



CALDERDALE

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

ASSESSMENT REPORT

FEBRUARY 2017

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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GLOSSARY

AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
NGB	National Governing Body
FA	Football Association
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
RFU	Rugby Football Union
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
S106	Section 106
FIT	Fields in Trust
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
FE	Further Education
HE	Higher Education
TGR	Team Generation Rate
FC	Football Club
YFC	Youth Football Club
JFC	Junior Football Club
CC	Cricket Club
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
RLFC	Rugby League Football Club
HC	Hockey Club

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

Calderdale Borough Council has commissioned a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) to be prepared by Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP).

This report presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch facilities in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy. It has been followed to develop a clear picture of the balance between the local supply of, and demand for, playing pitches and other outdoor sports facilities.

The guidance details a stepped approach to developing a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS). These steps are separated into five distinct sections:

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

The Council prepared stages A and B of the guidance in partnership with the NGBs. KKP was then appointed to complete stages C and D of the process.

Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach

Why the PPS is being developed

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

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. Paragraph 73 discusses 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.

Paragraphs 73 and 74 of the NPPF discuss assessments and the protection of "existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields". A Playing Pitch Strategy will provide the evidence required to help protect playing fields to ensure sufficient land is available to meet existing and projected future pitch requirements.

Paragraph 76 and 77 promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields.

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Meeting Sport England PPS Requirements

- ◀ To support the improving health and well-being and increasing participation in sport.
- ◀ Sports development programmes and changes in how the sports are played.
- ◀ The need to provide evidence to help protect and enhance existing provision.
- ◀ The need to inform the development and implementation of planning policy.
- ◀ The need to inform the assessment of planning applications.
- ◀ Potential changes to the supply of provision due to capital programmes e.g. for educational sites.
- ◀ To review budgetary pressures and ensure the most efficient management and maintenance of playing pitch provision.
- ◀ To develop a priority list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work.
- ◀ To prioritise internal capital and revenue investment.
- ◀ To provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.

Agreed scope

The following types of outdoor sports facilities were agreed for inclusion in the Assessment and Strategy:

- ◀ Football pitches (including 3G AGPs)
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches
- ◀ Rugby league pitches
- ◀ Hockey pitches (sand/water-based AGPs)
- ◀ Tennis
- ◀ Bowls

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, within the cost envelope and to the required quality standard to meet Sport England guidance.

Further to this, the Steering Group is and has been responsible for the direction of the PPS 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 the Council, Sport England and NGBs.

Study area

The study area is the Calderdale Council boundary area. Further to this, sub areas or analysis areas have been created to allow a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch supply and demand at a local level. Use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account.

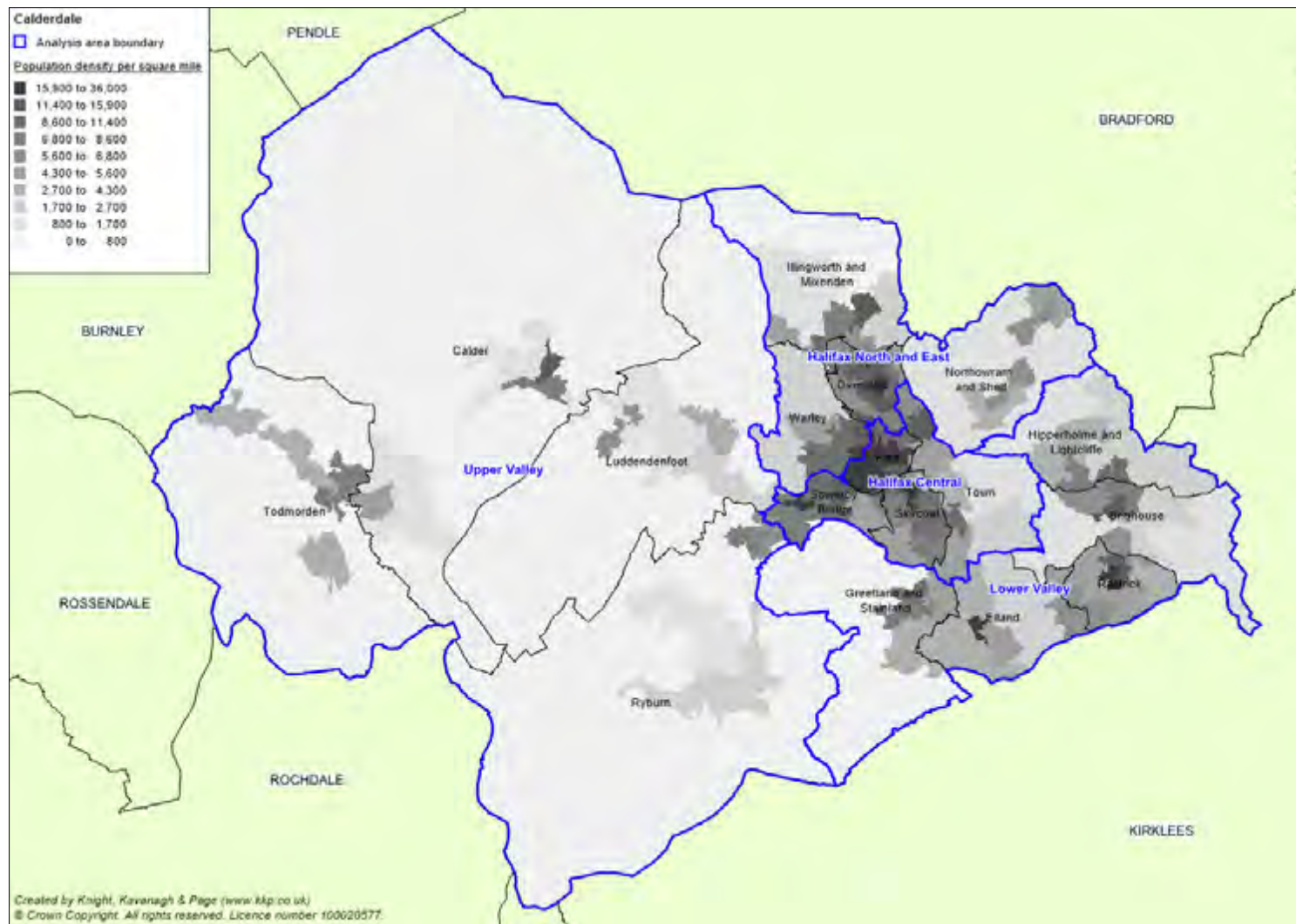
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Calderdale is divided in to four analysis areas as shown in figure 1.1. The ward breakdown is as follows:

Ward name	Analysis area name
Park	Halifax Central
Skircoat	Halifax Central
Sowerby Bridge	Halifax Central
Town	Halifax Central
Illingworth and Mixenden	Halifax North and East
Northowram and Shelf	Halifax North and East
Ovenden	Halifax North and East
Warley	Halifax North and East
Brighouse	Lower Valley
Elland	Lower Valley
Greetland and Stainland	Lower Valley
Hipperholme and Lightcliffe	Lower Valley
Rastrick	Lower Valley
Calder	Upper Valley
Luddendenfoot	Upper Valley
Ryburn	Upper Valley
Todmorden	Upper Valley

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Figure 1.1: Analysis area map



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

A clear picture of supply and demand for playing pitches in Calderdale needs to be provided to include an accurate assessment of the quality of pitches. This is achieved through consultation with key stakeholders to ensure that they inform the subsequent strategy.

Gather supply information and views – an audit of playing pitches

PPS 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'¹.

It should be noted that the reference to five years within the Order is purely in relation to whether Sport England should be consulted in a statutory capacity. The fact that a playing field may not have been marked out for pitch sport in the last five years does not mean that it is no longer a playing field. That remains its lawful planning use whether marked out or not

- ◀ ***Playing pitch*** – a delineated area of 0.2ha or more which 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 playing field is the whole of a site with at least one pitch of 0.2ha or more, this PPS takes into account smaller sized pitches that contribute to the supply side, for example, 5v5 mini football pitches. This PPS 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 (AGPs).

As far as possible the assessment report aims to capture all of the pitches within Calderdale. However, there may be instances, for example, on school sites, where access was not possible and has led to omissions within the report. Where pitches have not been recorded within the report they remain as pitches and for planning purposes continue to be so. Furthermore, exclusions of a pitch does not mean that it is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

Quantity

All playing pitches are included irrespective of ownership, management and use. Playing pitch sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web based database. The Council and NGBs supported 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 as an electronic file):

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

Accessibility

¹ www.sportengland.org>Facilities and Planning> Planning Applications

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

- ◀ **Community use** - pitches 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** - pitches 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** - pitches 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.
- ◀ **Disused** – sites that are not being used at all by any users and are not available for community hire either. Once these sites are disused for five or more years they will then be categorised as 'lapsed sites'.
- ◀ **Lapsed** - last known use was as a playing field more than five years ago. These fall outside of Sport England's statutory remit but still have to be assessed using the criteria in paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework and Sport England would nonetheless challenge a proposed loss of playing pitches/playing field which fails to meet such criteria. It should be emphasised that the lawful planning use of a lapsed site is still that of a playing field.

In addition, there should be a good degree of certainty that the pitch will be available to the community for at least the following three years. A judgement is made based on the information gathered and a record of secured or unsecured community use put against each site. NB: This refers to pitches in community use and not lapsed/disused sites.

Quality

The capacity of pitches 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 a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of a sport. In extreme circumstances it can result in a pitch being unable to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times.

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

The quality of all pitches identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed regardless of ownership, management or availability. Along with capturing any details specific to the individual pitches and sites, a quality rating is recorded within the audit for each pitch.

These ratings are used to help estimate the capacity of each pitch 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 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.

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Gather demand information and views

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for playing pitches (i.e. recording how and when pitches are used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment. Demand for playing pitches in Calderdale tends to fall within the following categories:

- ◀ Organised competitive play
- ◀ Organised training
- ◀ Informal play

In addition, unmet and displaced demand for provision is also identified on a sport by sport basis. Unmet demand is defined as the number of additional teams that could be fielded if access to a sufficient number of pitches (and ancillary facilities) was available. Displaced demand refers to teams that are generated from residents of the area but due to any number of factors do not currently play within the area.

Current and future demand for playing pitches is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

Future demand

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPS to assess whether the future demand for playing pitches can be met. Using population projections, and proposed housing growth 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 in the study area.

Future demand for pitches is calculated by adding the percentage increases, to the ONS population increases in each analysis area. This figure is then applied to the TGRs and is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

Other information sources used to help identify future demand include:

- ◀ Recent trends in the participation in playing pitch sports.
- ◀ The nature of the current and likely future population and their propensity to participate in pitch sports.
- ◀ Feedback from pitch sports clubs on their plans to develop additional teams.
- ◀ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets (e.g. increase in participation).

Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views

In line with Sport England's Playing Pitch Guidance Stage C, an in-depth understanding of playing pitch provision has been developed using the supply and demand information and by assessing views from stakeholders in light of local and national information. This stage should:

- ◀ Provide a clear understanding of the provision and management of playing pitches at individual sites.
- ◀ Develop the current and future picture of provision.
- ◀ Identify the key findings and issues

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Understand the situation at individual sites

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

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.	

Develop the current picture of provision

Once capacity is determined on a site by site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated on an area by area basis via further interrogation of temporal demand. Although this may have been identified, it does not necessarily mean that there is surplus provision. For example, spare capacity may not be available when it is needed or the site may be retained in a 'strategic reserve' to enable pitch rotation to reduce wear and tear.

Capacity ratings assist in the identification of sites for improvement/development, rationalisation, decommissioning and disposal.

Develop the future picture of provision - scenario testing

Modelling scenarios to assess whether existing provision can cater for unmet, displaced 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. Scenario testing occurs in the strategy report and therefore does not form part of the assessment report.

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 playing pitch provision in Calderdale. This report seeks to identify and present the key findings and issues, which should now be checked, challenged and agreed by the Steering Group prior to development of the Strategy (Section D).

The following sections summarise the local administration of the main grass pitch sports in Calderdale. Each provides a quantitative summary of provision and a map showing the distribution of facilities. It also provides information about the availability of facilities to/for the local community and, the governing body of each sport and regional strategic plan (where they exist). Local league details are provided in order to outline the competitive structure for each sport. The findings of club consultation and key issues for each sport are summarised.

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PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

West Riding County FA is the primary organisation responsible for the development of football in Calderdale. 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 3 captures supply and demand for third generation (3G) artificial grass pitches (AGPs). In the 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.

Consultation

Information from all 75 registered clubs was obtained via telephone consultation or through an electronic survey. The data was gathered by Calderdale Council with contact details obtained from West Riding County FA.

2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a total of 206 grass football pitches within Calderdale across 91 sites. Of these, 187 are available, at some level, for community use across 84 sites, as presented in the table below. The Lower Valley Analysis Area contains the most community available pitches (83), whereas the Halifax Central Analysis Area contains the least amount (29).

Table 2.1: Summary of grass football pitches available to the community

Analysis area	Available for community use					Totals
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Halifax Central	15	2	2	6	4	29
Halifax North & East	16	3	5	6	10	40
Lower Valley	38	2	9	18	16	82
Upper Valley	17	4	3	6	5	35
Calderdale	86	11	19	36	35	186

There are a large number of adult pitches identified in Calderdale when compared to other pitch sizes, which reflects that the majority of teams use adult pitches. It should be noted, however, that nationally many youth 11v11 teams are playing on adult pitches, which may in part be due to a lack of dedicated youth 11v11 pitches rather than a preference for adult pitches. It is also noteworthy that in Calderdale, many Council managed adult pitches are actual youth 11v11 pitch size. This is often due to the constraints of the site and allows for flexibility for seasonal lettings. The local leagues recognise this and accept that some adult pitches may not be full sized. Addressing this inconsistency should be considered in the future.

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In accordance with the FA Youth Review, u17s and u18s can play on adult pitches. The FA's recommended pitch size for adult football is 100x64 metres. The recommended size of a youth pitch is 91x55 metres for u16s and u15s, 82x50 metres for u14s and u13s and 73x46 metres for u12s and u11s. The recommended size for 7v7 pitches (u10s and u9s) is 55x37 metres and for 5v5 pitches (u8s and u7s) it is 37x27 metres.

Please refer to the FA website page to view pitch and goal posts sizes in more detail: <http://www.thefa.com/my-football/football-volunteers/runningaclub/yourfacilities/technicalstandards.aspx>

In Calderdale, 65 youth 11v11 (u13-u16) teams currently use adult pitches and the following sites contain adult pitches that are used solely by youth 11v11 teams. These sites can therefore provide a starting point to increase youth 11v11 provision as no adult teams would be adversely affected by a pitch re-configuration (although there may be a need to retain adult pitches if shortfalls are identified).

- ◀ Bailiff Bridge
- ◀ Beechwood Park
- ◀ Brighouse High School Sports Centre
- ◀ Broad Oak Park
- ◀ Car Green Playing Fields
- ◀ Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields
- ◀ Hullen Edge Recreation Ground
- ◀ St Andrews Playing Field
- ◀ Stubbs Fields
- ◀ Todmorden High School
- ◀ Walsden Recreation Ground

It should also be noted that there are 16 youth 9v9 (u11-u12) teams which are reportedly using adult pitches. With adult pitches at the following sites being solely used by youth 9v9 teams.

- ◀ Calder High School
- ◀ Clay House

Lapsed/disused pitches

Disused/lapsed pitches are identified at the following sites:

- ◀ Beechwood Park
- ◀ Burnley Fields (Brearily Fields)
- ◀ Cemetery Fields
- ◀ Field Lane Recreation Ground
- ◀ Former Sacred Heart Playing Fields
- ◀ Harley Wood Playing Fields
- ◀ North Halifax Grammar School
- ◀ Park Lane High
- ◀ Roils Head Playing Fields
- ◀ Spring Hall Athletics Facility
- ◀ St Michaels and All Angels Primary School
- ◀ Stainland Recreation Ground

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There are multiple pitches, across all pitch sizes across the aforementioned sites. If possible, bringing these pitches back into use would help spread play on the remaining pitches in the Area. The pitches at Burnley Fields (Brearily Fields) are included in this list due to them being unplayable because of persistent flooding. It is reported that the pitches at this site flood annually, rendering them unplayable for the majority of the football season.

Future sites

Astley Association, a not for profit group, is developing a site in Halifax North and East that previously had two rugby union pitches marked on, to establish two good quality adult pitches and good quality ancillary facilities, including changing rooms and clubhouse. The idea is that the site will be used to host league finals and matches of greater levels of importance, providing a consistently good standard of pitches throughout the season.

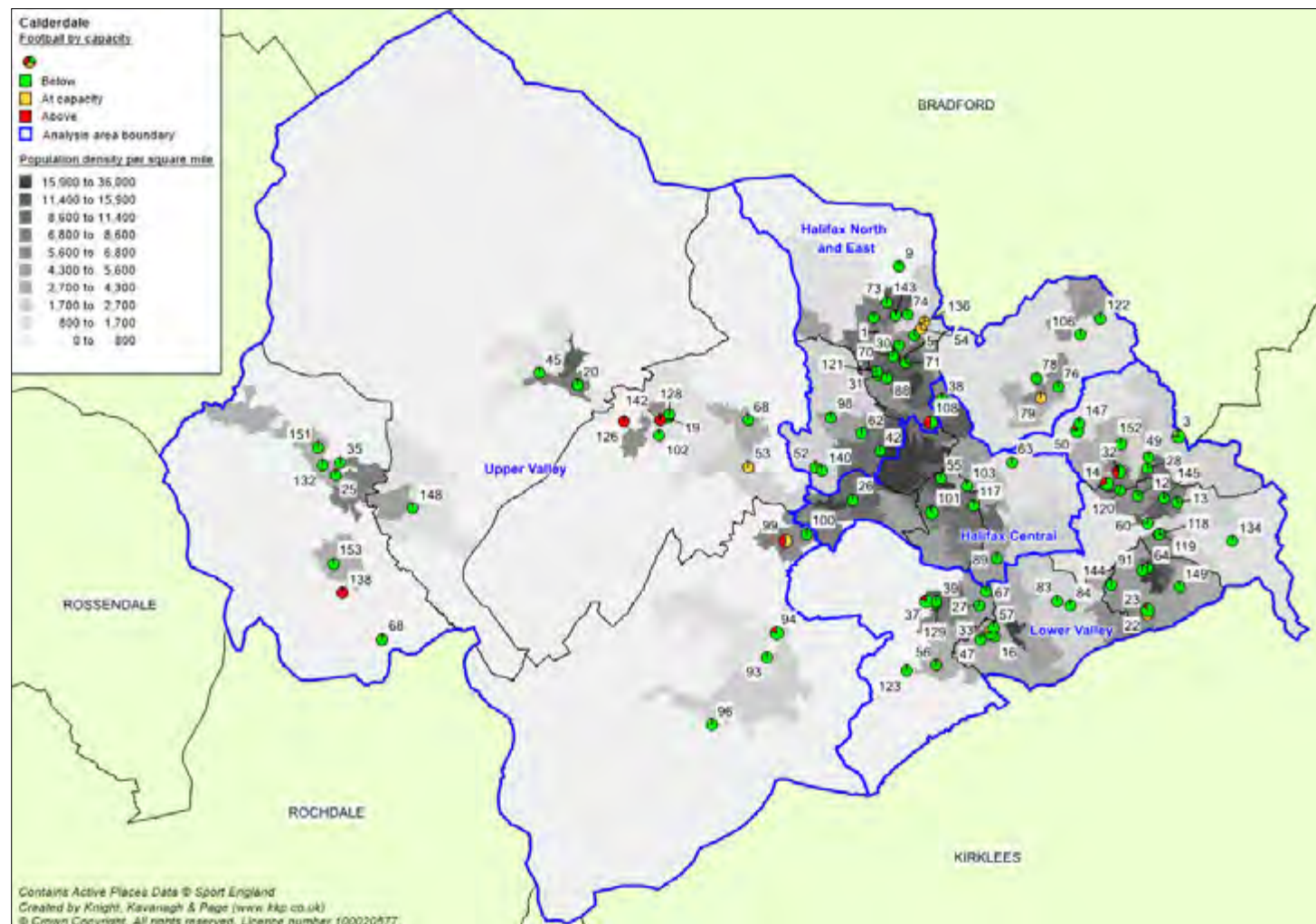
The organisation is seeking investment to aid the development, particularly in relation to utilities for the site. It is thought that once the site is established it could become a hub for high quality football in the area.

The Himmat organising has also secured funding to provide a 9v9 on its site in Halifax Central. The pitch will provide much needed capacity in the area.

Figure 2.1 identifies all grass football pitches currently servicing Calderdale, regardless of amount of community use. For a key to the map, see table 2.12.

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Figure 2.1: Location of all football pitches in Calderdale



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Management

Of the community available pitches, 79 are managed by the Council, 56 by schools/colleges/universities, 45 by sports clubs, three by community groups and the remaining four are privately managed.

Pitch quality

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

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain levels of use. It is likely that pitches which receive little to no ongoing repair or post-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 of a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

Private sites (e.g. sports clubs) typically offer better quality facilities than Council parks/playing fields and school pitches. In general, such sports clubs tend to have dedicated ground staff or volunteers working on pitches and the fact that they are often secured by fencing prevents unofficial use. The maintenance of Council sites tends to be less frequent and unofficial use of these sites can further exacerbate quality issues.

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 total, 28 pitches are assessed as good quality, 134 as standard quality and 25 are deemed to be poor quality.

Table 2.2: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)

Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
18	59	9	4	19	7	6	56	9

The non-technical pitch quality audit shows that the majority of pitches are standard quality, particularly at local authority sites. All sites managed by the Council receive a basic level of maintenance that is restricted to bi-weekly grass cutting, annual seeding of goalmouths and aeration up to two times a season. The majority of pitches within schools also receive basic maintenance. Maintenance of pitches at club sites varies; some clubs hire dedicated ground staff whilst others depend on remedial work by volunteers that is often limited by cost and a lack of specialised equipment.

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Overall, 21% of the adult pitches available for community use are good quality, 69% are standard quality and 10% are poor quality. Whilst 13% of youth pitches available to the community are good quality, 63% are standard quality and 24% are poor quality. There is a higher percentage of mini pitch assessed as standard quality (79%) than other pitch sizes, whilst only 8% and 13% of mini pitches are assessed as good or poor respectively; smaller percentages than those of other pitch sizes.

The most common factors attributed to pitch improvements are an investment in drainage work and more frequent maintenance, whilst the opposite is true for pitches that are worsening in quality.

Overmarked pitches

Overmarking of pitches can cause notable damage to the surface quality and lead to overuse beyond recommended capacity. In some cases, mini pitches may be marked onto senior pitches or mini matches may be played widthways across adult or youth pitches. This can lead to targeted areas of surface damage due to a large amount of play focused on high traffic areas, particularly the middle third of the pitch. Overmarking 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 also some football pitches in Calderdale that are dual use with rugby union pitches, which can create availability issues at multi-sport sites as the rugby union and football seasons run in parallel to each other. This is a particular issue at Lightcliffe Academy where one rugby union pitch on site is over marked with an adult football pitch.

There are also a number of pitches marked onto or overlapping cricket outfield. This creates availability issues as the cricket season begins in April when the football season is still ongoing and the football season begins in August as cricket fixtures are still being played. Generally, cricket is given priorities at such sites, meaning football teams either have to finish their season early or have to relocate to another site. The table below highlights all sites containing over marked pitches. A similar issues arises with some pitches overmarked on rugby league pitches.

Table 2.3: Sites containing over marked pitches

Site ID	Site	Comments
3	Bailiff Bridge	A youth 9v9 pitch is overmarked with a mini 7v7 pitch.
16	Brooksbank Sports College	Two adult pitches over marked for rounders in the summer.
33	Elland Cricket & Bowling Club	A youth 9v9 pitch and mini 5v5 over mark a cricket outfield.
49	Lightcliffe Academy	An adult football pitch over marks a senior rugby union pitch.
50	Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields	All pitches over marked with athletics track in the summer.
74	North Halifax Grammar School	Adult football pitch which is over marked with senior rugby union and athletics track, dependent on the time of the year.
76	Northowram Sport And Activity Centre	Mini 5v5 and Mini 7v7 pitches over marked on a cricket outfield.

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Site ID	Site	Comments
83	Old Earth Playing Fields	An adult pitch over marked with a youth 9v9 pitch.
101	Savile Park	An adult football pitch which is over marked with an athletics track in the summer.
103	Shay Stadium	An adult pitch over marked with a senior rugby league pitch.

