

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

ASSESSMENT REPORT MARCH 2023



BARNSELY METROPOLITON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance
AP	Active Partnership
BMBC	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
BCGBA	British Crown Green Bowling Association
CC	Cricket Club
CFA	County Football Association
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FE	Further Education
FF	Football Foundation
FIT	Fields in Trust
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GMA	Grounds Management Association
HE	Higher Education
HC	Hockey Club
IRB	International Rugby Board
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
LMS	Last Man Stands
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RFL	Rugby Football League
RLFC	Rugby League Football Club
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
SHFA	Sheffield & Hallamshire Football Association
S106	Section 106 agreement
TC	Tennis Club
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under
WR	World Rugby
YCB	Yorkshire Cricket Board

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

1.1: Introduction

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) was appointed by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC) to produce a Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS).

This PPOSS forms part of a wider study including an Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy (IBF).

This report (known as the Assessment Report) presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities within Barnsley and is delivered in accordance with Sport England's Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a PPOSS and its Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (ANOG) for non-pitch outdoor sports.

Sport England's PPOSS Guidance details a 10-stepped approach for the assessment of pitches, separated into five distinct sections, as follows:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (1).
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision (2 & 3).
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views (4, 5 & 6).
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the strategy (7 & 8).
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date (9 & 10).

Stages A to C are covered in this report, with stage D covered in the proceeding strategy document and Stage E ongoing throughout the lifespan of the work.

ANOG is used for the assessment of non-pitch outdoor sports and is separated into two parts; undertaking an assessment and applying the assessment. This report focuses on the first of these, with the guidance splitting it into three stages:

- ◀ Stage 1 – Prepare and tailor the assessment.
- ◀ Stage 2 – Gather information on supply and demand.
- ◀ Stage 3 – Assessment, bring the information together.

A PPOSS is considered to be out of date if its baseline data has not been reviewed after three years of the study being undertaken. If the PPOSS is monitored annually then its lifespan will depend on the point at which an Annual Monitoring Report identifies changes that are significant enough to warrant a partial or full review. A process for this will be included within the subsequent Strategy.

1.2: Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach

Why the strategy is being developed

The previous Barnsley PPOSS, which was completed in 2017, is past its recommended life span and is therefore in need of renewal in order to be a key evidence base. Additionally, there is a need for the PPOSS to help secure Section 106 developer contributions for investment into current and new provision. In addition to providing support for other external grant opportunities.

The PPOSS will therefore provide a strategic framework to ensure that the provision of outdoor sports facilities meets the needs of residents (both existing and future) and visitors across Barnsley. It will also support those organisations, including the Council, involved in the provision of outdoor sports facilities across Barnsley.

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Local context

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's Local Plan: 2014-2033¹

Barnsley's Local Plan was adopted in January 2019 and covers the whole of Barnsley Borough for the period from 2019 to 2033. It provides the statutory planning framework for the Borough. The Local Plan is used to guide decisions on planning applications and areas where investment should be prioritised.

The Local Plan allocates 297 hectares of employment land to support Barnsley's economic needs and aspirations; and allocates housing sites to support the economy and provide the appropriate land supply to meet its housing needs. The plan seeks to achieve the completion of at least 21,546 net additional new homes in the plan period, giving an indicative annualised figure of 1,134 per annum. The Local Plan also protects and enhances green spaces and green infrastructure that contribute towards improving quality of life.

The Local Plan has an important role to play in protecting and enhancing Green Infrastructure (GI) and the wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits it brings for local communities. It states that new development should seek to protect, maintain and enhance GI wherever possible.

Barnsley Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Together an Active Barnsley (2021 - 2030)

The vision of the Barnsley Health and Wellbeing Strategy is for all Barnsley residents are enabled to enjoy long, fulfilling and healthy lives in safe, strong and vibrant communities where every person is equipped with the skills and resources, they need to thrive.

Active in Barnsley Partnership – Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

Although out of date, the stated vision of the Active Partnership is for a healthy and proud Barnsley where active living is part of everyday life for everyone. Its blueprint for this is identified in its five strategic priorities, which are:

- ◀ *Active Communities:* Use physical activity to help communities achieve their potential.
- ◀ *Active Spaces:* Work with policy makers to make it easier for people to build activity into their daily lives.
- ◀ *Active Schools & Colleges:* Work with our schools and colleges to create hubs of physical activity.
- ◀ *Active Workplaces:* Increase physical activity opportunities in our places of work.
- ◀ *Professional and Volunteer Networks:* Develop physical activity skills and knowledge across a variety of networks.

New School Builds 2009-2013

A number of schools were rebuilt between 2009 to 2013 under a PFI contract meaning that there is a relatively new stock of sports facilities within them. Under the terms of the PFI arrangement, each school has an allocation of 400 community use hours per academic year. These include:

- ◀ Barnsley Academy
- ◀ Darton Academy
- ◀ Holy Trinity School
- ◀ Horizon Community College
- ◀ Kirk Balk Academy
- ◀ Netherwood Academy

¹ [Link to Barnsley Local Plan](#)

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- ◀ Outwood Academy Carlton
- ◀ Outwood Academy Shafton
- ◀ Penistone Grammar School
- ◀ The Astrea Dearne Academy
- ◀ Trinity Academy St Edwards

The number of hours allocated was previously higher, however, has only recently reduced to 400 hours per year which has seen a number of issues across sites where further access is required.

Any use over and above this figure incurs an additional cost to the school. As a number of schools do not have the funds to cover these fees they are forced to increase to the overall cost of hiring onto the community clubs. This increase in expense generally makes the facilities too expensive for clubs with them choosing to find alternative sites for their demand.

As a result of a lack in demand to use the facilities, some schools considered themselves to be unavailable for community use particularly at the weekend in order to save operating costs in addition to not affect their 400 hours of community use. This will be identified in each of the relevant sporting sections below.

Responsibility for ongoing maintenance and caretaking of pitches are subcontracted to Amey.

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 Barnsley PPOSS 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 Policy Framework (NPPF).

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 8 of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities, with paragraph 98 discussing the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Paragraph 99 discusses assessments and the protection of "existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields". Paragraphs 100 and 102 also promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields and outdoor sport facilities.

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For the full national context, including for each of the sports covered please refer to Appendix 1.

Management arrangements

A project team from the Council has worked with KKP to ensure that all relevant information is readily available and to support the consultants as necessary to ensure that project stages and milestones are delivered on time and to the required quality standard to meet Sport England Guidance.

Further to this, a Steering Group is and will continue to be responsible for the direction of the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy from a strategic perspective and for supporting, checking and challenging the work of the project team. The Steering Group is made up of representatives from BMBC, Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs).

It will be important for the Steering Group to continue once the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy has been finalised for several reasons, including a continuing responsibility to:

- ◀ Be a champion for playing pitch provision in the area and promote the value and importance of the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy.
- ◀ Ensure implementation of the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy recommendations and action plan.
- ◀ Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy.
- ◀ Ensure that the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy is kept up to date and refreshed through annual monitoring reviews.

Agreed scope

The Assessment Report provides detail in respect of what exists in the Borough. With regards to each sport, the PPOSS will specifically consider the number of pitches/facilities and will consider the size, quality, location, accessibility and capacity of the provision as well as accompanying ancillary facilities such as changing accommodation, toilets and car parking.

It also considers the demand for facilities based on population distribution and planned growth. The following are the key outdoor sports (and associated facilities, including artificial surfaces) in Barnsley and as such are included within the scope:

- ◀ Football pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches
- ◀ Hockey pitches (sand/water based AGPs)
- ◀ Athletics facilities
- ◀ Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs)
- ◀ 3G pitches
- ◀ Rugby league pitches
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Tennis courts
- ◀ Other pitch sports i.e. Baseball/Softball and Rounders

Pitch sports (i.e. football, rugby union, rugby league, 3Gs, hockey and cricket) will be assessed using the guidance set out in Sport England's Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy. In addition, any other grass sport pitches identified during the project will also be included.

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Non-pitch facilities (tennis, athletics and MUGAs) will be assessed using Sport England’s Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (2014).

Extent of the study area

The study will cover provision within the Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council administrative area. Further to this, sub areas or analysis areas are applied to allow more localised assessment of provision and examination of supply and demand at a local level. Use of analysis areas allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. It should be noted that sports catchment areas do not naturally fall within these same analysis areas and can be either larger or cross over analysis areas. The analysis areas are for reporting purposes only and should not be used to compare provision between areas.

The Borough is divided into six analysis areas which broadly align with other sub-areas used for planning purposes and open space studies, as follows:

- ◀ North
- ◀ North East
- ◀ Dearne
- ◀ South
- ◀ Central
- ◀ Penistone

Figure 1.1: Barnsley study area with analysis areas

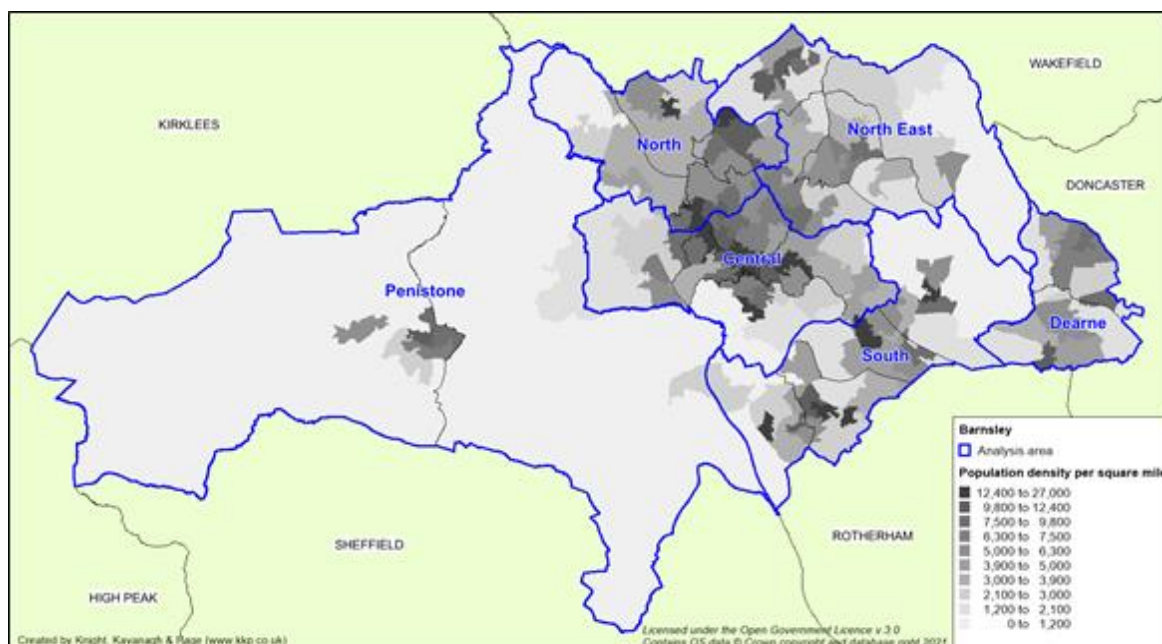


Table 1.1: Analysis areas by ward

Analysis area	Settlements
North	Athersley North / Athersley South / Barugh / Darton / Kexborough / Mapplewell / New Lodge / Staincross / Wiltorpe
North East	Brierley / Carlton / Cudworth / Great Houghton / Grimethorpe / Lundwood / Monk Bretton / Royston / Shafton
Dearne	Bolton upon Dearne / Goldthorpe / Thurnscoe
South	Billingley / Birdwell / Blacker Hill / Broomhill / Darfield / Elsecar / Hemingfield / Hoyland / Jump / Little Houghton / Middlecliffe / Wombwell

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Analysis area	Settlements
Central	Ardsley / Dodworth / Gawber / Gilroyd / Higham / Hoyle Mill / Kendray / Kingstone / Pogmoor / Stairfoot / Ward Green / Worsbrough / Worsbrough Village
Penistone	Cawthorne / Crane Moor / Crow Edge / Cubley / Dunford Bridge / Green Moor / High Hoyland / Howbrook / Hoylandswaine / Ingbirchworth / Langsett / Millhouse Green / Oxspring / Pilley / Silkstone / Tankersley / Thurgoland / Thurlston / Wortley

Cross boundary issues will also be explored to determine the level of imported and exported demand, recognising, for example, that people travel to and make use of strategic facilities irrespective of administrative boundaries.

Barnsley is adjacent to the local authorities of Kirklees, Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster, Wakefield and High Peak.

1.3: Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision

A clear picture of supply and demand for outdoor sports facilities in Barnsley needs to be provided to include an accurate assessment of quantity and quality. This is achieved through consultation with key stakeholders to ensure that they inform the subsequent strategy. It informs current demand, adequacy, usage, future demand and strategies for maintenance and investment for outdoor sports facilities.

Gather supply information and views – an audit of playing pitches

Sport England's Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy Guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field. These definitions are set out by the Government in the 2015 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order'.²

- ◀ ***Playing pitch*** – a delineated area which together with any run off area, is of 0.2ha or more, and is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo
- ◀ ***Playing field*** – the whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch

Although the statutory definition of a pitch is one that meets a minimum size of 0.2ha, this PPOSS includes smaller size pitches that contribute to the supply side, for example, a site containing one mini 5v5 football pitch³ (as this is less than 0.2 hectares). This PPOSS counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply. The definition of a playing pitch also includes artificial grass pitches.

As far as possible, all best endeavours have been made to identify all playing fields and pitches irrespective of ownership and use. This report aims to capture all of the playing pitches and relevant outdoor sport facilities within the Borough; however, there may be instances that have led to omissions, such school or private sites where access was not possible (although facilities at sites not accessed are still included within the study where provision is known to exist from other sources e.g. affiliation data or club/league consultation). Where provision has not been recorded within the report, they are still considered to exist for planning purposes. Furthermore, any exclusion does not mean that the provision is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

² www.sportengland.org>Facilities and Planning> Planning Applications

³ Refer to Table 2.1 for football pitch format definitions

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Quantity

Where known, all outdoor sports facilities are included irrespective of ownership, management and use. Sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web-based database, with the Council and National Governing Bodies of Sport supporting the process by checking and updating this initial data. This was also verified against club information supplied by local leagues.

For each site, the following details were recorded in the project database (which will be supplied upon completion of the project as an electronic file):

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location
- ◀ Ownership and management type
- ◀ Security of tenure
- ◀ Total number, type and quality of outdoor sports facilities

Accessibility

Not all outdoor sports facilities offer the same level of access to the community. The ownership and accessibility of provision also influences actual availability for community use. Each site is assigned a level of community use as follows:

- ◀ **Community use** - facilities in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ◀ **Available but unused** - facilities that are available for hire but are not currently used by teams which play in community leagues; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire.
- ◀ **No community use** - facilities which as a matter of policy or practice are not available for hire or used by teams playing in community leagues. This should include professional club pitches along with some semi-professional club pitches, where play is restricted to the first or second team.
- ◀ **Not available as disused** - Any sites where pitches were once, but are no longer, marked out and remain undeveloped.

Disused sites provide the opportunity to help address deficiencies in pitch sport if brought back into use or replaced in a more sustainable location to meet need. The sites below will be assessed to establish whether they need to be retained and protected for future use or need to be replaced in accordance with paragraph 99 of the NPPF.

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

Quality

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

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It is not just the quality itself which has an effect on its capacity but also the quality, standard and range of ancillary facilities. The quality of both the outdoor sports facility and ancillary facilities will determine whether provision is able to contribute to meeting demand from various groups and for different levels and types of play.

The quality of all outdoor sports facilities identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed regardless of ownership, management or availability. Non-technical assessments are carried out on every site that is accessible to understand the quality of each pitch and ancillary facility. Along with capturing any details specific to the individual facilities and sites, a quality rating is also recorded within the audit for each. These ratings are used to help estimate the capacity to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

In addition to undertaking non-technical assessments (using the templates provided within the PPOSS guidance and as determined by NGBs), users and providers were also consulted on the quality and in some instances the quality rating was adjusted to reflect this.

It should be noted that if any recent technical assessments have been carried out, such as PitchPower or Performance Quality Standards (PQS), these will supersede the non-technical assessments ratings. Information surrounding these technical assessments and will be referenced, where relevant, within the individual sports sections below.

Gather demand information and views

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for outdoor sports facilities (i.e. recording how and when provision is used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment. Demand for outdoor sports facilities in Barnsley tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training. There may also be some informal play recorded.

Current and future demand for outdoor sports facilities is presented on a sport-by-sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

In addition, latent, unmet, imported and exported demand for provision is also identified within each section. Unmet demand refers to outdoor sport users who want to play currently but cannot access a facility for either training and/or match play. Latent demand is defined as the number of additional teams that could be fielded if access to a sufficient number of outdoor sports facilities (and ancillary provision) was available and is based on aspirational growth in participation, whereas exported and imported demand refers to those outdoor sport users that are playing outside of their local authority of choice.

A variety of consultation methods were used to collate such demand information. Firstly, face to face consultation was carried out with key clubs from each sport, thus allowing for the collection of detailed demand information and an exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed. For all remaining clubs, an online survey (converted to postal if required) was utilised.

Local sports development officers, county associations and regional governing body officers advised which of the clubs to include in the face to face consultation and Sport England was also included within the consultation process prior to the project commencing. Issues identified by clubs returning questionnaires were followed up by telephone or face to face interviews.

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As key providers and users of outdoor sports facilities, educational establishments were also consulted. This involved online surveys or video hosted meetings with secondary schools/colleges and an online survey being sent to parish councils.

Future demand

Alongside current demand, it is important for a Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy to assess whether the future demand for playing pitches can be met. Using Office of National Statistics (ONS) population projections, as well as likely participation growth informed through consultation, an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for playing pitches.

Team generation rates are used to provide an indication of how many people it may take to generate a team (by gender and age group) in order to help estimate the change in demand for pitch sports that may arise from any population change. Future demand for pitches is calculated by adding the percentage increases to the population increases. This figure is then applied to the team generation rates and is presented on a sport-by-sport basis.

The current population in Barnsley is 248,071 (2020 mid-year estimates)⁴. By 2033 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand) the population is projected to rise to 265,868⁵, representing population growth of 7.17%.

As Office of National Statistics figures are available by individual age brackets (to reflect team growth) this is considered the most accurate data set to apply to team generation rates (as identified above) to calculate likely future demand within the Assessment Report.

Other information sources that were used to help identify future demand include:

- ◀ Recent trends in participation.
- ◀ The nature of the current and likely future population and their propensity to participate.
- ◀ Feedback from clubs on plans to develop additional teams / attract additional members.
- ◀ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets.

Additional demand for playing pitch provision generated by developments within Barnsley will be explored in the Stage D: Strategy & Action Plan Report, using the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator.

1.4: Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views

Supply and demand information gathered within Section B was used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision in Barnsley. It focused on how much use each site could potentially accommodate compared to how much use is currently taking place.

Qualitative pitch ratings are linked to a pitch capacity rating derived from National Governing Bodies of Sport guidance and tailored to suit a local area. The quality and use of each pitch are assessed against the recommended pitch capacity to indicate how many match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket) a pitch could accommodate.

⁴ Source: ONS Mid-2020 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas in England and Wales

⁵ Data Source: ONS 2018-based projections 2018-2043

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This is compared to the number of matches actually taking place and categorised as follows, to identify:

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

As a guide, the Football Association (FA), Rugby Football Union (RFU), Rugby Football League (RFL), English Cricket Board (ECB) and England Hockey (EH) have set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its quality.

Table 1.2: Summary of carrying capacity for playing pitches

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

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

Develop the current picture of provision

Once capacity is determined on a site-by-site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated on an Authority wide and an area-by-area basis via further interrogation of peak period demand. This then identifies whether there is overall spare capacity of provision or whether there is a shortfall.

Although spare capacity may be identified at some sites and in some areas, it does not necessarily mean that there is surplus provision. For example, provision may have overall spare capacity throughout the week (for example on a Sunday/Midweek), however, not have spare capacity at the dedicated peak time for that provision (for example Saturday). Also, a site may be retained in a 'strategic reserve' to enable rotation and to reduce wear and tear.

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Identify the key findings and issues

By completing Steps 1-5 it is possible to identify several findings and issues relating to the supply, demand and adequacy of outdoor sports provision in Barnsley. This report seeks to identify and present the key findings and issues prior to development of the Strategy and Action Plan for Barnsley.

Develop the future picture of provision (scenario testing)

Modelling scenarios to assess whether existing provision can cater for unmet, latent, exported and future demand is made after the capacity analysis. This will also include, for example, removing sites with unsecured community use to demonstrate the impact this would have if these sites were to be decommissioned in the future.

The scenario testing generally occurs in the Strategy & Action Plan Report that proceeds this document and therefore does not form part of the Assessment Report.

PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

The organisation responsible for the development of football in Barnsley is Sheffield & Hallamshire FA. It is also responsible for the administration, in terms of discipline, rules and regulations, cup competitions and representative matches, development of clubs and facilities, volunteers, referees, coaching courses and delivering national football schemes.

This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches. Part Three captures supply and demand for third generation pitches (3G pitches) which are the preferred AGP (artificial grass pitch) surface type for football. In future, it is anticipated that there will be a growing demand for the use of 3G pitches for competitive football fixtures, especially to accommodate mini and youth football.

Barnsley Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

To support in delivery of both the current and superseding FA National Game Strategy (NGS), the FA commissioned a nationwide consultancy project which was completed (in 2018). A Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) was produced for every local authority across England. Each plan is unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation.

The LFFP is strategically aligned to the National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS); a 10-year plan to change the landscape of football facilities in England. The NFFS represents a major funding commitment from the national funding partners (the FA, Premier League, DCMS and the Football Foundation) to inform and direct an estimated one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next ten years.

Each LFFP draws on the PPOSS findings (where present and current) regarding the formal and affiliated game, to also include strategic priorities for investment across small sided football (recreational and informal, including indoors). The LFFP also incorporates consultation and community engagement with groups outside of formal football, with a focus on identifying potential opportunities for under-represented groups. This includes organisations which may be key partners in delivering football activity for behavioural change and groups which may be key drivers of NGS priorities around participation in the likes of women and girls' football, disability football and lower socio-economic groups.

The LFFP is a 'live' document that can be updated following the completion of a PPOSS, if required, as an up-to-date supply and demand assessment may present findings and recommendations that need to be incorporated. LFFPs identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. As such, around 90% of all national football investment through the funding partners will be identified via LFFPs.

It is important to recognise that the LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment; it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPOSS and is not an accepted evidence base for site change of use or disposal. The LFFP will, however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans and may adopt relevant actions from a Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy and/or complement these with additional investment priorities. The Barnsley LFFP will therefore need updating following the completion of the PPOSS.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The LFFP for Barnsley⁶ was produced in 2017, published in 2018 and identified 15 sites as key for football and possible future investment. This PPOSS will help establish whether the priority projects in the 2018 LFFP are still relevant, if there are some that need to be removed, or if new priorities need to be included in an updated Barnsley LFFP.

Consultation

In addition to face to face and video consultation with key clubs, an electronic survey was sent to all football clubs playing in Barnsley, and leagues accommodating Barnsley based teams, distributed via Sheffield & Hallamshire FA.

Consultation (either through survey or video meetings) represents a 53% club response rate and 79% team response rate. Of the 31 non-responding clubs 21 (31% of all clubs) are single or double team clubs. The following clubs/organisations were consulted with by video meeting or telephone:

- ✦ AFC Pogmoor
- ✦ Athersley Recreation F.C
- ✦ Barnsley FC Ladies
- ✦ Barnsley Womens FC
- ✦ Dearne & District JFC
- ✦ Dodworth Miners Welfare FC
- ✦ Elite AFC
- ✦ Elsecar Main FC
- ✦ Reds in the Community
- ✦ Yorkshire RTC

2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a total of 207 grass football pitches within Barnsley across 86 sites. Of these, 184 pitches across 72 sites are identified as being available for community use. All 23 unavailable pitches are located at either education sites or elite sporting venues for Barnsley FC (Oakwell Stadium).

Most available pitches in the Borough are in the Central Analysis Area (46 pitches - 25% of available pitches), followed by the North East Analysis Area (43 pitches - 23%), the North Analysis Area (39 pitches – 21%) and then the South Analysis Area (25 pitches - 14%). The Penistone Analysis Area has 17 pitches (9% of available pitches) and the Dearne Analysis Area has the least number of pitches with 14 pitches (8% of available pitches).

Table 2.1: Summary of grass football pitches available for community use

Analysis area	Number of pitches					Totals
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Central	14	12	7	8	5	46
Dearne	5	1	2	4	2	14
North	11	7	8	6	7	39
North East	15	8	8	7	5	43
Penistone	4	4	1	6	2	17
South	14	5	2	1	3	25
Total	63	37	28	32	24	184

⁶[Link to Barnsley LFFP](#)

BARNSLEY METROPOLITON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Most available pitches across Barnsley (63 pitches - 34%) are adult size which is, in part, due to some youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches. This is not ideal for youth players at U13-U16 level and is not in line with the FA Youth Review. Just 37 available pitches in Barnsley are youth 11v11 sized, representing 20% of the available supply relative to the proportion of youth 11v11 teams which equates to 30% of all demand.

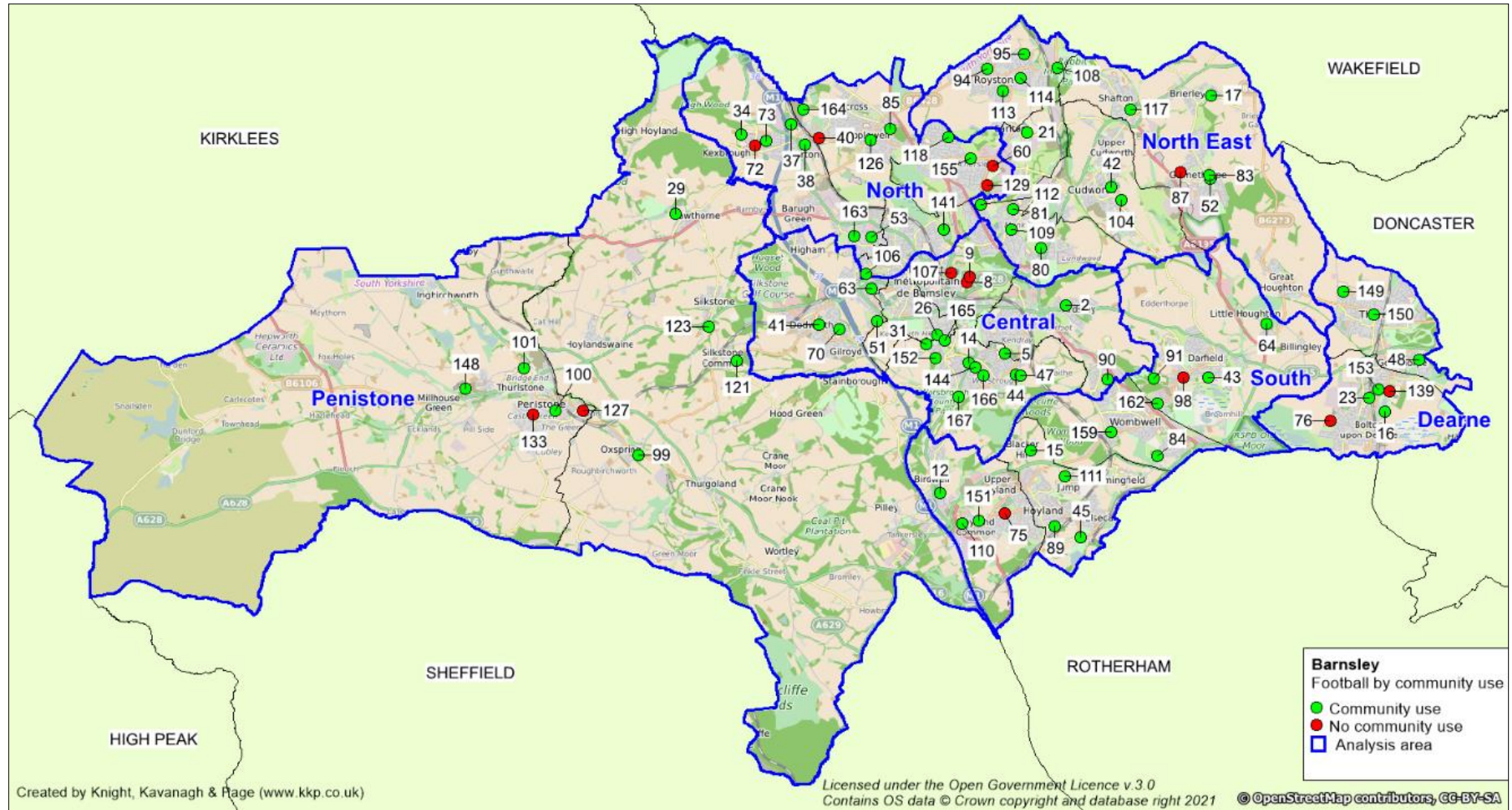
In accordance with the FA Youth Review, U17 and U18 teams can play on adult pitches, with the FA's recommended pitch size being 100 x 64 metres compared to 91 x 55 metres for U15 and U16 teams and 82 x 50 metres for U13 and U14 teams. Please refer to the table below for more detail relating to pitch sizes for each format of play.

Table 2.2: FA recommended pitch sizes

Format	Age group	Recommended pitch size (metres)
Adult	U17+	100 x 64
Youth 11v11	U15-U16	91 x 55
	U13-U14	82 x 50
Youth 9v9	U11-U12	73 x 46
Mini 7v7	U9-U10	55 x 37
Mini 5v5	U7-U8	37 x 27

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Figure 2.1: Grass football pitches in Barnsley by community use availability



Please refer to Table 2.14 for a key to the map.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Disused supply

Disused playing fields are those sites where pitches were once, but are no longer, marked out and remain undeveloped.

One youth 9v9 pitch was previously marked out at Bradberry Balk Lane Football Pitch. The pitch ceased maintenance *circa* 2008 and is currently maintained as public open space.

One adult pitch was previously marked out and used at Gilroyd Rec. The site was managed and maintained by the Council however due to parking issues for teams accessing the site, it no longer was used or maintained from *circa* 2012.

Common Road Playing Field previously accommodated a youth 11v11 pitch. The pitch ceased maintenance *circa* 2003, with the site having not been maintained for sport pitches since.

One youth 9v9 pitch was previously maintained at Lidgett Lane *circa* 2009, it should be noted that site has space to accommodate more than just the one youth 9v9 pitch. The site has not been maintained for sports pitches for some time.

Longbow Playing Fields previously accommodated three youth 11v11, two mini 5v5 and one mini 7v7 pitches. Satellite evidence suggests that the pitches were last maintained and in use *circa* 2008.

One mini 7v7 pitch was previously marked and maintained at Platts Common Recreation Ground. The pitch has not been maintained since *circa* 2009. Since the site has not been maintained nor marked for sports use.

An old playing field site south of the Shaw Lane Sports Club previously accommodated up to four grass pitches. It was previously marked for formal use *circa* 2015. The site is confirmed for the development of a new school site, Trinity Academy Barnsley. Plans for the site suggests a development of an 11v11 3G pitch with a shockpad for WR compliance.

Unmarked pitches

In comparison to disused sites there are also currently active sites which have previously marked out football provision. These are listed below where known.

In previous years, one youth 9v9 pitch and one mini 7v7 pitch have been marked at Barnsley Rugby Union Football Club Ltd. The pitches were located on the third bank of grass area with markings for the pitches ceasing *circa* 2008. The area is still maintained for rugby training use.

Barugh Green Recreation Ground previously accommodated a youth 11v11 pitch onsite. The site is now maintained as public recreation ground, with no dedicated maintenance for football. Line markings were present until *circa* 2008, with the goalposts remaining in place until 2021.

Ingbirchworth Pitch has previously accommodated an adult pitch onsite. The pitch ceased maintenance in 2020. The site remains maintained as a public open space and whilst the pitch has not been used recently, if required it is likely to be easily brought back into use due to the time frame since it was last maintained for football.

Penistone Recreation Ground has in the past accommodated a youth 9v9 pitch onsite. This pitch has not been marked since *circa* 2002. The site is actively used and maintained as public open space.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Pilley Pocket Park previously accommodated an adult pitch onsite. Satellite evidence suggests that this pitch has not been maintained since circa 2009. The site as a whole still supports other sports facilities and therefore cannot be classified as a disused site.

One youth 9v9 pitch has previously been accommodated at South Road Playing Fields. The site maintained the pitch until circa 2008, since the pitch has remained maintained and public open space.

The Pleasant Avenue Playing Field previously accommodated youth 11v11 pitch. The pitch has not been maintained or marked for formal football use since circa 2008. The goalposts remained installed onsite until 2018, since the site has been maintained as public open space.

Millhouse Pitch has as recently as 2019 been marked up as youth 9v9 pitch. The pitch has not been maintained or marked since; however, the goalposts remain installed and therefore, it is likely that if required the pitch could be brought back into use relatively easily.

Future developments

Barnsley Women FC aspires to develop its own site and is currently in talks with the Council around identifying a site to develop. Although the exact facility mix and pitch types are unknown, the Club is keen to have grass pitches, a clubhouse and fitness center within the development.

Rockingham Sports Ground relocation is planned as part of the Hoyland West masterplan. The one adult football pitch onsite is to be relocated to a new community sports facility at Parkside (S74 0AH). The facility is due to have one adult pitch, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch. Whilst, also having an archery range and plans for the future to develop an 11v11 size 3G pitch onsite.

Pitch quality

The quality of football pitches across Barnsley has been assessed via a combination of site visits undertaken in November 2022 (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA⁷), user consultation, to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

Table 2.3: Agreed equivalent PPOSS quality rating for Pitch Power Assessment ratings.

Pitch Power Rating	PPS Quality Rating
Poor	Poor
Basic	Standard
Good	Good
Advanced	Good
High	Good

Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain levels of use. Pitches that receive little to no ongoing repair or post-season remedial work are likely to be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games they are able to accommodate each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality. Conversely, well maintained pitches that are tended to regularly are likely to be of a higher standard and capable of taking several matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

⁷ See Appendix 3 for non-technical assessment criteria

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows: Good (>80%), Standard (50-80%), Poor (<50%). The final quality ratings assigned to the sites also take into account the user quality ratings gathered from consultation.

