



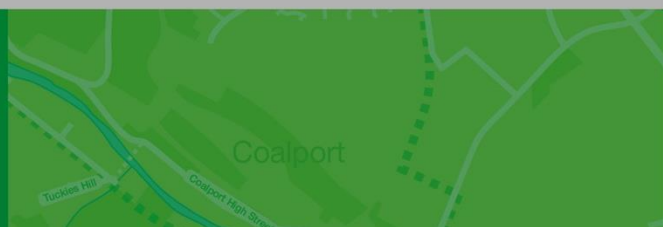
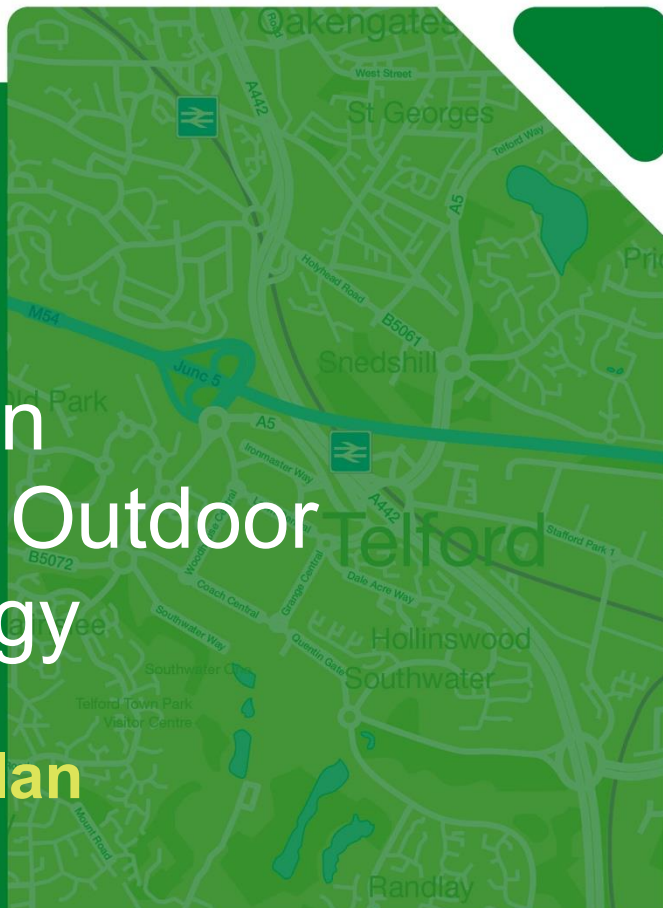
Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough

Telford and Wrekin Playing Pitch and Outdoor Recreation Strategy

Strategy and Action Plan

2025 - 2035



TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This strategy provides a clear roadmap for the provision, protection, and enhancement of playing pitches and outdoor recreation spaces across Telford and Wrekin. It identifies future opportunities to ensure that facilities meet the needs of residents, clubs, and schools while supporting health, wellbeing, and community cohesion.

Investing in outdoor sport and recreation is a strategic priority that delivers measurable returns for Telford and Wrekin Council as high-quality, accessible spaces are proven to reduce health inequalities, improve mental wellbeing, and lower long-term healthcare costs. They strengthen communities by fostering inclusion, engaging young people in positive activities, and reducing anti-social behaviour, key priorities for safer, stronger neighbourhoods. By working in partnership with national governing bodies, schools, and local providers, we can leverage external funding and ensure facilities meet demand efficiently. Well-managed sites also attract inward investment, create local jobs, and support our climate commitments through sustainable design and maintenance. This strategy is not just about sport, it is about delivering economic, social, and environmental benefits that align with our corporate objectives and demonstrate value for money.

Our vision is to ensure our facilities will not only meet current and future demand but will inspire active lifestyles for all ages and abilities, strengthen grassroots sport, and nurture pathways to competitive success. This is about shaping a legacy, building vibrant, healthy communities and ensuring our outdoor infrastructure drives social, economic, and environmental benefits for decades to come.

The strategic objectives of the Telford & Wrekin PPORS are built around three core aims: **Protect**, **Enhance**, and **Provide**. The vision is to work collaboratively with partners to create high-quality, sustainable sports and recreation facilities that meet community needs, increase participation, and support health and wellbeing. To achieve this, the strategy seeks to:

- **Protect** all existing outdoor sport and recreation facilities, including disused or poor-quality sites, through robust local planning policies and Sport England's Playing Field Policy, ensuring no loss without equivalent replacement.
- **Enhance** the quality and management of facilities by adopting a tiered approach to site improvements, upgrading ancillary provision, securing tenure for clubs, and maximising community use of education sites. This includes using tools like the Football Foundation's PitchPower app and the GMA Pitch Advisory Service.
- **Provide** new facilities where current or future demand exists, prioritizing multi-pitch hub sites and 3G pitches to address shortfalls, while linking new housing developments to facility provision through developer contributions and master planning.

These objectives are underpinned by strategic recommendations for quality improvement, sustainability measures (such as sinking funds), and partnership working with national governing bodies, Sport England, and local stakeholders. The plan aligns with the Local Plan review to 2040 and national policy frameworks, ensuring long-term accessibility, compliance, and resilience of sports infrastructure.

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By delivering this strategy, we will create a **resilient, inclusive, and high-performing outdoor sport and recreation network** that supports healthier lifestyles, stronger communities, and sustainable growth for the next decade

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
BC	Bowls Club
CFA	County Football Association
CC	Cricket Club
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
EN	England Netball
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FE	Further Education
HE	Higher Education
GMA	Grounds Management Association
GPMF	Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LMS	Last Man Stands
LFFP	Local Football Facilities Plan
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
MUGA	Multi use games area
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB	National Governing Body
NLS	National League System
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PPORS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Recreation Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
SC	Sustainable Communities
SE	Sport England
SFA	Shropshire Football Association
TWC	Telford & Wrekin Council
TC	Tennis Club
TGR	Team generation rate
U	Under
WR	World Rugby
WNLS	Women's National League System

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) has been commissioned to undertake a Playing Pitch & Outdoor Recreation Strategy (PPORS) for Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC). This will provide the necessary robustness and direction to inform decisions affecting relevant provision within the local authority area.

Building upon the preceding Assessment Report, this Strategy and Action Plan provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing playing pitch and accompanying ancillary facilities up to 2040 (in line with the Local Plan review). It has been developed to provide:

- ◀ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ A number of aims to help deliver the recommendations and actions.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch and outdoor sport facility stock.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area Action Plan to address key issues on a site-by-site basis.

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

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

This report represents Stage D of the process, with stages A-C covered in the preceding Assessment Report and Stage E ongoing once the study is complete. The lifespan of a PPS (or in this instance a PPORS) is considered to be three years, although this can be increased if it is kept up to date.

The PPORS delivers the evidence required to ensure that sufficient land is available to meet existing and projected future outdoor sport requirements. Its robust evidence base should inform and be implemented into planning policy and other relevant corporate strategies to enable local policies, planning and sport development criteria to work efficiently and effectively. It is capable of:

- ◀ Providing a clear framework for all playing pitch and outdoor sport providers, including the public, private and third sectors.
- ◀ Clearly addressing the needs of all identified sports within the area, highlighting particular local demand issues.
- ◀ Addressing issues of population growth and major growth/regeneration areas.
- ◀ Addressing issues of cross boundary facility provision.
- ◀ Addressing issues of accessibility, quality and management with regard to facility provision.
- ◀ Standing up to scrutiny at a public inquiry as a robust study.
- ◀ Supporting funding applications.

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- ◀ Providing realistic aspirations which are implementable within the local authority's budgetary position and procurement regime.

The Strategy and Action Plan (Part 6) recommends a number of priority projects relating to sports provision which should be realised over the Local Plan period. It provides a framework for improvement and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, potential partners and possible sources of external funding.

Partner organisations in Telford & Wrekin have a vested interest in ensuring that existing playing pitches, outdoor sports facilities and ancillary provision are protected and enhanced. As such, many of the objectives and actions within this document need to be delivered and implemented by a wide range of bodies such as national governing bodies of sport (NGBs), sports organisations, education establishments and parish/town councils. In some instances, Telford & Wrekin Council will not be the organisation which delivers these actions or recommendations as the PPORS is not solely just for the Council to act upon. It applies to/for all the stakeholders and partners involved.

Scope

The scope of the PPORS will focus geographically on all local provision, regardless of ownership and management arrangements. Provision included within the project is as follows:

- ◀ Football
- ◀ Third Generation turf (3G) pitches.
- ◀ Cricket.
- ◀ Rugby union.
- ◀ Hockey (artificial grass pitches).
- ◀ Rugby league.
- ◀ Tennis.
- ◀ Netball.
- ◀ Bowls.
- ◀ Athletics.
- ◀ Golf.
- ◀ Outdoor water sports.
- ◀ Open water swimming.
- ◀ Cycling.
- ◀ Other grass pitch sports such as angling, American football rounders and baseball/softball.

Study area

The assessment covers the boundary area of Telford & Wrekin; however, the data gathered has been presented in such a way as to be further analysed by smaller analysis areas.

On this basis, Telford & Wrekin has been broken down into three analysis/sub areas as seen below.

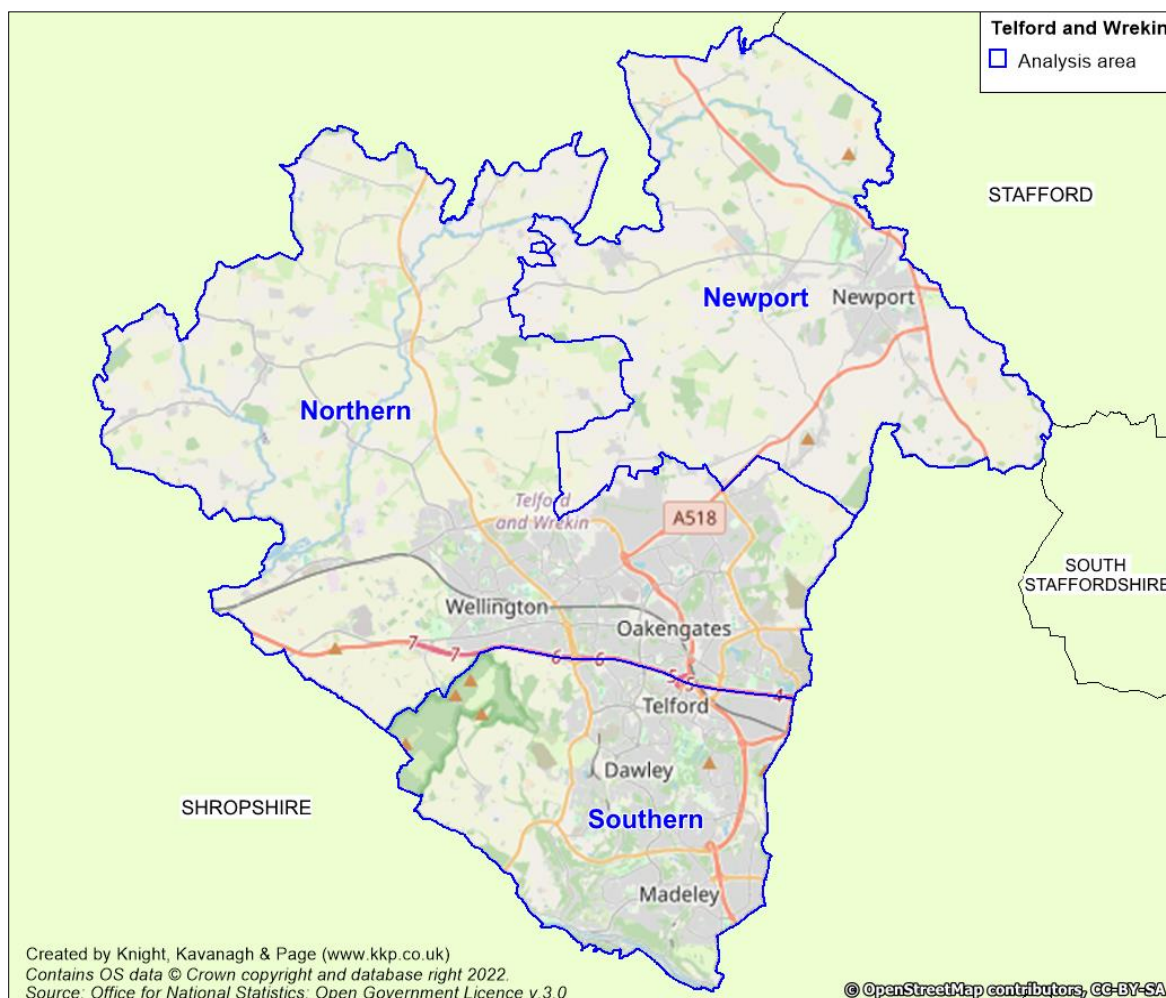
- ◀ Northern.
- ◀ Southern.
- ◀ Newport.

For consistency, these analysis areas are the same as the previous study.

The analysis areas are shown in Figure 1.1.

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Figure 1.1: Map of Telford & Wrekin with analysis areas



Local context

Telford & Wrekin is a borough and unitary authority, covering both urban and rural communities. The Borough's major settlement is Telford, which was designated a new town in the 1960s and incorporated the towns of Dawley, Madeley, Oakengates, and Wellington. With a population of over 179,900¹ (2019 mid-year estimate) it has a significantly younger population profile than the national average.

After the Telford conurbation, which includes the aforementioned towns, the next-largest settlement is Newport which is located in the northeast of the Borough and is not part of the original new town of Telford. The Borough borders Staffordshire but is surrounded by the unitary district of Shropshire.

Telford & Wrekin Local Development Plan

The Telford & Wrekin Local Plan was adopted in January 2018 and covers the period 2011-31. It addresses the area's needs and opportunities on a range of topics including the economy, housing, community facilities, the built and natural environments and infrastructure.

¹ https://apps.telford.gov.uk/localplan/draft_local_plan_high_resolution_new.pdf

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The Local Plan applies to the whole of the local authority area. Policies NE3/4/5 and 6 of the Local Plan (Natural Environment) sets out the current policy position on the provision and protection of playing pitches as part of the wider network of open space in the Borough with the main emphasis on quality and accessibility; ensuring that people have access to good facilities and sufficient recreational space.

Local Plan review and update

The Council has commenced an update of the Local Plan. At present the new Local Plan will cover the period up to 2040. The purpose of a review is to take account of changing circumstances affecting the area, as well as any relevant changes in national policy.

The Borough is required to comply with regulations and ensure its Local Plan is up to date and in conformity with the revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). This approach provides the best means of protecting valued places and spaces and resisting unwanted speculative development.

Sustainable Communities (SCs)

Within the review of the Local Plan the Council identifies three Sustainable Communities in the north of Telford & Wrekin which collectively proposes 7,900 new dwellings. The table below shows the three areas proposed.

Table 1.1: Proposed Sustainable Communities (SCs)² locations

Site	Size	Proposed use	Proposed housing numbers	Proposed employment land (gross)
Land North of A442 Wheat Leasows (Wappenshall)	253ha	Mixed use	3,100	44ha
Land North East Muxton	182ha	Mixed use	2,700	5.6ha
Land at Bratton	113ha	Mixed use	2,100	3.5ha

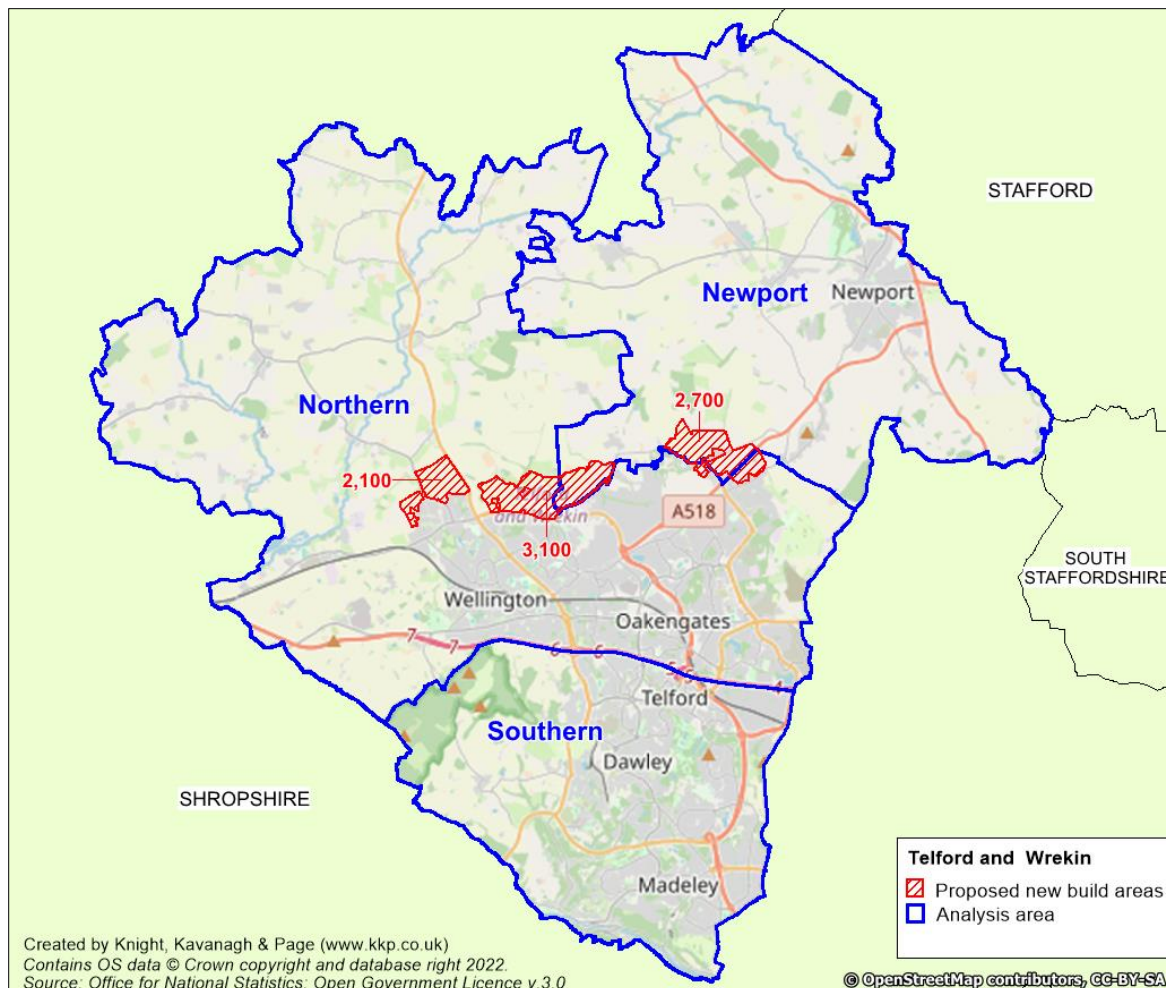
Given the size of these developments, there is going to be a need for additional sporting facilities to cater for the additional demand. The outcomes of this study will help to inform the need for outdoor sports provision.

The map below shows the location of the proposed Sustainable Communities against the analysis areas.

² [Proposed Sustainable Communities \(SC's\) - Local Plan \(telfordandwrekinlocalplan.co.uk\)](https://telfordandwrekinlocalplan.co.uk)

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Figure 1.2: Map of the proposed Sustainable Communities (SCs) including analysis areas



National context

Concern at national government level over the loss of playing fields prompted the development of localised playing pitch assessments and strategies which identify current and future requirements for playing fields. Developing a strategic approach to the analysis of playing pitch supply and demand is necessary to:

- ◆ Protect playing pitches against development pressures in, and around, urban areas.
- ◆ Identify pitch (natural grass and artificial) supply and demand issues in relation to predicated population changes.
- ◆ Address 'demand' pressures created as a result of specific sports development pressures e.g., growth of mini soccer and wider use of artificial grass pitches.
- ◆ Address budget pressures and public-sector cuts.

The Telford & Wrekin PPORS will provide an evidence base for planning decisions and funding bids and will ensure that this evidence is sound, robust and capable of being scrutinised through examination whilst meeting the requirements of the National Planning.

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National Planning Policy Framework (2024)

One of the core planning principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Section eight of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities, with Paragraph 103 stating that “planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.”

Paragraph 104 sets three criterion that ensures existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields and formal play spaces, should not be built on unless:

- a) An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- b) 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
- c) The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

Paragraphs 105, 106, and 107 set the parameters for the designation of Local Green Space. Such spaces may include playing fields and outdoor sport facilities.

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PART 2: VISION AND AIMS

Vision

A vision has been set out to provide a clear focus with desired outcomes for the PPORS.

To work with partners to create high quality, sustainable sports and recreation facilities which meet community need, increase participation and support health and wellbeing now and in the future.

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

AIM 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sport facilities where it is needed to meet current and future needs.

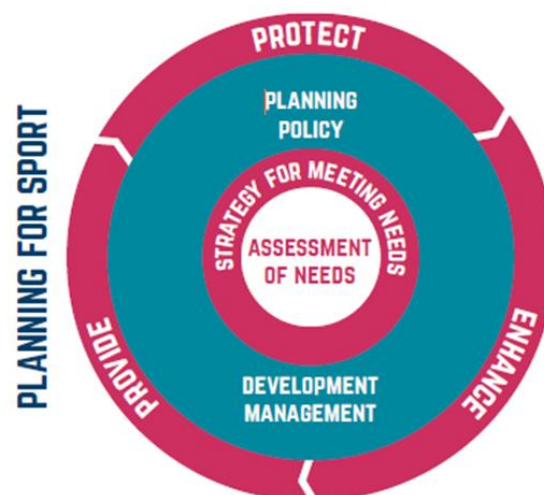
AIM 2

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

AIM 3

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

Figure 2.1: Sport England planning objectives



Source: Sport England, Planning for Sport Guidance (April 2024)

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PART 3: HEADLINE FINDINGS

The table below highlights the quantitative headline findings identified for all pitch and outdoor sports included within the scope of 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 (carrying capacity) and how much play takes place there (its current use) into the same unit of demand enables a comparison to be undertaken.

The position on future demand is established through ONS projections (2040) and information provided by the relevant national governing bodies of sport. Full details of this can be found in the preceding Assessment Report.

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 at a senior level. However, play is rotated across the wickets to reduce wear and allow for repair. Each wicket can accommodate a certain amount of play per season as opposed to a week.

The Sport England 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 4: Sport Specific Recommendations and Scenarios, and Part 6: Action Plan.

For artificial surfaces (AGPs/3G pitches), 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, whole pitches are used as the comparable unit. Similarly, for the other non-pitch sports (i.e., bowls and tennis etc) where it is not as easy to determine carrying capacity, whole facilities are used as the comparable unit.

Future demand in the Assessment report has been determined by using Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator which looks at population change over a predetermined period. For Telford & Wrekin this has been set to forecasted population rates in 2040 in line with the Council's Local Plan.

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Table 3.1: Quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Area	Pitch type	Current supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions per week)	Future supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions per week) ³
Football (grass)	-	-	-
Northern	Adult	Shortfall of 3 MES per week	Shortfall of 5.5 MES per week
Northern	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 9.5 MES per week
Northern	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week
Northern	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Northern	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week	Played to capacity
Southern	Adult	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1 MES per week
Southern	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 3 MES per week
Southern	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 2.5 MES per week
Southern	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Southern	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week	Played to capacity
Newport	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week
Newport	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 1 MES per week
Newport	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week
Newport	Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Newport	Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Adult	Shortfall of 1	Shortfall of 5.5
Telford & Wrekin	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5	Shortfall of 14
Telford & Wrekin	Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6
Telford & Wrekin	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3	Shortfall of 1.5
Telford & Wrekin	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 3	Shortfall of 0.5
Football (3G)	-	-	-
Northern	3G 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5 pitches	Shortfall of 2.5 pitches
Southern	3G 11v11	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 1 pitch
Newport	3G 11v11	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 1 pitch
Telford & Wrekin	3G 11v11	Shortfall of 3.5 pitches⁴	Shortfall of 4.5 pitches
Cricket	-	-	-
Northern	Saturday	Shortfall of 1 MES per season	Shortfall of 25 MES per season
Northern	Sunday	Shortfall of 1 MES per season	Shortfall of 1 MES per season
Northern	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 47 MES per season	Actual spare capacity of 29 MES per season
Southern	Saturday	Shortfall of 38 MES per season	Shortfall of 50 MES per season

³It should be noted that due to rounding of future demand figures, the analysis area future supply/demand balance does not always add up to the Boroughwide figure.

⁴ With the addition of the two new 3G pitches located off Waterloo Road (Newdale) (Southern Analysis Area) and Burton Borough School (Newport Analysis Area), this would reduce the current shortfall from 3.5 to 1.75 pitches and a future shortfall would be reduce from 4.5 to 2.75 pitches.

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Area	Pitch type	Current supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions per week)	Future supply/demand balance (match equivalent sessions per week) ³
Southern	Sunday	Shortfall of 38 MES per season	Shortfall of 38 MES per season
Southern	Midweek	Shortfall of 38 MES per season	Shortfall of 38 MES per season
Newport	Saturday	Shortfall of 32 MES per season	Shortfall of 56 MES per season
Newport	Sunday	Shortfall of 32 MES per season	Shortfall of 32 MES per season
Newport	Midweek	Shortfall of 32 MES per season	Shortfall of 38 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Senior (Saturday)	Shortfall of 71 per season	Shortfall of 119 per season
Telford & Wrekin	Senior (Sunday)	Shortfall of 71 per season	Shortfall of 77 per season
Telford & Wrekin	Junior (midweek)	Shortfall of 23 per season	Shortfall of 53 per season
Rugby union	-	-	-
Northern	Senior	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Southern	Senior	Shortfall of 5 MES per week	Shortfall of 6 MES per week
Newport	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 9.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Senior	Shortfall of 13	Shortfall of 16
Rugby league	-	-	-
Northern	Senior	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
Southern	Senior	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week
Newport	Senior	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
Telford & Wrekin	Senior	Shortfall of 4.5	Shortfall of 4.5
Hockey	-	-	-
Telford & Wrekin	AGP	Sufficient supply	Sufficient supply

Table 3.2: Headline findings (remaining sports)

Sport	Headline findings
Tennis	For club-based tennis, where known through consultation, both High Ercall Tennis Club and Wrekin & Telford Tennis Club have sufficient capacity to accommodate their membership both now and in the future. Away from clubs, whilst 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. Additionally, there are currently no padel tennis courts in Telford & Wrekin.
Netball	There is currently enough netball provision in Telford & Wrekin to meet current demand. However, it should be noted that netball in Telford & Wrekin is focused at education sites, whether it is outdoor or indoor, therefore securing long term community use at these sites is crucial. Additionally, with majority of courts being located at education sites this makes access difficult for netball-based initiatives such as walking netball to be established.
Bowls	Supply is considered sufficient to meet both current and future demand, with no additional greens required. Although all current demand is being accommodated, Bowring Park, Newport BC and St Georges BC are operating above recommended capacity levels and therefore need to be monitored to ensure that supply remains adequate. It should be noted that there are currently no identified quality issues at these three sites.