Ancillary facilities

The term ancillary facilities takes into account clubhouse buildings, changing facilities and car parking, amongst other things but excluding the playing pitches. Clubs which have reported information regarding ancillary facilities have rated them on a good, standard or poor quality rating. The trend from club feedback suggested that the majority of ancillary facilities at council managed sites are poor quality, with particular issues at the following sites:

- ◀ Carr Green Recreation Ground
- ◀ Hullen Edge Recreation Ground
- ◀ Lane Head
- ◀ Savile Park
- ◀ White Lee Recreation Ground

The ancillary facilities at Hullen Edge have now closed due to the poor quality, therefore only junior football can be played at this site.

Ancillary facilities at school and club managed sites are generally considered to be of a better quality than council managed sites. However, some club managed ancillary facilities are of poor quality, with clubs hoping to improve quality to aid club development. These can be found at:

- ◀ Ellen Royd Playing Field
- ◀ Midgley Recreation Ground
- ◀ Ovenden Community Arena
- ◀ Ripponden Wood Recreation Ground
- ◀ Stubb Fields
- ◀ Towngate, Clifton
- ◀ Woodhouse

Pitch hire and costs

The biggest challenge in the current economic climate is to achieve a balance between maintenance and pitch hire costs. A growing number of local authorities are looking at full recovery costs as a way of increasing maintenance and removing the subsidy given to football. This could be an issue in Calderdale with many clubs in the area finding the price of pitch rentals already too high for the quality provided.

Security of tenure

Tenure of sites in Calderdale is generally secure i.e. through a long term lease or a guarantee that the pitch will continue to be provided over the next three years, with most sites ensuring community use is available.

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In general no clubs report major issues with current ownership or lease agreements, Some clubs may aspire to acquire land through an asset transfer or long term lease, however, each club and site should be individually considered prior to a final decision being made.

Tenure of some sites does remain unsecure, notably at schools and academies which state their own policies and are more likely to restrict levels of community use. A reason for this may be that a school has questioned the profitability and benefits of community use, noting that the damage caused and the expense of staffing offsets any income. However, in Calderdale it is reported that many school pitches are secured with unsecure pitches mainly being found at secondary schools, academies or private educational institutions. The following schools currently do not allow community use of some or all of their pitches:

- ◀ Brooksbank Sports College
- ◀ North Halifax Grammar School
- ◀ Park Lane High
- ◀ St Michael & All Angels Primary School
- ◀ William Henry Smith School
- ◀ Walsden School

Football pyramid demand

Clubs within the step system must adhere to ground 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 requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Ground grading assesses grounds from A to H, with 'A' being the requirements for Step 1 clubs. There are three clubs in Calderdale that play within the football pyramid:

- ◀ Brighouse Town – Step 4
- ◀ FC Halifax Town – Step 2
- ◀ Halifax Irish – Step 7

None of the aforementioned clubs have provided any information regarding whether they are meeting the league requirements at their respective home venues. It is therefore assumed that none of the three clubs has an issue with meeting ground grading standards.

Brighouse Town, currently Step 4, has ambitions to reach Vanarama National League North, a Step 2 league and two promotions above the Club's current level. The Club recognises that in order to comply with ground grading requirements development must be undertaken in order to accommodate an increased number of spectators. The Club is also seeking to funding to help develop the existing car parking facilities at the Club's home venue.

2.3: Demand

Through the audit and assessment, a total of 358 teams were identified as playing within Calderdale across 75 clubs. This consists of 84 men's teams, six women's teams, 137 youth boys' teams, eight youth girls' teams and 123 mini soccer teams.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.4: Summary of competitive teams currently playing in Calderdale

Analysis area	No. of teams playing					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Halifax Central	20	11	4	6	8	49
Halifax North & East	25	8	6	9	16	64
Lower Valley	28	55	33	36	20	172
Upper Valley	17	17	11	15	13	73
Calderdale	90	91	54	66	57	358

The majority of teams play in the Lower Valley Analysis Area (172 teams), with the fewest number of teams playing in the Halifax Central Analysis Area (49 teams). This corresponds with there being more pitches in the Lower Valley than the other analysis areas. The most prevalent playing format in Calderdale is youth 11v11 football (91).

The way in which people want to play football is changing, especially for adult men. There is a national trend of players opting to play small sided versions of the game as people want to be able to fit it into busy lifestyles. Shorter versions of the sport allow players to do this, and if this trend continues there is likely to be demand for more access to 3G pitches.

Football leagues

In Calderdale the main football leagues supported by clubs from the area are:

- ◀ Halifax Saturday League
- ◀ Halifax Sunday League
- ◀ Huddersfield Junior League
- ◀ West Riding Girls Football League

The Halifax Saturday League has noticed a decrease in the number of teams over the past few seasons. It currently runs 35 teams across three divisions, where as in the 2011/12 season there were 43 teams across four divisions. It is believed by the League that pitch quality, league structure and ancillary provision all contribute to this reduction in team numbers. The same was also reported for a local junior league which has now folded.

The Halifax Sunday League has also noticed a slight decrease in the number of teams competing within the league structure. Currently there are 25 teams across three divisions, a decrease of eight teams since the 2014/15 season. The League hope to arrest this decrease in team numbers by introducing an U17 league which it believes will bridge the gap between youth and adult football.

To compete in the Halifax Sunday League a team's home venue must be within Calderdale, however, the League is considering relaxing this rule if there continues to be a trend of teams from outside of the area wanting to participate within the league structure.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Casual use

Some sites are open access and can also be used for recreational play, dog walking, etc. This additional wear and damage is an issue for clubs as it decreases the quality of the pitches and in turn the carrying capacity for matches and training. Sites such as Savile Park and Northowram Recreation Ground are both subject to casual use causing additional wear and tear to playing surfaces.

Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to 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 due to a lack of pitch provision, which in turn is hindering the growth of the league. No clubs report this as being the case in Calderdale.

Latent demand

During the consultation process two clubs identified that if more pitches were available, at their home ground or in the local area, they could develop more teams in the future (latent demand). The table below highlights latent demand expressed by the clubs (where quantified) that could *potentially* be fielded if more pitches were available.

Table 2.5: Summary of latent demand expressed by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Latent demand	Match equivalent sessions ²	Pitch type
Hebden Bridge Saints FC	Upper Valley	2 x mini	1	Mini 5v5
Mixenden United FC	Halifax North and East	1 x adult	0.5	Adult
Totals			0.5	Adult
			1	Mini

In total, latent demand amounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on adult pitches and one match equivalent on 5v5 pitches. With no latent demand expressed in either the Halifax Central or Lower Valley analysis areas.

Displaced demand

Displaced demand refers to teams that are currently accessing pitches for their home fixtures outside of the area in which they are registered, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met. Currently there is only one club registered in Calderdale that has teams playing outside of the area, Clifton Rangers FC, which reportedly have two senior teams displaced, one men's and one women's.

Clifton Rangers FC also report that six junior teams are displaced for training demand. Training demand is also an issue for FC Halifax Town, that currently train outside of Calderdale in order to be able to utilise an appropriate floodlit 3G surface at suitable times.

² 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.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Future demand

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

Population increases

Team generation rates are used to calculate the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2039) based on population growth. It is predicted that there will be a possible increase of one adult men's teams, one youth boys' teams and two mini teams.

Table 2.6: Team generation rates (2039)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (16-45)	37,858	90	1:421	38,464	91.4	1.4
Senior Women (16-45)	38,311	7	1:5473	37,584	6.9	0
Youth Boys (12-15)	4,935	18	1:274	5,405	19.7	1.7
Youth Girls (12-15)	4,739	1	1:4739	5,202	1.1	0.1
Youth Boys (10-11)	2,440	24	1:102	2,654	26.1	2.1

Participation increases

A number of clubs report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide. Of the clubs which quantify their *potential* increase, there is a predicted growth of 28 teams equating to 1.5 adult, six youth and 6.5 mini match equivalent sessions.

Table 2.7: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Future demand	Match equivalent sessions ³	Pitch type
Clifton Rangers FC	Lower Valley	1 x youth	0.5	Youth 11v11
Halifax Sports FC	Halifax Central	1 x adult	0.5	Adult
Ovenden West Riding Junior FC	Halifax North & East	1 x youth 3 x mini	0.5 1.5	Youth 11v11 Mini 5v5
Rastrick Juniors FC	Lower Valley	3 x youth 4 x mini	1.5 2	Youth 11v11 Mini 5v5
Ryburn United AFC	Upper Valley	1 x adult 3 x youth 2 x mini	0.5 1.5 1	Adult Youth 11v11 Mini 5v5
Shelf FC	Lower Valley	1 x adult 1 x youth 1 x mini	0.5 0.5 0.5	Adult Youth 11v11 Mini 5v5
St Columba's	Halifax North & East	1 x mini	0.5	Mini 5v5

³ 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.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Club	Analysis area	Future demand	Match equivalent sessions ³	Pitch type
Todmorden Sports Centre JFC	Upper Valley	3 x youth 2 x mini	1.5 1	Youth 9v9 Mini 5v5
Totals			1.5	Adult
			6	Youth
			6.5	Mini

The total future demand expressed amounts to 14 match equivalent sessions, the majority of which is identified in the Upper Valley and Lower Valley Analysis Areas (5.5).

Table 2.8: Future demand by analysis area

Analysis area	Future demand (match equivalent sessions)					
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Halifax Central	0.5	-	-	-	-	0.5
Halifax North & East	-	0.5	-	-	2	2.5
Lower Valley	0.5	2.5	-	-	2.5	5.5
Upper Valley	0.5	1.5	1.5	-	2	5.5
Calderdale	1.5	4.5	1.5	-	6.5	14

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 affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing football. In extreme circumstances it can result in the inability of the pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times. Pitch quality is often influenced by weather conditions and drainage.

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

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

Table 2.9 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
Overused	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Education sites

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that the current usage at such sites will need to be adjusted. This adjustment is generally dependent on the amount of play carried out and also the number of pitches on site. 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.

For Calderdale, pitch usage at primary schools, secondary schools, academies, colleges and independent schools has been adjusted by a single match equivalent session per pitch to account for curriculum use.

Peak time

Spare capacity can only be considered as actual spare capacity if pitches are available at peak time. In Calderdale, peak time is considered to be Sunday AM, as this is when the majority of teams access each pitch type.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.9: Football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ⁴	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Over marked?	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ⁵ (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
1	Abbey Park Primary School	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	2.5	4	-1.5	0
3	Bailiff Bridge	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	2	2	0	0
					Mini	5v5	No	Standard	2	2	8	-6	0
					Mini	7v7	Yes	Standard	1	0.5	4	-4	1
					Youth	9v9	Yes	Standard	1	0.5	2	-2	1
5	Beechwood Park	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	1	0.5	2	-1.5	0.5
		No - disused			Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	0	4	-4	1
6	Bellholme Sports Ground	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Standard	2	0	4	-4	2
9	Bradshaw Primary School	Yes - unused	Secured	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	No	Poor	1	1	2	-1	1
12	Brighouse High School Sports Centre	Yes	Unsecured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Good	5	7.5	13	-5.5	2.5
					Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	1
13	Brighouse Sport & Social Club	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	0
14	Broad Oak Park	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Good	1	4.5	3	1.5	0
					Mini	7v7	No	Good	1	4	6	-2	0
					Youth	9v9	No	Good	1	2	4	-2	0
16	Brooksbank Sports College	No	Unsecured	Lower Valley	Adult		Yes	Poor	2	2	2	0	0
					Youth	9v9	No	Poor	1	1	1	0	0
18	Burnley Road Academy	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Youth	9v9	No	Poor	1	1	1	0	0.5
19	Calder High School	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	2	2	0	1
20	Calder Holmes Park	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	1
22	Carr Green Recreation Ground	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Poor	1	1	1	0	1
23	Carr Green Playing Fields	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	2	2.5	4	-1.5	0
					Mini	5v5	No	Poor/Standard	3	1.5	10	-8.5	1.5
					Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	3	4	-1	0
					Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	2.5	2	0.5	0.5
25	Centre Vale Park	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Good	2	2	12	-10	0.5
					Youth	11v11	No	Good/Standard	3	0	10	-10	3
					Youth	9v9	No	Good	1	1.5	4	-2.5	0
26	Christ Church CE (VA) Junior School	Yes	Secured	Halifax Central	Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	1
27	Clay House	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	1.5	2	-0.5	0
28	Cliffe Hill Primary School	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
30	Crossleys Sports Ground	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	1
					Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	2	4	-2	0
					Mini	7v7	No	Poor	1	1	2	-1	0
					Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
31	Deanfield School	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Youth	9v9	No	Poor	1	1.5	1	0.5	0.5
32	Dual Seal Stadium	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	2.5	2	0.5	0.5
					Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	1.5	2	-0.5	0

⁴ Unless local information suggests otherwise it can be assumed that the availability of all pitches in Council, town and parish council and sports club ownership will be secure.

⁵ Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ⁴	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Over marked?	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ⁵ (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
33	Elland Cricket & Bowling Club	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		Yes	Good	1	3	3	0	0
					Mini	5v5	Yes	Good	1	1.5	6	-4.5	0
					Mini	7v7	Yes	Good	1	1.5	6	-4.5	0
35	Ferney Lee Primary School	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
37	Goldfields Recreation Ground	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Good/Poor	2	1.5	4	-2.5	2
					Mini	5v5	No	Standard	2	2	8	-6	0
					Mini	7v7	No	Standard	3	4	12	-8	0
					Youth	11v11	No	Standard/ Poor	2	4.5	3	1.5	0
					Youth	9v9	No	Standard	2	2.5	4	-1.5	0
38	Grantham Road	Yes - unused	Secured	Halifax Central	Youth	11v11	No	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
39	Greentland Academy	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
					Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
42	The Halifax Academy	Yes	Unsecured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	1	2	2	0	1
45	Hebden Royd Primary School	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
47	Hammerstones Leach Lane	Yes - unused	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
					Youth	9v9	No	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
49	Lightcliffe Academy	Yes	Unsecured	Lower Valley	Adult		Yes	Good	7	20.5	21	-0.5	0
50	Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields	Yes	Unsecured	Lower Valley	Adult		Yes	Standard	4	7	6	1	0
					Mini	5v5	Yes	Standard	1	2	4	-2	0
					Mini	7v7	Yes	Standard	1	2.5	4	-1.5	0
52	Hollins Miill Leisure Park	Yes - unused	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
53	Holmes Park	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	2	2	0	1
54	Holmfield Recreation Ground	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	1	2	2	0	0
55	Holy Trinity Primary School	Yes - unused	Unsecured	Halifax Central	Mini	5v5	No	Poor	1	1	2	-1	1
56	Holywell Green Primary School	Yes - unused	Unsecured	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
57	Hullen Edge Recreation Ground	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	0
		Yes - unused			Adult		No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
		Mini			7v7	No	Standard	1	0	4	-4	1	
60	Lane Head	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	0.5
		Yes - unused			Adult		No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
62	Ling Bob Playing Fields	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
					Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	0.5	4	-3.5	1
					Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
					Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	0.5	2	-1.5	1
63	Long Lane	Yes	Secured	Halifax Central	Adult		No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
64	Longroyde Junior School	Yes - unused	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Poor	1	1	2	-1	1
67	West Vale Playing Fields (Macintosh Site)	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Good	1	0.5	3	-2.5	1
68	Midgley Recreation Ground	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	1
					Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	0	4	-4	1
70	Moor Lane	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Youth	11v11	No	Standard	1	0.5	2	-1.5	0.5
71	Moorside Community Primary School	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ⁴	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Over marked?	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ⁵ (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
73	Natty Lane Playing Fields	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	2	2.5	4	-1.5	2
74	North Halifax Grammar School	Yes	Unsecured	Halifax North and East	Adult		Yes	Standard	2	2	4	-2	2
		No - disused			Adult		Yes	Standard	1	1	2	-1	1
		No - disused			Youth	11v11	No	Standard	2	2	4	-2	2
76	Northowram Sports And Activity Centre	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	Yes	Standard	1	2	4	-2	0
					Mini	7v7	Yes	Standard	1	1.5	4	-2.5	0
78	Northowram Primary School	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	2	4	8	-4	0
79	Northowram Recreation	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	1	2	2	0	1
83	Old Earth Playing Fields	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		Yes	Good	3	2.5	9	-6.5	2.5
84	Old Earth School	Yes - unused	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Good	1	1	6	-5	1
88	Ovenden Sports & Community Arena	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	1	0.5	2	-1.5	1
					Mini	5v5	No	Standard	2	1.5	8	-6.5	0.5
					Youth	11v11	No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	0.5
					Youth	9v9	No	Poor	1	0.5	1	-0.5	0.5
89	Park Lane High	No - disused	Secured	Halifax Central	Adult		No	Poor	1	1	1	0	1
		Yes			Youth	7v7	No	Standard	2	2	8	-6	2
91	Rastrick High School Sports Centre	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	2	3	4	-1	2
93	Ripponden Junior and Infant School	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
94	Ripponden Wood	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	5	2	3	0
					Mini	5v5	No	Standard	2	2.5	8	-5.5	0
					Mini	7v7	No	Standard	2	3	8	-5	0
96	Rishworth New Road	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
98	Roils Head Playing Fields	No - disused	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Poor	2	0	2	-2	2
99	Ryburn Valley High School	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Poor	1	4	2	2	0.5
					Youth	11v11	No	Standard	1	3	2	1	0
100	Sacred Heart RC School	Yes - unused	Secured	Upper Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
101	Savile Park	Yes - unused	Secured	Halifax Central	Adult		No	Standard	3	0	6	-6	3
		Yes			Adult		No	Standard	10	9	20	-11	8.5
					Mini	5v5	No	Standard/Poor	3	2	10	-8	1
					Mini	7v7	No	Standard/Poor	4	2.5	14	-11.5	1.5
					Youth	11v11	No	Standard	1	2	2	0	0
					Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	0.5	2	-1.5	0.5
102	Scout Road	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	1.5	2	-0.5	0
103	Shay Stadium	Yes	Secured	Halifax Central	Adult		Yes	Good	1	0	3	-3	1
106	Shelf Hall Park	Yes - unused	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
					Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	0	4	-4	1
108	Shroggs Park	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	1	2.5	2	0.5	1
		Yes - unused			Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	0	4	-4	1
117	Spring Hall Athletics Facility	No - disused	Secured	Halifax Central	Adult		No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
118	St Andrews	Yes - unused	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
119	St Andrews Playing Field	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	0

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ⁴	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Over marked?	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ⁵ (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period
120	St Chad's C of E Primary School	Yes - unused	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
121	St Malachys C of E Primary School	Yes - unused	Secured	Halifax North and East	Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	1
122	St Michaels and All Angels Primary School	No - disused	Secured	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	No	Poor	1	1	2	-1	1
123	Stainland Recreation Ground	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
		No - disused			Adult		No	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
		No - disused			Mini	7v7	No	Poor	1	0	2	-2	1
		No - disused			Youth	9v9	No	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
126	Stubb Fields	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Poor	2	2.5	2	0.5	0
128	The Calder High School	Yes - unused	Unsecured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	1	2	-1	1
129	The Greetland Academy	Yes - unused	Unsecured	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
					Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
132	Todmorden High School	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Standard	2	2.5	4	-1.5	2
134	Towngate, Clifton	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	0	4	-4	1
					Youth	9v9	No	Standard	1	1.5	2	-0.5	0
136	Trinity Academy	Yes	Secured	Halifax North and East	Adult		No	Standard	2	6	4	2	0.5
138	Walsden Recreation Ground	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Poor	1	1.5	1	0.5	0
140	Warley Town Recreation Ground	Yes - unused	Secured	Halifax North and East	Youth	11v11	No	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
142	White Lee Recreation Ground	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Poor	1	2	1	1	1
143	Whitehill School	Yes - unused	Secured	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
144	William Henry Smith School	No	Unsecured	Lower Valley	Adult		No	Poor	1	1	1	0	1
					Mini	7v7	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
145	Withinfields Primary School	Yes	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	3	4	-1	0
147	Woodhead Recreation Ground	Yes - unused	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	No	Poor	1	0	2	-2	1
148	Woodhouse	Yes	Secured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Standard	1	0	2	-2	1
149	Woodhouse Primary School	Yes - unused	Secured	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Standard	1	1	4	-3	1
151	Harley Wood Playing Fields	No	Unsecured	Upper Valley	Adult		No	Poor	1	0	1	-1	1
152	Lightcliffe Primary School	Yes - unused	Unsecured	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Poor	1	1	2	-1	1
153	Walsden School Playing Fields	No	Unsecured	Upper Valley	Mini	5v5	No	Poor	1	1	2	-1	1

2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'actual spare 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.

The table below considers site by site the capacity of the pitches to accommodate further play and for them to be deemed as having 'actual spare capacity'. 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 criteria has been discounted.

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. It must also be noted that teams do not want to play on poor quality pitches.