The table below summarises the quality of pitches that are available for community use in Barnsley. In total, 27 pitches (15%) are rated as good quality, 57 as standard quality (31%) and 100 as poor quality (54%).

Table 2.4: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)

Analysis area	Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
Central	1	4	9	1	7	11	3	6	4
Dearne	-	4	1	-	3	-	-	6	-
North	3	2	6	3	2	10	2	4	7
North East	3	2	10	2	2	12	2	1	9
Penistone	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	5	1
South	2	3	9	-	2	5	1	1	2
Total	10	16	37	7	18	40	10	23	23

Of the 184 community available pitches exactly half (92 pitches, 50%) are managed and maintained by the Council. Of the 92 council pitches, eight are assessed as good quality (9%), 12 are assessed as standard quality (13%) and 72 are assessed as poor quality (78%). Most Council sites receive basic maintenance, which generally includes cutting and marking the pitches with no other work done. This plays a significant part in the poor quality ratings.

Specific comments relating to the pitch conditions at individual sites are detailed in the table below. These are either taken from club consultation or from site assessments.

Table 2.5: Summary of pitch quality comments from consultation

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Comments
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	Dodworth Miners Welfare FC	All pitches onsite struggle with poor drainage. This over time has led to the pitches decreasing in quality, even with regular maintenance. The Club is exploring the opportunity to rotate pitches across the site to try and manage the tired parts of pitches which are compact causing some flooding in heavy rain fall, these areas generally are areas which suffer from high traffic.
99	Oxspring Playing Field	Oxspring United JFC	Pitches onsite have drainage issues, this causes the pitches to be unplayable at points during the season. As this is a recurring issue the pitches have now become uneven.
162	Wombwell Recreation Ground	Wombwell Town FC Barnsley Women's FC	Some issues with the pitch surface, uneven and patches of limited grass coverage across the pitches. The pitches also struggle with poor drainage and are prone to flooding.

BARNSELY METROPOLITON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Comments
163	Woodview	AFC Pogmoor	Pitches onsite are currently of standard quality. The pitches have seen an improvement since receiving Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund investment. Site is located on old landfill and therefore has had some issues with parts of the pitch, the Club added top soil in summer 2022 to help combat this problem.

PitchPower Assessment Tool

The football funding partners (Premier League, The FA, Sport England, Football Foundation and Department for Culture, Media and Sport) 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 new 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 mobile 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.

Eligible clubs and organisations can also utilise the report as an evidence base to acquire potential funding streams, for example, to obtain revenue funding for improved maintenance or the required maintenance equipment, both available through the Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance 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.

Sheffield & Hallamshire FA is currently working with all clubs in the Borough to complete PitchPower assessments for their respective sites. At present, 12 sites in Barnsley have had PitchPower assessments completed.

Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund⁸

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation in football, the FA has made it a priority to work towards improving quality of grass pitches across the country. This has resulted in the creation of the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF). As part of this, grass pitches identified as having quality issues undergo a pitch inspection from a member of the Grounds Management Association (GMA, formerly Institute of Groundsmanship).

⁸ [Link to FF grass pitch maintenance fund](#)

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The GPMF can be utilised by grassroots football clubs and leagues, National League System Clubs at Steps 1-6 (excluding the stadia pitch), charities, educational sites and town/parish councils 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 PitchPower site assessment and subsequent Grass Pitch Assessment Report which will also identify the key enhanced maintenance works required along with machinery requirements.

Following a Report, clubs can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches. Once a PitchPower grass pitch assessment report has been produced for the site, eligible clubs/leagues/organisations can then apply for grant funding support through the Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund, a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help 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. If a site is categorised as 'poor' or 'basic' then clubs can apply for funding to enhance pitch quality, whilst clubs with good quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding to sustain quality.

All applicants must have the required security of tenure and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs, leagues, National League System Clubs at Steps 1-6 (excluding the stadia pitch), charities, educational sites and town/parish councils. Local authorities are not currently eligible applicants, however, clubs, leagues and charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure.

There are currently ten sites which are receiving GPMF support:

- ◀ Darton Longfields (North Gawber Colliery Junior FC)
- ◀ Elmhirst Playing Fields (Hoyland Common Falcons FC)
- ◀ Goldthorpe Recreation Ground (Dearne & District JFC)
- ◀ Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground (Houghton Main FC)
- ◀ Redfearns Sport Field (Redfearns JFC)
- ◀ Spark Lane Football Pitch (North Gawber Colliery Junior FC)
- ◀ Welfare Ground (Dearne & District JFC)
- ◀ Wombwell Recreation Ground (Wombwell Town FC)
- ◀ Woodview (AFC Pogmoor)
- ◀ Wooley Miners Cricket Club (North Gawber Colliery FC)

Although local authorities are not presently eligible for the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund, the Football Foundation is currently exploring other options and ways in which it can support local authorities to improve Council managed provision. A pilot programme for investment into pitches currently owned and managed in-house by local authorities has previously taken place, Barnsley Borough Council was not a part of this Pilot Programme.

Barnsley Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)

The 2018 LFFP for Barnsley identifies key sites considered a priority to improve, with these selected based on the rationale of identifying sites that are the poorest in quality and that are the best utilised, or that have the greatest potential for increased utilisation following quality enhancements. Emphasis is on sites with three or more pitches, although scope exists for the inclusion of smaller sites if they are deemed to be strategically important.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

The following six site specific projects were identified:

- ◀ Redfearns Sports Field - **GPMF work is currently ongoing**
- ◀ The Fleets Football Pitches
- ◀ Carlton Park
- ◀ Rotherham Road Playing Fields
- ◀ Wharncliffe Woodmoor Memorial Field
- ◀ Elmhirst Playing Fields - **GPMF work is currently ongoing**

In the PPOSS, most pitches at these sites have been assessed as poor or standard quality. Whilst most of these sites will therefore still require improvement, given that the LFFP is a live document, there will be a need to amend and/or add to this list based on the findings of this study.

The validity of these sites and effect of improving them will be tested as a scenario within the subsequent Stage D: Strategy & Action Plan Report. It should be noted that the pitches at Redfearns Sports Field and Elmhirst Playing Fields are a part of the FF GPMF and therefore have improved in quality over recent years.

Ancillary facilities

The quality of ancillary facilities across Barnsley has been rated via a combination of site visits and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, showering provision, car parking, dedicated official and spectator facilities and boundary fencing. The table below identifies the findings for football sites that are actively utilised for football across Barnsley.

Table 2.6: Summary of ancillary facility quality at active football sites available for community use

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ancillary facility quality
2	Ardsley Park	Central	Poor
5	Barnsley Academy	Central	Standard
12	Birdwell Community Centre and Recreation Ground	South	No provision
14	Blackburn Lane	Central	No provision
15	Blacker Hill Recreation Ground	South	No provision
16	Brickyard Ponds	Dearne	Poor
17	Brierley Park	North East	Standard
21	Carlton Park	North East	No provision
23	Carrfield Playing Field	Dearne	No provision
26	Highstone Recreation Ground	Central	Standard
29	Cawthorne Football Field	Penistone	No provision
31	Cromwell Mount	Central	No provision
34	Darton Academy	North	Standard
37	Darton Longfields	North	No provision
38	Darton Park	North	Poor
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	Central	Poor

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ancillary facility quality
42	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	North East	Good
43	Doveside Drive Playing Field	South	Standard
44	Elmhirst Playing Fields	Central	Poor
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	South	Good
47	Farm Road Playing Fields	Central	No provision
48	Goldthorpe Recreation Ground	Dearne	Standard
51	Greenacre School	Central	Standard
52	Grimethorpe Miners Welfare Sports Ground (Closed)	North East	Good
53	Harry Road	North	No provision
63	Horizon Community College	Central	Standard
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	South	Standard
70	Keresforth Road Playing Fields	Central	No provision
73	Kexborough Recreation Ground	North	No provision
80	Littleworth Lane Playing Fields	North East	Poor
81	Londoner Site	North East	No provision
83	Love Life Sports Ground Grimethorpe	North East	Poor
84	Lundhill Playing Fields	South	No provision
85	Mapplewell Park	North	Poor
89	Milton Forge	South	No provision
90	Mitchell and Darfield Playing Fields	Central	No provision
91	Netherwood Academy	South	Standard
94	Oakwood Playing Fields	North East	No provision
95	Oldroyds	North East	Poor
99	Oxspring Playing Field	Penistone	Poor
100	Penistone Church FC	Penistone	Good
101	Penistone Grammar School	Penistone	Standard
104	Pinfold Playing Fields	North East	No provision
106	Pogmoor Recreation Ground	North	No provision
108	Rabbit Ings Country Park	North East	Standard
109	Redfearns Sports Field	North East	Good
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	South	Standard
111	Roebuck Hill	South	No provision
112	Rotherham Road Playing Fields	North East	Poor
113	Royston Playing Field	North East	No provision
114	Royston Welfare Park (Site 1)	North East	Poor
117	Shafton Recreation Ground	North East	Poor
118	Sheerien Park (Athersley Recreation FC)	North	Poor
121	Silkstone Common Recreation Ground	Penistone	No provision
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	Penistone	Good
126	Spark Lane Football Pitch	North	Poor
141	The Fleets Football Pitches	North	Standard
144	The Mill Academy	Central	Standard
148	Thurlstone Football Club	Penistone	Poor
149	Thurnscoe Recreation Ground	Dearne	No provision
150	Thurnscoe Sports Ground	Dearne	No provision
151	Tinker Lane Recreation Ground	South	No provision
152	Ward Green Rec	Central	Good
153	Welfare Ground	Dearne	Standard

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ancillary facility quality
155	Wharncliffe Woodmoor Memorial Field	North	No provision
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	South	Good
162	Wombwell Recreation Ground	South	Standard
163	Woodview	North	Poor
164	Woolley Miners Cricket Club	North	Good
165	Worsbrough Common Primary School	Central	Poor
166	Worsbrough Dale Playing Fields	Central	Poor
167	Worsbrough Sports and Development Association	Central	Standard

Of the 72 sites that are actively used for community football, nine sites (13%) are serviced by good quality ancillary facilities, 18 sites (25%) by standard quality ancillary facilities and 19 sites (26%) are serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities. The remaining 26 sites (36%) are not serviced by onsite clubhouse/changing room provision.

Ardsley Oaks FC reports that the changing facilities at Ardsley Park are poor quality. It suggests that the facilities are over 50 years old and have not had the required upkeep in recent years. The Club suggests there is need for investment and improvement to be made to the facilities.

The toilet facilities at Oakwood Playing Fields are currently located within a lockup where Staincross Rangers FC stores nets and other equipment. The Club reports that it needs a storage container for this equipment which will then allow the toilet facilities to be more accessible.

AFC Pogmoor is currently working to secure a lease onsite at Woodview. The Club reports that it initially has plans to develop the current clubhouse onsite if/when the lease is agreed. However, after conversations within the Club and other parties, it now identifies that it would look to demolish the existing facility and develop a new clubhouse.

Athersley Recreation FC currently has only one permanent building onsite. All other buildings are portacabins which conjoin together to form a clubhouse and function room. The Club plans to develop two buildings onsite, a modular building to allow future extension, which will act as a function room, offices and meeting rooms. However, the standing clubhouse would remain. In addition, the Club which is working with Thomas Rotherham College to run a college scholarship football programme onsite. The Club is looking at developing a permanent building with changing rooms and classrooms to support this, alongside a full size 3G pitch developed on the second adult pitch onsite.

The ancillary provision on offer at Darton Academy is of standard quality. It is reported that since the Academy took over the running of the facility, community access to the ancillary provision has been limited. The clubhouse/changing facility was originally built to support the sports facilities onsite, however, in recent years the facilities have been turned into use for additional classroom space, with an additional charge now present if clubs wish to access the facility.

Wombwell Town FC was successful in its application for Football Foundation (FF) funding to extend its clubhouse at Wombwell Recreation Ground, awarded February 2023. The extension of the clubhouse will be to increase the number of changing rooms.

Cawthorne (2017) FC suggests that to further support its pitches onsite at Cawthorne Football Field, it aspires to develop supporting ancillary provision via changing facilities and toilets.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

During site visits at Penistone Grammar School, it was identified that the pitches onsite were located a distance from the main school building, The School highlight that it wishes to have a purpose built toilet block closer to the pitches to support more community use.

Dearne & District FC reports an aspiration to develop its facilities onsite at Goldthorpe Recreation Ground to a Step 6 standard. This would enable the Club to be promoted to the National League System (NLS).

Oxspring United JFC reports that there is a clubhouse onsite at Oxspring Playing Field, however, it is currently of poor quality and is deemed unsafe for use. The Club reports that part of the roof has collapsed and therefore cannot be accessed for changing, a small portion of the building is utilised for storage at present. The Club aspires to sell the current clubhouse building to fund the development of a new clubhouse.

The changing facilities at Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club are of poor quality. The Club aspires to update these in the coming years to improve the quality. In addition, it suggests that there is also a need for more storage onsite this would be to store goal posts and nets to ensure that they do not get damaged due to weather and any unofficial use of the pitches.

Local Football Facility Plan

As with grass pitch improvements, the 2018 LFFP for Barnsley identifies sites considered as priority sites for clubhouse and changing facility improvements, although there may again be a need to amend and/or add to this list based on the findings of this study.

It recommends that the following six sites should be a priority for ancillary refurbishment/replacement:

- ◀ Redfearns Sports Field - **Complete**
- ◀ Elmhirst Playing Fields
- ◀ Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social
- ◀ Goldthorpe Recreation Ground
- ◀ Woodview

The evidence contained within this Assessment Report will be used to establish whether the 2018 LFFP priority projects remain valid, should be removed or new projects added, with recommendations contained in the Strategy and Action Plan Report to update the LFFP.

Management and security of tenure

Clubs are generally considered to have secure tenure where they have freehold, leasehold or formally secured use of their site/s (for example, through a community use agreement) for the next three or more years.

Tenure of sites in Barnsley is generally secure, i.e. through freehold, long-term lease or a guarantee that pitches will continue to be provided over the next three years through formal rent agreement.

In total of the 72 community available sites, 39 (54%) are Borough Council managed, 15 (21%) are managed by sports clubs, nine (13%) are managed by education providers, four (6%) by community organisations three (4%) by trusts and two (3%) by parish councils.

BARNSELY METROPOLITON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

All community available sites which are classified as having unsecure tenure are located at schools. This is due to schools, academies and universities being able to state their own policies and therefore more likely to restrict levels of community use, unless they have a Community Use Agreement (CUA) secured via planning condition as part of a sports development within their site. Lack of community use may be due to schools wanting to protect pitch quality for curricular or extracurricular activities or not having the resources available to open up their site for community access.

AFC Pogmoor reports that at present it currently has a site owner agreement which has allowed it to apply for FF funding through the GPMF. The Club is currently working with the Council to secure a long-term lease on the site.

North Gawber Colliery Junior FC has registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC). This has allowed the Club to open discussions around formalising tenure of Darton Longfields which it currently rents from the Council. The Club aspires to complete a Community Asset Transfer of the site and has recently submitted an expression of interest to do so. If it was able to gain this, it has plans to develop a clubhouse onsite.

Barnsley Ladies FC reports that it is currently in talks with the Council over gaining a lease of Carlton Park. This would allow the Club to maintain the pitches and improve them to a higher quality.

2.3: Demand

A total of 402 teams from 67 affiliated clubs are identified as playing matches on football pitches within Barnsley.

Table 2.7: Summary of all football team demand playing competitive football in Barnsley

Age group	No. of teams
Adult Men's (18-45)	65
Adult Women's (18-45)	9
Youth Boys (12-17)	94
Youth Girls (12-17)	24
Youth Boys (10-11)	58
Youth Girls (10-11)	21
Mini Mixed (8-9)	71
Mini Mixed (6-7)	60
Total	402

Football in the Borough is played predominately in the North East Analysis Area with a total of 104 teams. In comparison, the Dearne Analysis Area has the least teams with 32. The table below summarises teams across each of the analysis areas.

The majority of teams in Barnsley (91%) access grass football pitches for matches. Of the 402 teams, one adult men's, 12 youth boys, 15 youth girls and 12 mini teams (9% of all teams) access 3G pitches for competitive match play across five sites at Barnsley College (Honeywell Sports Village), Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre, Outwood Academy Carlton, Penistone Grammar School, and Netherwood Academy.

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Table 2.8: Summary of competitive teams playing affiliation football matches in Barnsley

Analysis area	No. of teams					
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Central	10	22	12	9	8	61
Dearne	7	6	7	8	4	32
North	13	21	13	14	15	76
North East	13	36	27	18	10	104
Penistone	9	20	10	13	13	65
South	22	13	10	9	10	64
Total	74	118	79	71	60	402

It should be noted that in addition to the total teams from community clubs, there are an additional two adult men's, eight youth boys and one mini team from Barnsley FC's professional and academy programmes, which access pitches at Barnsley FC Training Ground and Oakwell Stadium. These teams are not included within the demand or capacity analysis as the teams are part of an elite sports club.

National League System

The National League System (NLS) is a series of interconnected leagues for adult men's football clubs in England. It begins below the Football League (from the National League at Step 1) and comprises of six steps, with various leagues at each level and more leagues lower down the system than at the top. The NLS has a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the steps, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

Clubs playing within the NLS must adhere to Ground Grading requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football being played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league above if the ground grading requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Ground Grading assesses grounds from 1 to 7, which aligns with Step 1 clubs down the Regional Feeder League Clubs at level 7. Please refer to the FA website⁹ for the full specifications for each.

In Barnsley, Barnsley FC plays in the third tier of the professional football pyramid of English football in the EFL League One. The Club plays at Oakwell Stadium, whilst training at Barnsley FC Training Ground both of which are located in the Borough within the Central Analysis Area.

In Barnsley, there are three clubs which compete in the NLS. There are also six clubs which compete in the Regional Feeder League. Regional Feeder Leagues were previously known as Step 7 in the NLS.

Table 2.9: Summary of teams playing within the football pyramid structure

Team	League	Level
Penistone Church FC	Northern Counties East League Premier Division	Step 5
Athersley Recreation F.C	Northern Counties East League Division One	Step 6
Worsbrough Bridge Athletic FC	Northern Counties East League Division One	Step 6

⁹ <http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/player/ground-grading>

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Team	League	Level
Dearne & District J.F.C	Abacus Lighting Central Midlands Football League Premier Division North	Regional Feeder League
Dodworth Miners Welfare FC	EV2 Sportswear Sheffield and Hallamshire County Senior League Premier Division	Regional Feeder League
Houghton Main FC	EV2 Sportswear Sheffield and Hallamshire County Senior League Premier Division	Regional Feeder League
North Gawber Colliery FC	EV2 Sportswear Sheffield and Hallamshire County Senior League Premier Division	Regional Feeder League
Penistone Church FC (Reserves)	EV2 Sportswear Sheffield and Hallamshire County Senior League Premier Division	Regional Feeder League
Wombwell Main F.C.	EV2 Sportswear Sheffield and Hallamshire County Senior League Premier Division	Regional Feeder League
Wombwell Town FC	EV2 Sportswear Sheffield and Hallamshire County Senior League Premier Division	Regional Feeder League

The general principle for clubs in the NLS is that they must achieve the appropriate ground grade by March 31st of their first season after promotion, which therefore allows a short grace period for facilities to be brought up to standard. There has been a restructure of the NLS, with Step 7 repositioned as Regional Feeder Leagues to the NLS to be more aligned to the County FA network as the highest level of regional/local football. Clubs playing in Regional Feeder leagues remain eligible to access grant funding through the Premier League Stadium Fund (PLSF), on the condition that the Club has applied for promotion to Step 6. Clubs will retain access to cup competitions but the restructure will help to establish a clear and consistent process for clubs coming in at Step 6 and will allow County FAs to develop local pyramid structures.

It is important to note that from a ground grading perspective, the jump from a Regional Feeder League to Step 6 is significant and that as a minimum, sites require a pitch with sports lighting and hardstanding areas for fans, turnstiles for fan entry.

Women's National League System

Correspondingly there is a Women's National League System (WNLS) like the adult men's which provides structure to the women's game. This is based on seven tiers with the top tier being the FA Women's Super League (WSL).

Although women's clubs are still required to meet ground requirements set out by the FA, these differ from the men's National League System. Ratings range from grade A to C, each with differing minimum requirements.

In 2017, the FA announced plans to restructure the women's league for the highest performers in the football pyramid. The changes were implemented from the start of the 2018-19 season and saw the top league, FA WSL, expand from ten clubs to 14 and the creation of a new national league established at tier three for a maximum of 12 teams.

There are currently three teams which are part of the WNLS which can be seen in the table below:

Table 2.10: Summary of teams playing within the women's football pyramid structure

Team	League	Level
Barnsley Women's FC	FA Women's National League Division One North	Tier 4
Barnsley FC Ladies	North East Regional Women's Football League Division One Southern	Tier 6

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Team	League	Level
Barnsley Women's FC (Development)	Sheffield & Hallamshire Women & Girls League Division One	Tier 7

Women's and girls' demand

There are currently nine women's teams and 61 dedicated girls' teams playing football in Barnsley, of which, 16 are mini soccer teams playing in practice as an all girls' team.

Women's and Girls teams typically play locally in the Sheffield & Hallamshire Women & Girls League.

Key clubs and organisations presently fielding female teams include Barnsley Women's FC, Barnsley FC Ladies, AFC Pogmoor Penistone Church FC, Elite AFC, Dearne & District JFC and SAFG United.

The FA currently has a drive to increase women's and girls' participation as part of its Inspiring Positive Change Strategy. As such, it is imperative that sufficient facilities become suitable for female access, particularly in relation to toilets and appropriate changing facilities.

Imported demand

Imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within the Barnsley due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based.

There is no known imported demand into Barnsley for use of grass football pitches.

Exported demand

Exported demand refers to teams that are currently accessing pitches for home fixtures outside of Barnsley, despite being registered to the Authority.

The only known exported demand is from Yorkshire RTC. The Club's U8, U9 and U10s are part of the Junior Premier League (JPL) which is based at central venues based in Doncaster.

Latent demand

Latent demand is demand which is perceived to exist but is not presently realised, whereas unmet demand is demand which is known to exist but similarly is not able to be realised, in this case due to lack of access to or poor quality of facilities.

No clubs identify operating waiting lists that they cannot establish as new teams due to a lack of facility access, nor do they specifically report incidences of operating squad numbers over recommended guidelines at any age groups for similar reasons. Therefore, there is not considered to be unmet demand.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and by using population forecasts.

The Strategy & Action Plan will contain housing growth scenarios that will estimate the additional demand for football arising from housing development within Barnsley.

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Participation growth

Of responding clubs, 13 report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide, totalling a predicted growth of 34 teams, as seen below.

Table 2.11: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Gender	Number of teams	Pitch size	Match equivalent sessions ¹⁰
AFC Pogmoor	North	Womens	1	Adult	0.5
Athersley Recreation FC	North	Womens	1	Adult	0.5
		Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
		Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Brierley Cubs JFC	North East	Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Cawthorne (2017)	Penistone	Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Dearne & District JFC	Dearne	Mens	1	Adult	0.5
		Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Grimethorpe LLUK	North East	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Junior Tykes FC	North	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
North Gawber Colliery FC	North	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Redfearn JFC	North East	Girls	2	Youth 11v11	1
Silkstone Common Miners Welfare FC	Penistone	Mens	1	Adult	0.5
		Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
		Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
		Boys	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Wombewell Town FC	South	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
		Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
		Boys	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
		Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
		Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Worsbrough Bridge Athletic FC	Central	Boys	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Yorkshire RTC	Penistone	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
-	-	Total	34	-	17

The total future demand expressed by clubs amounts to 17 match equivalent sessions per week (as two teams equates to one match equivalent session playing on a home and away basis).

¹⁰ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

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Broken down by pitch type, 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week are identified on adult pitches, 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week on youth 11v11 pitches, 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week on youth 9v9 pitches, 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week on mini 7v7 pitches and four match equivalent sessions per week on mini 5v5 pitches.

Further to the above, Weetabix Wildcat centres work with County FA qualified coaches to deliver local weekly sessions, providing opportunities for girls aged five to 11 to develop fundamental skills and experience football in a safe and fun environment. There is currently three venues (Holy Trinity School, Barnsley FC Training Ground and Welfare Ground) which host Wildcat sessions in Barnsley.

All organisations delivering Wildcats centres receive a £900 start-up grant and 30 branded footballs in their first year of running the programme to help develop and increase girl's participation.

Similar to FA Wildcats, a step-up programme FA Squad is offered for girls from 12-14 years old. This is a new programme with sessions aimed at developing skills and confidence in a fun, safe and inclusive environment with session delivered by FA qualified coaches.

In light of FA aspirations to increase female participation in football through the establishment and foreseen future effect of the FA Wildcats, FA Squad programmes and Inspiring Positive Change Strategy, it is likely that the growth in affiliated women's and girl teams may exceed that shown through team generation rates. To what extent is not currently quantifiable, however, this increase in female demand is likely to be captured within the club aspirational future demand figures expressed in Table 2.10.

Population growth

Based on population projections to 2033 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) can estimate the likely additional demand for grass football pitches that will arise from any growth.

Using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, team generation rates (TGRs) have been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

For reference total current population in 2022 of 248,071 will increase to 265,868 by 2033. The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions.

Table 2.12: Authority wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population	Number of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Match equivalent sessions per week ¹¹
Adult Mens (18-45)	1:703	3.84	3	1.5
Adult Womens (18-45)	1:4954	0.56	0	0
Youth Boys (12-17)	1:65	5.82	5	2.5
Youth Girls (12-17)	1:236	1.49	1	0.5
Youth Boys (10-11)	1:54	3.59	3	1.5

¹¹ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

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Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population	Number of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Match equivalent sessions per week ¹¹
Youth Girls (10-11)	1:137	1.30	1	0.5
Mini Mixed (8-9)	1:88	4.40	4	2
Mini Mixed (6-7)	1:106	3.41	3	1.5

As these figures are authority wide and not accredited to any one analysis area, the analysis area by analysis area breakdown has been completed by apportioning the future demand on where the current demand takes place in Barnsley.

Table 2.13: Analysis area future demand

Analysis area	Number of teams					
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Central	0	1	1	0	0	2
Dearne	0	0	0	0	0	0
North	1	1	1	1	1	5
North East	1	2	1	1	1	6
Penistone	0	1	1	1	1	4
South	1	1	0	1	0	3
Total	3	6	4	4	3	20

Future demand summary

Future demand carried through to the supply and demand analysis is based population growth, this is due to future demand reported by club aspirations through participation increases is considered more aspirational, and it is unlikely that it will all be achieved. However, the preceding Strategy document will include a scenario to identify the impact it would have if the growth was realised.

Taking this into consideration, a total requirement for 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week is identified on adult pitches, three match equivalent sessions per week on youth 11v11 pitches, two match equivalent session per week on youth 9v9 pitches and two match equivalent sessions per week on mini 7v7 pitches and 1.5 match equivalent session on mini 5v5 pitches.

2.4: Capacity analysis

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

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As a guide, The FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without it adversely affecting its quality. Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity, the following ratings were used in the Barnsley:

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

Table 2.14 applies the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

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

Match equivalent sessions per week

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 likely to be for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions but may for example include training sessions and informal use.

Education sites

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that the usage at such sites will need to be adjusted. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is community use. The adjustment is typically dependent on the amount of play carried out, the number of pitches onsite and whether there is access to an onsite artificial grass pitch (AGP).

In some cases, where there is no identified community use, there is little capacity to accommodate further play. Internal usage often exceeds recommended pitch capacity, which is further exacerbated by basic maintenance regimes that may not extend beyond grass cutting and line marking.

Table 2.14 shows community usage of available pitches. Where not overplayed because of community use, school sites are considered to have no spare capacity to accommodate further usage based on assumed curricular and extracurricular activity.

For school sites which are available for community use but that currently do not have any external hirers, one match equivalent session per week, per pitch has been accredited to indicate use for curricular and extracurricular activity as opposed to them being completely unused.

As mentioned earlier, all education sites are classified as having unsecure tenure as no schools through consultation report having a community use agreement in place.

Peak time

Spare capacity can only be considered as actual spare capacity if pitches are available at peak time. In Barnsley, peak time is considered to be Sunday mornings for adult, youth 11v11, youth 9v9, mini 7v7 pitches and mini 5v5 pitches. Peak time is based on when the majority of teams are playing matches.

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On occasion, spare capacity in the peak period is identified despite the pitch being played to capacity or overplayed, or more spare capacity is identified in the peak period than the overall spare capacity that exists. This is because most or all of the use on those particular pitches occurs outside of the peak period. Where this is the case, given that peak time usage should not be utilised over and above overall capacity, adjustments have been made.

A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of play. Any pitch not meeting this criterion is therefore not considered to have additional capacity, although it may have capacity outside of peak time.

There may also be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

Pitches that are of a poor quality are not deemed to have actual spare capacity due to the already low carrying capacity of the pitches. Any identified spare capacity should be retained in order to relieve the pitches of use, which in turn will aid the improvement of pitch quality. Furthermore, any pitches with unsecured tenure are not considered to have actual spare capacity as no further play should be encouraged on such sites given that future access cannot be guaranteed.

The table below identifies the way capacity balance is represented in Table 2.14

Table 2.13: Capacity balance examples

Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of capacity balance
1	Highlighted in green with a number denotes that the pitches have actual spare capacity at peak time.
-	With a dash, this indicates that the pitch is unavailable in the peak period. If it were to be made available, actual spare capacity could exist.
0	Highlighted in orange with a zero, this indicates the pitch is played to capacity, either overall or during the peak period.
1	Not highlighted by with a value, this indicates that the pitch has spare capacity in the peak period; however, capacity has been discounted. This may be due to unsecure tenure and/or poor pitch quality.
1	Highlighted in red with a number denotes that the pitches are overplayed and have no spare capacity across the week. This includes at peak time, despite any availability at peak time which may exist.

Security of tenure - for community users

For the purposes of capacity analysis for football and for other sports throughout the PPOSS assessment report, security of tenure is represented as follows.

Where tenure is considered to be secure or unsecure for individual site users/clubs, this is exclusive of the site's long-term availability for sport overall. For example, a site may have a level of legal protection which guards its long-term purpose for use as playing field or for formal sport and recreation, but its current user has no formal agreement that it will be made available to them specifically in the long-term.

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- ◀ Secure - user club/organisation has:
 - ◀ some form of long-term formal agreement for their continued use of the site, such as freehold, leasehold (three or more years remaining) or licence/service level agreement for exclusive use.
 - ◀ rental use of local authority or Parish/Town Council managed provision, considered to be secure as part of the maintained municipal sport and recreation offer.
 - ◀ rental or partnership use of education site where a Community Use Agreement exists.

- ◀ Unsecure - user club/organisation does not have formal agreement for long-term use, use is via:
 - ◀ rental (often annual) from a non-local authority organisation such as private or education.
 - ◀ rental from another sports club or organisation which holds long-term security of tenure but for which no formal agreement exists to secure third party rented use.
 - ◀ short-term leasehold (less than three years remaining), often approaching expiry of a long-term lease agreement requiring renegotiation or renewal.
 - ◀ use through personal relationship or verbal/unofficial/casual agreement.

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Table 2.14: Grass football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Com use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play ¹²	Carrying capacity ¹³	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
2	Ardsley Park	S71 5DL	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		0	2	2	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
5	Barnsley Academy	S70 3DL	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
8	Barnsley FC (Oakwell Stadium)	S71 1ET	Central	No	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1	3	2	2	Unavailable for community use. Elite stadia pitch for Barnsley FC.
9	Barnsley FC Training Ground	S71 1EU	Central	No	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	2	Good	4	6	2	-	Unavailable for community use. Training ground for Barnsley FC.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1	6	5	-	Unavailable for community use. Training ground for Barnsley FC.
							Youth	(11v11)	2		4	8	4	-	Unavailable for community use. Training ground for Barnsley FC.
12	Birdwell Community Centre and Recreation Ground	S70 5TQ	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
14	Blackburn Lane	S70 5QE	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
15	Blacker Hill Recreation Ground	S74 0RW	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
16	Brickyard Ponds	S63 9PX	Dearne	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
17	Brierley Park	S72 9ED	North East	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1	1	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
21	Carlton Park	S71 3EG	North East	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		2.5	1	1.5	1	Pitch is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent session.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1.5	1	0.5	0.5	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
23	Carrfield Playing Field	S63 9BB	Dearne	Yes	Council		Adult	-	1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.

¹² Match equivalent sessions per week

¹³ Match equivalent sessions per week, based on pitch quality - the FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 f5or the full breakdown.

