



CALDERDALE

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|------|---|
| 3G | Third Generation (artificial grass pitch) |
| AGP | Artificial Grass Pitch |
| CC | Cricket Club |
| CIL | Community Infrastructure Levy |
| CSP | County Sports Partnership |
| CASC | Community Amateur Sports Club |
| ECB | England and Wales Cricket Board |
| EH | England Hockey |
| FA | Football Association |
| FC | Football Club |
| FE | Further Education |
| GIS | Geographical Information Systems |
| HC | Hockey Club |
| HE | Higher Education |
| IOG | Institute of Groundmanship |
| JFC | Junior Football Club |
| KKP | Knight, Kavanagh and Page |
| LDF | Local Development Framework |
| LMS | Last Man Stands |
| NGB | National Governing Body |
| NPPF | National Planning Policy Framework |
| PQS | Performance Quality Standard |
| PPS | Playing Pitch Strategy |
| PF | Playing Field |
| RFU | Rugby Football Union |
| RUFC | Rugby Union Football Club |
| S106 | Section 106 Agreement |
| TGR | Team Generation Rate |
| U | Under |
| YFC | Youth Football Club |

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for Calderdale Borough Council and has been developed in accordance with Sport England methodology. The strategy has been researched by Knight, Kavanagh and Page (KKP) under the direction of a Steering Group led by the Council and including the National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) whose member clubs are the main users of playing pitches in the Borough.

While the Strategy is for the Borough rather than the Council per se, the Council has a pivotal role to play as the main provider of pitches. That being said, the strategy has to be considered within the context of the reduction in funding to local authorities and the need to make large savings.

Against this background, a Strategy becomes essential to ensure that available funding is used as effectively as possible to enable the prioritisation of potential new funding, whether from developer contributions or grant funding, and to identify new ways of providing well-maintained playing pitches in the Borough. In order for the Strategy to be of value, it is therefore essential that all the partners work together to ensure where possible that the quantity and quality of playing pitches is maintained and where opportunities arise to be improved.

The production of this Strategy should be regarded as the beginning of the planning process and the role of the steering group should not end with the completion of the PPS document, with regular meetings to action and update the study recommended. The steering group should continue to comprise of NGB representatives (FA, ECB, EH, RFL, RFU, LTA) as well Sport England, selected members of the Council and, if applicable, key stakeholders (such as leisure providers and partner clubs).

Scope of Strategy

Building upon a preceding Assessment Report it provides a strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2017 and 2022. The PPS covers the following playing pitches and outdoor sports:

- ◀ Football pitches
- ◀ Third generation turf (3G) pitches
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches
- ◀ Rugby league
- ◀ Hockey pitches (Sand/water-based AGPs)
- ◀ Tennis courts
- ◀ Bowling greens

The Strategy is capable of:

- ◀ Providing adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting outdoor sports facilities, as appropriate, directing open space contributions secured through development and informing and shaping local planning policy.
- ◀ Informing the protection and provision of outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ Informing land use decisions in respect of future use of existing outdoor sports areas and playing fields (capable of accommodating pitches).
- ◀ Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of outdoor sports facilities.

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- ◀ Supporting external funding bids and maximising support for outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ Providing the basis for ongoing monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality and accessibility of outdoor sport facilities.

1.1: Structure

The Strategy has been developed from research and analysis of playing pitch provision and usage within Calderdale to provide:

- ◀ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of playing pitch facilities.
- ◀ 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.
- ◀ The need to provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for improvements to provision.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area action plan to address key issues.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommends a number of priority projects for Calderdale which should be implemented from 2017 to 2022. It is outlined to provide a framework for improvement and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, potential partners and possible sources of external funding may be identified.

The recommendations that come out of this strategy must be translated into local plan policy so there is a policy mechanism to support delivery and secure provision/investment where the opportunity arises.

There is a need to build key partnerships between the Council, National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs), Sport England, schools, further/higher education providers, leisure contractors, community clubs and private landowners to maintain and improve outdoor sport provision. In these instances, the potential for the Council to take a strategic lead is more limited (except in terms of Section 106 Agreements). This document will provide clarity about the way forward, and allow key organisations to focus on the key issues that they can directly influence and achieve.

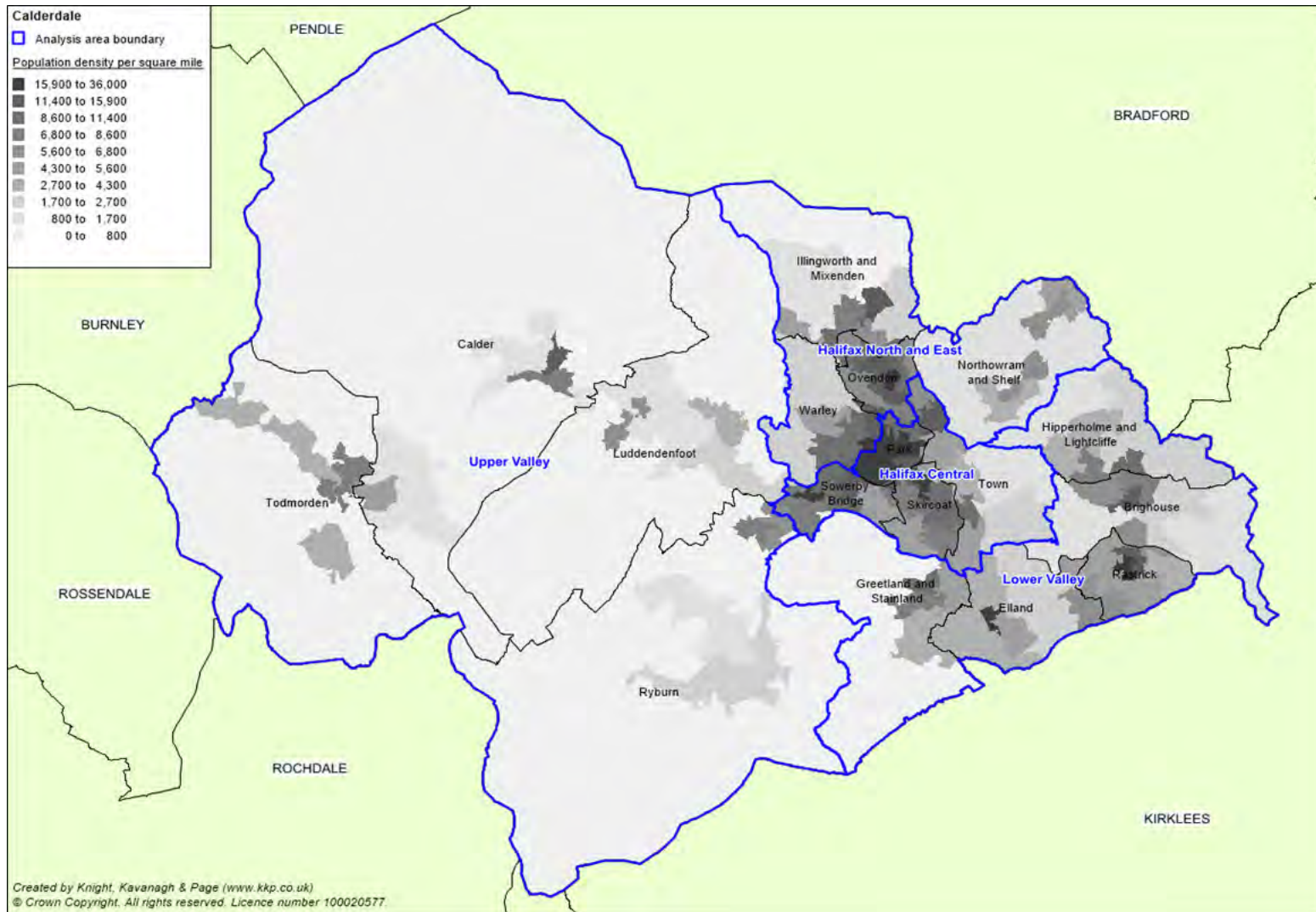
1.2 Study area

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. As such, for the purposes of the project, Calderdale is split into four analysis areas: **Upper Valley**, **Lower Valley**, **Halifax North & East** and **Halifax Central**. Please note, however, that these analysis areas are for guide purposes only and first and foremost there remains a need to view Calderdale as a whole.

See overleaf for map of analysis areas.

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Figure 1.1: Analysis area map



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1.3 Context

The rationale for undertaking the study is to identify current levels of provision within Calderdale across the public, education, voluntary and commercial sectors, and to compare this with current, and likely future levels of demand. The primary purpose of the PPS is therefore to provide a strategic framework which ensures that the provision of outdoor sports facilities meets the local needs of existing and future residents.

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

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

Active Calderdale – A physical activity strategy to deliver the most active borough in the North

The aim of the strategy is:

- ◀ To encourage all residents to be more physically active in any way they choose
- ◀ To make it easy for our residents to make lifestyle choices that increase activity and improve health
- ◀ To target inactive people and places to increase participation
- ◀ To encourage and enable collaboration and co-creation of initiatives to empower communities

There are four delivery modes that will be used to support the strategy:

- ◀ Active Communities
- ◀ Active People
- ◀ Active Places and Environments
- ◀ Active Workplaces

Population

The resident population in Calderdale is recorded as 207,376 (these are the ONS 2014 mid-year estimates).

Housing growth

The current figure for housing development in Calderdale over the Local Plan period to 2032 is 17,651. Lower Valley will see the highest proportion of new developments.

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Definitions

Match equivalent sessions

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

Based on how they tend to be played this unit for football and rugby union pitches relate to a typical week within the season for each sport. For cricket pitches, it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season.

Pitch capacity

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 sport. 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, each NGB 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):

| Sport | Pitch type | No. of matches per week | | |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | | Good quality | Standard quality | Poor quality |
| Football | Adult pitches | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| | Youth pitches | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| | Mini pitches | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| Rugby League | All pitch types (senior, junior, primary) | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Rugby Union ¹ | Natural Inadequate (D0) | 2 | 1.5 | 0.5 |
| | Natural Adequate (D1) | 3 | 2 | 1.5 |
| | Pipe Drained (D2) | 3.25 | 2.5 | 1.75 |
| | Pipe and Slit Drained (D3) | 3.5 | 3 | 2 |
| Cricket | One grass wicket | 5 per season | N/A | N/A |
| | One synthetic wicket | 60 per season | N/A | N/A |

Shortfalls

Please note that for football, cricket and rugby union, shortfalls are expressed in match sessions rather than converted to pitches.

For a full glossary of terms please refer to Appendix Three.

¹ Quality of rugby union pitches is based on drainage and maintenance aspects

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1.4 Headline findings

The table below highlights the *quantitative headline findings* from the Calderdale Playing Pitch Assessment Report. This does not take account of qualitative improvements that will be required at some sites.

Please note that the findings for sand based pitches takes into consideration hockey demand only as football matches cannot be played on the surface and because 3G is also the preferred surface for training demand.