School sites that are currently available for community use but unused are also not considered to have actual spare capacity as the full existence of these pitches cannot be determined. Further consultation with the providers is therefore recommended to fully understand community use aspects, i.e. are the pitches available during peak time and are they available throughout the playing season.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.10: Actual spare capacity

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period	Comments
3	Bailliff Bridge	Yes	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	0.5	-4	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Youth	9v9	Standard	1	0.5	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
5	Beechwood Park	Yes	Halifax North and East	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	-1	0.5	Minimal spare capacity should be retained to protect quality
		No - disused		Mini	5v5	Standard	1	0	-4	1	Spare capacity discounted as site is unavailable for community use
6	Bellholme Sports Ground	Yes	Upper Valley	Adult		Standard	2	0	-4	2	Actual spare capacity during peak time
9	Bradshaw Primary School	Yes - unused	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	Poor	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality and in an unused school site
12	Brighouse High School Sports Centre	Yes	Lower Valley	Adult		Good	5	7.5	-5.5	2.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Youth	9v9	Standard	1	1	-1	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
18	Burnley Road Academy	Yes	Upper Valley	Youth	9v9	Poor	1	1.5	-0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
19	Calder High School	Yes	Upper Valley	Adult		Standard	2	3	-1	1	Minimal spare capacity should be retained to protect pitch quality and for curriculum use
20	Calder Holmes Park	Yes	Lower Valley	Adult		Standard	1	1	-1	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
23	Carr Green Playing Fields	Yes	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	Poor/Standard	3	1.5	-8.5	1.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
25	Centre Vale Park	Yes	Upper Valley	Mini	7v7	Good	2	2	-10	0.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Youth	11v11	Good/Standard	3	0	-10	3	Actual spare capacity during peak time
26	Christ Church CE (VA) Junior School	Yes	Halifax Central	Youth	9v9	Standard	1	1	-1	1	Minimal spare capacity should be retained for curriculum use
28	Cliffe Hill Primary School	Yes	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
30	Crossleys Sports Ground	Yes	Halifax North and East	Adult		Standard	1	1	-1	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Youth	9v9	Standard	1	0	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during peak period
35	Ferney Lee Primary School	Yes	Upper Valley	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
37	Goldfields Recreation Ground	Yes	Lower Valley	Adult		Good/Poor	2	1.5	-2.5	2	Actual spare capacity during peak time
38	Grantham Road	Yes - unused	Halifax Central	Youth	11v11	Poor	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
39	Greentland Academy	Yes	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
45	Hebden Royd Primary School	Yes	Upper Valley	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
47	Hammerstones Leach Lane	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Adult		Poor	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
				Youth	9v9	Poor	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
52	Hollins Miill Leisure Park	Yes - unused	Halifax North and East	Adult		Poor	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
55	Holy Trinity Primary School	Yes - unused	Halifax Central	Mini	5v5	Poor	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is in an unused school site

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period	Comments
56	Holywell Green Primary School	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is in an unused school site
57	Hullen Edge recreation Ground	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Adult		Standard	1	0	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Mini	7v7	Standard	1	0	-4	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
60	Lane Head	Yes	Lower Valley	Adult		Standard	1	1	-1	0.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
		Yes - unused		Adult		Standard	1	0	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
62	Ling Bob Playing Fields	Yes	Halifax North and East	Adult		Standard	1	0	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Mini	5v5	Standard	1	0.5	-3.5	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Youth	9v9	Standard	1	0.5	-1.5	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
63	Long Lane	Yes	Halifax Central	Adult		Standard	1	0	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
64	Longroyde Junior School	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	Poor	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is in an unused school site
67	West Vale Playing Fields (Macintosh Site)	Yes	Lower Valley	Adult		Good	1	0.5	-2.5	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
68	Midgley Recreation Ground	Yes	Upper Valley	Adult		Standard	1	1	-1	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Mini	5v5	Standard	1	0	-4	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
70	Moor Lane	Yes	Halifax North and East	Youth	11v11	Standard	1	0.5	-1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
71	Moorside Community Primary School	Yes	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
73	Natty Lane Playing Fields	Yes	Halifax North and East	Adult		Standard	2	2.5	-1.5	2	Actual spare capacity during peak time
74	North Halifax Grammar School	Yes	Halifax North and East	Adult		Standard	2	2	-2	2	Actual spare capacity during peak period
		No - disused		Adult		Standard	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted as pitch is unavailable for community use
		No - disused		Youth	11v11	Standard	2	2	-2	2	Spare capacity discounted as pitches are unavailable for community use
83	Old Earth Playing Fields	Yes	Lower Valley	Adult		Good	3	2.5	-6.5	2.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
84	Old Earth School	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	Good	1	1	-5	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
88	Ovenden Sports & Community Arena	Yes	Halifax North and East	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	-1.5	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Mini	5v5	Standard	2	1.5	-6.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Youth	11v11	Standard	1	1	-1	0.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Youth	9v9	Poor	1	0.5	-0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
89	Park Lane High	Yes	Halifax Central	Youth	7v7	Standard	2	2	-6	2	Actual spare capacity during peak time
91	Rastrick High School Sports Centre	Yes	Lower Valley	Adult		Standard	2	3	-1	2	Actual spare capacity during peak time
93	Ripponden Junior and Infant School	Yes	Upper Valley	Mini	5v5	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
96	Rishworth New Road	Yes	Upper Valley	Adult		Standard	1	0	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
98	Roils Head Playing Fields	No - disused	Halifax North and East	Adult		Poor	2	2	-2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
100	Sacred Heart RC School	Yes - unused	Upper Valley	Mini	5v5	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is at an unused school site

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period	Comments
101	Savile Park	Yes – unused	Halifax Central	Adult		Standard	3	0	-8	3	Spare capacity discounted as it is at an unused school site
		Yes		Adult		Standard	10	9	-11	8.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Mini	5v5	Standard/Poor	3	2	-8	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Mini	7v7	Standard/Poor	4	2.5	-11.5	1.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
				Youth	9v9	Standard	1	0.5	-1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity during peak time
103	Shay Stadium	Yes	Halifax Central	Adult		Good	1	0	-3	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
106	Shelf Hall Park	Yes	Halifax North and East	Adult		Standard	1	0	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
		Yes - unused		Mini	7v7	Standard	1	0	-4	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
108	Shroggs Park	Yes - unused	Halifax North and East	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	0	-4	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
117	Spring Hall Athletics Facility	No - disused	Halifax Central	Adult		Standard	1	0	-2	1	Spare capacity discounted as pitch is disused
118	St Andrews	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is an unused school site
120	St Chad's C of E Primary School	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is an unused school site
121	St Malachys C of E Primary School	Yes - unused	Halifax North and East	Youth	9v9	Standard	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is in an unused school site
122	St Michaels and All Angels Primary School	No - disused	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	Poor	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is a disused pitch
123	Stainland Recreation Ground	Yes	Lower Valley	Adult		Standard	1	0	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
		No - disused		Adult		Poor	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality and disused
		No - disused		Mini	7v7	Poor	1	0	-2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality and disused
		No - disused		Youth	9v9	Poor	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality and disused
128	The Calder High School	Yes - unused	Upper Valley	Adult		Standard	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is in an unused school site
129	The Greetland Academy	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Spare capacity discounted as it in an unused school site
				Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Spare capacity discounted as it in an unused school site
132	Todmorden High School	Yes	Upper Valley	Adult		Standard	2	2.5	-1.5	2	Actual spare capacity during peak time
134	Towngate, Clifton	Yes	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	0	-4	1	Actual spare capacity during peak time
140	Warley Town Recreation Ground	Yes - unused	Halifax North and East	Youth	11v11	Poor	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
143	Whitehill School	Yes - unused	Halifax North and East	Mini	5v5	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is an unused school site
144	William Henry Smith School	No	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Spare capacity discounted as site is unavailable for community use
147	Woodhead Recreation Ground	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Mini	7v7	Poor	1	0	-2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
148	Woodhouse	Yes	Upper Valley	Adult		Standard	1	0	-2	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak time

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period	Comments
149	Woodhouse Primary School	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	Standard	1	1	-3	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is in an unused school site
151	Harley Wood Playing Fields	No	Upper Valley	Adult		Poor	1	0	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted as site is unavailable for community use
152	Lightcliffe Primary School	Yes - unused	Lower Valley	Mini	5v5	Poor	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted as it is in an unused school site
153	Walsden School Playing Fields	No	Upper Valley	Mini	5v5	Poor	1	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted as site is unavailable for community use

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Actual spare capacity has been aggregated up by area and by pitch type.

Table 2.11: Actual spare capacity summary

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match sessions per week)				
	Adult	Youth (11v11)	Youth (9v9)	Mini (7v7)	Mini (5v5)
Halifax Central	10.5	-	0.5	3.5	1
Halifax North and East	8	1	2	3	2.5
Lower Valley	14.5	-	2	6	2.5
Upper Valley	7	3	-	2.5	2
Calderdale	40	4	4.5	15	8

The table shows a total of 71.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity across Calderdale with the most expressed on adult pitches and in Lower Valley Analysis Area. Despite the actual spare capacity showing as 71.5 match equivalent sessions overall the following sites do not have ancillary facilities, or have unsuitable ancillaries, meaning that the sites would be unable to support adult teams utilising the site:

- ✦ Hullen Edge
- ✦ Ling Bob Playing Field
- ✦ Long Lane
- ✦ Shelf Hall Park

That removes four match equivalent sessions from the actual spare capacity total when considered in relation to accommodating adult football teams.

Overplay

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it is able to sustain (which can often be due to the low carrying capacity of the pitches). In Calderdale, 20 pitches are overplayed across 13 sites by a total of 16 match equivalent sessions. Several of these pitches are at schools, where the main reasons for overplay are a culmination of curriculum PE use, extra-curricular use including school fixtures and any additional overuse by the community.

Of the overplayed pitches, seven are assessed as poor quality across five sites, accounting for 6.5 match equivalent sessions. An improvement in quality at these sites will result in a reduction of overplay.

Table 2.12: Overplay on pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating
14	Broad Oak	Lower Valley	Adult	1	1.5
23	Carr Green Playing Fields	Lower Valley	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
31	Deanfield School	Halifax North and East	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
32	Dual Seal Stadium	Lower Valley	Adult	1	0.5
37	Goldfields Recreation Ground	Lower Valley	Youth 11v11	2	1.5
50	Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields	Lower Valley	Adult	4	1

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating
94	Ripponden Wood	Upper Valley	Adult	1	3
99	Ryburn Valley High School	Upper Valley	Adult	1	2
			Youth 11v11	1	1
108	Shroggs Park	Halifax North and East	Adult	1	0.5
126	Stubbs Fields	Halifax North and East	Adult	2	0.5
136	Trinity Academy	Halifax North and East	Adult	2	2
138	Walsden Recreation Ground	Upper Valley	Adult	1	0.5
142	White Lee Recreation Ground	Upper Valley	Adult	1	1

The majority of overplay occurs on adult pitches (12.5) with no recorded overplay on mini pitches. More overplay occurs in the Upper Valley Analysis Area (7.5) than any other analysis area, which is understandable considering that 73 teams are based there but there are only 38 pitches available for community use.

Table 2.13: Summary of overplay

Analysis area	Overplay (match sessions per week)				
	Adult	Youth (11v11)	Youth (9v9)	Mini (7v7)	Mini (5v5)
Halifax Central	-	-	-	-	-
Halifax North and East	3	-	0.5	-	-
Lower Valley	3	1.5	0.5	-	-
Upper Valley	6.5	1	-	-	-
Calderdale	12.5	2.5	1	-	-

2.6: Conclusions

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify current demand (i.e. spare capacity taking away overplay and any latent/ displaced 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 (broken down by analysis area) which are driven by population increases as well as club development plans to increase their number of teams.

Table 2.14: Spare capacity/ overplay of adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁶	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Current total	Latent/ displaced demand	Future demand	Total
Halifax Central	10.5	-	10.5	-	0.5	10
Halifax North and East	8	3	5	0.5	-	4.5
Lower Valley	14.5	3	11.5	1	0.5	10
Upper Valley	7	6.5	0.5	-	0.5	-
Calderdale	40	12.5	27.5	1.5	1.5	24.5

⁶ In match equivalent sessions

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

There is currently 27.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity across Calderdale, with the highest amount being in the Lower Valley and no analysis area displaying any overall overplay. With future, latent and displaced demand factored in this actual spare capacity will reduce to 24.5 match sessions on adult pitches in Calderdale and the Upper Valley area will be at capacity.

Table 2.15: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁷	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Current total	Latent/ displaced demand	Future demand	Total
Halifax Central	-	-	-	-	-	-
Halifax North and East	1	-	1	-	0.5	0.5
Lower Valley	-	1.5	1.5	-	2.5	4
Upper Valley	3	1	2	-	1.5	0.5
Calderdale	4	2.5	1.5	-	4.5	3

For youth 11v11 pitches overall in Calderdale there is a shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions to accommodate current demand, although spare capacity exists in the Halifax North and East and Upper Valley Analysis Areas. When factoring in future demand, the shortfall is exacerbated, amounting to three match sessions, with actual spare capacity that previously existed in the aforementioned analysis areas reducing, both to 0.5 match equivalent sessions.

In addition, please note that a further 34 youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions (68 youth 11v11 teams) are recorded as taking place on adult pitches, meaning the shortfall of youth 11v11 pitches is exacerbated. As such, there is a clear need for an increase in youth 11v11 provision in order for this play to be transferred on to the correct pitch size. This will in turn reduce overplay on adult pitches, as will pitch quality improvements.

Table 2.16: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁸	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Current total	Latent/ displaced demand	Future demand	Total
Halifax Central	0.5	-	0.5	-	-	0.5
Halifax North and East	2	0.5	1.5	-	-	1.5
Lower Valley	2	0.5	1.5	-	-	1.5
Upper Valley	-	-	-	-	1.5	1.5
Calderdale	4.5	1	3.5	-	1.5	2

The current picture shows that there is an overall spare capacity of 3.5 match equivalent sessions on 9v9 pitches, with only the Upper Valley Analysis area not having spare capacity. Factoring in future, latent and displaced demand results in overall spare capacity reducing to two match equivalent sessions and the Upper Valley area having an overplay of 1.5 match equivalent sessions.

⁷ In match equivalent sessions

⁸ In match equivalent sessions

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.17: Spare capacity/ overplay of mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Current total	Latent/ displaced demand	Future demand	Total
Halifax Central	3.5	-	3.5	-	-	3.5
Halifax North and East	3	-	3	-	-	3
Lower Valley	6	-	6	-	-	6
Upper Valley	2.5	-	2.5	-	-	2.5
Calderdale	14	-	15	-	-	15

There is current spare capacity overall on 7v7 pitches amounting to 15 match equivalent session, with all areas contributing. When accounting for future demand all figures remain the same with no change in any analysis area.

Table 2.18: Spare capacity/ overplay of mini 5v5 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁰	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Current total	Latent/ displaced demand	Future demand	Total
Halifax Central	1	-	1	-	-	1
Halifax North and East	2.5	-	2.5	-	2	0.5
Lower Valley	2.5	-	2.5	-	2.5	-
Upper Valley	2	-	2	1	2	1
Calderdale	8	-	8	1	6.5	0.5

There is current spare capacity overall on 5v5 pitches amounting to eight match equivalent sessions with spare capacity available in all analysis areas. Future demand and latent demand, however, results in this spare capacity reducing to 0.5 match sessions and the Upper Valley analysis area having an over play of one session and the Lower Valley being at capacity.

Taking into account the above tables, the table below summarises the level of spare capacity and shortfalls on each pitch type across Calderdale as a whole.

Table 2.19: Spare capacity/overplay summary in Calderdale

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)					
	Actual spare capacity ¹¹	Overplay	Current total	Latent/ displaced demand	Future demand	Total
Adult	40	12.5	27.5	1.5	1.5	24.5
Youth 11v11	4	2.5	1.5	-	4.5	3
Youth 9v9	4.5	1	3.5	-	1.5	2
Mini 7v7	14	-	14	-	-	14
Mini 5v5	8	-	8	1	6.5	0.5

⁹ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁰ In match equivalent sessions

¹¹ In match equivalent sessions

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Currently there is no shortfall of any pitch type in Calderdale, with all pitch types showing actual spare capacity, with adult pitches possessing more than half the total amount (27.5). With future, latent and displaced demand factored in an overall spare capacity remains with only youth 11v11 pitches having overplay, equating to three match equivalent sessions. In part this may be due to many adult pitches on Council managed sites being actual youth 11v11 size, as the Council does not differentiate between the pitch types, allowing for greater flexibility of seasonal lettings.

Despite the current high amount of spare capacity (54.5 match sessions) it should be considered that some of the spare capacity exists on school pitches which may not remain secure in the longer term. Despite spare capacity there is still a need to improve pitch quality as a large number of sites were assessed as poor or standard.

Football – grass pitch summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 206 football pitches across 91 sites in Calderdale. Of these, 187 are available, at some level, for community use.
- ◀ Many youth 11v11 teams (68) are playing on adult pitches, which may in part be due to a lack of youth 11v11 pitches rather than a preference for adult pitches. It may also be due to the Council not differentiating between adult and youth 11v11 pitches on its sites, allowing greater flexibility in relation to seasonal lettings.
- ◀ Of the pitches available for community use, 28 are assessed as good quality, 134 as standard quality and 25 are deemed to be poor quality.
- ◀ The trend amongst clubs using Council managed sites is that ancillary facilities are of poor quality.
- ◀ No clubs report a concern regarding security of tenure in relation to an existing site or a preferred home venue.
- ◀ A total of 358 teams were recognised as playing within Calderdale. This consists of 84 men's, six women's, 137 youth boys', eight youth girls' and 123 mini soccer teams.
- ◀ There is latent demand equating to the need of 0.5 adult and one mini match session equivalents.
- ◀ One club has teams which are displaced, both adult teams, who are unable to find a suitable pitch within Calderdale.
- ◀ Calderdale's highest ranked team, in the football pyramid, FC Halifax Town are currently displaced outside of Calderdale to access suitable training provision. The Club hopes to relocate back to the area, should a suitable facility be established.
- ◀ Team generation rates (2030) predict a growth of one adult men's, one youth boys', one youth girls' and two mini teams.
- ◀ Future demand expressed by clubs equates to 1.5 adult, six youth and 6.5 mini match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There is a total of 71.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity across Calderdale with the most expressed on adult pitches and in the Lower Valley Analysis Area.
- ◀ There are 20 pitches overplayed across 13 sites by a total of 16 match equivalent sessions. Of the pitches.
- ◀ There is current spare capacity across all pitch types with adult pitches having spare capacity of 27.5 match sessions. Taking in to account future demand there remains spare capacity across all pitch types, except for youth 11v11 pitches which will have a shortfall of three match sessions.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (AGPS)

3.1 Introduction

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces that have been FA or FIFA certified and a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play at mini soccer and youth level. The preferred surface is medium pile 3G (55-60mm). Only competition up to (but not including) regional standard can take place on short pile 3G (40mm).

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

Table 3.1: 3G type and sport suitability

Surface	Category	Comments
Rubber crumb	Long pile 3G (60mm with shock pad)	Rugby (if compliant to World Rugby regulation 22 and/or RFL Community Standard) and football surface
Rubber crumb	Medium pile 3G (55-60mm)	Preferred football surface
Rubber crumb	Short pile 3G (40mm)	Acceptable surface for some competitive football and can be used for hockey training

3.2 Current provision

A full size 3G pitch is considered by the FA to measure at least 100x64 metres (106x70 metres including run offs). There are three full size 3G pitches in Calderdale and all three comply with this specification. All three of the pitches are floodlit and available for community use and all three are located on education sites.

Table 3.2: Full size 3G pitches in Calderdale

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Quality	On the FA register?
21	Calderdale College	Halifax Central	Medium pile	Good	Yes
49	Lightcliffe Academy	Lower Valley	Medium pile	Good	Yes
136	Trinity Academy	Halifax North & East	Short pile	Good	Yes

In addition, there are nine small sided 3G pitches in the Borough. These pitches are generally not suitable for match play but can be used to accommodate training demand, small-sided commercial leagues and social use, this is usually dependent on whether the pitch is floodlit.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

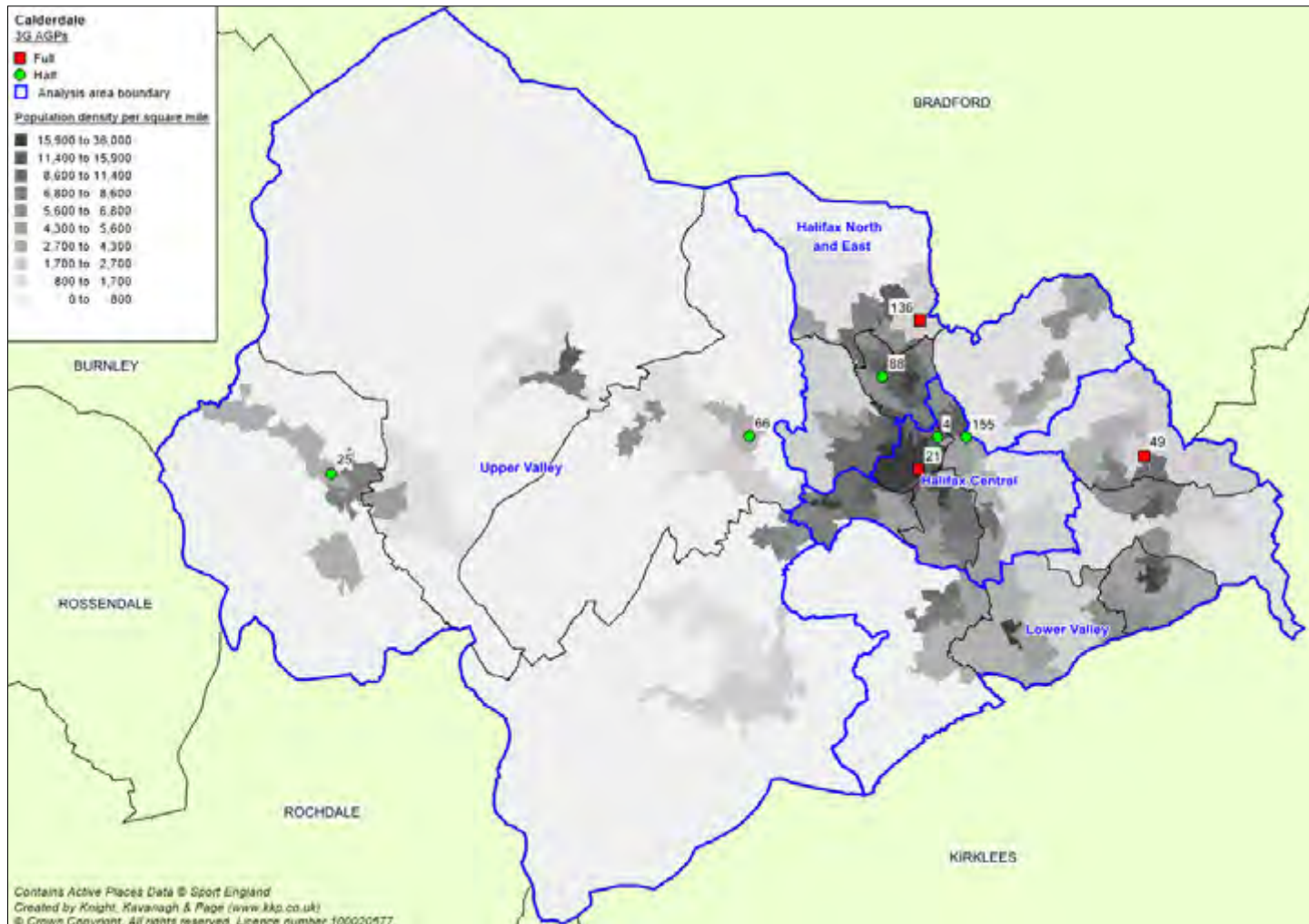
Table 3.3: Additional supply of 3G pitches

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Pitch type	Size	Floodlit?
4	Beech Hill School	Halifax Central	Medium Pile 3G	80x50	No
14	Broad Oak Park	Lower Valley	Medium Pile 3G	5v5/7v7	Yes
25	Centre Vale Park	Upper Valley	Medium Pile 3G	5v5	Yes
88	Ovenden Sports & Community Arena	Halifax North and East	Medium Pile 3G	5v5	Yes
128	The Calder High School	Upper Valley	Medium Pile 3G	5v5	Yes
133	Todmorden Sports Centre	Upper Valley	Medium Pile 3G	5v5	Yes
155	North Bridge Leisure Centre	Halifax Central	Medium Pile 3G	5v5	Yes
155	North Bridge Leisure Centre	Halifax Central	Medium Pile 3G	5v5	Yes
66	Luddenden Dene School	Upper Valley	Short Pile 3G	5v5	No

Figure 3.1 overleaf shows the location of all 3G AGPs within Calderdale

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 3.1: Location of 3G AGPs in Calderdale



CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Availability

As the three pitches are located at education sites it is believed that school/college use takes president in the daytime and that pitches are then available in the evenings and at weekends for community use.

Quality

The carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately ten years and it is recommended that a sinking fund is put into place to enable long term sustainability, ongoing repairs and future refurbishment beyond this time period.

All pitches in Calderdale have been built or refurbished within the last ten years and each has been assessed as good quality.

3.3 Demand

All full size 3G pitches currently servicing Calderdale are reported as operating at or close to capacity during midweek at desirable times, especially in the winter. Furthermore, clubs report the need for additional training facilities.

Football

The FA considers high quality 3G pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development. The pitches can support intensive use and as such are great assets for football use. Primarily, such facilities have been installed for social use and training, however, they are increasingly used for competition, which The FA wholly supports.

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 floodlit facilities.

The FA's long term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G surface, together with priority access for every Charter Standard Community Club through a partnership agreement. In order to calculate the number of football teams a 3G pitch can service for training, peak time access is considered to be from 18:00 until 22:00 Tuesday-Thursday resulting in an overall peak period of 12 hours per week. Mondays and Fridays are not included within this calculation as it is considered that most teams do not want to train in such close proximity to a weekend match.

Full size 3G pitches are divided into thirds or into quarters for training purposes meaning they can accommodate either three or four teams per hour and either 36 or 48 teams per week (during the peak training period). Based on an average of these numbers it is therefore estimated that 42 teams can be accommodated on one full size 3G pitch for training.

As there are 358 teams currently playing in Calderdale this means there is a demand for **nine full size 3G pitches** (rounded up from 8.5). When considering future demand (based on population increases and future demand expressed by clubs), there is a demand for **nine** full size pitches (rounded up from 8.9), which means a current shortfall of six pitches.

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Moving match play to 3G pitches

Improving 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 alternative to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches.

In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches, the pitch should be FA tested and approved and added to the FA pitch register, which can be found at: <http://3g.thefa.me.uk/>.

Pitches can also undergo FIFA 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 performance 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; however, in recent years, manufacturers have developed products capable of sustaining 50-60 hours per week, thereby offering a viable business model for many providers.

Clubs playing in the football pyramid on 3G pitches meeting FIFA One Star or Two Star guidelines will still be expected to certify their pitches annually, however, if any pitch replacement takes place the Club will need to meet the new FIFA performance criteria of FIFA Quality/Quality Pro.

To stay on the FA register, pitches below the national league pyramid require FA testing every three years. In Calderdale, the three full sized 3G pitches have undergone testing and are therefore FA approved.

Using a model developed by the FA the following scenario sets out the number of 3G pitches that would be required if all of the competitive mini and 9v9 teams were moved across to 3G.

First is the need to ascertain the number of teams playing and when:

Table S.1: Number of mini and 9v9 teams playing competitively

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	No. of teams
Youth	9v9	Sunday AM	53
Mini	7v7	Sunday AM	63
Mini	5v5	Sunday AM	54
Total			170

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

This is then translated in to the number of 3G pitches required:

Table S.2: Number of 3G AGPs that may be required

Format	No Teams per time (x)	No matches at PEAK TIME (y)= x/2	3G units per match (z)	Total units required formats (A)=(y)*(z)	3G pitches required B= (A)/64
5v5	54	27	4	108	1.7
7v7	63	31.5	8	252	3.9
9v9	53	26.5	10	265	4.1
Total:					9.7

In order to accommodate all of the mini and 9v9 match play on 3G pitches there would be a need for **10 AGPs** across the Borough.