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Com use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play ¹²	Carrying capacity ¹³	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
26	Highstone Recreation Ground	S70 4EB	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	0.5	3	2.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
29	Cawthorne Football Field	S75 4EL	Penistone	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1.5	4	2.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
31	Cromwell Mount	S70 6TA	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
34	Darton Academy	S75 5EF	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		1	4	3	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.
37	Darton Longfields	S75 5HF	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	0.5	6	5.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
38	Darton Park	S75 5NR	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
40	Darton Primary School	S75 5AD	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	S75 3RF	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	1	6	5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		3	2	1	-	Pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		2	2	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
42	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	S72 8LH	North East	Yes	Trust	Secure	Adult	-	3	Good	7.5	9	1.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
43	Doveside Drive Playing Field	S73 9JJ	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	2	Poor	0	2	2	2	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
44	Elmhirst Playing Fields	S70 4RG	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	1	20	19	3	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
									2		1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1.5	6	4.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
									1		1	Good			

**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Com use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play ¹²	Carrying capacity ¹³	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	S74 8ES	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	5.5	3	2.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 2.5 match equivalent sessions.
47	Farm Road Playing Fields	S70 4RG	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	2	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	1.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		1.5	1	0.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
48	Goldthorpe Recreation Ground	S63 9JD	Dearne	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1.5	4	2.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		2	2	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
51	Greenacre School	S70 6RG	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session.
52	Grimethorpe Miners Welfare Sports Ground (Closed)	S72 7ND	North East	Yes	Community organisation	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
53	Harry Road	S75 2PA	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	S71 2LF	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
63	Horizon Community College	S70 6PD	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	2		1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	S72 0HL	South	Yes	Trust	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1	3	2	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		1	6	5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
70	Keresforth Road Playing Fields	S75 3QX	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		0	2	2	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
72	Kexborough Primary School	S75 5EF	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Pitch is unavailable for community use.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
73	Kexborough Recreation Ground	S75 5LG	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Com use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play ¹²	Carrying capacity ¹³	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
75	Kirk Balk Academy	S74 9HX	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
76	Lacewood Primary School	S63 8DA	Dearne	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
80	Littleworth Lane Playing Fields	S71 5HR	North East	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
81	Londoner Site	S71 2EF	North East	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	0	2	2	2	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
83	Love Life Sports Ground Grimethorpe	S72 7ND	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
84	Lundhill Playing Fields	S73 0QZ	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
85	Mapplewell Park	S75 6BY	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1	2	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
87	Milefield Primary School	S72 7BH	North East	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Poor	1	2	1	2	Pitches are unavailable for community use.
89	Milton Forge	S74 9BQ	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
90	Mitchell and Darfield Playing Fields	S73 8DY	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
91	Netherwood Academy	S73 8FE	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult		2	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
							Youth	(11v11)	2		2.5	2	0.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1.5	1	0.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
94	Oakwood Playing Fields	S71 4EZ	North East	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		1	2	1	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1	2	1	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		1.5	1	0.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1	1	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
95	Oldroyds	S71 4DB	North East	Yes	Council		Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
98	Outwood Primary Academy Darfield	S73 9LT	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	1	4	3	2	Pitches are unavailable for community use.
99	Oxspring Playing Field	S36 8YQ	Penistone	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	2		3	2	1	-	Pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session.

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Com use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play ¹²	Carrying capacity ¹³	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
100	Penistone Church FC	S36 6AT	Penistone	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	1	Spare capacity discounted to protect step pitch quality.
							Mini	(7v7)	2		5.5	12	6.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		5	4	1	-	Pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session.
101	Penistone Grammar School	S36 7BX	Penistone	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	3	Standard	3	12	9	3	Spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		3.5	2	1.5	0.5	Pitch is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent session.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		2.5	2	0.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
104	Pinfold Playing Fields	S72 8HF	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	-	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1.5	2	0.5	-	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1.5	1	0.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
106	Pogmoor Recreation Ground	S75 2LP	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	3	2	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		2.5	2	0.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
							Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
107	Queens Road Academy	S71 1AR	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
108	Rabbit Ings Country Park	S71 4BB	North East	Yes	Trust	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1	2	1	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		2	1	1	1	Pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1.5	1	0.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
109	Redfearns Sports Field	S71 2JS	North East	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	1	6	5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		0.5	6	5.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		2	4	2	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	S74 0DQ	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	4.5	1	3.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions.
111	Roebuck Hill	S74 0JP	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Com use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play ¹²	Carrying capacity ¹³	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
112	Rotherham Road Playing Fields	S71 2AX	North East	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
113	Royston Playing Field	S71 4JN	North East	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
114	Royston Welfare Park (Site 1)	S71 4AA	North East	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1	1	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
117	Shafton Recreation Ground	S72 8QA	North East	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
118	Sheerien Park (Athersley Recreation FC)	S71 3DP	North	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult ¹⁴		1	Good	1	3	2	1	Spare capacity discounted to protect step pitch quality.
							Adult		1		3	3	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		0.5	6	5.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(9v9) (7v7)	1		2.5	4	1.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
121	Silkstone Common Recreation Ground	S75 4QB	Penistone	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	S75 4NA	Penistone	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	4	2	2	-	Pitch is overplayed by two match equivalent session.
126	Spark Lane Football Pitch	S75 6AD	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
127	Springvale Primary School & Nursery Unit	S36 6HJ	Penistone	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
129	Springwell Learning Community	S71 2AY	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
133	St Johns the Baptist Primary School	S36 6BS	Penistone	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
139	The Astrea Dearne Academy	S63 9EW	Dearne	No	Education	Unsecure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1	1	0	1	Pitch is played to capacity.
141	The Fleets Football Pitches	S71 1QL	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult		2	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
144	The Mill Academy	S70 5EP	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
148	Thurlstone Football Club	S36 9QZ	Penistone	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.

¹⁴ Step pitch

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Com use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play ¹²	Carrying capacity ¹³	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
149	Thurnscoe Recreation Ground	S63 0BG	Dearne	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
150	Thurnscoe Sports Ground	S63 0JS	Dearne	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
151	Tinker Lane Recreation Ground	S74 0PE	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
152	Ward Green Rec	S70 6TE	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
153	Welfare Ground	S63 9EH	Dearne	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	2	2	0	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		1	4	3	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		2	4	2	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		3	2	1	-	Pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session.
155	Wharnccliffe Woodmoor Memorial Field	S71 3QP	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	0	2	2	2	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		2.5	2	0.5	-	Pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	3		1	3	2	2	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(9v9)	2		1	2	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	S73 8PW	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	4	2	2	-	Pitch is overplayed by two match equivalent session.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1	4	3	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
162	Wombwell Recreation Ground	S73 0BJ	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	3	4	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5
163	Woodview	S75 2RQ	North	Yes	Council/ Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	-	Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		1	2	1	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		0.5	1	0.5	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(9v9)	1		1.5	1	0.5	0.5	Pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session.
164	Woolley Miners Cricket Club	S75 5JA	North	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
							Mini	(5v5)	1		Standard	1	4	3	-

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Com use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play ¹²	Carrying capacity ¹³	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
165	Worsbrough Common Primary School	S70 4EB	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	0.5	Pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session.
166	Worsbrough Dale Playing Fields	S70 5DB	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Mini	(7v7)	1		0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
							Youth	(11v11)	1		0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality.
167	Worsbrough Sports and Development Association	S70 5LJ	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.

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Actual spare capacity

To determine 'actual spare capacity', each site with 'potential capacity identified in Table 2.14 has been reviewed. A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of the game. Any pitch not meeting this criterion has consequently been discounted.

There may also be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for several regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

Pitches that are of a poor quality are not deemed to have actual spare capacity due to their already low carrying capacity. Any identified spare capacity should be retained to relieve the pitches of use, which in turn, will aid the improvement of pitch quality.

Unless security of tenure is confirmed as being secured through a community use agreement during consultation with the operator, school sites that state they are currently available for community use but are unused are not considered to have actual spare capacity as they do not offer secure community use for clubs and as such use could be terminated at any time.

Actual spare capacity totals 21 match equivalent sessions per week across 30 pitches. This has been aggregated up by area and by pitch type below.

Table 2.15: Summary of actual spare capacity on grass football pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Central	2	1	0.5	3	-	6.5
Dearne	2	-	0.5	2	0.5	5
North	1	-	-	-	1	2
North East	2	1	0.5	1.5	1	6
Penistone	-	-	-	-	-	0
South	1	-	0.5	-	-	1.5
Barnsley	8	2	2	6.5	2.5	21

Most actual spare capacity is identified on adult pitches, although there is spare capacity identified across all pitch types. Overall, most actual spare capacity is in the Central Analysis Area, followed by the Dearne Analysis Area.

Overplay

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it can sustain (which can often be due to the low carrying capacity caused by poor quality). Only sites which are overplayed and have current community use have been included in the overplay summary, therefore school sites which do not currently have any community use but may be overplayed due to curriculum use and school fixtures have not been included.

In total, 27 pitches across 21 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 25 match equivalent sessions per week. The most overplay is situated in the South Analysis Area (nine match equivalent sessions), followed by the Penistone Analysis Area (six match equivalent sessions).

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Table 2.16: Summary of overplay of grass football pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match equivalent sessions per week)
21	Carlton Park	North East	Youth 11v11	1	1.5
			Youth 9v9	1	0.5
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	Central	Youth 11v11	1	1
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	South	Adult	1	2.5
47	Farm Road Playing Fields	Central	Youth 11v11	1	0.5
51	Greenacre School	Central	Youth 11v11	1	1
91	Netherwood Academy	South	Youth 11v11	2	0.5
			Youth 9v9	1	0.5
94	Oakwood Playing Fields	North East	Youth 11v11	1	0.5
99	Oxspring Playing Field	Penistone	Youth 11v11	2	1
100	Penistone Church FC	Penistone	Youth 11v11	1	1
101	Penistone Grammar School	Penistone	Youth 11v11	1	1.5
			Youth 9v9	1	0.5
104	Pinfold Playing Fields	North East	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
106	Pogmoor Recreation Ground	North	Youth 11v11	1	0.5
108	Rabbit Ings Country Park	North East	Youth 11v11	1	1
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	South	Youth 11v11	1	3.5
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	Penistone	Adult	1	2
141	The Fleets Football Pitches	North	Adult	2	0.5
153	Welfare Ground	Dearne	Youth 9v9	1	1
155	Wharncliffe Woodmoor Memorial Field	North	Mini 5v5	1	0.5
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	South	Adult	1	2
163	Woodview	North	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
165	Worsbrough Common Primary School	Central	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
Total					25

Overplay is mostly on youth 11v11 pitches (13.5 match equivalent sessions per week) with some on adult pitches (seven match equivalent sessions per week) some on youth 9v9 (four match equivalent sessions per week) and a minimal amount on mini 5v5 pitches (0.5 match equivalent sessions per week). Mini 7v7 pitches have no overplay.

Most overplay is generated from high levels of demand accessing the pitches. However, the majority of overplayed pitches are only marginally overplayed. The sites with the most significant overplay are Rockingham Sports Ground and Elsecar Cricket Club.

2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify current demand (i.e. spare capacity taking away overplay and any latent/unmet/exported demand) in each of the analysis areas for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand is based on team generation rates which are driven by population increases.

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Adult pitches

At present, across adult pitches in Barnsley 12 pitches at 11 sites have actual spare capacity equalling eight match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 2.17: Supply and demand position for adult pitches

Analysis area	No. of match equivalent sessions				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Central	2	-	2	-	2
Dearne	2	-	2	-	2
North	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0
North East	2	-	2	0.5	1.5
Penistone	-	2	2	-	2
South	1	4.5	3.5	0.5	4
Barnsley	8	7	1	1.5	0.5

Overall, in Barnsley there is a current sufficient capacity for adult pitches, with an overall one adult match equivalent sessions of spare capacity per week. Overplay is identified on five adult pitches across four sites. When accounting for future demand through population growth, three additional teams are expected to be generated, leading to a future shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Youth 11v11 pitches

At present, across youth 11v11 pitches in Barnsley two pitches at two sites have actual spare capacity equalling two match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 2.18: Supply and demand position for youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	No. of match equivalent sessions				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Central	1	2.5	1.5	0.5	2
Dearne	-	-	0	-	0
North	-	0.5	0.5	0.5	1
North East	1	3	2	1	3
Penistone	-	3.5	3.5	0.5	4
South	-	4	4	0.5	4.5
Barnsley	2	13.5	11.5	3	14.5

For youth 11v11 pitches overall in Barnsley there is a shortfall of 11.5 match equivalent sessions per week to accommodate current demand. All analysis areas apart from the Dearne Analysis Area have a shortfall. Overplay is concentrated on 14 pitches across 12 sites. When accounting for future demand through population growth, six additional teams are expected to be generated, leading to a future shortfall of 14.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Youth 9v9 pitches

At present, across youth 9v9 pitches in Barnsley four pitches at four sites have actual spare capacity equalling two match equivalent sessions per week.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 2.19: Supply and demand position for youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	No. of match equivalent sessions				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Central	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	0.5
Dearne	0.5	1	0.5	-	0.5
North	-	5	5	0.5	5.5
North East	0.5	4.5	4	0.5	4.5
Penistone	-	0.5	0.5	0.5	1
South	0.5	0.5	0	-	0
Barnsley	2	12	10	2	12

There is a current shortfall of youth 9v9 pitches equating to 10 match equivalent sessions per week. Shortfalls are identified in all analysis areas except for the Central and South analysis areas, which is played to capacity when considering current demand. There are 11 overplayed youth 9v9 pitches located across 11 sites. When accounting for future demand through population growth, four additional teams are expected to be generated, leading to a future shortfall of 12 match equivalent sessions per week. A shortfall is created in the Central Analysis Area.

Mini 7v7 pitches

At present, across mini 7v7 pitches in Barnsley nine pitches across six sites have actual spare capacity of 6.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 2.20: Supply and demand position for mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	No. of match equivalent sessions				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Central	3	-	3	-	3
Dearne	2	-	2	-	2
North	-	-	0	0.5	0.5
North East	1.5	-	1.5	0.5	1
Penistone	-	-	0	0.5	0.5
South	-	-	0	0.5	0.5
Barnsley	6.5	0	6.5	2	4.5

As seen in the table above, mini 7v7 pitches have actual spare capacity in Barnsley. Spare capacity currently equates to 6.5 match equivalent sessions per week. There is no overplay on mini 7v7 pitches in Barnsley. When accounting for future demand through population growth, four additional teams are expected to be generated, leading spare capacity to reduce to 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Future demand creates minimal shortfalls in the North, Penistone and South analysis areas.

Mini 5v5 pitches

At present, across mini 5v5 pitches in Barnsley four pitches across four sites have actual spare capacity of 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 2.21: Supply and demand position for mini 5v5 pitches

Analysis area	No. of match equivalent sessions				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Central	-	-	0	-	0
Dearne	0.5	-	0.5	-	0.5
North	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0
North East	1	-	1	0.5	0.5
Penistone	-	-	0	0.5	0.5
South	-	-	0	-	0
Barnsley	2.5	0.5	2	1.5	0.5

As seen in the table above, there is current overall actual spare capacity of two match equivalent sessions on mini 5v5 pitches. Overplay is identified on one pitch at one site. When accounting for future demand through population growth, three additional teams are expected to be generated, leading spare capacity to reduce to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Future demand creates minimal shortfalls in the South Analysis Areas.

2.6: Conclusion

In conclusion, at a Boroughwide level there are current shortfalls across youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. Whilst capacity is sufficient across adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches. However, future growth could lead to future shortfalls across the Borough on adult pitches. Whilst mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches continue to be able to accommodate future demand.

Table 2.27: Summary of supply and demand analysis for grass football pitches

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Adult	8	7	1	1.5	0.5
Youth 11v11	2	13.5	11.5	3	14.5
Youth 9v9	2	12	10	2	12
Mini 7v7	6.5	0	6.5	2	4.5
Mini 5v5	2.5	0.5	2	1.5	0.5

In addition, there is a significant issue with poor quality pitches. This is generally down to pitch maintenance, which can have a longing effect on pitch quality. There is a need to explore the need to improve pitch maintenance across pitches, in particular on council managed sites.

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Summary - football

- There are current shortfalls across youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. Whilst capacity is sufficient across adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches.
- However, future growth could lead to future shortfalls across the Borough on adult pitches. Whilst mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches continue to be able to accommodate future demand.

Supply

- The audit identifies a total of 207 grass football pitches within Barnsley across 86 sites. Of these, 184 pitches across 72 sites are identified as being available for community use.
- Most available pitches in the Borough are in the Central Analysis Area (46 pitches - 25% of available pitches), followed by the North East Analysis Area (43 pitches - 23%), the North Analysis Area (39 pitches – 21%) and then the South Analysis Area (25 pitches - 14%). The Penistone Analysis Area has 17 pitches (9% of available pitches) and the Dearne Analysis Area has the least number of pitches with 14 pitches (8% of available pitches).

Quality

- In total, 27 pitches (15%) are rated as good quality, 57 as standard quality (31%) and 100 as poor quality (54%).
- Of the 72 sites that are actively used for community football, nine sites (13%) are serviced by good quality ancillary facilities, 18 sites (25%) by standard quality ancillary facilities and 19 sites (26%) are serviced by poor quality ancillary facilities. The remaining 26 sites (36%) are not serviced by onsite clubhouse/changing room provision.

Demand

- There are 402 teams identified as playing football in the Borough. This is made up of 65 adult men's, nine adult women's, 152 youth boys', 45 youth girls' and 131 mini soccer teams.
- In Barnsley 91% of all football teams play on grass pitches, with only 9% of teams playing on 3G pitches.
- Only Yorkshire RTC are known to export demand to the Doncaster for three of its mini teams to play at the Junior Premier League central venue.
- Future population growth totals 20 potential new teams, resulting in additional capacity requirement (in match equivalent sessions per week) of 1.5 on adult pitches three on youth 11v11 pitches, two on youth 9v9 pitches, 2.5 on mini 7v7 pitches and 1.5 on mini 5v5 pitches.

Capacity

- There are 30 pitches identified as having actual spare capacity, totalling 21 match equivalent sessions per week.
- In total, 27 pitches across just 21 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 25 match equivalent sessions per week. The most overplay is situated in the South Analysis Area (nine match equivalent sessions), followed by the Penistone Analysis Area (six match equivalent sessions).

PART 3: THIRD GENERATION ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (3G Pitches)

3.1: Introduction

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces that have been FIFA or International Matchball Standard tested and approved by the FA for inclusion on the FA 3G Pitch Register. As such, in addition to training demand, a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play, providing that the performance standard meets FIFA or FA quality requirements.

World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22', which provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the required standard and have up to date certification, meaning full contact activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts, can take place.

Competitive rugby league play and contact practice is permitted to take place on 3G pitches which are deemed by the Rugby Football League (RFL) to meet its Performance Standard. Pitches fall under two categories; RFL Community pitches which require retesting every two years and RFL Stadium pitches which require an annual retest. Much of the criteria within the RFL performance standard test also forms part of the World Rugby test, meaning World Rugby 'Regulation 22' certified 3G pitches are considered by the RFL to be able to meet rugby league requirements for RFL Community pitches.

Many test contractors are able to offer reduced rates through efficiency savings to carry out multiple performance tests in the same session, therefore providers seeking 3G pitch compliancy for a number of sports would be recommended to consider this opportunity. Other sports that are known to use 3G pitches for training and match play include American football and lacrosse.

EH's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy (June 2016) advises that 3G pitches should not be used for hockey matches or training and that they can only be used for lower level hockey (introductory level) as a last resort when no sand-based or water-based AGPs are available.

3.2: Supply

An 3G pitch to recommended dimensions is considered by the FA to measure at least 100 x 60 metres (106 x 64 metres including run offs); however, for the purposes of this report, all pitches measuring over 91 x 55 metres (97x61m including run offs) are considered to be 11v11 as they are of sufficient size to meet permitted dimensions for both youth 11v11 and adult match play. Nationally, many 3G pitches are below the FA recommended size due to being converted from sand-based provision (dimensions for hockey are smaller than those recommended for football).

There are 11 3G pitches of 11v11 size in Barnsley that fully comply with the above specification. The most provision (three pitches – 27%) is located in the North East Analysis Area. All pitches have sports lighting. Of the total pitches, ten are available for community use in some capacity, with only the pitch at Barnsley FC Training Ground unavailable for community use.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 3.1: 11v11 3G pitches in Barnsley

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (meters)
7	Barnsley College (Honeywell Sports Village)	S75 1DB	North	Yes	Yes	98x50
9	Barnsley FC Training Ground	S71 1EU	Central	No	Yes	105x72
42	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	S72 8LH	North East	Yes	Yes	106x70
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	S71 2LF	North	Yes	Yes	100x63
63	Horizon Community College	S70 6PD	Central	Yes	Yes	100x65
75	Kirk Balk Academy	S74 9HX	South	Yes	Yes	100x60
91	Netherwood Academy	S73 8FE	South	Yes	Yes	100x55
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	S71 3EW	North East	Yes	Yes	101x64
97	Outwood Academy Shafton	S72 8RE	North East	Yes	Yes	100x60
101	Penistone Grammar School	S36 7BX	Penistone	Yes	Yes	105x65
139	The Astrea Dearne Academy	S63 9EW	Dearne	Yes	Yes	100x60

There are also 16 smaller size 3G pitches servicing Barnsley, of which, 14 are available for community use. The community available pitches are all serviced by sports lighting. The two pitches that are not available for community use are both located at education sites.

Small size pitches are generally not suitable for adult match play but can be used to accommodate youth and mini matches provided they are FA approved, of an adequate size and with adequate run-off areas. More commonly, they are used to accommodate training demand, commercial football leagues and social play.

Table 3.2: Supply of small size 3G pitches in Barnsley

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (meters)
1	5Ives (Barnsley)	S70 3JR	Central	6	Yes	Yes	32x20
				2	Yes	Yes	40x30
19	Burton Road Primary School	S71 2AA	Central	1	No	No	27x15
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	S75 3RF	Central	1	Yes	Yes	42x33
100	Penistone Church FC	S36 6AT	Penistone	1	Yes	Yes	40x30
119	Shoot 5 Indoor Soccer	S75 4RD	Penistone	3	Yes	Yes	35x25
125	Shaw Lane Sports Club	S70 6HZ	Central	1	Yes	Yes	55x35

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (meters)
129	Springwell Learning Community	S71 2AY	North	1	No	Yes	36x18

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Figure 3.1: Location of 3G pitches in Barnsley



BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Future provision

Barnsley Local Football Facility Plan (2018)

The Barnsley Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP)¹⁵, published in 2018, identifies proposed projects for the development of new 11v11 3G pitches at Rockingham Sports Ground (11v11 pitch). In addition, there is also priority projects listed for the development of 11v11 3G pitches in the North (potential FF Hub site) and Central/East of the Borough.

The LFFP proposed projects will be assessed as scenarios in the proceeding Strategy document to ensure that they are supported by the evidence presented in this report and whether alterations or additions are required to the Barnsley LFFP.

As part of the LFFP, a potential FF Hub site was identified. The Council has identified at site for development of a new 3G pitch and community hub building at Parkside (S74 0AH). The FF is supporting the Council with this and is expecting an FF application in late 2023/early 2024 for this development.

Athersley Recreation FC (Sheerien Park)

During consultation with Athersley Recreation FC it highlights that it is currently working with the Council and Thomas Rotherham College to develop a full size 3G pitch with sports lighting. The pitch would be developed on the second adult grass pitch onsite. The site currently has two adult pitches, of which, one is protected for Step football and would remain a grass football pitch.

The Club has had discussions with the Council, and it suggests there could be potential funding to support the development. Thomas Rotherham College has recently signed a partnership with the Club to use its site for a college scholarship football programme which will be run out of the site. The College is to start the programme in the coming years, however, to enable the programme to work effectively it has plans to support the 3G pitch development through business planning and helping the Club gain funding whilst also building an accompanying fixed building which would contain changing rooms and classrooms.

Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre

The Council aspires to develop a second 3G pitch onsite. The FF and Council are currently working on external changing room and pavilion which will be external from current sports centre to cater for current 3G and grass pitches onsite.

Trinity Academy Barnsley

An old playing field site south of the Shaw Lane Sports Club previously accommodated up to four grass pitches. It was previously marked for formal use *circa* 2015. The site is confirmed for the development of a new school site. Plans for the site suggests a development of an 11v11 3G pitch with a shock pad for WR compliance.

FA 3G Pitch Register

In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches, the pitch should be FIFA or IMS tested and approved and added to the FA 3G Pitch Register, which can be found at the Football Foundation website¹⁶.

¹⁵[Link to Barnsley LFFP](#)

¹⁶[Link to 3G pitch register](#)

BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Pitches undergo testing to become a FIFA Quality pitch (previously FIFA One Star) or a FIFA Quality Pro pitch (previously FIFA Two Star), with pitches commonly constructed, installed and tested in situ to achieve either accreditation. This comes after FIFA announced changes to 3G performance in October 2015 following consultation with member associations and licenced laboratories. The changes are part of FIFA's continued ambition to drive up performance standard in the industry and the implications are that all 3G pitches built through the FA framework will be constructed to meet the new criteria.

The changes from FIFA One Star to FIFA Quality will have minimal impact on the current hours of use guidelines, which suggests that One Star pitches place more emphasis on the product's ability to sustain acceptable performance and can typically be used for 60-85 hours per week with a lifespan of 20,000 cycles. In contrast, pitches built to FIFA Quality Pro performance standards are unlikely to provide the hours of use that some FIFA Two Star products have guaranteed in the past (previously 30-40 hours per week with a lifespan of 5,000 cycles). Typically, a FIFA Quality Pro pitch will be able to accommodate only 20-30 hours per week with appropriate maintenance due to strict performance measurements.

In Barnsley, the following pitches have FA or FIFA accreditation on the FA 3G Pitch Register.

Table 3.3: 3G Pitch Register supply summary

Site ID	Site	Pitch type	Accreditation type	Test expiry
9	Barnsley FC Training Ground	Full size	FA Approved	31/05/2025
42	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	Full size	FIFA Approved	31/05/2026
91	Netherwood Academy	Full size	FA Approved	31/05/2024
101	Penistone Grammar School	Full size	FA Approved (Expired)	22/12/2022

World Rugby (WR) compliant pitches

To enable 3G pitches to host competitive rugby union matches, WR has developed the Rugby Turf Performance Specification. This is to ensure that the surfaces replicate the playing qualities of good quality grass pitches, provide a playing environment that will not increase the risk of injury and are of an adequate durability.

The specification includes a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G pitch used for any form of competitive rugby must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance.

There are currently no WR compliant 3G pitches within the Borough, with the closest located at Kettlethorpe High School in Wakefield.

It is reported that, an old playing field site south of the Shaw Lane Sports Club which previously accommodated up to four grass pitches, has confirmed for the development of a new school sit. The plans include the development of a 11v11 size 3G pitch, which will have a shock pad and be WR compliant, offering training space for both rugby union clubs in the Borough.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Quality

It is considered that the carpet of a 3G pitch usually lasts for approximately ten years, and it is the age of the surface, combined with maintenance levels, which most commonly affects quality. It is therefore recommended that sinking funds be put into place by providers to enable long-term sustainability, ongoing repairs and future refurbishment beyond this period. Site assessments were undertaken in November 2022.

Of the 11 3G pitches of 11v11 size, most are standard quality (eight or 73%) then two (18%) are good quality, and one (9%) pitch at Barnsley College is poor quality.

Of the 16 small size 3G pitches, 12 (75%) are standard quality and four (25%) are poor quality, no small sized 3G pitches in Barnsley are good quality.

Table 3.4: Summary of 3G pitch quality

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Quality rating	Year built (resurfaced)
11v11 size pitches					
7	Barnsley College (Honeywell Sports Village)	North	1	Poor	2008
9	Barnsley FC Training Ground	Central	1	Good	2016
42	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	North East	1	Good	2017
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	North	1	Standard	2012
63	Horizon Community College	Central	1	Standard	2003 (2012)
75	Kirk Balk Academy	South	1	Standard	2011
91	Netherwood Academy	South	1	Standard	2013
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	North East	1	Standard	2012
97	Outwood Academy Shafton	North East	1	Standard	2012
101	Penistone Grammar School	Penistone	1	Standard	2011
139	The Astrea Dearne Academy	Dearne	1	Standard	2011
Small size pitches					
1	5lves (Barnsley)	Central	8	Standard	2008 (2015)
19	Burton Road Primary School	Central	1	Poor	2010
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	Central	1	Standard	2014
100	Penistone Church FC	Penistone	1	Standard	1999 (2010)
119	Shoot 5 Indoor Soccer	Penistone	3	Poor	2000
125	Shaw Lane Sports Club	Central	1	Standard	2000
129	Springwell Learning Community	North	1	Standard	2011

The 11v11 size 3G pitch located at Barnsley College is of poor quality. The pitch is well beyond its recommended ten year lifespan, is used extensively for curricular, extra-curricular and community demand. The pitch will likely need fully resurfacing in the coming years.

There is a high percentage of 3G pitches which are assessed as standard quality. This is due to similar maintenance programmes taking place on the pitches through Amey maintenance, whilst all of these pitches being of a similar age and built between 2011-2013.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Ancillary facilities

The ancillary amenities at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre are rated as good quality with no issues arising during consultation. All other community available pitches are located at school sites, all these facilities offer typical school changing facilities, with no significant issues arising all these facilities are considered sufficient to cater for the 3G pitches onsite.

Management

The 3G pitch at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is managed by Barnsley Premier Leisure (Council provider). Whilst the 3G pitch at Barnsley FC Training Ground is managed in house by the professional sports club.

The remaining nine 11v11 3G pitches are located at educational sites and are managed through a PFI contract and managed, on behalf of each school, by facilities management company Amey. The schools each have 400 hours per year access allocated through this contract and issues have arisen in recent years as the number of hours available has reduced, this has left some schools short of hours and having to pay out extra to open facilities or open less often due to this.

Availability

The table below, examines the availability of each community pitch during the week.

Table 3.5: Summary of 3G pitch availability

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Availability
7	Barnsley College (Honeywell Sports Village)	North	Monday to Friday: 17:45 - 21:45 Saturday/Sunday: 09:00-17:00
9	Barnsley FC Training Ground	Central	Not available for community use.
42	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	North East	Monday to Friday: 17:00 – 22:00 Saturday / Sunday: 09:00 – 15:00
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	North	Monday to Friday: 17:00 – 22:00 Unavailable on weekends
63	Horizon Community College	Central	Monday to Friday: 17:00 – 22:00 Saturday / Sunday: 09:00 – 16:00
75	Kirk Balk Academy	South	Monday to Friday: 17:00 – 21:00 Saturday: 09:00 – 11:00 Unavailable on Sundays
91	Netherwood Academy	South	Monday to Friday: 18:00 – 22:00 Saturday / Sunday: 09:00 – 14:00
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	North East	Monday to Friday: 17:00 – 21:30 Unavailable on weekends
97	Outwood Academy Shafton	North East	Monday to Thursday: 18:00-21:00 Unavailable Friday-Sunday
101	Penistone Grammar School	Penistone	Monday to Thursday: 17:00 – 21:30 Friday: 17:00 – 20:00 Saturday / Sunday: 09:00 – 13:00
139	The Astrea Dearne Academy	Dearne	Monday to Friday: 17:30 – 21:30 Saturday / Sunday: 09:00 – 17:00

As previously mentioned, the pitch at Barnsley FC Training Ground is not available for community use.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Due to the PFI contract offering 400 hours per year of caretaker funding, the schools utilise these whichever they wish too. Some schools utilise only these contracted hours and therefore offer less hours of community use (such as no weekend access), whilst other schools limit availability during the week. Some schools however pay for additional caretaker hours and therefore offer more hours of community availability for their facilities. It should be noted however, that anecdotal evidence from clubs suggests that the cost of pitches at the PFI contracted sites are often very high and can price out use from community clubs at certain times and venues. Of the nine 3G pitches available for community use only one (Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre) is under Council management and is considered to a reasonable price to hire (£84.30 per hour). Anecdotal evidence suggests that other pitches in the Borough set prices between £80-£140 per hour, with clubs reporting that the high priced pitches are too high for community clubs and therefore remain un-booked.

3.3: Demand

The 11v11 size 3G pitches currently available for community use in Barnsley are all reported to be operating at or close to capacity at peak times, especially during winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting). This mainly applies to midweek capacity but at some sites also applies to weekend capacity on account of many being FA approved to host competitive matches.

Currently, it is considered that the majority of community-based activity on 3G pitches is football related, with minimal amounts of rugby league demand utilising the pitch at The Astrea Dearne Academy, although this pitch is no RFL Community Standard compliant. Most of the capacity is being taken up by clubs for training and match play purposes, although there is also a small presence of recreational football activity taking place (e.g., via unaffiliated groups).

The following table summarises the availability of 11v11 size 3G pitches for community use in Barnsley. In addition, it records the availability of provision within the peak period. In order to accomplish this analysis a peak period needs to be determined. Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies a generic overall peak period for AGPs based the following hours for AGPs 34 hours a week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00).

BARNSLEY METROPOLITON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Table 3.6: Current usage of Community Available full size 3G pitches across Barnsley

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Sports lighting	Quality ¹⁷	Total number of hours available for community use during peak period	Midweek					Weekend				
							Affiliated Football usage	Affiliated Rugby usage ¹⁸	Other sports club usage	Informal / Recreational ¹⁹	Actual Spare capacity	Affiliated Football usage	Affiliated Rugby usage	Other sports club usage	Informal / Recreational	Actual Spare capacity
7	Barnsley College (Honeywell Sports Village)	S75 1DB	North	Yes	Poor	Weekdays: 14.25 hours Weekends: 16 hours Total: 30.25 hours	Unknown									
42	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	S72 8LH	North East	Yes	Good	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 12 hours Total: 30 hours	81%	-	-	6%	13%	67%	-	-	-	33%
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	S71 2LF	North	Yes	Standard	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 0 hours Total: 18 hours	Unknown					Unavailable				
63	Horizon Community College	S70 6PD	Central	Yes	Standard	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 14 hours Total: 32 hours	Unknown									
75	Kirk Balk Academy	S74 9HX	South	Yes	Standard	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 2 hours Total: 20 hours	59%	-	-	-	41%	67%	-	-	-	33%
91	Netherwood Academy	S73 8FE	South	Yes	Standard	Weekdays: 13 hours Weekends: 10 hours Total: 23 hours	Unknown									
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	S71 3EW	North East	Yes	Standard	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 0 hours Total: 18 hours	66%	-	-	-	34%	Unavailable				
97	Outwood Academy Shafton	S72 8RE	North East	Yes	Standard	Weekdays: 12 hours Weekends: 0 hours Total: 12 hours	100%	-	-	-	0%	Unavailable				
101	Penistone Grammar School	S36 7BX	Penistone	Yes	Standard	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 8 hours Total: 26 hours	71%	-	-	5%	24%	50%	-	-	-	50%
139	The Astrea Dearne Academy	S63 9EW	Dearne	Yes	Standard	Weekdays: 15.5 hours Weekends: 16 hours Total: 31.5 hours	83%	2%	-	2%	13%	-	-	-	-	100%

It should be noted that most of the spare capacity during the week is between the 5pm-6pm time slot, this is considered an unattractive time slot due to being close to work/school finishing time and therefore has less timed than other desired timeslots.