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Sport	Headline findings
Athletics	In Telford & Wrekin, supply (through Telford Athletics Stadium at Oakengates Leisure Centre) is considered sufficient to meet demand, with one club specialising in both track and field currently based in Telford & Wrekin (Telford Athletics Club) totalling 451 members.
Golf	With five golfing sites in Telford & Wrekin and a mix of 18-hole courses, one 9-hole course, one 27-hole course and driving ranges, the Authority is well placed to meet demand, despite there not being any dedicated Par 3 facilities. This is especially the case given the various operational structures in place, with some facilities offering a high price point and others offering a low price point, and with some prioritising membership and others focusing on pay and play usage. This suggests that all types of golfers can be collectively catered for.
Water sports	Water sports within Telford & Wrekin are well catered for through facilities such as: Priorslee Lake and the River Severn as well as a number of canals and smaller bodies of water, meaning that area is particularly well catered for when it comes to outdoor water sports given that it is not a coastal authority. This seemingly adequately caters for demand, with all associated clubs openly advertising to attract new members.
Open water swimming	There is an appropriate level of access to suitable sites for open water swimming, based on the current and future/latent levels of demand within Telford & Wrekin.
Cycling	Relative high demand for cycling is identified within Telford & Wrekin, especially when taking into account latent demand. Whilst most of this will fall outside of the club environment and will not require dedicated provision, protecting and sustaining what is provided across the six identified sites should be seen as particularly key given the off-road facilities offered. The provision at The Telford Langley School, in particular should be seen as a destination venue for BMX cyclists in the area being the only BMX Race Track in the Authority.
Angling	Given the number of angling locations across Telford & Wrekin when compared to the amount of demand (roughly 1% of the population) there is considered to be a suitable amount of provision.
American football	There is sufficient supply to meet the demand for American football in Telford & Wrekin for both competitive and training demand. As a result, it is essential that Shropshire Revolution continues to have access to the provision at Oakengates Leisure Centre and Telford College to meet its demand.
Baseball and softball	With only one club located in the Borough, Telford Baseball Club, all demand can adequately be accommodated within Telford & Wrekin. However, there is a need to improve the quality of the provision located at The Meadow Recreation Ground.
Rounders	Current supply of rounders pitches is sufficient to cater for current demand and offers sufficient capacity to accommodate curricular and extracurricular demand.

Conclusions

The existing position for all sports is either that demand is being met or that there is a shortfall. For most sports played on natural turf grass pitches there are identified shortfalls. As such, there is a clear need to protect all existing playing pitch 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 the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy.

Where demand is being met, this does not equate to a surplus of provision. Instead, any spare capacity should be considered as a solution to overcoming shortfalls or used to accommodate future demand.

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Most of the identified grass pitch shortfalls can be met by better utilising current provision, such as through improving quality, installing additional sports lighting, improving ancillary facilities, increasing match play on 3G pitches, and enabling access to existing unused provision, such as at unavailable school sites. This means that new grass pitches are not generally required, although such a need will increase if other methods of reducing deficits are not possible.

Notwithstanding the above, there is a clear quantified shortfall of 3G pitches for football training that can only be rectified through the installation of new facilities. The development of 3G pitches could also help to alleviate grass pitch shortfalls via the transfer of play.

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

4.1: Football – grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Football – supply and demand summary

- Actual spare capacity totals 20 match equivalent sessions per week across 20 pitches in Telford & Wrekin, whilst 19 pitches across 13 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 21.5 match equivalent sessions per week in Telford & Wrekin.
- There are current shortfalls across adult and youth 11v11 pitches, whilst youth 9v9 pitches are played to capacity and capacity is sufficient across mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches.
- When factoring in future demand, shortfalls increase on adult and youth 11v11 pitch types amounting to 19.5 match equivalent sessions per week, whilst a shortfall arises on youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches.

Football – supply summary

- The audit identifies a total of 134 grass football pitches within Telford & Wrekin across 56 sites, with 118 pitches across 47 sites identified as being available for community use.
- Most available pitches in the Borough are in the Northern Analysis Area (73 pitches – 62% of available pitches), followed by the Southern Analysis Area (32 pitches – 27% of available pitches).
- Tenure of football sites in Telford & Wrekin is generally secure, although not at all school sites.
- Of the pitches that are available for community use, 31 pitches (26%) are rated as good quality, 30 as standard quality (26%) and 57 as poor quality (48%).
- Four sites are receiving Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund support from the Football Foundation, Shuker Fields (Nova United), Allscott Heath Sports Club (Allscott Heath FC), The Hamer Leisure Stadium (Wellington Amateurs FC) and NC United FC (NC United).
- Four sites are identified as having poor quality changing provision located at Mercia Fields, Shuker Playing Fields, Sutton Hill Playing Fields and Crescent Road.
- Ringers Lane, Donnington Recreation Ground and Broadoaks Playing Fields are not provided with any pavilion provision.

Football – demand summary

- There are 331 teams from across 46 affiliated clubs playing regular, competitive matches on football pitches within Telford & Wrekin, with this consisting of 49 adult men's, 12 adult women's, 132 youth boys', 31 youth girls' and 107 mini teams.
- There is one team in Telford & Wrekin which compete in the men's National League System at Step 3, fielded by AFC Telford United. Also, AFC Telford United Ladies play at Tier 3 of the Women's National League System.
- Sparta FC, PSG Football Club, AFC Wrekin, Dun Cow Wellington, Lawley Lightmoor FC, Shifnal Girls FC all indicate they could field additional teams if they have access to better pitch provision, however, none of the clubs quantify a specific amount.
- Of responding clubs, 10 report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide totalling a predicted growth of 61 teams.
- Future demand from population growth projects an increase of nine adult teams, 12 youth 11v11 boys, three youth 11v11 girls' teams, seven youth 9v9 boys, two youth 9v9 girls, nine mini 7v7 and seven mini 5v5 team.

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Scenarios

Alleviating overplay/improving pitch quality

In total there are 20 pitches overplayed in Telford & Wrekin across 13 sites, equating to 21.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Improving quality of these pitches (i.e., through increased maintenance or improved drainage) will increase capacity at the sites and consequently reduce both current and future shortfalls.

To illustrate the above, Table 4.1 highlights the current levels of overplay that would be alleviated if quality improved by one increment at each site. As a reminder, the capacity rating for each type and quality rating as detailed in the table below:

Adult pitch quality	Adult matches per week	Youth pitch quality	Youth matches per week	Mini pitch quality	Mini matches per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

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Table 4.1: Overplay if all pitches were improved by one increment standard quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Capacity rating (MES)	Improved quality (by one increment)	Capacity rating (MES)	Discounted actual spare capacity (MES)
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	Northern	Adult	1	Poor	1.5	Standard	0.5	-
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	Northern	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	1.5	Good	0.5	-
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	Northern	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	1	Good	1	-
5	Bowring Park	Northern	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	0.5	Standard	0.5	-
6	Broad Oaks Playing Fields	Northern	Adult	1	Poor	1.5	Standard	0.5	-
7	Charlton Secondary School	Northern	Youth 11v11	2	Poor	2	Standard	0	-
7	Charlton Secondary School	Northern	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1.5	Standard	0.5	-
9	Doseley Road Playing Field	Southern	Adult	1	Standard	1	Good	0	-
12	Edmond Playing Fields	Newport	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	0.5	Standard	0.5	-
25	Ketley Bank	Northern	Adult	2	Poor	1	Standard	1	-
25	Ketley Bank	Northern	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1.5	Standard	0.5	-
28	Lawley Primary School	Southern	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	Standard	1	-
36	Madeley Barn Football Pitch	Southern	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	0.5	Standard	0.5	-
42	NC United FC	Northern	Adult	1	Poor	1	Standard	0	-
42	NC United FC	Northern	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	1.5	Standard	0.5	-
71	Stirchley Playing Fields	Southern	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	1.5	Standard	0.5	-
74	Telford College	Northern	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	0.5	Good	1.5	-
76	The Telford Langley School	Southern	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	1	Good	1	-
76	The Telford Langley School	Southern	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	2	Standard	1	-

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The impact of improving overplayed by one increment is shown in the table above. In the main, overplay would be alleviated across nine sites providing 11 pitches, leaving four pitches played to capacity located at Charlton Secondary School, Doseley Road Playing Fields and NC United FC. Although the quality improvements increase the capacity across seven pitches, no additional peak time spare capacity is created for additional play.

Table 4.2: 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	Exported demand	Total
Adult	5	6	1	4.5	-	5.5
Youth 11v11	1	7.5	6.5	7.5	-	14
Youth 9v9	7	7	0	4.5	1.5	6
Mini 7v7	4	1	3	4.5	-	1.5
Mini 5v5	3	0	3	3.5	-	0.5
If improvements are made						
Adult	5	1	4	4.5	-	0.5
Youth 11v11	1	0.5	0.5	7.5	-	7
Youth 9v9	7	2	5	4.5	1.5	1
Mini 7v7	4	-	4	4.5	-	0.5
Mini 5v5	3	-	3	3.5	-	0.5

As seen in the table above, if quality was improved by one increment, overplay would be reduced resulting in actual spare capacity identified across all pitch types. Shortfalls would still remain when factoring in future demand however these would be less, particularly on adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitch types.

This table below illustrates the position if all overplayed pitches in Telford & Wrekin, were improved to good quality. This is the highest threshold a pitch can score. As can be seen, overplay would be alleviated across all 13 sites providing 21 pitches.

Table 4.3: Overplay if all pitches were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Current quality	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES)	Good quality rating (MES)	Discounted actual spare capacity (MES)
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	Northern	Poor	Adult	1	1.5	0.5	-
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	Northern	Standard	Youth 11v11	1	1.5	0.5	-
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	Northern	Standard	Youth 9v9	1	1	1	-
5	Bowring Park	Northern	Poor	Youth 9v9	1	0.5	2.5	-
6	Broad Oaks Playing Fields	Northern	Poor	Adult	1	1.5	0.5	-
7	Charlton Secondary School	Northern	Poor	Youth 11v11	2	2	4	-
7	Charlton Secondary School	Northern	Poor	Youth 9v9	1	1.5	1.5	-

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Current quality	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES)	Good quality rating (MES)	Discounted actual spare capacity (MES)
9	Doseley Road Playing Field	Southern	Standard	Adult	1	1	0	-
12	Edgmond Playing Fields	Newport	Poor	Youth 11v11	1	0.5	2.5	-
25	Ketley Bank	Northern	Poor	Adult	2	1	3	-
25	Ketley Bank	Northern	Poor	Youth 9v9	1	1.5	1.5	-
28	Lawley Primary School	Southern	Poor	Mini 7v7	1	1	3	-
36	Madeley Barn Football Pitch	Southern	Poor	Youth 9v9	1	0.5	2.5	-
42	NC United FC	Northern	Poor	Adult	1	1	1	-
42	NC United FC	Northern	Poor	Youth 11v11	1	0.5	1.5	-
71	Stirchley Playing Fields	Southern	Poor	Youth 11v11	1	1.5	1.5	-
74	Telford College	Northern	Standard	Youth 11v11	1	0.5	1.5	-
76	The Telford Langley School	Southern	Standard	Youth 11v11	1	1	1	-
76	The Telford Langley School	Southern	Poor	Youth 9v9	1	2	1	-

The impact of improving overplayed pitches to good quality is shown in the table above. In the main, overplay would be alleviated across all 13 sites providing 21 pitches, leaving one pitch played to capacity located at Doseley Road Playing Field. Although quality improvements increase the capacity by either reducing or eliminating overplay, no peak time spare capacity is created to accommodate additional play.

Table 4.4: 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	Exported demand	Total
Adult	5	6	1	4.5	-	5.5
Youth 11v11	1	7.5	6.5	7.5	-	14
Youth 9v9	7	7	0	4.5	1.5	6
Mini 7v7	4	1	3	4.5	-	1.5
Mini 5v5	3	0	3	3.5	-	0.5
If improvements are made						
Adult	5	-	5	4.5	-	0.5
Youth 11v11	1	-	1	7.5	-	6.5
Youth 9v9	7	-	7	4.5	1.5	1
Mini 7v7	4	-	4	4.5	-	0.5
Mini 5v5	3	-	3	3.5	-	0.5

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As seen in the table above, if quality was improved to good, all overplay would be removed across adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches with actual spare capacity identified across all pitch types. Shortfalls would still remain when factoring in future demand however these would be less, particularly on youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitch types.

Reinstating disused pitches

As mentioned in the proceeding Assessment Report there are a number of disused sites across Telford & Wrekin. All disused provision is summarised in the table below.

Table 4.5: Summary of disused provision within Telford & Wrekin

Site ID	APP ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Comments
22	30007512	Hollinswood Primary School and Nursery	TF3 2EP	Southern	Disused provision - Previously had one youth 11v11 football pitch marked.
41	30008456	Millbrook Primary School	TF1 6UJ	Northern	Disused provision - Previously had two mini 7v7 football pitch marked.
60	6002025	Rodington Playing Fields	SY4 4QS	Northern	Disused provision - Previously had one adult pitch marked.
61	30010754	Short Wood Primary School	TF1 2JA	Northern	Disused provision - Previously had one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 football pitch marked.
67	30004273	St Lawrence CE VC Primary School	TF6 6DH	Newport	Disused provision - Previously had one mini 7v7 football pitch marked.
69	30006086	St Peter and St Paul Catholic Primary School	TF10 7HU	Newport	Disused provision - Previously had one mini 5v5 football pitch marked.
87	30009756	Windmill Primary School	TF3 1LG	Southern	Disused provision - Previously had one mini 7v7 football pitch marked.

The table below examines what the impact would be on the overall supply and demand analysis if all these pitches were brought back into use established to a minimum of standard quality with secured tenure.

Table 4.6: Impact on supply and demand balance from reinstating disused provision

Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
Adult	Shortfall of 1 MES per week	Played to capacity
Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 5.5 MES per week
Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 8 MES per week
Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 5 MES per week

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As seen in the table above, if all disused pitches were to be reinstated, this would alleviate shortfalls on adult pitches and increase actual spare capacity across mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches. Shortfalls will remain on youth 11v11 pitches but would reduce to 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Future demand

This scenario considers the impact that future demand derived from club ambitions could have on the supply and demand balance (as identified via consultation with clubs throughout the Borough). Please note that the Assessment Report only considers future demand derived from population projection growth.

Table 4.7: Summary of team growth aspirations by analysis area

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Totals
Newport	-	-	-	-	-	0
Northern	3	8	8.5	-	4	23.5
Southern	2.5	-	2	-	2.5	7
Telford & Wrekin	5.5	8	10.5	0	6.5	30.5

Future demand from club ambitions totals 61 teams from 10 clubs which exceeds the projected growth from population demand identified in the preceding Assessment Report. The table below shows the potential impact on the supply/demand balance by analysis area.

Table 4.8: Impact of future demand from clubs in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Current supply/demand balance	Potential future demand (club aspirations)	Potential future supply/demand balance
Adult	1	5.5	6.5
Youth 11v11	6.5	8	14.5
Youth 9v9	0	10.5	10.5
Mini 7v7	3	-	3
Mini 5v5	3	6.5	3.5

If achieved, future demand from clubs will exacerbate shortfalls on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. Additionally, a shortfall arises on mini 5v5 pitches with mini 7v7 pitches continuing to show actual spare capacity amounting to three match equivalent sessions.

Loss of access to unsecure sites

The table below outlines sites in Telford & Wrekin which are accessed by community clubs where tenure is considered to be unsecure.

Table 4.9: Demand taking place on grass pitches at unsecure sites

Site	Club	Teams
Charlton Secondary School	Ercall Colts Juniors	18 teams
Lawley Primary School	Lawley Lightmoor	11 teams
Telford College	Admaston Juniors	One team
	AFC Telford United	Six teams
	Algarve Touring Legends	One team
	Ercall Colts Juniors	One team
	Meresiders	One team

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Site	Club	Teams
	NC United FC Park Rangers FC Shifnal Town FC Midweek Telford College Wrekin Juniors Autonomy FC	One team One team One team Three teams Seven teams One team
The Telford Langley School	AFC Telford United AFC Wrekin Bulls Head Dawley Town FC Dawley Wanderers Juniors Ercall Colts Juniors Lawley Lighmoor NC United FC Rose & Crown Sparta FC The Unicorn FC Madeley Sports	11 teams One team One team Two team Two teams Two teams One teams One team One team One team One team One team
Wrockwardine Wood Junior School	Wrockwardine Wood Juniors	Eight teams

In instances where clubs do not have formal tenure agreements in place, clubs could theoretically be asked to vacate at any time which would result in each requiring alternate provision to service existing levels of demand.

There are 86 teams from 21 clubs accessing five sites with unsecure tenure. The impact on removal of five sites for community access is highlighted in the table below.

Table 4.10: Current supply and demand balance without unsecure sites

Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
Adult	Shortfall of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 12 MES per week
Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 13.5 MES per week
Youth 9v9	Sufficient supply	Shortfall of 4 MES per week
Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Shortfall of 3.5 MES per week
Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Shortfall of 1 MES per week

As can be seen, if all access to unsecure sites was to be lost, shortfalls increase on adult and youth 11v11 pitches, with shortfalls arising on youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitch formats. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure the grass pitches at unsecure sites continue to stay open to community use, given the reliance upon these sites for community football. Site owners should also be encouraged and supported to formalise longer term lease agreements with clubs to further secure long-term access.

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Potential future supply

As mentioned in the proceeding Assessment Report there are a number of potential new pitches to be created as part of ongoing planning application across Telford & Wrekin. These are:

- ◆ Newdale development – at least one youth 9v9 (phase one).
- ◆ Castle Farm Way – one mini 7v7, two mini 5v5 and two adult pitches.
- ◆ Allscott Heath Sports Club – two mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 pitches.
- ◆ Ironbridge Power Station – one mini 7v7 and one youth 9v9 pitch.

Although Ironbridge Power Station is located in Shropshire, it borders the Southern Analysis Area and therefore could be used to reduce shortfalls in Telford & Wrekin. Additionally, it's currently planned for Sparta FC to use this site.

The table below examine what the impact would be on the overall supply and demand analysis if all these pitches were established to a minimum of standard quality with secured tenure.

Table 4.11: Impact on supply and demand balance from potential future supply

Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance	Potential supply/ demand balance
Adult	Shortfall of 1 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week
Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 6.5 MES per week
Youth 9v9	Sufficient supply	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week
Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 7 MES per week
Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 6 MES per week

As seen in the table above, if all new pitches were to be developed, this would alleviate shortfalls on adult pitches and increase actual spare capacity across youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches. Shortfalls will remain on youth 11v11 pitches as no new youth 11v11 pitches are expected to be developed.

Partner Use Agreement/long term lease options

Providing clubs with long term tenure at sites through either long-term leases or Partner Use Agreements (PUA) can be beneficial for both landowners and clubs. These options are explored in greater detail in Part 5: Strategic Recommendations.

For football, Nova United and Randlay Colts Juniors FC are in the process of negotiating long term lease agreements with the Council for Shaker Playing Fields and Elms Playing Fields, respectively.

No other clubs identify ambition to take on long term leases or PUAs at the sites they utilise, however, some frustrations were identified where clubs use parks and recreation grounds which have a primary use as open space. This includes issues with pitch/changing room quality and pitches being prone to damage from public use, including things such as litter and dog foul.

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Although there could be more opportunity for clubs leasing these sites to secure funding to improve the facilities, it is often the case that clubs using these sites are smaller one/two team clubs that are likely not operationally equipped or resourced to taking on long term leases or a partner use agreement. Further to this many multi-functional sites are not appropriate to provide long term leases or partner use agreements on due to being part of a wider open space for example.

Although these sites have the potential for a long-term lease or PUA more research is required to understand the feasibility of such a decision and wider implications. As mentioned more specific details can be found in Part 5: Strategic Recommendations.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect the existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision meets NPPF and Sport England Playing Field Policy requirements and is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ 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.
- ◀ Further explore the feasibility of offering specific strategic sites for long term lease or PUA if agreeable with relevant stakeholders such as FF and SFA.
- ◀ Utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to assist in the improvement and ongoing maintenance of provision.
- ◀ Work to accommodate future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity.
- ◀ Work to alleviate identified overplay on grass football pitches, particularly those at adult and youth 11v11 pitch format, through improvement of pitch quality and/or transfer demand to 3G pitches, underutilised or newly accessible sites.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer, prioritising club-led sites, multi-pitch sites and sites which play key strategic roles for adult football and women and girls' participation.
- ◀ Given the substantial number of teams accessing sites with unsecure tenure (86 teams from 21 clubs), where appropriate, help to formalise long term usage agreements with clubs to further secure long-term access especially at education sites.
- ◀ Assist in the creation of new provision to a good quality and guarantee secured access for community users through formal agreements (for example PUA).
- ◀ Monitor future growth levels to determine when and where new grass pitches may be required.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis. Refer to Part 7: Housing Growth Scenarios.
- ◀ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site football provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality directed by the needs evidenced in the PPORS to ensure they meet a strategic need.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls.
- ◀ Support clubs currently competing within the Regional Feeder League to Step 6 (Newport Town, Dawley Town, NC United, Wrockwardine Wood and Telford Town football clubs) with facility developments when required to meet league requirements.

4.2: Third Generation turf (3G) pitches

Assessment Report summary

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

3G pitches – supply and demand summary

- ▶ Based on current demand, there is a clear shortfall of 11v11 3G pitches to meet football training requirements, with this being relatively significant and identified in each analysis areas.
- ▶ There is also evidence to warrant the creation of additional World Rugby compliant 3G provision given the grass pitch shortfalls evident as this could be a solution to alleviating the deficits.
- ▶ For other sports, rugby league activity on 3G pitch provision also needs to be protected with accessibility and usage issues examined.

3G pitches – supply summary

- ▶ In total, there are eight 11v11 size and nine smaller size 3G pitches identified, although three 11v11 3G pitches and three smaller size pitches are unavailable for community use.
- ▶ All unavailable pitches are located at educational sites, with these being Madeley Academy, Thomas Telford School, Hadley Learning Community and the Grange Park Primary School.
- ▶ Most provision is located in the Northern Analysis Area with nine pitches, whilst the Southern Analysis Area provides eight. No 3G pitches are currently identified in the Newport Analysis Area. The three 11v11 size pitches that are not available for community use are located in the Southern Analysis Area.
- ▶ A planning application (TWC/2022/0581) has been approved for a new small sided 3G pitch with sports lighting located at Old Park Primary School, TF3 2BF.
- ▶ A planning application has been approved for a 11v11 3G pitch which will be both rugby build and rugby compliant located at Burton Borough School. It is proposed for Newport Salop RUFC to be the rugby partner and to have a total of five hours pitch usage a week for training.
- ▶ In Telford & Wrekin, the 3G pitches located at Holy Trinity Academy, New Road Academy (Oakengates Leisure Centre), Telford College, The Telford Langley School, Telford Snowboard & Ski Centre (Madeley 3G) and Thomas Telford School are all on The FA's 3G Pitch Register.
- ▶ There is one 11v11 3G pitch located at The Telford Langley School which currently meets the training and competitive demand from Telford Raiders Rugby League Club.
- ▶ Majority of the 11v11 3G pitches (6/8 or 88%) are managed by education providers, with The New Road Academy (Oakengates Leisure Centre), Telford Snowboard & Ski Centre (Madeley 3G) and The Telford Langley School managed by the Telford & Wrekin Leisure (TW Leisure).
- ▶ In regard to the community available smaller sized provision, four pitches are managed through a sports club (AFC Telford United) and five by an educational provider.
- ▶ In Telford & Wrekin, five 11v11 3G pitches are assessed as good quality, whilst the pitches located at Telford College, The Telford Langley School and Thomas Telford School are assessed as standard quality due to the age of the surface.
- ▶ In addition to above, there are eight good quality and one poor quality smaller size 3G pitch with the latter located at Hadley Learning Community.

3G pitches – demand summary

- ▶ The 3G pitches currently servicing Telford & Wrekin are broadly reported to be operating at or close to capacity at peak times, especially during winter months.
- ▶ Currently, it is considered that most of the community-based activity on 3G pitches is football related, but some rugby league activity has been identified as well.
- ▶ Based on 333 teams currently being based in Telford & Wrekin, there is a theoretical need for nine 11v11 3G pitches (rounded up from 8.8). As there are currently 5.5 pitch equivalents provided, this means that there is a potential need for 3.5 additional 11v11 3G pitches to meet all current training demand.
- ▶ When considering future demand of an additional 46 teams (based on growth identified in Part 2 of this report), there is potential demand for 10 11v11 3G pitches, meaning a theoretical future shortfall of 4.5 pitches.
- ▶ Shortfalls have been identified in all three analysis areas.
- ▶ If the proposed two new 11v11 3G pitch developments are to be established at Newdale and Burton Borough School, this will deliver 1.75 additional 11v11 pitch equivalents (Burton Borough School would account for 0.75 due to proposed rugby usage) in the Newport Analysis Area and in return remove the current shortfall of one pitch. Furthermore, across Telford & Wrekin the shortfall would reduce from 3.5 to 1.75 pitches.