Table 1.1: Quantitative headline findings

| Sport | Analysis area | Current picture | Future demand (2039) ² |
|--------------|---------------|--|--|
| Football | Calderdale | Current demand is being met | Shortfall of 3 youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions |
| 3G AGPs | Calderdale | Shortfall of six full size 3G pitches based on FA training model (Please note that this figure differs from the figures for moving mini/youth match play to 3G). | Shortfall of six full size 3G pitches; pitch/s will require resurface and FA testing |
| Cricket | Calderdale | Current demand is being met although overplay is evident, particularly in Lower Valley analysis area. | Future demand can be met although overplay is evident |
| Rugby league | Calderdale | Current demand is being met although overplay amounts to 19 match equivalent sessions. | There is a future requirement for an increase in floodlit pitches |
| Rugby union | Calderdale | Current demand is being met although overplay amounts to 19 match equivalent sessions. | Requirement for an additional minimum of 4 match equivalent sessions |
| Hockey | Calderdale | Current demand is being met | Future demand can be met although pitches will require resurfacing |
| Tennis | Calderdale | Current demand is being met | Future demand can be met |
| Bowls | Calderdale | Current demand is being met | Future demand can be met |

² Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

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PART 2: VISION

2.1 Vision

This study has been developed on the basis of the above strategic drivers in order to ensure that it reflects the Council's wider ambitions. A vision has been set out to provide a clear focus for the Calderdale Playing Pitch Strategy:

“Provide an accessible, high quality and sustainable network of outdoor sports facilities that promote local opportunities for participation and support Calderdale to become the most active borough in the North of England by 2021.”

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PART 3: OBJECTIVES

The following overarching objectives are based on the three Sport England themes (see figure 1 below). It is recommended that the following are adopted by the steering group, within financial constraints and available resources, and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the Strategy and Sport England planning objectives.

AIM 1

To **promote** and **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sports facilities where they are needed for meeting current and future needs

AIM 2

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

AIM 3

To **provide** new provision where there is current or future demand to do so

Figure 1: Sport England themes



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PART 4: SPORT BY SPORT SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to help develop the recommendations/actions and to understand their potential impact a number of relevant scenario questions are tested against the key issues in this section for the playing pitch sports resulting in the sport specific recommendations. Please note that these recommendations are not just for the Council, but also for all the stakeholders and partners involved.

Football – grass pitches

Summary

The audit identifies a total of 209 football pitches across 91 sites in Calderdale. Of these, 187 are available, at some level, for community use. Of these, 28 are assessed as good quality, 134 as standard quality and 25 are deemed to be poor quality. There is spare capacity across all pitch types except youth 11v11, however this is minimal for youth 9v9 and mini 5v5. Training is an issue for all clubs including semi-professional club FC Halifax Town which currently trains outside of the Borough.

Spare capacity/overplay summary in Calderdale

| Pitch type | Demand (match equivalent sessions) | | | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------|
| | Actual spare capacity ³ | 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 |

Scenarios

Reduction in pitch quality

Given pressure on budgets it is possible that future maintenance may reduce in quantity and quality which would lead to a reduction in pitch quality. If the 59 standard quality adult pitches that are currently used reduce to poor quality there would be a loss of 59 match equivalent sessions. This would mean that the spare capacity would reduce and the pitches would be overplayed by 34.5 match equivalent sessions.

Recommendations

- ✦ Protect existing quantity of pitches.
- ✦ Explore options for providing additional training facilities.
- ✦ Ensure all teams are playing on the correct pitch sizes and explore, where possible, pitch reconfiguration to increase youth 11v11 pitch stock.
- ✦ Where pitches are overplayed and assessed as poor or standard quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality.

³ In match equivalent sessions

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- ◀ Explore options to improve pitch line marking where there is a need to do so.
- ◀ Consider options to reduce unofficial use, i.e. consider removing goalposts between matches at high traffic sites.
- ◀ Encourage security of tenure for all clubs using educational sites through community use agreements.
- ◀ Where appropriate, develop partnerships and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development minded clubs to manage their own sites.
- ◀ Ensure changing facilities remain fit for purpose and seek to improve ancillary facilities rated as poor quality.

Football – 3G pitches

Summary

There are three full size 3G pitches in the Borough, all of which are rated as good quality. There is one in Halifax Central analysis area, one in Lower Valley and one in Halifax North & East. **There are currently no full size 3G pitches in the Upper Valley Analysis Area.**

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. All pitches are reported to be operating at, or close to, capacity.

Due to the nature of the Borough, and in some areas a lack of space for full size AGPs, there are a number of smaller 3G pitches which help support training demand.

Scenarios

Accommodating training demand

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) based on 42 teams per pitch, i.e. 356/42. 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.

To split this down in to individual analysis areas the total need for AGPs is greater due to 'rounding up'. The table below indicates where the most demand for 3G pitches is. The action plan provides recommendations on possible sites for additional 3G pitches.

| Analysis Area | No. of teams (b) | 3G pitch requirement (b/42) | Rounded up | Current number of 3Gs | Shortfall |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Halifax Central | 49 | 1.2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Halifax North & East | 64 | 1.5 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Lower Valley | 172 | 4.1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Upper Valley | 73 | 1.7 | 2 | - | 2 |
| Total: | 358 | 8.5 | 10 | 3 | 7 |

The table above indicates that the greatest need for 3G pitches is the Lower Valley Analysis Area with four. There is also a shortfall of 3G pitches in the Upper Valley Analysis Area where there is currently no provision of full size 3G pitches.

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Moving all competitive mini and 9v9 teams to play on 3G pitches

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 |

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).

NB: Whilst smaller size 3G pitches are not factored into the above calculations, where appropriate they can be used to accommodate demand. If all existing small size 3G pitches also became FA registered to host competitive matches, the total number of full size 3G pitches required would reduce.

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Recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Identify feasible sites to increase provision of full size 3G pitches, particularly in the Upper Valley Analysis Area, to meet training and competitive demand.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have a sinking fund in place to ensure the long-term sustainability of pitches.
- ◀ Ensure pitches currently on the FA register are re-tested every three years to sustain FA approval.
- ◀ If it is not feasible to increase stock of full size 3G pitches, consider increase in smaller sized 3G pitches in order to reduce training shortfalls.

Cricket pitches

Summary

There are 31 grass cricket squares in Calderdale located across 31 sites. All of the squares are available for community use. All pitches are good quality except for two (Hebden Bridge CC and Shelf CC which are standard). 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 where a second ground would help to accommodate overplay. Shelf CC has no security of tenure and is negotiating a new lease.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares.
- ◀ Ensure security of tenure for all clubs
- ◀ Explore options for access to an additional pitch to support overplay at Lightcliffe CC and Northowram Fields CC

Rugby union pitches

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. 11 are assessed as standard quality and 17 are assessed as poor quality. Halifax Vandals and Old Crossleyans do not have access to floodlit pitches at their respective home venues.

Ten pitches are over played in Calderdale, all of which are senior size, amounting to 19 match equivalent sessions.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

All ten overplayed pitches are of poor or standard quality. If poor pitches were improved to standard and standard to good overplay would reduce from 19 match equivalent sessions to nine.

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Removing training from match pitches

If all training was removed from match pitches there would be a reduction of seven match equivalent sessions which would reduce overplay from 19 to twelve match equivalent sessions.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve pitch quality
- ◀ Explore community use aspects at currently unused educational sites.
- ◀ Explore options to remove training from match pitches
- ◀ Consider potential sites for provision of World Rugby compliant 3G pitches

Rugby league pitches

Summary

There are 25 dedicated rugby league pitches in Calderdale (24 senior and one junior) across 18 sites. 56% of rugby league pitches in Calderdale are rated as standard quality, with 20% as poor and 24% as good quality. Access to education facilities and security of tenure is an issue for clubs.

Three analysis areas (Halifax Central, Halifax North & East and Lower Valley) have total shortfalls of 23 match equivalent sessions with the highest (10) in the Lower Valley Analysis Area. Training on match pitches remains the main cause of overplay. Training is an issue for all clubs including semi-professional club Halifax RLFC which currently trains at various venues including Calderdale College and Trinity Academy but requires a secure training base.

Scenarios

Improving pitch quality

If all overplayed poor quality pitches were improved to standard, and standard pitches improved to good, there would be an additional 15 match equivalent sessions available which would reduce overplay from 23 match equivalent sessions to eight.

Removing training from match pitches

If all training was removed from match pitches there would be a reduction of 17 match equivalent sessions which would reduce overplay from 23 to just six match equivalent sessions.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve pitch quality
- ◀ Explore options for providing training away from match pitches and make clubs aware that this option is needed in order to preserve pitch quality.
- ◀ Ensure security of tenure where possible

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Hockey pitches (sand based AGPs)

Summary

There are five full size sand based AGPs suitable for hockey in Calderdale. Four are rated as standard and one as good quality. There is one club in the Borough; Halifax Hockey Club and there are sufficient pitches at the home ground to accommodate current and future demand, however increased access to the pitches may be required if the Club grows.

Recommendations

- ◀ Protect at least two sand-based AGPs for continued hockey use at Halifax Hockey Club.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability.

Tennis

Summary

There are 94 tennis courts identified across 32 sites. Of these 54 are available for community use. The general quality of courts on public local authority sites is poor; there are 20 courts deemed unplayable. Clubs report a need for additional floodlighting to help with winter training. The majority of private clubs do not offer pay and play.

Recommendations

- ◀ Consider quality over quantity, particularly on local authority sites and explore options to provide a hub site approach to provision.
- ◀ Improve court quality where possible
- ◀ Work with clubs to access funding for additional floodlighting
- ◀ Encourage clubs to provide pay and play where possible as a source of additional income to aid sustainability.

Bowls

Summary

There are 40 bowling greens identified across 35 sites. All are considered to be available for community use. 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.

Recommendations

- ◀ Explore options for clubs to take on their own additional maintenance at council owned sites in order to improve quality.
- ◀ Consider options for club mergers where two smaller clubs are located near to each other in order to ensure long term sustainability of bowls in each analysis area.

PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The strategic recommendations for the Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis which culminated in the production of an assessment report, as well as key drivers identified for the Strategy. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed, which apply across outdoor sports facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.

OBJECTIVE 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sports facilities where they are needed for meeting current and future needs

Recommendations:

- a. Ensure, through the use of the Playing Pitch Strategy, that playing pitches are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. Maximise community use of education facilities where there is a need to do so.

Recommendation (a) – Ensure, through the use of the Playing Pitch Strategy, that playing pitches are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used playing field sites require protection or replacement and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. Based on the outcomes of the PPS, local planning policy should reflect this situation.

Despite spare capacity identified on some pitch types it is recommended that this is retained as strategic reserve in order to allow for rest and rotation of pitches and to support continued play when pitches are unavailable, e.g. when pitches are flooded or unavailable due to events.

Furthermore, shortfalls identified in one pitch type e.g. rugby league, could be accommodated on other pitch types that have spare capacity, e.g. football (if pitches are remarked).