The approach/assumptions to the calculations in the table above are as follows:

- ◀ A team playing a 'home' match every other week - therefore dividing the number of teams by two with the result rounded up to provide a figure for the number of matches a week during the peak period (Table S.2 Column y).
- ◀ A 3G AGP being available for 4 hours a day during the peak period (e.g. 10am to 2pm). Therefore, all demand being programmed over the four hour period.
- ◀ Using a unit measure which can be applied to the different formats of the game to quantify how a pitch can be used during this 4 hour period (Table S.2 Column z). One unit is taken as equating to a quarter of a full size 3G AGP for 15 minutes. Therefore, a full size 3G AGP provides 4 units per 15 minutes and 16 units per hour. Across the four hour period this totals a capacity of 64 units (16 units per hour x 4 hours).

It must also be noted that, whilst smaller size pitches are not factored into the above calculations, they can be used to accommodate some demand. If all existing small size 3G pitches also became FA registered to host competitive matches, the need for more full size 3G pitches would reduce.

The Parklife Programme

The Parklife Football Hubs Programme is The FA's radical vision to transform the way grassroots football is played in England's towns and cities. The FA, DCMS, Premier League and Sport England are all working together to significantly improve the provision and quality of football facilities, on a sustainable basis, to drive increased participation levels, quality of experience and more broadly delivering wider social benefits. The main focus of delivery will be around increasing the number of 3G pitches available for competitive play. To be eligible for the project local authorities must have a population of at least 200,000 people.

Rugby

At present there are no rugby league certified 3G surfaces within Calderdale, meaning that no 3G surfaces comply with RFL regulations. As a result of this no contact training sessions or match play should take place on 3G surfaces in the area. Local clubs recognise this and therefore train on natural grass surfaces to accommodate this type of training.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

At present there are no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in Calderdale. None of the rugby unions clubs in the area utilise an artificial surface for any demand, training or match play. However, should a compliant 3G pitch be established in the area local rugby union clubs could utilise some capacity for training demand, reducing overplay on existing rugby union pitches.

3.4 Supply and demand analysis

The current supply of (three) full size 3G pitches is currently at capacity. The FA model suggests that to meet training demand there is a current need for nine full size community available pitches within Calderdale. There are currently three and although there is a network of smaller 3G pitches which support the stock there is a clear need for more 3G pitches to be developed.

Priority should therefore be placed on the creation of new full size 3G pitches in order to reduce shortfalls. Additionally, the current pitch stock requires sustaining. To that end, providers are encouraged to put sinking funds in place to ensure future refurbishment and it is recommended that all new and existing pitches undergo FA testing every three years to remain or become FA approved to host competitive matches.

3G summary

- ◀ There are three, good quality, full size 3G pitches within Calderdale, all of which are available to the community and are floodlit.
- ◀ There are also nine smaller size 3G pitches in the Borough, including a rugby league community standard 40x20m pitch at Ovenden Sports & Community Arena.
- ◀ All full size 3G pitches currently servicing Calderdale are reported as operating at or close to capacity.
- ◀ In order to satisfy current and future training demand, there is a need for nine full size 3G pitches.
- ◀ Moving all competitive mini and 9v9 football matches from grass pitches to 3G pitches would require ten full size 3G pitches.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on the creation of new full size 3G pitches in order to reduce shortfalls and the current pitch stock requires sustaining.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 4: CRICKET

4.1: Introduction

Calderdale is an important authority for the Yorkshire Cricket Board with a number of well established clubs. The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) have established a new strategy called “Cricket Unleashed” for the whole game for the period up to 2021. The ECB will be working with YCB and a number of other local delivery partners to make the game more accessible and inspire the next generation of players, coaches, officials and volunteers.

Under the “More Play” strand of the Cricket Unleashed strategy the following key areas will be a priority that the Calderdale Playing Pitch Strategy will inform and support.

Clubs & Leagues

The ECB will inspire stronger relationships with the game by breaking down barriers and improving accessibility. It will create opportunities for people to play the game anyhow, anytime and anywhere.

Kids The ECB will provide more opportunities for kids to play by putting the bat and ball in more schools across the country and by engaging with teachers to integrate cricket more into the classroom curriculum. An ability-based pathway for children that will foster skill development and player progression, but most importantly focus on just having fun. The first stage of that pathway will be a national entry-level programme delivered in schools, clubs and the community with a greater connection to the professional game.

Communities

The ECB will ensure that cricket is at the heart of the communities in which it is played through a game wide philosophy of inclusivity. It will diversify participation with particular focus on women, girls, multicultural groups, those with disabilities and inner city communities; actively driving a broader representation of society in all areas of the game.

Senior cricket is typically played in leagues on Saturday afternoons, however, in Calderdale, many clubs have teams in leagues that also compete on Sundays. The youth league structure tends to be club based matches which are played mid-week and there is usually no conflict with access to squares, with matches generally played on various nights (Monday-Friday).

Consultation

There are 30 cricket clubs playing in Calderdale, of which 26 responded to a survey or telephone call equating to 87% response rate. Information for the remaining teams was collected via club websites.

4.2: Supply

In total, there are 31 grass cricket squares in Calderdale located across 31 sites. All of the pitches are considered to be available for community use.

Table 4.2: Summary of pitches available for community use

Analysis area	Number available for community use
Halifax Central	4
Halifax North and East	7

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Analysis area	Number available for community use
Lower Valley	8
Upper Valley	12
Calderdale	31

The Upper Valley Analysis Area has the largest number of cricket pitches. Halifax Central has the least with four pitches. This supports the notion that more cricket pitches tend to be found in rural areas than in urban areas.

Non turf wickets

There are non-turf wickets accompanying grass wicket squares at the following sites:

- ◀ Brighthouse Sports & Social Club
- ◀ Sowerby Bridge Church Institute Cricket Club
- ◀ Walsden Cricket & Bowling Club

In addition, there are standalone non-turf wicket squares located at the following sites:

- ◀ The Halifax Academy
- ◀ Park Lane High School

Both sites are considered to be available for community use but currently unused.

Non-turf wickets not only aid with training (with the aid of mobile nets) but they are also used for junior matches which in turn can help reduce excessive use of grass wickets. The ECB also highlights that pitches which follow its TS6 guidance on performance standards are suitable for high level, senior play.

Disused wickets

There are six disused cricket squares in Calderdale which are listed below:

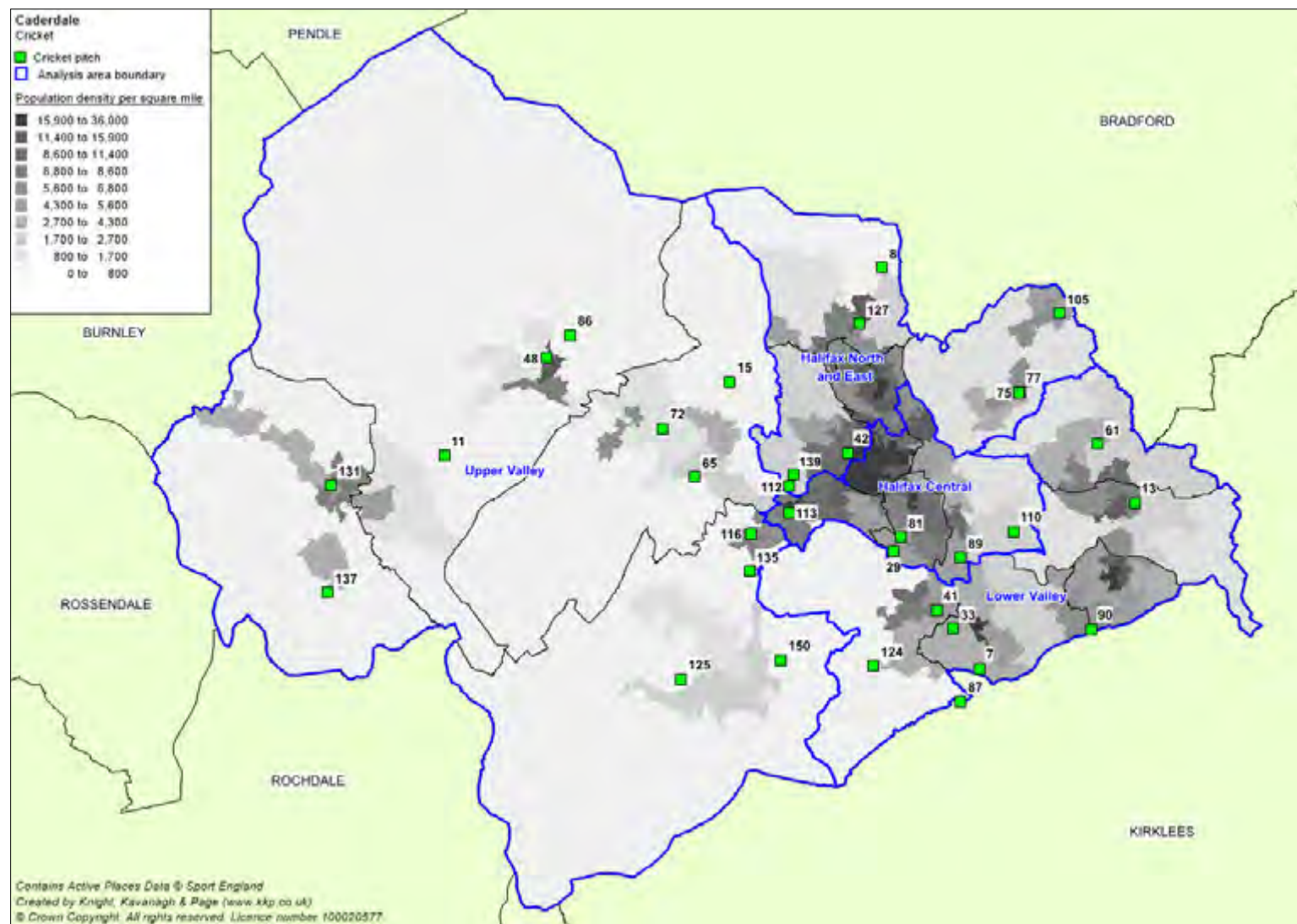
- ◀ Badger Hill Cricket Club
- ◀ Norwood Green Cricket Ground
- ◀ Siddal Cricket Club
- ◀ The Ramsdens (Hopwood Lane)
- ◀ Wainstalls Lane

Club sites have become disused as teams have folded. Each site would require investment to bring it back in to use for competitive match play.

The map overleaf shows the location of all cricket squares currently servicing Calderdale.

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Figure 4.1: Location of cricket pitches in Calderdale



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Table 4.3: Key to map of cricket pitches

KKP ref	Site	Analysis area
29	Copley Cricket Club	Halifax Central
81	Old Crossleyan Cricket Club	Halifax Central
89	Park Lane High	Halifax Central
110	Southowram Cricket Club	Halifax Central
113	Sowerby Bridge Cricket Club	Halifax Central
8	Bradshaw Cricket Club	Halifax North and East
42	The Halifax Academy	Halifax North and East
75	Northowram Fields Cricket Club	Halifax North and East
77	Northowram Hedge Top Cricket Club	Halifax North and East
105	Shelf Cricket Club	Halifax North and East
112	Sowerby Bridge Church Institute Cricket Club	Halifax North and East
127	The Ainleys (Illingworth St Marys CC)	Halifax North and East
139	Warley Cricket Club	Halifax North and East
7	Blackley Cricket Club	Lower Valley
13	Brighouse Sport & Social Club	Lower Valley
33	Elland Cricket & Bowling Club	Lower Valley
41	Greetland Cricket & Bowling Club	Lower Valley
61	Lightcliffe Cricket Club	Lower Valley
87	Outlane Cricket Club	Lower Valley
90	Rastrick Cricket Club	Lower Valley
124	Stainland Recreation Ground CC	Lower Valley
11	Bridgeholme Cricket Club	Upper Valley
15	Broadfold Park (Booth CC)	Upper Valley
48	Hebden Bridge Cricket Club	Upper Valley
65	Luddendenfoot Cricket Club	Upper Valley
72	Mytholmroyd Cricket Club	Upper Valley
86	Old Town Cricket Club	Upper Valley
116	Sowerby St Peters Cricket Club	Upper Valley
125	Stones Cricket Club	Upper Valley
131	Todmorden Cricket Club	Upper Valley
135	Triangle Cricket Club	Upper Valley
137	Walsden Cricket & Bowling Club	Upper Valley
150	Woodland (Barkisland CC)	Upper Valley

Management and security of tenure

The majority of clubs across Calderdale own and manage their own sites. Only Stainland Recreation Ground cricket pitch is owned by the Council; however, the Club is responsible for the management of the site. Six clubs are considered to have commercial ownership. These are:

- ◀ Luddendenfoot Cricket Club
- ◀ Mytholmroyd Cricket Club
- ◀ Shelf Cricket Club
- ◀ Sowerby St Peters Cricket Club
- ◀ Warley Cricket Club
- ◀ Woodland (Barkisland CC)

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In each case the Club is responsible for the management of its site. Security of tenure is currently considered unsecured at Shelf Cricket Club as a new lease is being negotiated.

Pitch quality

As part of the PPS guidance, there are three levels to assess the quality of cricket pitches: good, standard and poor. 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. To obtain a full technical assessment of wicket and pitches, the ECB recommends a Performance Quality Standard (PQS) assessment. The PQS looks at a cricket square to ascertain whether the pitch meets the Performance Quality Standards which are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship.

The audit of grass wicket squares in Calderdale found all community available pitches to be good quality, with the exception of Hebden Bridge CC and Shelf CC where pitches were assessed as standard. Where clubs own and manage sites pitches are often rated as good quality as the onus is on the individual club to ensure that the quality of its pitches are good.

The audit of standalone non-turf wicket squares assessed the wickets as standard quality with the exception of Brighouse Sports Club and The Halifax Academy where non-turf wickets were assessed as good.

Ancillary facilities

All clubs in Calderdale have access to changing room facilities at their home ground, with quality varying greatly across the Borough. It appears that whilst the cricket squares themselves are of good quality there are many issues with the ancillary facilities in the Borough. The table below highlights the issues identified from the non-technical site assessments:

Table 4.4: Ancillary facility issues

Site	Ancillary facility issues from site visits
Blackley Cricket Club	Very old and requires refurbishment
Greetland Cricket & Bowling Club	Occasional water ingress in changing facilities. Score box is very basic
Luddendenfoot Cricket Club	Old prefab and difficult to heat
Northowram Fields Cricket Club	Continually under threat from vandals
Old Crossleyan Cricket Club	Cricket garage and scoreboard needs renovation
Old Town Cricket Club	Scorers hut used for officials training
Rastrick Cricket Club	Leaking roof
Shelf Cricket Club	Too small
Southowram Cricket Club	Requires refurbishment due to subsidence
Sowerby Bridge Church Institute Cricket Club	Social area/kitchen too small
Sowerby Bridge Cricket Club	Due to its location on a flood plain access is by steep stone steps. Disable access required. Vandalism issues
Sowerby St Peters Cricket Club	Small changing area
Stainland Recreation Ground Cricket Club	Lack of disabled access, only 2 toilets (safeguarding issues for school use, not accessible from CC side for disabled users), lack of female/ junior/disabled facilities
Stones Cricket Club	Requires female facilities

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Site	Ancillary facility issues from site visits
The Ainleys (Illingworth St Marys CC)	Roof and infrastructure needs upgrading. Some vandalism issues.
Warley Cricket Club	Refurbishment required

4.3: Demand

In total, there are 30 clubs competing in Calderdale generating 183 teams, which equates to 82 senior men's, three senior women's, 95 junior boys' and three junior girls' teams.

Table 4.5: Summary of teams

Club name	No. of competitive teams			
	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'
Barkisland CC	3		5	1
Blackley Cricket Club	4	1	5	
Booth CC	3		5	
Bradshaw CC	2		5	
Bridgeholme CC	3			
Brighouse Cricket Club	3		2	
Copley CC	3		7	1
Elland CC	2			
Greetland Cricket Club	2			
Hebden Bridge CC	1			
Illingworth St Marys CC	3		3	
Lightcliffe Cricket Club	3	1	6	
Luddenden Foot CC	3		4	
Mytholmroyd CC	3			
Northowram Fields CC	3		10	1
Northowram Hedge Top CC	3		3	
Old Town CC	2			
Outlane CC	1			
Rastrick CC	4		5	
Shelf Cricket Club	3		2	
Southowram CC	3		1	
Sowerby Bridge CC	3		5	
Sowerby Bridge Church Institute CC	3		5	
Sowerby St Peters CC	3		3	
Stainland Recreation Ground CC	1		2	
Stones CC	3	1	6	
Todmorden CC	3		4	
Triangle CC	4		1	
Walsden CC	3		3	
Warley CC	2		3	
Total	82	3	95	3

Most clubs in Calderdale are large clubs with numerous teams including at least one junior team. Many of the clubs field three adult teams which shows the strength of the sport in the Borough.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

In November 2016 Old Crossleyans CC folded as the result of an inability to field a second Saturday team, in line with league regulations.

Participation trends

The National Player Survey (NPS) conducted over the past three years by the ECB reveals that the nature of participation in traditional league cricket is currently suffering a decline, although this is being offset by a rapid increase in non-traditional formats (such as LMS and T20 competitions), which are shorter, quicker formats of the game and are referenced further on in this report.

Although the odd club has folded over the years and there are now some disused sites, participation in Calderdale generally seems stable as the majority of clubs report that the number of teams fielded has remained static over the previous three years.

Future demand

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

Team generation rates are used as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2039) based on population growth. Using this, an increase of at least four junior teams is expected.

Table 4.6: Team generation rates based on population growth (2039)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (18-55)	50,542	61	1:829	50,320	60.7	0
Senior Women (18-55)	51,280	2	1:25640	49,293	1.9	0
Junior Boys (7-17)	15,013	68	1:221	16,085	72.9	4.9
Junior Girls (7-17)	14,701	2	1:7351	15,478	2.1	0.1

Additionally, six clubs report plans to increase their number of teams in the future. These are:

Club	Aspirations for growth
Shelf CC	Two additional junior teams
Broadfold Park (Booth CC)	Reinstate the third team
Bradshaws CC	One girls' team
Mytholmroyd CC	One junior team
Stainland Recreation Ground CC	On adult men's, one adult women's and two junior teams: 1 x mixed U9's and 1 x U13's
Greetland Cricket & Bowling Club	Two junior teams
Elland Cricket & Bowling Club	Girls' teams

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Last Man Stands

Last Man Stands (LMS) was founded in 2005, in London. The social outdoor eight-a-side T20 cricket game is played midweek, lasts approximately two hours and is generally played on non-turf wickets. All eight wickets are required to bowl a team out so when the seventh wicket falls, the 'Last Man Stands' on his own. This shorter format of the game has encouraged more people to participate in the sport and is increasing in popularity.

Currently no LMS leagues are identified in Calderdale, however, a league exists in neighbouring Leeds.

It costs £140 to join the LMS franchise in addition to match fees amounting to £70 per match per team (on average). These costs cover team insurance, team kits, ground hire, umpiring and equipment.

All Stars Cricket

In May 2017, the ECB is launching All Stars Cricket, a programme aimed at increasing participation amongst five to eight year olds. The programme will be club based, with 16 clubs in Calderdale expressing interest in becoming facilitators. Cricket will take place mainly on outfields and therefore will not directly influence pitch capacity, however, the programme may affect the scheduling of matches to accommodate this usage. The intentions of the programme are to introduce cricket to younger participants with aspirations that those participants will then continue to play cricket as they grow older.

Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies peak time demand for senior cricket as Saturdays, with 56 teams playing on this day.

For junior cricket, peak time demand is considered to be mid-week (93 matches), although some teams do play on a Saturday or a Sunday. It should be noted that mid-week cricket has the potential to be spread across numerous days (Monday-Friday) and as a result pitches have greater capacity to carry junior demand (providing the pitches are not overplayed).

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 also to allow for repair.

The capacity of a pitch 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.

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To help calculate spare capacity, the ECB suggests that a good quality grass wicket should be able to take five (senior) matches per season. This is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

The ECB also suggests that a non-turf wicket can accommodate 60 matches per season. As no non-turf wickets are recorded as accommodating more than this in Calderdale, and as none of them accommodate competitive matches, non-turf wicket capacity has been discounted from the table below.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 4.7: Cricket pitch capacity

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of pitches	Pitch quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (sessions per season)	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)
7	Blackley Cricket Club	Lower Valley	Yes	1	Good	12	60	71	11
8	Bradshaw Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	Yes	1	Good	8	40	65	25
11	Bridgeholme Cricket Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	6	30	31	1
13	Brighouse Sport & Social Club	Lower Valley	Yes	1	Good	20	100	26	-74
15	Broadfold Park (Booth CC)	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	8	40	50	10
29	Copley Cricket Club	Halifax Central	Yes	1	Good	12	60	76	16
33	Elland Cricket & Bowling Club	Lower Valley	Yes	1	Good	12	60	26	-34
41	Greetland Cricket & Bowling Club	Lower Valley	Yes	1	Good	10	50	21	-29
48	Hebden Bridge Cricket Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Standard	7	35	5	-30
61	Lightcliffe Cricket Club	Lower Valley	Yes	1	Good	15	75	113	38
65	Luddendenfoot Cricket Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	8	40	57	17
72	Mytholmroyd Cricket Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	8	40	32	-8
75	Northowram Fields Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	Yes	1	Good	10	50	108	58
77	Northowram Hedge Top Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	Yes	1	Good	8	40	45	5
81	Old Crossleyan Cricket Club	Halifax Central	Yes	1	Good	10	50	55	5
86	Old Town Cricket Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	8	40	18	-22
87	Outlane Cricket Club	Lower Valley	Yes	1	Good	12	60	11	-49
90	Rastrick Cricket Club	Lower Valley	Yes	1	Good	17	85	73	-12

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of pitches	Pitch quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (sessions per season)	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)
105	Shelf Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	Yes	1	Standard	12	60	50	-10
110	Southowram Cricket Club	Halifax Central	Yes	1	Good	9	45	41	-4
112	Sowerby Bridge Church Institute Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	Yes	1	Good	11	55	75	20
113	Sowerby Bridge Cricket Club	Halifax Central	Yes	1	Good	12	60	67	7
116	Sowerby St Peters Cricket Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	8	40	51	11
124	Stainland Recreation Ground CC	Lower Valley	Yes	1	Good	10	50	24	-26
125	Stones Cricket Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	12	60	83	23
127	The Ainleys (Illingworth St Marys CC)	Halifax North and East	Yes	1	Good	12	60	48	-12
131	Todmorden Cricket Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	15	75	64	-11
135	Triangle Cricket Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	8	40	44	4
137	Walsden Cricket & Bowling Club	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	15	75	43	-32
139	Warley Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	Yes	1	Good	8	40	49	9
150	Woodland (Barkisland CC)	Upper Valley	Yes	1	Good	12	60	79	19

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'spare 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 training sessions, or to protect the quality of the site.

There are 14 squares that show potential spare capacity on grass wickets in Calderdale totalling 353 match equivalent sessions. Where there is a significant amount of potential capacity available, however, this may not represent actual space capacity, i.e. whether a pitch is available at the peak time. As peak time demand for pitches is Saturday the table below looks at how any pitches are available on this day.

Table 4.8: Summary of actual spare capacity

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Spare capacity (match sessions)	Pitches available on a Saturday
13	Brighouse Sport & Social Club	Lower Valley	1	74	-
33	Elland Cricket & Bowling Club	Lower Valley	1	34	-
41	Greetland Cricket & Bowling Club	Lower Valley	1	29	-
48	Hebden Bridge Cricket Club	Upper Valley	1	30	0.5
72	Mytholmroyd Cricket Club	Upper Valley	1	8	-
86	Old Town Cricket Club	Upper Valley	1	22	-
87	Outlane Cricket Club	Lower Valley	1	49	0.5
90	Rastrick Cricket Club	Lower Valley	1	12	-
105	Shelf Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	1	10	-
110	Southowram Cricket Club	Halifax Central	1	4	-
124	Stainland Recreation Ground CC	Lower Valley	1	26	0.5
127	The Ainleys (Illingworth St Marys CC)	Halifax North and East	1	12	-
131	Todmorden Cricket Club	Upper Valley	1	11	-
137	Walsden Cricket & Bowling Club	Upper Valley	1	32	-

Although a large amount of spare capacity is identified it is not as simple as to aggregate this into a general oversupply of cricket pitches. For example, Brighouse Sport & Social Club has a high amount of spare capacity but this cannot be considered as actual spare capacity on a Saturday due to the Club having two Saturday teams. Despite 14 squares showing spare capacity, only three are available on a Saturday; these are Hebden Bridge CC, Outlane CC and Stainland Recreation Ground.