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- In Telford & Wrekin, five 11v11 3G pitches are FA/FIFA approved and, on the FA 3G Pitch Register to host competitive matches and 36 affiliated teams are registered as using the provision for regular match play.

Scenarios

Accommodating football training demand

In order to satisfy current football training demand (based on the FA's scenario of one 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalent being able to cater for 38 community football teams) there is a need for 3.5 11v11 size equivalent 3G pitches to accommodate all training demand in Telford & Wrekin as seen below.

Table 4.13: Current demand for 11v11 3G pitches by analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	11v11 size 3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Theoretical shortfall
Newport	34	0.89 - 1	0	1
Northern	202	5.11 - 5	3.5	1.5
Southern	97	2.55 - 3	2	1
Telford & Wrekin	333	8.8 – 9	5.5	3.5

The highest need for 3G pitches is in the Northern Analysis Area where there is a shortfall in each of 1.5 11v11 pitches.

The table below shows the impact of providing new 3G pitch provision at Burton Borough School (funding granted, Newport Analysis Area) and new 3G pitch provision located off Waterloo Road (TF3 5AQ) as part of the Newdale development (planning approved, Southern Analysis Area) against the current and anticipated future number of teams.

For the purpose of this scenario the 3G pitch at Burton Borough School will account for 0.75 of a pitch due to programmed use from Newport (Salop) RUFC leaving roughly 80% of the programme available for affiliated football training. In total, the below tables will show the impact of an additional 1.75 pitches.

Table 4.14: Current supply impact for an additional 1.75 3G pitches in Telford & Wrekin (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	11v11 3G pitch requirement	Future number of 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents	Current shortfall
333	9 (8.8)	7.25	1.75

Table 4.15: Future supply impact for an additional 1.75 3G pitches in Telford & Wrekin (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	11v11 3G pitch requirement	Future number of 11v11 size 3G pitches equivalents	Future shortfall
382	10	7.25	2.75

Table 4.16: Current demand for 3G pitches in Telford & Wrekin by analysis area against future supply impact for an additional 1.75 3G pitches

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Analysis area	Current number of teams	11v11 3G pitch requirement	Future number of 11v11 3G pitches	Current shortfall
Newport	34	0.89 - 1	0.75	0.25
Northern	202	5.11 - 5	3.5	1.5
Southern	97	2.55 - 3	3	0
Telford & Wrekin	333	8.8 – 9	7.5	1.75

If both new 3G pitches are developed, this would reduce the current shortfall of 11v11 3G pitches from 3.5 to 1.75 pitches meeting current shortfalls in the Southern analysis area. There is still a clear need to develop new 3G pitches to alleviate known shortfalls especially in the Northern Analysis Areas.

Although located in the Southern Analysis Area, there is a need to explore gaining access to the 11v11 3G pitches located at Madeley Academy and Thomas Telford School which are currently unavailable for community use. Establishing community use could alleviate some demand on other pitches which are easily accessible to the Northern and Newport analysis areas and help meet grass pitch shortfalls.

Moving football mini match play demand to 3G pitches

To further the use of 3G pitches for matches, the FA is particularly keen to work with local authorities and providers within local authorities to understand the potential demand for 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitches to cater for different formats of match play.

The FA has an ambition to transfer 50% of mini play on to 3G pitches nationally. Thus, a programme of play has been created for Telford & Wrekin to determine how many 3G pitches would be required to accommodate this, given that peak time for both mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 football is Saturday mornings.

Table 4.17: 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 mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 matches, the overall need is for six (rounded up from 5.87) 11v11 size 3G pitches to accommodate all current mini match play demand. This is calculated based on 60 teams playing 7v7 football and 47 teams playing 5v5 football at peak time.

Therefore, with five 11v11 size pitches in Telford & Wrekin, this scenario cannot currently be achieved with a need for an additional one pitch. However, considering the two new additional 11v11 3G pitches (Burton Borough School and off Waterloo Road) this scenario can be achieved if programming is agreed.

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

World Rugby (WR) compliant/RFL Community 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. Additionally, pitches of this nature are also can be tested to support rugby league activity.

There is one WR/RFL Community compliant 3G pitch in Telford & Wrekin located at The Telford Langley School.

Rugby union

The RFU generally support the development of 3G pitches which support rugby union where grass rugby pitches are over capacity and where a pitch would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local clubs and education establishments.

Locally, shortfalls are identified for rugby union pitches across all analysis areas amounting to 13 match equivalent sessions per week largely due to training demand. Newport (Salop) RUFC is identified with the most overplay amounting to 7.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

As mentioned above, there is one World Rugby/RFL Community compliant 3G pitch located at The Telford Langley School. However, it's planned for a new 3G pitch to be created at Burton Borough School which will be WR Reg 22 compliant. It's proposed that Newport (Salop) RUFC will be the rugby partner and access 20% of the midweek programme usage.

Rugby league

3G pitches for rugby league are classed as either RFL Community or RFL Stadium. RFL Community is suitable for Tiers 4-6 and training. If used for competitive games they should be tested every two years, and if it is only used for training only then every three years. RFL Stadium pitches are considered suitable for match play use in Tiers 1-3 and should be retested annually if used for competitive games. More information can be found in Section 5 and here: [Materials Science Consultants Ltd.](#)

The WR test complies with the RFL Community element of this, but the frequency of retest is different should the 3G be used for competitive rugby league. The RFL Stadium criteria requires an additional test.

Telford Raiders RLFC currently use the World Rugby/RFL Community compliant 3G pitch located at The Telford Langley School for some of its training demand as well as the adjacent grass pitch, with all its match demand located on a dual use grass pitch which is shared with the rugby union club Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club. It should be noted that this pitch is currently overplayed by 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week due to heavy usage.

This pitch is currently not used to cater for match demand from Telford Raiders due to the fact that the runoffs behind the in-goal areas aren't compliant for rugby league but also the lack of social space onsite which is key on match days. Continued access for the Club should be secured with options explored to how, if possible, training demand can return to the 3G rather than the grass pitches.

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Recommendations

- ◆ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◆ Work with relevant partners to deliver the two additional 3G pitches (off Waterloo Road and Burton Borough School) in the Borough to cater for football training demand.
- ◆ Work with partners such as the FA, FF, RFL, RFU, Sport England and other NGBs as applicable to identify the most suitable locations to build new 3G pitches to alleviate known shortfalls especially in the Northern Analysis Area.
- ◆ Ensure that any new 3G pitches have community use agreements in place.
- ◆ Ensure that all 11v11 and small size pitches of substantial area are on the FA 3G Pitch Register and are re-tested every three years/annually as required to sustain certification.
- ◆ Ensure all current and future providers have in place a pitch replacement fund to ensure long-term sustainability.
- ◆ Ensure that all new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA quality performance standards.
- ◆ Look to increase the number of 3G pitches within the Northern Analysis Area by using the findings from the PPORS to meet football training demand.
- ◆ Look to transfer mini demand from grass pitches to 3G in line with the FA ambition for 50% of all mini match play to take place on 3G pitches (where it is appropriate to do so).
- ◆ Engage with 3G providers to replace halogen sports lighting to LED systems to improve energy efficiency, reduce costs and reduce light spill.
- ◆ Explore opportunities for multi-sport use and cross sport compliancy of 3G pitches where new are required, to help meet shortfalls for rugby league, rugby union and other pitch sports where present.
- ◆ Work with Shropshire FA and the Football Foundation to update the current LFFP.
- ◆ Explore relocation opportunities for Shropshire FA at potential sites across the County. The offices are currently at a non-sport location and the CFA is looking to move to a site which offers a 3G pitch with ancillary and office facilities to be able to host and run activity direct onsite.

4.3: Cricket pitches

Assessment Report summary

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, Sundays and midweek cricket.
- ◆ When accounting for future demand for senior and junior cricket in Telford & Wrekin shortfalls is exacerbated further.

Supply summary

- ◆ In total, there are 16 grass wicket cricket squares in Telford & Wrekin, provided across 11 sites. All but two cricket squares are available for community use. The two cricket squares which are unavailable for community use are located at Haberdashers' Adams Grammar.
- ◆ There are nine non turf pitches (NTPs) in Telford & Wrekin. Five accompany existing squares at club sites and four are located as standalone facilities.
- ◆ Within Telford & Wrekin most clubs own or lease their home grounds and therefore are known to have secure tenure. Harper CC currently rents their site located at Harper Adams University College which has unsecure tenure.
- ◆ The audit of grass wicket cricket squares in Telford & Wrekin found 10 (62%) to be good quality, three (19%) to be of standard quality and three (19%) assessed as poor quality.
- ◆ The audit of NTPs in Telford & Wrekin found two to be good quality, four standard quality and three poor quality NTPs.
- ◆ The audit of ancillary facilities at community available grass pitch cricket sites in Telford & Wrekin determines that three squares (20%) are accompanied by good quality provision, eight squares (53%) are accompanied by standard quality provision and four squares (27%) have poor quality supporting ancillary provision located at Edgmond Playing Fields, Lilleshall Cricket Club, Madeley Cricket Club and Newport Cricket Club.

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

- Only Allscott Heath Sports Club provides dedicated women's and girls' changing provision.
- Demand summary**
- In Telford & Wrekin, there are eight clubs generating a total of 66 teams broken down as 30 senior men's teams, six senior women's teams, 25 junior boys' and five junior girls' teams.
 - Most teams in Telford & Wrekin play in the Northern Analysis Area which accommodates 36 teams and just over half of the cricket participation (55%), followed by the Newport Analysis Area with 22 teams (33%). The least number of teams is in the Southern analysis areas with eight teams (12%).
 - In Telford & Wrekin, there is a total six women's teams, and five junior girls' teams provided across seven clubs with only Harpers CC currently not providing any women's or girls teams.
 - There are six additional teams expected to be generated by population growth alone for Telford & Wrekin.
 - Of the responding clubs in Telford & Wrekin, seven quantified their aspirations to increase levels of participation. This equates to a total predicted growth of two senior men's, three senior women's, five junior boys' and two junior girls' team.

Scenarios

Addressing overplay

Although a regular, sufficient maintenance regime can sustain sites with minimal levels of overplay a reduction in play is recommended to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality of cricket squares over time.

In Telford & Wrekin, overplay is identified at five sites across five squares. The scenario below looks at the impacts of quality improvements as a solution to reducing or alleviating overplay. As a reminder, for good quality squares, capacity is five matches per grass wicket per season, whilst for a standard quality square, capacity is four matches per wicket per season. For poor quality squares, no capacity is considered to exist as such provision is not deemed safe for play. Two squares are identified as poor quality in Telford & Wrekin located at Bowring Park and Harper Adams University College.

Of the overplayed squares, two squares are assessed as good quality meaning the current position will not change. However, two squares are assessed as standard quality and two as poor quality which means the position could be improved. The impact of improving the quality of these squares to good, where each wicket has a theoretical capacity of five match equivalent sessions per season, is considered in the table below.

Table 4.18: Impact on overplay if all overplayed squares were improved to good quality

Site ID	Site name	Club	No. of squares	Square quality	No. of wickets	Current overplay (MES)	Potential position (MES)
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	Allscott Heath CC	1	Good	12	1	1
12	Edmond Playing Fields	Priorslee CC/Lilleshall CC	1	Standard	8	1	7
18	Harper Adams University College	Harper CC	1	Poor	4	17	3
32	Lilleshall Cricket Club	Lilleshall CC	1	Standard	10	10	0
37	Madeley Cricket Club	Madeley CC	1	Poor	10	38	12
46	Newport Cricket Club	Newport CC	1	Good	10	4	4

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As seen in the table above, two squares across two sites would continue to be overplayed due to already being assessed as good quality and remain overplayed due to high levels of demand.

The squares located at Edgmond Playing Fields, Harper Adams University College and Madeley Cricket Club would see overplay alleviated and spare capacity of 22 match equivalent sessions per season collectively created.

Cricket squares can be accompanied by non-turf pitches (NTPs), made of a synthetic material that allows users to play on a usable wicket all year round whilst not contributing towards playing demand on natural turf wickets (grass wickets).

By the nature of its design, an NTP can accommodate significantly more demand than a natural cricket wicket, meaning it can contribute towards addressing overplay issues on grass cricket squares.

The squares located at Allscott Heath Sports Club, Edgmond Playing Fields, Harper Adams University College and Newport Cricket Club are not serviced by an NTP, and all could theoretically benefit from such provision as a way of reducing identified overplay particularly for some midweek league demand. However, further investigation is required to fully determine whether an NTP would fit on the square at each site. Lilleshall Cricket Club has an accompanying NTP provided, meaning it should look to increase the use of its NTP for junior teams as to reduce overplay.

The ECB highlights that non-turf pitches which follow its TS6 guidance⁵ on performance standards are suitable for high level, senior play and are considered able to take 60 matches per season, although this may include training sessions via the use of mobile nets. Typically, however, play would be more suited to junior teams as senior leagues typically stipulate the use of natural turf wickets.

Accommodating future demand

In Telford & Wrekin, seven clubs expressed aspirations to increase teams at specific ages. As seen in the table below.

Table 4.19: Future demand expressed by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls
Allscott Heath CC	Northern	1	1	2	1
Harpers CC	Newport	-	-	1	-
Lilleshall CC	Newport	-	1	-	1
Madeley CC	Southern	-	-	1	-
Newport CC	Newport	-	1	-	-
Priorslee CC	Newport	1	-	-	-
St Georges CC	Northern	-	-	1	-
-	Total	2	3	5	2

A junior boys' or girls' team, in Telford & Wrekin is likely to have six matches per season at home and therefore six additional match equivalent sessions per season are required at Harpers CC, Lilleshall CC, Madeley CC, St Georges CC and Allscott Heath CC with the latter required to provide 18 match equivalent sessions per season in order to cater for this additional demand.

⁵ <http://www.cag.org.uk/docs/ecb-non-turf-pitches-ts6-final-328.pdf>

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Additionally, for senior cricket a team is likely to have 12 matches per session at home and therefore 12 additional match equivalent sessions per season are required at Lilleshall CC, Newport CC, Priorslee CC and Allscott Heath CC with the latter required to provide 24 match equivalent sessions per season in order to cater for this additional demand.

At present only future demand aspirations from St Georges CC could adequately be accommodated at St Georges Sports & Social Club. All the remaining club sites are overplayed and therefore, could not currently cater for additional demand.

East Shropshire Midweek League

Cricket Shropshire is creating a new midweek evening league which is being established in Shropshire for 2025 to serve clubs in the East of the Country, this will likely include most of the Telford & Wrekin based clubs. It's hoped the creation of this league will result in less of a logistical challenge for those clubs which want to play midweek cricket. The new midweek league will create more demand throughout Telford & Wrekin, therefore, adding more pressure on the current supply of cricket pitches. Seven expressions of interest from local clubs have currently been submitted.

Accommodating girls' demand

The Assessment Report has accounted for future demand by using team generation rates applying population projections to 2040. It identifies that there shall be the growth of four senior men's teams, one senior women's team, four junior boys' teams and one junior girls' team.

As demand figures are not currently as high for women's and girls, the team generation rate method of measuring future demand does not capture the anticipated growth that is expected to take place over the next five years.

The ECB has recently established a target of trebling the number of female teams across the Country by 2026/2027, with this therefore likely to further increase in demand across the Authority. To quantify this, with six senior women's and five junior girls' teams fielded in the Authority, with this coming from Allscott Heath CC, Lilleshall CC, Priorslee CC, Madeley CC, Newport CC, St Georges CC and Wellington CC. This could increase to 33 teams by 2026/2027.

As girls' demand commonly takes place either Sunday or midweek, the sites listed below showing spare capacity for midweek demand should be prioritised for accommodating additional fixtures:

- ◆ St Georges Sports & Social Club.
- ◆ Wellington Cricket Club.

It should be noted that there is currently no spare capacity for additional Sunday demand.

This will place further pressure on the shortfalls for Sunday cricket and shortfalls will arise for midweek cricket, as this is when girl's demand commonly takes place. Therefore, without improvements to existing provision or via the establishment of new provision this level of demand cannot currently be accommodated.

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Recommendations

- ◆ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares.
- ◆ Improve quality at sites assessed as standard or poor quality and ensure quality is sustained at sites assessed as good through partnership working with Cricket Shropshire.
- ◆ Work with relevant partners to find suitable locations for new grass cricket square provision to meet current and future demand.
- ◆ Following the creation of the new midweek cricket league (East Shropshire Midweek League), all new demand needs to be monitored to ensure the current supply is adequately accommodating the demand.
- ◆ Install additional NTPs to accompany grass wicket squares (where space allows), particularly where overplay is present and where it cannot be eradicated via quality improvements such as Allscott Heath Sports Club and Newport CC.
- ◆ Pursue improved security of tenure for clubs without ownership or a long-term lease arrangement in place (such as Harper CC), particularly those engaging in lease renewals.
- ◆ Improve the changing and ancillary facilities where there is a need to do so including facilities located at Lilleshall Cricket Club, Newport Cricket Club and Edgmond Playing Fields with the latter close to condemned status which would see at least three teams on Saturdays and midweek without facilities.
- ◆ Consider options to improve stock of suitable practice facilities located at Lilleshall Cricket Club, Madeley Cricket Club and Newport Cricket Club.
- ◆ Continue to support ECB initiatives such as All Stars and Dynamos.
- ◆ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◆ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◆ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls.

4.4: Rugby union - grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Rugby union – supply and demand summary

- ◆ Despite five senior pitches displaying potential spare capacity, none are considered to provide actual spare capacity.
- ◆ There are six pitches across three sites that are overplayed by a combined 13 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◆ Overall, there is a shortfall of 13 match equivalent sessions per week to meet current demand, with this increasing to 16 match equivalent sessions when accounting for future demand.

Rugby union – supply summary

- ◆ Within Telford & Wrekin, there are 22 grass rugby union pitches identified across ten unique sites, with 15 pitches available for community use across six sites.
- ◆ Of the available pitches, the majority are identified in the Southern Analysis Area (eight), whilst four available pitches are identified in the Newport Analysis Area and three pitches in the Northern Analysis Area.
- ◆ Discussions are taking place between RFU and Football Foundation regarding the installation of a shock pad on the proposed new 11v11 3G pitch at Burton Borough School.
- ◆ All clubs have security of tenure of their home grounds via freehold or via a lease agreement.
- ◆ Of the community available pitches in Telford & Wrekin, two are assessed as good quality, 11 are assessed as standard quality and two are assessed as poor quality.
- ◆ Poor quality pitches are provided at Charlton Secondary School and Stirchley Playing Fields.

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- Both clubs have access to changing room provision for home games. The facilities at Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club are identified as standard quality facilities, whilst the provision at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club is poor quality.
- Although assessed as standard quality, Newport (Salop) RUFC reports its facilities need improving to cater for women and girls' players as currently both male and female games can't be played simultaneously. This is an aspiration for the Club as well as growing women's and girls' participation.
- In addition, the changing provision located at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club is assessed as poor quality and needs updating as it currently doesn't meet the standard requirements.

Rugby union – demand summary

- There are two clubs based in Telford & Wrekin, collectively providing a total of 41 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of seven senior men's, two senior women's, 15 age grade boys', five aged grade girls' and 12 mini teams.
- There is no known unmet or latent demand in Authority.
- Both Newport (Salop) RUFC and Telford Hornets RUFC report aspirations to grow with the latter not quantifying an amount but has aspiration increase player numbers within their current squads. Newport (Salop) RUFC has aspiration to grow by one additional women's team, one additional age grade boys' teams and one additional age grade girls' team.
- Population growth predicts a minimal growth of five teams, one senior men's, two age grade boys and two age grade mixed teams

Scenarios

Improving pitch maintenance and drainage

Maintenance and drainage solutions are an integral method in improving pitch quality at rugby union sites, ensuring that pitches can accommodate demand throughout the season. Locally, there are two key club sites (Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club and Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club) which are identified as being overplayed and the following scenario explores what impact improving the level of maintenance and installation of drainage solutions would have on all pitches accessed by community clubs.

The table below illustrates the RFU pitch quality scoring methodology which ascertains the capacity of pitches based on the scoring criteria.

Table 4.20: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

Drainage	Maintenance Poor (M0)	Maintenance Adequate (M1)	Maintenance Good (M2)
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

The table below looks at what capacity benefits would be ascertained through improvement of both maintenance and drainage solutions in one increment on the above technical criteria. It further looks at the benefit of maximum improvements to both drainage and maintenance to explore maximum benefits.

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Table 4.21: Improving maintenance on all sites/pitches accessed by community clubs by one increment (based on RFU technical criteria)

Site ID	Site name	Number of pitches	Current technical score	Quality	Sports lighting?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Improved technical score	Improved quality score	Improved capacity rating
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	4	2.5	1.5	M2/D2	Good	0.75
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	5.5	2.5	3	M2/D2	Good	2.25
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	5	2	3	M2/D1	Good	2
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	2	-	M2/D1	Good	1
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	Yes	2	2	-	M2/D1	Good	1
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	2.5	2	0.5	M2/D1	Good	0.5
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	6.5 ⁶	2	4.5	M2/D1	Good	1.5

In Telford & Wrekin, improving the maintenance of pitches accessed by community clubs by one increment would reduce total overplay from 12.5 match equivalent sessions per week to 6.5.

Table 4.22: Improving drainage on all sites/pitches accessed by community clubs by one increment (based on RFU technical criteria)

Site ID	Site name	Number of senior pitches	Current technical score	Quality	Sports lighting?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Improved technical score	Improved quality score	Improved capacity rating
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	4	2.5	1.5	M1/D3	Standard	1
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	5.5	2.5	3	M1/D3	Standard	2.5

⁶ Includes 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week from Telford Hornets RUFC plus an additional two match equivalent sessions per week from Telford Raiders RLFC

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Site ID	Site name	Number of senior pitches	Current technical score	Quality	Sports lighting?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Improved technical score	Improved quality score	Improved capacity rating
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	5	2	3	M1/D2	Standard	2.5
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	2	-	M1/D2	Standard	0.5
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	Yes	2	2	-	M1/D2	Standard	0.5
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	2.5	2	0.5	M1/D2	Standard	-
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	6.5	2	4.5	M1/D2	Standard	2

A similar approach to improving maintenance has been undertaken in the table above for drainage installation (through improvement to pitches by one increment on the RFU technical criteria). Installing pipe drainage to pitches at sites accessed by community clubs would have a theoretical capacity benefit by reducing total overplay from 12.5 to 8.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Both Newport (Salop) RUFC and Telford Hornets RUFC would continue to experience overplay.

Table 4.23: Improving both maintenance and drainage to M2/D3 at all sites/ pitches accessed by community clubs (based on RFU technical criteria)

Site ID	Site name	Number of senior pitches	Current technical score	Quality	Sports lighting?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Improved technical score	Improved quality score	Improved capacity rating
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	4	2.5	1.5	M2/D3	Good	0.5
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	5.5	2.5	3	M2/D3	Good	2
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	5	2	3	M2/D3	Good	0.5
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	2	-	M2/D3	Good	1.5

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATGEY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site name	Number of senior pitches	Current technical score	Quality	Sports lighting?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Improved technical score	Improved quality score	Improved capacity rating
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	Yes	2	2	-	M2/D3	Good	1.5
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	2.5	2	0.5	M2/D3	Good	1
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	6.5	2	4.5	M2/D3	Good	1

This table above illustrates the position if all overplayed pitches in Telford & Wrekin, were improved to an M2/D3 quality. This is the highest threshold a pitch can score based on the RFU technical criteria. As can be seen, overplay would be noticeably reduced but would still remain at Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club on the sports lit pitches and on one pitch located at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club which is shared with Telford Raiders RLFC.

Additionally, Telford Hornets RUFC aspires to bring its current training pitch (previously posted) back into use for its matches, which in return should alleviate some overplay.

World Rugby (WR) 3G pitches in Telford & Wrekin

As mentioned above, there is one World Rugby/RFL Community standard compliant 3G pitch located at The Telford Langley School. However, this is currently marked for rugby league and used by Telford Raiders RLFC for all its training demand.

A new 3G pitch is being created at Burton Borough School which will be WR Reg 22 complaint. It's proposed that Newport (Salop) RUFC will be the rugby partner and to have a total of five hours of usage which would reduce the shortfall at Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club from 7.5 match equivalent sessions per week to 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week (based on four match equivalent sessions per week of training demand being removed from match pitches) as seen in the table below.

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Table 4.24: The impact of moving four match equivalent sessions per week of training demand from grass pitches to 3G pitches

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches (sports lit)	Quality (technical score)	Current play (MES per week)	Current training (MES per week)	Recommended site capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating	Play (MES per week)	Reduced training (MES per week)	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1 (1)	Standard (M1/D2)	1	3	2.5	1.5	1	1	0.5
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1 (1)	Standard (M1/D2)	1.5	4	2.5	3	1.5	2	1
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1 (0)	Standard (M1/D1)	5	-	2	3	5	-	3
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	1 (0)	Standard (M1/D1)	2	-	2	-	2	-	-

Additionally, Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club has recently had a planning application accepted for the installation of sports lighting on its 3rd team pitch which would allow for training demand to be more spread across all three sports lit pitches and potentially reduce shortfalls. It should be noted that all three pitches cannot be lit at the same time due to the lack of power and therefore, this would require training demand to be spread across the week.

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Recommendations

- ◆ Protect the existing quantity of rugby union pitches including those used for curricular and extra-curricular demand.
- ◆ Support clubs in taking part in the GMA pitch advisory service to explore technical requirements to improve pitch quality to address overplay.
- ◆ Ensure that any residential development considers potential increases in demand for the sport and that new provision or contributions are properly sought through utilisation of the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator.
- ◆ Support Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club with the installation of sports lighting on its 3rd team pitch following recently planning approval.
- ◆ Support Telford Hornets RUFC with its aspiration to bring its training pitch back into use for matches to alleviate overplay.
- ◆ Work with relevant partners to deliver additional 3G pitches in the Borough to cater for rugby union training demand.
- ◆ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◆ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby union provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◆ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby union provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls.