NPPF paragraph 74 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

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Lapsed and disused – playing field sites that formerly accommodated playing pitches but are no longer used for formal or informal sports use within the last five years (disused) or longer (lapsed). The following is a list of identified lapsed/disused sites:

| Site | Analysis Area | Comments |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Beechwood Park | Halifax North and East | Site includes other pitches |
| Burnley Fields (Brearley Fields) | Upper Valley | Regularly floods. Unusable |
| Cemetery Fields | Halifax Central | Not used officially for over 5 years. Set of kick about goals at one end. A group planning to set up a team expressed interest in the site last year but have not followed up |
| Field Lane Recreation Ground | Lower Valley | Last used 2009/10 season after which the Brighouse Football league folded |
| Former Sacred Heart Playing Fields | Halifax Central | The field was last used for a Sports Day on 12 July 2013. |
| Harley Wood Playing Fields | Upper Valley | Not used formally since 2008. Aerial photography shows a set of posts up in 2009. The area was cut for hay in 2013 |
| Roils Head Playing Fields | Halifax North and East | Last booking was for a friendly match in August 2009 |
| Spring Hall Athletics Facility | Halifax Central | Last used formally in the 2008/9 season. Set of posts up for informal use |
| Stainland Recreation Ground | Lower Valley | Site includes other pitches |

The pitches at Burnley Fields (Brearley 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.

For football the current stock appears to be providing adequate provision for demand in terms of quantity, and in the majority of cases, quality, albeit some quality improvements are required. There are however shortfalls for rugby union and rugby league **and it is recommended that the Steering Group considers the value and appropriateness of the sites above for providing additional rugby union and/or rugby league capacity.**

New housing development - where proposed housing development is located within access of a high quality playing pitch, this does not necessarily mean that there is no need for further pitch provision or improvements to existing pitches in that area in order to accommodate additional demand arising from that development. The PPS should be used to help determine what impact the new development will have on the demand and capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for improvements to increase capacity or if new provision is required.

Using the 'New Development Calculator for Pitch Sports' the table overleaf indicates the number of match equivalent sessions (rounded up) that would be required if 17,651⁴ new homes are built across Calderdale over the next five years.

⁴ Equating to 40,597 people based on the average household occupancy rate of 2.3 people.

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| Pitch type | Match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket) |
|------------------|---|
| Football - Adult | 9.49 |
| Football - Youth | 4.21 |
| Football - Mini | 5.19 |
| Cricket | 232.96 |
| Rugby union | 3.87 |
| Rugby league | 5.55 |

Development management - the PPS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis taking into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England as statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing field will use the PPS to help assess that planning application against paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and their Playing Fields Policy.

Sport England's playing field policy exception E1 only allows for development of lapsed or disused playing fields if a PPS shows a clear excess in the quantity of playing pitch provision at present and in the future across all playing pitch sports types and sizes.

Policy Exception E1:

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

Where the PPS cannot demonstrate the site, or part of a site, is clearly surplus to requirements then replacement of the site, or part of a site, will be required to comply with Sport England policy exception E4.

Policy Exception E4:

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

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

Further to this, all playing fields should be protected or replaced up until the point where all satisfied demand has been met within the study area or each individual sports catchment areas within a sub area.

Local authorities wanting to dispose of school playing field land need consent under Section 77 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998, but consent is now also required for disposal of any land used by a school or academy under Schedule 1 to the Academies Act 2010.

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It should be noted that consent under Section 77 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act does not necessarily mean subsequent planning approval will be granted. Therefore, any application for planning permission must meet the requirements of the relevant policy, in this case paragraph 74 of Framework, Local Plan Policy and Sport England policy. Indeed, applicants are advised to engage Sport England before submitting applications. Robust implementation of the statutory obligation will ensure protection of school playing fields for use by pupils (and sometimes the community as a whole) to ensure receipt is ploughed back into sports education.

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

A number of school sites are being used in Calderdale for competitive play, predominately for football. In all cases use of pitches has not been classified as unsecure, however, use is not always formalised and **it is recommended that partners work with the schools to make sure that a Community Use Agreement (CUA) is in place (including access to changing provision where required).**

- ◀ In particular, use of Hipperholme Grammar School pitches by Old Brodleian's RUFC requires a formal agreement to be put in place as the Club would have additional shortfalls should use be removed.

NGBs can often help to negotiate and engage with schools where the local authority may not have direct influence.

Sport England has also produced guidance, online resources and toolkits to help open up and retain school sites for community use and can be found at:
<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/use-our-school/>

Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council, NGBs or the County Sports Partnership (CSP) to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership working. For example, support club development and encourage clubs to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate an income through their facilities. All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)⁵. Clubs should also be encouraged to work with partners locally whether volunteer support agencies or linking with local businesses.

As well as improving the quality of well-used, local authority sites, there are a number of sites which have poor quality (or no) ancillary facilities. **The Council should further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted to the clubs playing on these sites so the clubs are in a position to apply for external funding to improve the facilities.**

⁵ <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

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Physical access to sites can also be an issue and is not restricted to education facilities. **It is recommended that alternative access solutions are considered as a way to increase participation as well as reducing the need for an operative to be available to open/close facilities and thus reducing cost:**

- ◀ Examples to consider include password protected keypad locks, particularly for tennis courts and AGPs which tend to be fenced and locked facilities.

Community asset transfer

The Council has a policy which supports community management and ownership of assets by local clubs, community groups and trusts. This presents sports clubs and national governing bodies with opportunities to take ownership of their own facilities; it may also provide non-asset owning sports clubs with their first chance to take on a building. As part of this the key criteria is that the organisation taking on an asset can demonstrate added value. In some instances this could make it difficult for sports clubs that are already performing well to be able to demonstrate further added value as potentially a club may already be at capacity. **It is therefore recommended that the Council looks to review this policy, particularly in relation to sports organisations taking on assets.**

The Sport England Community Sport Asset Transfer Toolkit is a bespoke, interactive web based tool that provides a step-by-step guide through each stage of the asset transfer process: <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/community-asset-transfer/>

Recommendation (c) Maximise community use of education facilities where there is a need to do so.

It is not uncommon for school pitch stock not to be fully maximised for community use. Even on established community use sites, access to grass pitches for community use is limited. In order to maximise community use of educational facilities it is recommended to establish a more coherent, structured relationship with schools. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train. In Calderdale, pricing policies at facilities can be a barrier to access at some of the education sites, particularly for 3G pitches, but physical access, poor quality and resistance from schools, especially some academies, to open up provision is also an issue. Pricing was raised as an issue by clubs at the following venues:

- ◀ Calderdale College 3G pitch

A large number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the schools and the local clubs. In some instances grass pitches are unavailable for community use due to poor quality and therefore remedial works will be required before community use can be established. The low carrying capacity of these pitches sometimes leads to them being played to capacity or overplayed simply due to curricular and extra-curricular use, meaning they cannot accommodate any additional use by the community.

There are a number of school sites in Calderdale which appear to have spare capacity that could be utilised by community clubs. Although this may later prove to be unviable the list below provides a starting point for discussions:

- ◀ Park Lane High
- ◀ Brighouse High School

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- ◀ Rastrick High School
- ◀ Todmorden High
- ◀ Cliffe Hill Primary
- ◀ Greetland Academy
- ◀ Hebden Royd Primary
- ◀ Moorside Primary
- ◀ Old Earth Primary
- ◀ Ripponden Primary

There are also instances where school sites may currently be assessed as poor quality, and have no capacity for community use, but with investment and pitch improvements could offer use to local clubs. There are a number of school forums that take place in Calderdale and **it is recommended that these are used as a vehicle for working with schools to gain access to sports facilities.**

As detailed earlier, Sport England has also produced guidance, online resources and toolkits to help open up and retain school sites for community use and can be found at:

Community Use: <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/accessing-schools/>

Use Our Schools Toolkit: <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/use-our-school/>

Although there are a growing number of academies in Calderdale that the Council has no control over the running of, it is still important to understand the significance of such sites and attempt to work with the schools where there are opportunities for community use. In addition, the relevant NGB has a role to play in supporting the Council to deliver the strategy and communicating with schools where necessary.

OBJECTIVE 2

To enhance playing pitches through improving quality and management of sites

Recommendations:

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

Recommendation (d) – Improve quality

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to improve quality, including, for example, asset transfer, reducing unofficial use, addressing overplay, installing drainage systems and improving maintenance.

Some key sites in Calderdale, **such as Savile Park**, are also used to host events which can have a detrimental effect on pitch quality.

Addressing quality issues

A higher percentage of the pitches in Calderdale were assessed as standard quality when compared to neighbouring local authorities. In part this is attributed to sustained levels of maintenance which includes Verti-draining. **It is recommended that this level of maintenance continues to ensure pitch quality is sustained/improved.**

For pitches assessed as poor quality and/or overplayed, maintenance regimes should be reviewed and, where possible, improved to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring existing maintenance of good quality pitches continues is also important.

It is also important to note the role the weather has on pitch quality. The worse the weather is, the poorer the pitches will become, especially if there is no adequate drainage system in place. This also means pitch quality can vary year on year depending on how good or bad the weather is.

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

For the purposes of the Quality Assessments, the Strategy will refer to pitches and ancillary facilities separately as Good, Standard or Poor quality. For example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements i.e. changing rooms or a specific pitch.

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

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

Poor quality refers to pitches that have, for example, inadequate grass cover, uneven surface and poor drainage. For rugby, pitches will have inadequate natural drainage. In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate size of changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old, dated interior.

Please refer to the Sport England/NGB quality assessments. Sites played beyond capacity may require remedial action to help reduce this.

Without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, some pitches are underutilised, particularly for adult football. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer and therefore key sites should be given priority for improvement.

In order to prioritise investment into key sites **it is recommended that the steering group works up a list of criteria, relevant to Calderdale, to provide a steer on future investment.** It is the responsibility of the whole steering group to agree upon this and also to attend regular update meetings.

For improvement/replacement of AGPs refer to Sport England and the NGBs 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' document for a guide as to suitable AGP surfaces:

www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/

As previously highlighted, **there is a requirement for at least two sand based AGPs to be retained in the Borough to accommodate hockey demand both now and in the future.**

Addressing overplay

In order to improve the overall quality of the playing pitches stock; it is necessary to ensure that pitches are not overplayed beyond recommended weekly carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing pitch quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a weekly match limit to each. Each NGB recommends a number of matches that a good quality pitch should take:

| Sport | Pitch type | No. of matches | | |
|----------|---------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| | | Good quality | Standard quality | Poor quality |
| Football | Adult pitches | 3 per week | 2 per week | 1 per week |
| | Youth pitches | 4 per week | 2 per week | 1 per week |
| | Mini pitches | 6 per week | 4 per week | 2 per week |

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| Sport | Pitch type | No. of matches | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| | | Good quality | Standard quality | Poor quality |
| Rugby union* | Natural Inadequate (D0) | 2 per week | 1.5 per week | 0.5 per week |
| | Natural Adequate (D1) | 3 per week | 2 per week | 1.5 per week |
| | Pipe Drained (D2) | 3.25 per week | 2.5 per week | 1.75 per week |
| | Pipe and Slit Drained (D3) | 3.5 per week | 3 per week | 2 per week |
| Rugby league | Senior pitches | 3 per week | 2 per week | 1 per week |
| Cricket | One grass wicket | 5 per season | N/A | N/A |
| | One synthetic wicket | 60 per season | | |
| Hockey | Sand/water based AGP | Four matches per day | N/A | N/A |

* Please note that the RFU believes that it is most appropriate to base the calculation of pitch capacity upon an assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme afforded to a site.