Overplay

As guidance, all pitches receiving more than five match sessions per wicket per season are adjudged to be overplayed. On this basis, 13 sites are overplayed.

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Capacity (sessions per season)	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)
7	Blackley Cricket Club	Lower Valley	60	71	11
8	Bradshaw Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	40	65	25
15	Broadfold Park (Booth CC)	Upper Valley	40	50	10
29	Copley Cricket Club	Halifax Central	60	76	16
61	Lightcliffe Cricket Club	Lower Valley	75	113	38
65	Luddendenfoot Cricket Club	Upper Valley	40	57	17
75	Northowram Fields Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	50	108	58
112	Sowerby Bridge Church Institute Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	55	75	20
113	Sowerby Bridge Cricket Club	Halifax Central	60	67	7
116	Sowerby St Peters Cricket Club	Upper Valley	40	51	11
125	Stones Cricket Club	Upper Valley	60	83	23
139	Warley Cricket Club	Halifax North and East	40	49	9
150	Woodland (Barkisland CC)	Upper Valley	60	79	19

Although it is possible to sustain certain, minimal levels of overplay providing that a regular, sufficient maintenance regime is in place, extended over play is likely to have a detrimental effect on pitch quality. The sites of most concern are Northowram Fields CC and Lightcliffe CC.

4.6 Conclusions

Consideration must be given to the extent in which current provision can accommodate current and future demand.

As previously mentioned, junior teams can play on non-turf wickets and generally play mid-week on a variety of days; consequently, spare capacity is considered to exist for junior matches both now and in the future. Each grass wicket square that is not overplayed is thought to have spare capacity for an increase in mid-week demand, and no non-turf wicket pitches are at capacity or overplayed.

There is no identified additional future demand for senior teams on sites where it cannot be accommodated and therefore future demand will be satisfied for seniors.

The main issue is to address overplay on club sites and ensure that pitch quality is sustained. In addition to this, the issues identified with ancillary facilities need to be considered.

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Cricket summary

- ◀ In total, there are 31 grass cricket squares in Calderdale located across 31 sites. All of the squares are considered to be available for community use.
- ◀ There are non-turf wickets accompanying grass wicket squares at three sites and there are standalone non-turf wicket pitches at two sites.
- ◀ There are six disused cricket squares, one at Badger Hill, one at Norwood Green, Siddal CC, The Ramsdens, Wainstalls Lane and Hopwood Lane.
- ◀ The only clubs to express concern regarding the current management arrangements are Shelf CC that is currently negotiating a new lease.
- ◀ The audit of grass wicket squares in Calderdale found all community available pitches to be good quality, with the exception of Hebden Bridge CC and Shelf CC where pitches were assessed as standard.
- ◀ A number of clubs report issues with ancillary facilities which require further investigation.
- ◀ In total, there are 30 clubs generating 183 teams, which equates to 82 senior men's, three senior women's, 95 junior boys' and three junior girls' teams.
- ◀ Participation generally seems stable as the majority of clubs report that their number of teams has remained static over the previous three years.
- ◀ Team generation rates predict future demand of an increase of at least four junior teams.
- ◀ Currently no LMS leagues are identified in Calderdale, however, a league exists in neighbouring Leeds.
- ◀ Peak time for seniors is Saturdays whilst peak time for junior matches is midweek.
- ◀ There are 14 squares which have potential spare capacity on grass wickets, however, only three of these have actual spare capacity on a Saturday.
- ◀ There are 13 sites that display overplay of more than five matches per season. The sites of most concern are Northowram Fields CC and Lightcliffe CC.
- ◀ Supply is deemed sufficient to meet both senior and junior demand both currently and in the future, although there remains a need to address overplay at 13 sites.

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PART 5: RUGBY UNION

5.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the national governing body for rugby union. It is split into six areas across the Country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. A full-time development officer is responsible for Calderdale (as part of the Yorkshire region) and works closely with all clubs to maximise their potential. This work involves developing club structures, including working towards the RFU accreditation (Clubmark) and the development of school-club structures.

The rugby union playing season operates from September to May.

Consultation

There are six rugby clubs in Calderdale:

- ◀ Halifax RUFC
- ◀ Halifax Vandals RUFC
- ◀ Heath RUFC
- ◀ Old Brodleians RUFC
- ◀ Old Crossleyans RUFC
- ◀ Old Risworthians RUFC

All clubs supplied information to be used for the purpose of Calderdale Playing Pitch Strategy.

5.2: Supply

Within Calderdale there are a total of 14 sites containing 28 senior and 2 mini rugby union pitches. Of these, 26 senior and all mini pitches are available for community use.

Although there are dedicated mini pitches identified, it must be noted that most junior and mini rugby traditionally takes place on over marked senior pitches. This is the case across Calderdale, including at sites with dedicated junior/mini markings. Although mini pitches may not be formally marked out, pitches are often marked with cones on senior pitches, contributing to pitch usage.

As seen in the table below, the largest number of community available pitches are located in the Lower Valley Analysis Area.

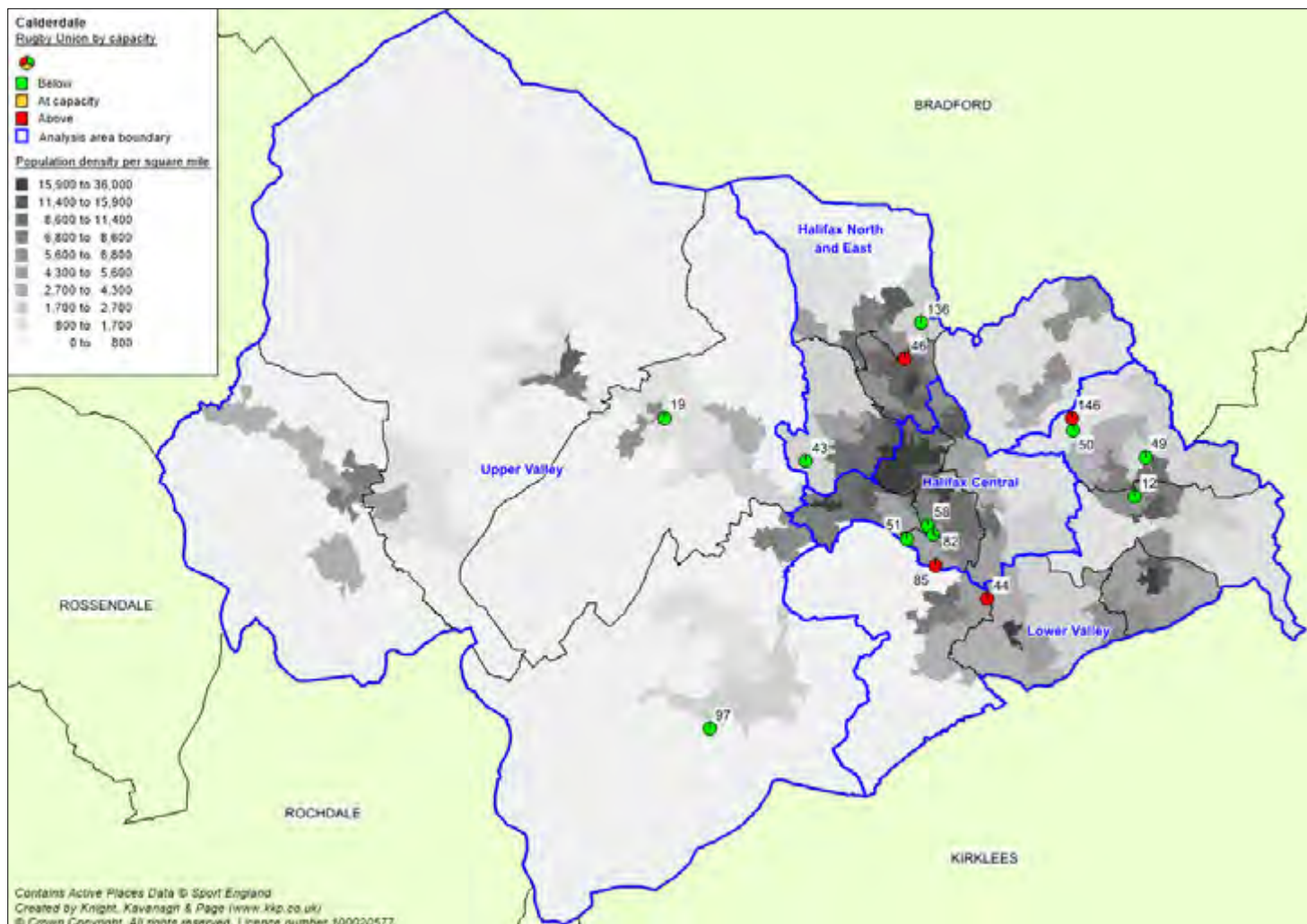
Table 5.1: Summary of grass rugby union pitches available for community use

Analysis area	No. of senior pitches	No. of mini pitches
Halifax Central	6	-
Halifax North and East	5	1
Lower Valley	9	1
Upper Valley	6	-
Calderdale	26	2

Figure 5.1 overleaf shows the location of all rugby union pitches within Calderdale, regardless of community use. For a key to the map, see Table 5.6.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 5.1: Location of rugby union pitches within Calderdale



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Pitch quality

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 5.2: 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 5.3: 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

Table 5.4: 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.

Of the community available pitches in Calderdale 17 are assessed as poor quality and 11 are assessed as standard quality. No pitches are assessed as good quality, nor are any pitches considered to have a formal drainage system installed. Five pitches are deemed to have a good maintenance regime in place, all are located at Rishworth School Playing Fields. Nine pitches are deemed to have a standard level of maintenance (M1), these are mostly at sites used by community clubs, including Old Rishworthians Rugby Club, Old Crossleyans Rugby Club, Hollas Lane, Heath Rugby Club and Lightcliffe Academy.

Table 5.5: Quality of pitches available for community use

Senior pitches			Mini pitches		
Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
-	11	14	-	-	3

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The table below shows the quality ratings for each of the pitches in Calderdale based on a combination of non-technical site assessment scores as well as user ratings.

Table 5.6: Site quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Non tech score	Quality rating	Floodlit?
12	Brighouse High School Sports Centre	Lower Valley	Yes-unused	Unsecure	Mini	M0 / D0	Poor	No
					Senior	M0 / D0	Poor	No
19	Calder High School	Upper Valley	Yes-unused	Unsecure	Senior	M1 / D1	Standard	No
43	Halifax Vandals	Halifax North and East	Yes	Secure	Mini	M1 / D0	Poor	No
					Senior	M1 / D0	Poor	No
					Senior	M1 / D0	Poor	No
44	Heath Rugby Club	Lower Valley	Yes	Secure	Senior	M1 / D0	Poor	Yes
					Senior	M1 / D0	Poor	Yes
46	Ovenden Park	Halifax North and East	Yes	Secure	Senior	M0 / D0	Poor	No
					Senior	M0 / D0	Poor	No
					Senior	M0 / D0	Poor	Yes
49	Lightcliffe Academy	Lower Valley	Yes-unused	Unsecure	Senior	M1/D1 ¹²	Standard	No
50	Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields	Lower Valley	Yes	Unsecure	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No
					Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No
51	Hollas Lane	Halifax Central	Yes	Secure	Senior	M1/D1 ¹³	Standard	No
					Senior	M1/D1 ¹⁴	Standard	
58	Kensington Road	Halifax Central	No	Secure	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No
82	Old Crossleyans Rugby Club	Halifax Central	Yes	Secure	Senior	M1 / D1	Standard	No
					Senior	M1 / D1	Standard	No
85	Old Rishworthians Rugby Club	Halifax Central	Yes	Secure	Senior	M1 / D1	Standard	No
					Senior	M1 / D0	Poor	No
97	Rishworth School Playing Fields	Upper Valley	Yes-unused	Unsecure	Senior	M2 / D0	Standard	No
					Senior	M2 / D0	Standard	No
					Senior	M2 / D0	Standard	No
					Senior	M2 / D0	Standard	Yes
					Senior	M2 / D0	Standard	No
136	Trinity Academy	Halifax North and East	No	Unsecure	Senior	M1 / D1	Standard	No
146	Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC)	Lower Valley	Yes	Secure	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	Yes
					Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No
					Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No

¹² Pitches given a default score of M1/D1 as no site assessment could take place.

¹³ Pitches given a default score of M1/D1 as no site assessment could take place.

¹⁴ Pitches given a default score of M1/D1 as no site assessment could take place.

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Poor quality pitches are found at the following sites:

- ◀ Brighouse High School Sports Centre
- ◀ Halifax Vandals
- ◀ Heath Rugby Club
- ◀ Ovenden Park
- ◀ Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields
- ◀ Kensington Road
- ◀ Old Rishworthians Rugby Club
- ◀ Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC)

All of the above are assessed as poor quality due to either drainage issues or poor maintenance. Sites such as Brighouse High School Sports Centre, Halifax Vandals and Ovenden Park are rated as poor as a result of both of these contributing factors, with pitches at Brighouse High School Sports Centre receiving a high level of use due to curriculum use by Brighouse High School.

A high volume of curriculum and extra-curricular use at Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields means that the poor quality of pitches is exacerbated by educational use.

Five of the six community club rugby sites have poor pitches, with only Old Crossleyans Rugby Club not possessing a poor quality pitch. If the maintenance regime was improved at Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC), used by Old Brodleians RUFC, then three rugby union pitches would have an increased capacity by 0.5 match equivalent sessions each. At the other community club sites with poor quality pitches both inadequate drainage and poor maintenance contribute to the poor pitch quality, therefore an improved maintenance regime alone would not improve overall pitch quality.

The pitches at Old Rishworthians Rugby Club flooded in December 2015 due to significant rainfall in the local area. The flooding affected the quality of the pitches at this site and therefore investment was made to improve the pitch quality, mainly via an improved maintenance programme.

Security of tenure

There are no reported issues with security of tenure. All community clubs are secure at respective sites. Old Rishworthians, lease the two pitches at Hollas Lane in addition owning its home venue. The lease agreement is with the Council and is considered to be secure.

There is a potential issue regarding Old Brodleians RUFC that utilises pitches at Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC), which lies adjacent to Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields; with the Club also using the pitches on this site when needed. There is no formal usage agreement in place between the School and the Club, therefore use of this is considered unsecure and a potential issue arising should the pitches on the School owned site become unavailable for community use or marked for an alternative sport.

5.3: Demand

Demand for rugby pitches in Calderdale tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

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Competitive play

Six rugby union clubs play within Calderdale. Clubs vary in size; Halifax RUFC consists of only senior teams, whereas Old Brodleians and Old Rishworthians offer a large number of teams at senior, junior and mini levels.

In total there are 15 senior men's, one senior women's, 11 junior boys', six junior girls' and 14 (mixed) mini teams across the clubs, as broken down in the table below.

Table 5.7: Summary of demand

Club	Analysis area	No. of rugby union teams				
		Men's	Women's	Boys'	Girls'	Mini
Halifax RUFC	Halifax North and East	3	1	-	-	-
Halifax Vandals RUFC	Halifax North and East	2	-	-	-	1
Heath RUFC	Lower Valley	3	-	1	-	-
Old Brodleians RUFC	Lower Valley	3	-	5	3	6
Old Crossleyans RUFC	Halifax Central	2	-	1	3	-
Old Rishworthians RUFC	Halifax Central	2	-	4	-	7
Total		15	1	11	6	14

In addition, Brighouse High School, Calder High School, Hipperholme Grammar School, Rastrick High School, Ryburn Valley High School and Trinity Academy all play rugby union as part of the school curriculum, playing some competitive matches at respective school sites. Rastrick and Ryburn Valley high schools play rugby union on a rugby league pitches at respective school sites; the pitch usage has been adjusted in Part 6: Rugby League accordingly.

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 floodlighting.

In Calderdale, Heath RUFC accesses its floodlit pitches at Heath Rugby Club for at least one match equivalent sessions per week for training purposes. This can contribute to the poor quality of pitches, particularly if training takes place in specific areas.

Old Brodleians RUFC, accesses its floodlit pitches at Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC) for at least eight match equivalent sessions. With all training taking place on those floodlit pitches, this has contributed to the over play of the floodlit pitches. Ovenden Park's floodlit pitch is used by Halifax RUFC for its training demand, which is the equivalent of 2.5 match sessions per week. This training demand takes place on the single floodlit pitch at this site and contributes to the over play of this pitch.

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Halifax Vandals RUFC uses its pitches for at least 1.25 match equivalent session per week, although it is not floodlit and therefore only takes place at the start and end of the season when seasonal daylight allows; because of this, the club's training demand has been discounted from current use.

Old Crossleyans similarly access pitches at its home venue for two match equivalent sessions per week, however due to neither pitch at this site being floodlit, training only takes place at the start and end of the season in accordance with seasonal daylight hours. Similarly to Halifax Vandals RUFC, this use has been discounted. Old Rishworthians also only trains on one pitch as it is the only pitch which has floodlighting. The floodlights are not compliant but the activity will contribute to the overplay of this pitch.

Heath RUFC is able to train across two pitches, as both at the Club's home venue are floodlit. All senior teams and the one junior team train twice a week, in total this amounts to two match equivalent sessions per week, which has been factored in to Table 5.10.

3G pitches

The alternative to training on grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches. World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union.

A World Rugby compliant pitch also enables the transfer of match demand from grass pitches onto 3G pitches, which alleviates overplay of grass pitches and as a result protects quality. The RFU investment strategy into AGPs considers sites where grass rugby pitches are over capacity and where an AGP would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local clubs and education sites.

At present there are no World Rugby compliant pitches available within Calderdale. There are 3G pitches in the study area which could accommodate training use provided they had spare capacity.

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.

It is the intention of the RFU investment strategy into AGPs to invest in communities across the country where grass rugby pitches in the local community are over capacity and where the installation of an AGP would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local rugby clubs and other organisations within the Local Authority. The RFU is keen to work with partners such as the Council and the FA to look at sites of mutual interest for future AGP provision.

Future demand

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

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Population increases

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 (2039). It is predicted that future population increases will only generate enough demand for one mini team. This does not, however, take into consideration contextual events such as World Cup or RFU initiatives, which may further increase interest in participation and subsequent demand for pitches.

Table 5.8: Team generation rates (2039)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate ¹⁵	Future population within age group (2030)	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Mens (19-45)	33,924	15	2262	34,385	15.2	0.2
Senior Womens (19-45)	34,493	1	34493	33,681	1.0	0.0
Junior Boys (13-18)	7,720	13	594	8,145	13.7	0.7
Junior Girls (13-18)	7,431	6	1239	7,811	6.3	0.3
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	14,563	18	809	15,606	19.3	1.3

Participation increases

No clubs in the Calderdale area report any unmet demand which they expect to accommodate in the future. Clubs did not disclose whether the current number of teams had increased or decreased from previous seasons, therefore it is assumed that there has been no change in the number of teams in the past three seasons.

In terms of future participation, Heath RUFC expresses plans to grow by four junior boys' and six mini teams; these teams will be based on at the club's home venue. The Club received funding with the aim of increasing the number of 15 a side teams by an additional three over the next three seasons, therefore the Club's ambition to grow an additional four junior teams exceeds those expectations. Halifax Vandals RUFC plans to increase its number of senior men's' teams by one, as well as adding a single mini team each season until its mini and junior section is full, exceeding the Club's development targets set by The RFU.

Halifax RUFC reports aspirations to increase its number of teams by two senior ladies' teams, six junior boys' and six mini teams. It is hoped that these teams will be accommodated on the club's existing site by improving the current drainage and by building a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch on the site.

The RFU set targets for Old Brodleians to increase by one senior men's team in the next four years; whilst Old Rishworthians are to create one additional senior men's and junior teams. Old Crossleyans RFC are to target an increase of one junior team per year, until the mini and junior sections of the Club is complete.

¹⁵ Please note TGR figures are rounded to the nearest whole number.

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The peak period

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity the peak period needs to be established for all types of rugby. For senior teams, it is considered to be Saturday PM as all senior teams play at this time. Peak time for junior and mini rugby in Calderdale is Sunday AM.

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. 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 has been included in the Match equivalent sessions column, usually with one match equivalent session per pitch added.
- ◀ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches (except for where mini pitches are provided).
- ◀ From U13 upwards, teams play 15 v15 and use a full pitch.
- ◀ Mini teams (U6-U12) may 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 rugby generally takes place on Saturday afternoons.
- ◀ Junior rugby generally takes place on Sunday afternoons.
- ◀ Mini rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by the addition of match equivalents.
- ◀ Match equivalents have been calculated on the basis that 30 players (two teams) train on the pitch for 90 minutes (team equivalent of one) per night.

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

Table 5.9: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

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

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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.

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Table 5.10: Rugby union provision within Calderdale

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Pitch type	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
12	Brighouse High School Sports Centre	Lower Valley	Yes-unused	Mini	Poor	No	0.5	0.5	-	A poor mini pitch which receives curriculum use and is at capacity.
				Senior	Poor	No	0.5	0.5	-	A poor senior pitch which receives curriculum use and is at capacity.
19	Calder High School	Upper Valley	Yes-unused	Senior	Standard	No	1	2	-1	A standard senior pitch which has one match session of spare capacity. The pitch does receive high amounts of curriculum use..
43	Halifax Vandals	Halifax North and East	Yes	Mini	Poor	No	0.5	1.5	-1	A poor mini pitch which has one match session of spare capacity.
				Senior	Poor	No	0.5	1.5	-1	A poor senior pitch with one match session of spare capacity.
				Senior	Poor	No	0.5	1.5	-1	A poor senior pitch with one match session of spare capacity.
44	Heath Rugby Club	Lower Valley	Yes	Senior	Poor	Yes	2.5	1.5	1	A poor senior pitch which is at overplayed by one match equivalent session. Receives use by Brooksbank Sports College rugby league team, as well as some training demand.
				Senior	Poor	Yes	2	1.5	0.5	A poor quality senior pitch which receives training demand and is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
46	Ovenden Park	Halifax North and East	Yes	Senior	Poor	No	0.5	0.5	-	A poor senior pitch which is at capacity.
				Senior	Poor	No	1	0.5	0.5	A poor senior pitch which is overplayed by 0.5 match sessions.
				Senior	Poor	Yes	3	0.5	2.5	A poor quality senior pitch which is floodlit and used for training purposes, this has resulted in overplay of 2.5 match equivalent sessions.
49	Lightcliffe Academy	Lower Valley	Yes-unused	Senior	Poor	No	1	2	-1	A poor quality senior pitch which is unused by the community but receives curriculum use and has 1 match session of capacity.
50	Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields	Lower Valley	Yes	Senior	Poor	No	2	1.5	0.5	A poor quality which is overplayed by 0.5 match sessions and receives curriculum use.
				Senior	Poor	No	2.5	1.5	1	A poor quality which is overplayed by 1 match session and receives curriculum use.
51	Hollas Lane	Halifax Central	Yes	Senior	Standard	No	0.5	2	-1.5	Standard quality senior pitch which has 1.5 match sessions of capacity.
				Senior	Standard	No	0.5	2	-1.5	Standard quality senior pitch with 1.5 match sessions of capacity.
58	Kensington Road	Halifax Central	No	Senior	Poor	No	1	1.5	-0.5	A poor quality mini pitch which is unavailable for community use and receives curriculum use. Spare capacity should be retained due to poor quality.
82	Old Crossleyans Rugby Club	Halifax Central	Yes	Senior	Standard	No	1.5	2	-0.5	Standard quality senior pitch with 0.5 match sessions of capacity.
				Senior	Standard	No	1.5	2	-0.5	Standard quality senior pitch with 0.5 match sessions of capacity.
85	Old Rishworthians Rugby Club	Halifax Central	Yes	Senior	Standard	No	3	2	1	Senior pitch of standard quality which is overplayed by one match session.