¹⁷ Quality is assessed via a combination of non-technical assessments carried out by KKP but also take account of user views and opinions.

¹⁸ Rugby union and rugby league

¹⁹ Recreation usage includes demand from leisure football leagues, Active Communities and other similar organisations.

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Training demand

Getting access to good quality, affordable training facilities is a problem for many clubs throughout the country. In the winter months, midweek training is only possible at sports lit facilities, with 3G provision preferred by the FA and most clubs.

In Barnsley 63% of clubs that responded to consultation explicitly report that they require additional access to 3G pitches. As mentioned in Part 2: Football, 41% of clubs responded to consultation requests representing 55% of all teams playing within the Authority. This being said, the exact number of teams that report an aspiration to use more 3G pitches cannot be substantiated meaning an exact amount of unmet demand cannot be quantified.

Furthermore, some of these clubs are already training on 3G pitches but do not have capacity for all of their teams, or do not have access at preferred times. Others are not training on 3G pitches at all and are instead using sand-based pitches (as referenced in Part 6) or indoor sports halls despite these not being their preferred surfaces.

The FA's long-term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a sports lit 3G surface, together with priority access for every England Accredited Club through a partnership agreement. As such, it has established a model to calculate the required number of pitches to meet demand, with one full size pitch being required to service every 38 teams within a local authority. This is based on peak time access being Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings (Mondays and Fridays are discounted as it is considered that teams do not want to train in such close proximity to a weekend match, and it also allows for other forms of access such as for commercial leagues and recreational play).

For the model, research and analysis has been done into each individual pitch to establish the role in which it plays on a weekly basis. This has been done by trying to understand the current usage of each individual pitch and the part it plays in terms of the full 18 hour model during the week. Therefore, for example some pitches which offer only 12 hours of availability and are utilised at 75%, will be considered to be offer the equivalent of 0.5 of an 11v11 size pitch.

The contribution each pitch makes towards the modelling is summarised in the table below. This then informs the proceeding modelling tables.

Table 3.7: Contribution of 3G pitches in meeting training requirements from community available pitches

Site name	Affiliated football usage	Analysis area	Supply	Total number of hours available for community use during peak period	Comments
Barnsley College (Honeywell Sports Village)	Unknown	North	1	Weekdays: 14.25 hours Weekends: 16 hours Total: 30.25 hours	Known use from Barnsley Sports Academy and Barnsley Women's FC
Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	81%	North East	1	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 12 hours Total: 30 hours	FF funded pitch, managed inhouse by the Council leisure provider (BPL)
Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	Unknown	North	1	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 0 hours Total: 18 hours	North Gawber Colliery main user, multi-team club, only training venue and pricing policy online is regarded by FF as community-led/accessible.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site name	Affiliated football usage	Analysis area	Supply	Total number of hours available for community use during peak period	Comments
Horizon Community College	Unknown	Central	0	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 14 hours Total: 32 hours	Council reports clubs having difficulty accessing.
Kirk Balk Academy	59%	South	0.5	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 2 hours Total: 20 hours	Utilised around 50% of the 18 peak hours, with use from Wombwell Town FC.
Netherwood Academy	Unknown	South	0.5	Weekdays: 13 hours Weekends: 10 hours Total: 23 hours	Limited programme of availability utilised by Wombwell Town JFC.
Outwood Academy Carlton	66%	North East	0.5	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 0 hours Total: 18 hours	Utilised around 50% of the 18 peak hours, with use from Redfearns JFC.
Outwood Academy Shafton	100%	North East	0.5	Weekdays: 12 hours Weekends: 0 hours Total: 12 hours	Limited programme of availability utilised by Barnsley Ladies FC.
Penistone Grammar School	71%	Penistone	1	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekends: 8 hours Total: 26 hours	Around 75% usage of a full programme, considered to offer availability of full pitch.
The Astrea Dearne Academy	83%	Dearne	1	Weekdays: 15.5 hours Weekends: 16 hours Total: 31.5 hours	Known use from Dearne & District JFC

Following analysis and discussions with football partners, it is considered that the ten 11v11 size 3G pitches are considered to offer the equivalent of seven 11v11 size 3G pitches.

Based on 402 teams currently playing on football pitches in Barnsley, there is a theoretical need for 11 full size 3G pitches (rounded up from 10.57). With there currently being considered the equivalent of seven community available 11v11 3G pitches, this represents a short fall of four 11v11 3G pitches.

Table 3.8: Current demand for 3G pitches in Barnsley (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall
402	11	7	4

When considering future demand for an additional 20 teams (based on growth identified in Part 2 of this report), the required number of 3G pitches remain at 11, therefore there is still a shortfall of four 11v11 3G pitches.

Table 3.9: Future demand for 3G pitches in Barnsley (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Future shortfall
422	11	7	4

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

Table 3.10: Current demand for 3G pitches by analysis area (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement ²⁰	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Central	61	2 (1.61)	-	2
Dearne	32	1 (0.84)	1	-
North	76	2	2	-
North East	104	3 (2.73)	2	1
Penistone	65	2 (1.71)	1	1
South	64	2 (1.68)	1	1
Barnsley	402	12	7	5

This shows that there is currently a shortfall of five 11v11 3G pitches in Barnsley. When broken down by analysis area, there is a shortfall identified in the Central, North East, Penistone and South analysis areas.

Considering future demand from population growth (20 teams) it is unlikely that demand will increase enough in an individual analysis area to increase requirement of 3G pitches.

Match play demand

Improving grass pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites but given the cost of doing such work and the continued maintenance required (and associated costs), alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The substitute to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches, providing that the pitch is FA approved, sports lit and available for community use during the peak period.

In Barnsley, only four community available 3G pitches are either FA or FIFA compliant and, on the FA, 3G Pitch Register meaning they cannot all accommodate competitive matches. Barnsley College (Honeywell Sports Village) is used to accommodate matches from Barnsley Sports Academy and Barnsley Women's FC. Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is used for matches by Barnsley Women's FC, Elite AFC and Pinfold Pumas JFC. Netherwood Academy is used for matches by Wombwell Town JFC. Whilst GWL United and Penistone Church FC uses Penistone Grammar School for matches. It should be noted that Barnsley Ladies FC is registered to play matches at Outwood Academy Carlton and DSC JFC is registered to use Horizon Community College for matches, however, neither of these pitches are on the FA Pitch Register and should not be used for match play until they are tested and get compliance.

In total, 37 teams are registered as using 3G pitches to accommodate competitive demand. The use of 3G pitches for matches also emphasises the importance of maintaining good quality pitches. Should pitches become poor quality, they will likely lose accreditation to accommodate fixtures. This will then result in all teams using the provision needing to transfer to grass pitches, adding to their usage, reducing their capacity and further diminishing their quality.

²⁰ Rounded to the nearest 0.25

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Rugby union/league

As mentioned previously, there is no WR compliant 3G pitch within Barnsley. As such, this results in no pitches within the Borough being accessed for rugby union activity.

There is some rugby league activity on The Astra Dearne Academy pitch, however, this pitch does not meet RFL standard 3G pitch requirements and therefore should be limited to non-contact and skill work and is not permitted for contact training.

Other sports

No other sports clubs/users are presently identified as accessing the existing stock of 3G pitches in Barnsley (outside of some school activity). Furthermore, with limited demand identified in the Authority, and with limited presence of other relevant sports, no demand for access has been uncovered.

3.4: Supply and demand analysis

There is currently insufficient supply to accommodate both current and future training demand across existing 3G pitches. There is a current shortfall of four 11v11 3G pitches across the Borough by a whole, when broken down by analysis area, the shortfalls extend to five 11v11 3G pitches, with shortfalls in the Central, North East, Penistone and South areas.

The 11v11 3G pitches currently available for community use in Barnsley are all operating at, or close to, capacity at peak times, especially during winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting). Whilst 63% of teams responding to consultation report a need for additional 3G pitch provision to accommodate its current demand.

At present 3G pitches are used by 9% (37) of teams for weekend match play and given that some full size pitches at education sites are not fully available at weekends there could be scope to explore greater usage of existing provision to meet demand. This will be explored further in the Strategy and Action Plan to follow.

In addition to the above being said, the cost of pitches in the Borough is a significant issue, with some pitches having availability to be booked but having premium price for bookings, this deters many community clubs away as they cannot afford the bookings. Anecdotal evidence suggests that this is mainly an issue in the North East and South Analysis Areas, and therefore further investigation should be done to explore the need for additional pitches in these analysis areas in the future, where costs can be set at a reasonable price for community football clubs.

3.5: Conclusion

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

Although 3G pitches in the Borough offer opening times throughout the week which cater for training demand, a number of the pitches are made unavailable for use on weekends, this therefore limits the amount of match play which can take place on 3G pitches.

A number of pitches are of standard quality, and all were installed around a similar time, whilst being maintained by the same maintenance provider Amey. It is likely that these pitches will require improvements or replacement of surfaces in the lifespan of this PPOSS and within a similar time frame. If the pitches were lost due to poor quality, the supply and subsequent capacity for use in the Borough would significantly decrease.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Summary – 3G

- ◀ **In conclusion, there is deemed to be an insufficient supply to accommodate both current and future demand for 3G pitches in Barnsley.**

Supply

- ◀ There are 11 3G pitches of 11v11 size in Barnsley. Three of these pitches are located in the North East Analysis Area.
- ◀ All pitches have sports lighting, with 10 of these being available for community use.
- ◀ There are also 16 smaller size 3G pitches servicing Barnsley, of which, 14 are available for community use. The community available pitches are all serviced by sports lighting. The two pitches that are not available for community use are both located at education sites.
- ◀ In Barnsley three of the pitches are FA/FIFA compliant and on the FA 3G Pitch Register so permitted for match play use. Whilst the certificate for the pitch at Penistone Grammar School has recently expired.
- ◀ There are no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in Barnsley.
- ◀ The 3G pitch at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is managed by Barnsley Premier Leisure. Whilst the 3G pitch at Barnsley FC Training Ground is managed in house by the professional sports club. All other pitches are located at educational sites and are managed through a PFI contract and managed on behalf of the schools by Amey.

Quality

- ◀ Of the 11 pitches of 11v11 size, two (18%) are good quality, eight (73%) are standard quality and one (9%) pitch at Barnsley College is poor quality.
- ◀ Of the 16 small size 3G pitches 12 (75%) are standard quality and four (25%) are poor quality, no small sized 3G pitches in Barnsley are good quality.
- ◀ The ancillary facilities at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre are rated as good quality with no issues arising during consultation.

Demand

- ◀ All pitches are extensively used for affiliated football demand both for midweek training and competitive demand at the weekend. There is also some use of The Astrea Dearne Academy pitch by Dodworth Miners ARLFC.

Capacity

- ◀ The 11v11 3G pitches currently available for community use in Barnsley are all operating at, or close to, capacity at peak times, especially during winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting).
- ◀ In Barnsley 61% clubs that responded to consultation report that they require additional access to 3G provision, however, the exact number of teams that don't already access 3G pitches is unquantifiable.

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PART 4: CRICKET

4.1: Introduction

Yorkshire Cricket Board (YCB) serves as the main governing and representative body for cricket across Barnsley. Working closely with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), it is responsible for the management and development of every form of recreational cricket for men, women and children within the Borough. It is currently working with the ECB on delivering its Inspiring Generations Strategy which has been live since 2020.

Consultation

There are 21 cricket clubs playing in Barnsley. Through both online survey and video consultation, a total club response rate of 90% has been achieved as detailed below.

Table 4.1: Summary of cricket club consultation

Club name	Analysis area	Response
Barnsley Woolley Miners CC	Central	Yes
Cawthorne CC	Penistone	Yes
Darfield CC	South	Yes
Darton CC	North	Yes
Dearne CC	Dearne	No
Earl Marshall CC	Central	Yes
Elsecar CC	South	Yes
Green Moor CC	Penistone	Yes
Higham CC	Central	Yes
Houghton Main CC	South	Yes
Hoylandswaine CC	Penistone	Yes
Kexborough CC	North	Yes
Monk Bretton CC	North East	Yes
Penistone CC	Penistone	Yes
Rockingham Colliery CC	South	Yes
Silkstone United CC	Penistone	Yes
Stainborough CC	Penistone	Yes
Thurgoland CC	Penistone	Yes
Thurnscoe Institute CC	Dearne	No
Wombwell Main CC	South	Yes
Worsborough Bridge CC	Central	Yes

County Facilities Strategy (CFS)

In 2022, to build upon the ECB's Inspiring Generations Strategy, the ECB has started the process of producing County Facilities Strategies (CFS). A CFS will be produced by each individual county cricket board and will be unique to its geographical area as well as being diverse in its representation.

The CFS will be a 'long-term' plan with county boards ensuring the Strategy provides a ten-year view of facility needs. Like a PPOSS, the county cricket boards will establish key stakeholders (clubs, leagues, county sports partnerships, county pitch advisors & Sport England etc) within its locality to consult during the development of the Strategy.

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Each county cricket board will utilise up to date PPOSS within its locality to support the development of the CFS, utilising the PPOSS findings as a ‘high-quality’ evidence base. The CFS will look at a range of facilities which support cricket across its region, with the ECB setting out guidelines to ensure that the following facilities are considered throughout the development of the CFS:

Types of facility

- ◀ “Traditional” outdoor facilities
 - ◀ Pitches and Outfields
 - ◀ Pavilions
 - ◀ Practice

- ◀ “Non-traditional” facilities
 - ◀ Multi Use Games Areas
 - ◀ Tapeball/softball spaces
 - ◀ Courts or cages

- ◀ Indoor facilities
 - ◀ Practice (multi use halls)
 - ◀ Performance (cricket specific)
 - ◀ Matchplay (6 or 8 a side)

Each CFS will be used to shape investment decisions and priorities, particularly how each county cricket board will use the devolved budget within the County Grants Fund and prioritise larger scale strategic projects.

Notwithstanding the above, it is important to recognise that the CFS is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment; it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPOSS and is not an accepted evidence base for development proposals that need to be judged against the NPPF and Sport England’s Playing Field Policy.

4.2: Supply

There are 21 grass wicket squares in Barnsley located across 21 sites, all of which, are available for community use.

The Penistone Analysis Area has the most available natural turf provision with seven squares (33%) followed by South Analysis Area which has five available squares (24%). North Analysis Area and Central Analysis Area have three each (14%), the Dearne Analysis Area has two available squares (10%) and the North East Analysis Area has one available square (5%).

Table 4.2: Summary of grass wicket squares across Barnsley

Analysis area	Number of squares		Total
	Available for community use	Not available for community use	
North	3	-	3
North East	1	-	1
Dearne	2	-	2
South	5	-	5
Central	3	-	3
Penistone	7	-	7

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Disused provision

There was previously a grass wicket square marked at Horizon Community College which consisted of 11 grass wickets and an NTP. The NTP is still maintained however the grass wickets ceased maintenance in 2020. The site is located adjacent to Shaw Lane Sports Club and was maintained by Barnsley CC (now known as Barnsley Wooley Miners CC), due to an amalgamation of two clubs the pitch became disused, with the club now accessing Wooley Miners Cricket Club as its second site.

Royston Welfare Park previously had a 13 wicket grass square onsite. The pitch was maintained until *circa* 2009. The site as a whole cannot be deemed disused as it still remains maintained for football. Similarly, Carlton Park previously had a 17 wicket grass square onsite. The pitch was maintained until *circa* 2002. The site is still maintained for football and is utilised by a number of teams.

Birdwell Community Centre and Recreation Ground previously accommodated an eight grass wicket square. The site has not been maintained since *circa* 2002, however is now only maintained for football.

Non-turf pitches (NTPs)

The ECB highlights that non-turf pitches (NTPs) which follow its TS6 guidance on performance standards are suitable for high level, senior play and are considered to have carrying capacity of 60 match equivalent sessions per season, although this may include training sessions via the use of mobile nets.

However, not all local leagues permit use of NTPs for match play and nationally those which do typically allow use for lower level of competition or within lower divisions.

In Barnsley, there are 16 NTPs which accompany grass wicket squares, as well as 11 standalone NTPs.

Table 4.3: Summary of NTPs in Barnsley

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Number of NTPs	Position
5	Barnsley Academy	S70 3DL	No	Central	1	Standalone
25	Castle Ground	S71 2SW	Yes	North East	1	Square
35	Darton Cricket Club	S75 5HF	Yes	North	1	Square
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	S74 8ES	Yes	South	1	Square
50	Green Moor Sports Club	S35 7DQ	Yes	Penistone	1	Square
56	Higham Cricket Club	S75 1PH	Yes	Central	1	Square
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	S71 2LF	No	North	1	Standalone
63	Horizon Community College	S70 6PD	No	Central	2	Standalone
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	S72 0HL	Yes	South	1	Square
71	Kexborough Cricket Club	S75 5DX	Yes	North	1	Square
75	Kirk Balk Academy	S74 9HX	No	South	1	Standalone

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Number of NTPs	Position
83	Love Life Sports Ground Grimethorpe	S72 7ND	No	North East	1	Standalone
91	Netherwood Academy	S73 8FE	No	South	1	Standalone
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	S71 3EW	No	North East	1	Standalone
97	Outwood Academy Shafton	S72 8RE	No	North East	1	Standalone
101	Penistone Grammar School	S36 7BX	No	Penistone	1	Standalone
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	S74 0DQ	Yes	South	1	Square
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	S75 4NA	Yes	Penistone	1	Square
125	Shaw Lane Sports Club	S70 6HZ	Yes	Central	1	Square
137	Stainborough Cricket Club	S75 3EW	Yes	Penistone	1	Square
139	The Astrea Dearne Academy	S63 9EW	No	Dearne	1	Standalone
153	Welfare Ground	S63 9EH	Yes	Dearne	1	Square
164	Woolley Miners Cricket Club	S75 5JA	Yes	North	1	Square
167	Worsborough Sports and Development Association	S70 5LJ	Yes	Central	1	Square
208	Penistone Cricket Club	S36 6HD	Yes	Penistone	1	Square
209	Darfield Cricket Club	S73 9EZ	Yes	South	1	Square

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Figure 4.1: Summary of grass cricket squares in Barnsley



BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Security of tenure

Most clubs have secure tenure at their home venues through private ownership, long term lease or renting.

For reference a site is considered to have unsecure tenure if the cricket provision on the site is not guaranteed to be retained over the next three years. Unless known otherwise, Council (including town and parish councils) managed squares are considered to generally be secure, as part of the maintained sports and leisure provision offering.

The table below identifies tenure arrangements for all affiliated clubs.

Table 4.4: Summary of security of tenure for Barnsley cricket clubs

Site ID	Site	Post code	Analysis area	Club/league	Arrangement	Tenure
25	Castle Ground	S71 2SW	North East	Monk Bretton CC	Freehold	Secure
28	Cawthorne Cricket Club	S75 4HA	Penistone	Cawthorne CC	Long-term lease from Recreational Ground Trust	Secure
35	Darton Cricket Club	S75 5HF	North	Darton CC	Freehold	Secure
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	S74 8ES	South	Elsecar CC	Long-term lease from Wentworth Estates	Secure
50	Green Moor Sports Club	S35 7DQ	Penistone	Green Moor CC	Freehold	Secure
56	Higham Cricket Club	S75 1PH	Central	Higham CC	Long-term lease from CISWO	Secure
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	S72 0HL	South	Houghton Main CC	Long-term lease from Houghton Main Miners Welfare	Secure
71	Kexborough Cricket Club	S75 5DX	North	Kexborough CC	Freehold	Secure
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	S74 0DQ	South	Rockingham Colliery CC	Rented from Forge Community Partnership	Secure
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	S75 4NA	Penistone	Silkstone United CC	Long-term lease from Silkstone Parish Council	Secure
125	Shaw Lane Sports Club	S70 6HZ	Central	Barnsley Woolley Miners CC Earl Marshall CC	Long-term lease	Secure
137	Stainborough Cricket Club	S75 3EW	Penistone	Stainborough CC	Freehold	Secure

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Site ID	Site	Post code	Analysis area	Club/league	Arrangement	Tenure
153	Welfare Ground	S63 9EH	Dearne	Dearne CC	<i>Unknown</i>	Unsecure
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	S73 8PW	South	Wombwell Main CC	Long-term lease from Council	Secure
164	Woolley Miners Cricket Club	S75 5JA	North	Barnsley Woolley Miners CC	Long-term lease from CISWO	Secure
167	Worsborough Sports and Development Association	S70 5LJ	Central	Worsborough Bridge CC	Long-term lease from WDSS	Secure
207	Hoylandswaine Sports and Social Club	S36 7JW	Penistone	Hoylandswaine CC	Freehold	Secure
208	Penistone Cricket Club	S36 6HD	Penistone	Penistone CC	Freehold	Secure
209	Darfield Cricket Club	S73 9EZ	South	Darfield CC	Freehold	Secure
211	Thurgoland Cricket Club	S35 7AE	Penistone	Thurgoland CC	Rented from Thurgoland Parish Council	Secure
212	Thursncoe Insistute Cricket Club	S63 0QL	Dearne	Thursncoe Insistute CC	<i>Unknown</i>	Unsecure

Tenure of sites in Barnsley is generally secure i.e., through freehold, a long-term lease or a guarantee that pitches will continue to be provided over the next three years. This relates to most of the Council operated pitches, with such provision protected as part of an ongoing commitment to providing a leisure offering.

For the purposes of this report Dearne CC and Thursncoe Institute CC are considered to have unsecure tenure as their current arrangements are unknown.

Pitch quality

The quality of cricket pitches has been rated via a combination of site visits undertaken in August 2022 (using non-technical assessments²¹ as determined by the ECB) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (50-79%), Poor (<49%).

Maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket; if the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. As an example, if a square is poor quality, a ball can bounce erratically on a wicket and become a danger to nearby players.

²¹ See Appendix Two for non-technical assessment criteria for cricket squares

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All grass cricket squares within Barnsley receive a quality rating based on a combination of non-technical assessments and club/league consultation. Of the 21 squares available for community use, 16 grass squares are rated as good quality (76%), five rated as standard quality (24%). No squares are rated as poor quality.

Table 4.5: Quality ratings for grass wicket squares (all pitches)

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	Available for community use?	No. of squares	Square quality
25	Castle Ground	S71 2SW	North East	Yes	1	Good
28	Cawthorne Cricket Club	S75 4HA	Penistone	Yes	1	Good
35	Darton Cricket Club	S75 5HF	North	Yes	1	Good
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	S74 8ES	South	Yes	1	Good
50	Green Moor Sports Club	S35 7DQ	Penistone	Yes	1	Standard
56	Higham Cricket Club	S75 1PH	Central	Yes	1	Good
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	S72 0HL	South	Yes	1	Good
71	Kexborough Cricket Club	S75 5DX	North	Yes	1	Good
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	S74 0DQ	South	Yes	1	Good
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	S75 4QB	Penistone	Yes	1	Standard
125	Shaw Lane Sports Club	S70 6HZ	Central	Yes	1	Good
137	Stainborough Cricket Club	S75 3EW	Penistone	Yes	1	Good
153	Welfare Ground	S63 9EH	Dearne	Yes	1	Standard
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	S73 8PW	South	Yes	1	Good
164	Woolley Miners Cricket Club	S75 5JA	North	Yes	1	Good
167	Worsborough Sports And Development Association	S70 5LJ	Central	Yes	1	Good
207	Hoylandswaine Sports and Social Club	S36 7JW	Penistone	Yes	1	Good
208	Penistone Cricket Club	S36 6HD	Penistone	Yes	1	Good
209	Darfield Cricket Club	S73 9EZ	South	Yes	1	Good
211	Thurgoland Cricket Club	S35 7AE	Penistone	Yes	1	Standard
212	Thursnoe Institute Cricket Club	S63 0QL	Dearne	Yes	1	Standard

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The Welfare Ground (Dearne CC), Green Moor Sports Club (Green Moor CC), Silkstone Recreation Ground (Silkstone United CC), Thurgoland Cricket Club (Thurgoland CC) and Thursncoe Insistute Cricket Club (Thursncoe Insistute CC) squares are rated as standard quality. The respective clubs report that continued work to improve squares is required to improve them good quality.

Wombwell Main Sports Ground is rated as good quality. However, the Club does report issues with unauthorised access which is causing damage to the site. It is believed that currently this is not affecting the quality of the square.

Performance Quality Standards

To obtain a full technical assessment of wickets and pitches, the ECB recommends a Performance Quality Standard (PQS) assessment to determine whether a cricket square meets the Performance Quality Standards which are benchmarked by the Grounds Management Association (GMA). There are three categories of measurement that relate to the overall quality of the square: structural quality, presentational quality and playing quality. Once a square has been assessed it is given a quality rating, as shown below.

Table 4.6: Performance Quality Standard assessment ratings

Quality Rating	Details
Premier (High)	Where the surface is intended for Premier League play, with those within the top quartile capable of holding minor county and 1st class one day matches. May include some of the better schools and university pitches.
Club (Standard)	A Club pitch suitable for league, school and junior cricket.
Basic	An acceptable level suitable for recreational cricket and where the surface is designed and maintained within tight financial limitations such as local authorities.
Unsuitable	This is where the surface is deemed unfit or unsafe for play.

Clubs can contact the ECB to arrange for a Grounds Management Association (GMA) pitch advisor to undertake a Performance Quality Standard assessment. Clubs can choose from three different reports (comprehensive/mini/verbal) that vary in cost. A fully comprehensive report includes soil testing and guidance on machinery and corrective procedures, a mini report includes guidance on machinery and corrective procedures and a verbal report is a spoken version of a mini report.

Ancillary facilities

The extent of ancillary facilities required differs between times of play. For example, senior teams playing at weekends typically need to access clubhouse and kitchen facilities to provide teas, whereas this is often not required for junior and short format senior matches, where the need is more for access to suitable changing and/or toilet facilities.

Quality and access to required match day and preparatory facilities across the Borough is varied, with clubs playing at privately managed or sports club sites generally better served than those playing at community managed provision.

Ancillary facility rating is primarily influenced by the type and quality of amenities which are available on a site, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, showering provision, car parking, dedicated umpire, spectator facilities and boundary fencing. Provision of high quality ancillary facilities is a key aspect of the ECB 'Inspiring Generations' Strategy, to meet the expectations of the core participation base as well as key growth markets such as women and girls, South Asian and BAME communities and All Stars Cricket and Dynamos Cricket (detailed later in the section).

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The audit of ancillary facilities at available grass pitch cricket sites determines that nine squares (45%) are accompanied by good quality provision, and 11 squares (55%) are accompanied by standard quality provision. No squares in Barnsley are accompanied by poor quality ancillary provision.

Table 4.7: Changing room quality (at sites with used natural turf squares)

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	No. of squares	Quality
25	Castle Ground	S71 2SW	North East	1	Good
28	Cawthorne Cricket Club	S75 4HA	Penistone	1	Good
35	Darton Cricket Club	S75 5HF	North	1	Standard
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	S74 8ES	South	1	Good
50	Green Moor Sports Club	S35 7DQ	Penistone	1	Good
56	Higham Cricket Club	S75 1PH	Central	1	Good
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	S72 0HL	South	1	Standard
71	Kexborough Cricket Club	S75 5DX	North	1	Standard
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	S74 0DQ	South	1	Standard
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	S75 4NA	Penistone	1	Good
137	Stainborough Cricket Club	S75 3EW	Penistone	1	Standard
153	Welfare Ground	S63 9EH	Dearne	1	Standard
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	S73 8PW	South	1	Good
164	Woolley Miners Cricket Club	S75 5JA	North	1	Good
167	Worsborough Sports and Development Association	S70 5LJ	Central	1	Standard
207	Hoylandswaine Sports and Social Club	S36 7JW	Penistone	1	Good
208	Penistone Cricket Club	S36 6HD	Penistone	1	Standard
209	Darfield Cricket Club	S73 9EZ	South	1	Standard
211	Thurgoland Cricket Club	S35 7AE	Penistone	1	Standard
212	Thursncoe Insistute Cricket Club	S63 0QL	Dearne	1	Standard

Higham CC has aspirations to develop its older clubhouse, this would include an extension to increase and develop its toilets within the building and also to add an additional function room.

Penistone CC reports that it plans to demolish the existing clubhouse and develop a new clubhouse onsite. The Club has had plans drawn up for the Clubhouse which would include it to be built on stilts, this would protect the building from flooding issues onsite.

Barnsley Wooley Miners CC reports that it has aspirations to develop the clubhouse at Wooley Miners Cricket Club. The Club plans to build an extension to incorporate a function room and additional groundsman shed space.

Training facilities

Access to fixed cricket nets²² is important, particularly for pre-season/winter training. Clubs access both indoor and outdoor provision before the season commences. During the cricket season, outdoor training provision supplies the majority of use.

²² Fixed cricket nets are artificial wickets that sit away from the main square surrounding by purpose built netting for practicing purposes.

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12 sites used by affiliated clubs in Barnsley are not serviced by fixed practice nets. The remaining sites have fixed net provision summarised in the table below.

Table 4.8: Summary of current fixed net training facilities at club sites

Site ID	Site	Training facility	Comments
25	Castle Ground	1 x lane facility	-
28	Cawthorne Cricket Club	2 x lane facility	-
35	Darton Cricket Club	1 x lane facility	Club also has access to mobile nets to facilitate use of NTP on square.
50	Green Moor Sports Club	2 x lane facility	-
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	2 x lane facility	-
125	Shaw Lane Sports Club	4 x lane facility	-
137	Stainborough Cricket Club	1 x lane facility	Club also has access to mobile nets to facilitate use of NTP on square.
207	Hoylandswaine Sports and Social Club	2 x lane facility	-
209	Darfield Cricket Club	1 x lane facility	Club also has access to mobile nets to facilitate use of NTP on square.

Although not included within a PPOSS, it is known through consultation that Kirk Ball Academy and Penistone Grammar School are used for indoor training by Elsecar CC, Silkstone United CC, Green Moor CC, Cawthorne CC, and Rockingham CC respectively. No clubs report issues relating to indoor training provision in Barnsley.

4.3: Demand

Traditionally, the English cricket season runs between late march and early/mid-September each year. There are 21 cricket clubs competing in Barnsley generating 106 teams. As a breakdown, this equates to 54 senior men's, eight senior women's, 42 junior boys' and two junior girls' teams. The distribution of these teams across the clubs can be seen below.

Table 4.9: Summary of competitive cricket club demand

Club name	Analysis area	No. of competitive teams			
		Senior men	Senior women	Junior boys	Junior girls
Barnsley Woolley Miners CC	Central	6	-	3	-
Cawthorne CC	Penistone	3	1	3	-
Darfield CC	South	4	1	2	-
Darton CC	North	2	-	3	-
Dearne CC	Dearne	1	-	-	-
Earl Marshall CC	Central	1	-	-	-
Elsecar CC	South	3	-	5	-
Green Moor CC	Penistone	2	-	3	-
Higham CC	Central	4	2	1	-
Houghton Main CC	South	2	-	1	-
Hoylandswaine CC	Penistone	3	-	2	-
Kexborough CC	North	2	-	2	-
Monk Bretton CC	North East	3	-	3	-
Penistone CC	Penistone	2	-	3	1
Rockingham CC	South	5	2	8	1
Silkstone United CC	Penistone	2	-	1	-

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Club name	Analysis area	No. of competitive teams			
		Senior men	Senior women	Junior boys	Junior girls
Stainborough CC	Penistone	2	1	-	-
Thurgoland CC	Penistone	1	-	-	-
Thursncoe Insistute CC	Dearne	1	-	-	-
Wombwell Main CC	South	2	-	-	-
Worsborough Bridge CC	Central	3	1	2	-
Total		54	8	42	2

The largest club playing in the Borough is Rockingham CC which has a total of 16 teams. It also has a women's and girls' section consisting of three teams.

Only two clubs in the Borough provide a junior girls team, one team located at Penistone CC and one team located at Rockingham CC.

Table 4.10: Summary of competitive cricket teams by analysis area

Analysis area	Number of teams				
	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'	Total
North	4	-	5	-	9
North East	3	-	3	-	6
Dearne	2	-	-	-	2
South	16	3	16	1	36
Central	14	3	6	-	23
Penistone	15	2	12	1	30
Total	54	8	42	2	106

Most teams play in the South Analysis Area which accommodates 36 teams (34%), followed by the Penistone Analysis Area with 30 teams (28%), the Central Analysis Area with 23 teams (22%), the North Analysis Area with nine teams (9%), the North East Analysis Area with six teams (6%) and finally the Dearne Analysis Area with one team (2%).

In addition to affiliated competitive demand, some clubs operate ECB initiatives such as All Stars Cricket, Dynamos Cricket and Softball.

All Stars

In partnership with the ECB and Chance to Shine cricket clubs in Barnsley can register to become an ECB All Stars Cricket Centre. Once registered, a club can deliver the programme which aims to introduce cricket to children aged from five to eight. Subsequently, this may lead to increased interest and demand for junior cricket at clubs. The programme seeks to achieve the following aims:

- ✦ Increase cricket activity for five to eight year olds in the school and club environment.
- ✦ Develop consistency of message in both settings to aid transition.
- ✦ Improve generic movement skills for children, using cricket as the vehicle.
- ✦ Make it easier for new volunteers to support and deliver in the club environment.
- ✦ Use fun small sided games to enthuse new children and volunteers to follow and play the game.

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Dynamos

A key development area for the ECB in delivering on the outcomes of 'Inspiring Generations' will be the Dynamos programme for 8-11 year olds which originally aimed to launch in 2020. It plans on building on the significant growth of the All Stars Cricket programme for 5-8 year olds established in 2018 and will develop the pathway to retain juniors progressing from All Stars into Dynamos.

Where All Stars seeks to engage children in cricket activity and learning the skills, Dynamos seeks to engage children in learning how to play, introducing a modified soft ball format as competitive progression with a view to eventual transition through to hardball cricket. The programme is strongly linked to The Hundred.

Softball

Softball is an ECB initiative aimed at women and girls to increase participation in cricket as a sport. The aim of softball cricket sections is enjoyment and participation, without pads, a hardball, a heavy bat and limited rules. Sessions are played on the outfield and follow a festival format with each session running for a maximum of two and half hours, shorter than traditional formats.

