand generally relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area (i.e. from residents of the study area) which takes place outside of the area. This may be due to issues with the provision of pitches and ancillary facilities in the study area, just reflective of how the sports are played (e.g. at a central venue for the wider area) or due to the most convenient site for the respective users just falling outside of the local authority/study area.

Unmet demand is demand that is known to exist but unable to be accommodated on current supply of pitches. This could be in the form of a team with access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa. This could also be due to the poor quality and therefore limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement. League secretaries may be aware of some unmet demand as they may have declined applications from teams wishing to enter their competitions due to a lack of pitch provision which in turn is hindering the growth of the league.

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. This could include feedback from a sports club who may feel that they could set up and run an additional team if they had access to better provision.

Future demand is an informed estimate made of the likely future demand for pitches in the study area. This is generally based on the most appropriate current and future population projections for the relevant age and gender groupings for each sport. Key trends, local objectives and targets and consultation also inform this figure.

Casual use or other use could take place on natural grass pitches or AGPs and include:

- ◀ Regular play from non-sports club sources (e.g. companies, schools, fitness classes)
- ◀ Infrequent informal/friendly matches
- ◀ Informal training sessions
- ◀ More casual forms of a particular sport organised by sports clubs or other parties
- ◀ Significant public use and informal play, particularly where pitches are located in parks/recreation grounds.

Carrying capacity is the amount of play a site can regularly accommodate (in the relevant comparable unit) for community use without adversely affecting its quality and use. This is typically outlined by the NGB.

Overplay is when a pitch is used over the amount that the carrying capacity will allow, (i.e. more than the site can accommodate). Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected.

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Spare capacity is the amount of additional play that a pitch could potentially accommodate in addition to current activity. There may be reasons why this potential to accommodate additional play should not automatically be regarded as actual spare capacity, for example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below its carrying capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of friendly matches and training activity. This needs to be investigated before the capacity is deemed **actual spare capacity**.

Match equivalent sessions is an appropriate comparable unit for pitch usage. For football, rugby union and rugby league, pitches should relate to a typical week within the season and one match = one match equivalent session if it occurs every week or 0.5 match equivalent sessions if it occurs every other week (i.e. reflecting home and away fixtures). For cricket pitches it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season and one match = one match equivalent session.