4.5: Hockey pitches (sand/water-based AGPs)

Assessment Report summary

Hockey – supply and demand summary

- ◆ Overall, there is sufficient quantity and quality of full-size hockey suitable AGPs to meet current demand for Telford & Wrekin HC. Future access to an additional pitch (Wrekin College Sports Centre) may be required if it was to grow its senior demand.
- ◆ It should also be ensured that Newport HC can continue to be adequately accommodated in Shropshire. However, if Newport HC were to return to Telford & Wrekin due to potential growth, Harper Adams University College would present a better option for the Club if accessibility could be secured, as well as the pitch resurfaced.

Hockey – supply summary

- ◆ There are five full size hockey suitable AGPs in Telford & Wrekin across four sites. Four pitches are serviced by sports lighting and available for community use.
- ◆ Of the community available pitches, three are in the Northern Analysis Area and one located in the Newport Analysis Area. The pitches unavailable for community use are identified in the Southern Analysis Area located at Thomas Telford School.
- ◆ There are also two smaller size sand-based pitches in Telford & Wrekin located at John Randell Primary School and Newport Girls High School. These pitches are unavailable for community use and are not serviced by sports lighting.
- ◆ Of the full-size hockey suitable AGPs in Telford & Wrekin, one pitch is managed by Telford & Wrekin HC (St George's Sports and Social Club) and the remaining four pitches are managed by educational providers.
- ◆ In regard to quality, three pitches are assessed as good quality, one pitch assessed as standard quality, and one pitch assessed as poor quality located at Harper Adams University College due to exceeding its recommended lifespan.
- ◆ Changing facilities located at St George's Sports and Social Club have been refurbished in recent years and therefore are assessed as good quality.

Hockey – demand summary

- ◆ There are two hockey clubs based in Telford & Wrekin.
- ◆ Telford & Wrekin HC is a large club catering for 12 teams, whilst Newport HC fields nine teams. The clubs therefore collectively provide 21 teams.

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- ◀ Telford & Wrekin HC also operates Back to Hockey sessions at its home venue, St Georges Sports and Social Club.
- ◀ Newport HC is currently exporting all its demand into Shropshire, accessing a full-size pitch at Lilleshall Hall National Sports Centre.
- ◀ Telford & Wrekin HC does not state plans to increase number of teams currently, however, are still open to accepting new members until the Club can no longer do so. Furthermore, as Newport HC were unresponsive to consultation requests, it is unknown if it has any growth plans.
- ◀ St Georges Sports and Social Club which is home to Telford & Wrekin HC is available for a total of 34 hours a week in the peak period. Furthermore, it's currently only used for hockey activity usage.

Scenarios

Meeting demand for hockey suitable AGPs

The PPS Guidance suggests that a pitch with sports lighting can accommodate four match equivalent sessions on a Saturday. With teams playing on a home and away format, this equates to one AGP being able to cater for eight 'home' teams (one team requires 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on its 'home' AGP).

Using the above calculation, on the basis that there are four community available full size hockey suitable pitches in Telford & Wrekin (Harper Adams University College, St Georges Sports and Social Club and two at Wrekin College Sports Centre), there is a theoretical opportunity to accommodate up to 32 senior teams across the Borough.

However, the pitches at Wrekin College Sports Centre are known to accommodate some form of curricular and extracurricular activities on Saturdays which reduces their wider community availability. Realistically these pitches can only accommodate three match equivalent sessions or six home teams.

Furthermore, the pitch at Harper Adams University College is rated as poor quality having been built in 2009, therefore it is recommended that no community hockey demand takes place on this pitch until it is resurfaced.

Taking the above into consideration there is only enough capacity to accommodate 20 teams in Telford & Wrekin (eight teams at St Georges Sports and Social Club and 12 teams at Wrekin College Sports Centre).

In practice there are suitable levels of accessible full-size hockey suitable AGPs to accommodate current and future demand from Telford & Wrekin HC which currently has ten teams playing at peak time (Saturdays).

There is also sufficient capacity to accommodate the exported demand from Newport HC (eight teams at peak time), however, this would mean the Club using provision at Wrekin College Sports Centre (Northern Analysis Area) which is located further away (approximately ten miles) than its current venue in Shropshire, at Lilleshall Hall National Sports Centre.

For junior hockey matches, the need for pitches is generally less than it is for senior hockey. This is because younger age groups can play on half a full-size pitch (meaning two fixtures can take place at one time) and there are also fewer junior teams in Telford & Wrekin than there are senior teams.

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Table 4.25: Quality of existing hockey suitable artificial grass pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Quality rating	Date of installation / last resurface
18	Harper Adams University College	Newport	Yes	Poor	2009
66	St Georges Sports and Social Club	Northern	Yes	Good	2021
81	Thomas Telford School	Southern	No	Standard	2014
88	Wrekin College Sports Centre	Northern	Yes	Good	2017
88	Wrekin College Sports Centre	Northern	Yes	Good	2021

Based on the above, it can be determined that the quantity of provision in Telford & Wrekin is sufficient to accommodate existing demand with Telford & Wrekin HC accessing a good quality facility located at St Georges Sports and Social Club. Also, the Club uses the good quality pitch located at Wrekin College Sports Centre on an ad hoc basis to cater for overspill demand.

However, the pitch at Harper Adams University College is poor quality, and therefore the existing surface needs to be replaced to ensure continued use for curricular and extra-curricular demand, additionally, if Newport HC was to return to Telford & Wrekin this would be its preferred venue.

Security of tenure

Security of tenure refers to the rights of occupation on playing field and infrastructure. Clubs generally fall into the bracket of owner-occupier, tenant or licensee. In most cases in the Authority, clubs are tenants at education sites as opposed to asset holding clubs with freehold of provision.

Telford & Wrekin HC currently uses the pitch at St George's Sports and Social Club as its home venue, with security of tenure provided for this via its management and long-term lease of the pitch with the overarching Sports Club.

Newport HC does not currently use provision within Telford & Wrekin, instead accessing facilities just outside the Authority in Shropshire located at Lilleshall National Sports Centre. However, if the Club were to return in the future, long-term security of tenure through a community use agreement is required at either Harper Adams University College or Wrekin College Sports Centre.

Protecting hockey suitable AGPs for hockey

As three of the four community available hockey pitches (St Georges Sports and Social Club and two at Wrekin College Sports Centre) are used by Telford & Wrekin HC, these should not be considered for 3G pitch conversion unless a replacement pitch in a suitable location is provided. Additionally, even though there is sufficient capacity for Newport HC to return to the Authority, the location (Wrekin College Sports Centre) is deemed unattractive due to its distance and potential cost implications. If accessibility could be secured at Harper Adams University College, in addition to a refurbishment, this would present a better opportunity for the Club to return to Telford & Wrekin. This would also assist in supporting the curricular and extracurricular demand from the University.

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Recommendations

- ◆ Protect all hockey suitable AGP in Telford & Wrekin for continued and potential future hockey use.
- ◆ Work with partners to provide a replacement surface to the AGP at Harper Adams University College.
- ◆ Ensure all hockey suitable AGPs have a sinking fund in place for their eventual refurbishment.
- ◆ Look to gain long-term security of tenure at Wrekin College for continued usage from Telford & Wrekin HC.
- ◆ If Newport HC were to return to Telford & Wrekin in the future to use either Harper Adams University College or Wrekin College Sports Centre, pursue long-term security of tenure through a community use agreement. In conjunction look to develop the management and accessibility of provision to ensure its accessibility based on club requirements to allow demand to grow.
- ◆ Protect the pitch located at Thomas Telford School and potentially look to gain long-term community access to cater community hockey demand in the future if required.
- ◆ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◆ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site hockey provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◆ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site hockey provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls.

4.6: Rugby league – grass pitches

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◆ The dual use pitch used for rugby union and rugby league at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club is currently overplayed by 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week. All remaining activity (training) is being sufficiently accommodated for through 3G pitch provision.
- ◆ There is insufficient supply of rugby league pitch provision to meet demand from Telford Raiders RLFC, given most of its match demand is located on the dual use pitch at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club which has quality issues, as well as not having secure tenure.

Supply summary

- ◆ There are no dedicated rugby league pitches in Telford & Wrekin, however, there is one dual use pitch which is shared with rugby union located at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club (Southern Analysis Area).
- ◆ It also uses the 3G pitch at The Telford Langley School for all training demand (non-contact).
- ◆ The Club does not have security of tenure at either of the sites it currently uses as it only rents the use of the provision on a seasonal basis from Telford Hornets RFC and the School respectively.
- ◆ The pitch at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club was assessed as a rugby union pitch (M1/D1) standard quality within Part 5: Rugby Union. As a result, the pitch for rugby league is also rated as standard quality.
- ◆ Changing facilities are available and used at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club and are rated as poor quality as they do not meet relevant requirements for rugby demand.

Demand summary

- ◆ Telford Raiders RLFC currently has five teams namely: two adult men's, one adult women's, U14s and a master's team.
- ◆ The Club highlights its U14 team currently has no home ground for competitive demand due to the lack of supply.

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- ◀ The Club due to capacity issues at both Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club and The Telford Langley School (3G) are limited to how much it can grow.
- ◀ Telford Raiders RLFC reports plans to increase its number of teams, by two junior boys' teams, one junior girls' team and one primary team. However, it notes that growth is dependent upon ensuring the availability suitable provision.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

In Telford & Wrekin, there are no dedicated rugby league pitches, however, there is one dual use pitch which is shared with rugby union located at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club. This pitch is currently overplayed by 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week. The scenario below looks at the impact of improvements to the pitch 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 4.26: 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 4.27: Improvements to existing maintenance regimes to reduce overplay

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Pitch type	Quality	Match equivalent sessions of play (per week)	Recommended site capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Good quality rating (MES)	Theoretical capacity rating (MES per week)
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	1	Senior	Standard	6.5 ⁷	2	4.5	3	3.5

The impact of improving the overplayed pitch located at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club to good quality is shown in the table above. In the main, the dual use pitch would still be overplayed due to heavy usage from both Telford Hornets RUFC and Telford Raiders RLFC. The overall impact of this results in shortfalls being reduced from 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week to 3.5.

Potential dedicated RFL provision

Given the dual use pitch at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club is currently overplayed by 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week and the 3G pitch located at The Telford Langley School is not sufficient for match demand (due to run offs behind the in-goal not being compliant for rugby league), the Club is restricted to growing further.

A long-term aspiration for Telford Raiders RLFC is to secure its own site, potentially through a lease or CUA, with suitable ancillary provision so it can generate an income and be self-reliant and secure. Based on its current (2.5 match equivalent sessions) and future demand (two match equivalent sessions) aspirations the Club would require access two dedicated good quality senior pitches with relevant ancillary provision.

Alternatively, if issues can be resolved at The Langley School a proportion of training demand and junior match play could take place meaning the Club may only require one good quality pitch. Alternatively, if the 3G pitch could be extended to meet relevant specification in addition to a dedicated social area being established it could solely be based at the School.

⁷ Includes 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week from Telford Hornets RUFC plus an additional two match equivalent sessions per week from Telford Raiders RLFC

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World Rugby compliant/RFL Community standard 3G pitches

World Rugby produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. Additionally, pitches of this nature are also can be tested to support rugby league activity. There is currently one World Rugby/RFL Community Standard compliant 3G pitches in Telford & Wrekin located at The Telford Langley School.

3G pitches for rugby league are classed as either RFL Community or RFL Stadium. RFL Community is suitable for Tiers 4-6 and training. If used for competitive games they should be tested every two years, and if only used for training only then every three years. RFL Stadium pitches are considered suitable for match play use in Tiers 1-3 and should be retested annually if used for competitive games. More information can be found in Section 5 here [Materials Science Consultants Ltd](#).

Telford Raiders RLFC currently use the World Rugby/RFL Community compliant 3G pitch located at The Telford Langley School for some of its training demand as well as the adjacent grass pitch, with all its match demand located on a dual use grass pitch which is shared with the rugby union club Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club. It should be noted that this pitch is currently overplayed by 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week due to heavy usage.

This 3G pitch is currently not used to cater match demand from Telford Raiders due to the fact that the runoffs behind the in-goal areas aren't compliant for rugby league but also the lack of social space onsite to offer hospitality which is key on match days for the Club.

Recommendations

- ✦ Protect existing quantity of rugby league pitches used for rugby league activity.
- ✦ Explore options to provide Telford Raiders RLFC with a dedicated home venue which meets its pitch and ancillary provision requirements.
- ✦ Look to improve pitch quality at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club to alleviate overplay.
- ✦ Explore options for Telford Raiders RLFC to move some of its match demand to the 3G pitch located at The Telford Langley School to alleviate overplay on the grass pitch.
- ✦ Given that Telford Raiders RLFC has unsecure tenure of its site located at The Telford Langley School, where appropriate, help to formalise long term usage agreement to further secure long-term access of the site.
- ✦ Additionally, look to formalise a long-term usage agreement to secure long-term access at Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club.
- ✦ Explore establishing a dedicated social area for the Club at Telford Langley School and/or improving ancillary provision at Telford Hornets Rugby Football.
- ✦ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ✦ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby league provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ✦ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby league provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls.

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4.7: Tennis courts

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- For club-based tennis, where known through consultation, High Ercall Tennis Club and Wrekin & Telford Tennis Club has sufficient capacity to facilitate club demand. High Ercall Tennis Club gains access to good quality courts, whilst Wrekin & Telford Tennis Club gains access to standard quality. Both clubs report no capacity issues. It should be noted further investigation needs to be carried out with Boughey Gardens Tennis Club and Lilleshall Village Tennis Club to further understand any capacity issues.
- 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.

Supply summary

- There are 62 tennis courts identified in Telford & Wrekin across 19 sites. Of these, 42 courts across 13 sites are available for community use.
- The largest offering of tennis courts is identified in the Northern Analysis Area, with 29 courts in total. In contrast, the Southern analysis areas offer the least amount of tennis courts with 13 courts.
- All tennis courts identified as being unavailable for community use are located at school sites.
- Most tennis courts are operated by education sites (33 or 53%); however, 20 are unavailable for community use. There are 12 (19%) tennis courts which are managed by sports clubs with the remaining courts (17 or 28%) being managed by the Local Authority.
- Most outdoor tennis courts in Telford & Wrekin have a macadam surface, with 59 being of this type and 39 of these being available for community use.
- In Telford & Wrekin, 20 of the community available tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing just 32% of the provision.
- Of the courts in Telford & Wrekin, 29 are assessed as good quality, 19 as standard quality and 14 as poor quality. Of the good quality tennis courts, 25 are available for community use.
- Ancillary facilities currently servicing High Ercall Tennis Club are assessed as poor quality due to being outdated and in need of repair although a 2024 planning permission to replace is noted.
- Conversely, Boughey Gardens Tennis Club and Lilleshall Village Tennis Club are serviced with good quality facilities. Wrekin & Telford Tennis Club and Wrekin & Telford Tennis Community are currently not provided with the facilities.

Demand summary

- There are four tennis clubs in Telford & Wrekin.
- Of the two clubs in Telford & Wrekin which responded to consultation, High Ercall Tennis Club and Wrekin & Telford Tennis Club there is a total of 133 members. As a breakdown, this equates to 101 senior and 32 junior members.
- All four clubs in Telford & Wrekin; Boughey Gardens Tennis Club, Lilleshall Village Tennis Club, High Ercall Tennis Club and Wrekin & Telford Tennis Club use ClubSpark.
- In Telford & Wrekin, there is a Park Tennis League that takes place currently known as the Telford Tennis League.
- There are currently no padel tennis courts within Telford & Wrekin.

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Scenarios

Accommodating current and future demand

The LTA suggests that a non-sport lit hard court can accommodate 40 members whereas a hard court with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members. A grass court has a capacity of 20 regardless of the lighting position and courts covered with an air dome can also accommodate 100 members.

On this basis, when reviewing club demand in Telford & Wrekin, it is evident that both Wrekin & Telford Tennis Club and High Ercall Tennis Club are operating within the recommended capacity guidelines.

Table 4.28: Capacity analysis for tennis clubs at risk of capacity issues

Site ID	Site	Club users	Current demand (members)	No. of courts (sports lit)	Capacity (members)	Current capacity balance (members)
32	Lilleshall Cricket Club	Lilleshall Village Tennis Club	<i>Unknown</i>	2(2)	120	<i>Unknown</i>
50	Oakengates Leisure Centre	Wrekin & Telford Tennis Club	66	4(4)	240	174
120	High Ercall Tennis Club	High Ercall Tennis Club	67	4(4)	240	173
121	Boughey Gardens Tennis Club	Boughey Gardens Tennis Club	<i>Unknown</i>	4(4)	240	<i>Unknown</i>

Given both Lilleshall Village Tennis Club and Boughey Gardens Tennis Club were unresponsive to consultation requests further investigation needs to be carried out to further understand any capacity issues.

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Padel

Padel tennis is relatively new to Great Britain and is growing in popularity, particularly since its recognition as a sport and integration within the LTA. It is played mainly in a doubles format on an enclosed court and can be played in groups of mixed ages and abilities. 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.

In order to grow the sport, the LTA is focused on improving the infrastructure and the coach education pathway. At the end of 2020, there were 87 courts, whereas there were 350 at the end of 2023 and 129,000 identified participants, with this illustrating significant growth. It is therefore envisaged that the infrastructure and participation in padel will continue to increase substantially in the next five years, with the LTA identifying an aim to grow the number of courts to 1,000 and the number of players to 400,000.

There are currently no padel tennis courts in Telford & Wrekin, meaning no demand is being catered for within the Borough.

Given the lack of current provision, the LTA reports that padel facilities should be considered in the near future to offer playing opportunities for residents. Linked to this, it has recently carried out a mapping exercise that sets out the level of provision that could be sustained within a local authority, based on population and demand, with this identifying that 13 courts are warranted in Telford & Wrekin.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs such as Wrekin & Telford Tennis Club or that are (or could be) well used for recreational demand.
- ◀ Understand membership information at both Lilleshall Village Tennis Club and Boughey Gardens Tennis Club to identify any capacity issues.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Consider future opportunities to develop padel tennis to meet the demand for 13 courts.

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4.8: Netball courts

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- There is enough outdoor netball provision in Telford & Wrekin to meet current demand given majority of usage is on indoor netball courts.
- It should also be noted that the outdoor courts at The Telford Langley School are assessed as poor quality due to poor grip underfoot, the presence of moss, worn line markings and this may be affecting further usage.

Supply summary

- There is a large supply of outdoor netball courts across Telford & Wrekin, with 53 identified across 17 sites.
- Of these, 29 courts at five sites are available for community use
- The Newport Analysis Area provides the largest number of courts, with 22. The Southern Analysis Area provides the least number of courts with 13.
- Most courts are operated by schools, with 51 of the 52 courts falling under this management type.
- Majority outdoor netball courts in Telford & Wrekin have a macadam surface, with all 52 being of this type and 28 of these being available for community use. With only Harper Adams University providing one artificial netball court.
- In Telford & Wrekin, 36 netball courts (68%) are over marked with tennis courts. The only standalone courts are located at Charlton School, Newport Girls' High School, Burton Borough School, Thomas Telford School, Haberdashers Adams Grammar School and New Road Academy (formerly Telford Priory Secondary School).
- Only 13 netball courts (25%) are serviced by sports lighting with all six being available for community use located at Ercall Wood Academy, Madeley Academy, Thomas Telford School, Wrekin College and Harper Adams University.
- Of the courts in Telford & Wrekin, nine are assessed as good quality, 21 as standard quality and 23 as poor quality. Of the good quality courts, five are available for community use, compared to eight of the standard quality courts and 16 of the poor quality courts.

Demand summary

- Telford Netball Club and Tibberton Netball Club are both the key netball clubs in Telford & Wrekin utilising both the indoor and outdoor courts at The Telford Langley School, Burton Borough School and Wrekin College.
- There is currently Back to Netball sessions running at the Telford Langley School and Oakengates Leisure Centre hosted by Telford Netball Club.
- There is currently no Walking Netball and Netball Now sessions in Telford & Wrekin due to the lack of accessible facilities.

Scenarios

Securing tenure

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

- The Telford Langley School.
- Burton Borough School.
- Oakengates Leisure Centre.
- Wrekin College.

It should be noted that netball is largely played indoor at these sites, however, the outdoor courts are also used in the summer months, especially at The Telford Langley School (Telford Netball Club and Shropshire Junior Netball League), Burton Borough School and Wrekin College (Tibberton Netball Club).

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None of these currently have a long-term usage agreement in place for any of the netball users, secured access should also be pursued to ensure that netball demand can continue to be provided for.

Further to this, it is also worthy of note that all outdoor netball courts in Telford are located at education sites, and this does restrict the ability to establish daytime use including delivering England Netball initiatives such as walking netball.

Increasing sports-lit provision

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

- ◆ The Telford Langley School.
- ◆ Burton Borough School.
- ◆ Oakengates Leisure Centre/New Road Academy.

Providing sports lighting at these venues would better accommodate demand and potentially encourage more usage, particularly in terms of midweek training and commercial league activity.

The Telford Langley School aspires to add sports lighting to its outdoor courts and is currently undergoing conversations with England Netball regarding this.

Recommendations

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

4.9: Bowling greens

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◆ **Three clubs within Telford & Wrekin (Bowring Park, Newport BC and St Georges BC) are operating at or above recommended capacity levels and therefore need to be monitored to ensure that supply remains adequate.**
- ◆ **No clubs are currently operating below the recommended threshold to be suitable.**

Supply summary

- ◆ There are 22 used crown bowling greens identified in Telford & Wrekin across 16 sites. Most of this provision is in the Northern Analysis Area (16 greens).
- ◆ In addition, there are three disused greens in Telford & Wrekin; one crown bowling green located at Donnington Recreation Ground (one still in use at the site), one crown green bowling green at The Cleveland Arms pub in High Ercall (the pub and green have been closed for around eight years) and one flat bowling green located at Hartshill Park.
- ◆ Most bowling greens are owned and managed by the Local Authority, private ownerships or the respective sports club.

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- ◆ In Telford & Wrekin, a total of 18 greens (82%) are assessed as good quality and four greens (18%) are assessed as standard quality with no greens assessed as poor quality.
- ◆ Furthermore, nine sites are accompanied by good quality facilities, with six sites having standard quality facilities. No sites are accompanied by poor quality facilities.
- ◆ In Telford & Wrekin, majority of greens are provided with sports lighting apart from two greens located at Dawley Park and St Georges Sports & Social Club.

Demand summary

- ◆ There are 15 bowling clubs identified as playing in Telford & Wrekin although only eight have responded to consultation requests to date and given membership figures. Membership of the responsive clubs where known totals 487, resulting in an average of 61 members.
- ◆ The largest clubs according to known membership in Telford & Wrekin are currently Bowring BC and Newport BC, with 104 members respectively.
- ◆ Of responding clubs in Telford & Wrekin, five clubs (Charlton BC, Trench BC, Newport BC, Maddocks BC and Madeley Cricket BC) highlight plans to increase membership, accommodating collectively 45 senior members and 21 junior members. It should be noted that Charlton BC aspires to increase membership, however, does not quantify the amount.

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. Of the responding clubs, three clubs are currently operating above this threshold in Telford & Wrekin, as follows:

- ◆ Bowring BC (104 members).
- ◆ Newport BC (104 members).
- ◆ St Georges BC (69 members).

Of the clubs listed above, currently no capacity issues are highlighted, with Newport BC expressing an aspiration to further increase their memberships.

Disused provision

There are three disused greens in Telford & Wrekin; one crown bowling green located at Donnington Recreation Ground (one still in use at the site), one crown green bowling green at The Cleveland Arms Public House in High Ercall (the Public House and green have been closed for around eight years) and one flat bowling green located at Hartshill Park.

It's identified that all crown bowling green demand is being adequately accommodated throughout Telford & Wrekin at the remaining greens. None of the bowling clubs in Telford & Wrekin are reported as operating at capacity, with all clubs willing to accept new members. As such, it is considered that anyone within Telford & Wrekin who would like to start participating, could do so at the clubs and greens already in existence.

The only flat bowling green in Telford & Wrekin located at Hartshill Park has become disused following the bowls club that used the site folding (Hartshill BC). Anecdotal evidence suggests that this was due to the lack of demand to continue to be sustainable. Through consultation no further demand has been identified to bring this green back into use for bowling use.

It is believed that any remaining demand for flat green bowls in Telford & Wrekin is being exported to its neighbouring authority Shropshire, where there are three flat bowling greens located at St Michaels Street Recreation Ground (Shrewsbury – SY1 2HQ), Lilleshall

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National Sports & Conferencing Centre (Shifnal – TF10 9AT) and Ashford Carbonell Playing Fields (Ludlow – SY8 4DD). The closest of these is approximately 20 minutes away from Hartshill Park at Lilleshall National Sports & Conferencing Centre.

Recommendations

- ◆ Protect existing quantity of currently used greens and, as a minimum, sustain quality.
- ◆ Ensure that any proposed development of greens is done in line with NPPF.
- ◆ Assist clubs, where possible, with any future ancillary provision improvements.
- ◆ Monitor capacity levels of highly supported clubs such as Bowring BC, Newport BC and St Georges BC to ensure they have sufficient capacity.
- ◆ Support clubs with plans to increase membership so that growth can be maximised.

4.10: Athletics

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◆ In Telford & Wrekin, supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, as the one community track and field club currently based in the Borough (Telford Athletics Club) totalling 451 members, is above the recommended membership figure. All other clubs are primarily road running clubs that do not access the track facilities.