It should be noted that All Stars, Dynamos and Softball generally takes place on the cricket outfields rather than the actual squares. Although this does not impact the carrying capacity of the square it does influence the accessibility of the squares as whilst the outfield is in use the main square cannot be used to accommodate fixtures. Therefore, this may limit the potential spare capacity whilst these activities are taking place, generally on midweek evenings or Sunday mornings.

The table below summarises which clubs are involved in these initiatives and the participation figures for 2022 for All Stars/Dynamos and Softball.

Table 4.11: Summary of Barnsley All Stars and Dynamos participation

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Club/organisation	All Stars	2022 sign ups	Dynamos	2022 sign ups
25	Castle Ground	North East	Monk Bretton CC	✓	16	-	-
28	Cawthorne Cricket Club	Penistone	Cawthorne CC	✓	73	✓	22
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	South	Elsecar CC	✓	10	-	-
50	Green Moor Sports Club	Penistone	Green Moor CC	✓	30	✓	25
56	Higham Cricket Club	Central	Higham CC	✓	28	✓	6
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	South	Houghton Main CC	✓	10	-	-
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	South	Rockingham CC	✓	25	✓	15
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	Penistone	Silkstone United CC	✓	20	-	-
125	Shaw Lane Sports Club	Central	Barnsley Woolley Miners CC	✓	15	✓	15

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Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Club/organisation	All Stars	2022 sign ups	Dynamos	2022 sign ups
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	South	Wombwell Main CC	✓	40	✓	15
164	Woolley Miners Cricket Club	North	Barnsley Woolley Miners CC	✓	30	✓	10
167	Worsborough Sports and Development Association	Central	Worsborough CC	✓	25	-	-
208	Penistone Cricket Club	Penistone	Penistone CC	✓	35	✓	15
209	Darfield Cricket Club	South	Darfield CC	✓	20	✓	10
Total				All Stars	377	Dynamos	133

Exported demand

Exported demand refers to Barnsley based teams that are currently accessing pitches outside of the local authority for their home fixtures, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities. There is no known exported demand from Barnsley.

Imported demand

Imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within the Barnsley study area due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based. There is no known imported demand from Barnsley.

Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not able to access sufficient pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a league has a waiting list.

It is reported that Elsecar CC 3rd XI and Barnsley Wooley Miners CC 5th XI all have not been able to play and dropped out of respective leagues due to having no ground to utilise.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts.

Population forecasts

Based on population projections to 2033 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand as per Barnsley's Local Plan), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) estimates the likely additional demand for grass cricket pitches that will arise from any growth.

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Using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, team generation rates (TGRs) have been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

For reference total current population in 2022 of 248,071 will increase to 265,868 by 2033. The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions.

Table 4.12: Authority wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Peak time for population	Average games for age group	Match equivalent session per season ²³
Men (18-55yrs)	1:1077	3.63	3	Saturday	12	36
Women (18-55yrs)	1:7410	0.54	0	Sunday	8	0
Boys (7-18yrs)	1:432	2.82	2	Midweek	6	12
Girls (7-18yrs)	1:8623	0.13	0	Midweek	6	0

As seen in the above, three additional men's teams and two additional junior boys' teams are expected to be generated by population growth. Although no women and girls' teams are predicted to be created via population growth alone, consultation with the ECB suggests that further development of female cricket in Barnsley is likely as it is currently a national priority to increase women and girl's participation. It is therefore important to acknowledge that there are plans and strategies to increase the number of teams at some formats beyond what current trends and population changes would ordinarily suggest.

When team generation rates are applied across Barnsley, based exclusively on population change there is a forecasted growth of one team at the senior men's format.

It is important to acknowledge that whilst team generation rates project team growth as a factor of population and existing teams, there are plans and strategies to increase the number of teams at some formats beyond what current trends suggest, due to a desire to change such trends. For example, TGRs do not take into consideration the aforementioned ECB initiatives such as All Stars, Dynamos or Softball. These are all likely to contribute to growth above levels shown through team generation rates.

The ECB has also recently announced new five-year media rights deals, from 2020-2024. The new deals include a continuation of the ECB relationship with Sky Sports, now extending beyond broadcasting as a genuine partnership to secure significant investment and commitment to increase participation and drive engagement. The new deals also include a return to free to air television for live cricket, with the BBC to show coverage of some international and domestic matches. Such context may result in increased future demand.

Participation increases/Latent demand

Of the responding clubs, seven indicate aspirations to increase levels of participation through the creation of new teams. This equates to a total aspirational growth of 14 teams, equating to four senior men's, one senior women's and nine junior teams as seen below.

²³ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

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Table 4.14: Future demand aspirations expressed by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Senior men	Senior women	Junior
Darfield CC	South	1	-	1
Elsecar CC	South	1	-	-
Higham CC	Central	1	-	-
Houghton Main CC	South	-	-	2
Penistone CC	Penistone	-	-	1
Rockingham CC	South	1	1	-
Silkstone United CC	Penistone	-	-	2
Wombwell Main CC	South	-	-	2
Worsborough CC	Central	-	-	1
Total		4	1	9

It should be noted that Higham CC aspires to add a third senior men's Saturday team, however it would need an additional venue in order to cater for this demand.

Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies peak time demand for cricket across three distinct time periods which are Saturdays, Sundays and Midweek (Monday to Friday).

Saturday is classified as peak time for senior men's cricket across Barnsley where at present there is demand for 37 teams.

However, Sunday also accommodates for both senior men's cricket and senior women's match play whether this is hardball or softball and some junior matches. On Sunday's there is demand for 11 men's senior teams and five senior women's hardball teams. Whilst junior teams generally access pitches on Sunday mornings and therefore this does not affect the availability of squares for senior cricket which is played in the afternoon. In Barnsley there are four junior teams reported to have demand on Sunday mornings.

Midweek is when most junior matches are played, as well as all club training, senior men's T20 matches and ECB initiatives All Stars and Dynamos cricket typically take place. In total, there are 40 junior and four senior midweek teams which have demand for midweek play.

4.4: Capacity analysis

Capacity analysis for cricket is measured on a seasonal rather than a weekly basis. This is due to playability (as only one match is generally played per pitch per day at weekends or weekday evening) and because wickets are rotated throughout the season to reduce wear and tear and to allow for repair.

The capacity of a square to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. This section of the report presents the current pitch stock available for cricket and illustrates the number of competitive matches per season per square. For good quality squares, capacity is considered to be five matches per 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 safe for play.

The number of matches played by each team has been derived from consultation with the clubs. Where consultation was not possible, the assumption has been made that all senior teams play 12 home matches per year and all junior teams play between five matches per year depending on their age and level of competition.

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The above is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows and shown in Table 4.15:

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

Please note that non-turf wickets have been discounted from the table overleaf. No non-turf wicket squares are recorded as accommodating more than 60 matches per season, therefore, all non-turf wickets are considered to have spare capacity. This translates to actual spare capacity for junior cricket as peak time is midweek, whereby non-turf wickets are more commonly used and matches can be played on a variety of days.

The capacity analysis assumes that all clubs rotate their wickets evenly. However, this may not be the case at all sites, with central wickets potentially used more commonly than outer wickets that are closer to a boundary, especially for senior matches. The idea is to showcase what the capacity is or could be if best practice is followed for the whole square, rather than doing it on a wicket-by-wicket basis.

Spare capacity

The table below explains the difference between the potential spare capacity referenced in Table 4:16 in the final three columns (Saturday, Sunday and Midweek).

Table 4.15: Spare capacity examples

Potential spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of spare capacity
No	Means the pitch is played to capacity within this peak period and therefore cannot accommodate any further demand.
Yes	Not highlighted, it means there is spare capacity to accommodate further demand within this designated peak period however this is discounted due to the pitch already being in full use at the time, played to capacity or being overplayed so it cannot accommodate any additional demand.
Yes	Highlighted in green, it means there is actual available spare capacity within this peak period which can be utilised.

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Table 4.16: Capacity of natural turf cricket squares (available for community use)

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Users	Security of tenure	No. of squares	Pitch quality	Types of wickets	No. of grass wickets	Match equivalent sessions per season			Potential spare capacity/ availability for Saturday cricket	Potential spare capacity/ availability for Sunday cricket	Potential spare capacity/ availability for midweek cricket
										Capacity	Current use	Capacity balance			
25	Castle Ground	S71 2SW	North East	Monk Bretton CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	10	50	53	3	No	Yes	Yes
28	Cawthorne Cricket Club	S75 4HA	Penistone	Cawthorne CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	11	55	60	5	No	No	Yes
35	Darton Cricket Club	S75 5HF	North	Darton CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	10	50	39	11	No	Yes	Yes
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	S74 8ES	South	Elsecar CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	8	40	61	21	No	Yes	Yes
50	Green Moor Sports Club	S35 7DQ	Penistone	Green Moor CC	Secure	1	Standard	Senior	10	40	46	6	No	Yes	Yes
56	Higham Cricket Club	S75 1PH	Central	Higham CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	9	45	44	1	No	Yes	Yes
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	S72 0HL	South	Houghton Main CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	10	50	30	20	No	Yes	Yes
71	Kexborough Cricket Club	S75 5DX	North	Kexborough CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	9	45	35	10	No	Yes	Yes
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	S74 0DQ	South	Rockingham CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	9	45	85	40	No	No	No
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	S75 4QB	Penistone	Silkstone United CC	Secure	1	Standard	Senior	9	36	27	9	No	Yes	Yes
125	Shaw Lane Sports Club	S70 6HZ	Central	Barnsley Woolley Miners CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	14	70	50	20	No	No	Yes
137	Stainborough Cricket Club	S75 3EW	Penistone	Stainborough CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	9	45	35	10	No	No	Yes
153	Welfare Ground	S63 9EH	Dearne	Dearne CC	Unsecure	1	Standard	Senior	7	28	10	18	Yes	Yes	Yes
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	S73 8PW	South	Wombwell Main CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	11	55	24	31	No	Yes	Yes
164	Woolley Miners Cricket Club	S75 5JA	North	Barnsley Woolley Miners CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	9	45	49	4	No	Yes	Yes
167	Worsborough Sports And Development Association	S70 5LJ	Central	Worsborough Bridge CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	10	50	49	1	No	No	Yes
207	Hoylandswaine Sports and Social Club	S36 7JW	Penistone	Hoylandswaine CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	7	35	57	22	No	Yes	Yes
208	Penistone Cricket Club	S36 6HD	Penistone	Penistone CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	13	65	54	11	No	Yes	Yes
209	Darfield Cricket Club	S73 9EZ	South	Darfield CC	Secure	1	Good	Senior	10	50	65	15	No	No	Yes
211	Thurgoland Cricket Club	S35 7AE	Penistone	Thurgoland CC	Secure	1	Standard	Senior	6	24	7	17	Yes	Yes	Yes
212	Thursncoe Insistute Cricket Club	S63 0QL	Dearne	Thursncoe Insistute CC	Unsecure	1	Standard	Senior	5	20	11	9	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Saturday cricket spare capacity

A square is only considered to have actual spare capacity if it is available for further usage. For senior men's cricket, peak time is Saturday as this is when most demand exists. As only one match can be played on each square per day, only two Saturday teams can be assigned to play home matches on one square (based on matches being played on an alternate home and away basis). As such, if a square has two Saturday teams already playing home fixtures on it, no actual spare capacity is perceived to exist for additional senior usage. If one or no teams are playing on a square on a Saturday, and it has overall capacity, actual spare capacity for senior demand is generally identified.

Notwithstanding the above, there may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as actual spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular training sessions, or to protect the quality of the site. As such, no sites that are over, at, or close to capacity are considered to have actual spare capacity (at least 12 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity are required for an additional senior team to be accommodated) and neither are sites with unsecure tenure as future usage cannot be guaranteed.

Taking the above into consideration there is just one square in the Borough which could accommodate one further team on Saturday at Thurgoland Cricket Club. However, following conversations with YCB and ECB the site has only just been brought back online and as yet isn't considered fit to host league cricket. Therefore, actual spare capacity has been discounted. However, it is likely that over the next few years, it will offer actual spare capacity.

Sunday cricket - spare capacity

Like Saturday cricket, a square on a Sunday is only considered to have actual spare capacity if it is available for further usage. As only one match can be played on each square per day, only two Sunday teams can be assigned to play home matches on one square (based on matches being played on an alternate home and away basis). As such, if a square has two Sunday teams already playing home fixtures on it, no actual spare capacity is perceived to exist for additional senior usage. If one or no teams are playing on a square on a Sunday, and it has overall capacity, actual spare capacity for senior demand is generally identified.

Taking the above into consideration, Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground and Wombwell Main Sports Ground have potential capacity to accommodate further demand on a Sunday. In addition, following conversations with YCB and ECB, Thurgoland Cricket Club has currently only just been brought back online and as yet isn't to be considered fit to host league cricket. Therefore, actual spare capacity has been discounted. However, it is likely that over the next few years, it will offer actual spare capacity.

Table 4.17: Summary of actual spare capacity for Sunday cricket

Site ID	Site name	Number of squares	Capacity rating (MES)	Number of additional teams that could be accommodated
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	1	12	1
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	1	24	2

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As mentioned earlier the accessibility of a square on a Sunday can be affected by softball activity on the outfields, meaning the square cannot be used whilst the outfield is in use. Therefore, if a site is used for women's and girls' softball it realistically can only accommodate one additional team on a Sunday if there is suitable spare capacity (based on being played on an alternate home and away basis). In addition, following conversations with YCB and ECB the site has only just been brought back online and as yet isn't considered fit to host league cricket. Therefore, actual spare capacity has been discounted.

Midweek cricket - spare capacity

For midweek cricket, most squares with spare capacity have actual spare capacity for an increase in demand. This is because matches can be spread across numerous days, meaning capacity is not limited to two teams. Moreover, the presence of junior wickets at certain sites, as well as NTPs, provide further capacity that is generally not available to senior demand.

For a square to have actual spare capacity for midweek cricket, it must not be poor quality, have secure tenure, not be overplayed and have at least six match equivalent sessions of spare capacity as this is the average number of matches an additional junior team would play.

Furthermore, a square is not considered to have capacity for an increase in demand if it is already used by six midweek teams or more as availability is then assumed to be limited (on average, clubs are able to play fixtures on three nights per week, with other nights reserved for other activity such as All Stars and Dynamos).

Taking the above into consideration Darton Cricket Club, Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground, Kexborough Cricket Club, Silkstone Recreation Ground, Shaw Lane Sports Club, Wombwell Main Sports Ground and Penistone Cricket Club have potential capacity to accommodate further midweek demand. In addition, following conversations with YCB and ECB, Thurgoland Cricket Club has currently only just been brought back online and as yet isn't to be considered fit to host league cricket. Therefore, actual spare capacity has been discounted. However, it is likely that over the next few years, it will offer actual spare capacity.

Table 4.18: Summary of actual spare capacity for midweek (junior) cricket

Site ID	Site name	Number of squares	Capacity rating (MES)	Number of additional teams that could be accommodated ²⁴
35	Darton Cricket Club	1	6	1
64	Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground	1	18	3
71	Kexborough Cricket Club	1	6	1
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	1	6	1
125	Shaw Lane Sports Club	1	18	3
137	Stainborough Cricket Club	1	6	1
159	Wombwell Main Sports Ground	1	30	5
208	Penistone Cricket Club	1	6	1

There is actual spare capacity at Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground to accommodate three additional junior teams, five additional junior teams can be accommodated at Shaw Lane Sports Club and Wombwell Main Sports Ground respectively, two additional junior teams at Thurgoland Cricket Club and one additional junior team can be accommodated at Darton Cricket Club, Kexborough Cricket Club, Silkstone Recreation Ground Stainborough Cricket Club and Penistone Cricket Club respectively.

²⁴ Based on juniors playing an average of five matches per season

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Overplay

There are eight sites in Barnsley considered to be overplayed for cricket by a total of 116 match equivalent sessions per season. Of the six analysis areas, currently Penistone Analysis Area and South Analysis Area accommodate the most senior wickets which are overplayed, three squares respectively.

Of the eight overplayed squares seven are rated as good quality, whilst one is of standard quality. Therefore, it is considered that overplay is due to excessive levels of demand across these sites.

Table 4.19: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of squares	Overplay (matches per season)
25	Castle Ground	North East	1	3
28	Cawthorne Cricket Club	Penistone	1	5
45	Elsecar Cricket Club	South	1	21
50	Green Moor Sports Club	Penistone	1	6
110	Rockingham Sports Ground	South	1	40
164	Woolley Miners Cricket Club	North	1	4
207	Hoylandswaine Sports and Social Club	Penistone	1	22
209	Darfield Cricket Club	South	1	15
Total			8	116

4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Saturday cricket - capacity balance

The following tables look at actual spare capacity against overplay.

Actual spare capacity is converted from squares to match equivalent sessions per season, calculated by using the average number of home matches played per season by senior teams (12) multiplied by the number of additional teams that can be fielded at peak time (one team per 0.5 squares that are available).

The entirety of spare capacity available at each site is not used as this number of matches may not be able to be accommodated at peak time (the maximum amount of spare capacity that can be accommodated on one square at peak time is 24 match equivalent sessions).

Table 4.20: Current capacity balance of grass cricket squares for Saturday cricket

Analysis area	Demand (match sessions per season)		
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
North	-	4	4
North East	-	3	3
Dearne	-	-	0
South	-	76	76
Central	-	-	0
Penistone	-	33	33
Total	0	116	116

BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

There is a current shortfall of 116 match equivalent sessions per season for Saturday cricket across the Borough, with shortfalls at an analysis area level in the North, North East, South and Penistone areas.

Table 4.21: Future capacity balance of grass cricket squares for Saturday cricket

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)		
	Current total	Future competitive demand	Future total
Barnsley	116	36 ²⁵	152

When accounting for future demand of three additional men's teams playing on a Saturday, then the shortfall is exacerbated to 152 match equivalent sessions per season in the Borough.

Sunday cricket - capacity balance

Actual spare capacity is converted from squares to match equivalent sessions per season. This is calculated by using the average number of home matches played per season by senior Sunday teams (12) multiplied by the number of additional teams that can be fielded at peak time (one team per 0.5 squares that are available).

The entirety of spare capacity available at each site is not used as this number of matches may not be able to be accommodated at peak time (the maximum amount of spare capacity that can be accommodated on one square on Sunday afternoons is 24 match equivalent sessions).

Table 4.22: Current capacity balance of grass cricket squares for Sunday cricket

Analysis area	Demand (match sessions per season)		
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
North	-	4	4
North East	-	3	3
Dearne	-	-	0
South	36	76	40
Central	-	-	0
Penistone	-	33	33
Total	36	116	80

There is a current shortfall of 80 match equivalent sessions per season for Sunday cricket across the Borough, with shortfalls at an analysis area level in the North, North East, South and Penistone areas.

Table 4.23: Future capacity balance of grass cricket squares for Sunday cricket

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)		
	Current total	Future competitive demand	Future total
Barnsley	80	36 ²⁶	116

When accounting for future demand of three additional men's teams playing on a Sunday, the shortfall is exacerbated to 116 match equivalent sessions per season in the Borough.

²⁵ Demand for three senior men's Saturday teams

²⁶ Demand for three senior men's Sunday teams

BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Midweek cricket - capacity balance

There is a current shortfall of 20 match equivalent sessions per season for midweek cricket across the Borough, with shortfalls at an analysis area level in the North East, South and Penistone. The North and Central is the only analysis area which has actual spare capacity totalling 26 match equivalent sessions.

Table 4.24: Capacity balance of grass cricket squares for midweek cricket

Analysis area	Demand (match sessions per season)		
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
North	12	4	8
North East		3	3
Dearne		-	0
South	48	76	28
Central	18	-	18
Penistone	18	33	3
Total	96	116	20

Table 4.25: Future capacity balance of grass cricket squares for midweek cricket

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)		
	Current total	Future competitive demand	Future total
Barnsley	20	12 ²⁷	32

When accounting for future demand of two additional junior teams the shortfall is exacerbated to 32 match equivalent sessions per season in the Borough.

4.6: Conclusion

Overall, there is currently insufficient capacity of natural turf cricket squares to meet current or future demand for club cricket across the Borough. Capacity cannot meet demand for Saturday or Sunday or midweek cricket. When considering future demand, the shortfalls worsen for Saturday, Sunday and midweek periods.

Table 4.26: Capacity balance of grass cricket squares across Barnsley

Analysis area	Demand (match sessions per season)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Saturday	0	116	116	36	152
Sunday	96	116	20	36	116
Midweek	36	116	80	12	32

At present only one overplayed site (Green Moor Sports Club) is of standard quality and therefore if quality was improved then overplayed would be alleviated on this. However, the remaining seven overplayed squares are already of a good quality. Therefore, there is a need for clubs to make increased use of NTPs or explore the opportunity to install hybrid wickets to provide additional capacity and to alleviate overplay of natural turf provision.

There is currently two teams (Barnsley Wooley Miners CC 5th XI and Elsecar CC 3rd XI) which have unmet demand. These teams have no access to facilities to accommodate Saturday matches, however, there is demand. There is a need to find facilities for these teams.

²⁷ Demand for two junior boys' midweek teams.

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Cricket summary

- Overall, there is currently insufficient capacity for natural turf cricket squares in Barnsley to meet senior weekend or junior midweek cricket demand now or in future.

Cricket – supply

- There are 21 grass wicket squares in Barnsley located across 21 sites, of which, all 21 are available for community use.
- In Barnsley, there are 16 NTPs which accompany grass wicket squares, as well as 11 standalone NTPs.
- Tenure of sites in Barnsley is generally secure i.e., through freehold, a long-term lease or a guarantee that pitches will continue to be provided over the next three years.
- Dearne CC and Thurnscoe Institute CC are considered to have unsecure tenure as current arrangements are unknown.
- Of the 21 squares available for community use, 16 grass squares are rated as good quality (76%), five rated as standard quality (24%). No squares are rated as poor quality.
- The audit of ancillary facilities at available grass pitch cricket sites determines that 10 squares (50%) are accompanied by good quality provision, and ten squares (50%) are accompanied by standard quality provision.
- 13 sites used by affiliated clubs in Barnsley are not serviced by fixed practice nets. The remaining sites have fixed net provision.

Cricket – demand

- There are 21 cricket clubs competing in Barnsley generating 106 teams. As a breakdown, this equates to 54 senior men's, eight senior women's, 42 junior boys' teams and two junior girls' teams.
- The largest club playing in the Borough is Rockingham CC which has a total of 16 teams. It also has a women's and girls' section consisting of three teams.
- Only two clubs in the Borough provide a junior girls team, one team located at Penistone CC and one teams located at Rockingham CC.
- Most teams play in the South Analysis Area which accommodates 36 teams (34%), followed by the Penistone Analysis Area with 30 teams (28%), the Central Analysis Area with 23 teams (22%), the North Analysis Area with nine teams (9%), the North East Analysis Area with six teams (6%) and finally the Dearne Analysis Area with one team (2%).
- There is no known imported or exported demand from Barnsley.
- It is expected that three additional men's teams and two additional junior boys' teams are expected to be generated by population growth
- Of the responding clubs, seven indicate aspirations to increase levels of participation through the creation of new teams. This equates to a total aspirational growth of 14 teams, equating to four senior men's, one senior women's and nine junior teams.

Cricket – capacity

- Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground, Shaw Lane Sports Club and Wombwell Main Sports Ground have potential capacity to accommodate further demand on a Sunday.
- Darton Cricket Club, Houghton Main Miners Welfare Ground, Kexborough Cricket Club, Silkstone Recreation Ground, Stainbrough Cricket Club, Shaw Lane Sports Club, Wombwell Main Sports Ground and Penistone Cricket Club have potential capacity to accommodate further midweek demand.
- There are eight sites in Barnsley considered to be overplayed for cricket by a total of 116 match equivalent sessions per season.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

PART 5: RUGBY UNION

5.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the national governing body and is split into four areas across the country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. Club Developers, Coach Developers, club volunteers and teachers deliver programmes in schools and clubs across Barnsley.

The RFU governs a variety of formats and programmes, including 15-a-side, 10-a-side, 7-a-side and Tag rugby as well as The Touch Union programme. Its aim is to increase and retain participation within the game, with facilities needing to be appropriate, affordable and accessible in order to enable this.

The rugby union playing season operates from September to May, with senior men's fixtures being held on Saturday afternoons whilst ladies, juniors and mini fixtures are held on Sundays.

Consultation

There are two rugby union clubs based in Barnsley, both of which, were consulted was via video call meetings.

Table 5.1: Summary of consultation

Club name	Responded?
Barnsley RUFC	Yes
Wortley RUFC	Yes

5.2: Supply

There is a total of six rugby union pitches identified in Barnsley. Of these, four are available for community use. All pitches are senior size pitches. Both unavailable pitches are located at education sites.

Table 5.2: Supply of rugby union pitches by analysis area

Analysis area	Number of community available pitches	Number of unavailable pitches	% of total provision
Central	2	-	33%
Dearne	-	-	0%
North	-	1	17%
North East	-	1	17%
Penistone	2	-	33%
South	-	-	0%
Total	4	2	100%

Most provision is in the Central and Penistone analysis areas where each accommodates a total of two pitches. There is no rugby union provision located in either the Dearne or South analysis areas. A site by site breakdown of identified provision can be found in the table below.

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Table 5.3: Supply of rugby union pitches

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Community available?	No. of senior pitches
10	Barnsley Rugby Union Football Club Ltd	Central	Yes	2
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	North	No	1
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	North East	No	1
168	Wortley RUFC	Penistone	Yes	2

Traditionally, mini and junior rugby takes place on over marked senior pitches and this largely the case across Barnsley with mini and junior teams from most clubs accessing senior pitches for both training and competitive matches.

The audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches. For rugby union pitch dimension sizes please see the table below.

Table 5.4: Pitch dimensions

Team type (ages)	Team reference	Maximum pitch dimensions (metres) ²⁸
Under 8	Mini	45 x 22
Under 9	Mini	60 x 30
Under 10	Mini	60 x 35
Under 11	Mini	60 x 43
Under 12	Mini	60 x 43
Under 13	Junior	90 x 60 (60 x 43 for girls)
Under 14-16	Junior	100 x 70 ²⁹
Under 17+	Senior	100 x 70

²⁸ Recommended run off area for all pitch types requires five metres each way and a minimum in-goal length of six metres.

²⁹ Minimum dimensions of 94 x 68 metres are acceptable.

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Figure 5.1: Rugby union pitches



BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Security of tenure

Security of tenure refers to the rights of occupation on playing field and infrastructure. Clubs and stakeholders are generally fall into the bracket of owner-occupier, tenant or licensee. The table below identifies the current tenure position of each rugby union club based on information collated during consultation.

Table 5.5: Rugby union clubs security of tenure

Club	Tenure arrangement	Secure?
Barnsley RUFC	Freehold	Yes
Wortley RUFC	Long-term lease agreement from Wharnccliffe Estate	Yes

Wortley RUFC recently signed an extension to its lease and suggests that this agreement is over 20 years and is with the Wharnccliffe Estate.

Pitch quality

The quality of rugby pitches has been assessed via a combination of site visits undertaken in November 2022 (using non-technical assessments as determined by RFU) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements: the maintenance programme and the level of drainage on each pitch. An overall quality based on both drainage and maintenance can then be generated. The agreed rating for each pitch type also represents actions required to improve pitch quality. A breakdown of actions required based on the ratings can be seen below:

Table 5.6: Definition of maintenance categories

Category	Definition
M0	Action is significant improvements to maintenance programme
M1	Action is minor improvements to maintenance programme
M2	Action is no improvements to maintenance programme

Table 5.7: Definition of drainage categories

Category	Definition
D0	Action is pipe drainage system is needed on pitch
D1	Action is pipe drainage is needed on pitch
D2	Action is slit drainage is needed on pitch
D3	No action is needed on pitch drainage

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Table 5.8: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores

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

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

Based on the above criteria, there are four (67%) standard quality and two (33%) poor quality pitches at sites which are available for community use. Of these, all poor quality pitches are located at school sites which through consultation were identified as receiving basic maintenance and also are available for community use.

Please refer to Table 5.9 overleaf for a breakdown of pitch quality.

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Table 5.9: Site quality ratings at rugby union sites

Site ID	Site name	Club	Analysis area	Number of grass pitches	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Pitch type	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating
10	Barnsley Rugby Union Football Club Ltd	Barnsley RUFC	Central	2	Yes	Yes	Senior	M1/D1	Standard
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	-	North	1	No	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	-	North East	1	No	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor
168	Wortley RUFC	Wortley RUFC	Penistone	1	Yes	No	Senior	M1/D2	Standard
				1		Partial			

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Ancillary facilities

The term ancillary facility relates to built facility infrastructures at sites. Typically, this includes (but is not limited to) clubhouses, changing rooms, showers, carparking and toilet facilities.

The table below summarises the position of each rugby club which was responsive to consultation. It highlights current issues and long term requirements.

Table 5.10: Ancillary provision feedback

Site	Club	Ancillary position
Barnsley Rugby Union Football Club Ltd	Barnsley RUFC	Barnsley RUFC reports that its ancillary provision is of good quality. It has a number of changing rooms and function/bar which it operates. In addition, it also has a stand in between the pitches which is currently unusable because of the quality and safety issues. In the future, the Club wishes to improve its quality and bring it back into use.
Wortley RUFC	Wortley RUFC	The current changing block is outdated and although it can currently cater for the demand at present, the Club suggests that as it looks to continue its expansion and requirement for dedicated women's and girls' facilities there is a need for new facilities. The Club in the past had funding pulled for a new build clubhouse. The site has space ready to have this developed and the Club is exploring opportunities to work on a development for this clubhouse, however, it requires funding for this and it is currently starting to raise funds for this project.

Sports lighting

Of the four community available pitches, only two have sports lighting at Barnsley Rugby Union Football Club Ltd. It should be noted that as well as these two pitches one pitch at Wortley RUFC has partial sports lighting which is in place to support winter training.

Wortley RUFC has some partial sports lighting which supports midweek winter training demand. The Club reports that it is currently working to update and replace the existing lights. These new lights would extend the area which is lit. It plans to raise funds for this in the coming months and submit a planning application to enable these new sports lights to be developed.

Barnsley RUFC reports that as well as its two marked out senior pitches with sports lighting at Barnsley Rugby Union Football Club Ltd, it also accesses a third bank of grass open pitch space it uses for junior and mini training on Sunday mornings. This space cannot currently be utilised for midweek training as there is no sports lighting. The Club aspires to have sports lighting installed on this piece of land to enable the area to be used for training midweek throughout the winter months.

5.3: Demand

Demand for rugby pitches in Barnsley tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training. The rugby union playing season operates from September to May.

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Competitive play

There are two rugby union clubs in Barnsley which in total generate demand equating to 17 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of two senior men's teams, two senior women's team, one colts' boys' team, five junior boys' teams, and seven mini teams.

A table summarising club demand is below.

Table 5.11: Demand summary

Club	Senior men's	Senior women's	Colt boys (U17/U18)	Colt girls (U17/U18)	Junior boys U16-U13)	Junior girls (U16-U13)	Minis (U12-U6)
Barnsley RUFC	1	1	1	-	2	-	3
Wortley RUFC	1	1	-	-	3	-	4

Barnsley RUFC reports that after the 2021/22 season it lost several senior men's players. This was due to a few reasons, however, since the Club was promoted a number of players left to play at more successful teams and therefore left for better and higher playing opportunities.

Additionally, Barnsley RUFC has veterans team players which take place in weekly training sessions. If demand was to increase the Club may look to establish a formal veteran's team.

Training demand

Throughout the Country, many rugby teams train at their home ground on match pitches. As a result, usage is concentrated which reduces the capacity for match play on these pitches and means they are more likely to be overplayed. A key factor in determining the extent of training on match pitches is the presence of sports lighting.

Full details of each of the clubs training schedules are detailed in the table below.

Table 5.12: Training demand summary

Club	Midweek training requirements	Match equivalent sessions (MES)
Barnsley RUFC	Two senior men's sessions, two senior women's sessions and one junior, consisting of U17, U16 and U13 players training session per week. All training takes place across pitch two which has full sports lighting.	Five MES per week (Senior and junior midweek training)
Wortley RUFC	Two training sessions per week predominantly made up of player from men's and women's senior teams and junior teams from Under 15-13. Training sessions take place across second pitch with partial sports lighting. Additionally, training demand from touch and walking rugby union.	2.5 MES per week (Senior and junior midweek training)

World Rugby (WR) compliant pitches

To enable 3G pitches to accommodate competitive rugby union matches, WR has developed the Rugby Turf Performance Specification. This is to ensure that the surfaces replicate the playing qualities of good quality grass pitches, provide a playing environment that will not increase the risk of injury and are of an adequate durability.

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The specification includes a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G pitch used for any form of competitive rugby must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance.

There are currently no pitches with WR compliance within Barnsley. The closest WR compliant pitch is located at Kettlethorpe High School in Wakefield.

It is reported that, an old playing field site south of the Shaw Lane Sports Club which previously accommodated up to four grass pitches, has confirmed for the development of a new school sit. The plans include the development of a 11v11 size 3G pitch, which will have a shock pad and be WR compliant, offering training space for both rugby union clubs in the Borough.

Use of artificial pitches

Nationally, clubs identify the use of 3G pitches for training as a method of protecting the match pitches and providing a high-quality surface for full contact practice. Competitive play continues to take place on grass pitches for the most part, with ad hoc use of 3G pitches for fixtures in the case of unsuitable pitches due to waterlogging or frost. Further detail on use of 3G pitches can be found in Part 3: Third Generation Artificial Pitches.

As mentioned, there is no 3G pitches in Barnsley, which are WR Compliant.

Touch rugby

To actively encourage participation in rugby union clubs may provide alternative offers to traditional club competition. Touch rugby is one possible format which clubs can use; touch rugby is non-contact rugby sessions, during which participants compete in teams to score tries, following similar laws to traditional rugby union formats. Clubs, schools or community organisation can establish their own touch rugby sessions or can become hosts of Touch Union rugby sessions.