A cost effective way to reduce overplay and unofficial use could be to remove goalposts in between match days, particularly at open access, high traffic sites that are managed by clubs.

There are also sites that are poor quality but are not overplayed. These sites should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than other sites but demand could increase if the quality was to increase. Improving pitch quality should not be considered in isolation from maintenance regimes.

Whilst it works both ways, in so much as, poor pitch condition is a symptom of pitches being overplayed, potential improvements may make sites more attractive and, therefore, more popular; which in the long run can lead again to poor quality pitches if they are not maintained properly.

There is also a need to balance pitch improvements alongside the transfer of play to alternative pitch sites. Therefore, work with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity and encourage play, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues which are not operating at capacity.

Increasing maintenance

Standard or poor grass pitch quality may not just be a result of poor drainage. In some instances ensuring there is an appropriate maintenance for the level/standard of play can help to improve quality and therefore increase pitch capacity. Each NGB can provide assistance with reviewing pitch maintenance regimes.

The FA and ECB are part of the Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP) which has been developed in partnership with Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG) to develop a Grass Pitch Maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots clubs with the aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide clubs with advice/practical solutions on a number of areas, with the simple aim of improving the clubs' playing surface. The programme is designed to help clubs on sites that they themselves manage and maintain.

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One method for improving maintenance could be via asset transfer, as highlighted in Objective 1. For example, for cricket, a Club could maintain the square and the Council the outfield (rather than the Council maintaining the whole site). Other options may include equipment banks and the pooling of resources for maintenance.

In relation to cricket specifically, 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. The ECB recommends full technical assessments of wickets and pitches available through a Performance Quality Standard Assessment (PQS). The PQS assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether the pitch meets the Performance Quality Standards that are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship. Please note that PQS assessments are also available for other sports.

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

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

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

Partners should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision are directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in outdoor sports facilities.

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

Although some investment in new provision could be made by the Council directly, it is important that the steering group seeks to direct and lead a strategic and co-ordinated approach to facility development by education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector to address community needs whilst avoiding duplication of provision.

Please refer to Appendix Two for further funding information which includes details of the current opportunities, likely funding requirements and indicative project costs.

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

OBJECTIVE 3

To provide new provision where there is current or future demand to do so.

Recommendations:

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

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

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

Although there are identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions, the majority of demand is currently being met and most of these shortfalls are likely to be addressed through quality improvements and/or reconfiguring of pitches. **Adding to the current facility stock, particularly in the short term is therefore not recommended as a priority, except in the case of 3G pitches where there is a discrete need for additional provision.**

Recommendation (h) - Rectify shortfalls through the current stock

The Council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the Assessment Report and the sport by sport specific recommendations (Part 3).

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

- ◀ Improving pitch quality in order to improve the capacity of pitches to accommodate more matches.
- ◀ The re-designation of pitches for which there is an undersupply (i.e. reconfiguring adult football pitches to provide an increase of youth 11v11 pitches, or converting football to rugby).
- ◀ Prioritise Sports Hub developments.

Unmet demand, changes in sport participation and trends, and proposed housing growth, should be recognised and factored into future facility planning. Assuming an increase in participation and housing growth occurs, it will impact on the future need for certain types of sports facilities. Sports development work also approximates unmet demand which cannot currently be quantified (i.e. it is not being suppressed by a lack of facilities) but is likely to occur. The following table highlights the main development trends in each sport and their likely impact on facilities. However, it is important to note that these may be subject to change and are not necessarily area specific.

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Furthermore, retaining some spare capacity allows some pitches to be rested to protect overall quality in the long term. Therefore, whilst in some instances it may be appropriate to re-designate a pitch where there is low demand identified a holistic approach should be taken to re-designation for the reasons cited.

Table 5.2: Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends

| Sport | Future sports development trend | Strategy impact |
|------------|---|--|
| Football | Demand for adult football is likely to be sustained with the FA focusing on retention. There is also likely to be some continued movement towards small sided football for adults. | Additional need for 3G pitches. Sustain current pitch stock but give consideration to pitch reconfiguration to accommodate youth 11v11 football. Qualitative improvements. |
| | Demand for mini and youth football is likely to increase based on TGRs and The FA has a key objective to deliver 50% of mini and youth football on 3G AGP's. | Sustain current stock and consideration given to reconfigure pitches if required. Qualitative improvements. Where possible utilise new or existing 3G pitches to accommodate this demand and ensure FA testing. |
| 3G pitches | Demand for 3G pitches for football is high and will continue to increase as currently there is a shortfall of full size pitches. It is likely that future demand for the use of 3G pitches, especially for training, will increase. | Requirement for new 3G pitches to be provided and a need for community use agreements to be in place for any new pitches as well as sinking funds. Requirement for 3G pitches to be FA/FIFA tested to host competitive matches. Utilise Sport England/NGB guidance on choosing the correct surface: http://www.sportengland.org/media/30651/Selecting-the-right-artificial-surface-Rev2-2010.pdf |
| Cricket | Demand is likely to remain static for grass wickets for both junior and adult participation. | Sustain current pitch stock. Isolated pockets of demand for access to additional facilities where pitches are operating at capacity. A need to consider non-turf wickets and encourage greater use for non-traditional formats and junior cricket. |
| | An increase in casual play, especially from South Asian communities. | Develop cricket within communities that more commonly play informal formats of the game. |
| | Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish two girls' and one women's team in every local authority over the next five years. | Support clubs to ensure access to segregated changing and toilet provision and access to good quality cricket pitches to support growth. |

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| Sport | Future sports development trend | Strategy impact |
|--------------|---|---|
| Rugby union | The RFU work towards achieving the stated outcomes of its National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017), the RFU National Women and Girls Strategy and the RFU National Male XV-a-side Strategy. Locally the RFU want to ensure access to pitches that satisfies the existing demand and predicted growth. Further, the RFU is aiming to protect and improve pitch quality plus that of ancillary facilities including changing rooms and floodlights as current and future demand requires. | Clubs are likely to field more teams in the future. It is important, therefore, to work with the clubs to maintain the current pitch stock, support facility development where appropriate and increase the number of floodlit pitches where necessary. |
| | 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. To achieve this, the RFU is keen to work locally with partners such as the Council and the FA to look at sites of mutual interest. | Consider requirement for a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch given shortfalls identified on grass pitches and level of training demand on grass pitches. |
| Rugby league | The number of teams is expected to remain static in the future. | Support club development and consider options for providing additional training opportunities. |
| Hockey | Number of teams likely to increase through programmes such as back to hockey. | Ensure continued use of at least two sand-based AGPs to accommodate current and future demand and ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability. |
| Tennis | With the delivery of LTA initiatives it is likely that informal participation will increase. | Ensure sustainability of park sites through improved quality and implementing online booking systems and gated access. Consider hub site approach at key sites. |
| Bowls | Despite a national trend for decreasing participation in bowls Calderdale currently has a thriving bowling community and participation is likely to remain static. | Ensure current supply of used greens remains fit for purpose. |

PART 6: ACTION PLAN

Introduction

The site-by-site action plan seeks to address key issues identified in the accompanying Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement.

It should be reviewed in the light of staff and financial resources in order to prioritise support for strategically significant provision and provision that other providers are less likely to make. Recommendation e below explains the hierarchy of priorities on the list. It is imperative that action plans for priority projects should be developed through the implementation of the strategy.

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

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

As highlighted previously, the hub site approach should be the overarching aim for delivery and should be the priority in Calderdale.

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities.

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

Table 6.1: Proposed tiered site criteria

| Criteria | Hub sites | Key centres | Local sites |
|---------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Site location | Strategically located in the Borough. Priority sites for NGBs. | Strategically located within the analysis area. | Serves the local community. |
| Site layout | Accommodates three or more grass pitches, including provision of an AGP. | Accommodates two or more grass pitches. | Accommodates one or more pitches. |
| Type of sport | Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue. | Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue. | Single or multi-sport provision. |

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| Criteria | Hub sites | Key centres | Local sites |
|----------------------|---|---|---|
| Management | Management control remains within the local authority/other provider or with an appropriate lease arrangement through a committee or education owned. | Management control remains within the local authority/provider or with an appropriate club on a lease arrangement. | Management control remains within the local authority/provider or with an appropriate club on a lease arrangement. |
| Maintenance regime | Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines. | Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines. | Standard maintenance regime either by the club or in house maintenance contract. |
| Ancillary facilities | Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches. | Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches. | No changing room access on site or appropriate access to accommodate both senior and junior use concurrently (if required). |

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

The financial, social and sporting benefits which can be achieved through development of strategic sites (also known as hub sites) are significant. Sport England provides further guidance on the development of community sports hubs at:

http://www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/planning_tools_and_guidance/sports_hubs.aspx

It may be appropriate to consider rationalisation of some existing playing field sites (that are of low value i.e. one/two pitch sites with no changing provision) to generate investment towards creating bigger better quality sites (Strategic Sites) in order to develop the hierarchy of sites. Identification of these potential sites should be carried out in partnership with the Steering Group and in particular, the NGB for that particular sport.

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

From a football perspective, these sites already seek to accommodate the growing emphasis on football venues catering for youth football (especially mini-soccer) matches. The conditions recommended for mini and youth football are becoming more stringent. This should be reflected in the provision of a unique tier of pitches for mini and youth football solely that can ensure player safety, as well as being maintained more efficiently. It is anticipated that both youth and mini-football matches could be played on these sites. Initial investment could be required in the short term and identified in the Action Plan.

Additionally, it is considered that some financial investment will be necessary to improve the ancillary facilities at both hub sites and key centre sites to complement the pitches in terms of access, flexibility (i.e. single-sex changing if necessary), quality and that they meet the rules and regulations of local competitions.

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Local sites refer to those sites which are hired to clubs for a season, or are sites which have been leased on a long-term basis. Primarily they are sites with one pitch or a low number of pitches that service just one sport. The level of priority attached to them for Council-generated investment may be relatively low and consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking a long-term lease on the site (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought.

It is possible that sites could be included in this tier which are not currently hired or leased to a club, but have the potential to be leased to a suitable club. Such sites will require some level of investment, either to the pitches or ancillary facilities, and it is anticipated that one of the conditions of offering a hire/lease is that the club would be in a position to source external funding to improve the facilities.

It is possible that sites could be included in this tier which are not currently hired or leased to a club, but have the potential to be leased to a suitable club. NGBs would expect the facility to be transferred in an adequate condition that the club can maintain. In the longer term, the Club should be in a position to source external funding to improve/extend the facilities.