Supply summary

- ◆ There is one formal athletics track in Telford & Wrekin; Telford Athletics Stadium located at Oakengates Leisure Centre (Northern Analysis Area), which is an eight lane, synthetic 400 metre track.
- ◆ The track regularly hosts licensed competitions and has sports lighting to support activities on both the track and infield and provides all accompanying field event facilities including a throws cage (hammer, discus & club), javelin, high jump, long/triple jump and shot-put area.
- ◆ The track at Oakengates Leisure Centre is owned by the Council and managed by Telford & Wrekin Leisure.
- ◆ The non-technical assessment undertaken in July 2024 by KKP identifies the track and accompanying track and field facilities as good quality with the track recently being resurfaced in 2020 with a likely respray required by 2028).
- ◆ Telford Athletics Club reports that the quality of the track is good quality, however, is deteriorating due to age of the surface. It also highlights a couple of holes can be found in the track caused by lights falling onto the track during bad storms.
- ◆ The athletics track onsite at Oakengates Leisure Centre is not serviced by a purpose-built clubhouse and changing facilities beside the track with only toilets and covered spectator seating provided. It's an aspiration for the Club to build a clubhouse which could be used by other sports in Telford & Wrekin.

Demand summary

- ◆ Seven clubs have a current focus on athletics and/or running activity in Telford & Wrekin.
- ◆ Telford Athletics Club is the sole track and field club in Telford & Wrekin. It provides a total of 451 members, as a breakdown equates to 167 male, 104 female and 180 junior members. All its demand takes place at Oakengates Leisure Centre.
- ◆ In Telford & Wrekin, there is one ParkRun located at Telford Town Park held every Saturday at 9am. Furthermore, there is one junior ParkRun located at Telford Town Park which are held every Sunday at 9am.
- ◆ Telford Athletics Club report to be operating a waiting list due to the lack of volunteers. Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in athletics but 'are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies significant latent demand amounting to 3,492 people in Telford & Wrekin, which represents approximately 2.1% of the Borough's population compared to a national average of 2%.

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Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing facilities.
- ◀ Sustain track quality and maintain UKA TrackMark accreditation at Oakengates Leisure Centre.
- ◀ Support Telford Athletics Club with its aspiration to build a clubhouse including changing facilities and toilets beside the track.
- ◀ Continue to increase participation both within affiliated clubs and the wider running market, building on the success of Parkrun and looking to increase other initiatives not currently operating in Telford & Wrekin.
- ◀ Consider the need to include ActiveTracks (walk/jog/run/cycle loops) within parks and open spaces or as part of future housing developments.

4.11: Golf courses

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ **With five golfing sites in Telford & Wrekin and a mix of 18-hole courses, one 9-hole course, one 27-hole course and driving ranges, the Authority is well placed to meet demand, despite there not being any dedicated Par 3 facilities.**

Supply summary

- ◀ There are currently five golf venues that provide facilities in Telford & Wrekin.
- ◀ Across Telford & Wrekin, there are three standard 18-hole courses and one 9-hole course (which can be played twice for 18 holes) and one 27-hole course. The Shropshire Golf Centre consists of three nine-hole courses (Blue/Silver/Gold) where an individual can choose a combination of two to make a full 18-hole course.
- ◀ Accumulatively, there are 56 dedicated driving range bays in Telford & Wrekin across three sites, Horsehay Village Golf Club, Aqualate Golf Club and The Shropshire Golf Centre. Each driving range is serviced by sports lighting to allow all-year round and late evening usage and are available for pay and play.
- ◀ Quality of the golf facilities in Telford & Wrekin is relatively good across the five sites, no significant issues identified.

Demand summary

- ◀ In Telford & Wrekin, there are five golf clubs, Horsehay Village Golf Club, Wrekin Golf Club, Aqualate Golf Club, The Telford Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort and The Shropshire Golf Centre.
- ◀ Of the five golfing sites in Telford & Wrekin, three operate as proprietary clubs with the remaining two split evenly between municipal (Horsehay Village Golf Club) and members (Wrekin Golf Club).
- ◀ England Golf reports that the average cost of a full adult membership across the Country is currently £1,071. In Telford & Wrekin, average membership fees, where known, are below this national average at £797. One of the main reasons for this is the low membership fees at Horsehay Village Golf Club (municipal course).
- ◀ The most expensive membership offerings are identified at The Shropshire Golf Centre, whereby full membership fee amounts to £1,050. In comparison, the lowest full membership fee is identified at Horsehay Village Golf Club, amounting to just £400, which accounts for it being a municipal course.
- ◀ The most expensive fees are at Wrekin Golf Club which are £55 midweek and £65 at the weekend. In comparison, the two cheaper offers are at the municipal course Horsehay Village Golf Club and Aqualate Golf Club (9-hole course) which are £19 and £16 midweek and £19 and £20 weekend, respectively.
- ◀ England Golf suggests that the average membership of a golf club nationally is 407, which is based on a central national handicap platform. In Telford & Wrekin, the average across the clubs that operate a membership is currently 389 and therefore just below national average.

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- There is a notable spike in membership from 2018 to 2022/23 which anecdotally can be linked to the Covid 19 Pandemic, as the sport was one of first to become accessible whilst in periods of social distancing. The figures have continued to increase with a growth from 2023 to 2024 of 16% or 53 members.
- Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 1,865 people within Telford & Wrekin.
- In Telford & Wrekin, each facility will have different aspirations in terms of future growth, with membership clubs such as Wrekin Golf Club, The Telford Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort and The Shropshire Golf Centre likely to be more satisfied with current usage levels in comparison Horsehay Village Golf Club and Aqualate Golf Club which require higher usage due to lower membership costs.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- Protect all in-use sites for continued golf activity in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- Sustain course and ancillary facility quality and seek improvements where necessary.
- Support clubs in membership retention and potential growth and encourage clubs and providers to work more collaboratively in terms of creating pathways for players.
- Explore options to increase entry level golf provision such as Par 3 facilities.
- Ensure that any developments nearby to existing golf sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).

4.12: Outdoor water sports

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- Outdoor water sports within Telford & Wrekin are fairly well catered for through facilities such as Priorslee Lake and the River Severn as well as a number of canals and smaller bodies of water, meaning that area is particularly well catered for when it comes to outdoor water sports given that it is not a coastal authority.

Supply summary

- The River Severn is the primary location for outdoor water sports in Telford & Wrekin with it being used for rowing, canoeing and paddle sports. Local lakes and bodies of water are also used by relevant clubs in the area such as Shropshire Union Canal and Priorslee Lake by Telford Sailing Club.

Demand summary

- The identified water sports facilities are home to numerous clubs and groups, Telford Sailing Club, Telford Sailability, Ironbridge Rowing Club, Telford Canoe Club, Arthog Outreach Group and Telford Sea Cadets.
- In addition to the above there are also Wrekin Telford Sub Aqua Club and Aquarius Sub Aqua Club operating within the Telford & Wrekin however these two clubs mainly use purpose built indoor swimming pools such as Short Wood Swimming Pool and Abraham Darby Sports and Leisure Centre rather than any outdoor bodies of water.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- Ensure existing provision is retained and supporting facilities remain of sufficient quality.

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- ◆ Work with the relevant partners to further understand club requirements such as ancillary facilities and development plans.
- ◆ Ensure there is continued secured access to existing sites for clubs.
- ◆ Support clubs to maximise demand and fully utilise the facilities offered.

4.13: Open water swimming

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◆ In Telford & Wrekin, there seems to be an appropriate level of access to suitable sites for open water swimming, based on the current and future/latent levels of demand.

Supply summary

- ◆ Based on consultation findings with Shropshire Bluetits there are at least two locations currently used for Open Water Swimming in Telford & Wrekin which are, Old Quarry (TF4 2PU) and the River Severn. The Club primarily uses the former site and only uses the latter site on rare occasions as it is dependent on weather conditions and levels of the water.
- ◆ The Club does not indicate any issues surrounding accessibility or quality regarding Old Quarry. It mentioned it cannot use the facility midweek (10:00 – 15:00) as it is accessed by an outreach group.

Demand summary

- ◆ The Bluetits Chill Swimmers is a national social enterprise which encourages people to try open water swimming. It has around 5,000 members countrywide with a localised 'Flock' within Shropshire.
- ◆ The Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 17,771 people within Telford & Wrekin that would like to participate in swimming but are not currently doing so.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- ◆ Protect existing quantity of facilities.
- ◆ Support clubs to maximise demand and fully utilise the facilities offered.
- ◆ Ensure there is continued secured access to existing sites for clubs.
- ◆ Work with the relevant partners to further understand club requirements such as ancillary facilities and development plans.

4.14: Cycling

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- ◆ Relatively high demand for cycling is identified within Telford & Wrekin, especially when taking into account latent demand. Whilst most of this will fall outside of the club environment and will not require dedicated provision, protecting and sustaining what is provided across the six identified sites should be seen as particularly key given the off-road facilities offered.
- ◆ Elsewhere, with all dedicated facilities existing across the Northern and Southern analysis areas, demand for the creation of facilities within the Newport Analysis Area could be explored. Any provision should complement what is already in place to ensure a broader range of activities can be catered for across the Borough.

Supply summary

- ◆ In Telford & Wrekin, there are 11 purpose built outdoor cycling facilities. The majority of provision in the Authority are BMX pump tracks with only one designated as a BMX Race Track which is located at Telford Langley Sports and Leisure Centre.

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- There are five facilities in each of the Northern and Southern analysis areas with only one being located in the Newport Analysis Area, namely Norbroom Park.
- The facilities as a whole are good quality with some minor quality issues present at Malinslee Playing Fields, Wombridge BMX Track and Ringers Lane surrounding drainage, degrading surface quality and evidence of repairs.
- In comparison Norbroom Park is standard quality with the surface being grass/earth with evidence of some water logging. The remaining site, Stirchely BMX Track, is classified as poor quality as it seems no longer formally maintained with the majority of the track being overgrown and evidence of litter.
- Telford Flyers BMX Club is the only club to be based at a purpose-built facility, Telford Langley Sports and Leisure Centre, with the remaining clubs mainly using the local road and cycling route networks.

Demand summary

- There are five prominent cycling clubs based in Telford & Wrekin, Aerologic RT, Newport Shropshire CC, Smiley's Flight Club, Telford Flyers BMX Club, Wrekingsport CC.
- Telford Flyers BMX Club has 110 members currently with approximately 90% of these being male. It reports participation has increased significantly over last year due in part to new ownership. It plans to continue this growth with the use of social media and hopefully momentum from the Olympics (Paris 2024).
- In Telford & Wrekin, there are currently no Go-Ride sessions taking place, with the nearest identified at Mid Shropshire Wheelers (Shropshire).
- In Telford & Wrekin, there are currently no Breeze sessions taking place, with the nearest identified in Bloxwich (Walsall) or West Smethwick (Sandwell).
- The Sport England Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 6,932 people in Telford & Wrekin that would like to participate in cycling but that are not currently doing so.

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- Protect existing provision.
- Explore the feasibility of sustaining all provision long term based on levels of demand, particularly regarding Stirchley BMX Track
- Ensure continued access to sites and routes used for cycling especially at Telford Langley Sports and Leisure Centre (Telford Flyers BMX Club).
- Work with the relevant partners to further understand club requirements such as ancillary facilities and development plans.
- Ensure there is continued secured access to existing sites for clubs.
- Support British Cycling initiatives and ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place to accommodate such demand.

4.15: Other Sports

Assessment Report summary

Supply and demand summary

- Given the number of Angling locations across Telford & Wrekin when compared to the amount of demand (roughly 1% of the population) there is considered to be a suitable amount of provision.
- It is considered that there is sufficient supply to meet the demand for American football in Telford & Wrekin for both competitive and training demand. As a result, it is essential that Shropshire Revolution continues to have access to the provision at Oakengates Leisure Centre and Telford College to meet its demand.

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- It is considered that Telford Baseball Club can accommodate all demand for the sport across the Telford & Wrekin, however, there is a need to improve the quality of provision on the site.
- Current supply of rounders pitches is sufficient to cater for current demand and offers sufficient capacity to accommodate curricular and extracurricular demand.

Supply summary

- A total of 21 angling pool venues are used across Telford & Wrekin.
- Given the number and variety of angling locations, in addition to the rules and regulation each stakeholder enforces which protect the sites, the overall quality of provision is considered to be good.
- There is one dedicated American football pitch in Telford & Wrekin located at Oakengates Leisure Centre (Northern Analysis Area – TF2 7AB). The pitch is rated as standard quality and is in the infield of the onsite athletics track.
- There is one dedicated baseball diamond located in Telford & Wrekin which is located at The Meadow Recreation Ground (Southern Analysis Area). The diamond is rented to Telford Baseball Club by the Council with tenure considered secure. The baseball provision is rated as poor quality.
- Eight sites are identified as providing one or more rounders pitches in Telford & Wrekin.

Demand summary

- Telford Angling Association indicates it has between 1,500 and 2,000 members (including senior, junior and disability).
- Shropshire Revolution American Football has one adult men's contact team playing in the NFC 1 Midlands which play on Sunday afternoons at Oakengates Leisure Centre. The Club also trains on Sundays at Telford College (3G) during the off season.
- Telford Baseball Club has one men's and one women's team named the Giants and the 26ers, respectively. The latter team is the only women's baseball team in the West Midlands. Each team plays on Sundays and train on Tuesdays (18:00 to 20:00).

Scenarios

N/A

Recommendations

- Look to support Telford Baseball Club with improving the baseball diamond located at The Meadow Recreation Ground (Southern Analysis Area).
- Ensure all 21 angling pools remain accessible and of sufficient quality to continue to cater for demand.
- Work with the relevant partners to further understand club requirements such as ancillary facilities and development plans.
- Ensure there is continued secured access to existing sites for clubs.
- Ensure continued access to existing sites and pitches to enable continued access for all relevant sports.

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PART 5: 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 an assessment report, as well as key drivers identified for the Strategy. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed, which apply across playing pitch and outdoor recreation facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.

AIM 1

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

Recommendations:

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

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

The PPORS shows that all existing playing field and outdoor sport sites cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. As such, all provision requires protection or replacement until all identified shortfalls have been overcome. This includes disused (including any which may not have been identified in this document) underused and poor quality sites as there is a requirement for such provision to help meet and alleviate the identified shortfalls.

When shortfalls are evident, provision can only be permanently lost when the current picture changes to the extent that the site in question is no longer needed as a result of no shortfalls existing, or unless replacement provision is provided and agreed upon by all stakeholders. NPPF paragraph 104 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields and formal play spaces, should not be built on unless:

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

The PPORS should be used to help inform development management decisions that affect existing or new playing pitch provision and accompanying 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 field used within the last five years. They will use the PPORS to help assess the planning application against its Playing Fields Policy.

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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 PPORS 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’.

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 should also be protected from development or replaced in accordance with Sport England’s policy exceptions as they may provide a solution to reducing identified shortfalls. Any disused playing fields are included within this Action Plan together with a recommendation in relation to bringing the site back into use or to mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified.

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

The table below illustrates education sites being used in Telford & Wrekin currently being used for either competitive or training demand by community sports clubs.

Table 5.1: Known use of education sites

School	Club	Sport
Apley Wood Primary School	Admaston Juniors	Football
Telford College	Wrekin Juniors Number of football clubs for training Shropshire Revolution	Football (3G) Football (small sided 3G indoor) American football
The Telford Langley School	Number of football clubs for training Telford Raiders RLFC AFC Telford Dawley Town FC NC United FC Shropshire Junior Netball League (number of netball teams)	Rugby league Football (3G) Football Netball courts
Charlton School	Number of football clubs for training Ercall Colts Juniors	Football
Wrekin View Primary School and Nursery	Ercall Colts Juniors	Football
Holy Trinity Academy	Ercall Colts Juniors Shifnal Girls FC Number of football clubs for training	Football Football (3G)
Lawley Primary School	Lawley Lightmoor	Football
Wrockwardine Wood Juniors School	Wrockwardine Wood Junior School	Football
Wrekin College Sports Centre	Ad hoc use by Telford & Wrekin HC	Hockey AGP

Use is not necessarily formalised and further work should be carried out to ensure an appropriate community use agreement is in place (including access to changing provision where required) to provide the clubs with security of tenure.

For the remaining providers, National Governing Bodies, Sport England and other appropriate bodies such as 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.

In the context of the Comprehensive Spending Review, 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. Consequently, the Council may need to support clubs and NGBs in developing relationships with these providers and to establish formal community use agreements.

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Alternative management models

The Council could explore possible alternative options for the future management of some sites within its playing field portfolio, including leasehold or Partner Use Agreement. Potential benefits of this include reducing costs which may allow for the retention and possible improvement of other retained sites within the portfolio, as well as potentially opening up new routes to improvement of sites and access to external funding opportunities through club-led management models.

Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council and National Governing Bodies to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership work. For example, support club development and encourage clubs 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)⁸. They should also be encouraged to work with partners locally – such as volunteer support agencies or local businesses.

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

- ◀ Increasing participation.
- ◀ 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, to some degree, remains available for other purposes or for other users.

Long-term leasehold

The Council should explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted via lease agreements (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and national governing bodies of sport) so clubs are in a position to apply for external funding. This is particularly the case at poor quality sites, possibly with inadequate ancillary facilities, so that quality can be improved and sites developed.

For clubs with leaseholds 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 clubs attract funding for site developments. Any club with less than 25 years remaining on an agreement is unlikely to meet conditions of grants funded by external partners.

For example, Nova United FC and Randlay Colts Juniors FC are in the process of establishing long-term leasehold agreements for Shuker Playing Fields and Elms Playing Fields, respectively. Priority should be to support clubs to negotiate new long-term agreements in order to ensure they have secure tenure onsite and to improve facilities, including eligibility to access external funding.

⁸ [Link to CASC benefits](#)

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Partner Use Agreement

Another way of ensuring tenure long term for clubs is through a Partner Use Agreement. This is the transfer or sharing of management of public land and buildings between its owner (usually a local authority) and a community organisation (such as a Development Trust, a Community Interest Company or a social enterprise) for less than market value – to achieve a local social, economic or environmental benefit.

Community based organisations can be more effective at engaging people than other types of organisation because they are close to to their community.

Communities that come together to plan and deliver services can make them more inclusive and responsive. Communities can mobilise a lot of volunteer time and energy. Such agreements can, for example:

- ◀ Help local authorities meet policy objectives.
- ◀ Make better use of underused assets.
- ◀ Open and increase opportunities for clubs/organisations to access grant funding for which local authorities cannot apply (e.g. Football Foundation Grass Maintenance Fund).
- ◀ Improve assets through increased time and resource (both financial and volunteer) than what the local authority may be able to contribute.
- ◀ Give sports clubs and community organisations more security and sustainability and help transition clubs away from being funding dependent. Opens opportunities to revenue generation and greater self-dependence.
- ◀ Enable people to protect the assets in their communities – including iconic heritage buildings and open spaces. Reducing costs to the local authority and protection against further budgetary cuts.
- ◀ Involve people in designing and running the services from which they benefit.
- ◀ Be a catalyst for getting people more involved as volunteers.
- ◀ Keep money in the local economy through enterprise and locally owned assets.

Overall, across the Authority there are only a few Council managed sites that may be suitable for either a long term lease or hold a Partner Use Agreement that does not exclude public use where necessary .

Although these sites have the potential for a long-term lease or asset transfer more research is required to understand the feasibility of such a decision and wider implications such as any potential fencing of areas would need to take account of any Fields in Trust and Green Guarantee Status.

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

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

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

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

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

As detailed earlier, NGBs and Sport England can often help to negotiate and engage with providers where the local education authority may have limited direct influence. This is particularly the case at sites that have received funding from the relevant bodies or are going to receive investment in the future as community access can be a condition of the funding agreement. Further to this, Active Partnerships play a crucial role alongside other community stakeholders with regards to working with education providers and opening its facilities with the goal to help people be more active in their local area.

Additionally, there is a requirement to enforce existing community use agreements where these are in place as part of existing planning consents.

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

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AIM 2

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

Recommendations:

- d. Maintain quality and seek improvements where necessary
- 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

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

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

Ground Management 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 GMA and its partners; the Football Foundation, Sport England, FA, 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.

In relation to cricket specifically, maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of the sport. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and, in some instances, become dangerous. The ECB recommends full technical assessments of wickets and pitches available through a Performance Quality Standard (PQS) assessment. The Performance Quality Standard Assessment assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether it meets the standards that are benchmarked by the Ground Management Association.

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Football Foundation PitchPower Assessment

The Premier League, The FA and the Football Foundation are increasing efforts to improve the quality of grass pitches in England with the launch of the PitchPower app. Launched in 2020 alongside the Football Foundation Pitch Preparation Fund. The app is a digital self-assessment tool to allow reports and recommendations to be made more quickly and easily once submitted for review by GMA regional pitch advisors.

The tool across web app and desktop is open to access by all providers, for example clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower Assessment Report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches.

In addition to non-technical assessments, clubs and education sites across Telford & Wrekin continue to undertake PitchPower assessments as a means of improving the quality of provision. Consequently, it should be recommended through the PPORS process for the local authority to support delivering any improvement to new sites that undertake PitchPower assessments.

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 funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund⁹, a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help clubs 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 or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding to improve and sustain quality.

All applicants must have, as a minimum, landowner's permission to accept investment or ideally long term security of tenure and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs, leagues, charities, community organisations, education providers and town and parish councils. Local authorities are not currently eligible applicants, however, eligible organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have landowner's permission as stated above.

However, the Council, 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 Partner Use Agreement (PUA), both enabling the club/organisation to apply to the fund.

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.

⁹ <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/grass-pitch-maintenance-fund>

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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) and allocating a match limit to each (daily for hockey, weekly for football and rugby union and seasonal for cricket).

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

Table 5.3: Capacity of pitches

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches (Good quality)	No. of matches (Standard quality)	No. of matches (Poor quality)
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 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
Rugby league	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Rugby league	Junior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 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	60 per season
Hockey	Full size AGP	4 per day	4 per day	4 per day

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 to transfer to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity. Alternatively quality, should be improved to increase capacity to appropriate levels. Where play is transferred, this may include transferring play to 3G pitches or to sites not currently available for community use but which may be in the future.

For cricket, an increase in the usage of NTPs (or hybrid wickets when suitable) 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 adjacent to existing squares.

For rugby union, overplay can be reduced but not resolved through improvements to pitch maintenance or via capital drainage solutions, as such there is a need for additional pitch provision to accommodate demand (e.g. WR Reg 22 Compliant 3G pitch)

For rugby league, quality improvements alone will not address all the current shortfalls on rugby league pitches, as such there is a need for additional pitch provision to accommodate demand from Telford Raiders RLFC.

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As mentioned earlier, there are also sites that are poor quality that 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 were 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 Telford & Wrekin (these are detailed further in the Action Plan), for example, the changing provision at Shucker Fields is poor quality with users stating the need to redevelop the ancillary facilities as the current facilities are outdated. 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 such as, multi-sport pitch sites, club managed sites and sites which are strategically important for adult and/or women and girls participation.

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

To allow for facility developments to be programmed on a phased basis the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of outdoor sport 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 should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision is directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in outdoor sport provision and accompanying ancillary facilities.

To address community need a coordinated approach to strategic investment is required. In delivering this recommendation, the Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners through the PPORS Steering Group.

Although some investment in new provision will not be made by the Council directly, it is important that the Steering Group directs and leads a co-ordinated approach to facility development whether made at/by education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector. This is to ensure that the extent to which it addresses community need is optimised and duplication is avoided.

One of sport's key contributions is its positive impact on public health. 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

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

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

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.

The PPORS 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 provision is required to accompany a development, priority should be placed on providing facilities that contribute towards alleviating existing shortfalls within the locality. To determine what supply of provision is provided, it is imperative that the PPORS 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.

It is recognised that consultation cannot take place with NGBs for every development due to resource restrictions. Instead, it is recommended that such discussions take place within PPORS Steering Group meetings, which 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).

The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate provision and subsequent maintenance. S106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition of the pitches in order to increase pitch capacity to accommodate more matches.

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

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

AIM 3

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

Recommendations:

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

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

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

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

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

Unmet demand, changes in sport participation and trends, and proposed housing growth should be recognised and factored into future facility planning. Assuming an increase in participation and housing growth occurs, it will impact on the future need for certain types of sports facilities. Sports development work also approximates unmet demand which cannot currently be quantified (i.e. it is not being suppressed by a lack of facilities) but is likely to

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occur. The following table highlights the main development trends in each sport and their likely impact on facilities. However, it is important to note that these may be subject to change.

Furthermore, retaining some spare capacity allows some pitches to be rested to protect overall pitch quality in the long-term. Therefore, whilst in some instances it may be appropriate to redesignate a senior pitch where there is low demand identified a holistic approach should be taken to re-designation for the reasons cited. The site-by-site action planning will seek to provide further clarification on where re-designation is suitable.

The PPORS identifies priority sites that should be focused upon, including those that are presently overplayed and/or poor quality, or unused sites that are particularly large. It also advises how issues can be overcome.

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

The Steering Group should use and regularly update the Action Plan within this Strategy. The Action Plan lists recommendations for each site, focused upon both qualitative and quantitative improvements, which if delivered will lessen the need for new provision. Linked to the above and as evidenced in Part 4, although there are identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions, most current and future demand is currently being met and most shortfalls for football, cricket, hockey, tennis, netball and lawn bowls can be addressed via quality improvements and/or improved access to sites that are presently used minimally or that are currently unavailable. Adding to the current stock, particularly in the short term, is therefore not recommended as a priority, except for 3G pitches and the shortfall for which cannot be reduced without new stock.

However, for rugby union Table 4.19 shows that given the amount of demand across both clubs, if maximum level quality improvements were to take place, shortfalls would still be present at both club sites (Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club and Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club). In this instance, other methods of addressing overplay should be explored such as the installation of additional provision, increased sports lighting or using dedicated sports lit training areas and potentially installing a WR 3G pitch to better support training demand.

Notwithstanding the above, large scale housing developments and the establishment of new schools may also necessitate the need for new provision. Where new schools are developed, there is an opportunity to combine the building of the school to the development of a new multi-sport site that will be of a benefit to the school as well as the wider community.

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

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PART 6: ACTION PLAN

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

Site hierarchy

The Council should make it a high priority to work with NGBs and other partners to comprise a priority list of actions based on local priorities, NGB priorities and available funding. 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 a regional 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 6.1: Proposed tiered site criteria

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

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Hub sites are of district 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 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 it is anticipated that one of the conditions of offering a hire/lease is that the Club would be in a position to source external funding to improve/extend the provision.