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PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Pitch type	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
				Senior	Poor	Yes	5	1.5	3.5	Poor quality senior pitch which receives all club training demand and is overplayed by 3.5 match sessions.
97	Rishworth School Playing Fields	Upper Valley	Yes-unused	Senior	Standard	No	1	2	-1	Standard quality senior pitch with one match session of capacity. Available for community use but unused, however, does receive curriculum use.
				Senior	Standard	No	1	2	-1	Standard quality senior pitch with one match session of capacity. Available for community use but unused, however, does receive curriculum use.
				Senior	Standard	Yes	1	2	-1	Standard quality senior pitch with one match session of capacity. Available for community use but unused, however, does receive curriculum use.
				Senior	Standard	No	1	2	-1	Standard quality senior pitch with one match session of capacity. Available for community use but unused, however, does receive curriculum use.
				Senior	Standard	No	1	2	-1	Standard quality senior pitch with one match session of capacity. Available for community use but unused, however, does receive curriculum use.
136	Trinity Academy	Halifax North and East	No	Senior	Standard	No	1	2	-1	Standard quality senior pitch which is unavailable for community use. The pitch does receive some curriculum use.
146	Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC)	Lower Valley	Yes	Senior	Poor	No	1	1.5	-0.5	A poor quality senior pitch which has minimal spare capacity.
				Senior	Poor	No	2	1.5	0.5	Poor quality senior pitch which is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
				Senior	Poor	Yes	9.5	1.5	8	An overplayed poor quality senior pitch which is floodlit and therefore subject to all club training demand.

CALDERDALE

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

5.5: Supply and demand analysis

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.

Where the spare capacity is minimal, it should be retained in order to protect quality and therefore no actual spare capacity currently exists. At educational sites where minimal capacity exists, it should be retained to protect the quality for educational use.

Club sites

Of the club sites with spare capacity that is available, Halifax Vandals Rugby Club has one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity at peak time for senior rugby union matches (Saturday afternoon), this could accommodate the Club's desire to establish an additional senior men's team, whilst also retaining some capacity to protect the pitch quality. Alternatively, the pitches at the home venue of the Club have 0.5 match equivalent sessions available on a mini pitch and two match equivalent sessions available on senior pitches during peak time for mini and junior rugby (Sunday morning). This actual spare capacity would be able to accommodate the Club's ambition to create additional mini teams for the next three years, whilst also retaining some capacity to protect pitch quality.

Hollas Lane is leased by Old Rishworthians Rugby Club and has three match equivalent sessions of spare capacity across two senior pitches. During peak time for senior matches there are two match sessions of actual spare capacity available at the site which could accommodate the Club's target of an additional senior men's team, or alternatively, the relocation of match play from the Club's home venue to help reduce overplay. During the peak period for mini and junior matches (Sunday morning) one match session of actual spare capacity across town pitches. This could accommodate either the relocation of existing teams from the Club's home venue to alleviate overplay, or the creation of an additional junior team that meets the Club's RFU growth target.

Old Crossleyans Rugby Club has no actual spare capacity at peak time for mini and junior rugby union matches (Sunday morning) therefore the Club would be unable to accommodate future growth in these sections of the Club without compromising the quality of the pitches on the site. The two senior pitches at the Club's home venue have one match equivalent session of spare capacity across two standard quality pitches. During peak period for senior rugby union matches one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity exists at the site, which could accommodate additional senior match play, however, this is outside of the Club's growth target and therefore is unlikely to alter in the future.

Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC), home venue of Old Brodleians RUFC has 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity on a single poor quality senior pitch. Due to two other pitches on the site being overplayed and the poor quality of all three pitches on the site, this minimal spare capacity should be retained in order to prevent deterioration of pitch quality. Therefore no actual spare capacity exists at this club site.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

The overall lack of actual spare capacity could be an issue for the Club's growth; in addition to this the unsecure nature of the use of pitches owned and managed by Hipperholme Grammar School on the adjacent site could result in greater overplay across all pitches, should the existing pitches on the school site become unavailable. These pitches are currently utilised by junior teams of Old Brodleians RUFC without a formal usage agreement in place. To prevent this becoming an issue a formal agreement between the two parties should be sought.

Overplay

Ten pitches are over played in Calderdale, all senior size, accumulating to 19 match equivalent sessions. The floodlit pitches at Ovenden Park, Old Rishworthians Rugby Club, Heath Rugby Club and Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC) are all overplayed, mainly as a result of accommodating the respective clubs' training demand. However, at Old Rishworthians Rugby Club, Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC) and Ovenden Park it should also be noted that senior pitches, which are not floodlit, are also overplayed and therefore overplay at these sites can not solely be as a result of training demand.

The overplay at Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields can be considered to be as a result of both curriculum and community use. The pitch is used by Old Brodleians Rugby Club and as a result the pitch is overplayed. The Club may feel that it is unable to use the pitches at Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC) due to minimal spare capacity existing, therefore, if the pitch quality is improved at Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC) to accommodate increased play then overplay at Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields would reduce. All remaining pitches throughout Calderdale either have spare capacity, as identified previously, or are played to capacity.

5.6: Conclusions

Although there is potential spare capacity on some of the school sites this is minimal and often on pitches that are poor quality and already used by the School. Priority should therefore be placed on protecting and improving the existing stock of pitches at the club sites, as well as alleviating overplay, particularly at Ovenden Park, Old Rishworthians Rugby Club, Heath Rugby Club and Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC) to ensure that future demand is accommodated.

As clubs are generally reluctant to hire secondary venues, it is not as simple as to transfer play away from club home venues to a site with actual spare capacity. Instead, shortfalls should be reduced first and foremost through improving pitch quality at the site. Old Rishworthians RUFC should consider utilising the pitches at Hollas Lane site to help reduce overplay at the Club's home venue. Whilst Old Brodleians, as mentioned previously, should consider entering in to a formal community usage agreement with Hipperholme Grammar School for use of the School's playing fields, guarding against future change of use by the school.

Alternatively, or additionally, one of the main reasons for overplay is training on match pitches. A practical way to alleviate this would be to install additional floodlighting. By having more floodlit pitches, training demand can be spread across more pitches (or on separate land), therefore resulting in less confined overuse. If additional, permanent floodlighting cannot be provided, another alternative would be to supply Old Crossleyans RUFC and Halifax Vandals RUFC with portable floodlights, which would allow the Clubs to rotate training across different areas. Finally, if training could be moved off site this would alleviate overplay.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Rugby union summary

- ◀ Within Calderdale there are 14 sites containing 28 senior and two mini rugby union pitches. Of these, 26 senior and all mini pitches are available for community use.
- ◀ Of the pitches available to the community 11 are assessed as standard quality and 17 are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ Six rugby union clubs play within Calderdale, consisting of 15 senior men's, one senior women's, 11 junior boys', six junior girls' and 14 (mixed) mini teams.
- ◀ Heath RUFC accesses its floodlit pitches at Heath Rugby Club for at least one match equivalent session per week for training purposes, whilst Halifax RUFC and Old Brodleians RUFC access their respective floodlit pitches 2.5 and eight match equivalent sessions each per week for training purposes. Old Rishworthians accesses its floodlit training pitch for 2.5 match sessions per week.
- ◀ Halifax Vandals and Old Crossleyans do not have access to floodlit pitches at their respective home venues.
- ◀ It is predicted that future population increases (2039) will generate enough demand for one additional mini team. Other participation increases will be absorbed in to existing teams.
- ◀ Halifax RUFC express aspirations to increase its number of teams by two senior women's teams, six junior boys' teams and six mini teams. Halifax Vandals RUFC aspire to add a senior men's team and one mini team each season until its mini and junior sections are full. Whilst Heath RUFC wish to increase its number of junior boys' teams by six and its mini teams by four.
- ◀ Ten pitches are over played in Calderdale, all of which are senior size, amounting to 19 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ Although there is no current community use on most education sites it is unlikely that these could provide sufficient capacity.
- ◀ Priority should therefore be placed on protecting and improving the existing stock of club pitches, as well as alleviating overplay to help accommodate future demand expressed by the clubs.
- ◀ Given the amount of overplay in the area, there are potential opportunities to look at World Rugby compliant 3G pitches.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 6: RUGBY LEAGUE

6.1 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 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).

Rugby league is now considered a summer sport with leagues operating from February until October at a professional level. For community clubs, fixtures tend to be played between March and August; however, some clubs also continue to participate in winter leagues and in Calderdale all but two senior men's teams still play in winter.

Professional and semi-professional clubs

There is one semi-professional club in the Borough; Halifax RLFC which plays at the Shay Stadium and competes in the Championship. The Club's home pitch is rated as good quality and the stadium is fit for purpose. The main issue for the Club is finding adequate places to train. As the Club is semi-professional its players cannot train during the day and at peak time in an evening competition for good quality training venue is high.

Consultation

Feedback from the nine community clubs (excluding professional and semi-professional) playing in Calderdale was sought by the Council via club surveys and telephone consultation. A response rate of 44% was achieved (four clubs). Results are used to inform key issues within this section of the report.

Supply

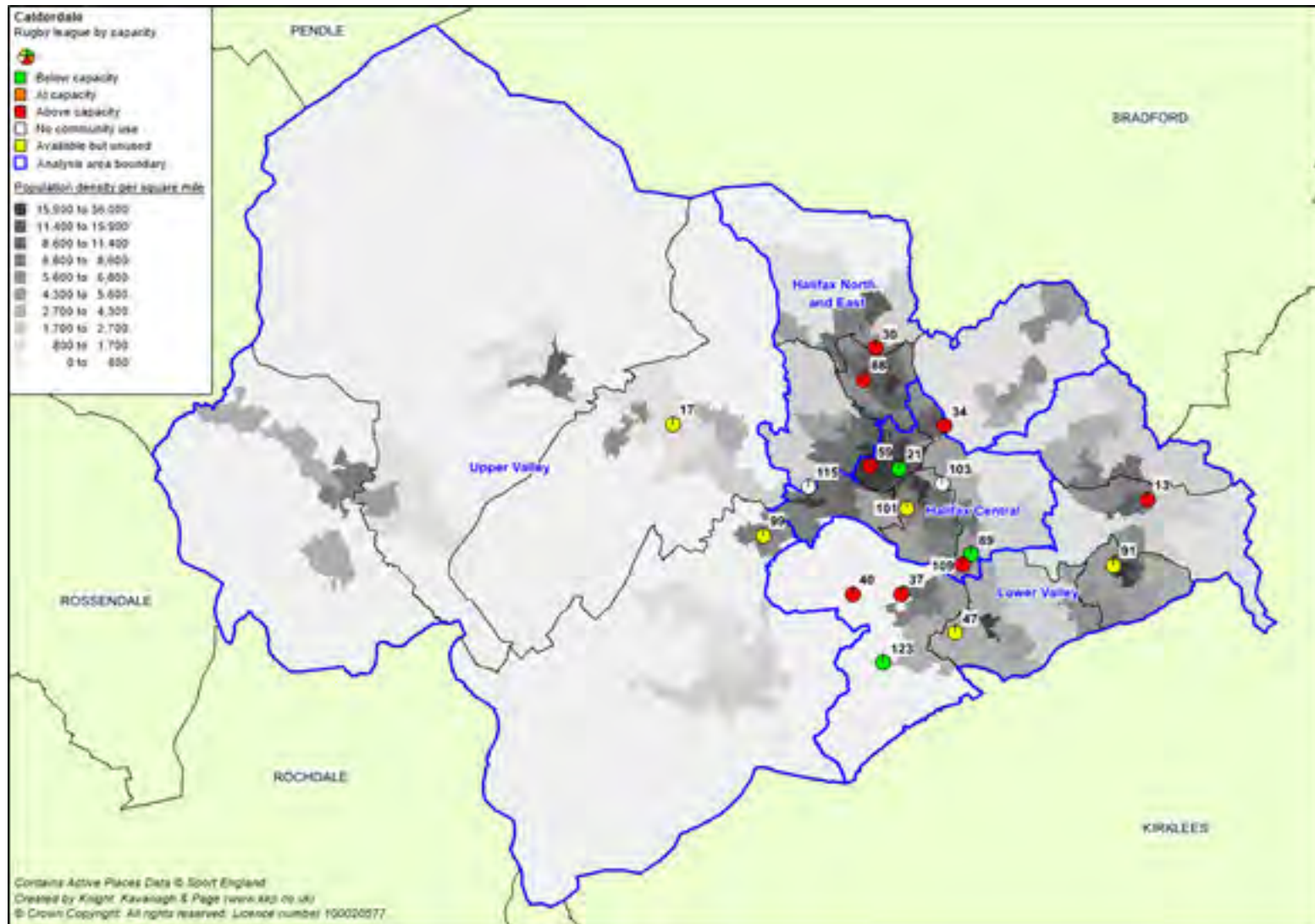
There are 25 rugby league pitches in Calderdale (24 senior and one junior) across 18 sites. Of the 25 pitches, four are not available for community use (one at the Shay Stadium, one at Rastrick High School and two at Sowerby Bridge High School).

Table 6.1: Summary of grass rugby league pitches

Analysis area	No. of available pitches	No. of unavailable pitches
Halifax Central	8	1
Halifax North and East	6	-
Lower Valley	9	-
Upper Valley	1	-
CALDERDALE	24	1

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 6.1 Location of rugby league pitches



CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

KKP Ref	Site	Analysis area
21	Calderdale College	Halifax Central
34	Ellen Royd Playing Fields	Halifax Central
59	King Cross Park	Halifax Central
89	Park Lane High	Halifax Central
101	Savile Park	Halifax Central
103	Shay Stadium	Halifax Central
109	Siddal ARLFC	Halifax Central
30	Crossleys Sports Ground	Halifax North and East
74	North Halifax Grammar School	Halifax North and East
88	Ovenden Sports & Community Arena	Halifax North and East
115	Sowerby Bridge High School Fields	Halifax North and East
13	Brighouse Sport & Social Club	Lower Valley
37	Goldfields Recreation Ground	Lower Valley
40	Greetland Allrounders	Lower Valley
47	Hammerstones Leach Lane	Lower Valley
91	Rastrick High School Sports Centre	Lower Valley
123	Stainland Recreation Ground	Lower Valley
17	Burnley Fields (Brearley Fields)	Upper Valley
99	Ryburn Valley High School	Upper Valley

Lapsed/disused pitches

Disused pitches are identified at the following sites:

- ◀ Burnley Fields (Brearley Fields)
- ◀ Saville Park
- ◀ Stainland Recreation Ground

The one senior rugby league pitch at Burnley Fields is disused due to persistent flooding of the site rendering the pitch unusable. Saville Park has two senior pitches marked on it, however only one of these is used, by The Crossley Heath School, leaving one pitch as disused. Similarly, at Stainland Recreation Ground, previously two senior pitches were marked, however, at present only one is marked to cater for community use.

Ownership/management

Only two clubs own their own sites, these are Brighouse Rangers (as part of Brighouse Sports and Social Club) and Greetland Allrounders. The remaining clubs lease or rent the pitches from the Council. There is also some hiring of education sites.

Siddal ARLFC currently leases its home venue from the Council and would be interested in an asset transfer arrangement, in order to increase security of tenure and management by the Club. Further feasibility in to this would be required.

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Pitch quality

Non-technical site assessments were carried out for all rugby league pitches in Calderdale and assessed as one of three categories, good, standard or poor. 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 table below summarises pitch quality following the site visits to all pitches (including those not available for community use).

Table 6.3: Summary of pitch quality

Analysis area	Quality of pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor
Halifax Central	3	4	2
Halifax North and East	1	4	1
Lower Valley	2	5	2
Upper Valley	-	1	-
CALDERDALE	6	14	5

56% of rugby league pitches in Calderdale are rated as standard quality, with 20% as poor and 24% as good quality.

Pitch quality is impacted largely by two factors; play and maintenance. As many of the rugby league pitches are Council owned the quality and regularity of maintenance can vary depending on resources and budgets. As budgets continue to be reduced it is also possible that pitch quality could deteriorate. This is further impacted by pitches being played on all year round in some cases due to winter and summer seasons. This can often mean that pitches are wet and boggy in winter and dry and hard in summer. It is also then difficult to find sufficient time for remediation work. Having said that, in comparison to its neighbours, Calderdale has a higher percentage of good quality pitches. See below:

District	Quality of pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor
Kirklees	2	27	30
Wakefield District	3	39	9

Ancillary facilities

In general ancillary facilities at sites with rugby league pitches are deemed to be either good quality (50%) or standard quality (37.5%). Only two sites (12.5%) have ancillary facilities that are deemed poor quality, namely at Ovenden Sports & Community Arena and Ellen Royd Playing Fields.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Siddal ARLFC has plans to develop a new facility on its existing site which could be used to accommodate out of season and winter training. Construction of this site would then eliminate the need for the Club to base teams off site for training purposes. However, a key issue preventing this development is due to the site being green belt land, therefore restricting developments.

6.3: Demand

Demand for rugby league pitches in Calderdale tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

Competitive play

Rugby league is popular in Calderdale with a total of 71 rugby league teams competing (excluding Halifax RLFC). This is made up of 22 senior, 30 junior (U13-U18) and 19 primary (U7-U12) teams.

Of the 22 senior teams, there is one ladies teams at Brighouse Rangers. Girls are able to play primary rugby in mixed teams up to the age of 12, after which they play in specific girls teams at junior level up to the age of 18 and there are three junior girls' teams at Illingworth RLFC.

Table 6.4: Summary of demand by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of competitive rugby league teams		
	Senior	Junior	Primary
Halifax Central	9	13	7
Halifax North and East	4	8	5
Lower Valley	9	9	7
Upper Valley	-	-	-
CALDERDALE	22	30	19

Training

It is a regular issue for clubs to find appropriate, accessible training facilities; clubs mostly train on the match pitches in Calderdale or on pieces of land around the pitches. A number of clubs report training offsite including in sports halls in order to protect the grass pitches. Sports halls are not ideal for training purposes, however, clubs should be willing to train off site should they wish to protect pitch quality, ideally on other grass pitch sites or artificial surfaces, where available.

One of these clubs, Siddal RLFC which trains at the nearby Park Lane High School reports that if all training could take place at the home ground that would be the preference. The Club currently access one pitch for training demand but hopes to access a second pitch in order to more comfortably accommodate training demand from all teams. The prospective cost of accessing a second pitch could influence whether this development is met. The Club is unsure regarding the extent of the arrangement with Park Lane High School and hopes that a future charges are outlined in the near future to aid the Club's financial planning.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

There is one 40x20m AGP at Ovenden Sports & Community Arena which is used by Ovenden RLFC. A trend amongst clubs is the feeling that there is a lack of affordable training facilities available, nominally AGPs, which it is felt is hindering club development. It should be noted that this 3G surface is not RFL compliant and therefore cannot accommodate contact training sessions or match play.

Halifax RLFC are the sole semi-professional rugby league club in the area. Due to the lack of adequate facilities at peak time the Club is displaced for its training demand. The Club would prefer to be located within the area, however, an adequate sized and quality facility which would be available at peak training times is an issue preventing this at present.

Casual use

The majority of sites are open access and can also be used for recreational play, dog walking, etc. This additional wear and damage is an issue for clubs as it decreases the quality of the pitches and in turn the carrying capacity for matches and training.

School demand

Some rugby league pitches at school sites are used by school rugby union teams as part of the curriculum, e.g. Ryburn Valley High School and Rastrick High School Sports Centre. Also, it is noteworthy that Brooksbank Sports College currently utilise a rugby union pitch at Heath Rugby Club for its home rugby league fixtures. This is due to a lack of rugby league pitches in the locale of the school.

Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to 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 due to a lack of pitch provision, which in turn is hindering the growth of the league. King Cross Park reports unmet demand for two junior teams as cites a lack of pitches as the reason.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways; through participation increases and by 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 (2039).

Table 6.5: Team generation rates

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Mens (19-45)	33,924	21	1:1615	34,385	21.3	0.3
Senior Women (19-45)	34,493	1	1:34493	33,681	1.0	0.0
Junior Boys (12-18)	8,869	27	1:328	9,485	28.9	1.9
Junior Girls (12-18)	8,557	3	1:2852	9,104	3.2	0.2
Primary rugby mixed (7-11)	12,288	19	1:647	12,973	20.1	1.1

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Team generation rates based on future population projections forecast the creation of one new primary team and at least one new junior boys team (almost two). The population increases are not significant, hence the minimal creation of future teams.

In addition to the TGRs above two clubs report aspirations to grow the number of teams. Stainland Stags wants to create two new primary teams and Brighouse Rangers wants to develop two senior teams and a master's team.

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 the pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times.

As a guide, The RFL has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its current quality (pitch capacity). This can be seen in the table below:

Pitch quality	Matches per week
Good	3
Standard	2
Poor	1

Table 6.7 overleaf 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
Overused	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

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. Where actual spare capacity exists it is highlighted in the comments column in Table 6.7.

The peak period

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established. For senior rugby league matches the peak period is considered to be Saturday afternoon, however; demand for senior rugby league pitches is actually highest on Sunday mornings, due to the large number of junior (U13-U18s) teams playing on senior pitches at this time.

Most rugby league pitches in Calderdale are played all year round i.e. both in summer and winter seasons. The capacity table is generated based on play occurring throughout the winter season, as this is when the majority of pitches receive the most use. However, it is clearly indicated when play takes place on pitches throughout the summer season, as it may be considered that these pitches are actually overplayed as they do not have any rest, which is generally the case for clubs playing all year round.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 6.7: Rugby league capacity table (community use pitches)

Site ID	Site name	Security of tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Peak season usage	Match equivalent sessions (per week*)	Site capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
13	Brighthouse Sport & Social Club	Yes	Lower Valley	Senior	Standard	2	Winter/ Summer	6.5	4	2.5	Pitches used in winter by seniors and by juniors and women in summer. Some training on match pitches.
21	Calderdale College	Yes	Halifax Central	Senior	Good	1	Winter	1	3	-2	Two adult teams from King Cross Park RLFC use the pitches for matches. Spare capacity discounted due to college use.
30	Crossleys Sports Ground	Yes	Halifax North and East	Senior	Good	1	Winter/ Summer	9	3	6	Pitches used in winter by seniors and by juniors in summer. Some training on match pitches.
34	Ellen Royd Playing Fields	Yes	Halifax Central	Senior	Standard	1	Winter	2.5	2	0.5	Three adult teams share the pitch in winter plus one match equivalent of training.
37	Goldfields Recreation Ground	Yes	Lower Valley	Senior	Standard	1	Winter/ Summer	6.5	2	4.5	Senior play in winter and summer and junior play in summer, plus training on match pitches.
40	Greetland Allrounders	Yes	Lower Valley	Senior	Good	1	Winter/ Summer	7	5	2	Senior play mostly in winter with juniors playing in summer. Also training on site.
					Poor	2					
59	King Cross Park	Yes	Halifax Central	Junior	Poor	1	Summer	4	1	3	Used by six junior teams for matches and training.
88	Ovenden Sports & Community Arena	Yes	Halifax North and East	Senior	Poor	1	Winter/ Summer	2.5	1	1.5	Two senior men's teams playing in winter and junior teams in summer.
89	Park Lane High	Yes	Halifax Central	Senior	Standard	1	Summer	1	2	-1	Two junior teams from Siddal use the pitch as overspill from the home site over the road. Extra spare capacity should be discounted due to school use.
101	Savile Park	Yes	Halifax Central	Senior	Standard	1	Winter	1	2	-2	One senior pitch used by Corssley Heath School for curriculum use.
109	Siddal ARLFC	Yes	Halifax Central	Senior	Good	1	Winter/ Summer	11	5	6	Pitches heavily used in winter and summer for senior and junior teams. Also some training on match pitches.
					Standard	1					
123	Stainland Recreation Ground	Yes	Lower Valley	Senior	Standard	1	Winter	1.5	2	-0.5	One senior team play here and train one match equivalent per week leaving some spare capacity.

*Current play takes into account both winter and summer play

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 6.8: Pitches available for community use but currently unused

Site ID	Site name	Security of tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Match equivalent sessions (per week*)	Site capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
47	Hammerstones Leach Lane	Yes	Lower Valley	Senior	Good	1	0	3	-3	This is an off-site pitch for Brooksbank School currently being redeveloped. No current plans for club usage.
74	North Halifax Grammar School	No	Halifax North and East	Senior	Standard	2	2	4	-2	Not currently used for competitive matches.
99	Ryburn Valley High School	No	Upper Valley	Senior	Standard	1	2	2	-	Not currently used for competitive matches.