Management and development

The following issues should be considered when undertaking sports related site development or enhancement:

- ◀ Financial viability.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ◀ Adequacy of existing finances to maintain existing sites.
- ◀ Business Plan/Masterplan – including financial package for creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ◀ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ◀ The availability of opportunities to lease sites to external organisations.
- ◀ Options to assist community groups to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ◀ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.
- ◀ Football investment programme/3G pitches development with The FA.

Action plan columns

Partners

The column indicating Partners refers to the main organisations that the Council would look to work with to support delivery of the actions. Given the extent of potential actions it is reasonable to assume that partners will not necessarily be able to support all of the actions identified but where the action is a priority and resource is available the partner will endeavour to provide support. This is a strategy for Calderdale and not just the Council. Partnership working is therefore imperative to ensure that actions are delivered.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site hierarchy tier

Strategic sites have a **high** priority level as they have Borough wide importance and have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the key issues identified in the assessment.

Key centres are a **medium** priority and have analysis area importance and have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

Low priority sites tend to be single pitch or single sport sites and often club or education sites with local specific importance but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

Costs

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

(L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above. These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at www.sportengland.org/media/198443/facility-costs-4q13.pdf

Timescales

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

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

To reiterate, the action plan is not solely for the purposes of the Council, but for all the stakeholders and partners involved within the project.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

HALIFAX CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Football

Summary of current and future demand for grass football

| Analysis area | Supply and Demand assessment (match equivalent sessions) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| | Actual spare capacity ⁶ | Overplay | Current total | Latent demand | Future demand | Total |
| Adult pitches | 10.5 | - | 10.5 | - | 0.5 | 10 |
| Youth pitches 11v11 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Youth pitches 9v9 | 0.5 | - | 0.5 | - | - | 0.5 |
| Mini pitches 7v7 | 3.5 | - | 3.5 | - | - | 3.5 |
| Mini pitches 5v5 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |

- ✦ There is currently spare capacity on adult pitches amounting to 10.5 match equivalent sessions, with future demand decreasing this to ten match equivalent sessions.
- ✦ Youth 11v11 pitches in Halifax Central are currently at capacity and will remain at capacity with future demand factored in.
- ✦ There is currently 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity for youth 9v9 pitches which remains with future demand factored in.
- ✦ Mini pitches currently have 3.5 and one match equivalent sessions, for 7v7 and 5v5 respectively, which will remain with future demand factored in.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ✦ Maintain current pitch quality, seeking to improve where possible, to retain some spare capacity.
- ✦ Considers options to reduce unofficial use of pitches.
- ✦ Consider allocating some adult pitches to youth 11v11 size to create some spare capacity on this pitch type.

Cricket

- ✦ There are four grass wicket cricket squares and one standalone non-turf wicket square.
- ✦ All natural grass wicket squares are available for community use and assessed as good quality. The one non-turf wicket is standard quality and available for community use but is currently unused.
- ✦ The ancillary facilities at all sites require modernisation or have issues which need addressing.
- ✦ Only the natural grass wicket square at Southowram Cricket Club has spare capacity, amounting to four match sessions per season, however, no actual spare capacity exists on this square to accommodate senior cricket at peak time (Saturday).

⁶ In match equivalent sessions

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Continue with current site maintenance to retain good quality pitch ratings.
- ◀ Explore use of equipment banks to ensure maintenance regimes can be continued.
- ◀ Consider installing non-turf pitches alongside natural grass squares on sites which are overplayed and have a high amount of junior or short format play.
- ◀ Seek to address issues relating to ancillary facilities across all sites.
- ◀ Explore improving access to existing facilities or develop additional facilities where needed to satisfy the demand for more flexible cricket within South Asian communities in addition to working with local leagues

Rugby union

- ◀ There are six senior rugby union pitches, all but one, at Kensington Road, are available for community use.
- ◀ Only pitch available for community use is rated as poor quality, with the remaining four pitches available for community use assessed as standard quality.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Explore ways to improve pitch quality across all sites.
- ◀ Consider whether demand exists to make the one pitch at Kensington Road available for community use.
- ◀ To reduce overplay on club sites consider establishing floodlit training areas off match pitches, or alternatively, consider installing floodlights on more pitches so that training demand is less concentrated on single pitches.

Rugby league

- ◀ There are nine grass rugby league pitches in the area, seven of which are available for community use and one is disused, at Savile Park.
- ◀ The one pitch which is unavailable for community use is Shay Stadium, home venue for semi-professional Halifax RLFC.
- ◀ There is one junior sized pitch in the area, rated as poor quality.
- ◀ There is currently a shortfall of 5.5 match equivalent sessions for senior rugby league pitches in the Halifax Central Analysis Area, which will remain static with future demand factored in.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Seek to improve pitch quality where possible.
- ◀ To reduce overplay consider establishing floodlit training areas off match pitches.
- ◀ If demand increase, consider re-establishing the disused pitch at Savile Park to accommodate some demand.

Hockey

- ◀ There are two full size, sand-based AGPs in the Halifax Central Analysis area, both at Park Lane High.
- ◀ There are two smaller sized AGPs, located at Sowerby Bridge High School and The Crossley Heath School which are both floodlit and available for community use.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ The only hockey club in Calderdale, Halifax Hockey Club, is based at Park Lane High, managing one of the two pitches.
- ◀ The two full size pitches are assessed as good and standard quality, with the two smaller size pitches of standard quality.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Sustain pitch quality through continued maintenance, seeking to improve quality where possible.
- ◀ Retain both pitches at Park Lane High to accommodate hockey demand in the area.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability.

Tennis

- ◀ There are 21 tennis courts in the Halifax Central Analysis Area, 14 of which are available for community use.
- ◀ Ten of the 21 courts are rated as standard quality.
- ◀ Five courts are owned by the local authority and all are rated as poor quality.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Seek to improve court quality where possible.
- ◀ Explore local demand for tennis courts in the local area.

Bowls

- ◀ There are ten bowling greens in the Halifax Central Area.
- ◀ Overall there is a capacity shortfall of 50 members.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Retain all bowling greens in the area to accommodate current demand.
- ◀ Ensure that current levels of demand does not have a detrimental effect on green quality.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

HALIFAX CENTRAL ANALYSIS AREA

Given the extent of potential actions it is reasonable to assume partners will not necessarily be able to support all of the actions identified in this action plan; however, where the action is considered a priority and where resource is available, partners should endeavour to support.

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ⁷ | Indicative Cost ⁸ |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------------|------------------------|--|---|------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Akroyd Victoria Bowls Club | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One green which is over capacity by 40 members. | Ensure green maintenance continues to allow for current demand without a detrimental effect on surface quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Allan Park | - | Bowls | Local Authority | One bowling green which is has spare capacity by 10 members. | Sustain green maintenance to accommodate existing demand, without compromising surface quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Beech Hill School | 4 | 3G AGP | Academies | One half size, medium pile 3G pitch (55-60mm). It is standard quality and is not floodlit. Available for community use. | Work to ensure that the pitch is fully utilised and available for community use at peak times. | School | Local | S | L |
| Calderdale College | 21 | Rugby league | Further Education | One senior pitch, not floodlit but good quality. Available for community use. | Continue with maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. Ensure that community use continues and consider a community use agreement with King Cross Park RLFC to provide security of tenure. | School RFL | Local | M | L |
| | | 3G AGP | | One full size, medium 3G pile pitches (55-60mm). Good quality, floodlit and available for community use. The pitch is on the FA register. | Continue with pitch maintenance programme. Ensure that the pitch remains available for community use during peak period to accommodate the high amount of play that it currently receives. Consider site for a second full size 3G pitch. | School FA | Local | S | L |
| Cemetery Fields | - | Football | Local Authority | Not used officially for over 5 years. Set of kick about goals at one end. A group planning to set up a team expressed interest in the site last year but have not followed up. | Retain as an informal pitch and monitor demand in the area. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Christ Church CE Junior School | 26 | Football | Voluntary Aided School | One youth 9v9 pitch, standard quality, available for community use. | Continue to make the pitch available for community use at peak time. Sustain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance programme. Keep some spare capacity to accommodate curriculum use. | School | Local | S | L |
| Copley Cricket Club | 29 | Cricket | Sports Club | One good quality cricket pitch which has 12 natural turf wickets is available for community use and is overplayed by 16 sessions per season. The home venue of Copley CC. | Continue with pitch maintenance programme to sustain pitch quality. Consider the installation of a non-turf pitch to accommodate some junior demand. | Club ECB | Local | M | L |
| Crossley Heath School | 5 | Tennis | School | Three standard quality macadam courts which are available for community use but not floodlit. | Maintain court quality ensuring existence for curriculum use. Promote community use to generate sinking fund for when the courts need resurfacing. | School LTA | Local | S | L |

⁷ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

⁸ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ⁷ | Indicative Cost ⁸ |
|------------------------------------|---------|--------------|-------------------|--|--|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Crow Wood Park | - | Bowls | Local Authority | One bowling green which has spare capacity. | Sustain green maintenance to accommodate existing demand, without compromising surface quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Ellen Royd Playing Fields | 34 | Rugby league | Sports Club | One senior pitch, standard quality, available for community use. Used by three Boothtown Terriers senior teams. | Improve pitch maintenance regime to increase pitch capacity. Consider relocating some training demand off the pitch by providing floodlights for a training area off the match pitch. | Council RFL | Local | M | M |
| Former Sacred Heart Playing Fields | - | Various | Education | The field was last used for a Sports Day on 12 July 2013. | If the site is unable to be brought back into use, mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified with the Assessment | Council | Disused | M | M |
| Grantham Road | 38 | Football | Local Authority | One youth 11v11 pitch, poor quality, currently unused, drainage issues in some areas with one match of actual spare capacity that was discounted due to poor quality. | Improve pitch maintenance programme to improve quality. Alternatively, consider the need for this site to accommodate local football demand. | Council FA | Local | S | L |
| Greenroyd Bowls Club | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which is over capacity. | Ensure green maintenance continues to allow for current demand without a detrimental effect on surface quality. | | Local | S | L |
| Hill Crest Bowls Club | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which is over capacity. | Ensure green maintenance continues to allow for current demand without a detrimental effect on surface quality. | | Local | S | L |
| Hollas Lane | 51 | Rugby union | Sports Club | Two senior pitches, both standard qualities which have 1.5 match sessions of capacity, available for community use. Leased by Old Rishworthians RUFC. | Continue with current pitch maintenance programme. Consider relocating some play from the Club's primary venue to this site to reduce overplay at Old Rishworthians Rugby Club site and to utilise existing actual spare capacity. | Club RFU | Local | S | L |
| Holy Trinity Primary School | 55 | Football | Academies | One mini 5v5 pitch, poor quality, currently available for community use but unused. One match of actual spare capacity which was discounted due to the site being an unused school site. | Seek to improve pitch quality through improved site maintenance. Keep some spare capacity for curriculum use. Explore local demand for community use. | School FA | Local | S | L |
| Kensington Road | 58 | Rugby union | Foundation School | One senior pitch, poor quality, unavailable for community use. | Improve pitch maintenance regime to allow for greater curriculum use. Consider making the pitch available for community use. | School | Local | M | L |
| King Cross Park | 59 | Rugby league | Sports Club | One junior pitch, poor quality, used by six junior teams for matches and training, available for community use. | Improve pitch maintenance to improve pitch quality. Consider relocating some training demand off the pitch by providing a floodlit training area off the pitch. | Club RFL | Local | M | M |
| King Cross Social Club | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which is currently at capacity. | Continue with site maintenance, ensuring that surface quality is not compromised by current demand. | | Local | S | L |
| Kingston Social Club | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which has spare capacity. | Sustain green maintenance to accommodate existing demand, without compromising surface quality. | | Local | S | L |