Touch Union rugby are 90 minutes long and combine music, fitness and rugby skills. Sessions are mixed in terms of gender, ability and age and is based on touch rugby being a social activity. There are presently Touch Union sessions being run at Wortley RUFC.

Walking rugby

Walking rugby is a slower game of touch rugby that is accessible for disability groups and older participants, generally aged 55 years and above. The game is less physical than traditional rugby, but the general aim remains the same, with passing and scoring laws applying; and tackling involves a two-handed touch to the waist or below. Sessions for over 55's are an opportunity for participants to become physically active and for others to re-engage with rugby at a less strenuous pace.

At present there is a formal walking rugby session at Wortley RUFC.

Exported/imported demand

Exported demand refers to existing demand which is transferred outside of the study area; whilst imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities in Barnsley due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based.

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At present, there is no imported or exported demand into or out of Barnsley.

Unmet/latent demand

Unmet demand is existing demand at clubs which is not able to access sufficient supply of pitches for match play or training. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league or club operates a waiting list. Consultation did not highlight any potential unmet demand.

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. There is currently not latent demand which was highlighted through consultation.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts.

Future competitive growth

Based on population projections to 2033 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) can estimate the likely additional demand for grass rugby pitches that will arise from any growth.

Using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, team generation rates (TGRs) have been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

For reference total current population in 2022 of 248,071 will increase to 265,868 by 2033. The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions.

Table 5.13: Authority wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population	Number of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Match equivalent session ³⁰
Men (19-45yrs)	1:19910	0.11	0	0
Women (19-45yrs)	1:20490	0.11	0	0
Boys (13-18yrs)	1:1472	0.33	0	0
Girls (13-18yrs)	0	0.00	0	0
Mixed (7-12yrs)	1:2601	0.39	0	0

As these figures cannot be accredited to any one analysis area, as they are Authority wide, they will be added onto the overall supply and demand total for each pitch type.

Future training demand

Similar to competitive demand referenced above, future levels of training demand can also be calculated via using Sport England's PPC. This demand is based upon access to a sports lit grass pitch equated into match equivalent sessions.

³⁰ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

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Table 5.14: Future training demand

Age group	Training demand generated per week by population growth (match equivalent sessions)	Training demand generated per week by population growth (match equivalent sessions) - rounded figure ³¹	Hour/s equivalent
Men (19-45yrs)	0.06	0	0
Women (19-45yrs)	0.06	0	0
Boys (13-18yrs)	0.17	0	0
Girls (13-18yrs)	0.00	0	0
Mixed (7-12yrs)	0.10	0	0

As these figures cannot be accredited to any one analysis area, as they are Authority wide, they will be added onto the overall supply and demand total for each pitch type.

Participation growth

Overall, both clubs, that responded to consultation, report future aspirations to create a total of five teams which equates to two match equivalent sessions per week on senior pitches.

Table 5.15: Summary of club aspirational future demand

Club	Analysis area	Future team aspirations	Future aspirations in match equivalent sessions (MES) on a senior pitch ³²
Barnsley RUFC	Central	1 x senior mens	0.5
		2 x mini teams	0.5
Wortley RUFC	Penistone	2 x junior boys	1
Total			2

Future demand through participation increases from club aspirational demand is considered more aspirational, and it is unlikely that it will all be achieved.

Future demand summary

On balance, there is not anticipated to be any future growth in the number of rugby union teams provided in through population growth. Like previously mentioned as the club aspirational demand is considered aspirational and may not be fully achieved. The preceding Strategy document will include a scenario to identify the impact it would have if the growth was realised.

Likewise, the Strategy Report will contain a housing growth scenario that will estimate the additional demand for rugby union arising from housing development.

5.4: Capacity analysis

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

³¹ Rounded to the nearest 0.5 match equivalent session.

³² Anticipated future junior demand is represented as 0.5 MES on a senior pitch whereas anticipated mini future demand is represented as 0.25 MES on a senior pitch.

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

- ◀ All sites that are used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◀ Use of school pitches by schools increases demand by one match equivalent session, unless school activity levels are known.
- ◀ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches (except for where mini pitches are provided).
- ◀ From Under 13 upwards, teams play 15 v15 and use a full pitch.
- ◀ Mini teams (Under 6-Under 12) play on half of a senior pitch i.e. two teams per senior pitch or a dedicated mini pitch.
- ◀ For senior and youth teams the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis (assumes half of matches will be played away).
- ◀ For mini teams playing on a senior pitch, play per week is set at 0.25 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis and playing across half of one senior pitch.
- ◀ Senior men's rugby generally takes place on Saturday afternoons.
- ◀ Senior women's rugby generally takes place on Sunday afternoons.
- ◀ Junior rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Mini rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by the addition of match equivalent sessions per week to current usage levels.

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

Table 5.16: Summary of rugby pitch carrying capacity

	Match equivalent sessions per week		
	Maintenance score		
Drainage score	M0 - Poor	M1 - Adequate	M2 - Good
D0 - Natural Inadequate	0.5	1.5	2
D1 - Natural Adequate or Pipe Drained	1.5	2	3
D2 - Pipe Drained	1.75	2.5	3.25
D3 - Pipe and Slit Drained	2	3	3.5

Carrying capacity is based upon a basic assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme ascertained through a combination of the quality assessment and consultation. This guide, however, is only a very general measure of potential pitch capacity. It does not account for specific circumstances at time of use and it assumes average rainfall and an appropriate end of season rest and renovation programme.

Table 5.17: Key to capacity balance

Capacity balance in peak period (examples)	Explanation of capacity balance
1	Highlighted in green with a number denotes that the pitches have potential spare capacity.
0	Highlighted in orange with a zero, this indicates the pitch is played to capacity over the course of the week.

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Capacity balance in peak period (examples)	Explanation of capacity balance
1	Highlighted in red with a number denotes that the pitches are overplayed and have no spare capacity across the week. This includes at peak time, despite any availability at peak time which may exist.

Peak times for pitch use

To fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established. Peak time for men's rugby union matches is Saturday afternoons. Peak time for mini and junior activity is Sunday mornings, with most play taking place on senior pitches. Peak time for women's and junior colts' rugby union matches is Sunday afternoons.

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Table 5.18: Capacity table for rugby union pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Security of tenure	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Non-tech score	Quality rating	Sports lighting	Competitive demand (MES per week)	Training demand (MES per week)	Pitch Capacity (MES per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
10	Barnsley Rugby Union Football Club Ltd	Central	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	Yes	2	-	2	0	Pitch is played to capacity.
					1			Standard		1.25		5	2	4.25
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	North	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	-	1.5	0.5	Pitch is unavailable for community use.
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	North East	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	-	1.5	0.5	Pitch is unavailable for community use.
168	Wortley RUFC	Penistone	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M1/D2	Standard	No	2.5	-	2.5	0	Pitch is played to capacity.
					1				Partial	1.5		2.5	2.5	1.5

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Actual spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'actual capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

There is currently no actual spare capacity on pitches in Barnsley. This is due to actual spare capacity only being located on educational sites which are unavailable for community use.

Overplay

There are two pitches overplayed across two sites by a total of 5.75 match equivalent sessions per week. Overplay is due to both limited carrying capacity of standard quality pitches and high levels of demand for rugby union activity. There is concentrated use of grass pitches with sports lighting for training, with these pitches receiving additional use to others because their sports lighting facilitates greater accessible hours for training use during the winter months.

Table 5.19: Summary of overplay at rugby union grass pitch sites

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Pitch quality	Capacity balance
10	Barnsley Rugby Union Football Club Ltd	Central	1	Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	4.25
168	Wortley RUFC	Penistone	1	Senior	M1/D2 (Standard)	1.5

5.5: Supply and demand analysis

Senior rugby union pitches

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify the overall spare capacity in each of the analysis areas for senior rugby union pitches based on match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 5.20: Summary of supply and demand balance on senior rugby union pitches

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)		
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
Central	-	4.25	4.25
Dearne	-	-	0
North	-	-	0
North East	-	-	0
Penistone	-	1.5	1.5
South	-	-	0
Barnsley	0	5.75	5.75

Overall, there is a current shortfall of 5.75 match equivalent sessions per week on senior rugby union pitches to meet current demand.

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Table 5.21: Potential future supply and demand balance on senior rugby union pitches

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)			
	Current total	Future competitive demand	Future training demand	Future total
Barnsley	5.75	0	0	5.75

Through population increases no future competitive or training demand is identified therefore both current and future demand are the same. Like previously mentioned as the club aspirational demand is considered aspirational and may not be fully achieved. The preceding Strategy document will include a scenario to identify the impact it would have if the growth was realised.

5.6: Conclusion

Overall, based on the supply and demand analysis, it is evident that there is an insufficient supply of rugby union provision in Barnsley to accommodate for both current and anticipated future levels of demand.

The priority for rugby union in Barnsley is to ensure maintenance programmes are enhanced across club settings to improve quality of pitches to alleviate the overplay across senior pitches.

Summary – Rugby union

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

Supply

- ◀ There is a total of six rugby union pitches identified in Barnsley. Of these, four are available for community use. All pitches are senior pitches. All unavailable pitches are located at education sites.
- ◀ There is no WR compliant 3G pitches in Barnsley.
- ◀ All sites used by rugby union clubs in the Borough are managed by the respective rugby union clubs. Barnsley RUFC has freehold ownership of its site, whilst Wortley RUFC has a long-term lease agreements at its site.

Quality

- ◀ All four available rugby union pitches are rated as standard quality. Whilst the two pitches unavailable for community use are rated as poor quality.
- ◀ All available pitches are reported to have adequate natural drainage, with no issues with general drainage of pitches.

Demand

- ◀ There are two affiliated rugby union clubs based and playing within the Borough, identified as fielding a total of 17 affiliated teams.
- ◀ Community club training typically takes place on grass pitch provision with sports lighting.
- ◀ Future demand from population increases is projected as zero teams. Whilst future demand from club growth aspirations is considered to amount to five teams (one senior men's, two junior boys and two mini teams), requiring additional match play capacity of two match equivalent sessions on senior pitches.

Capacity

- ◀ None of the four available pitches are considered to have any actual spare capacity to accommodate additional demand.
- ◀ There are two pitches overplayed across two sites by a total of 5.75 match equivalent sessions per week.

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PART 6: ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES FOR HOCKEY

6.1: Introduction

Hockey in England is governed by England Hockey (EH). Following a 2017 resolution, England Hockey has undertaken a review of the way the sport is structured locally. In September 2020, the membership of England Hockey took the decision to support the proposed structural changes set out in A Structure Fit for the Future³³, which proposes a new structure of eight areas (increased from five) to divide the balance of clubs and players more equally in England. Hockey in Barnsley is administered regionally by the Yorkshire & North East Hockey Association and locally by Yorkshire Hockey.

Competitive league hockey matches and training can only be played on artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Although competitive, adult and junior club training cannot take place on third generation artificial grass pitches, some may be suitable for introductory level hockey, such as school curriculum low level hockey. EH's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy details suitability of surface type for varying levels of hockey, as shown below.

A typical artificial grass pitches pitch is constructed from a free draining, frost-free sub-base, one or two tarmac layers, a 15mm shock pad and an artificial grass carpet, either sand filled, sand dressed or water based³⁴. Below is a brief summary of each type.

Sand filled artificial grass

On sand filled artificial grass the artificial grass fibres are infilled with sand. This is a low-density durable carpet with sand infill to just below the pile for stability, these pitches are recommended for lower league hockey and more of a multi sports use rather than higher competitive hockey use.

Sand dressed artificial grass

The fibres on sand dressed artificial grass are much denser and therefore requires less sand to support the pile of the carpet and create stability. It is the most commonly used surface for hockey up to and including at a National level.

Water-based artificial grass

A very high-density carpet with no sand infill which requires irrigation via a sprinkler system to maintain a layer of water on the pitch. The water provides low slide resistance and reduces the risk of abrasions caused by coarse sand.

Table 6.1: England Hockey guidelines on artificial surface types suitable for hockey

Category	Surface	Playing Level	Playing Level
England Hockey Category 1	Water surface approved within the FIH Global/National Parameters	Essential International Hockey - Training and matches	Desirable Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of EH Player Pathway Performance Centres and upwards

³³ [Link to England Hockey website](#)

³⁴ For more detail, please refer to: [EH artificial pitch guidance.pdf](#)

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Category	Surface	Playing Level	Playing Level
England Hockey Category 2	Sand dressed surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	Essential Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of player pathway: Academy Centres and Upwards	Desirable All adult and junior League Hockey Intermediate or advanced School Hockey EH competitions for clubs and schools (excluding domestic national league)
England Hockey Category 3	Sand based surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	Essential All adult and junior club training and league Hockey EH competitions for clubs and schools Intermediate or advanced schools hockey	Desirable
England Hockey Category 4	All 3G surfaces	Essential None	Desirable Lower level hockey (Introductory level) when no category 1-3 surface is available.

In addition to the above pitch types, England Hockey reports it is currently trialling a different multi-sport surface in order to better accommodate lower levels of hockey demand and other sports such as netball and tennis. The surface type known as Gen 2³⁵ is a versatile surface that will ensure sports do not need to compromise on the playing experience. It will be a sand dressed synthetic turf with a compatible shock pad. The concept is designed to provide facilities, including schools, with a dynamic surface which reduces the amount of space required and utilised provision to full potential.

For senior teams, a full size pitch for competitive matches must measure at least 91.4 x 55 metres excluding surrounding run off areas which must be a minimum of two metres at the sides & three metres at the ends. England Hockey preference is for four metre side and five metre end run offs, with a preferred overall area of 101.4 x 63 metres though a minimum overall area of 97.4 x 59 metres is accepted.

Consultation

There are two hockey clubs based in Barnsley, both of which, were consulted via video call meetings.

Table 6.2: Summary of consultation

Club name	Responded?
Barnsley HC	Yes
Huddersfield Ladies HC	Yes

Huddersfield Ladies HC imports demand from the neighbouring Borough of Kirklees, however, the Darton Academy pitch is the only site that the Club currently accesses.

³⁵ <http://www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=2596§ionTitle=Gen+2+Playing+Surface>

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It should be noted prior to the 2022/23 season Chapeltown HC also imported demand into Barnsley. However, the Club is now based and accesses venues in the neighbouring City of Sheffield.

6.2: Supply

There is one full size, hockey suitable AGP in Barnsley, the pitch also has sports lighting. In addition, there are two small size AGPs across two sites in Barnsley, both of which, have sports lighting.

Of the three pitches in Barnsley just the small size pitch at Greenacre School (Central Analysis Area) is unavailable for community use.

The North, Central and North East analysis areas all have one hockey suitable AGP. Whilst the Dearne, Penistone and South analysis areas have none.

Table 6.3: Summary of hockey suitable AGPs in Barnsley

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Number of pitches	Analysis area	Surface type	Pitch size (metres)	Available for community use?	Sports lighting?
Full size								
34	Darton Academy	S75 5EF	1	North	Sand filled	99x61	Yes	Yes
Small size								
51	Greenacre School	S70 6RG	1	Central	Sand filled	36x19	No	Yes
117	Shafton Recreation Ground	S72 8QA	1	North East	Sand filled	39x24	Yes	Yes

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Figure 6.1: Location of AGPs in Barnsley



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Future supply

There are no known plans for development of AGPs in the Borough.

Quality

Taking the above into account, the quality of hockey suitable artificial grass pitches has been assessed via a combination of site visits undertaken in November 2022 (using non-technical assessments as determined by EH³⁶) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (60-79%), Poor (<60%). The quality ratings assigned to the sites also consider the user quality ratings gathered from consultation.

In addition, depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of an artificial grass pitch usually lasts for approximately ten years, and it is the age of the surface, combined with maintenance levels, which most commonly affects quality.

Table 6.4: Summary of community available AGP quality

Site ID	Site name	Number of pitches	Pitch size	Surface type	Year built (refurbished)	Pitch quality
34	Darton Academy	1	Full size	Sand filled	2011	Standard
117	Shafton Recreation Ground	1	Half size	Sand filled	2011	Standard

Barnsley HC reports that the pitch at Darton Academy has decreased in quality in recent years. The Club suggests that since Barnsley Premier Leisure (BPL) handed over the running of the facilities and Delta Academies Trust took over in 2018 the pitch quality has significantly decreased. Anecdotal evidence suggests that this is due to less frequent maintenance.

Barnsley HC and Huddersfield HC are concerned about the potential risk of the pitch becoming unusable due to its declining quality.

Management and security of tenure

The AGP at Darton Academy is managed internally by the School. Whilst the other community available AGP at Shafton Recreation Ground is located on a public recreation ground and is open for public use at all times. There is no formal booking system for the pitch, with access available on a first come first serve basis.

³⁶ See Appendix 3 for the non-technical assessment for artificial grass pitches

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Availability

The table below summarises usage levels of the full size AGP provision in Barnsley based on booking sheets supplied by the operators. This is compared against availability at peak time, using Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM). This applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours per week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00). This totals 18 hours midweek and 16 hours on a weekend.

Table 6.5: Availability and usage across full size AGPs across Barnsley

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Hockey club users	Availability	Midweek availability of pitch based on FPM (hours)	Weekend availability of pitch based on FPM (hours)	Total hockey usage (%)	Total football / other usage (%)	Total spare (%)
34	Darton Academy	North	Barnsley HC Huddersfield Ladies HC	Tuesday-Thursday: 6pm-8pm Saturday: 10.30am-2.30pm Sunday: 10.30am-12.30pm	6/18	6/16	67%	33%	0%

It should be noted that the usage referenced in the table above relates to the community use period and excludes school usage outside of the periods of community availability.

Both clubs report that since 2018, when Delta Academies Trust took over the running of the site, the pitch has seen a decrease in the amount of community available hours.

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Ancillary provision

The quality of ancillary facilities across Barnsley has been assessed via a combination of site visits and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, showering provision, car parking, dedicated official and spectator facilities and boundary fencing. The table below identifies the findings for hockey sites that are actively utilised for hockey across Barnsley.

Table 6.6: Summary of ancillary provision quality accompanying full size hockey AGPs

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of pitches	Ancillary facilities quality
34	Darton Academy	North	1	Standard

The ancillary provision on offer at Darton Academy is standard quality. Barnsley HC reports that since the Delta Academies Trust took over the running of the facility in 2018, the ancillary provision access has been limited. The clubhouse/changing facility was originally built to support the sports facilities onsite, however, since the Academy has taken over, the Club reports that the facility has been turned into use for additional classroom space, with an additional charge now present if clubs wish to access the facility.

6.3: Demand

There is one club which is classed as being from Barnsley, Barnsley HC accommodates six teams: one men's, one women's and three dedicated junior teams. In addition, Huddersfield Ladies HC is based outside of the Borough and as such imports its demand from Kirklees. It operates one women's team, and this encompasses the entire club, therefore it has been included as current demand in Barnsley.

The table below examines each club's participation figures for the 2022/23 season for all Category One and Category Two players. These are the participants that must access hockey suitable AGPs for their demand.

Table 6.7: England Hockey affiliation figures 2022/23 (Category One and Two)

Name of club	Senior men (17-55)	Senior women (17-55)	Junior boys (14-16)	Junior girls (14-16)	Junior boys (11-13)	Junior girls (11-13)	Mini mixed (5-10)	Total
Barnsley HC	17	14	-	-	-	-	-	31
Huddersfield Ladies HC	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	24
Total	17	38	0	0	0	0	0	55

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	Senior men's teams	Senior women's teams	Junior	Mixed	Total
Barnsley HC	1	1	3	-	5
Huddersfield Ladies HC	-	1	-	-	1
Total	1	2	3	0	6

Future demand

Growing participation is the number one aim within EH's strategic plan and key drivers include working with clubs, universities and schools, regional and local leagues, developing opportunities for over 40s and delivering a quality programme of competition. Growth in participation will not only come from the traditional 11 a side game but from the informal, recreational ways to play hockey such as small sided hockey, which can be played at any time during the week or at weekends.

Though there remains a desire from EH to increase participation within the club/league based game, not all future demand may be realised entirely as new formalised teams playing at peak time. Some clubs may decide to offer pay and play opportunities to participants or offer small sided formats such in a bid to increase participation and club memberships by providing a different hockey offer.

Increased demand from new participants will lead to a requirement for increased capacity on available artificial grass pitches at peak time, but also midweek and on Sundays to deliver other formats of hockey activity. At present, it is not necessarily clear as to what format this may take or when it is likely to take place, however, it is clear that there will be a requirement for access to increased capacity on artificial grass pitches across the area. This should be considered when assessing demand for artificial grass pitches in the future, as not only will they be needed for peak match play times and midweek training to accommodate increased participation within the formalised hockey environment, but also throughout the week and at non-peak times to offer wider opportunities for play.

Unlike other pitch sports, England Hockey do not use team generation rates to determine future demand. England Hockey likes to understand growth by participation, rather than dedicated teams. As such, team generation rates have not been used to calculate future growth in Barnsley.

Barnsley HC reports that it has aspiration to add an additional team at both men's and women's level in the future.

Hockey Heroes

Hockey Heroes is a six-week hockey programme aimed at beginners (children aged five to eight) that not only focuses on helping children develop some physical hockey skills such as dribbling, passing and goal scoring, but also places as much emphasis on character development including teamwork, communication, perseverance and respect.

There are no Hockey Heroes courses operating in Barnsley with the nearest being located at Rotherham HC (Sheffield City Council).

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Back to Hockey

Back to Hockey sessions are fun, social and informal and are aimed at people who either have not played for a number of years or that are looking to play for the first time. They are generally hosted by clubs, with EH providing guidance on how to deliver the programme. Benefits of clubs being involved include:

- ◀ More members
- ◀ More casual players
- ◀ Additional income
- ◀ Extra publicity
- ◀ New volunteers

There are no current Back to Hockey sessions available in Barnsley.

Latent demand

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision.

Although, there is currently no reported latent demand. Barnsley HC reports that as it looks to grow its junior section there is a possibility that if it looked to gain additional access to the pitch at Darton Academy, this will not be available. This is due to the Academy only offering a certain amount of hours at a normal rate, whilst any other additional bookings are priced at a premium to cover further caretaking costs.

Imported demand

Imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within Barnsley due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based.

There is imported demand from Kirklees by Huddersfield Ladies HC into Barnsley. The Club currently operates one women's team which accesses the AGP at Darton Academy.

Exported demand

Exported demand refers to teams that are currently accessing provision for home fixtures outside of Barnsley, despite being from within the Authority.

There is no known exported demand out of the Borough.

Peak time demand

For matches, most of the senior hockey activity in Barnsley takes place on a Saturday, whereas most junior activity occurs on a Sunday. For training, peak time is midweek evenings, although preference is generally given for Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

6.4: Supply and demand analysis

Match play

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

In total, there are three senior teams from clubs based within Barnsley playing on a Saturday. This includes the imported demand from Huddersfield Ladies HC, which is likely to remain imported for the foreseeable future.

Based on the above, one full size hockey suitable AGP is sufficient to meet demand. However, please note this is from a quantity perspective only and does not take into accessibility and quality issues identified at Darton Academy AGP.

Training

It is considered that there is enough pitches to accommodate demand for all the clubs.

6.5 Conclusion

Although there is an adequate supply of hockey suitable AGPs in Barnsley to accommodate both training and match play demand, there are specific issues surrounding quality and accessibility that need to be addressed.

The quality of the pitch at Darton Academy is decreasing, if it falls out of use and is not resurfaced in the near future, all teams in the Borough would be displaced with no other pitch able to accommodate them within Barnsley. It is important that discussions between the Council, Darton Academy and England Hockey are undertaken to ensure that the long term sustainability of the pitch is secured to ensure continued use for both clubs.

Summary - artificial grass pitches

- ◀ **There is a suitable number of pitches in Barnsley to accommodate both training and match play demand, however, there are accessibility and quality issues to be addressed.**

Supply

- ◀ There is one full size sand based AGPs across one site in Barnsley the pitch is supported by sports lighting. The pitch is available for community use.
- ◀ There are two small sized sand based AGPs in the Borough across two sites. Only one of which is available for community use.
- ◀ The full size hockey suitable AGPs at Darton Academy is located on an educational site and is managed internally by the School. Whilst the other community available AGP at Shafton Recreation Ground is located on a public recreation ground and is open for public use at all times.

Quality

- ◀ The full size hockey suitable AGPs in Barnsley is rated as standard quality. However, the pitch has been declining in quality in recent years.

Demand

- ◀ There are two community hockey clubs based in Barnsley. The two clubs accommodate a total of six teams (one senior men's two senior women's, and three junior teams).

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PART 7: TENNIS COURTS

7.1: Introduction

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis and administers the sport locally across Barnsley. It has recently restructured its strategic approach to target several national focus areas, with a priority on developing the sport at park sites.

Consultation

Only one tennis club is identified in Barnsley, Barnsley LTC. The Club responded to consultation requests, resulting in a 100% response rate.

7.2: Supply

There are 49 tennis courts identified in Barnsley across 15 sites. Of which, 14 courts across six sites are available for community use and 35 courts across nine sites are unavailable for community use.

The North Analysis Area contains the highest number of community available courts with nine, whereas the North East and Central contain two courts respectively, the Penistone Analysis Area has one community available court. No courts are identified in the Dearne Analysis Area.

Table 7.1: Summary of the number of courts in Barnsley

Analysis area	No. of courts available for community use	No. of courts unavailable for community use
North	9	10
North East	2	11
Dearne	-	-
South	-	10
Central	2	4
Penistone	1	-
Barnsley	14	35

Please note that courts are classified as being available for community use provided that they are deemed to be easily accessible to the general population, either via pay and play or through a membership at a club (or a mixture of both). All unavailable courts in Barnsley are located at school sites.

Figure 7.1 shows the location of the courts servicing Barnsley, regardless of community use. For a key to the map, see Table 7.2.

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Figure 7.1: Location of tennis courts in Barnsley



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Table 7.2: Tennis courts in Barnsley

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Ownership	Community use?	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Court type	Court quality
21	Carlton Park	S71 3EG	North East	Council	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Poor
34	Darton Academy	S75 5EF	North	Education	No	6	No	Macadam	Standard
38	Darton Park	S75 5NR	North	Council	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Poor
51	Greenacre School	S70 6RG	Central	Education	No	1	Yes	Macadam	Standard
60	Holy Trinity School (Barnsley)	S71 2LF	North	Education	No	3	Yes	Macadam	Standard
63	Horizon Community College	S70 6PD	Central	Education	No	3	Yes	Acrylic	Standard
75	Kirk Balk Academy	S74 9HX	South	Education	No	5	No	Macadam	Standard
85	Mapplewell Park	S75 6BY	North	Council	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Poor
91	Netherwood Academy	S73 8FE	South	Education	No	5	No	Macadam	Poor
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	S71 3EW	North East	Education	No	5	No	Macadam	Standard
97	Outwood Academy Shafton	S72 8RE	North East	Education	No	6	Yes	Macadam	Good
129	Springwell Learning Community	S71 2AY	North	Education	No	1	No	Macadam	Poor
169	Barnsley Lawn Tennis Club	S75 1JH	North	Sports Club	Yes	3	Yes	Macadam	Good
						2	Yes	Artificial turf	Good
						2	No	Artificial turf	Good
190	Locke Park	S70 6NE	Central	Council	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Poor
201	Tankersley Welfare	S75 3AP	Penistone	Parish Council	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Poor

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Management and security of tenure

The table below highlights the management of tennis courts within Barnsley. The majority are provided by education sites, although the Council manage four sites, parish councils manage two sites, and a sports club manages one site located at Barnsley Lawn Tennis Club.

Table 7.3: Tennis courts by management type

Availability for community use	Number of courts			
	Education	Council	Sports club	Parish Council
Available	-	6	7	1
Unavailable	35	-	-	-
Total	35	6	7	1

Court type

Most outdoor courts in Barnsley have a macadam surface (42 or 86%), with 11 being of this type and available for community use. Three courts have an acyclic surface located at Horizon Community College which are unavailable for community use, and four courts have an artificial turf surface. The estimated lifespan of a macadam and artificial turf court is ten years, depending on levels of use and maintenance levels. To ensure courts can continue to be used beyond this time frame, it is recommended that a sinking fund is put into place for eventual refurbishment.

Sports lighting

Courts with sports lighting enable use throughout the year and are identified by the LTA as being a key priority for growing participation nationally. The LTA reports that sports lighting allows for a 35% increase in available court time on an annual basis.

In Barnsley, 18 of the tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing 37% of the provision. Of these, only five courts are available for community use, and all courts are located at Barnsley Lawn Tennis Club. The Club reports that it has plans to develop and install sports lighting on the two artificial turf courts which currently do not have them. In addition, the two artificial turf courts which are currently serviced by sports lighting are planned for upgrade by the Club to LED lighting.

Access to courts with sports lighting is considered particularly key for clubs as it allows for more usage of provision, which in turn can help accommodate more members.

LTA Quick Access Loan Scheme

The LTA's facility loan scheme provides interest free loans from £25,000. The funding stream will prioritise investment into low-cost indoor structures and sports lights to enable communities to grow participation by accessing all year-round facilities. The objectives of the fund are:

- ✦ To provide indoor or sports lit and year-round playing facilities to encourage community accessible play all year.
- ✦ To enhance facilities to create better playing environments to encourage play all year (link to 'what we will fund').
- ✦ To retain and increase the number of participants at the venue.
- ✦ To offer and increase both non-member pay and play usage and coaching opportunities.
- ✦ To grow the numbers of adults and juniors on the coaching programme.
- ✦ To provide online booking through ClubSpark with courts available through LTA Play.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Over marking

Tennis courts, particularly within schools, are often over marked by netball, basketball and/or football courts. Courts which are over marked tend to receive higher levels of use which can be detrimental to quality over time, as well as creating capacity issues if there is community demand from more than one sport.

In Barnsley, 37 courts are overmarked by netball provision, with most of these located at school sites (35 or 71%) where curriculum activity makes this necessary.

Quality

The quality of tennis courts has been informed through non-technical site assessments and consultation with providers to assign each court a rating of good, standard or poor. Key aspects informing the findings include surface quality, grip underfoot, line marking quality, evenness and evidence of inappropriate use (e.g. vandalism and/or littering).

For the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

Of the courts in Barnsley, 13 are assessed as good quality, 23 courts are assessed as standard quality, and 12 as poor quality. Most good quality courts are available for community use, however, six good courts located at Outwood Academy Shafton are unavailable for community use. All standard quality courts are unavailable for community use.

Table 7.4: Quality of tennis courts in Barnsley

Availability for community use	Number of courts		
	Good	Standard	Poor
Available	7	-	7
Unavailable	6	23	6
Total	13	23	13

The courts assessed as poor quality are located at the following sites:

- ◀ Carlton Park
- ◀ Darton Academy
- ◀ Mapplewell Park
- ◀ Tankersley Welfare
- ◀ Netherwood Academy
- ◀ Springwell Learning Community
- ◀ Locke Park

Issues recorded at these sites during assessments include poor grip underfoot, the presence of moss, worn line markings and loose gravel, with maintenance also considered to be basic and infrequent at most of these sites. This leads to further deterioration in quality.

It should be noted that in 2018 Barnsley Lawn Tennis Club underwent significant development onsite. It developed its facilities add an additional three courts onsite, to the already standing four courts.

Renovation fund⁶⁷

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

³⁷[Link to Government website](#)

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The LTA's ambition is to drive participation across park tennis sites, as well as ensuring the future sustainability of these facilities. As well as paying for the refurbishment of public park courts, the new investment will also pay for the implementation of sustainable operating models for the facilities, with specialist programmes and support to ensure courts are both affordable and utilised.

Ancillary provision

Barnsley Lawn Tennis Club report ancillary provision at its home site to be of good quality, the Club has been redeveloping its clubhouse recently and is continuing to update the facility to ensure that the quality is sustained.

For non-club courts, ancillary provision is generally considered to be problematic. Whilst most sites provide changing facilities and/or toilets, they are not always specific for tennis, which is the case at Carlton Park. As such, access can be limited even at sites that allow for community use.

Insight from the LTA indicates good quality ancillary facilities such as toilets, changing rooms and cafes encourage players to visit community available provision and stay for extended periods of time. Therefore, a potential way to increase usage of such provision would be to invest in suitable ancillary amenities, which can then also provide a source of income.

7.3: Demand

It is reported that demand for tennis provision during and since the Covid-19 pandemic has increased substantially compared to prior levels when court restrictions have not been in place (potentially linked to tennis being one of the first sports to be allowed to resume). This should therefore be monitored moving forward to ensure that any growth can be accommodated for if the increases are sustained.

Competitive tennis

Only one club is identified in Barnsley, Barnsley LTC, which has a total of 300 members. As a breakdown, this equates to 170 senior and 130 junior members.

Table 7.5: Current tennis demand by club

Club	Number of members		
	Senior	Junior	Total
Barnsley LTC	170	130	300

Informal and parks tennis

Away from club courts, usage can be difficult to quantify as it is not always monitored, especially at sites that are free to access as is the case at Carlton Park, Darton Park, Mapplewell Park and Locke Park. Demand for such provision is generally at its highest during summer months, especially following events such as Wimbledon, but significant capacity is likely to exist outside of this.

The LTA has developed a package of support for local authorities and other providers to grow the use of tennis courts by removing key barriers to participation. The three products are ClubSpark, LTA Play and Gate Access, which are further detailed below.

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PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

ClubSpark – Improving the booking process

ClubSpark is a flexible and simple venue management platform with multiple products and applications to help venues, local authorities and coaches manage their sport. ClubSpark is a tool that is offered for free as part of LTA venue registration and allows administrators to manage all functions at their venue(s), including:

- ◀ Managed website - create and manage a mobile friendly website tailored to LA/club requirements to promote events and activities.
- ◀ Managed coaching – set up coaching lessons and courses online.
- ◀ Membership management - improve membership engagement by making it easier for the venue and for members to pay, renew and keep in touch (includes online payments, direct debits and the monitoring of revenue streams; membership modules can also be used to take season ticket payments for venues operating a non-traditional annual facility fee).
- ◀ Organise payments - set the way payments are taken, whether it's immediate pay and play, or bookable as part of a membership package.
- ◀ Court bookings – reduced administration for managing bookings; give staff, coaches, members and the general public access to book and pay for courts, classes or other resources online.
- ◀ Scheduling - set unique booking and price rules to suit the venue and enable lights to switch on/off automatically when linked to the LTA Premium Gate Access system.
- ◀ Book and pay remotely - customers can make bookings and payments for a venue anytime, anywhere via the real-time booking app.
- ◀ Reporting - ClubSpark allows administrators to view reports highlighting income, court usage, revenue and number of members and season ticket holders; this allows for identification of trends and patterns and evidence to demonstrate participation levels and impact.