*Indicates that match equivalent sessions has been adjusted as the result of school use. Ryburn Valley High School pitches are used by the school for rugby union in addition to rugby league.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

6.5: Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

Some of the sites are shown to have potential spare capacity but not all is actual spare capacity, whereby pitch capacity is present and pitches are available at peak time. Actual spare capacity has been combined by area and is summarised below for senior pitches. There is no spare capacity on junior pitches.

Table 6.9: Actual spare capacity summary – senior pitches

Analysis area	Match equivalents available in the peak period
Halifax Central	1
Halifax North and East	-
Lower Valley	0.5
Upper Valley	-
CALDERDALE	1.5

Overplay

Eight sites are overplayed by a total of 26 match equivalent sessions per week. This is predominantly as a result of training demand being accommodated on the match pitches. In club terms, **eight out of nine club sites are overplayed.**

Table 6.11: Overplay in match equivalent sessions – senior pitches

Analysis area	Overplay in match sessions
Halifax Central	6.5
Halifax North and East	7.5
Lower Valley	9
Upper Valley	-
CALDERDALE	23

Table 6.12: Overplay in match equivalent sessions – junior pitches

Analysis area	Overplay in match sessions
Halifax Central	3
Halifax North and East	-
Lower Valley	-
Upper Valley	-
CALDERDALE	3

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

6.6: Conclusions

Having considered supply and demand above, the tables below identify the overall spare capacity/over play in each of the analysis areas for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions.

Table 6.13: Spare capacity of match equivalent sessions per week on senior pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁶	Demand (match equivalent sessions)		
		Overplay	Future demand	Total demand
Halifax Central	1	6.5	-	5.5
Halifax North and East	-	7.5	-	7.5
Lower Valley	0.5	9	1.5	10
Upper Valley	-	-	-	-
CALDERDALE	1.5	23	1.5	23

The table above shows that even without any future demand all of the analysis areas that have teams are overplayed. Any future demand will further exacerbate this issue. As previously highlighted much of the over play comes from training on match pitches and poor quality pitches which cannot be properly maintained. The issue of year round play also adds to the problem on many club sites.

Table 6.14: Spare capacity of match equivalent sessions per week on junior pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁷	Demand (match equivalent sessions)		
		Overplay	Future demand	Total demand
Halifax Central	-	3	3	6
Halifax North and East	-	-	-	-
Lower Valley	-	-	-	-
Upper Valley	-	-	-	-
CALDERDALE	-	-	-	6

The table above shows that overall there is currently a deficit of three match equivalent session on junior pitches, this rises to six when future demand (and club unmet demand) is considered.

¹⁶ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁷ In match equivalent sessions

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Rugby league summary

- ◀ There are 25 dedicated rugby league pitches in Calderdale (24 senior and one junior) across 18 sites. Of the 25 pitches, three are not available for community use (including the pitch at the Shay Stadium).
- ◀ 56% of rugby league pitches in Calderdale are rated as standard quality, with 20% as poor and 24% as good quality.
- ◀ There are a total of 71 rugby league teams competing in Calderdale. This is made up of 22 senior, 30 junior (U13-U18) and 19 primary (U7-U12) teams.
- ◀ The majority of demand is based in the Halifax Central Analysis Areas with 29 of the 71 teams based there.
- ◀ One school team, Brooksbank Sports College, plays fixtures on a rugby union pitch, at Heath Rugby Club, due to a lack of rugby league pitches local to the school.
- ◀ There is a need for 24.5 match equivalent sessions on senior pitches in Calderdale in order to accommodate overplay and future demand.
- ◀ There is a need for 7.5 match equivalent sessions on junior pitches in Calderdale in order to accommodate overplay and future demand.
- ◀ A number of pitches are played throughout the winter and summer season which reduces the amount of time the pitches have to rest.
- ◀ Some pitches at school sites are used for rugby union as part of curriculum use.
- ◀ The majority of teams train on the match pitches which leads a number of sites being over played. If training could be accommodated elsewhere overplay could be reduced.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 7: HOCKEY

7.1: Introduction

Hockey in England is governed by England Hockey (EH) and is administered locally by the West Yorkshire Hockey Association.

Competitive league hockey matches can only be played on sand based, sand dressed or water based artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Although competitive play cannot take place on third generation turf pitches (3G), 40mm pitches may be suitable, in some instances, for school training and are preferred to poor grass or tarmac surfaces. For adults, a full size pitch for competitive matches must measure 91.4 x 55 metres.

It is considered that a hockey pitch can accommodate a maximum of four matches on one day provided that the pitch has floodlighting. Generally, senior teams play matches on a Saturday, whereas junior teams play matches on a Sunday.

Club consultation

There is one hockey club in Calderdale which is Halifax Hockey Club. Face to face consultation with the Club was carried out. The Club is based at Park Lane High School.

7.2: Supply

There are five full size sand filled/dressed AGPs in Calderdale across four sites, all of which are available to the community and floodlit.

Table 7.1: Sand-based AGPs by location

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Surface	Size (m)	Year provided/resurfaced	Quality
42	The Halifax Academy	Halifax North and East	Sand filled	100 x 55	2005	Standard
89	Park Lane High	Halifax Central	Sand filled	100 x 60	2006	Standard
89	Park Lane High	Halifax Central	Sand dressed	100 x 60	2006	Good
91	Rastrick High School Sports Centre	Lower Valley	Sand filled	100 x 60	2013	Standard
99	Ryburn Valley High School	Upper Valley	Sand filled	100 x 60	2004	Standard

In addition, there are three smaller sized pitches, as seen in the table overleaf. Although too small to host competitive matches, they can be used to accommodate some training demand if required.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

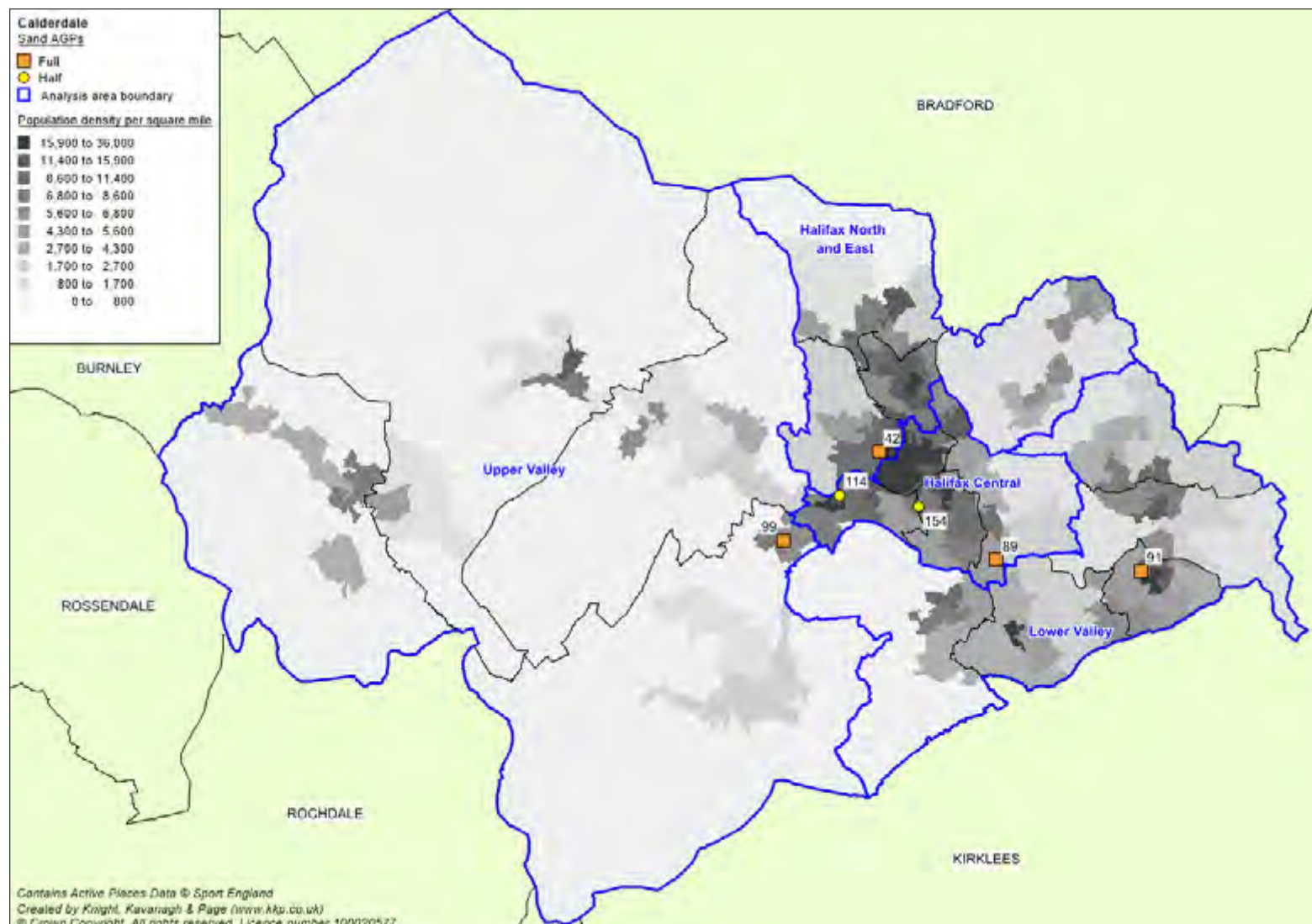
Table 7.2: Small sized sand-based AGPs by location

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Community use?	Floodlit?	Size (m)
114	Sowerby Bridge High School	Halifax Central	Yes - unused	Yes	82 x 50
144	William Henry Smith School	Lower Valley	Unknown	No	30 x 20
154	The Crossley Heath School	Halifax Central	Yes	Yes	30 x 20

The map below highlights the location of the sand based AGPs.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 7.1: Location of sand AGPs



CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Management

All of the pitches are on education sites and each is managed through the school, whether that be in house or via an external operator. At Park Lane School, which is the home of Halifax Hockey Club, there are two pitches. One is managed by the School and one is managed by the Club. The Club is responsible for the sink fund on its pitch.

Availability and usage

All full size AGPs are readily available to the community during the peak period (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00) as identified by Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM).

Table 7.3: Availability of full size sand-based AGPs

Site ID	Site	Availability in the peak period (hours)	Comments
42	The Halifax Academy	24	Monday-Friday 18:00 - 22:00 Weekend 10:00 - 21:00
89	Park Lane High	34	Monday-Friday 16:00 - 22:00 Weekend 09:00 - 22:00
89	Park Lane High	34	Monday-Friday 16:00 - 22:00 Weekend 09:00 - 22:00
91	Rastrick High School Sports Centre	34	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 17:00 - 21:00 Weekend 09:00 - 18:00
99	Ryburn Valley High School	32	Monday-Friday 17:00 - 22:00 Weekend 09:00 - 16:00

Both of the pitches at Park Lane High are accessed for hockey purposes by Halifax HC. The remaining capacity during peak time is used by football and rugby clubs for training purposes, although there is some spare capacity, particularly on Monday and Friday evenings.

There is no other formal hockey club use recorded at the other pitches except for school fixtures. The majority of other use is for football training.

Quality

Depending on levels of use, it is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately ten years.

Active Places information suggests that only Rastrick High School has been resurfaced within the last ten years. Pitches can last longer than ten years dependant on usage and maintenance. The two pitches at Park Lane High School are ten years old but are in reasonable condition, particularly the sand dressed pitch. Minor repairs have been made to the pitches however as they are now ten years old plans should be made for future resurfacing. Ideally the Club would like to see the second pitch resurfaced to a similar quality when the carpet is replaced.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Ancillary provision

All sand-based AGPs are serviced by changing facilities and no issues were reported. Car parking appears adequate.

Security of tenure

Halifax HC is considered to have security of tenure at Park Lane High as it has entered a community use agreement which allows for long-term use. The Club is also provided with unlimited use of its designated pitch.

7.3: Demand

There is one club playing in Calderdale, which is a large club catering for both males and females at senior and junior level. Halifax HC consists of four men's, four women's, two junior boys' and four junior girls' teams. The girls have two U16 teams, one U14 team and one U12. The boys have one U14 and one U12 team.

Table 7.4: Number of teams in Calderdale

Name of club	Number of teams			
	Men's	Women's	Boys'	Girls'
Halifax HC	4	4	2	4

Future demand

Halifax HC has aspirations to increase the number of teams to provide two teams at each age group for juniors and an additional men's and women's team.

Peak time demand

All senior teams within Calderdale play their matches on a Saturday, whilst all junior teams play matches on a Sunday at central venues, outside of Calderdale.

7.4 Supply and demand analysis

Halifax HC reports that it is adequately provided for in terms of both its current and future demand in relation to the pitches at Park Lane High School for matches based on a model of accommodating four home teams per pitch on Saturdays. However, if the number of junior teams increases there will be more demand for additional training slots and although the Club has access to a reduced rate for pitch hire on the second pitch it is still at a cost of £50 for a third of a pitch which would impact on the Club should the number of teams increase.

Priority should be focused on ensuring that the two pitches at the Club site remain fit for purposes and that they are protected for hockey usage.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Hockey summary

- ◀ There are five full size, sand-based AGPs in Calderdale, all of which are available to the community and floodlit.
- ◀ All full size AGPs are readily available to the community during the peak period, as identified by Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM).
- ◀ Halifax HC is the only club in Calderdale and plays at Park Lane High School where there are two pitches. There is no formal hockey usage known on the other pitches other than school fixtures.
- ◀ Other than Rastrick High none of the pitches have been resurfaced since 2013 and so it is likely that the remainder will need replacing in the not too distant future. The pitches at Park Lane High have been well maintained and repaired when required and are likely to last longer than the average ten years.
- ◀ Calderdale HC has aspirations to provide an additional men's and women's team as well as two teams at each junior age group. Competitive matches could be accommodated at the home ground but there would be demand for additional training slots which would put financial pressure on the Club.
- ◀ Priority should be focused on ensuring that the two pitches at the Club site remain fit for purpose and that they are protected for hockey usage.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 8: TENNIS

8.1 Introduction

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis and administers the sport locally in Calderdale.

Consultation

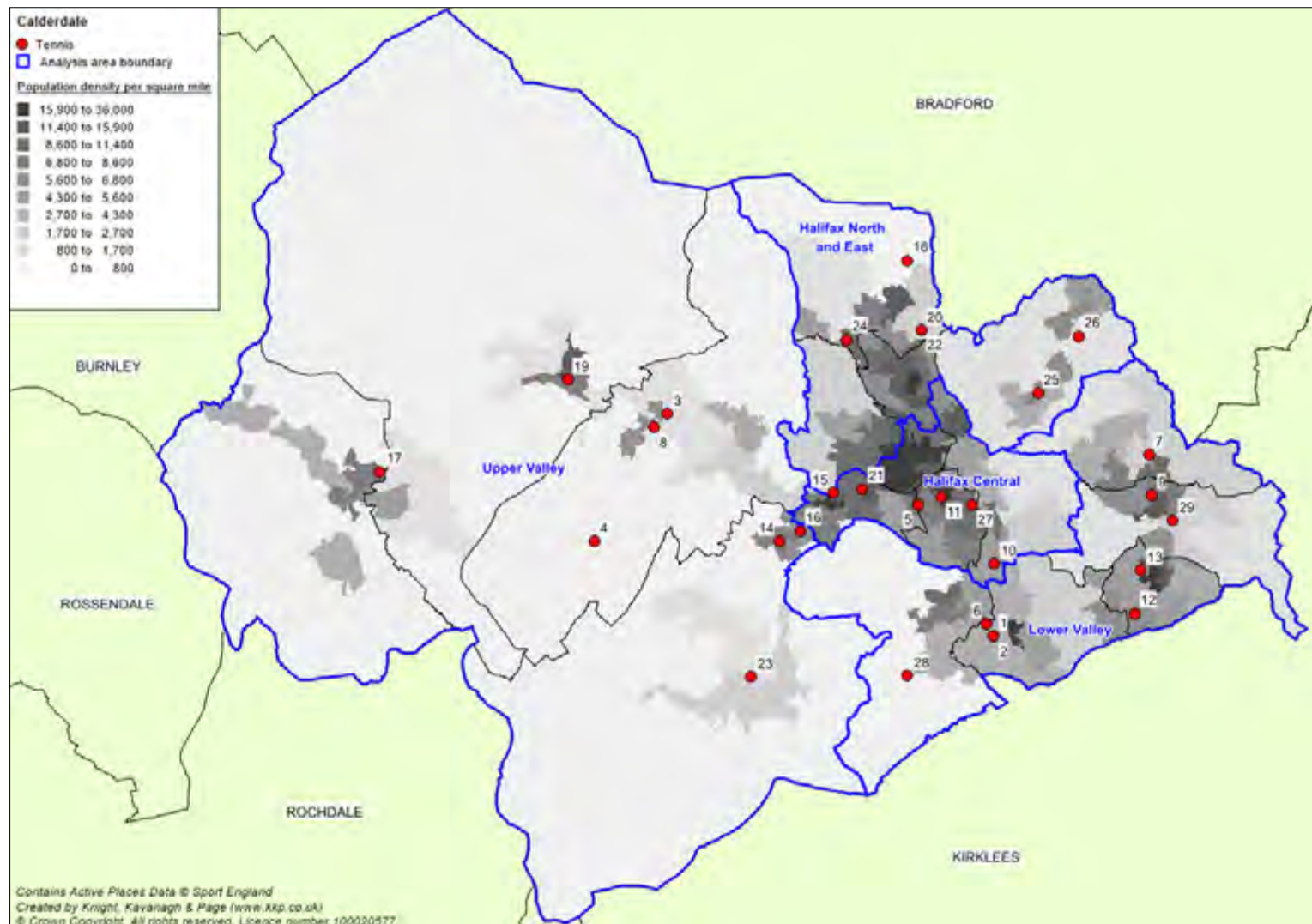
There are ten tennis clubs within Calderdale:

- ◀ Akroydon TC
- ◀ Cragg Vale TC
- ◀ Elland TC
- ◀ Mytholmroyd TC
- ◀ Park TC
- ◀ Queen's Sports Club
- ◀ Rastrick TC
- ◀ Sowerby Tennis & Bowling Club
- ◀ Todmorden LTC
- ◀ Wellholme Park TC

Of these, only Sowerby Tennis & Bowling Club did not respond to the survey.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 8.1: Location of tennis courts



CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 8.1: Key to map

Site ID	Site name	Analysis areas
18	Bradshaw Park	Halifax North and East
1	Brighthouse High School	Lower
2	Brooksbank School	Lower
3	Calder High School	Upper
19	Calder Holmes Park	Upper
20	Centre Vale Park	Upper
4	Cragg Vale Tennis Club	Upper
5	Crossley Heath School	Halifax Central
21	Crow Wood Park	Halifax Central
6	Elland Cricket Club and Athletic Club	Lower
22	Holmfield Recreation Ground	Halifax North and East
7	Lightcliffe Academy	Lower
23	Millfold Recreation Ground	Upper
24	Mixenden Urban Park	Halifax North and East
8	Mytholmroyd Tennis Club	Upper
25	Northowram Recreation Ground	Halifax North and East
10	Park Lane High School	Halifax Central
9	Park Tennis Club	Lower
11	Queens Tennis Club	Halifax Central
13	Rastrick High School	Lower
12	Rastrick Tennis Club	Lower
14	Ryburn Valley High School	Upper
26	Shelf Hall Park	Halifax North and East
15	Sowerby Bridge High School	Upper
16	Sowerby Tennis and Bowling Club	Upper
27	Spring Hall	Halifax Central
28	Stainland Recreation Ground	Lower
17	Todmorden Tennis Club	Upper
29	Wellholme Park	Lower

8.2: Supply

Quantity

There are 94 tennis courts identified in Calderdale located across 32 sites including sports clubs, parks and schools. 57% of courts are available for community use. The majority of private tennis clubs are not available for pay and pay and have therefore been considered unavailable for community use. Similarly, other than where clubs are accessing school facilities, schools have been considered unavailable for community use. Courts at park sites are all included however, 20 of these have been deemed unplayable and therefore are unavailable for community use.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 8.2: Summary of the number of courts

Analysis area	Courts available for community use	Courts unavailable for community use
Halifax Central	14	7
Halifax North & East	17	-
Lower Valley	11	19
Upper Valley	12	14
Calderdale	54	40

There is an even spread of courts available for community use across Calderdale. All of the courts in Halifax North & East are considered to be available for community use. The private and unavailable school courts are mostly located in the Lower Valley. The full breakdown of courts can be seen in table 8.5.

Ownership/management

The table below highlights the management of community available courts within each analysis area. The majority of courts are located within council sites (56%) and are in the Halifax North & East Analysis Area.

Table 8.3: Courts available for community use by management

Analysis area	Local Authority	Education	Private
Halifax Central	5	3	6
Halifax North & East	13	4	-
Lower Valley	5	6	-
Upper Valley	7	5	-
Calderdale	30	18	6

Security of tenure

Tenure is considered secure at almost all of the sites, regardless of ownership and community use. This is with the exception of Mytholmroyd Tennis Club and Park Tennis Club. Mytholmroyd TC rents its home ground from St Michaels Church. The Club wishes to negotiate a long term lease in order to apply for funding but the only option currently available is a yearly hire. The Club feels that this is jeopardising the long term future of the Club. Park TC is in a similar situation in that it does not have a secured lease of its site and is in discussion with the adjacent Church over ownership. Again this could jeopardise the long term future of the Club.

Quality and capacity

The table below indicates the quality of courts in each of the analysis areas, regardless of community use. The Halifax North & East Analysis Area is the only area without any good quality courts.

Table 8.4: Quality of courts by analysis area

Analysis area	Good	Standard	Poor
Halifax Central	6	10	5
Halifax North & East	-	4	13

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Analysis area	Good	Standard	Poor
Lower Valley	19	8	3
Upper Valley	6	16	4
Calderdale	31	38	25

The table below indicates the quality of courts based on only local authority courts

Table 8.5: Quality of local authority courts by analysis area

Analysis area	Good	Standard	Poor
Halifax Central	-	-	5
Halifax North & East	-	-	13
Lower Valley	4	-	1
Upper Valley	-	3	4
Calderdale	4	3	23

The table above highlights that the majority of local authority tennis courts are considered poor quality, with only four courts (at Wellholme Park) rated as good. This is likely to be having an impact on people taking part in recreational tennis. This table also therefore indicates that the majority of the good and standard quality courts are located at private sites and at schools.

Table 8.5 below indicates the full breakdown and quality of each of the courts. Quality assessments have been done via site visits, surveys and LTA audits. The capacity of courts is not driven by quality but this is a key consideration when looking at future investment and long term sustainability of clubs, and, as mentioned, the propensity for people playing recreational tennis in parks.

Maintenance is also a key consideration as the estimated lifespan of a macadam court is ten years, depending on levels of use and maintenance levels. To ensure courts can continued to be used beyond this time frame, it is recommended that a sinking fund is put into place for eventual refurbishment. The LTA reports that this should cost £1,200 a year per macadam court (which includes ongoing maintenance costs).