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ⁷ | Indicative Cost ⁸ |
|------------------------------|---------|--------------|----------------------|--|--|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Long Lane | 63 | Football | Commercial | One adult pitch, standard quality, one match of spare capacity, available for community use. Site used by Beacon Rangers on an informal basis, no security of tenure. | Continue maintenance programme to maintain pitch quality. Ensure that the pitch is available at peak time for adult pitches to accommodate future demand. Work to secure tenure or assist Beacon Rangers to find an alternative site for 11v11 teams. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Old Crossleyan Cricket Club | 81 | Cricket | Other | One cricket pitch, good quality, cricket garage and scoreboard needs renovation, available for community use. | Sustain pitch quality through continued maintenance programme. Renovate ancillary facilities. | Club ECB | Local | M | M |
| Old Crossleyans Rugby Club | 82 | Rugby union | Other | Two standard quality, senior pitches with 0.5 match sessions of capacity, available for community use. | Improve pitch quality through improved maintenance regime. | Club RFU | Local | M | L |
| Old Rishworthians Rugby Club | 85 | Rugby union | Sports Club | Two senior pitches, available for community use. Both overplayed by one and 3.5 match equivalent sessions respectively. | Improve pitch quality by improving maintenance regime and consider installing pipe drainage to increase pitch capacity. | Club RFU | Local | M | H |
| Park Lane High School | 89 | Football | School | Two mini 7v7 pitches, both standard quality and both available for community use. One poor quality, disused adult pitch. | Continue with pitch maintenance programme for the mini pitches. Consider the demand for the now disused adult pitch both for curriculum and community use. Explore local demand for community use. | School FA | Local | S | L |
| | | Rugby league | | One senior pitch, standard quality. Two junior teams from Siddal use the pitch as secondary venue, over the road. Extra spare capacity should be discounted due to school use. | Improve pitch maintenance regime to increase capacity. Explore community use agreement with Siddal ARLFC to provide a venue to accommodate some training demand during the summer. | School RFL Club | Local | S | L |
| | | Cricket | | One cricket pitch, unused, standard quality. | Continue with pitch maintenance regime to sustain quality. Explore community use options. | School ECB | Local | S | L |
| | | Tennis | | Two standard quality macadam courts unavailable for community use. | Sustain court quality for curriculum use. Explore local demand for community use to provide sinking fund for court resurfacing in the future. | School | Local | S | L |
| | | Sand AGP | School & Sports Club | One full size, floodlit, good quality sand dressed AGP. One full size, floodlit, sand filled AGP of standard quality. Both available for community use and used by Halifax Hockey Club | Sustain pitch maintenance regime for both pitches and ensure that sinking funds are in place to resurface both pitches when required. Continue to make both pitches available for community use whilst ensuring continued capacity during peak period for Halifax HC growth. | School Club EH | Key | L | L |
| Queens Tennis Club | 11 | Tennis | Sports Club | Two good quality, floodlit macadam courts which are available for community use. Also four good quality artificial courts, two of which are floodlit. Pay and play is available at the site however users report high court prices. Two additional courts indoors. | Maintain court quality whilst ensuring that current demand is not having a detrimental effect on surface quality. Investigate user response that pay and play cost is high. | Club LTA | Local | L | L |

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ⁷ | Indicative Cost ⁸ |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|---|--|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Savile Park | 101 | Football | Local Authority | 13 adult pitches, all of standard quality, seven of which are overmarked with mini. Three of these 13 pitches are unused. Also one youth 9v9 pitch (standard quality), one youth 11v11 pitch (standard quality), three mini 5v5 pitches (one poor, two standard) and four mini 7v7 pitches (one poor, three standard). Two adult pitches are overmarked with senior rugby league. | Seek to improve the maintenance regime in order to increase pitch capacity, across all pitch types. Consider allowing a period of no play on dual use pitches (football & rugby league) to allow for essential pitch maintenance work. | Council FA RFL | Key | S | S |
| | | Rugby league | | One senior rugby league pitch of standard quality and available for community use. The sole use of the pitch for rugby league purposes comes from Crossley Heath School. The pitch is overmarked with an adult football pitch and therefore used all year round. There is also one disused rugby league pitch which was previously overmarked on another adult football pitch. | Sustain pitch quality to accommodate current curriculum use by Crossley Heath School. Consider allowing a period of no play on pitch to allow for essential pitch maintenance work. | Council RFL FA | Key | S | S |
| Shay Stadium | 103 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch, floodlit, good quality, available for community use. Adult pitch over marked with a senior rugby league pitch. Peak time capacity of one match per week. | Continue with maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. Consider configuring a period of rest for the pitch to allow for essential pitch maintenance. | Council FA RFL Clubs | Key | M | L |
| | | Rugby league | | One senior pitch, floodlit, good quality, not available for community use. Dual use as adult football pitch. | | | | | |
| Siddal ARLFC | 109 | Rugby league | Sports Club | Two senior pitches of which one is good quality and the other standard quality. Pitches heavily used in winter and summer for senior and junior teams and additional pitches are required. Access to training is also an issue for the Club. | Continue with pitch maintenance programme to ensure that current demand for match play can be met. Consider relocating training demand to alternative local venues to reduce current levels of overplay. Examine the possibility of an asset transfer arrangement in order to increase security of tenure for the Club. Explore options with the Club to enhance the site and provide greater capacity. | Council Club RFL | Local | M | L |
| Siddal Recreation Ground | - | Bowls | Local Authority | One bowling green which is currently over capacity. | Ensure green maintenance continues to allow for current demand without a detrimental effect on surface quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Southowram Cricket Club | 110 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior pitch, good quality, nine natural grass wickets. Current spare capacity of four match sessions per season but no actual spare capacity at peak time for senior cricket (Saturday PM). | Continue to maintain the pitch to a good quality. Maintain current levels of play on the pitch to prevent overplay which detrimentally effect the pitch quality. | Club | Local | S | L |
| Sowerby Bridge Cricket Club | 113 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior cricket pitch, good quality but overplayed by seven match sessions per season. Due to its location on a flood plain access is by steep stone steps. Disable access required. Available for community use. Vandalism issues. | Continue with the current maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. Consider creating disabled access to the site whilst also increasing security of the site to prevent current vandalism issues. | Club LTA | Local | L | M |

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ⁷ | Indicative Cost ⁸ |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|--------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Sowerby Bridge High School | 114 | Sand AGP | Community school | One half size, sand filled, AGP, floodlit, standard quality, available for community use but unused. | Work to ensure that the pitch is fully utilised and available for community use at peak times. Maintain for curriculum use and access for hockey and football training demand. | School | Local | S | L |
| | | Tennis | | Five standard quality macadam courts unavailable for community use. | Maintain court quality and presence for curriculum use. Explore local demand for community use. | School | Local | S | L |
| Spring Hall Athletics Facility | 117 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch, standard quality, disused. One match spare capacity discounted as pitch is disused. Last used formally in the 2008/9 season. Set of posts up for informal use. | Consider reinstating the football pitch as youth 11v11 size to ease overplay of this pitch type or consider site for full size 3G pitch. | Council FA | Local | S | L |
| | | Tennis | | Five unplayable macadam tennis courts. | Consider reinstating the tennis courts to a playable standard should demand outweigh supply. | Council LTA | Local | S | M |
| | | Bowls | | One bowling green which currently has spare capacity. | Sustain green maintenance to accommodate existing demand, without compromising surface quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Stafford Bowls Club | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which has an unknown amount of usage. | Continue to maintain the green to a quality where its state is not adversely affected by use. | | Local | S | L |
| The Crossley Heath School | 154 | Sand AGP | School/College/University (in house) | One half size, sand filled AGP, floodlit. Standard quality and available for community use. | Sustain the pitch quality for curriculum use. Explore demand for community use to increase revenue for the pitch's sinking fund. | School | Local | S | L |
| West End Bowls Club | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which is currently over capacity. | Ensure green maintenance continues to allow for current demand without a detrimental effect on surface quality. | | Local | S | L |
| North Bridge Leisure Centre | 155 | 3G AGP | Local Authority | Two half size medium pile 3G pitches (60mm) of standard quality. Both floodlit. | Sustain pitch quality by continuing current maintenance regime. Ensure community use remains available during peak training periods. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Himmat Organisation | - | Football | Private | Submitted business plan for the CAT application which gives two possible pitch layouts, a 9v9 or 2 mini pitches (5v5) running across. | Work towards securing funding to complete the project. | Himmat Sport England Council | Local | M | L |

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

HALIFAX NORTH & EAST ANALYSIS AREA

Football

Summary of current and future demand for grass football

| Analysis area | Supply and Demand assessment (match equivalent sessions) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| | Actual spare capacity ⁹ | Overplay | Current total | Latent demand | Future demand | Total |
| Adult pitches | 8 | 3 | 5 | 0.5 | - | 4.5 |
| Youth pitches 11v11 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Youth pitches 9v9 | 2 | 0.5 | 1.5 | - | - | 1.5 |
| Mini pitches 7v7 | 3 | - | 3 | - | - | 3 |
| Mini pitches 5v5 | 2.5 | - | 2.5 | - | 2 | 0.5 |

- ✦ There is currently no shortfall of any pitch type in the Halifax North & East Analysis Area; with capacity amounting to 13 match equivalent sessions across all pitch types.
- ✦ This capacity reduces to ten match equivalent sessions across all pitch types when latent and future demand are factored in.
- ✦ Adult pitches currently has the largest amount of spare capacity in the Analysis Area and this will remain with latent demand reducing spare capacity by 0.5 match equivalent sessions to 4.5 match equivalent sessions.

Recommendations

- ✦ Maintain current pitch quality, seeking to improve where possible, to retain some spare capacity.
- ✦ Considers options to reduce unofficial use of pitches.
- ✦ Consider allocating some adult pitches to youth 11v11 size to create increased spare capacity on this pitch type.

Cricket

- ✦ There are seven natural grass cricket squares and two standalone artificial cricket wickets in the area.
- ✦ All pitches area available for community use but the artificial wicket at The Halifax Academy is currently unused by the community.
- ✦ All natural grass squares are assessed as good quality whilst the two artificial wickets are of standard quality.
- ✦ Tenure for Shelf Cricket Club is currently considered to be unsecured as the Club is negotiating a new lease.
- ✦ Ancillary facilities across the area require modernisation with facilities deemed either too small, requiring modernisation or suffering from vandalism.
- ✦ Only one site in the area has spare capacity, The Ainleys (Illingworth St Marys CC), however it does not have actual spare capacity at peak time for senior cricket.
- ✦ Other sites in the area have an accumulated overplay amounting to 112 match sessions per season.