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

Partners

The column indicating partners in the Action Plans below refers to the main organisations that the Council (or the relevant provider) would look to work with to support delivery of the actions.

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

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

Priority

Although hub sites are mostly likely to have a **high** level actions, as they have wide importance, high priority sites 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).

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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 £150k.
- (M) - Medium - £150k-£750k.
- (H) - High £750k and above.

These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at: [Facility cost guidance | Sport England](#)

Timescales

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

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

Aim

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

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NORTHERN ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary – pitch sports

Area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2040) ¹⁰
Football (grass)	-	-	-
Northern	Adult	Shortfall of 3 MES per week	Shortfall of 5.5 MES per week
Northern	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 9.5 MES per week
Northern	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week
Northern	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Northern	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week	Played to capacity
Telford & Wrekin	Adult	Shortfall of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 5.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 14 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 4 MES per week	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Football (3G)	-	-	-
Northern	11v11	Shortfall of 1.5 pitches	Shortfall of 2.5 pitches
Telford & Wrekin	11v11	Shortfall of 3.5 pitches¹¹	Shortfall of 4.5 pitches
Cricket	-	-	-
Northern	Saturday	Shortfall of 1 MES per season	Shortfall of 25 MES per season
Northern	Sunday	Shortfall of 1 MES per season	Shortfall of 1 MES per season
Northern	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 47 MES per season	Actual spare capacity of 29 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Saturday	Shortfall of 71 MES per season	Shortfall of 119 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Sunday	Shortfall of 71 MES per season	Shortfall of 77 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Midweek	Shortfall of 23 MES per season	Shortfall of 53 MES per season
Rugby union	-	-	-
Northern	Senior	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Senior	Shortfall of 13 MES per week	Shortfall of 16 MES per week
Rugby league	-	-	-
Northern	Senior	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
Telford & Wrekin	Senior	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week
Hockey	-	-	-

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

¹⁰ It should be noted that due to rounding of future demand figures, the analysis area future supply/demand balance does not always add up to the Boroughwide figure.

¹¹ With the addition of the two new 3G pitches located off Waterloo Road (Southern Analysis Area) and Burton Borough School (Newport Analysis Area), this would reduce the current shortfall from 3.5 to 1.75 pitches and a future shortfall would be reduce from 4.5 to 2.75 pitches.

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Area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2040) ¹⁰
Telford & Wrekin	Full size, with sports lighting	Sufficient supply	Sufficient supply

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand in the Northern Analysis Area with 16 greens provided. Clubs should be monitored to ensure their existing provision remains sufficient such as Bowring BC and St Georges BC.
Tennis	With 21 community available courts provided in the Northern Analysis Area for club-based tennis, supply is considered sufficient to meet demand with eight courts available at club sites. Away from clubs, no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, and previously expressed latent demand is likely to have been met.
Netball	With 12 community available netball courts provided in the Northern Analysis Area located across three sites, Charlton School, Holy Trinity Academy and Wrekin College, supply is considered sufficient provision to meet demand.
Athletics	There is one formal athletics track in Telford & Wrekin; Telford Athletics Stadium located at Oakengates Leisure Centre, which is an eight lane, synthetic 400 metre competition track which is available for community use. Supply is sufficient to meet demand for athletics in Telford & Wrekin as the one track & field club currently based in the Borough (Telford Athletics Club) has a total membership of 451 members which is above the recommended membership figures.
Golf	The Shropshire Golf Centre is the only golf facility in the Northern Analysis Area which provides an 18-hole course and has a 30-bay driving range.
Outdoor water sports	Outdoor water sports within Telford & Wrekin is well catered for through facilities such as Priorslee Lake and the River Seven.
Open water swimming	Supply is considered to meet demand for open water swimming within Telford & Wrekin with all demand currently being accommodated for in the Southern Analysis Area.
Cycling	Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand in the Northern Analysis Area with five BMX tracks provided located at Broadoaks Playing Field, Ringers Lane, Leegomery BMX Track, Saville Close Playground and Wombridge BMX Track.
Angling	Given the number of angling locations across Telford & Wrekin when compared to the amount of demand (roughly 1% of the population) there is considered to be a suitable amount of provision.
American football	There is sufficient supply to meet the demand for American football in Telford & Wrekin for both competitive and training demand. As a result, it is essential that Shropshire Revolution continues to have access to the provision at Oakengates Leisure Centre and Telford College to meet its demand.
Baseball and softball	No baseball provision is provided within the Northern Analysis Area. There is only dedicated baseball diamond located in Telford & Wrekin which is provided in the Southern Analysis Area. Supply is sufficient to meet demand.
Rounders	There are two sites in the Northern Analysis Area which provide rounders provision located at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School and Wrekin College Sports Centre. Supply is sufficient to meet demand.

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	TF6 5EQ	Football	Sports club	One poor quality adult pitch and one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 both of which are standard quality. Pitch overplayed by 1.5, 1.5 and one match equivalent session, respectively. Site has been awarded PP funding to improve pitch quality.	Use PP funding to improve pitch quality and alleviate shortfalls.	Sports club FF SFA	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	TF6 5EQ	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality 12 wicket grass square which is overplayed by one match equivalent session. The second square previously provided six wickets. It is currently not marked with no current plans to bring this square back into use. Allscott Heath CC aspires to create a three lane practice bay.	Sustain square quality with appropriate maintenance. Assist the Club where possible with plans to create practice facilities.	Sports club ECB SCB	Key centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
2	Allscott Heath Sports Club	TF6 5EQ	Crown green bowls	Sports club	Two good quality greens one of which has an artificial surface. Used by Allscott Heath BC.	Sustain green quality as appropriate to meet demand.	Sports club BCGBA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
96	Allscott Meads Primary School	TF6 5FB	Football	Education	One good quality mini 7v7 pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality as appropriate to meet curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
3	Apley Wood Primary School	TF1 6FQ	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches all of which are poor quality. Pitches are unavailable for community use.	Improve pitch quality as appropriate to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
5	Bowring Park	TF1 2BN	Football	Local authority	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch both of which are poor quality. The former is unused whereas the latter is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to increase levels of community use.	Local authority FF SFA	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
5	Bowring Park	TF1 2BN	Cricket	Local authority	A five wicket grass square accompanied by a NTP. The grass squares and outfield are poor quality whereas the NTP is standard quality. Provision is unused and deemed not currently suitable for cricket demand due to the cricket square being located within a wider open space site where other site users could be at risk whilst a cricket game is taking place.	Based on levels of current and future demand, there is a need to improve the provision and make the provision more suitable to accommodate cricket demand.	Local authority ECB SCB	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
5	Bowring Park	TF1 2BN	Tennis	Local authority	Two standard quality grass courts with no sports lighting and four good quality macadam courts that are sports lit which have recently been upgraded.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Upgrade sports lighting to increase greater usage.	Local authority LTA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
5	Bowring Park	TF1 2BN	Crown green bowls	Local authority	Two standard quality bowling greens used by Bowring BC. The Club is operating close to or over capacity.	Improve green quality to better accommodate demand from Bowring BC.	Local authority BCGBA	Key centre	L	M	L	Protect Enhance

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6	Broad Oaks Playing Fields	TF2 8AJ	Football	Local authority	One adult, two youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitches all of which are poor quality. The mini 5v5 pitch is played to capacity and the adult pitch is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions. Remaining spare capacity discounted due to poor quality. Site is identified as a priority for ancillary improvements.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance to alleviate overplay and create spare capacity. Explore the opportunities to improve ancillary facilities.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
6	Broad Oaks Playing Fields	TF2 8AJ	Cycling	Local authority	A BMX pump macadam pump track built in 2012.	Sustain quality as appropriate to meet levels of demand.	Local authority British cycling	Local	L	L	L	Protect
109	Charlton Bowling Club Telford	TF1 5JY	Crown green bowls	Sports club	One good quality green used Charlton BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
7	Charlton School	TF1 3FA	Netball	Education	Four standard quality macadam courts that are not sports lit. Available for community use.	Sustain quality as appropriate to meet levels of demand.	Education EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect
7	Charlton School	TF1 3FA	Cricket	Education	A poor quality standalone NTP not available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet levels of demand.	Education ECB, SCB	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
86	Crescent Road	TF1 3EP	Football	Local authority	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch both of which are good quality and played to capacity at peak time. Serviced by poor quality ancillary provision.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore options to improve onsite ancillary provision.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
8	Donnington Recreation Ground	TF2 8HY	Football	Local authority	One youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 both of which are good quality. The youth 11v11 is play to capacity at peak time whereas the latter has one match equivalent session of spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Utilise spare capacity to alleviate shortfalls and/or accommodate future demand.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
8	Donnington Recreation Ground	TF2 8HY	Tennis	Local authority	One standard quality macadam court with no sports lights.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Explore installing sports lighting to increase usage.	Local authority LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
8	Donnington Recreation Ground	TF2 8HY	Bowls	Local authority	One good quality bowling green used by Donnington Wood BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance.	Local authority BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
8	Donnington Wood Bowling Club	TF2 8HY	Bowls (Disused)	Local Authority	One disused crown bowling green.	Retain as strategic reserve if an increase in demand warrants reinstating the provision. Ensure any permanent loss of provision meets national planning policy requirements.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
10	Dothill Playing Field	TF1 3LG	Football	Local authority	One youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 that have spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Local authority FF, SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
11	Dothill Primary School	TF1 3JB	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch not available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education FF, SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
14	Ercall Magna Payton Recreation Ground	TF6 6BB	Football	Community organisation	One youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 football pitch marked of which both are poor quality.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance to alleviate shortfalls across the Authority.	Community organisation FF, SFA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
15	Ercall Wood Academy	TF1 2DT	Football	Education	One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches all of which are poor quality and not available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand. Given there is a community use agreement in place it needs to be understood why these pitches are not available for community use.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
15	Ercall Wood Academy	TF1 2DT	Rugby union	Education	One poor quality (M0/D0) senior pitch not available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand. Given there is a community use agreement in place it needs to be understood why these pitches are not available for community use.	Education RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect
15	Ercall Wood Academy	TF1 2DT	Tennis	Education	Four standard quality macadam courts that are sports lit. Not available for community use.	Sustain quality as required to meet demand. Explore opening up for community use.	Education LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
15	Ercall Wood Academy	TF1 2DT	Netball	Education	Four standard quality macadam courts that are sports lit. Not available for community use.	Sustain quality as required to meet demand. Explore opening up for community use.	Education EN	Local	L	S	L	Protect
17	Hadley Learning Community	TF1 5NU	Football	Education	Two youth 11v11, two youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of which are standard quality. Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve quality as required to meet community, curricular and extracurricular demand	Education FF SFA	Key centre	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
17	Hadley Learning Community	TF1 5NU	3G	Education	One poor quality small size 3G pitch with sports lighting but not available for community use. Built in 2009.	Refurbish pitch as required and explore establishing community use.	Education FF SFA	Key centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
17	Hadley Learning Community	TF1 5NU	Rugby union	Education	One standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch not available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality as appropriate to meet demand.	Education RFU	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
17	Hadley Learning Community	TF1 5NU	Tennis	Education	Four good quality macadam courts not sports lit nor available for community use.	Sustain quality as required to meet demand. Explore opening up for community use.	Education LTA	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect
17	Hadley Learning Community	TF1 5NU	Netball	Education	Four good quality macadam courts not sports lit nor available for community use.	Sustain quality as required to meet demand. Explore opening up for community use.	Education EN	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect
110	Hadley United Services Bowling Club	TF1 5PB	Crown green bowls	Sports club	One good quality green used Hadley United Services Bowling Club BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
19	Hartshill Park	TF2 6AL	Football	Local authority	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 both of which are good quality and have actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session each.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance. Utilise actual spare capacity to alleviate shortfalls and/or accommodate future demand.	Local authority FF SFA	Local site	L	S	L	Protect
19	Hartshill Park	TF2 6AL	Tennis	Local authority	Two good quality macadam courts with sports lights, which has recently been upgraded.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Upgrade sports lights to increase usage.	Local authority LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
19	Hartshill Park	TF2 6AL	Flat green bowls (Disused)	Local authority	Hartshill Park has become disused following the bowls club folding (Hartshill BC). Anecdotal evidence suggests that this was due to a lack of demand to continue to be sustainable. Through consultation no demand has been identified to bring this green back into use for bowling use	As there is no identified demand for flat green bowls look to repurpose the facility to meet the needs of the local community whilst ensuring it can be brought back into if demand returns or ensure suitable alternative provision can be found.	Local authority BE	Local	L	S	L	Protect
23	Holy Trinity Academy	TF2 9SQ	Football	Education	One adult and two youth 11v11 pitches all of which are poor quality. Pitches are played to capacity at peak time. There is a Community Use Agreement (CUA) in place.	Improve quality to better meet curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	Education FF SFA	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
23	Holy Trinity Academy	TF2 9SQ	3G	Education	One good quality 11v11 size 3G pitch built in 2022 which is sports lit and available for community use. There is a Community Use Agreement (CUA) in place.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Ensure a pitch replacement fund is in situ. Retest the 3G pitch when required to retain registration.	Education FF SFA	Key centre	L	S	M	Protect
23	Holy Trinity Academy	TF2 9SQ	Cricket	Education	A poor quality standalone NTP not available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet levels of demand.	Education ECB SCB	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
23	Holy Trinity Academy	TF2 9SQ	Tennis	Education	Four good quality macadam courts available for community use. Not sports lit.	Sustain quality as required to meet demand. Explore opening up for community use.	Education LTA	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect
23	Holy Trinity Academy	TF2 9SQ	Netball	Education	Four good quality macadam courts available for community use. Not sports lit.	Sustain quality as required to meet demand. Explore opening up for community use.	Education EN	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect
25	Ketley Bank	TF2 0EZ	Football	Local authority	Two adult and one youth 9v9 all of which are poor quality. Overplayed by one and 1.5 match equivalent sessions respectively. Identified for ancillary improvements.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance to alleviate overplay. Explore options to improve onsite ancillary provision.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
26	Ketley Recreation Ground	TF1 5AN	Football	Local authority	One youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of which are good quality. Available for community but currently unused.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Explore options to increase usage.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
91	Leegomery BMX track	TF1 6UY	Cycling	Local authority	A tarmacked BMX pump track resurfaced in 2023.	Protect and retain as current use.	Local authority BC	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
104	Maddocks Sports & Social Club	TF2 6BU	Crown green bowls	Sports club	One standard quality green used Maddocks BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
40	Mercia Fields	TF1 6YP	Football	Local authority	Two adult and one youth 9v9 all of which are good quality. The adult pitches are played to capacity at peak time whereas the youth 9v9 has one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity. Identified for ancillary improvements given facilities are currently poor quality.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Explore options to improve onsite ancillary provision.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
41	Millbrook Primary School	TF1 6UJ	Football (Disused)	Education	Previously had two mini 7v7 football pitches marked. The playing field is still actively used by the school for curricular usage.	Maintain playing field for curricular usage and if an increase in demand warrants reinstating the provision.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
42	NC United FC	TF1 2GF	Football	Sports club	One adult and one youth 11v11 both of which are poor quality. Overplayed by one and 1.5 match equivalent sessions respectively. Awarded PP funding.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance through accessing PP funding.	Sports club FF SFA	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
43	New Bucks Head Stadium (AFC Telford United)	TF1 2TU	Football	Sports club	One good quality Step 3 adult pitch. Actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session at peak time.	Sustain quality as appropriate and retain as current use. Ensure ancillary provision meet relevant requirement for Step football.	Sports club FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
43	New Bucks Head Stadium (AFC Telford United)	TF1 2TU	3G	Sports club	Four small size 3G pitches with sports lights. Good quality having been refurbished in 2024.	Sustain quality as appropriate and retain as current use.	Sports club FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
50	Oakengates Leisure Centre (New Road Academy)	TF2 7AB	Football	Local authority	One adult (good quality), one adult (standard quality) and one poor quality youth 9v9 pitch. The adult pitches have no spare capacity at peak time whereas the youth 9v9 has, but it is discounted due to quality.	Look to improve all pitches to the same good quality with enhanced maintenance.	Local authority FF SFA	Hub	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
50	Oakengates Leisure Centre (New Road Academy)	TF2 7AB	3G	Local authority	One good quality 11v11 size 3G pitch that is sports lit, and FIFA certified. Built in 2023.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Ensure a relevant pitch replacement fund is in place. Ensure pitch is retested as required to remain FIFA certified.	Local authority FF SFA	Hub	L	L	L	Protect
50	Oakengates Leisure Centre (New Road Academy)	TF2 7AB	Tennis	Local authority	Four standard quality macadam courts available for community use and sports lit. The provision is in need of refurbishment. Used by Wrekin & Telford TC.	Explore options for refurbishment.	Local authority LTA	Hub	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
50	Oakengates Leisure Centre (New Road Academy)	TF2 7AB	Netball	Local authority	Two poor quality macadam courts not available for community use nor sports lit. Used for Back to Netball sessions by Telford NC.	Explore options for refurbishment.	Local authority EN	Hub	M	M	S	Protect Enhance
50	Oakengates Leisure Centre (New Road Academy) Telford Athletics Stadium	TF2 7AB	Athletics	Local authority	A good quality eight lane, synthetic 400 metre competition track. The track has sports lighting to support activities on both the	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance for both track and outfield provision.	Local authority EA	Hub	M	M	M	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					track and infield and provides all accompanying field event facilities including a throws cage (hammer, discus & club), javelin, high jump, long/triple jump and shot-put area. Track Mark compliant until 2026. Used by Telford AC.	Ensure the provision is retested for Track Mark when required.						
50	Oakengates Leisure Centre (New Road Academy)	TF2 7AB	American football	Local authority	A standard quality pitch marked in the centre of the athletics track. Used by Shropshire Revolutions.	Sustain with appropriate maintenance to meet demand.	Local authority BAF	Hub	L	L	L	Protect
54	Priorslee Primary Academy	TF2 9RS	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch not available for community use.	Sustain quality as appropriate to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
58	Ricoh Uk Products Ltd Football Pitch	TF2 9NS	Football	Other	One standard quality adult pitch that is current unused.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance and look to increase community usage.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
59	Ringers Lane	TF5 0BQ	Football	Local authority	One good quality youth 11v11 and a youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 both of which are standard quality. The former is played to capacity at peak time whereas the latter two pitches each have one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity. No accompanying ancillary provision.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Utilise spare capacity to alleviate shortfalls and/or accommodate future demand. Explore options to provide some form of ancillary provision on the site.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
59	Ringers Lane	TF5 0BQ	Cycling	Local authority	A tarmacked BMX pump track built in 2006. Some evidence of poor drainage and surface damage.	Retain as current use and look to improve its quality based on levels of demand.	Local authority BC	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
60	Rodington Playing Fields	SY4 4QS	Football	Local authority	Previously had one adult pitch marked.	Retain as strategic reserve if an increase in demand warrants reinstating the provision. Ensure any permanent loss of provision meets national planning policy requirements.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
122	Saville Close Playground	TF1 2AJ	Cycling	Local authority	A tarmacked BMX pump track built in 2006. Some evidence of poor drainage and surface damage.	Retain as current use and look to improve its quality based on levels of demand.	Local authority BC	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
61	Short Wood Primary School	TF1 2JA	Football (Disused)	Education	Previously had one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 football pitch marked. The playing field is still actively used by the school for curricular usage.	Maintain playing field for curricular usage and if an increase in demand warrants reinstating the provision.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
63	Sinclair Social Club	TF1 5HR	Football	Sports club	One youth 11v11, one mini 7v7 and one 5v5 all of which are poor quality. The youth 11v11 and mini 5v5 pitches are played to capacity whereas the mini 7v7 is played to capacity at peak time.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports club FF SFA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
63	Sinclair Social Club	TF1 5HR	Crown green bowls	Sports club	One good quality green used by Sinclair BC.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
112	Sir John Bayley Club	TF1 1QX	Crown green bowls	Sports club	Two good quality greens used by Sir John Bayley BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
65	St George's C of E Primary School	TF2 9LJ	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 pitch not available for community use.	Improve quality as appropriate to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
66	St Georges Sports and Social Club	TF2 9LU	Football	Sports club	One youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 all of which are standard quality. Each pitch has actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance. Utilise spare capacity to alleviate shortfalls and/or accommodate future demand.	Sports club FF SFA	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect
66	St Georges Sports and Social Club	TF2 9LU	Cricket	Sports club	One good quality 14 grass wicket square and one standard quality six grass wicket square both of which have spare capacity midweek. The outfielders on both squares are poor.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Look to use spare capacity for future demand. Explore options to improve outfield quality.	Sports club ECB SCB	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
66	St Georges Sports and Social Club	TF2 9LU	Hockey	Sports club	One full size hockey suitable AGP with sports lighting used by Telford & Wrekin HC. Good quality having been refurbished in 2021.	Protect long term as a hockey suitable surface. Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance. Ensure a pitch replacement fund in situ.	Sports club EH	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
66	St Georges Sports and Social Club	TF2 9LU	Crown green bowls	Sports club	Two good quality greens used by St Georges BC. Operating slightly approves recommended levels.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Monitor levels of demand to ensure quality.	Sports club BCGBA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
74	Telford College	TF1 2NP	Football	Education	One youth 11v11 overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions and one mini 7v7 pitch with spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. Pitches are standard quality.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
74	Telford College	TF1 2NP	3G	Education	One standard quality 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch build in 2012 which is FA approved. Also, one good quality small size indoor 3G pitch.	As a priority look to refurbish the 11v11 size pitch as it is past its recommended lifespan. Ensure a pitch replacement fund is in situ. Ensure the 11v11 size pitch remains FA approved.	Education FF SFA	Local	H	M	H	Protect Enhance
132	The Cleveland Arms Public House	TF6 6BE	Bowls (Disused)	privately owned	One disused crown bowling green.	Retain as strategic reserve if an increase in demand warrants reinstating the provision. Ensure any permanent loss of provision meets national planning policy requirements.	BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
79	The Hamer Leisure Stadium	TF2 6BQ	Football	Local authority	One good quality adult pitch played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Local authority FF, SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
130	The Shropshire Golf Centre	TF2 8PQ	Golf	Proprietary	A 27-hole course accompanied by a driving range.	Protect provision for current and future golf demand. Ensure quality is suitable to meet demand.	Proprietary EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect
103	Trench Bowling Club	TF2 6NU	Crown green bowls	Sports club	One good quality green used Trench BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
83	Trench Playing Field	TF2 7JW	Football	Local authority	One mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch both of which have spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve quality through enhance levels of maintenance.	Local authority FF, SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
85	Wellington Cricket Club	TF1 2BW	Cricket	Sports club	Two good quality squares one with 12 wickets and the other with eight wickets accompanied by an NTP. Marginal spare capacity on both. Ten years remaining on a lease from Orleton Estate to Wellington CC.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure the lease agreement is extended when appropriate to provide the Club with long term tenure.	Sports club ECB SCB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
88	Wrekin College Sports Centre	TF1 3BH	Football	Education	One adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch all of which are good quality. All have actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore options to secure tenure for community users to create actual spare capacity.	Education FF SFA	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect
88	Wrekin College Sports Centre	TF1 3BH	Rugby union	Education	Two good quality (M2/D1) senior pitches. Available for community use but unused.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore options to secure tenure for community users to create actual spare capacity.	Education RFU	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect
88	Wrekin College Sports Centre	TF1 3BH	Hockey	Education	Two good quality full size pitches which are available for community use and are sports lit. One built in 2017 and the other 2021. Used as an overspill by Newport HC and Telford & Wrekin HC. Reduced capacity for community use due to curricular and extracurricular demand.	Protect the pitch long term as hockey suitable surfaces. Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Ensure a relevant pitch replacement is in situ. Monitor to ensure the community use agreements is implemented as agreed.	Education EH	Key centre	H	S	L	Protect
88	Wrekin College Sports Centre	TF1 3BH	Cricket	Education	One cricket square accommodating 12 grass wickets, one accommodating eight grass wickets and one square accommodating seven grass wickets all of which are good quality. Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality as appropriate to meet curricular and extracurricular demand. Explore options to secure tenure for community users to create actual spare capacity.	Education ECB SCB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
88	Wrekin College Sports Centre	TF1 3BH	Netball	Education	Four poor quality macadam courts that are available for community use and are sports lit.	Improve quality as required to meet levels of curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	Education EN	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
89	Wrekin View Primary School and Nursery	TF1 3ES	Football	Education	One standard quality mini 5v5 pitch not available for community use.	Sustain quality as appropriate to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
102	Wrockwardine Wood Bowling Club	TF2 7AQ	Crown green bowls	Sports club	Two good quality greens used by Wrockwardine Wood BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
90	Wrockwardine Wood Juniors School	TF2 7HG	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 both of which are standard quality. The former pitch is played to capacity at peak time whereas the latter has actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. The site has been closed this season (2024/25) due to significant drainage issues on both the youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches of which are used by Wrockwardine Wood Juniors.	Resolve the drainage related issued to continue to meet curricular, extracurricular and community demand. Explore options to secure tenure for community users to create actual spare capacity.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
125	Wombridge BMX Track	TF2 6LB	Cycling	Local authority	A tarmacked BMX pump track built in 2006. Some evidence of poor drainage and surface damage.	Retain as current use and look to improve its quality based on levels of demand.	Local authority BC	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

SOUTHERN ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary – pitch sports

Area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2040) ¹²
Football (grass)	-	-	-
Southern	Adult	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 1 MES per week
Southern	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 3 MES per week
Southern	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 2 MES per week
Southern	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Southern	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week	Played to capacity
Telford & Wrekin	Adult	Shortfall of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 5.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 14 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 4 MES per week	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Football (3G)	-	-	-
Southern	11v11	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 1 pitch
Telford & Wrekin	11v11	Shortfall of 3.5 pitches¹³	Shortfall of 4.5 pitches
Cricket	-	-	-
Southern	Saturday	Shortfall of 38 MES per season	Shortfall of 50 MES per season
Southern	Sunday	Shortfall of 38 MES per season	Shortfall of 38 MES per season
Southern	Midweek	Shortfall of 38 MES per season	Shortfall of 38 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Saturday	Shortfall of 71 MES per season	Shortfall of 119 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Sunday	Shortfall of 71 MES per season	Shortfall of 77 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Midweek	Shortfall of 23 MES per season	Shortfall of 53 MES per season
Rugby union	-	-	-
Southern	Senior	Shortfall of 5 MES per week	Shortfall of 6 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Senior	Shortfall of 13 MES per week	Shortfall of 16 MES per week
Rugby league	-	-	-

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

¹² It should be noted that due to rounding of future demand figures, the analysis area future supply/demand balance does not always add up to the Boroughwide figure.