LTA Play

LTA Play is an aggregator that collects all booking and coaching information via ClubSpark pages and displays it for participants in one easy to view page. It allows players to search for venues close to them and provides booking options, removing the barriers of not knowing where courts are or how to book.

LTA Play provides a helpful customer journey, with a personal profile to review and manage bookings, and helpful reminders. Courts can be set to book for free of charge or at a fee agreed by the provider.

Smart Access

The LTA has developed two Smart Access gate access systems that work in association with ClubSpark to secure courts and to allow access to booked customers only. Members of the public can book a court online (making payment if required) and receive a four digit access code via email to enter using a courtside keypad. The gate access system then allows entry for the time booked if a correct code is entered.

There are two gate options available: SmartAccess Premium and SmartAccess Lite. The demands and needs of users plus the setup of the venue determines the most appropriate system for each site.

Nationally, the LTA report that in the last three years, sites with a gate access system installed have attracted 64,841 unique players, leading to 609,671 courts being booked. This has generated income of over £1 million.

BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Additional demand

The LTA operates various tennis initiatives across the Country which result in some courts receiving additional demand. Furthermore, there are other formats away from traditional tennis that can result in increased usage. These are all detailed below.

Parks tennis

Parks tennis leagues are less formal in comparison to established club play, offering greater flexibility and an opportunity for all abilities to engage in competition at local venues. The leagues are run by Local Tennis Leagues and are available to all aged 18 years and above, with administration and support based online. Players are organised into mixed sex leagues of eight based on similar ability levels, with matches arranged between the two players at whatever time and court is agreed. The flexibility of play is conducive to the use of park sites which are typically more easily accessible.

In Barnsley, no parks tennis leagues are currently in operation.

LTA Youth Start

This is the fun starter course for children who have never played the sport before or may have played very little. Packed full of fun games and training drills, it also gives parents the chance to join in too. For £34.99, kids get six weeks coaching by an LTA Accredited coach, along with a free racket, pack of balls and personalised t-shirt so that they can continue playing.

In Barnsley, currently there are no LTA Youth Start sessions.

Tennis for Free

Tennis for Free is a community sports charity that works in partnership with the LTA. The charity delivers free, fully inclusive weekly coaching sessions for all ages and abilities in local communities across the UK, especially those in low-income areas.

Tennis for Free offers a package for local authorities and court operators that includes financial support for local LTA Accredited coaches to deliver the sessions, tennis equipment for attendees and coaches and promotional support. Sessions are typically delivered across three courts, although the charity have recently launched 'Tennis for Free Lite', available to clubs that wish to open their doors to non-members.

Through its offer, Tennis for Free aims to:

- ◀ Reinvigorate under-used public facilities.
- ◀ Make tennis a sport for all.
- ◀ Make tennis more financially accessible in the UK.
- ◀ Improve the physical and mental wellbeing of local communities through tennis.

No Tennis for Free sessions currently operates in or around Barnsley.

LTA Big Tennis Weekend

The LTA Big Tennis Weekend is an LTA initiative which all registered venues can access. Clubs and venues have the ability to sign up to host open days, which are free of charge, and create a relaxed and welcoming environment for those new to tennis to participate. This in turn can potentially lead to the clubs attracting new members.

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The LTA hosts three dedicated weekends a year (in May, July and September) that are the UK's biggest public tennis events. Furthermore, venues are able to run additional events outside these dates and will benefit from their events being promoted on the national LTA campaign website. All clubs running an open day are asked to promote a follow-on offer to all attendees, such as a reduced rate introductory membership or a number of free coaching sessions, to encourage people to continue playing after the event.

No sites in Barnsley currently host or are scheduled to host a Big Tennis Weekend.

Padel

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

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

There are currently no padel tennis courts in Barnsley.

However, the development of two padel tennis courts have been proposed onsite at Shaw Lane Sports Club. The courts will be developed on the footprint of the bowling green located next to the car park. There are currently two bowling greens onsite which is the home of Barnsley Bowling Club. The Club has 29 members.

The BCGBA does not have any specific guidance on bowling green capacity, stating that it can vary from site-to-site and from club-to-club.

However, as a guide, it states that greens used by at least 20 members are generally considered to be sustainable, whilst greens operating with a membership of over 60 may need additional resource to ensure that they continue to meet demand. Operating the two greens at Shaw Lane Sports Club, could become unsustainable due to the number of members they currently accommodate (29), with the two greens likely requiring a requirement of circa 40 members to be considered sustainable.

The LTA is in support of this development.

Latent/unmet demand

Latent demand for tennis nationally is reported to be high by the LTA, which has an insight tool that suggests that 18% of the five million players that pick up a racket each year would play more often if key barriers such as poor promotion of opportunities to get on court, unclear booking journeys (especially those that are 'offline') and low quality facilities were addressed.

Furthermore, the LTA conducted some research to understand how the public feels about tennis and the main barriers to accessing the sport. The research was split into club, community and education sectors, the headline findings of which are below:

- ◀ Around five million people play once per year with the majority of this in parks.
- ◀ 46% of tennis played by those 14 years is on park courts.
- ◀ 80% of those that do not play tennis but would like to see parks as their first option.

BARNSELY METROPOLITON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

- Barriers preventing use of courts located in parks include the quality of the courts, ease of booking and the number of courts available to play.
- Demand for tennis amongst those who stopped playing in the last five years is from 14 upwards.
- Although there is demand for tennis amongst working class individuals, the highest latent demand is from upper middle, middle and lower middle classes.

Further research carried out by the LTA suggests that many more people would play tennis if they knew where courts were located, particularly local authority courts. Its assertion is that better promotion would increase demand.

In addition, Sport England’s Segmentation Tool enables analysis of the percentage of adults that would like to participate in tennis but that ‘are not currently doing so’. The tool identifies latent demand of 3,903 people within Barnsley, which represents approximately 1.6% of the Borough’s population compared to a national average of 1.7%. This therefore suggests that unmet demand is marginally lower than what would otherwise be expected.

Future demand

Barnsley LTC state plans to grow membership, equating to a total of 50 members with just under half of these being junior members, as shown below.

Table 7.6: Future tennis demand by club

Club	Number of members		
	Senior	Junior	Total
Barnsley LTC	30	20	50

Away from club-based demand, it is considered that all remaining future demand will be picked up via the latent/unmet demand noted above and attracted to non-club and particularly local authority courts.

7.4: Supply and demand analysis

For club-based tennis, the LTA suggests that a non-sports lit court can accommodate a maximum of 40 members, whereas court with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members. Using this, the table below identifies the capacity balance at all sites currently used by clubs, taking into account current demand.

Table 7.7: Capacity analysis (club courts)

Site ID	Site	Club users	Current demand (members)	Capacity (members)	Current capacity balance	Future demand	Future capacity balance
169	Barnsley Lawn Tennis Club	Barnsley LTC	300	380	80	50	30

For club-based tennis, there is considered to be sufficient provision to meet demand. Additionally, when considering club future demand aspirations, supply is still sufficient to meet future demand.

For non-club courts, whilst no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, it cannot be said that supply is sufficient to meet demand due to the large amount of unmet and latent demand evidenced both nationally and in Barnsley. There is instead a clear need to improve the supply and quality in ways that can attract and better accommodate more users, specifically the courts provided at Carlton Park, Darton Park, Mapplewell Park and Locke Park.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

7.5: Conclusion

It is considered that at club sites there is enough courts to cater for both current and future demand.

At a non-club level there are issues around both and quality of courts to support more casual tennis play. Although a number of courts are located in park sites all of these courts are rated as poor quality. In order to encourage participation and protect courts from unofficial use, improving the quality whilst also exploring the opportunity to install systems such as GateAccess is key. In addition, due to levels of latent/unmet demand in non-club settings both nationally and in Barnsley, the opportunity to develop new provision should also be explored.

Tennis summary

- ◀ **For club-based tennis, there is considered to be sufficient provision to meet demand. Additionally, when considering club future demand aspirations, supply is still sufficient to meet future demand.**
- ◀ **For non-club courts, whilst no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, it cannot be said that supply is sufficient to meet demand due to the large amount of unmet and latent demand evidenced both nationally and in Barnsley. There is instead a clear need to improve the supply in ways that can attract and better accommodate more users, specifically the courts provided at Carlton Park, Darton Park, Mapplewell Park and Locke Park.**

Supply

- ◀ There are 49 tennis courts identified in Barnsley across 15 sites. Of which 14 courts across six sites are available for community use and 35 courts across nine sites are unavailable for community use.
- ◀ The majority are provided by education sites, although the Council manage four sites, parish council manage two sites and a sports club manages one site located at Barnsley Lawn Tennis Club.
- ◀ Most outdoor courts in Barnsley have a macadam surface (42 or 86%), with 11 being of this type and available for community use. Three courts have an acyclic surface located at Horizon Community College which are unavailable for community use, and four courts have an artificial turf surface.
- ◀ In Barnsley, 18 of the tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing 36% of the provision. Of these, only five courts are available for community use, and all courts are located at Barnsley Lawn Tennis Club.

Quality

- ◀ Of the courts in Barnsley, 13 are assessed as good quality, 23 courts are assessed as standard quality, and 12 as poor quality. Most good quality courts are available for community use, however, six good courts located at Outwood Academy Shafton are unavailable for community use. All standard quality courts are unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Barnsley LTC report ancillary provision at its respective home site to be of good quality, with no major issues raised.

Demand

- ◀ Only one club is identified in Barnsley, Barnsley LTC, which has a total of 300 members. As a breakdown, this equates to 170 senior and 130 junior members.
- ◀ Away from club courts, usage can be difficult to quantify as it is not always monitored, especially at sites that are free to access as is the case at Carlton Park, Darton Park, Mapplewell Park and Locke Park. Demand for such provision is generally at its highest during summer months, especially following events such as Wimbledon, but significant capacity is likely to exist outside of this.
- ◀ In Barnsley, currently there are no LTA initiatives taking place.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

PART 8: ATHLETICS

8.1: Introduction

As a Governing Body, UK Athletics is responsible for developing and implementing the rules and regulations of athletics, including everything from anti-doping, health and safety, facilities and welfare, to training and education for coaches and officials as well as permitting and licensing.

Locally, the sport is governed through England Athletics, which is the development and membership body for athletics and running clubs in England. It has a National Head of Clubs and Participation as well as a team of five club support managers across the Country, with one of these covering activities in Barnsley as part of the North region.

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

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

Compact track

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

Mini track

A 'mini track' features a 140m four lane oval track with a six lane 60m sprint, as well as accompanying shot put and jumping provision. An advantage to a mini track design is it leaves a large space in the centre of the oval track to be used for either various field events such as long jump/ triple jump, or alternatively it can be used for other sports such as football pitches or an outdoor gym. Mini track sites also feature a new design of shot put practice areas in which it flattens a natural slope and athletes throw into a hill allowing for the put to roll back to the participant thus reducing time spent retrieving the put after each throw.

Active track

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

Although noted considered to be an affordable solution, Polytan has also developed a smart track in which magnetic integrated timing gates are built into the surface intermittently as to enable sports and exercise analysis to take place with much greater ease and precision. The athlete downloads an accompanying 'smart run' app which is then tracked by the magnetic sensors built into the track allowing for split speed analysis to take place without the need for cameras or wires. This allows for the removal of any set up time for analysts whilst also enabling several athletes to be examined simultaneously. As the magnets are embedded within the track it is also vandalism safe and will outlast the lifespan of a brand new athletics track. The installation of such provision reportedly increases the price to roughly £1.35m for a brand new 400m 'smart track.'

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Consultation

Consultation took place with England Athletics and the Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre to inform this section of the report.

8.2: Supply

There is one formal athletics track in Barnsley located at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre, which is an eight lane, synthetic 400 metre track. The track is fully sports lit and provides all accompanying field event facilities including a hammer cage, javelin, high jump, long jump and shot put area.

Table 8.1: Summary of athletics tracks in Barnsley

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Length	Surface type	Sports lighting
42	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	North East	400m	Synthetic	Yes

As seen, only the North East Analysis Area is serviced by formal athletics facilities.

Future supply

England Athletics identifies that the Penistone Analysis Area of the Borough is identified as a potential location for the development of the NewGen athletics provision.

Disused

The track at Wombwell Recreation Ground is a basic cinder 400m track. There are no accompanying facilities for field events onsite. The Club known to use the site, Wombwell Sporting AC, folded two years ago which means the athletic track is now disused.

Management

The track at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is owned by the Council, However, is managed by a company called Barnsley Premier Leisure (BPL).

Quality

Key factors impacting upon the quality ratings of athletics facilities include the condition and age of the track surface, the prominence of the line markings and any signs of wear and tear or unofficial use. For the full site assessment criteria, please see Appendix 2.

The non-technical assessment undertaken in August 2022 by KKP identifies the track and accompanying track and field facilities as good quality with a good quality accompanying ancillary facility, with maintenance carried out to a high standard for both. It should be noted that the track was resurfaced in 2022.

TrackMark³⁸

TrackMark is UK Athletics' quality assurance scheme for outdoor track and field athletics facilities. A venue that achieves TrackMark is recognised by UK Athletics as having well managed, compliant facilities that are accessible to participants of all abilities. From 2021, venues that actively choose not to pursue accreditation are not eligible to apply for a competition licence at any level.

³⁸ [Link to UKA website](#)

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is TrackMark compliant.

Ancillary facilities

Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is serviced by a multi-functional ancillary facility that provides changing rooms as well as a gym. The facilities are good quality. Barnsley Premier Leisure, identify that it has plans to develop and improve the spectator stand facilities.

8.3: Demand

For the purposes of this study, athletics demand is considered to come in various forms, rather than just traditional track and field activity. As such, running clubs are also considered, as are organised running events and various running initiatives, some of which are governed by England Athletics. It is also acknowledged that recreational running forms a large part of demand, although this is difficult to measure.

Table 8.2: Summary of track and field club membership

Name of club	Home site	Number of members
Barnsley Athletics Club	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	111
Barnsley Harriers	-	159
Penistone Footpath Runners & Athletic Club	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	151
Kingstone Runners	-	123
Pontefract Athletics Club	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre	91
	Total	635

Barnsley Athletics Club

Barnsley Athletics Club is a large athletics club based at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre. It accommodates both male and female members at senior and junior level and whilst it specialises in track and field, it also operates a cross-country running section.

Penistone Footpath Runners & Athletics Club

Penistone Footpath Runners & Athletics Club is a large athletics club based at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre. It accommodates male and female members at both senior and junior level and whilst it specialises in track and field, it also operates road running sections.

Kingstone Runners Barnsley

Kingstone Runners Barnsley is a road running club that caters for runners of all abilities. It meets twice a week, Monday, and Wednesday at 19.00. The Club uses Higham Cricket Club as a meeting base.

Barnsley Harriers

The Club holds road running sessions every Monday evening and Wednesday evening, catering for runners of all abilities, meeting at Shaw Lane Sports Club.

Pontefract Athletics Club

The Club trains throughout the year at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre on Mondays from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. This club, however, is considered to import demand into the Borough to access the track.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Run Together³⁹

Run Together is an official England Athletics recreational running project which aims to get the whole nation running. Its aim is to provide fun, friendly, supportive and inclusive running opportunities for everyone, regardless of ability and availability. It believes that running is more fun and easier to become part of a lifestyle when shared with others.

In Barnsley there is the following Run Together group:

- ◀ Rabbit Runners (Mondays 18:00) Outside Royston Library S71 4GE

A key focus for England Athletics is increasing demand for participation in initiatives such as Run Together, meaning this could be targeted moving forward, especially given the number of other clubs that could be involved.

Park Run

Park Run is a series of 5k runs held on Saturday mornings in areas of open space around the UK, with 1,063 events now operating across the Country. They are open to all, free, and are safe and easy to take part in. Runners must first register online in order to access a printed barcode which gives them access to all Park Run events.

Locke Park and Penistone Recreation Ground currently accommodates the Borough's Park Runs and Junior Park Run, as seen below.

Table 8.3: Summary of Park Run in Barnsley

Location	Postcode	Event	Number of events	Average attendance
Locke Park	S70 6NE	Park Run	545	144
		Junior Park Run	314	73
Penistone Recreation Ground	S36 6TS	Park Run	98	155

Couch to 5k

Couch to 5k is a national health initiative promoted by the National Health Service (NHS) to encourage absolute beginners get into running as part of establishing and maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle including regular exercise.

The plan consists of three runs per week and a day of rest in between, with a different schedule for each of the nine weeks to completion. It starts with a mix of running and walking, to gradually build up fitness and stamina, in order to create realistic expectations and a sense of achievability to encourage participants to stick with it. The end goal of the plan is for the participant to be able to run 5k.

Through the Couch to 5k plan the NHS particularly promotes the health benefits of running and regular exercise which underpin the initiative, such as improved heart and lung health, weight loss and possible increases in bone density which can help protect against bone diseases such as osteoporosis. This also includes mental benefits of running through goal setting and challenge setting, which can help boost confidence and self-belief. Furthermore, running regularly has been linked to combating depression.

³⁹ [Link to Runtogether website](#)

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

It is believed that an increase in people running through the Couch to 5k plan may increase interest and possibly have a knock-on effect of leading to increased demand at running groups and clubs as people may wish to continue develop their running further.

Latent/unmet demand

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 4,732 people in Barnsley, which represents approximately 1.9% of the Borough's population compared to a national average of 2%.

No clubs have a waiting list in place, and they are all actively looking for new members, on social media and club websites.

Future demand

All clubs are actively looking to grow membership, with no club having a waiting list and doing their utmost not to turn demand away.

England Athletics also believes that demand is likely to increase in the future, particularly for initiatives such as Park Run, although again to what extent is difficult to quantify.

8.4: Supply and demand analysis

It is considered that for an athletics track to be sustainable, a club membership of 200 is required. This is based on figures and consultation provided by England Athletics. In Barnsley, supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, with two track and field clubs currently based in the Borough (Barnsley Athletic Club and Penistone Footpath Runners & Athletic Club) totalling 262 members.

There is still a clear need to continue to grow levels of participation through actualising latent and future demand in order to ensure the long term sustainability of the track at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

8.5: Conclusion

As only Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is currently used for club athletics, there is a need to protect the facility and ensure that quality remains sufficient to accommodate the level of demand received.

Away from track and field, emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other activities taking place in Barnsley, with focus on retaining and increasing participation and growing the various initiatives that are in place.

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Athletics – supply and demand summary

- ◀ In Barnsley, supply is considered sufficient to meet demand, with only two track and field clubs currently based in the Borough (Barnsley Athletic Club, Penistone Footpath Runners & Athletic Club and Pontefract Athletics Club). All other clubs are primarily road running clubs that do not access the track facilities.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on protecting the facility at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre and ensuring that quality remains sufficient to accommodate the level of demand.

Supply

- ◀ There is one formal athletics track in Barnsley located at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre, which is an eight lane, synthetic 400 metre track.
- ◀ The track is fully sports lit and provides all accompanying field event facilities including a hammer cage, javelin, high jump, long jump and shot put area.
- ◀ The track at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is owned by the Council, However, is managed by a company called Barnsley Premier Leisure (BPL).

Quality

- ◀ The non-technical assessment undertaken by KKP identified the track and accompanying track and field facilities as good quality, with maintenance carried out to a high standard.
- ◀ The ancillary provision at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is rated to be of good quality, with no major issues raised.

Demand

- ◀ Four clubs have a current focus on athletics and/or running activity in Barnsley.
- ◀ Barnsley Athletic Club, Penistone Footpath Runners & Athletic Club and Pontefract Athletics Club both use Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre as its base.
- ◀ Locke Park and Penistone Recreation Ground currently host Park Runs and Junior Park Runs in the Borough.
- ◀ All clubs are seen actively looking to grow membership, whilst England Athletics also believes that demand is likely to increase in the future, particularly for initiatives such as Park Run.
- ◀ Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies significant latent demand amounting to 4,732 people in Barnsley, which represents approximately 1.9% of the Borough's population compared to a national average of 2%.
- ◀ None have waiting lists in place, and they are all actively looking for new members, on social media and club websites.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

PART 9: MULTI USE GAMES AREAS (MUGAS)

9.1 Introduction

MUGAs are a reference to any sport or games areas which are often used for social and recreational sport in the community and are generally categorised into typologies, as seen in the table below.

Table 9.2: Types of MUGAs

Type	Surface	Characteristics	Preferred sports
Type One	Open textured porous macadam	Used for ball rebound sports. Suitable for wheelchair sports.	Tennis and netball.
Type Two			
Type Three			
Type Four	Polymeric surface over macadam base	Due to their greater shock absorbency and lower surface friction, these areas are not recommended for tennis or netball.	Football, basketball and recreational activity
Type Five	Sand based or third generation turf (3G)	Shockpad and either heavily doused with water before play or filled or dressed with sand or rubber crumb.	Formalised sports including hockey, football, American football, lacrosse and rugby.

9.2 Supply

Across Barnsley there are a total of 58 MUGAs with most of this provision located within the South Analysis Area with 16 (28%), followed by Central Analysis Area with 11 (19%). Penistone Analysis Area accommodates nine MUGAs and the North East and Central analysis areas all have eight MUGAs each, the North Analysis Area has the least number of MUGAs with six.

Table 9.3: Summary of MUGAs in Barnsley

Analysis area	Number of MUGAs
North	6
North East	8
Dearne	8
South	16
Central	11
Penistone	9
Barnsley	58

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Table 9.4: Summary of provision

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Number of courts	Surface type	Sports lighting?	Quality
2	Ardsley Park	S71 5DL	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	Yes	Good
11	Barugh Green Recreation Ground	S75 1JX	North	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
12	Birdwell Community Centre and Recreation Ground	S70 5TQ	South	Yes	2	Type One/Two	No	Standard
17	Brierley Park	S72 9ED	North East	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
32	Cudworth Park	S72 8UA	North East	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
38	Darton Park	S75 5NR	North	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
48	Goldthorpe Recreation Ground	S63 9JD	Dearne	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
67	Ingbirchworth Pitch	S36 7GJ	Penistone	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
85	Mapplewell Park	S75 6BY	North	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
89	Milton Forge	S74 9BQ	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
99	Oxspring Playing Field	S36 8YQ	Penistone	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
102	Penistone Recreation Ground	S36 6TS	Penistone	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
112	Rotherham Road Playing Field	S71 2AX	North East	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
114	Royston Welfare Park (Site 1)	S71 4AA	North East	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
121	Silkstone Common Recreation Ground	S75 4QB	Penistone	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
123	Silkstone Recreation Ground	S75 4NA	Penistone	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
145	The Pleasant Avenue Playing Field	S72 0BF	North East	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
147	Thurgoland Recreation Ground	S35 7AA	Penistone	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
149	Thurnscoe Recreation Ground	S63 0BG	Dearne	Yes	2	Type One/Two	Yes	Standard
151	Tinker Lane Recreation Ground	S74 0PE	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Poor
170	Aldham House Lane	S73 8RQ	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
171	Bank End	S70 4QU	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	Yes	Standard
172	Barnsley Road	S72 8UT	North East	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
173	Bellbrooke Avenue	S73 9BP	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
175	Blacker Hill	S74 0FL	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Number of courts	Surface type	Sports lighting?	Quality
176	Broomhill Old	S73 0YQ	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Poor
177	Church View Road	S36 6AT	Penistone	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
179	Dodworth Rec	S70 6PD	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
181	Everill Close	S73 0SE	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
182	Gilroyd Rec	S75 3PX	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
183	Gregorys Yard	S72 0AF	North East	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
184	Hemmingfield Rec	S73 0PZ	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
185	Highgate Lane	S63 8AL	Dearne	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
186	Highstone Rec	S70 4EF	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	Yes	Standard
187	Jump Street Jump	S74 0HZ	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
188	Kendray Rec	S70 3EG	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	Yes	Standard
189	Leylands	S75 1HD	North	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
190	Locke Park	S70 6NE	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
191	Measbro Dyke	S70 3QU	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	Yes	Standard
192	Merrill Road	S63 0PS	Dearne	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
193	Monk Bretton Social	S71 2PP	North East	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Poor
194	New England	S70 5AW	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	Yes	Standard
195	New Lodge	S71 1SU	North	Yes	1	Type One/Two	Yes	Poor
198	Spring Vale	S36 6HH	Penistone	Yes	1	Type One/Two	Yes	Standard
199	Sugdens Rec	S75 2BL	North	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
200	Summer Lane	S73 8HD	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
201	Tankersley Welfare	S75 3AP	Penistone	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
202	Thurnscoe Park	S63 0SU	Dearne	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
204	Wath Road	S63 8LQ	Dearne	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
205	Wombwell Park	S73 0LH	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	Yes	Good
206	Worsbrough Dale Park	S70 4SB	Central	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
213	Middlecliff Lane	S72 0HU	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
214	Darfield Park	S73 9LG	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good
215	Goldthorpe Green	S63 9EH	Dearne	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Standard
216	Elsecar Park	S74 8ES	South	Yes	1	Type One/Two	No	Good

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Future developments

Football Foundation PlayZones Programme

The Football Foundation, using investment from the Premier League, The FA and the Government via Sport England has released a new (2022) capital investment programme called the PlayZones Programme. This programme aims to engage with local communities across the Country to create outstanding sports and activity spaces and tackle inequalities in participation. The priority groups for the funding are:

- ◀ Lower socio-economic groups
- ◀ Disabled people with people with long term health conditions
- ◀ Women and girls
- ◀ Ethnically diverse communities

More details surrounding the aims and outcomes for the project and the requirements/stages for application can be found on the Football Foundation website⁴⁰.

In partnership with FF, in the future the Council suggests it may look to progress a number of innovative multi use games facilities through the FF Playzone Programme.

Management

Of the 58 MUGAs across Barnsley, all are managed by either parish councils or BMBC. All the MUGAs are available as open access meaning they do not need to be booked. Anecdotal evidence suggests that MUGAs are well used in the summer months for activities such as informal football, however, can be prone to vandalism.

Quality

The quality of MUGAs across Barnsley has been assessed and the quality has been advised by Barnsley MBC.

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

In total across Barnsley, 25 MUGAs are assessed as good quality, 29 MUGAs are assessed as standard quality, whilst four are assessed as poor quality with significant issues surrounding grip, court markings and evidence of moss/lichen.

Table 9.5: Summary of MUGA quality in Barnsley

Analysis area	Good	Standard	Poor
North	2	3	1
North East	2	5	1
Dearne	4	4	-
South	7	7	2
Central	4	7	-
Penistone	6	3	-
MUGA total	25	29	4

⁴⁰[Link to Playzones programme](#)

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Sports lighting

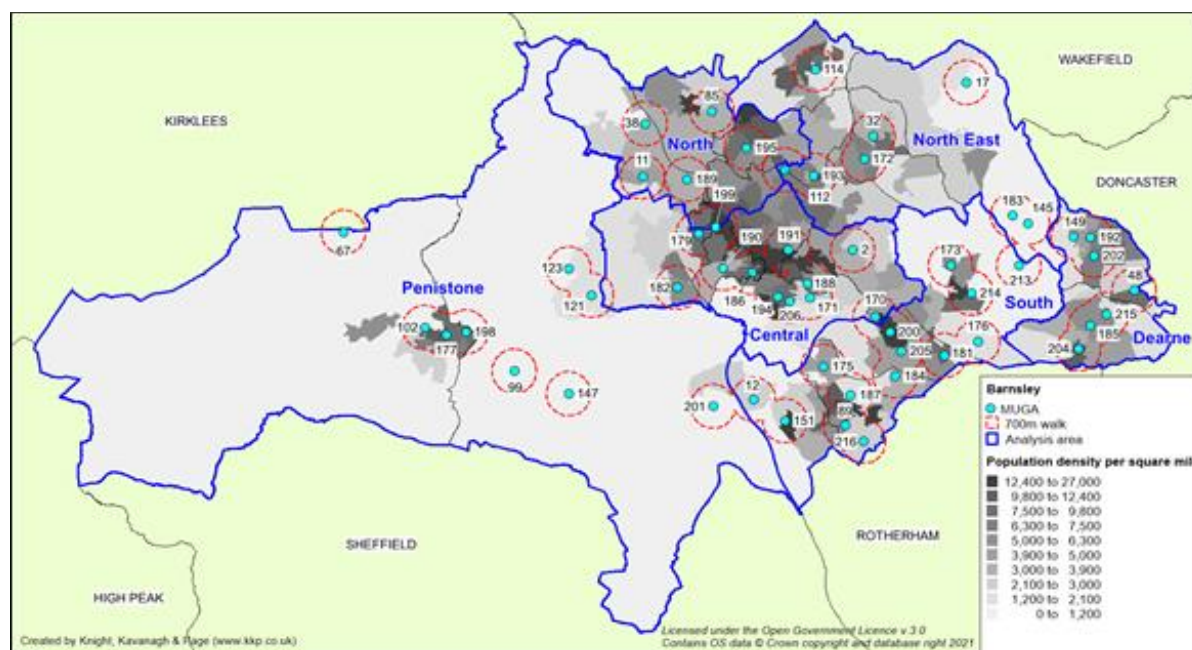
The presence of sports lighting is considered to encourage more demand as it enables evening use all year round. However, it is also acknowledged that it can also encourage higher levels unofficial use resulting in increased anti-social behaviour, vandalism and littering. There are 11 (23%) community available MUGAs with sports lighting in Barnsley.

9.3 Demand

In order to analyse the catchment for MUGA facilities in the Borough, a standards based approach has been taken from the Fields in Trust guidance⁴¹, unlike all other sections of this report, which take a non-standards based approach. The catchment guidance for MUGAs is set at 700m walking distance.

Taking this into consideration a total of 53% of the Borough's population (or 131,021 people) has no MUGA facility within the 700m metre catchment, as seen in the map below.

Figure 9.2: Coverage of MUGAs across all analysis area



Analysis suggests that the Centre, Dearne and South Analysis Areas have over 50% of the population within a 700 metre walking distance to a MUGA, with the North Analysis Area having 40%. All the remaining analysis areas have less than 35% of the population within a 700 metre walking distance to a MUGA.

Table 9.6: Summary of MUGA population coverage in Barnsley

Analysis area	MYE 2020	Population within 700m walk of a MUGA		Population NOT within 700m walk of a MUGA	
Central	56,062	32,529	58.0%	23,533	42.0%
Dearne	23,820	14,088	59.1%	9,732	40.9%
North	44,731	17,975	40.2%	26,756	59.8%
North East	48,331	14,488	30.0%	33,843	70.0%
Penistone	26,883	8,739	32.5%	18,144	67.5%

⁴¹[Link to Fields in Trust guidance](#)

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Analysis area	MYE 2020	Population within 700m walk of a MUGA		Population NOT within 700m walk of a MUGA	
South	48,244	29,231	60.6%	19,013	39.4%
Barnsley	248,071	117,050	47.2%	131,021	52.8%

9.4 Conclusion

The South Analysis Area is the most well served analysis area for MUGAs, with the Dearne Analysis Area the next best serviced, with the Central Analysis Area just behind it. All other analysis areas have 60% of its population catchments not within a 700m walking catchment.

It should be noted that most high population density settlements are covered by a walking catchment of a MUGA. Providing new MUGAs in the Borough should only be seen as a priority if sufficient opportunities for use present themselves and an aligned programme of use is developed to make provision sustainable. However, the opportunity for qualitative improvements of courts should be explored.

MUGAS - Summary

- ◀ **The South Analysis Area is the most well served analysis area for MUGAs, with the Dearne Analysis Area the next best serviced, with the Central Analysis Area just behind it. All other analysis areas have 60% of its population catchments not within a 700m walking catchment.**

Supply

- ◀ Across Barnsley there are a total of 58 MUGAs with most of this provision located within the South Analysis Area with 16 MUGAs (28%), followed by Central Analysis Area with 11 MUGAs (19%). Penistone Analysis Area accommodates nine MUGAs and the North East and Central analysis areas all have eight MUGAs each, the North Analysis Area has the least number of MUGAs with six.
- ◀ In the previous Barnsley LFFP, no sites were identified for MUGA developments.
- ◀ Of the 58 MUGAs across Barnsley, all the courts are managed by either parish councils or Barnsley Borough Council.

Quality

- ◀ In total across Barnsley, 25 MUGAs are assessed as good quality, 29 MUGAs are assessed as standard quality, whilst four are assessed as poor quality with significant issues surrounding grip, court markings and evidence of moss/lichen.

Demand

- ◀ A total of 53% of the Borough's population (or 131,021 people) has no MUGA facility within the 700m metre catchment.
- ◀ Analysis suggests that the Centre, Dearne and South Analysis Areas have over 50% of the population within a 700 metre walking distance to a MUGA, with the North Analysis Area having 40%. All the remaining analysis areas have less than 35% of the population within a 700 metre walking distance to a MUGA.

BARNSELY METROPOLITON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

PART 10: RUGBY LEAGUE

10.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football League (RFL) is the governing body for rugby league in Britain and Ireland. It administers the England national rugby league team, the Challenge Cup, Super League, and the Championships which form the professional and semi-professional structure of the game structure in the UK. The RFL also administers the amateur and junior game across the country in association with the British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA).

Most community club rugby league is played throughout the summer season (from February to October). However, rugby league is considered as a winter season sport within schools, colleges and universities and therefore pitch provision for matches and training can also be required throughout the winter months.

Senior rugby league is played on a pitch measuring 100 x 68 metres. The preferred pitch size for U7s, U8s and U9s is 60 x 40 metres, whereas for U10s and U11s it is 80 x 30 metres, with U12s and above generally playing on senior pitches. Teams from U7s to U11s are known as primary teams, whilst teams from U12s to U18s known as junior teams.