⁹ In match equivalent sessions

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PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Continue with current site maintenance to retain good quality pitch ratings.
- ◀ Explore use of equipment banks to ensure maintenance regimes can be continued.
- ◀ Consider installing non-turf pitches alongside natural grass squares on sites which are overplayed and have a high amount of junior or short format play.
- ◀ Seek to address issues relating to ancillary facilities across all sites.

Rugby union

- ◀ There are five senior and one mini rugby union pitches available for community use in the Halifax North & East Analysis Area.
- ◀ There is also one senior size pitch at Trinity Academy which is unavailable for community use.
- ◀ All pitches which are available for community use are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ There is spare capacity to accommodate future demand at from Halifax Vandals at its current home venue.
- ◀ There is no spare capacity to accommodate future demand from Halifax RUFC at its current home venue.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Improve pitch quality at all sites through improved maintenance programmes.
- ◀ Establish floodlit training areas off match pitches to reduce the concentration of training demand on current floodlit pitches.
- ◀ To accommodate future demand without compromising pitch quality at some sites installing pipe drainage may need to be considered.

Rugby League

- ◀ There are four senior, eight junior and five primary grass rugby league pitch in Halifax North & East Analysis Area.
- ◀ There is currently a shortfall of 7.5 match equivalent sessions in the area which will remain with future demand factored in.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Seek to improve pitch quality where possible.
- ◀ Reduce overplay on match pitches by establishing floodlit training areas to accommodate some training demand.

Hockey

- ◀ There is one full size sand based AGP in the analysis area.
- ◀ The pitch is owned and managed by The Halifax Academy and is assessed as standard quality.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Ensure pitch quality is retained through continuous maintenance.
- ◀ Continue to explore local demand for community use.
- ◀ Ensure that a sinking fund is in place to accommodate required future resurfacing.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Tennis

- ◀ There are 17 tennis courts in the Halifax North & East Analysis Area, all of which are available for community use.
- ◀ 13 of the courts in the area are managed by the local authority, all are rated as poor.
- ◀ The four courts which are not managed by the local authority are for educational use and are all standard quality.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Seek to improve court quality where possible.
- ◀ Explore local demand for tennis courts in the local area.

Bowls

- ◀ There are seven bowling greens in the Halifax North & East Area.
- ◀ Overall there is capacity of 28 potential members in the area.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Retain all bowling greens in the area to accommodate current demand.
- ◀ Ensure that current levels of demand does not have a detrimental effect on green quality.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

HALIFAX NORTH & EAST ANALYSIS AREA

Given the extent of potential actions it is reasonable to assume partners will not necessarily be able to support all of the actions identified in this action plan; however, where the action is considered a priority and where resource is available, partners should endeavour to support.

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁰ | Indicative cost ¹¹ |
|---------------------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|---|--|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Abbey Park Primary School | 1 | Football | School | One mini 7v7 mini pitch, standard quality, available for community use. At capacity. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Beechwood Park | 5 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch of standard quality, peak time capacity of one match per week. Adult pitch solely by youth 11v11 teams. One mini 5v5 pitch, standard quality, not in use. | Reconfigure pitches to better accommodate current demand. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Bradshaw Cricket Club | 8 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior cricket pitch, good quality but overplayed by 25 match sessions per season due to junior usage. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | ECB | Local | L | L |
| Bradshaw Primary School | 9 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality. Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality and on an unused school site | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Crossleys Sports Ground | 30 | Football | Local Authority | One adult standard quality pitch with peak time capacity of one match per week. One youth 9v9 standard quality pitch with peak time capacity of one match per week. One mini 5v5 standard quality at capacity. One mini 7v7 poor quality at capacity. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to maximise use and to build future capacity. Consider site for full size 3G pitch that could also be RFL/RFU compliant. | Council | Key centre | S | M |
| | | Rugby league | | One senior pitch, good quality overplayed by six match sessions. Pitches used in winter by seniors and by juniors in summer. Some training on match pitches. | Ensure maintenance of pitch continues in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. Where possible use alternative venues for training, e.g. AGPs. | | | M | L |
| Deanfield School | 31 | Football | School | One youth 9v9 pitch, poor quality and overplayed by 0.5 match sessions. Community use by Crossley Juniors. | Explore options to improve quality and ensure community use is secured. | FA | Local | M | L |
| The Halifax Academy | 42 | Football | School | One adult pitch, standard quality and played to capacity. Unsecured community use. | Explore options to improve quality and ensure community use is secured. | FA | Local | M | L |
| | | Cricket | | One standalone non-turf wicket squares of good quality. No community use. | Explore opportunities to establish community use. | ECB | | S | L |
| | | AGP | | One full sized sand filled AGP, of standard quality, floodlit. No community hockey use. | Consider future pitch for conversion to 3G to accommodate training demand. Utilise Sport England/NGB guidance on choosing the correct surface. | FA EH | | M | H |
| Halifax Vandals | 43 | Rugby union | Sport Club | Two senior and one mini pitch of poor quality but all with some peak time capacity. 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. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to maximise use and to build future capacity to accommodate growth. Also consider installing portable floodlights, which would allow training to be rotated across different areas. Alternatively, training could be moved off site. | RFU | Local | M | M |

¹⁰ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹¹ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁰ | Indicative cost ¹¹ |
|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|--|--|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ovenden Park | 46 | Rugby union | Sport Club | A poor senior pitch which is at capacity, a poor senior pitch which is overplayed by 0.5 match sessions and a poor quality, floodlit senior pitch which is used for training purposes, resulting in overplay of 2.5 match equivalent sessions. | Improve quality in order to address overplay and to build future capacity. Consider installing portable floodlights, which would allow training to be rotated across different areas. Alternatively, training could be moved off site. | RFU | Local | S | M |
| Hollins Mill Leisure Park | 52 | Football | Sport Club | One adult pitch of poor quality, unused. | No known local demand to retain pitch in its current form. | FA | Local | S | L |
| Holmfield Recreation Ground | 54 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch of standard quality and played to capacity. Slopes gently goal to goal, small areas with drainage issues. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to build future capacity. | Council | Local | M | L |
| | | Tennis | | Two macadam courts which are assessed as unplayable. No nets up but open access and no charge. | Improve quality to an acceptable standard for levels of play/use. | Council | | S | L |
| | | Bowls | | One bowling green with significant spare capacity. | Ensure appropriate maintenance to sustain green quality and consider options to maximise use. | Council | | S | L |
| Ling Bob Playing Fields | 62 | Football | Local Authority | One adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 5v5 and one mini 7v7 pitch, all standard quality and with peak time capacity. No suitable ancillary facilities, meaning that the site is unable to support adult teams. | Work to maximise usage by reconfiguring site and transferring adult teams to a more suitable site. | Council | Key Centre | S | L |
| Moor Lane | 70 | Football | Local Authority | One youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality, peak time capacity is 0.5 match sessions. | Consider future use of the site and possibility to transfer use elsewhere. | Council | Local | M | L |
| Moorside Community Primary School | 71 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality. Available for community use with one match spare capacity at peak time. | Ensure appropriate maintenance and ensure community use is secured. | FA | Local | S | L |
| Natty Lane Playing Fields | 73 | Football | Local Authority | Two adult pitches, of standard quality with two matches of spare capacity at peak time. | Ensure appropriate maintenance and maximise use where possible. | Council | Local | S | L |
| North Halifax Grammar School | 74 | Football | School | Three adult pitches, one of which is disused, all standard quality. Two youth 11v11 pitches of which have dual use with rugby league and of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| | | Rugby league | | Two senior pitches of standard quality overmarked with football. No community use. | | | | | |
| Northowram Fields Cricket Club | 75 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior cricket pitch, good quality, 10 natural grass wickets, overplayed by 58 match sessions per season. Continually under threat from vandals. | Ensure appropriate maintenance in order to sustain pitch quality and short term overplay. Explore options for access to a second venue to help address overplay and build future capacity. | ECB | Local | M | M |
| Northowram Sports and Activity Centre | 76 | Football | Sport Club | One mini 5v5 pitch and one mini 7v7 pitch. Both of standard quality with no peak time capacity. Used by Northowram JFC. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to build future capacity. | FA | Local | M | L |
| Northowram Hedge Top Cricket Club | 77 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior cricket pitch of good quality, eight grass wickets, overplayed by five match sessions per season. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | ECB | Local | L | L |
| Northowram Primary School | 78 | Football | School | Two mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality with no peak time capacity. Community use by Northowram JFC. | Explore options to improve quality to build capacity and ensure community use is secured. | FA | Local | M | L |