LTA guidelines for the capacity of courts is 40 members per outdoor court which rises to 60 if the court is floodlit. If there is also an indoor court on the club site this has a capacity of 200 members. Indoor court information is contained within the page footer of the table. The capacity for courts is the number of members considered to be required in order that the courts are sustainable.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 8.6: Table of quality and capacity

Site name	Ownership	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of courts	Floodlit?	Court type	Court quality	Capacity	Comments
Bradshaw Park	LA	Halifax North and East	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Unplayable	-	Closed to public due to poor quality
Brighthouse High School	School	Lower Valley	No	5	No	Macadam	Standard	-	School site currently unavailable for community use
Brooksbank School	School	Lower Valley	Yes	4	No	Macadam	Good	-	Used by Elland TC
Calder High School	School	Upper Valley	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Standard	-	Site currently only has one net.
				3		Artificial			
Calder Holmes Park	LA	Upper Valley	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Unplayable	-	No nets up but open access – no charge
Centre Vale Park	LA	Upper Valley	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Unplayable	-	One macadam court recently resurfaced, however it has been laid incorrectly, leading to drainage issues. Court unplayable in wet weather. The remaining two courts are also currently unplayable Shared location with Todmorden Sports Centre.
				1			Unplayable	-	
Cragg Vale Tennis Club	Club	Upper Valley	No	2	1	Macadam	Standard	100	Line markings described by club as poor.
Crossley Heath School	School	Halifax Central	Yes	3	No	Macadam	Standard	-	School site used by Akroydon Tennis Club
Crow Wood Park	LA	Halifax North and East	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Poor	-	Open – no charge. Surface considerably worn - red/green paint has almost disappeared and lines faint. Occasional evidence of root disturbance on the far side of the court, leading to cracking. Uneven court surface around net posts requires attention to rectify Fencing on court adjoining MUGA requires attention. Attempts have been made to temporarily patch but this is insufficient and poses a hazard to court users
Elland Cricket Club and Athletic Club	Club	Lower Valley	No	2	2	Artificial	Good	120	Good quality courts and well maintained despite being 12 years old.
Holmfield Recreation Ground	LA	Halifax North and East	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Unplayable	-	No nets up but open access – no charge
Lightcliffe Academy	Academy trust	Lower Valley	No	5	No	Macadam	Good	-	School site currently unavailable for community use
Millfold Recreation Ground	LA	Upper Valley	Yes	2	2	Macadam	Standard	-	Open – no charge. Relative to other park sites in the Authority, the tennis provision at Millfold Recreation Ground was assessed as Good. The site is well maintained, sharing its grounds with Ripponden Bowling Club (who manage the courts), and is covered by CCTV Some moss build up on the courts.
Mixenden Urban Park	LA	Halifax North and East	Yes	3	No	Macadam	Unplayable	-	Closed to public due to poor quality. Site essentially derelict with considerable cracks in the surface and root disturbance. Lots of debris and signs of vandalism. Fencing fallen down completely around much of the site.
Mytholmroyd Tennis Club	Church - rented by Club	Upper Valley	No	2	No	Macadam	Standard	80	Club report that the courts are in need of resurfacing.
Northowram Recreation Ground	LA	Halifax North and East	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Unplayable	-	Closed to public due to poor quality
Park Lane High School	Academy trust	Halifax Central	No	2	No	Macadam	Standard	-	School site currently unavailable for community use
Park Tennis Club	Club	Lower Valley	Yes	2	No	Shale	Standard	80	Courts are over 40 years old and in need of resurfacing.
Queens Tennis Club	Club	Halifax Central	Yes	4	2	Artificial	Good	760 ¹⁸	Pay and Play available to the public, however users report high court hire prices.
				2	2	Macadam			
Rastrick High School	School	Lower Valley	No	2	Yes	Macadam	Poor	-	School site currently unavailable for community use

¹⁸ Two indoor courts also on site.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site name	Ownership	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of courts	Floodlit?	Court type	Court quality	Capacity	Comments
Rastrick Tennis Club	Club	Lower Valley	No	4	No	Macadam	Good	360 ¹⁹	One outdoor court resurfaced and repainted and indoor court lines repainted both in 2015.
Rishworth School	School	Upper Valley	No	2	No	Macadam	Standard	-	School site currently unavailable for community use
Ryburn Valley High School	School	Upper Valley	No	4	No	Macadam	Good	-	Some evidence of unofficial use. Open access courts.
Shelf Hall Park	LA	Halifax North and East	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Poor	-	Open – no charge
Sowerby Bridge High School	School	Halifax Central	No	5	No	Macadam	Standard	-	School site currently unavailable for community use
Sowerby Tennis and Bowling Club	Club	Upper Valley	No	2	No	Macadam	Good	80	Courts resurfaced in 2012
Spring Hall	LA	Halifax Central	Yes	5	No	Macadam	Unplayable	-	Closed to public due to poor quality
Stainland Recreation Ground	LA	Lower Valley	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Unplayable	-	Closed to public due to poor quality
Todmorden Tennis Club	Club	Upper Valley	No	2	No	Shale	Standard	80	Weather impacted on shale courts. Club would like to move to Centre Vale Park and improve courts at that site.
Trinity Academy	School	Halifax North and East	Yes	4	No	Macadam	Standard	-	School site currently unavailable for community use
Wellholme Park	LA	Lower Valley	Yes	4	No	Macadam	Good	-	Bookable while pool open. Mon-Friday 7am-9pm, Sat 8am-6pm, and Sun 9am-6pm. Courts well maintained with the red/green painting making the site aesthetically pleasing. Shared location with Brighouse Pool and Wellholme Park. Currently home to Wellholme Park TC.
William Henry Smith	School	Lower Valley	No	1	No	Macadam	Standard	-	School site currently unavailable for community use

¹⁹ One indoor court also on site.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Floodlighting

There are only nine floodlit courts across the whole of Calderdale. Clubs report that this is an issue, particularly for winter training and clubs must travel outside of the Borough (predominantly to Kirklees) to access floodlit provision.

8.3: Demand

Competitive tennis

There are ten tennis clubs in Calderdale. Where known, membership numbers range from 25 to 381.

Table 8.7: Summary of club membership

Name of club	Number of members			
	Seniors	Juniors	Mini U10	Total
Akroydon Tennis Club	-	-	-	-
Cragg Vale Tennis Club	-	-	-	60
Elland Tennis Club	32	6	0	38
Mytholmroyd Tennis Club	-	-	-	25
Park Tennis Club	60	22	14	96
Queen's Sports Club	275	84	22	381
Rastrick Tennis Club	58	12	0	70
Sowerby Tennis & Bowling Club	-	-	-	34
Todmorden Lawn Tennis Club	46	6	4	56
Wellholme Park Tennis Club	31	25	10	66
Calderdale	502	155	50	826

Queen's Sports Club is the largest club consisting of 275 senior, 84 junior and 22 mini members. The smallest club is Mytholmroyd TC with 25 members. The table below highlights the number of teams each club has:

Table 8.8: Summary of teams:

Name of club	Number of teams			
	Men's	Women's	Mixed	Juniors
Akroydon Tennis Club	2	1	0	0
Cragg Vale Tennis Club	2	0	1	0
Elland Tennis Club	2	2	2	0
Mytholmroyd Tennis Club	1	1	2	0
Park Tennis Club	2	2	3	0
Queen's Sports Club	6	3	3	1
Rastrick Tennis Club	3	3	0	0
Sowerby Tennis & Bowling Club	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Todmorden Lawn Tennis Club	5	2	3	0
Wellholme Park Tennis Club	2	2	2	2
Calderdale	25	16	16	3

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

The table above indicates that there are a total of 25 men's, 16 women's, 16 mixed and three junior teams in Calderdale. The limited number of junior teams identified is attributed to a lack of junior leagues in Calderdale and the juniors that do play compete in the Huddersfield League or wait until they are able to compete in the adult leagues at age 14.

Unmet demand

Three clubs highlighted unmet demand which is shown in the table below:

Table 8.9: Unmet demand

Name of club	Club comments
Cragg Vale Tennis Club	Unmet demand at the home ground in summer and have to rent courts elsewhere for matches.
Elland Tennis Club	Hire courts at Brooksbank School in summer in order to fulfil fixtures.
Todmorden Tennis Club	As the pitch is a shale surface matches are cancelled more than at other sites and courts are hired elsewhere.

Future demand

Only three of the clubs indicated that they intend to increase the number of teams at the Club. This can be seen below.

Table 8.10: Future club demand

Name of club	Number of teams			
	Men's	Women's	Mixed	Juniors
Cragg Vale Tennis Club	-	1	-	2
Elland Tennis Club	1	-	-	-
Rastrick Tennis Club	1	2	-	-
Calderdale	2	3	-	2

8.4: Supply and demand analysis

Using the capacity of courts and the number of members at each club the table below indicates whether the sites are overplayed or have spare capacity and how close they are to the figure considered sustainable.

Table 8.11: Club site capacity

Club name	Current members	Site capacity	Capacity rating	Comments
Akroydon Tennis Club	Unknown	120 ²⁰	Unknown	Club numbers unknown however club is not affiliated to LTA and therefore likely to have spare capacity.
Cragg Vale Tennis Club	60	100	40	Spare capacity for additional members, however club is required to hire external courts in summer.

²⁰ Club plays at Crossley Heath School

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Club name	Current members	Site capacity	Capacity rating	Comments
Elland Tennis Club	38	120	82	Spare capacity for additional members, however club is required to hire external courts in summer.
Mytholmroyd Tennis Club	25	80	55	Spare capacity for additional members but issue with lease means club sustainability is an issue.
Park Tennis Club	96	80	16	Operating over capacity and courts in need of resurfacing.
Queen's Sports Club	381	760	379	Spare capacity due to availability of indoor court. Without indoor court club would be over capacity.
Rastrick Tennis Club	70	360	290	Spare capacity for additional members.
Sowerby Tennis & Bowling Club	34	80	46	Spare capacity for additional members.
Todmorden Lawn Tennis Club	56	80	25	Spare capacity for additional members.
Wellholme Park Tennis Club	66	160	94	Spare capacity for additional members however site is also public park and courts are available for pay and play.

As seen, only Park Tennis Club is operating over capacity and this is at a level that can be sustained by the Club. The remaining clubs all have spare capacity for additional members, including those which have highlighted a want to increase the number of teams, however issues have been highlighted earlier in this section, particularly around quality, which need to be taken in to consideration within the Strategy.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Tennis summary

- ◀ A total of 94 tennis are identified across 32 sites. Of the courts, 54 are available for community use, whilst 20 courts are deemed unplayable.
- ◀ In addition to outdoor courts, indoor courts are also provided at Queens Tennis Club and Rastrick Tennis Club.
- ◀ The majority of courts available for community use are managed by the local authority (56%), with 33% managed for educational use and 11% managed by private clubs.
- ◀ The majority of courts in Calderdale are standard quality (40%), with 31 courts assessed as good quality (33%) and 25 poor quality courts (27%). The majority of good quality courts are in the Lower Valley Analysis Area (19 courts).
- ◀ In addition to 81 macadam courts, there are nine artificial turf and four clay courts.
- ◀ There are only 9 courts serviced by floodlighting. Clubs report that winter training therefore has to take place out of the area.
- ◀ The majority of clubs in Calderdale have secure tenure, with the exception of Mytholmroyd TC and Park TC, both of whom rent home venues.
- ◀ There are ten clubs identified, with membership ranging from 25 to 381 members.
- ◀ Overall there are 25 reported men's teams, 16 women's teams, 16 mixed teams and only three reported junior teams.
- ◀ Of club sites, only Park Tennis Club is currently over capacity. The remaining clubs all have spare capacity for additional members, including Cragg Vale, Elland, Rastrick and Todmoden tennis clubs which express either unmet demand, resulting in renting courts off site, or future demand from increasing membership numbers.
- ◀ The LTA suggests that a non-floodlit court can accommodate 40 members, whereas a floodlit court can accommodate 60 members. Any club that is exceeding such membership figures may therefore require access to additional courts or additional floodlighting.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 9: BOWLS

9.1: Introduction

All bowling greens in Calderdale are crown green with the exception of Wellholme Park where there is one flat green.

The Sport England guidance for producing a PPS is not as applicable for bowling greens. The purpose of this section therefore is to highlight the current supply of bowling greens and to provide insight in to the current demand in Calderdale.

Consultation

There are 45 bowls clubs in Calderdale, with a mix of private and council facilities. Consultation with the Halifax & District Bowling Association provided information on membership numbers. In addition to this 19 clubs responded to the club survey. Bowls is popular in Calderdale and at many clubs across the Borough the sport is thriving.

9.2: Supply

A total of 41 bowling greens are identified across 36 different sites in Calderdale. Approximately half of the greens are council owned. Greens that are owned by the Council are maintained by the Council and privately owned greens are maintained by the clubs.

Quality

Site assessments were not carried out as part of this study however where clubs have responded to the survey the quality scores are recorded in the table below. Individual consultation by the Council with the clubs in 2013 indicated that it is generally considered across Calderdale that the local authority greens are of poorer quality than the private sites. The table below indicates quality ratings from club surveys:

Table 9.1: Quality scores from club surveys

Club	Ownership	Quality score
Allan Park	Council	Poor
Bradshaw Park	Council	Poor
Crow Wood Park	Council	Good
Holmfield Park	Council	Standard
Hollins	Council	Standard
Northowram Park	Council	Standard
Ripponden Park	Council	Good
Shelf Hall Park	Council	Good
Siddal Park BC	Council	Standard
Spring Hall Park BC	Council	Standard
Stainland Park BC	Council	Standard
Halifax BC	Club	Good
Eland WMC BC	Club	Good
Sowerby Tennis and BC	Club	Good

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9.3: Supply and demand analysis

Demand

The demand at each of the clubs is based on the number of members it has. For private sites where membership numbers were unknown the Halifax & District Bowling Association provided estimates of club numbers.

Capacity is very much dependent on the leagues and the day that they operate. A green may have no spare capacity on an afternoon/evening when a popular league is operating but may be empty for the rest of the week. However, in many cases greens are used during the afternoons by club members which bowl socially or public use of a season pass.

Guidance from Bowls England suggests that an average green with less than 60 members would have spare capacity for additional members. Based on this figure, and the number of members at each site, the table below indicates how much spare capacity there is at each of the greens.

Table 9.2: Site capacity

Site name	Analysis Area	No. of greens	Capacity	Members	Capacity rating
Akroyd Victoria Bowls Club	Halifax Central	1	60	100	
Allan Park	Halifax Central	1	60	50	
Bradshaw Park	Halifax North and East	1	60	49	
Brighouse Sports Club	Lower Valley	2	120	100	
Centre Vale Park	Upper Valley	4	240	124	
Crow Wood Park	Halifax Central	1	60	31	
Elland Cricket Club and Athletic Club	Lower Valley	2	120	110	
Elland WMC	Lower Valley	1	60	80	
Greenroyd Bowls Club	Halifax Central	1	60	100	
Greetland Cricket Club	Lower Valley	1	60	80	
Halifax Bowls Club	Halifax North and East	1	60	150	
Hill Crest Bowls Club	Halifax Central	1	60	70	
Hipperholme & Lightcliffe Bowls Club	Lower Valley	1	60	90	
Holmfield Recreation Ground	Halifax North and East	1	60	35	
Hove Edge Bowls Club	Lower Valley	1	60	140	
King Cross Social Club	Halifax Central	1	60	60	
Kingston Social Club	Halifax Central	1	60	50	
Laurel Crescent	Halifax North and East	1	60	40	
Luddendenfoot	Upper Valley	1	60	70	
Mytholmroyd Bowls Club	Upper Valley	1	60	80	
Northowram Recreation Ground	Halifax North and East	1	60	36	
Old Town Bowls Club	Upper Valley	1	60	70	

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Site name	Analysis Area	No. of greens	Capacity	Members	Capacity rating
Outlane Bowling Club	Lower Valley	1	60	200 ²¹	
Pellon Lane Social Club	Halifax North and East	1	60	45	
Rastrick Bowls Club	Lower Valley	1	60	Unknown	
Ripponden Park	Upper Valley	1	60	69	
Shelf Hall Park	Halifax North and East	1	60	37	
Shroggs Park	Halifax North and East	1	60	Unknown	
Siddal Recreation Ground	Halifax Central	1	60	61	
Sowerby Tennis and Bowling Club	Upper Valley	1	60	50	
Spring Hall	Halifax Central	1	60	38	
Stafford Bowls Club	Halifax Central	1	60	Unknown	
Stainland Recreation Ground	Lower Valley	1	60	62	
Walsden Cricket and Bowling Club	Upper Valley	1	60	Not in use due to flood damage	
Wellholme Park	Lower Valley	1	60	40	
West End Bowls Club	Halifax Central	1	60	90	

The table above indicates that many of the sites are over the 60 member's threshold demonstrating that bowls is thriving in many parts of the Borough. Where there is spare capacity it is only on a few sites that the amounts of spare capacity is significant. Where there are less than 30 members at a site consideration should be given as to whether one green could accommodate the demand of two clubs. The key challenge is on local authority greens that are currently managed and maintained by the Council and the sustainability of these site in the future.

Table 9.3 Bowling green capacity analysis

Analysis area	Potential Capacity ²²	Current Members	Capacity Rating
Halifax Central	600	650	50
Halifax North and East	420	392	28
Lower Valley	660	702	42
Upper Valley	540	463	77
CALDERDALE	2220	2207	13

Table 9.3. shows that overall there is spare capacity across Calderdale with Halifax North and East and Upper Valley analysis areas displaying ample spare capacity. There is overlap in the Halifax Central and Lower Valley analysis areas, however this is negated by the aforementioned spare capacity in the two other respective areas. The data would suggest that there is ample supply of bowling greens within Calderdale, not including those with unknown membership numbers or unused greens.

²¹ Bowling and social members

²² Greens with an unknown number of members or not in use have been discounted from potential capacity

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There are a number of disused sites, which either did not receive sufficient play to make them viable or the site upon which they sit has plans to be developed or utilised for an alternative use.

Table 9.4: Disused Bowling Greens

Site name	Number of greens	Comments
Albion Bowls Club	1	Site is now disused.
Hollins Inn	1	Disused green. The land belongs to adjacent children's nursery who plan to use the site.
Mixenden Urban Park	1	One disused green, no longer has a pavilion on site as it has been demolished.
Wellholme Park	1	One green on the site is now disused, despite another green still being in use.

Bowling greens summary

- ◀ There are 40 crown bowling greens in Calderdale provided across 35 sites with two double green sites and one site with four greens, Centre Vale Park. There is one flat green, at Wellholme Park.
- ◀ There are 45 bowling clubs in Calderdale, utilising both Council and private club sites.
- ◀ It is generally considered that greens at council sites are poorer quality than those at private or club managed sites.
- ◀ Many of the greens in Calderdale are over the 60 member threshold demonstrating that bowls is thriving in many parts of the Borough.
- ◀ Some greens in the Calderdale have become disused, either due to insufficient play to make them viable or due to the site being developed upon.

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 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: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)

Sport England has recently released its new five year strategy 'Towards an Active Nation'. The aim is to target the 28% of people who do less than 30 minutes of exercise each week and will focus on the least active groups; typically women, the disabled and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

Sport England will invest up to £30m on a plan to increase the number of volunteers in grassroots sport. Emphasis will be on working with a larger range of partners with less money being directed towards National Governing Bodies.

The Strategy will help deliver against the five health, social and economic outcomes set out in the Government's Sporting Future strategy.

- ◀ Physical Wellbeing
- ◀ Mental Wellbeing
- ◀ Individual Development
- ◀ Social & Community Development
- ◀ Economic Development

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National Planning Policy Framework

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 Game Strategy (2015 – 2019)

The Football Association's (FA) National Game Strategy provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities, expenditure proposals and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a four year period. The main issues facing grassroots football are identified as:

- ◀ Sustain and Increase Participation.
- ◀ Ensure access to education sites to accommodate the game.
- ◀ Help players to be the best that they can be and provide opportunities for them to progress from grassroots to elite.
- ◀ Recruit, retain and develop a network of qualified referees
- ◀ Support clubs, leagues and other competition providers to develop a safe, inclusive and positive football experience for everyone.
- ◀ Support Clubs and Leagues to become sustainable businesses, understanding and serving the needs of players and customers.
- ◀ Improve grass pitches through the pitch improvement programme to improve existing facilities and changing rooms.
- ◀ Deliver new and improved facilities including new Football Turf Pitches.
- ◀ Work with priority Local Authorities enabling 50% of mini-soccer and youth matched to be played on high quality artificial grass pitches.

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England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Cricket Unleashed 5 Year Plan

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic five-year plan in 2016 (available at <http://www.cricketunleashed.com>). Its success will be measured by the number of people who play, follow or support the whole game.

The plan sets out five important headline elements and each of their key focuses, these are:

- ◀ **More Play** – make the game more accessible and inspire the next generation of players, coaches, officials and volunteers. Focus on:
 - *Clubs and leagues*
 - *Kids*
 - *Communities*
 - *Casual*
- ◀ **Great Teams** – deliver winning teams who inspire and excite through on-field performance and off-field behaviour. Focus on:
 - *Pathway*
 - *Support*
 - *Elite Teams*
 - *England Teams*
- ◀ **Inspired Fans** – put the fan at the heart of our game to improve and personalise the cricket experience for all. Focus on:
 - *Fan focus*
 - *New audiences*
 - *Global stage*
 - *Broadcast and digital*
- ◀ **Good Governance and Social Responsibility** – make decisions in the best interests of the game and use the power of cricket to make a positive difference. Focus on:
 - *Integrity*
 - *Community programmes*
 - *Our environments*
 - *One plan*
- ◀ **Strong Finance and Operations** – increase the game's revenues, invest our resources wisely and administer responsibly to secure the growth of the game. Focus on:
 - *People*
 - *Revenue and reach*
 - *Insight*
 - *Operations*

The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017)

The RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners. It identifies that with 1.5 million players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

- ◀ Create a platform for growth in club rugby participation and membership, especially with a view to exploiting the opportunities afforded by RWC 2015.

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- ◀ Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of rugby clubs, through supporting not only their playing activity but also their capacity to generate revenue through a diverse range of activities and partnerships.

In summary the priorities for investment which have met the needs of the game for the Previous period remain valid:

- ◀ Increase the provision of changing rooms and clubhouses that can sustain concurrent adult and junior male and female activity at clubs
- ◀ Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches and floodlighting
- ◀ Increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development

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

- ◀ Upgrade and transform social, community and catering facilities, which can support the generation of additional revenues
- ◀ Facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs
- ◀ Pitch furniture, including rugby posts and pads, pitch side spectator rails and grounds maintenance equipment

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

EH have a clear vision, a powerful philosophy and five core objectives that all those who have a role in advancing Hockey can unite behind. With UK Sport and Sport England's investment, and growing commercial revenues, EH are ambitious about how they can take the sport forward in Olympic cycles and beyond.

"The vision is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters'. A nation where hockey is talked about at dinner tables, playgrounds and public houses, up and down the country. A nation where the sport is on the back pages of our newspapers, where children dream of scoring a goal for England's senior hockey team, and where the performance stirs up emotion amongst the many, not the few"

England Hockey aspires to deepen the passion of those who play, deliver and follow sport by providing the best possible environments and the best possible experiences. Whilst reaching out to new audiences by making the sport more visible, available and relevant and through the many advocates of hockey.

Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes the sport function. EH understand the importance of volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational people can be, the more progressive Hockey can be and the more befitting the facilities can be, the more EH will achieve. The core objectives are as follows:

- ◀ Grow our Participation
- ◀ Deliver International Success
- ◀ Increase our Visibility
- ◀ Enhance our Infrastructure
- ◀ Be a strong and respected Governing Body

England Hockey has a Capital Investment Programme (CIP), that is planned to lever £5.6 million investment into hockey facilities over the next four years, underpinned by £2m million from the National Governing Body. With over 500 pitches due for refurbishment in the next

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4-8 years, there will be a large focus placed on these projects through this funding stream. The current level of pitches available for hockey is believed to be sufficient for the medium term needs, however in some areas, pitches may not be in the right places in order to maximize playing opportunities.

‘The right pitches in the right places’²³

In 2012, EH released its facility guidance which is intended to assist organisations wishing to build or protect hockey pitches for hockey. It identifies that many existing hockey AGPs are nearing the end of their useful life as a result of the installation boom of the 90’s. Significant investment is needed to update the playing stock and protect the sport against inappropriate surfaces for hockey as a result of the rising popularity of AGPs for a number of sports. EH is seeking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers which have a sound understanding of the following:

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

England Hockey Strategy

EH’s new Club Strategy will assist hockey clubs to retain more players and recruit new members to ultimately grow their club membership. EH will be focusing on participation growth through this strategy for the next two years. The EH Strategy is based on seven core themes. These are:

- 1 Having great leadership
- 2 Having Appropriate and Sustainable Facilities
- 3 Inspired and Effective People
- 4 Different Ways to Play
- 5 Staying Friendly, Social and Welcoming
- 6 Being Local with Strong Community Connections
- 7 Stretching and developing those who want it

The Rugby Football League Facility Strategy

The RFL’s Facilities Strategy was published in 2011. The following themes have been prioritised:

- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe & Playable
- ◀ Sustainable clubs
- ◀ Environmental Sustainability
- ◀ Geographical Spread
- ◀ Non-club Facilities

²³

<http://englandhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=1143§ionTitle=The+Right+Pitches+in+the+Right+Places>

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The RFL Facilities Trust website www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk provides further information on:

- ◀ The RFL Community Facility Strategy
- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe and Playable Programme
- ◀ Pitch Size Guidance
- ◀ The RFL Performance Standard for Artificial Grass Pitches
- ◀ Club guidance on the Annual Preparation and Maintenance of the Rugby League Pitch

Further to the 2011 Strategy detail on the following specific programmes of particular relevance to pitches and facility planning are listed below and can be found via the trust link (see above):

- ◀ The RFL Pitch Improvement Programme 2013 – 2017
- ◀ Clean, Dry and Safe programmes 2013 - 2017