Consultation

There are two rugby league clubs based in Barnsley; Dodworth Miners ARLFC and Dearne Valley Bulldogs ARLFC. Both clubs responded to consultation requests, therefore there is a consultation response rate of 100%.

10.2: Supply

There are three rugby league pitches identified in Barnsley across two sites, one senior and one junior pitch located at Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club in the Central Analysis Area, and one senior pitch located at Ingsfield Lane Sports & Social Club in the Dearne Analysis Area. Of these, both pitches are available for community use.

Security of tenure

Security of tenure refers to the rights of occupation on playing field and infrastructure. Clubs and stakeholders are generally fall into the bracket of owner-occupier, tenant or licensee. The table below identifies the current tenure position of each rugby league club.

Table 10.1: Rugby league clubs security of tenure

Club	Tenure arrangement	Secure?
Dodworth Miners ARLFC	Freehold	Yes
Dearne Valley Bulldogs ARLFC	Leased from BMBC.	Yes

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Figure 10.1: Location of rugby league pitches



BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Pitch quality

The quality of rugby league pitches in Barnsley have been assessed via a combination of site visits undertaken in August 2022, carrying out non-technical assessments as determined by the RFL all pitches, and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

Pitch quality influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain high levels of use. It is likely that pitches that receive little or no ongoing repair or off season remedial work will be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games able to take place each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality. Conversely, well maintained pitches which are tended to regularly are likely to be a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

Private sites (e.g. sports clubs) can often offer better quality facilities than Council playing pitches as such sports clubs tend to have dedicated ground staff or volunteers working on pitches regularly during the week. Also, private sites are often secured by fencing which prevents unofficial use whilst council pitches are generally located within parks and open spaces, regularly used by the public.

Carrying capacity of a pitch is dependent upon the quality of a pitch which is outlined below:

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

Table 10.2: Site quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Tenure	No. of pitches	Pitch type	Sports lighting?	Quality rating
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	Central	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	No	Standard
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	Central	Yes	Secure	1	Junior	No	Standard
68	Ingsfield Lane Sports & Social Club	Dearne	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	No	Poor

The pitch located at Ingsfield Lane Sports and Social Club is poor quality due to the lack of maintenance and drainage issues.

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At Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club, the site currently has drainage issues which is affecting all the pitches on site including the rugby league pitches. Plans are in place to rotate pitches across the site to try and manage the tired parts of pitches which are compact causing some flooding in heavy rain fall, these areas generally are areas which suffer from high traffic.

Over marked pitches

Most rugby league pitches are classified as being senior size, with cones used to mark pitches for U11 and below. Over marking of pitches can however cause notable damage to the surface quality and lead to overuse beyond recommended capacity. Over marking of pitches not only influences available capacity, it may also cause logistical issues regarding kick off times; for example, when two teams of differing age formats are due to play at the same site at the same time.

There are no known pitches in Barnsley which are marked onto or overlapping cricket outfields. Whilst having rugby league pitches marked out on cricket pitches can create availability issues as both cricket and rugby league are summer sports, it can sometimes be an option for creating additional capacity if required.

It should be noted that the pitch at Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social is marked and used as an adult football pitch during the winter.

Ancillary facilities

Ancillary facilities including the condition of the clubhouse, changing accommodation, toilets, showers, medical room, car parking and boundary fencing.

The quality of ancillary facilities has been identified through the non-technical assessments carried out by KKP.

Table 10.3: Rugby league changing rooms summary

Site ID	Site name	Quality rating	Comments on changing rooms/clubhouses
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	Poor	The changing are of poor quality. The Club aspires to update these in the coming years to improve the quality.
68	Ingsfield Lane Sports & Social Club	Good	The Club are currently building a new clubhouse which includes new changing rooms, new kitchen facilities and new social space. The Council reports that funding for the build was secured prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, with the development started in 2021, since due to price rises the Club was left short on funding and was looking for additional funding in order to fully complete the project.

10.3: Demand

Demand for rugby league in Barnsley tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training. As the majority of rugby league play takes place during the summer period, when the nights are lighter, a significant amount of training takes place on pitches in addition to the competitive match play.

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Competitive play

There are two affiliated rugby league clubs located in Barnsley, Dodworth Miners ARLFC and Dearne Valley Bulldogs ARLFC. Collectively both clubs accommodate 17 teams, as a breakdown, this equates to three senior teams, three junior teams and 11 mini teams.

Table 10.4: Club by club summary of teams

Club	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys (13-18yrs)	Junior girls (13-18yrs)	Minis (7-12yrs)
Dodworth Miners ARLFC	1	-	2	-	6
Dearne Valley Bulldogs ARLFC	1	1	1	-	5

Training

Throughout the Country, many rugby teams train at their home ground on match pitches. As a result, usage is concentrated which reduces the capacity for match play on these pitches and means they are more likely to be overplayed.

Full details of each of the clubs training schedules are detailed in the table below.

Table 10.5: Training demand summary

Club	Midweek training requirements	Match equivalent sessions (MES)
Dodworth Miners ARLFC	Two senior men's, one junior, consisting of U13 and U15 players training sessions per week. All training takes place on match pitches.	Two MES per week (Senior and junior midweek training)
Dearne Valley Bulldogs ARLFC	One senior men's, one senior women's and one U13 junior players training sessions per week. All training takes place sports lit training area.	Two MES per week (Senior and junior midweek training)

Displaced demand

Displaced demand is existing demand that is being met by provision outside of the Barnsley boundary. There are a number of reasons why displacement may occur such as a central venue league, where one location/site is used as the venue for all competitive fixtures with no teams having home or away fixtures or because teams choose to hire pitches outside of the boundary due to pitch quality or hire costs.

Currently, no Barnsley based teams are travelling outside of Barnsley to access pitches.

Future demand

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

BARNSELY METROPOLITON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Population increase

Future competitive growth

Based on population projections to 2033 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) can estimate the likely additional demand for grass rugby pitches that will arise from any growth.

Using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, team generation rates (TGRs) have been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

For reference total current population in 2022 of 248,071 will increase to 265,868 by 2033. The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions.

Table 10.6: Authority wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population	Number of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Match equivalent session ⁴²
Men (19-45yrs)	1:19,910	0.14	0	0
Women (19-45yrs)	1:40,980	0.07	0	0
Boys (13-18yrs)	1:3,468	0.21	0	0
Girls (13-18yrs)	0	0.00	0	0
Mixed (7-12yrs)	1:1,381	0.78	1	0.25

As these figures cannot be accredited to any one analysis area, as they are Authority wide, they will be added onto the overall supply and demand total for each pitch type.

Future training demand

Similar to competitive demand referenced above, future levels of training demand can also be calculated via using Sport England's PPC. This demand is based upon access to a sports lit grass pitch equated into match equivalent sessions.

Table 10.7: Future training demand

Age group	Training demand generated per week by population growth (match equivalent sessions)	Training demand generated per week by population growth (match equivalent sessions) - rounded figure ⁴³	Match equivalent session
Men (19-45yrs)	0.07	0	-
Women (19-45yrs)	0.04	0	-
Boys (13-18yrs)	0.11	0	-
Girls (13-18yrs)	0.00	0	-
Mixed (7-12yrs)	0.10	0	-

⁴² Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

⁴³ Rounded to the nearest 0.5 match equivalent session.

BARNSLEY METROPOLITON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

As these figures cannot be accredited to any one analysis area, as they are Authority wide, they will be added onto the overall supply and demand total for each pitch type.

Participation increase

Overall, both clubs, report that future aspirations to create a total of two teams which equates to one match equivalent sessions per week on senior pitches.

Table 10.8: Summary of club aspirational future demand

Club	Analysis area	Future team aspirations	Future aspirations in match equivalent sessions (MES) on a senior pitch ⁴⁴
Dodworth Miners ARLFC	Central	1 x senior women's	0.5
Dearne Valley Bulldogs ARLFC	Dearne	1 x senior women's	0.5
Total			1

Future demand through participation increases from club aspirational demand is considered more aspirational, and it is unlikely that it will all be achieved.

It should be noted that the intended growth of women's and girls rugby league at Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club is dependent of the update and improvement of ancillary provision including the suitable provision for female participants.

10.4: Capacity analysis

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

As previously indicated the carrying capacity of a pitch is dependent upon the quality of a pitch which is outlined below:

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

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'actual capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and activities that takes place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis. Where actual spare capacity exists it is highlighted in Table 10.10.

⁴⁴ Anticipated future junior demand is represented as 0.5 MES on a senior pitch whereas anticipated mini future demand is represented as 0.25 MES on a senior pitch.

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The peak period

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established. As the majority of competitive rugby league takes place on senior rugby league pitches the peak period is considered to be Saturday PM and Sunday AM.

The table below identifies the way capacity and overplay is represented in Table 10.10.

Table 10.9: Spare capacity examples

Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of spare capacity
1	If the cell is highlighted in green with a number, it means that the pitch(es) have actual spare capacity at peak time.
0	If the cell has a 0 in it, this means that the pitch(es) is/are played to capacity, either overall or during the peak period.
1	If the cell has a number in it but is not highlighted, it means the pitch has spare capacity in the peak period; however, this is discounted. This is most commonly due to unsecure tenure and/or poor pitch quality but can also be due to the site being unavailable to the community.
1	If the cell is highlighted in red with a number, it means that the pitch(es) are overplayed.

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Table 10.10: Rugby league capacity table

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Available for community use?	Type of Tenure	Management	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality rating	Match equivalent sessions of play (per week)	Recommended site capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	Central	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Senior	1	Standard	2	2	0	Pitch is played to capacity.
41	Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club	Central	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Junior	1	Standard	2	2	0	Pitch is played to capacity.
68	Ingsfield Lane Sports & Social Club	Dearne	Yes	Secure	Council	Senior	1	Poor	1	1	0	Pitch is played to capacity.

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Actual spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'actual capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

There is currently no actual spare capacity on pitches in Barnsley.

Overplay

There is currently no overplay on pitches within Barnsley.

10.5: Supply and demand analysis

Senior rugby league pitches

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify the overall spare capacity in each of the analysis areas for senior rugby league pitches based on match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 10.11: Summary of supply and demand balance on senior rugby league pitches

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)		
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
Central	-	-	0
Dearne	-	-	0
North	-	-	0
North East	-	-	0
Penistone	-	-	0
South	-	-	0
Barnsley	0	0	0

Overall, pitches within Barnsley are currently played to capacity.

Table 10.12: Potential future supply and demand balance on senior rugby league pitches

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)			
	Current total	Future competitive demand	Future training demand	Future total
Barnsley	0	0.25	0	0.25

Through population increases only 0.25 MES future competitive demand is identified therefore, a shortfall is created of 0.25 MES per week.

10.6: Conclusion

Overall, based on the supply and demand analysis, current demand can currently be met, with all pitches being played to capacity. However, it is evident that there is an insufficient supply of rugby league provision in Barnsley to accommodate any future demand with the anticipated future levels of demand from population growth seeing shortfalls created.

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The priority for rugby league in Barnsley is to ensure maintenance programmes are enhanced across club settings to improve quality of pitches to alleviate the overplay across senior pitches.

Summary – Rugby league

- ◀ **Current demand can currently be met, with all pitches being played to capacity. However, it is evident that there is an insufficient supply of rugby league provision in Barnsley to accommodate any future demand with the anticipated future levels of demand from population growth seeing shortfalls created.**
- ◀ **The priority for rugby league in Barnsley is to ensure maintenance programmes are enhanced across club settings to improve quality of pitches to alleviate the overplay across senior pitches.**

Supply

- ◀ There are three rugby league pitches identified in Barnsley across two sites, one senior and one junior pitch located at Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club in the Central Analysis Area, and one senior pitch located at Ingsfield Lane Sports & Social Club in the Dearne Analysis Area. Of these, all pitches are available for community use.
- ◀ All sites used by rugby league clubs in the Borough are considered to have secure tenure. Dodworth Miners ARLFC has freehold ownership of its site, whilst Dearne Valley Bulldogs ARLFC lease its site from the council.

Quality

- ◀ Pitches located at Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club is standard quality, whilst the pitch located at Ingsfield Lane Sports and Social is poor quality due to limited maintenance.
- ◀ The ancillary provision at Dodworth Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club is poor quality, whilst the new pavilion at Ingsfield Lane Sports and Social is rated as good quality.

Demand

- ◀ There are two affiliated rugby league clubs located in Barnsley, Dodworth Miners ARLFC and Dearne Valley Bulldogs ARLFC. Collectively both clubs accommodate 17 teams, as a breakdown, this equates to three senior teams, three junior teams and 11 mini teams.
- ◀ Future demand from population increases is projected as one mini team.

Capacity

- ◀ None of the three available pitches are considered to have any actual spare capacity to accommodate additional demand.

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PART 11: OTHER SPORTS

11.1: Baseball/Softball

The British Softball Federation (BSF) and British Baseball Federation (BBF) are responsible for the administration and governance of softball and baseball in the UK and are part of the overarching body BaseballSoftballUK (BSUK) which takes in both baseball and softball.

Supply and demand

There is no baseball or softball club based in Barnsley. The closest club is Sheffield Bladerunners Baseball Club, which accesses provision Forge Valley Community School, Sheffield.

There is no formal demand in Barnsley and therefore any demand from within Barnsley is likely to travel to Sheffield, to participate in sessions with Sheffield Bladerunners Baseball Club. The Club offers multiple sessions weekly throughout both the summer outdoors at the venues previously mentioned and also at indoor venues across Sheffield. The sessions are run through a number of both age groups and ability group sessions.

11.2: Rounders

Rounders England is the national governing body for the sport of rounders in England. Its key role is to co-ordinate a development network, working through local delivery partners that provides a pathway and opportunities for aspiring players to progress to whatever level of play is right for them. In addition, it provides information about the game, run coaching and umpiring courses, tournaments, sell resources and promote the sport at all levels. Its mission is to 'Connect People through Rounders' and get more people from any background playing rounders, more often.

Supply

There are nine rounders pitches across nine sites in Barnsley. All these pitches are located at school sites and considered to be unavailable for community use. The pitches are marked in the summer term at the schools and are used for curricular and non-curricular activity.

Table 11.1: Summary of rounders pitches in Barnsley

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
96	Outwood Academy Carlton	North East
97	Outwood Academy Shafton	North East
101	Penistone Grammar School	Penistone
140	The Ellis C.E Primary School	South
144	The Mill Academy	Central

Demand

Activity on the dedicated rounders pitches is from school activity only.

Conclusion

There is no perceived demand or competitive club demand in the Borough. There at present there is no current demand for marked formal pitches available for community use in the Borough. If a community club is founded in Barnsley, then there will be a requirement for community available pitches in the Borough.

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Other sports – supply and demand summary

Baseball/Softball

- ◀ There is no baseball or softball club based in Barnsley. The closest club is Sheffield Bladerunners Baseball Club, which accesses provision Forge Valley Community School, Sheffield.
- ◀ There is no formal demand in Barnsley and therefore any demand from within Barnsley is likely to travel to Sheffield, to participate in sessions with Sheffield Bladerunners Baseball Club.

Rounders

- ◀ There are nine rounders pitches across nine sites in Barnsley. All these pitches are located at school sites and considered to be unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Activity on the dedicated rounders pitches is from school activity only.
- ◀ There is no perceived demand or competitive club demand in the Borough. There at present there is no current demand for marked formal pitches available for community use in the Borough.

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APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

National context

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

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

Department of Media Culture and Sport Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation (2015)

The Government published its strategy for sport in December 2015. This strategy confirms the recognition and understanding that sport makes a positive difference through broader means and that it will help the sector to deliver five simple but fundamental outcomes: physical health, mental health, individual development, social and community development and economic development. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of 23 performance indicators under nine key headings, as follows:

- ◀ More people taking part in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ More people volunteering in sport.
- ◀ More people experiencing live sport.
- ◀ Maximising international sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ A more productive sport sector.
- ◀ A more financially and organisationally sustainable sport sector.
- ◀ A more responsible sport sector.

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

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

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

Tackling inequalities

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

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

National Planning Policy Framework (2021)

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

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

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

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

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

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

The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Game Changer objectives are:

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

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

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

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The FA: National Game Strategy (2018-2021)

The FA launched its National Game Strategy in July 2018 which aims to inspire a life-long journey in football for all. To achieve this, the strategy will focus on five key aspects of the game:

- ◀ A high quality introduction to football
- ◀ Developing clubs and leagues
- ◀ Embrace all formats of football and engage all participants
- ◀ Recruit, develop and support the workforce
- ◀ Develop sustainable facilities

Through these five pillars, The FA's objectives are to:

- ◀ Increase the number of male affiliated and recreational players by 10%.
- ◀ Double the number of female affiliated and recreational players via a growth of 75%.
- ◀ Increase the number of disability affiliated and recreational players by 30%.
- ◀ Ensure affiliated Futsal is available across the country in order to increase the number of Futsal affiliated and recreational players.

The sustainable football facilities should provide support to an agreed portfolio of priority projects that meet National Football Facility Strategy (NFFS) investment priorities.

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

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

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

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

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- ◀ Invest in girls' county age group cricket
- ◀ Deliver a girls' secondary school programme
- ◀ **Support our communities**
 - ◀ Double the number of volunteers in the game
 - ◀ Create a game-wide approach to Trust and Foundations through the cricket network
 - ◀ Develop a new wave of officials and community coaches
 - ◀ Increase participation in disability cricket

The Rugby Football Union Strategy 2021 Onwards

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

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

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

Game Objectives:

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

Driving Objectives:

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

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

Rugby Football League Strategic Plan 2015 – 2021

The RFL's most recent strategy aims to establish rugby league as "a growing sport, available throughout the country, that is recognised as providing positive experience for all participants and spectators, in environments that are welcoming, inclusive, vibrant, safe and comfortable - encouraging people to return again and again, featuring:

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

This vision is underpinned by 13 core principles, including:

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

Rugby League World Cup 'Inspired by 2021' Legacy Programme

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

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

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

England Hockey Strategy

England Hockey's Facilities Strategy can be found [here](#).

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

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

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

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

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

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LTA Facilities Investment Strategy – Vision for the 2020 and beyond

The LTA has developed a programme of action based on seven core strategies. These are:

- ◀ Visibility – Broaden relevance and increase visibility of tennis all year round to build engagement and participation with fans and players.
- ◀ Innovation – Innovate in the delivery of tennis to widen its appeal.
- ◀ Investment – Support community facilities and schools to increase the opportunities to play.
- ◀ Accessibility – Make the customer journey to playing tennis easier and more accessible for anyone.
- ◀ Engagement – Engage and collaborate with everyone involved in delivering tennis in Britain, particularly coaches and volunteers, to attract and maintain more people in the game.
- ◀ Performance – Create a pathway for British champions that nurtures a diverse team of players, people and leaders.
- ◀ Leadership – Create a pathway for British champions that nurtures a diverse team of players, people and leaders.

The LTA Facilities Investment Framework sets out how it intends to deliver the investment to support community accessible tennis facilities. The focus will be on:

- ◀ New and existing indoor tennis centres
- ◀ Park tennis
- ◀ Tennis clubs
- ◀ Schools and other educational establishments

The key principles of the framework are to:

- ◀ Help fund projects through interest free loans.
- ◀ Invest in venues that have a proven record of increasing participation.
- ◀ Invest where there is thorough community engagement.
- ◀ Support venues that encourage participation growth.
- ◀ Targeted investment that is demand-led.
- ◀ Support venues that have successfully sourced partnership funding.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)

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

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

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

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

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APPENDIX 2: NON TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT SHEETS

Grass football pitch non-technical assessment sheet

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Football								
Please complete one form per pitch								
Site reference:				Site Name:				
6 figure grid reference				Pitch ID(s):				
Number of football pitches on site:				Pitch size:	(Adult 11v11, Youth 11v11, 9v9, 7v7 Mini, 5v5, 7v7)			
Availability				Are any other pitches marked out over this pitch?	<input type="checkbox"/>			
				<i>If yes, please indicate what pitches are overmarked? (i.e. one youth pitch is overmarked on a adult pitch) in Pitch Issues</i>				
Weather at time of visit & date of visit								
Pitch Issues:								
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)								
Element (Gathered via a non technical site assessment)	Rating						Guidance notes	Comments
Playing surface								
Grass Cover	Good >80%		Adequate 60-80%		Poor <60%		Advice is to walk through the middle of the pitch	
Does the pitch meet The FA minimum size?	Yes - as per the FA recommended size		Within FA recommended guidelines		No		See size chart below for recommended dimensions	
Slope of pitch (gradient and cross fall)	Flat		Moderate		Severe			
Length of grass	Good		Too long		Too short		Good 30mm-50mm, Too long 51mm plus, Too short 29mm less	
Evenness of pitch	Good		Adequate		Poor			
Problem Areas: Evidence of dog fouling/glass/litter/vehicle tracks	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots			
Problem Areas: Evidence of unofficial use/damage to the surface	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots			
Problem Areas: Evidence of poor drainage	No evidence of standing water or poor drainage		Some evidence of poor drainage		Yes, poor drainage			
Maintenance programme (information from maintenance schedule/grounds team/club survey)								
Grass cutting	Yes, as required		Yes, but not frequent enough		No			
Seeded	Yes, as required		Not known		No			
Aerated (per year)	Three or more times		Once/ twice		No			
Sand dressed	Within the last 12 months		Within the last 2 years		No			
Fertilised	Within the last 12 months		Within the last 2 years		No			
Weed killed	Within the last 12 months		Within the last 2 years		No			
Section total								
NB If none of this information is provided you should assume that only the grass is being cut and the rest of the maintenance items should be marked with the lowest score option.								
PITCH SCORE				0.0%	RATING	Poor		

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Cricket pitch non-technical assessment sheet

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Cricket						
Please complete one form per pitch						
Site reference		Site Name				
6 figure grid reference		No of Pitches:				
Pitch ID		No of wickets:	Natural		Non turf	
Weather at time of visit:						
Availability						
Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused						
General comments/observations						
*You will need a cricket ball and ruler to assess wicket quality as indicated						
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer).						
Element	Rating				Guidance notes	Site comments (use the guidance notes to help complete)
About the cricket outfield						
Grass coverage	Good	Acceptable	Poor		<80% falls below the ECB basic standard	
Length of grass	Good	Acceptable	Poor		Ideally 12mm - 25mm	
Evenness	Even		Uneven		Ball should run without deviation or ramp	
Evidence of Dog fouling/glass/stones/litter?	None	Yes		Immediate action required	May also wish to refer to user survey. If yes, refer to contractor/site manager	
Evidence of Unofficial use?	None	Yes		Immediate action required	e.g. informal, casual use, unbooked use, kids kickabout etc. May also wish to refer to user survey. If yes, refer to contractor/site	
Evidence of Damage to surface?	None	Yes		Immediate action required	e.g. from vermin/animals - rabbit, gulls and foxes etc may also wish to refer to user survey	
						section total
Artificial Wickets						
Is the wicket and surrounds married in	Yes		No		There should be no trip points	
Evenness of wicket	Even		Uneven		There should be no contours in surface levels	
Stump holes	Yes		No		Should be no wider than a standard cricket ball	
Moss or materials in the surface	Yes		No		There should be none	
Rips or surface lifting	Yes		No		If "yes" contact site manager	
Surface worn in high traffic areas - creases	Yes		No		If "yes" contact site manager	
Hardness - does the ball rebound when thrown straight down?	Yes		No			
						section total
Grass Wickets						
Presence of line markings	Yes		No			
Evidence of rolling	Yes		No		i.e. is wicket smooth and uniform	
Evidence of straight cut and height	Yes		No		3mm on match wicket/12mm rest of square	
Evidence of repair work on old wickets	Yes		No			
Grass coverage (square and wickets)	Yes		No		Scale: 80%+ = Yes, 80%< = No	
						section total
Hardness - does a cricket ball thrown straight down into the surface rebound/bounce?	Yes		No		Please note that <80% falls below the ECB basic standard	
						section total
Changing/ Pavilion						
Umpires provision	Yes		No			
Toilets	Yes		No			
Hot/cold water	Yes		No			
Heating	Yes		No			
Condition of building	Good	Acceptable	Requires attention			
						section total
Non Turf Cricket Practice Nets						
Is the wicket and surrounds married in (no trip points)	Yes		No			
Evenness of wicket (no contours in surface levels)	Even		Uneven			
Stump holes (no wider than a standard cricket ball)	Yes		No			
Moss or materials in the surface (should be none)	Yes		No			
No rips or surface lifting	Yes		No			
Surface worn in high traffic areas - crease	Yes		No			
Hardness - does the ball rebound when thrown straight down	Yes		No			
Is the steel frame/ posts upright?	Yes		No		Ideally assessed with a spirit level but can be achieved by eye.	
Are steel cross members detached?	Yes		No			
Are all posts and net fixings in place?	Yes		No			
Can a ball pass through any part of the netting?	Yes		No			
Is appropriate safety/ supervisory signage present?	Yes		No			
						section total
Maximum score	180	Scoring	Score	Percentage Score	Facility Present?	Potential Rating:
		Outfield	0	0%	No	Poor
		Artificial Wickets	0	0%	No	
		Grass Wickets	0	0%	No	
		Changing/Pavilion	0	0%	No	
		Non Turf Practice	0	0%	No	
		Overall score	0	0%		

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Grass rugby union pitch non-technical assessment sheet

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Rugby Union										
Please complete one form per pitch										
Site reference				Site Name						
6 figure grid reference				Pitch ID(s)						
Date of assessment				Pitch size	(Senior, Mini/Midi)					
Number of pitches on site				Are any other pitches marked out over this pitch?						
Availability				If yes, please indicate what pitches are overmarked? (i.e. one mini/midi pitch is overmarked on a senior pitch) in Pitch Issues						
Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused										
Weather at time of visit										
General comments/observations										
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)										
Qualitative information (gathered on site)	Rating						Guidance notes	Comments		
Grass Coverage	Good		Adequate		Poor		>90% = good. <80% = poor			
Size of pitch	Acceptable (between recommended minimum and maximum sizes)		Flag for further investigation (below recommended minimum size)		Unacceptable (above maximum size)		Maximum size = width 70m, goal line to goal line 100m, in goal area 22m, run offs 5m where practical. Recommended minimum size = width 68m, goal line to goal line 94m, in goal area 6m, run offs 5m where practical.			
Length of grass	Too Long		Good		Too short		Too long = >75mm. Too short = <50mm			
Problem Areas: Evidence of glass/litter/vehicle tracks/dog fouling	None		Yes - some		Yes lots					
GOALPOSTS										
Are goalposts installed?	Yes		No							
Is there any obvious danger on posts?	Yes		No							
Are the posts stable in the ground?	Yes		No							
Is the crossbar fixed securely?	Yes		No							
Is there evidence of rust on the posts?	Yes		No							
ANCILLARY										
Is the pitch floodlit?	Yes		No							
Is there changing accommodation for the pitch?	Yes		No							
Is an appropriate level of car parking available?	Yes		No							
Pitch maintenance (information gathered via club survey/ pitch provider consultation) - refer to the guidance notes below										
Aerated (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Sand dressed (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Fertilised (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Weed killed (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Chain harrowed	every week		fortnightly		monthly		never			
								Pitch Maintenance Score		
Drainage	Natural (inadequate) SCORE D0		Natural (adequate) SCORE D1		Pipe drained SCORE D2		Pipe and slit drained SCORE D3		Unknown SCORE D0	
Natural (adequate) = 3 or less training/match cancellations per season Natural (inadequate) = 4 or more training match cancellations per season *Based on a pipe drained system at 5m centres that has been installed in the previous eight years **Based on a slit drained system at 1m centres completed in the previous five years.										

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Artificial grass pitches non-technical assessment (including third generation turf pitches)

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Artificial grass pitches									
Site reference			Site Name						
6 figure grid reference			Pitch ID						
Number of AGPs on site			Pitch size	Full (i.e., 100m x 60m)			Half (i.e., 60m x 40m)		
Availability			Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused						
Type of pitch	Long Pile 3G (65mm with shock pad) Sand Dressed		Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm) Sand Filled		Short Pile 3G (40mm) Water based				
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)									
Element	Rating						Guidance notes	Site comments	
Age of Surface	less than 2 years		2-5 years		5-10 years		over 10 years		
Evidence of moss/lichen (all surfaces)	None		Yes - some				Yes - lots		
Loose gravel (macadam surface)	None		Yes - some				Yes - lots		
Holes or rips in surface (macadam, art. grass or polymeric surfaces)	None		Yes - some				Yes - lots		
Grip underfoot	Good		Adequate				Poor		
Line markings - quality	Good		Adequate				Poor		
Problem Areas: Evidence of Glass/ stones/ litter	None		Yes - some				Yes - lots		
Problem Areas: Evidence of inappropriate use	None		Yes - some				Yes - lots		
Problem Areas: Evidence of damage to surface	None		Yes - some				Yes - lots	If no evidence, assume none.	
Access for disabled players, i.e.: ramps onto courts, width of gates	Good		Adequate				Poor		
Condition of posts/ nets/ goals	Good		Adequate				Poor		
Surrounding fencing	Good		Adequate				Poor		
Adequate safety margins (w here appropriate)	Yes - fully		No- but adequate				No - not adequate		
Is the AGP floodlit?	Yes						No		
Is the AGP left open at all times?	Yes						No		
Are there dug outs?	Yes						No		
Are there youth shelters/spectator seating around AGP?	Yes						No		
Is there changing accommodation for the AGP?	Yes						No		
Maximum score	93		Scoring:	Poor <=50			Total Score	0	
				Standard 51-79			Potential Rating	Poor	
				Good 80+					

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Grass rugby league pitch non-technical assessment

Non Technical Quality Assessment - Rugby League						
Please complete one form per pitch						
Site reference			Site Name			
6 figure grid reference			Pitch ID(s)			
Number of rugby league pitches on availability?			Pitch size	(Senior, Junior, Primary)		
Weather at time of visit			Are any other pitches marked out over this pitch?			
Pitch Issues:						
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)						
Element	Rating			Guidance notes	Comments	Scores
Playing surface						
Grass Coverage	Good		Adequate		Poor	>90% Good <80% Poor
Size of pitch	Preferred size		Meet minimum size		Not adequate	See RFL Pitch Size Guidance: www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk
Slope of pitch (gradient and cross fall)	Good		Adequate		Poor	
Length of grass	Good		Adequate		Poor	20mm - 60mm: www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk/
Evenness of pitch	Flat		Moderate		Severe	
Problem Area: Evidence of dog fouling	None		Yes - same		Yes - later	
Problem Area: Evidence of glass/litter/vehicle tracks	None		Yes - same		Yes - later	
Typical weekly usage (match equivalent sessions)	6 or less		7 - 9		10 plus	Refer to club survey & other information gathered
Does the maintenance schedule meet RFL requirements?	Yes		In part		No	See RFL Annual Preparation and Maintenance of the Rugby League Pitch: www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk/
Pitch ancillary facilities						Section total
Are goalposts safe?	Yes		No			0
Is the site secure at night?	Secure		Open			0
Is the pitch floodlit?	Yes		No			0
Is the pitch enclosed by perimeter fence?	Yes		No			0
Is there a training area separate to match pitch(es)?	Yes		No			0
Is there a covered stand?	Yes		No			0
Ancillary facilities						Section total
Is there a clubhouse on site?	Yes		No			0
Is there changing accommodation for the pitch?	Yes		No			0
Adequacy of changing accommodation (exterior)?	Good		Adequate		Poor	0
Adequacy of changing accommodation (interior)?	Good		Adequate		Poor	0
Is there an official room?	Yes		No			0
Is there a dedicated medical room?	Yes		No			0
Are accessible facilities provided?	Yes		No			0
Is an appropriate level of car parking available?	Yes		No			0
Section total						0

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Bowling green non-technical assessment

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Bowling green						
KKPref	<input type="text"/>					
Site name:	<input type="text"/>					
Number of greens	<input type="text"/>					
Flat/crown	<input type="text"/>	Community Use?	<input type="text"/>			
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)						
Element	Rating			Comments		
About the greens						
Grass cover	Over 70%	<input type="checkbox"/>	40-69%	<input type="checkbox"/>	less than 40%	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evenness of surface	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signs of wear and tear	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - some	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - lots	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of ditches/boarding	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface of surrounding hard areas	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the green and surrounding area fenced?	Yes		<input type="checkbox"/>	No		<input type="checkbox"/>
Fencing around the green and ancillaries	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Problem areas: litter, glass, fouling, leaf fall on the green	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - some	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - lots	<input type="checkbox"/>
Problem Areas: Evidence of inappropriate use on the green	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - some	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - lots	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access for disabled players/spectators - ie: ramps onto greens, width of gates	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ancillary facilities						
Changing Accomodation	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Toilets	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Car parking	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>		
General comments about the site:						
<input type="text"/>						

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

Tennis court non-technical assessment

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Tennis/ Netball/ Courts									
KKPref									
Site name:									
Number of courts -	Tennis	Netball	Basketball	Five-a-side					
General Playground or specific sports court area?									
Court surface	Management		Community Use?						
	Artificial turf, Clay, Grass, Macadam, Polymeric, Shale		Club, LA - Parks, Parish Council, Public, School						
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)									
Element	Rating						Comments		
About the courts									
Evidence of moss/lichen (all surfaces)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Loose gravel (macadam surface)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Holes or rips in surface (macadam, art. grass or polymeric surfaces)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Grip underfoot	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Line markings - quality	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Surrounding fencing	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Size of courts	Yes - fully		No- but adequate		No - not adequate				
Adequate safety margins	Yes - fully		No- but adequate		No - not adequate				
Slope of courts	Flat		Slight		Gentle		Moderate		Severe
Problem Areas: Evidence of Glass/ stones/ litter	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Problem Areas: Evidence of inappropriate use	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Access for disabled players - ie: ramps onto courts, width of gates	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Changing Accomodation									
Changing Accomodation	Yes		No						
About the equipment									
Posts and net	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Are the courts locked when not in use?	Yes		No						
Practice wall	Yes		No						