¹³ With the addition of the two new 3G pitches located off Waterloo Road (Southern Analysis Area) and Burton Borough School (Newport Analysis Area), this would reduce the current shortfall from 3.5 to 1.75 pitches and a future shortfall would be reduce from 4.5 to 2.75 pitches.

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2040) ¹²
Southern	Senior	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Senior	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week
Hockey	-	-	-
Telford & Wrekin	Full size, with sports lighting	Sufficient supply	Sufficient supply

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand in the Southern Analysis Area with three greens provided. Clubs should be monitored to ensure their existing provision remains sufficient such as Madeley Cricket Club BC.
Tennis	With nine community available courts provided in the Southern Analysis Area for club-based tennis, supply is considered sufficient to meet demand. Away from clubs, no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, however, given the amount of expressed latent and unmet demand it cannot be said supply is sufficient to meet demand.
Netball	With six community available netball courts provided in the Southern Analysis Area located across one site, The Telford Langley School, supply is considered sufficient provision to meet demand.
Athletics	There is currently no athletics provision identified in the Southern Analysis Area with all demand being cater for in the Northern Analysis Area located at Oakengates Leisure Centre. Supply is sufficient to meet demand for athletics in Telford & Wrekin.
Golf	There are two golf facilities identified in the Southern Analysis Area located at Wrekin Golf Club and Horsehay Village Golf Club which both provide an 18-hole golf course and the latter also providing a 16-bay driving range.
Outdoor water sports	Outdoor water sports within Telford & Wrekin are well catered for through facilities such as Priorslee Lake and the River Seven.
Open water swimming	Supply is considered to meet demand for open water swimming within Telford & Wrekin with all demand currently being accommodated for in the Southern Analysis Area.
Cycling	Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand in the Southern Analysis Area with five BMX tracks provided located at Lawley Public Park, Malinslee Playing Field, Telford Langley Sports and Leisure Centre, Rough Park BMX Track and Stirchley BMX Track.
Angling	Given the number of angling locations across Telford & Wrekin when compared to the amount of demand (roughly 1% of the population) there is considered to be a suitable amount of provision.
American football	There is sufficient supply to meet the demand for American football in Telford & Wrekin for both competitive and training demand. As a result, it is essential that Shropshire Revolution continues to have access to the provision at Oakengates Leisure Centre and Telford College in the Northern Analysis Area to meet its demand.
Baseball and softball	There is only one dedicated baseball diamond located in Telford & Wrekin which is provided in the Southern Analysis Area located at The Meadow Recreation Ground. Supply is sufficient to meet demand.
Rounders	There is one site in the Southern Analysis Area which provide rounders provision located at Madeley Academy. Supply is sufficient to meet demand.

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Abraham Darby Haberdashers'	TF7 5HX	Rugby union	Education	Four standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitches that are not sports lit but available for community use. Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance and retain as current use.	Education RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect
1	Abraham Darby Sports and Leisure Centre	TF7 5HX	Tennis	Education	Seven poor quality macadam courts that are not available for community use nor sports lit,	Improve quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
1	Abraham Darby Sports and Leisure Centre	TF7 5HX	Netball	Education	Four poor quality macadam courts that are not available for community use nor sports lit,	Improve quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education EN	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
98	Dawley Park	TF4 3AL	Tennis	Local authority	Two good quality macadam courts that are not sports lit.	Sustain quality and retain as current use. Explore options to increase usage.	Local authority LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
98	Dawley Park	TF4 3AL	Crown green bowls	Local authority	One standard quality green used by Dawley Park BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
9	Doseley Road Playing Field	TF4 3AL	Football	Sports club	One standard quality adult pitch overplayed by one match equivalent session.	Improve quality with enhanced maintenance in order to alleviate overplay.	Sports club FF, SFA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
13	Elms Playing Field	TF3 1DY	Football	Local authority	One adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 all of which are good quality and are currently unused. Each pitch has one match equivalent session of spare capacity at peak time. Randlay Colts Juniors FC is in the process of negotiating a lease. The Club has plans to create ancillary provision on the site.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Agree long term tenure for Randlay Colts Juniors FC. Once tenure has been secured explore options to assist the Club with its plans to create ancillary provision.	Local authority Sports club FF SFA	Local	H	S	H	Protect Provide
16	Grange Park Primary School	TF3 1ET	3G	Education	One small size sports lit 3G pitch not available for community use. Good quality having been built in 2018.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
20	Hills Lane	TF7 4LA	Cycling	Local authority	A bespoke cycling trail for BMX.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Local authority BC	Local	L	L	L	Protect
21	Hollinswood	TF3 2DW	Football	Local authority	One adult pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Local authority FF, SFA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
22	Hollinswood Primary School and Nursery	TF3 2EP	Football	Education	Previously had one youth 11v11 football pitch marked. The playing field is still actively used by the school for curricular usage.	Maintain playing field for curricular usage and if an increase in demand warrants reinstating the provision.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
107	Horsehay Crown Green Bowls Club	TF4 2PA	Crown green bowls	Sports club	One good quality crown green used by Horsehay BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
126	Horsehay Village Golf Club	TF4 3BT	Golf	Municipal	An 18-hole course accompanied by a driving range.	Protect provision for current and future golf demand. Ensure quality is suitable to meet demand.	Proprietary EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect
24	John Randall Primary School	TF7 4DS	Hockey	Education	One small size hockey suitable AGP not sports lit nor available for community use.	Sustain quality to meet demand and retain as current use.	Education EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
27	Ladygrove Primary School	TF4 2LF	Football	Education	One poor quality mini 7v7 not available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education FF, SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Improve
28	Lawley Primary School	TF4 2PR	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 overplayed by one match equivalent session and one mini 5v5 played to capacity. Pitches are poor quality and not available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet community, curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Improve
29	Lawley Public Park	TF4 2PJ	Cycling	Local authority	A tarmacked BMX pump track built in 2012. Some evidence of poor drainage and surface damage.	Retain as current use and look to improve its quality based on levels of demand.	Local authority BC	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
33	Little Wenlock Playing Field	TF6 5BE	Tennis	Local authority	One poor quality artificial court that is not sports lit.	Improve court quality as required to increase usage.	Local authority LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
35	Madeley Academy	TF7 5FB	Football	Education	One good quality adult pitch and one standard quality youth 11v11 pitch neither of which are available for community use.	Sustain quality as appropriate and retain as current use.	Education FF SFA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
35	Madeley Academy	TF7 5FB	3G	Education	One good quality 11v11 size that is sports lit but not available for community use built in 2021.	Sustain quality as appropriate. Ensure a pitch replacement fund is in situ. Explore options to allow community use in order to alleviate identified shortfalls.	Education FF SFA	Key centre	M	S	L	Protect Provide
35	Madeley Academy	TF7 5FB	Cricket	Education	A poor quality standalone NTP not available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet levels of demand.	Education ECB SCB	Key centre	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
35	Madeley Academy	TF7 5FB	Rugby union	Education	One standard (M1/D1) senior that is not available for community use.	Sustain quality as appropriate and retain as current use.	Education RFU	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
35	Madeley Academy	TF7 5FB	Tennis	Education	Two standard quality macadam courts that are sports lit. Not available for community use.	Sustain quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education LTA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
35	Madeley Academy	TF7 5FB	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam courts that are sports lit. Not available for community use.	Sustain quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education EN	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
36	Madeley Barn Football Pitch	TF7 5EE	Football	Other	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Other FF SFA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
106	Madeley Cricket and Bowling Club	TF7 5TS	Crown green bowls	Sports club	One good quality crown green used by Madeley Cricket Club BC.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
37	Madeley Cricket Club	TF7 5JY	Cricket	Sports club	One standard quality ten grass wickets square accompanied by an NTP. No spare capacity. Poor quality training facilities. Clubhouse is standard quality with enhancements required for women and girls' demand.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore options to improve the quality of ancillary provision especially considered women and girls' demand. Explore options to improve training facilities.	Sports club ECB SCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
38	Malinslee Playing Fields	TF4 2NS	Football	Local authority	One youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch that have spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Local authority FF' SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
38	Malinslee Playing Fields	TF4 2NS	Cycling	Local authority	A tarmacked BMX pump track built in 2007. Some evidence of poor drainage and surface damage.	Retain as current use and look to improve its quality based on levels of demand.	Local authority BC	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
95	Newdale Primary School	TF3 5HA	3G	Education	One small size not sports lit 3G pitch and available for community use. Good quality having been built in 2021.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
49	Oak Tree Centre	TF4 3EG	Football	Other	One adult pitch that has spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Local authority FF, SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
133	Old Park Primary and Nursery School	TF3 2BF	3G	Education	A planning application (TWC/2022/0581) has been approved for a new small sided 3G pitch with sports lighting.	Assist where possible with the creation of the small size 3G with sports lighting including community use.	Education Local authority FF, SF	Local	H	M	M	Provide
55	Queensway South School	TF4 3PP	Football	Education	One standard quality youth 9v9 that is unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality as appropriate to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
123	Rough Park BMX Track	TF7 5TY	Cycling	Local authority	A tarmacked BMX pump track built in 2018.	Retain as current use and look to improve its quality based on levels of demand.	Local authority BC	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
124	Stirchley BMX Track	TF3 1EX	Cycling	Local authority	A poor quality BMX pump track rarely used.	Explore the feasibility of needing to retain the provision.	Local authority BC	Local	L	S	L	Protect
71	Stirchley Recreation Centre	TF3 1ET	Football	Local authority	One adult, one youth 11v11, three youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all of which are poor quality. The youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions and the 9v9 pitches are played to capacity. All remaining pitches are played to capacity at peak times.	Improve quality through enhanced levels of maintenance.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
71	Stirchley Recreation Centre	TF3 1ET	Rugby union	Local authority	One poor quality (M1/D0) senior pitch which is available but unused by the community.	Improve quality based on levels of demand. If limited use for rugby union, explore pitch reconfiguration to football to alleviate shortfalls.	Local authority RFU	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
72	Sutton Hill Playing Field	TF7 4DH	Football	Local authority	One adult and one youth 9v9 both of which are poor quality and one good quality youth 11v11 pitch. The latter pitch has actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session whereas the others have spare capacity discounted due to quality. Accompanied by poor quality ancillary provision.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Once all pitch is improved look to increase community usage. If usage increases examine options to improve ancillary provision.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
75	Telford Hornets Rugby Football Club	TF4 3NZ	Rugby union / rugby league	Sports club	Three standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitches one of which is sports lit. The sports lit pitch is played to capacity whereas the other pitches are accumulatively five match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality through maintenance and/or drainage enhancements. Assist the Club in reinstating the training pitch to a lined pitch with	Sports club RFU RFL	Local	H	M	H	Protect Provide Enhance

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					One of the unlit pitches is dual use with rugby league used by Telford Raiders RLFC. Telford Hornets RUFC, freeholders, plan to bring a training pitch back into formal use. Changing provision is assessed as poor quality and is in need of updating as it currently doesn't meet RFU specification.	post to a suitable quality in order to create additional capacity. Assist the Club in improving ancillary provision to meet RFU specifications. Explore options to relocate training demand to a WR compliant 3G pitch to reduce overplay. Explore options to create suitable provision to relocate Telford Raiders RLFC to the site.						
76	Telford Langley Sports and Leisure Centre	TF4 3JS	Football	Local Authority	One adult and one youth 11v11 which are standard quality and one youth 9v9 that is poor quality. They are played to capacity, overplayed by one match equivalent session and overplayed by two match equivalent sessions, respectively.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance to alleviate overplay.	Education FF SFA	Hub	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
129	The Telford Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort	TF7 4DT	Golf	Proprietary	An 18-hole course.	Protect provision for current and future golf demand. Ensure quality is suitable to meet demand.	Proprietary EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect
76	The Telford Langley School	TF4 3JS	3G	Local Authority	A standard quality 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch that is FA approved and available for community use. Built in 2013. It is used to meet rugby league training demand from Telford Raiders RLFC, however not big enough for competitive demand. A pitch replacement fund is in situ. Telford Raiders RLFC highlights an issue lack of social space on the site which is key for the Club especially on match days.	Look to replace the surface using the pitch replacement fund in place. Ensure the pitch remains on the FA register. If the 3G pitch is resurfaced to not be WR22 compliant then rugby league capacity would need to be re provided elsewhere. Explore options to extend the pitch to make it suitable for competitive rugby league demand and securing tenure for Telford Raiders RLFC to meet its current and future demand. Explore options to create a dedicated social area for Telford Raiders RLFC.	Education FF SFA RFL	Hub	H	S	H	Protect Provide Enhance
76	The Telford Langley School	TF4 3JS	Tennis	Local Authority	Six poor quality macadam courts that are available for community use but unused and are not sports lit. There are aspirations to install sports lights on the courts.	Look to resurface the courts, including the installation of sports lights, to better accommodate demand.	Local authority Education LTA	Hub	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
76	The Telford Langley School	TF4 3JS	Netball	Local Authority	Six poor quality macadam courts that are available for community use but are not sports lit. Used by community netball clubs. There are aspirations to install sports lights on the courts.	Look to resurface the courts, including the installation of sports lights, to better accommodate demand.	Local authority Education EN	Hub	H	S	M	Protect Enhance

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
76	The Telford Langley School	TF4 3JS	Cycling	Sports Club	A good quality dedicated BMX race track. Telford Flyers BMX Club has multiple development plans with the main one to add another storage container, bar and office.	Protect the provision and ensure Telford Flyers BMX has long term access. Assist the Club with its development plans.	Education BC	Hub	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
77	Telford Snowboard and Ski Centre (Madeley 3G)	TF7 5DZ	3G	Local authority	One good quality 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch that is FA certified. Built in 2018 and available for community use.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Ensure a pitch replacement fund is in situ. Ensure the pitch remains on the FA register.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	M	L	L	Protect
80	The Meadow Recreation Ground	TF8 7BJ	Football	Local authority	One youth 11v11, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch all of which are standard quality. The former pitch is played to capacity at peak time whereas the others each have one match equivalent sessions of spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance. Utilise spare capacity to accommodate future demand or alleviate shortfalls.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
80	The Meadow Recreation Ground	TF8 7BJ	Baseball	Local authority	One poor quality diamond rent to Telford Baseball Club. No accompanying ancillary provision.	Protect baseball provision and look to provide the Club with long term tenure. Improve the quality of the Diamond. Look to provide basic ancillary provision to meet the Clubs need.	Local authority BSUK	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide
81	Thomas Telford School	TF3 4NW	3G	Education	Two 11v11 size (2023/2014) and one small size pitch (2017) all of which are sports lit but not available for community use. The older 11v11 size pitch is FA certified and standard quality with the other two being good quality.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Ensure a sinking fund is in place. Explore options to open up for community use. Look to ensure both 11v11 size pitches are FA certified.	Education FF SFA	Key centre	H	S	L	Protect
81	Thomas Telford School	TF3 4NW	Hockey	Education	One full size standard quality sports lit hockey suitable AGP that is unavailable for community use.	Protect as a hockey suitable surface. Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Ensure a sinking fund is in place. Explore options to open up for community use.	Education EH	Key centre	H	S	L	Protect
81	Thomas Telford School	TF3 4NW	Netball	Education	Two standard quality macadam sports lit courts that are not available for community use.	Sustain quality as appropriate to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education EN	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
84	Unicorn Playing Fields	TF4 3HZ	Football	Local authority	One poor quality adult pitch that is unused.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Local authority FF, SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
87	Windmill Primary School (Telford)	TF3 1LG	Football	Education	Previously had one mini 7v7 football pitch marked. The playing field is still actively used by the school for curricular usage.	Maintain playing field for curricular usage and if an increase in demand warrants reinstating the provision.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
127	Wrekin Golf Club	TF6 5BX	Golf	Members	An 18-hole course.	Protect provision for current and future golf demand.	Proprietary EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY -
STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
						Ensure quality is suitable to meet demand.						

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

NEWPORT ANALYSIS AREA

Area summary – pitch sports

Area	Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES ^[1]	Future capacity total in MES (2040) ¹⁴
Football (grass)	-	-	-
Newport	Adult	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 2 MES per week
Newport	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 1 MES per week
Newport	Youth 9v9	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES per week	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week
Newport	Mini 7v7	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Newport	Mini 5v5	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Adult	Shortfall of 1 MES per week	Shortfall of 5.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 6.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 14 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Youth 9v9	Played to capacity	Shortfall of 6 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity of 4 MES per week	Shortfall of 1.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity of 3 MES per week	Shortfall of 0.5 MES per week
Football (3G)	-	-	-
Newport	11v11	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 1 pitch
Telford & Wrekin	11v11	Shortfall of 3.5 pitches¹⁵	Shortfall of 4.5 pitches
Cricket	-	-	-
Newport	Saturday	Shortfall of 32 MES per season	Shortfall of 56 MES per season
Newport	Sunday	Shortfall of 32 MES per season	Shortfall of 32 MES per season
Newport	Midweek	Shortfall of 32 MES per season	Shortfall of 38 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Saturday	Shortfall of 71 MES per season	Shortfall of 119 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Sunday	Shortfall of 71 MES per season	Shortfall of 77 MES per season
Telford & Wrekin	Midweek	Shortfall of 23 MES per season	Shortfall of 53 MES per season
Rugby union	-	-	-
Newport	Senior	Shortfall of 7.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 9.5 MES per week
Telford & Wrekin	Senior	Shortfall of 13 MES per week	Shortfall of 16 MES per week
Rugby league	-	-	-
Newport	Senior	Played to capacity	Played to capacity
Telford & Wrekin	Senior	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week	Shortfall of 4.5 MES per week
Hockey	-	-	-
Telford & Wrekin	Full size, with sports lighting	Sufficient supply	Sufficient supply

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

¹⁴ It should be noted that due to rounding of future demand figures, the analysis area future supply/demand balance does not always add up to the Boroughwide figure.

¹⁵ With the addition of the two new 3G pitches located off Waterloo Road (Southern Analysis Area) and Burton Borough School (Newport Analysis Area), this would reduce the current shortfall from 3.5 to 1.75 pitches and a future shortfall would be reduce from 4.5 to 2.75 pitches.

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Area summary – non-pitch sports

Sport	Headline findings
Bowls	Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand in the Newport Analysis Area with three greens provided. Clubs should be monitored to ensure their existing provision remains sufficient such as Newport BC.
Tennis	With 12 community available courts provided in the Newport Analysis Area for club-based tennis, supply is considered sufficient to meet demand with eight courts available at club sites. Away from clubs, no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, however, given the amount of expressed latent and unmet demand it cannot be said supply is sufficient to meet demand.
Netball	With 10 community available netball courts provided in the Newport Analysis Area located across three sites, Harper Adams University, Burton Borough School, Tibberton Playing Fields, supply is considered sufficient provision to meet demand.
Athletics	There is currently no athletics provision identified in the Newport Analysis Area with all demand being catered for in the Northern Analysis Area located at Oakengates Leisure Centre. Supply is sufficient to meet demand for athletics in Telford & Wrekin.
Golf	Aqualate Golf Club is the only golf facility in the Newport Analysis Area which provides an 18-hole course and has a 20-bay driving range.
Outdoor water sports	Outdoor water sports within Telford & Wrekin are well catered for through facilities such as Priorslee Lake and the River Seven.
Open water swimming	Supply is considered to meet demand for open water swimming within Telford & Wrekin with all demand currently being accommodated for in the Southern Analysis Area.
Cycling	Supply is considered sufficient to meet demand in the Newport Analysis Area with one BMX tracks provided located at Norbroom Park.
Angling	Given the number of angling locations across Telford & Wrekin when compared to the amount of demand (roughly 1% of the population) there is considered to be a suitable amount of provision.
American football	There is sufficient supply to meet the demand for American football in Telford & Wrekin for both competitive and training demand. As a result, it is essential that Shropshire Revolution continues to have access to the provision at Oakengates Leisure Centre and Telford College in the Northern Analysis Area to meet its demand.
Baseball and softball	No baseball provision is provided within the Newport Analysis Area. There is only dedicated baseball diamond located in Telford & Wrekin which is provided in the Southern Analysis Area. Supply is sufficient to meet demand.
Rounders	There are five sites in the Newport Analysis Area which provide rounders provision located at Newport C.E Junior School, Newport Girls High School Academy, St Lawrence CE VC Primary School, St Peter and St Paul Catholic Primary School and Burton Borough School. Supply is sufficient to meet demand.

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
128	Aqualate Golf Club	TF10 9PY	Golf	Proprietary	An 9/18 hole course with a driving range.	Protect provision for current and future golf demand. Ensure quality is suitable to meet demand.	Proprietary EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect
97	Audley Avenue Enterprise Park Football Pitch	TF10 7DW	Football	Other	One good quality adult pitch that has spare capacity of one match equivalent session.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Utilise spare capacity to alleviate shortfalls and/or accommodate future demand.	Other FF SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
12	Edgmond Playing Fields	TF10 8HU	Football	Local authority	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve quality with enhanced maintenance.	Local authority FF, SFA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
12	Edgmond Playing Fields	TF10 8HU	Cricket	Local authority	A standard quality eight wicket grass square overplayed by one match equivalent session. Used by Lilleshall CC and Priorslee CC. Rented from the Council. Poor quality ancillary and outfield.	Improve square, outfield and ancillary provision quality to better cater for levels of demand.	Local authority ECB SCB	Local	H	M	M	Protect Enhance
93	Haberdashers' Adams Junior Boarding House	TF10 8LR	Football	Education	One good quality adult pitch not available for community use.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
93	Haberdashers' Adams Junior Boarding House	TF10 8LR	Rugby union	Education	Four good quality (M2/D1) senior pitches not available for community use.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect
18	Harper Adams University College	TF10 8NB	Football	University	One adult and one youth 9v9 both of which are good quality. Unavailable for community use.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Retain as current use.	University FF SFA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
18	Harper Adams University College	TF10 8NB	Cricket	University	A poor quality four grass wicket square with a poor quality outfield. Overplayed by 17 match equivalent sessions. Used by Harper CC with unsecure tenure.	Improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore securing tenure for Harper CC.	University ECB SCB	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
18	Harper Adams University College	TF10 8NB	Hockey	University	One full size sports lit hockey suitable AGP that is available for community use. Poor quality having been built in 2009. Used by University teams but no community clubs. Previously used by Newport HC.	Refurbish pitch as soon as possible with a relevant hockey suitable surface. Once refurbished explore options to allow secure community use, particularly for Newport HC.	University EH	Key centre	H	S	H	Protect Enhance
18	Harper Adams University College	TF10 8NB	Netball	University	One good quality artificial court that is sports lit and available for community use.	Sustain court quality and retain as current use.	University EN	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
32	Lilleshall Cricket Club	TF10 9HE	Cricket	Sports club	A standard quality 10 grass wicket square accompanied by a poor quality NTP. Overplayed by 10 match equivalent sessions. Issues with waterlogging on the outfield resulting in a poor quality outfield. Also, poor quality ancillary provision and training facilities.	Improve square and outfield quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Refurbish NTP. Explore options to improve the training and ancillary provision.	Sports club ECB SCB	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance

TELFORD & WREKIN PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY - STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
32	Lilleshall Cricket Club	TF10 9HE	Tennis	Sports club	Four macadam courts, two of which are mini size, all of which are good quality. Available for community use with the normal size courts sports lit. Used by Lilleshall Village TC.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
44	Newport (Salop) Rugby Union Football Club	TF10 8BU	Rugby union	Sports club	Two sports lit standard quality (M1/D2) senior pitches overplayed by 4.5 match equivalent sessions and two standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitches that are not sports lit accumulatively overplayed by three match equivalent sessions. Ancillary provision needs improving for women and girls' demand. Aspirations to utilise a 3G pitch to alleviate some shortfalls.	Improve pitch quality through maintenance enhancements and/or drainage upgrades. Explore options to improve ancillary provision to better meet women and girls' demand.	Sports club RFU	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
46	Newport Cricket Club	TF10 7DP	Cricket	Sports club	A 10 wicket good quality grass square with a standard quality outfield. Overplayed by four match equivalent sessions. Poor quality ancillary facilities and training provision. On a 15 year lease from the Council to Newport CC.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore options to install NTP to alleviate overplay. Examine options to improve ancillary and training provision. Ensure Newport CC has long term tenure and examine its length of agreement to allow it to apply for relevant monies.	Sports club ECB SCB	Local	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
46	Newport Cricket Club	TF10 7DP	Crown green bowls	Sports club	Two standard quality greens used by Newport BC.	Improve green quality as appropriate to meet	Sports club BCGBA	Local	L	M	L	Protect Enhance
47	Newport Girls High School Academy Trust	TF10 7HL	Hockey	Education	A standard quality small size AGP that has no community use and no sports lighting.	Improve quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
47	Newport Girls High School Academy Trust	TF10 7HL	Tennis	Education	One standard quality macadam court that is not sports lit nor available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education LTA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
47	Newport Girls High School Academy Trust	TF10 7HL	Netball	Education	Three standard quality macadam courts one of which is sports lit. None are available for community use.	Improve quality as required to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education EN	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
48	Norbroom Park	TF10 7XY	Football	Local authority	One mini 5v5 pitch that has spare capacity due to its poor quality.	Improve quality as required based on levels of demand.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
48	Norbroom Park	TF10 7XY	Cycling	Local authority	A tarmacked BMX pump track built in 2009.	Retain as current use and look to improve its quality based on levels of demand.	Local authority BC	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
62	Shuker Fields	TF10 7NX	Football	Other	An adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitch all of which are standard quality and one poor quality 11v11 pitch. All pitches are played to capacity at peak time. Poor quality ancillary facilities. Nova United is in the process of securing a long-term lease on the site.	Improve the quality with enhanced maintenance. Improve quality of ancillary provision. Pursue transfer to club led model.	Other FF SFA	Local	H	S	M	Protect Provide Enhance
67	St Lawrence CE VC Primary School	TF6 6DH	Football	Education	Previously had one mini 7v7 football pitch marked. The playing field is still actively used by the school for curricular usage.	Maintain playing field for curricular usage and if an increase in demand warrants reinstating the provision.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
69	St Peter and St Paul Catholic Primary School	TF10 7HU	Football	Education	Previously had one mini 5v5 football pitch marked. The playing field is still actively used by the school for curricular usage.	Maintain playing field for curricular usage and if an increase in demand warrants reinstating the provision.	Education FF SFA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
78	The Burton Borough School	TF10 7DS	Football	Education	Two youth 9v9 and two mini 7v7 pitches all of which are standard quality and not available for community use.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education FF SFA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
78	The Burton Borough School	TF10 7DS	3G	Education	Funding has recently been granted for a 11v11 3G pitch which will be both rugby build and rugby compliant located at Burton Borough School. It is proposed for Newport (Salop) RUFC to be the rugby partner and access 20% of the midweek programme usage.	Support the development of a 11v11 size 3G pitch in order to alleviate identified shortfalls. Secure community access through a community use agreement, particularly for Newport (Salop) RUFC. Ensure it is built to accommodate football, rugby union and rugby league demand with relevant certifications to allow for contact competitive demand.	Education Local Authority FF SFA RFU RFL	Key centre	H	M	H	Provide
78	The Burton Borough School	TF10 7DS	Cricket	Education	A standalone NTP not available for community use. It's planned for the NTP to be relocated elsewhere on the playing field as part of the new 3G pitch development.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education ECB SCB	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
78	The Burton Borough School	TF10 7DS	Tennis	Education	Three standard quality macadam courts that are available for community use but not sports lit.	Sustain quality and retain as current use.	Education LTA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
78	The Burton Borough School	TF10 7DS	Netball	Education	Six poor quality and two standard macadam courts. All are available for community use with the two standard courts sports lit. Some ad hoc community netball usage.	Improve quality as appropriate to meet levels of community, curricular and extracurricular demand.	Education EN	Key centre	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
82	Tibberton Playing Field	TF10 8PB	Football	Local authority	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch both of which have actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Utilise spare capacity to alleviate shortfalls and/or accommodate future demand.	Local authority FF SFA	Local	L	S	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
82	Tibberton Playing Field	TF10 8PB	Cricket	Local authority	Previously (circa 2018) provided five grass wickets in addition to the one NTP. However, the square is currently not maintained due to the site not being suitable for cricket as well as issues with ball strike.	Explore the potential to reinstate the provision in order to alleviate identified shortfalls if the issues with ball strike can be resolved.	Local authority ECB SCB	Local	H	S	M	Protect Enhance
82	Tibberton Playing Field	TF10 8PB	Tennis	Local authority	One good quality macadam court with no sports lights.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Explore the option of installing sports lights to increase usage.	Local authority LTA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
82	Tibberton Playing Field	TF10 8PB	Netball	Local authority	One good quality macadam court with no sports lights.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Explore the option of installing sports lights to increase usage.	Local authority EN	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide

It should be noted that provision which is difficult to attributed to a designated analysis area such as angling, outdoor water sports and open water swimming have not been included in the tables above. All the active sites used for these sports, as referenced within the Assessment Report, should be protected with access to remain to relevant users. Attempts should be made to work with the users of the provision to ensure they meet the relevant requirements for their needs including accessibility, addressing quality issues and improving or establishing suitable ancillary provision.

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PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The PPORS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sports based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2040 (in line with the Local Plan). This future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required. The Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converts the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required. This is achieved via team generation rates in the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth and gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision.

Experience shows that housing sites with 600 dwellings or more are likely to generate demand for new provision to be created. For such large scale developments, consideration should be given to providing multi-pitch sites with suitable ancillary provision, including appropriate clubhouse/changing facilities and car parking. Single pitch sites which have been provided traditionally by developers are not considered to provide long term sustainable provision for the relevant sports.

For tennis, Sport England has been working with the LTA to add outdoor tennis courts to its Sports Facilities Calculator (SFC)¹⁶. The SFC is a modelling tool designed to assist local planning authorities to quantify how much additional demand is generated by increasing populations and new housing areas. The model has no spatial qualities or dimension and can only be used to estimate the facility needs for whole area populations.

The SFC uses information that Sport England has gathered on who uses facilities and applies this to the population profile of the local area. This ensures that the calculations take on board the population profile (e.g. age, gender, etc) of the local area.

The SFC then turns this estimation of demand (visits per week) into the equivalent amount of facility which is needed to meet these visits.

As detailed above, the SFC includes tennis courts, however, it does not calculate a need for netball, athletics, and bowling greens which are also covered in the scope of the PPORS. Recommendations on need for this type of provision is provided using the evidence base collated within the PPORS.

Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, the Action Plan in this document should be consulted to determine whether the additional demand can be accommodated via existing provision (in which case no further action is required). If this is not the case, contributions should be sought to enhance existing provision in the locality to accommodate the increased demand. This can be through, for example, improving quality, or providing new or improved ancillary provision. Consultation with appropriate NGBs should also be used to assist in the selection of suitable sites and suitable enhancements.

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

¹⁶<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/sports-facility-calculator>

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- ✦ **Scenario One** – Testing the model for a housing development proposing 3,100 dwellings (Land North of A442 Wheat Leasows (Wappenshall) Sustainable Community).
- ✦ **Scenario Two** – Testing the model for a housing development proposing 2,700 dwellings (Land North East Muxton Sustainable Community).
- ✦ **Scenario Three** – Testing the model for a housing development proposing 2,100 dwellings (Land at Bratton Sustainable Community).

Scenario One – Testing the model for a housing development proposing 3,100 dwellings (Land North of A442 Wheat Leasows (Wappenshall) Sustainable Community)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 3,100 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.4 people per household (based on a national average) is 7,440 people. The table below identifies what this equates to in terms of pitch demand.

This population increase equates to 14.5 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.42 match equivalent sessions on a hockey suitable AGP's and 23.65 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket. Training demand equates to 13.05 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.96 hours on a hockey suitable AGP.

Table 7.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from an additional 7,440 people

Pitch sport	Match demand per week ¹⁷	Training demand ¹⁸
Adult football	1.2	13.05 hours
Youth football	3.21	As above
Mini soccer	2.11	As above
Rugby union	0.63	0.69 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.10	0.10 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.32	0.95 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.10	0.01 hours
Cricket	23.65	-

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifecycle costs.

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ¹⁹	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²⁰	Number of changing rooms	Capital cost
Adult football	1.2	£129,560	£25,523	2.4	£477,015
Youth football	3.21	£299,293	£60,457	3.98	£790,589
Mini soccer	2.11	£61,971	£12,270	0	£0
Rugby union	0.63	£105,069	£19,438	1.26	£250,312
Rugby league	0.10	£14,484	£2,679	0.2	£39,106
Cricket	0.52	£182,187	£33,522	1.05	£207,848

¹⁷ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

¹⁸ Hours equate to access to an 11v11 sports lit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

¹⁹ [Link to Sport England cost guidance](#)

²⁰ Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

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Pitch type	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost ¹⁹	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) ²⁰	Number of changing rooms	Capital cost
Sand based AGPs	0.08	£75,305	£1,958	0.16	£31,281
3G	0.34	£395,416	£12,105	0.69	£136,292
Tennis Courts	0.99	£92,055	-	-	-
Total	9.19	£1,355,340	£167,953	9.74	£1,932,442

Overall, an additional 9.19 pitches would be required to meet additional demand arising from an additional 7,440 people living in Telford & Wrekin. This consist of 7.77 grass pitches, 0.42 of access to artificial pitches and 0.99 outdoor tennis courts. This would require an expected capital cost of £1,263,285 and a lifecycle cost per annum of £167,953. To facilitate the increased provision, 9.74 changing rooms would need to be provided at a capital cost of £1,932,442.

Scenario Two – Testing the model for a housing development proposing 2,700 dwellings (Land North East Muxton Sustainable Community)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2,700 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.4 people per household (based on a national average) is 6,480 people. The table below identifies what this equates to in terms of pitch demand.

This population increase equates to 6.33 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.36 match equivalent sessions on a hockey suitable AGP's and 20.6 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket. Training demand equates to 11.37 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.83 hours on a hockey suitable AGP.

Table 7.3: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from an additional 6,480 people

Pitch sport	Match demand per week	Training demand
Adult football	1.05	11.37 hours
Youth football	2.8	As above
Mini soccer	1.84	As above
Rugby union	0.55	0.60 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.09	0.09 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.27	0.82 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.09	0.01 hours
Cricket	20.6	-

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs.

Table 7.4: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number of changing rooms	Capital cost
Adult football	1.05	£112,842	£22,230	2.09	£415,465
Youth football	2.8	£260,677	£52,657	3.47	£688,596
Mini soccer	1.84	£53,975	£10,687	0	£0
Rugby union	0.55	£91,513	£16,930	1.1	£218,016
Rugby league	0.09	£12,615	£2,334	0.17	£34,060

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Pitch type	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number of changing rooms	Capital cost
Cricket	0.46	£158,680	£29,197	0.91	£181,029
Sand based AGPs	0.07	£65,589	£1,705	0.14	£27,244
3G	0.3	£344,397	£10,543	0.6	£118,707
Tennis Courts	0.86	£80,177	-	-	-
Total	8	£1,180,464	£146,283	8.48	£1,683,118

Overall, an additional eight pitches would be required to meet additional demand arising from an additional 6,480 people living in Telford & Wrekin. This consist of 6.77 grass pitches, 0.37 of access to artificial pitches and 0.86 outdoor tennis courts. This would require an expected capital cost of £1,180,464 and a lifecycle cost per annum of £146,283. To facilitate the increased provision, 8.48 changing rooms would need to be provided at a capital cost of £1,683,118.

Scenario Three – Testing model for a housing development proposing 2,100 dwellings (Land at Bratton Sustainable Community)

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 2,100 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.4 people per household (based on a national average) is 5,040 people. The table below identifies what this equates to in terms of pitch demand.

This population increase equates to 4.92 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 0.28 match equivalent sessions on a hockey suitable AGP's and 16.02 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket. Training demand equates to 8.84 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 0.65 hours on a hockey suitable AGP.

Table 7.5: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from an additional 5,040 people

Pitch sport	Match demand per week	Training demand
Adult football	0.81	8.84 hours
Youth football	2.18	As above
Mini soccer	1.43	As above
Rugby union	0.43	0.47 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.07	0.07 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.21	0.64 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.07	0.01 hours
Cricket	16.02	-

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs.

Table 7.6: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number of changing rooms	Capital cost
Adult football	0.81	£87,765	£17,290	1.63	£323,134
Youth football	2.18	£202,749	£40,955	2.7	£535,573
Mini soccer	1.43	£41,980	£8,312	0	£0
Rugby union	0.43	£71,176	£13,168	0.85	£169,566

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Pitch type	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number of changing rooms	Capital cost
Rugby league	0.07	£9,811	£1,815	0.13	£26,491
Cricket	0.35	£123,416	£22,709	0.71	£140,799
Sand based AGPs	0.05	£51,013	£1,326	0.11	£21,190
3G	0.23	£267,863	£8,200	0.47	£92,327
Tennis Courts	0.67	£62,360	-	-	-
Total	6.22	£918,133	£133,774	6.6	£1,309,079

Overall, an additional 6.22 pitches would be required to meet additional demand arising from an additional 5,040 people living in Telford & Wrekin. This consist of 5.27 grass pitches, 0.29 of access to artificial pitches and 0.67 outdoor tennis courts. This would require an expected capital cost of £918,133 and a lifecycle cost per annum of £133,774. To facilitate the increased provision, 6.6 changing rooms would need to be provided at a capital cost of £1,309,079.

Accumulative figures

The below tables examine the accumulative figures across all three SUEs to provide an overall estimation of potential demand and costings.

This population increase equates to 18.5 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for grass pitch sports, 1.05 match equivalent sessions on a hockey suitable AGP's and 60.27 match equivalent sessions of demand per season for cricket. Training demand equates to 33.26 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches and 2.44 hours on a hockey suitable AGP.

Table 7.7: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from all three SUEs

Pitch sport	Match demand per week	Training demand
Adult football	3.06	33.26 hours
Youth football	8.19	As above
Mini soccer	5.38	As above
Rugby union	1.61	1.76 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.26	0.26 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.8	2.41 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.26	0.03 hours
Cricket	60.27	-

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs.

Table 7.8: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision for all three SUEs

Pitch type	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number of changing rooms	Capital cost
Adult football	3.06	£330,167	£65,043	6.12	£1,215,614
Youth football	8.19	£762,719	£154,069	10.15	£2,014,758
Mini soccer	5.38	£157,926	£31,269	0	£0.00
Rugby union	1.61	£267,758	£49,536	3.21	£637,894
Rugby league	0.26	£36,910	£6,828	0.5	£99,657

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Pitch type	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number of changing rooms	Capital cost
Cricket	1.33	£464,283	£85,428	2.67	£529,676
Sand based AGPs	0.2	£191,907	£4,989	0.41	£79,715
3G	0.87	£1,007,676	£30,848	1.76	£347,326
Tennis Courts	2.52	£234,592			
Total	23.41	£3,453,937	£448,010	24.82	£4,924,639

Overall, across the three SUEs, an additional 23.41 pitches would be required to meet additional demand arising from an additional 18,960 people living in Telford & Wrekin. This consist of 19.82 grass pitches, 1.07 of access to artificial pitches and 2.52 outdoor tennis courts. This would require an expected capital cost of £3,453,937 and a lifecycle cost per annum of £448,010. To facilitate the increased provision, 24.82 changing rooms would need to be provided at a capital cost of £4,924,639.

The most appropriate way to meet the estimated demand

It is important that the above results are looked at alongside the findings of the Assessment Report, and the recommendations and actions of the Strategy. By doing so, the most appropriate way of meeting the estimated needs can be determined and any resulting proposals justified. This should include:

- ◀ Using the Assessment Report and related Strategy to understand the nature of the playing pitch sites within an appropriate catchment of the new population along with issues, recommendations and actions relevant to that area.
- ◀ Looking at the different ways in which the needs could be met, including for example:
 - ◀ Enhancing existing provision to increase capacity, supported by suitable management and maintenance arrangements to ensure the greater capacity is maintained over the longer term;
 - ◀ Undertaking works, and ensuring long term maintenance and access arrangements, to secure new or greater community use of existing provision;
 - ◀ Providing new pitches as an extension on current sites.
 - ◀ Providing new (natural and/or artificial grass pitches).

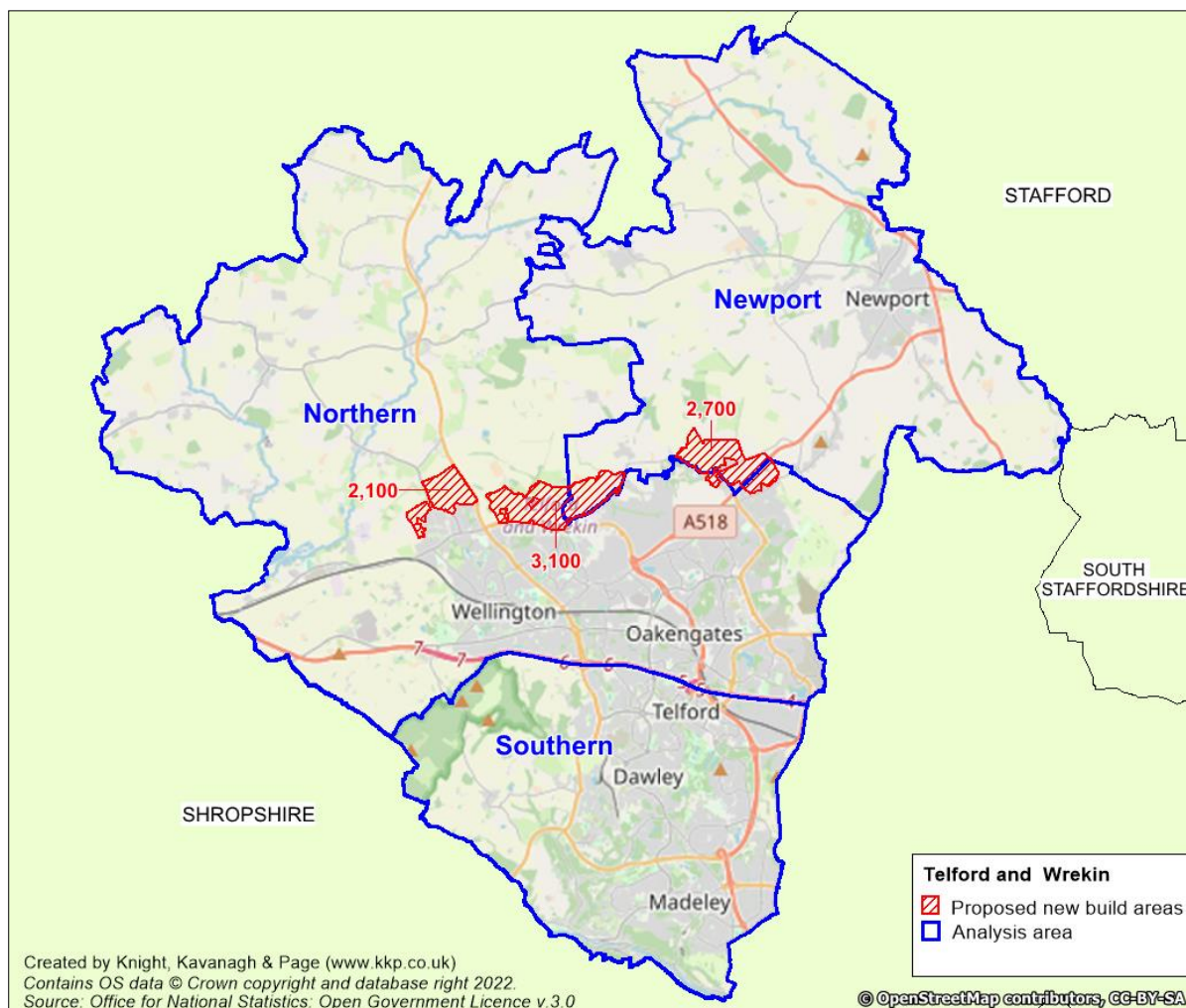
If the decision is taken to provide new pitches, then the calculator takes the estimated needs for matches and training activity and converts this into an estimate of the likely pitch provision required to meet the needs of population projections. Indicative costs are also provided to provide this level of pitch provision in addition to costing for associated changing room provision.

Summary

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

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Figure 1.2: Map of the proposed Sustainable Communities (SC's) including analysis areas



Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, the Action Plan in this document should be consulted to determine whether the additional demand can be accommodated via existing provision (in which case no further action is required). This would only be the case if nearby sites have sufficient actual spare capacity for the relevant sports, which could be established, as an example, through creating a bespoke catchment area for the development and reviewing the provision that falls within this.

The table overleaf identifies what individual facilities are required for each SUE and what would be required overall if demand is accumulated across the three SUEs as a whole.

Table 7.9: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from all three SUEs

Pitch sport	Wappenshall	Muxton	Bratton
Individual SUEs			
Adult football	1	1	1
Youth football	3	3	2
Mini soccer	2	2	1
Changing rooms	3.98	3.47	2.7

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Pitch sport	Wappenshall	Muxton	Bratton
Accumulative SUEs			
3G	One 11v11 size sports lit 3G (hub site or secondary school) current and future shortfalls likely to be in the Northern Analysis Area		
Rugby union	Off site contributions (such as but not limited to creation of new pitches)		
Rugby league	Off site contributions (such as but not limited to creation of new pitches)		
Adult hockey	Off site contributions (such as but not limited to pitch refurbishments)		
Junior & mixed hockey			
Cricket	A minimum of one but up to two cricket squares. Preferably located at a hub site with winter sports to guarantee all round usage. Current areas of high demand are within the Northern Analysis Area		

On an individual basis each of the three SUEs indicate enough future growth to warrant on site creation of grass football provision. This is outlined in greater detail below:

- ❖ Land North of A442 Wheat Leasows – One adult / three youth / two mini pitches.
- ❖ Land North East Muxton – One adult / three youth / two mini pitches.
- ❖ Land at Bratton – One adult / two youth / one mini pitch.

It should be noted that the changing room requirements are based solely on the football pitches required for each SUE, if a hub site is to be created which would include potentially a 3G pitch or one or more cricket squares than more changings rooms would be required.

Additionally, there is potential to locate any mini football demand onto a 3G pitch. Any monies dedicated to mini grass football pitches could therefore go towards the development of 3G provision in order to save on land. This approach would require a FA certified pitch in addition to agreement with relevant stakeholders (FF/SFA).

An alternative approach, due to the close proximity to each of the SUEs, would be to pool/gather S106 monies from all three developments in order to create one or more hub venues. As mentioned, population increases from each SUE separately is not sufficient for the creation of new provision, apart from grass football pitches, however if it is combined together, it becomes enough to potentially justify the creation of two/three tennis courts, a 11v11 size 3G pitch and at least one cricket square (potentially two are required based on evidence provided surrounding future demand and lack of capacity). This is in addition to the aforementioned football pitches.

It should be noted that demand for hockey, rugby union and rugby league would still be insufficient for new provision with offsite contributions still recommended.

If any schools or leisure facilities are to be built within any of the SUEs these could represent an opportunity for the creation of collective 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch in addition to any tennis/netball courts (as long as they are sports lit) to ensure greater utilisation. Relevant accessible and security of tenure through CUAs would also need to be factored into any such development.

In regard to the creation of cricket squares, these would ideally be located at a hub site with the aforementioned football pitches. As the squares are likely to act as an overspill for current clubs it is recommended these be two single square sites rather than a double square provision with football pitches overmarked on the outfield.

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It should be noted that the relevant NGBs should be included within any discussions regarding either approach in ensure their overall strategic recommendations for Telford & Wrekin are considered. Additionally, the above scenarios are only to provide a broad indication of what sporting provision, at this current stage, is required for the projected population increase. The PPC will need to be used at various stages of the development of the SUEs to provide update to date analysis moving forward on what is required for a sporting perspective.

Please note that the PPC only includes the main pitch sports and tennis but there may also be a requirement to improve facilities for other pitch and non-pitch sports such as other sports, netball, bowls and athletics, for example. Therefore, securing developer contributions to deliver improvements/new provision should be guided by this Strategy and in particular the site-by-site Action Plan and in consultation with the relevant NGB through the PPORS Steering Group.

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

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

Delivery

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

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

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

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

The process of completing the PPORS 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 PPORS and the work to develop the recommendations and action plan will have also highlighted, and helped the steering group to understand, the key areas to which it can be applied and how it can be delivered.

Monitoring and updating

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

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

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

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

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

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


















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

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

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Checklists

In order for this Strategy to be signed off by the steering group, a Stage D Checklist: Develop the Strategy, is signed off.

Stage D Checklist: Develop the Strategy	Tick 	
	Yes	Requires Attention
Step 7: Develop the recommendations and action plan		
1. Have a number of study area specific scenarios been looked at to help explore key issues and findings along with possible recommendations and actions?		
2. Have any recommendations and actions regarding AGP provision taken into account the guidance in the 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface' document and any NGB specific information?		
3. Do the recommendations reflect the drivers, vision and objectives of the work?		
4. Are the recommendations precise enough to enable the development of clear individual area, sport and site specific actions to help achieve them?		
5. Have all relevant parties been engaged with the development of, and are signed up to the delivery of, the recommendations and actions?		
6. Are the recommendations and actions clearly presented?		
7. Has particular attention been paid to the situation at priority sites and those which are being significantly overplayed?		
8. Have area, sport and site specific solutions been proposed to protect, enhance, and provide playing pitch provision to meet the current and future demand?		
9. Has guidance on the future of any sites highlighted as being at risk been provided?		
10. Do the recommendations and actions seek to make the best use of existing pitches?		
11. Has the detriment and benefit of proposals to relocate provision been presented?		
12. Has the level and type of any new playing pitch provision required been presented?		
13. Has the importance of providing appropriate and fit for purpose ancillary facilities been highlighted in order to maximise the potential benefit to sport of any pitches?		
14. Have the recommendations sought to ensure an adequate amount of spare capacity in the provision of accessible pitches with secured community use?		
15. Does the PPS provide a steer as to the future of any spare capacity and any provision that may be genuinely surplus to requirements (paragraphs D12 to D15)?		
16. Does the action plan cover the points listed in paragraph D17?		
17. Does the action plan provide the most appropriate actions to improve provision in the study area rather than just those which the local authority can deliver?		
18. Does the action plan represent an infrastructure plan for playing pitches with deliverable area, sport and site specific actions and projects?		
Step 8: Write and Adopt the Strategy		
1. Does the PPS document provide the reader with a clear understanding of the areas listed in paragraph D20?		

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2.	Is it clear from the PPS document why the recommendations and actions have been included, how they are to be delivered and what they will achieve?	✓	
3.	Does the PPS document indicate how it should be used and applied in different areas and circumstances along with the benefits of doing so?	✓	
4.	Has the PPS document been subject to appropriate consultation?	✓	
5.	Do all members of the steering group and other relevant parties endorse the PPS and recognise its lead role in guiding the improvement of pitches in the study area?	✓	
6.	Has the PPS document been formally adopted by the local authority and is its status recognised across all relevant departments?	✓	

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

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up-to-date	Tick ✓	
	Yes	Requires Attention
Step 9: Apply and 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 and 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?		