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁰ | Indicative cost ¹¹ |
|--|---------|--------------|-----------------|--|---|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Northowram Recreation Ground | 79 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch, of standard quality and played to capacity. Also subject to casual use causing additional wear and tear to playing surfaces. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to build future capacity. | Council | Local | S | L-M |
| Ovenden Sports & Community Arena | 88 | Football | Sport Club | One adult pitch, one youth 9v9, one youth 11v11 pitch, two mini 5v5 pitches. All standard quality bar the youth 9v9 pitch which is of poor quality. All with spare match capacity of 0.5 at peak time except the adult pitch which has one match spare capacity at peak time. Poor quality ancillary facilities. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to build future capacity. Consider a joint funding bid across all sports to improve ancillary facilities. | FA | Key Centre | M | M-H |
| | | Rugby league | | One senior pitch, of poor quality and overplayed by 1.5 match sessions. Two senior men's teams playing in winter and junior teams in summer. Poor quality ancillary facilities. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to address overplay and build future capacity. Where possible use alternative venues for training, e.g. AGPs. Consider a joint funding bid across all sports to improve ancillary facilities. | RFL | | S | M-H |
| | | AGP | | One half size medium pile 3G AGP (55-60mm) of standard quality and is floodlit. | Ensure appropriate maintenance is applied and maximise use. Consider FA testing to allow competitive use. | FA | | S | L |
| Roils Head Playing Fields | 98 | Football | Local Authority | Two adult pitches of poor quality, disused. Last booking was for a friendly match in August 2009. | No known local demand to retain pitch in its current form. | FA | Local | S | L |
| Shelf Cricket Club | 105 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior cricket pitch of standard quality with spare capacity to accommodate one additional team. Security of tenure is currently considered unsecured as a new lease is being negotiated. Ancillary facilities are reported by the Club to be too small. | Ensure security of tenure is agreed and then consider funding options to improve quality and build future capacity to accommodate identified growth. | ECB | Local | S-M | M |
| Shelf Hall Park | 106 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch and one mini 7v7 pitch, of standard quality both unused. No suitable ancillary facilities on site. | No known local demand to retain pitch in its current form. | FA | Local | S | L |
| | | Tennis | | Two macadam courts which are assessed as poor quality. Open access and no charge. | Improve quality to an acceptable standard for levels of play/use. | Council | | S | L |
| | | Bowls | | One bowling green with significant spare capacity. | Ensure appropriate maintenance to sustain green quality and consider options to maximise use. | Council | | S | L |
| Shroggs Park | 108 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch of standard quality, overplayed by 1.5 match session. One mini 7v7 pitch, of standard quality, unused. | Reconfigure pitches to better accommodate current demand. | Council | Local | S | L |
| | | | | One bowling green with likely spare capacity. | Ensure appropriate maintenance to sustain green quality and consider options to maximise use. | Council | | S | L |
| Sowerby Bridge Church Institute Cricket Club | 112 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior cricket pitch of good quality with accompanying non turf wicket, overplayed by 20 match sessions. Social area/kitchen too reported as too small by the Club. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | ECB | Local | L | L |
| Sowerby Bridge High School Fields | 115 | Rugby league | School | Two senior pitches of standard quality, not available for community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| St Malachys C of E Primary School | 121 | Football | School | One youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁰ | Indicative cost ¹¹ |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------------|--|---|---------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| St Michael and All Angels Primary School | 122 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| The Ainleys (Illingworth St Marys CC) | 127 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior cricket pitch, good quality, 12 natural grass wickets. No peak time capacity. Roof and infrastructure on clubhouse needs upgrading. Some vandalism issues. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. Consider funding options for clubhouse improvements. | ECB | Local | M | L-H |
| Trinity Academy | 136 | Football | School | Two adult pitches, of standard quality, overplayed by two match sessions per week. Various community users. | Explore options to improve quality to build capacity and ensure community use is secured. | FA | Key Centre | M | L |
| | | Rugby union | | Standard quality senior pitch which is unavailable for community use. The pitch does receive some curriculum use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | | L | L |
| | | AGP | | Full size, short pile (40mm) 3G pitch, good quality and FA tested. | Ensure sinking funding is in place for future refurbishment. | FA | | M | M |
| | | Tennis | | Four macadam courts, standard quality. No community use. | Retain for school use. | Council | | L | L |
| Warley Cricket Club | 139 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior pitch, good quality overplayed by nine match sessions per season. Club reports that ancillary facilities need refurbishment. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. Consider funding options for clubhouse improvements. | ECB | Local | M | L-H |
| Warley Town Recreation Ground | 140 | Football | Local Authority | One youth 11v11 pitch, of poor quality and unused. | No known local demand to retain pitch in its current form. | FA | Local | S | L |
| Whitehill School | 143 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 pitch, of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Astley Association | - | Football | Astley Association | 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. | Work towards securing funding to complete the project. | FA Council | Hub | M | M-H |

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

LOWER VALLEY ANALYSIS AREA

Football

Summary of current and future demand for grass football

| Analysis area | Supply and Demand assessment (match equivalent sessions) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| | Actual spare capacity ¹² | Overplay | Current total | Latent demand | Future demand | Total |
| Adult pitches | 14.5 | 3 | 11.5 | 1 | 0.5 | 10 |
| Youth pitches 11v11 | - | 1.5 | 1.5 | - | 2.5 | 4 |
| Youth pitches 9v9 | 2 | 0.5 | 1.5 | - | - | 1.5 |
| Mini pitches 7v7 | 6 | - | 6 | - | - | 6 |
| Mini pitches 5v5 | 2.5 | - | 2.5 | - | 2.5 | - |

- There is currently only a shortfall on youth 11v11 size pitches, amounting to 1.5 match equivalent sessions.
- With future and latent demand factored in this shortfall is exacerbated to four match equivalent sessions.
- The spare capacity on mini 5v5 pitches of 2.5 match equivalent sessions reduces with future demand to leave pitches of this size in the Lower Valley at capacity.

Recommendations

- Maintain current pitch quality, seeking to improve where possible, to retain some spare capacity.
- Considers options to reduce unofficial use of pitches.
- Consider allocating some adult pitches to youth 11v11 size to reduce overplay on youth 11v11 pitches.

Cricket

- There are eight natural grass squares and one standalone artificial wicket, all of which are available for community use.
- All wickets are assessed as good quality.
- Three sites in the Area have issues relating to ancillary facilities. Stainland Recreation Ground Cricket Club has access issues and potentially some safeguarding issues which need addressing.
- There is one match session of actual spare capacity, at senior peak time, across two sites, whilst there is overplay amounting to 49 sessions per season at two other sites.

Recommendations

- Continue with current site maintenance to retain good quality pitch ratings.
- Explore use of equipment banks to ensure maintenance regimes can be continued.
- Consider installing non-turf pitches alongside natural grass squares on sites which are overplayed and have a high amount of junior or short format play.
- Seek to address issues relating to ancillary facilities across all sites.

¹² In match equivalent sessions

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Rugby union

- ◀ There are nine senior and one mini, rugby union pitches available for community use in the Lower Valley Analysis Area.
- ◀ Nine of the ten pitches are assessed as poor quality. The one standard quality pitch is at Lightcliffe Academy; the pitch is available for community use but is currently unused.
- ◀ Old Brodleians RUFC currently utilise pitches at Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields which lies adjacent to the Club site.
- ◀ Clubs sites within the Analysis Area could not currently accommodate future demand from clubs.
- ◀ All training demand from clubs currently takes place on match pitches.
- ◀ Brooksbank School rugby league team currently utilise a senior rugby union pitch at Heath Rugby Club for home matches.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Improve pitch quality at all sites through improved maintenance programmes.
- ◀ Establish floodlit training areas off match pitches to reduce the concentration of training demand on current floodlit pitches. Alternatively, provide floodlights on more pitches to distribute training demand across a wider area.
- ◀ Establish community use agreements for educational pitches to ensure the long term presence of those pitches, particularly between Hipperholme Grammar School and Old Brodleians RUFC.
- ◀ To accommodate future demand without compromising pitch quality at some sites installing pipe drainage may need to be considered.

Rugby League

- ◀ There are nine senior grass rugby league pitches in the Lower Valley Analysis Area, eight of which are available for community use.
- ◀ Two pitches in the area are assessed as good quality; at Greetland Allrounders and Hammerstones Leach Lane.
- ◀ There is currently a shortfall of 8.5 match equivalent sessions in the area which increase to ten match equivalent sessions with future demand factored in.
- ◀ Rugby League pitches at some school sites are used to accommodate school rugby union teams, e.g. Rastrick High School Sports Centre.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Seek to improve pitch quality where possible.
- ◀ Reduce overplay on match pitches by establishing floodlit training areas to accommodate some training demand.
- ◀ Consider relocating some training demand to alternative sites with suitable grass provision.

Hockey

- ◀ There is one full size sand based AGP in the analysis area.
- ◀ The pitch is owned and managed by Rastrick High School Sports Centre and is assessed as standard quality.
- ◀ There is also one small size sand based AGP at William Henry Smith School, the availability for community use however, is unknown.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Ensure pitch quality is retained through continuous maintenance.
- ◀ Continue to explore local demand for community use.
- ◀ Ensure that a sinking fund is in place to accommodate required future resurfacing.

Tennis

- ◀ There are 30 tennis courts in the Lower Valley Analysis Area, 11 of which are available for community use.
- ◀ Five of the courts available for community use are managed by the local authority with the remaining six at educational sites.
- ◀ Four of the local authority managed courts are assessed as good quality, the other is poor quality and deemed unplayable.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Sustain court quality through ongoing maintenance.
- ◀ Seek to improve court quality where possible.
- ◀ Explore local demand for tennis courts in the local area.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for future resurfacing.

Bowls

- ◀ There are eleven bowling greens in the Lower Valley Area.
- ◀ Overall there is overplay of current greens in the area.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Retain all bowling greens in the area to accommodate current demand.
- ◀ Ensure that current levels of demand does not have a detrimental effect on green quality.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

LOWER VALLEY ANALYSIS AREA

Given the extent of potential actions it is reasonable to assume partners will not necessarily be able to support all of the actions identified in this action plan; however, where the action is considered a priority and where resource is available, partners should endeavour to support.

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹³ | Indicative cost ¹⁴ |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------------|------------|---|---|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bailiff Bridge | 3 | Football | Sport Club | One adult pitch of standard quality and at capacity, one youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality with one match spare capacity at peak time, two mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality at capacity, one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality and one match spare capacity at peak time. The youth 9v9 pitch is overmarked with the mini 7v7 pitch. Adult pitch used solely by youth 11v11 teams. | Reconfigure pitches to better accommodate current demand. Investigate options to improve quality in order to maximise use. | FA | Key centre | M | L-M |
| Blackley Cricket Club | 7 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior cricket pitch, good quality, 12 natural grass wickets, overplayed by 12 match sessions per season. Clubhouse is old and requires refurbishment. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. Consider funding options for clubhouse improvements. | ECB | Local | M | L-H |
| Brighouse High School Sports Centre | 12 | Football | School | Five adult pitches (three good quality and two standard quality). One of the good quality pitches is flat but with holes in centre circle, penalty spots and in 18yd area, standing water in these holes. One youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality, grass too long, worn goal mouths. Used for community use. | Ensure appropriate maintenance in order to retain current levels of use. Ensure security of tenure for clubs. | FA | Key Centre | S | L |
| | | Rugby union | | A poor senior and mini pitch which are both at capacity and only used by the school. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | | L | L |
| | | Tennis | | Five macadam courts, standard quality. No community use. | Retain for school use. | Council | | L | L |
| Brighouse Sport & Social Club | 13 | Football | Sport Club | One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality with no peak time capacity. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order to build future capacity. Consider site for full size 3G pitch that could also be RFL/RFU compliant. | FA | Key Centre | S | L |
| | | Rugby league | | Two senior pitches, standard quality, one of the pitches is floodlit. Overplayed by 2.5 match sessions per season. Pitches used in winter by seniors and by juniors and women in summer. Some training on match pitches. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to address overplay and build future capacity. Where possible use alternative venues for training, e.g. AGPs. | RFL | | S | L-M |
| | | Cricket | | One cricket pitch with 20 natural grass wickets, good quality with non turf wicket. Although pitch has significant spare capacity due to its size, there is no peak time capacity. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | ECB | | L | L |

¹³ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁴ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁵ | Indicative cost ¹⁶ |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------|--|---|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Broad Oak Park | 14 | Football | Sport Club | One adult pitch, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7, all good quality. No peak time capacity and adult pitch overplayed by 1.5 match sessions. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | FA | Local | S | L |
| | | Football | | One small medium pile 3G pitch 5v5/7v7 sized. | Consider FA testing to accommodate competitive matches. | FA | | S | L |
| Brooksbank Sports College | 16 | Football | School | Two poor quality adult pitches, one 9v9 pitch, poor quality. No community use due to poor quality. Two adult pitches over marked for rounders in the summer. School utilises a rugby union pitch at Heath Rugby Club for its home rugby league fixtures. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. Consider site for full size 3G pitch. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Carr Green Recreation Ground | 22 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch, poor quality, played to capacity. Issues reported with the ancillary facilities servicing the site. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. Further investigate ancillary facility issues. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Carr Green Playing Fields | 23 | Football | Sport Club | Two adult pitches of standard quality, at capacity, one youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality which is slightly overplayed. Three mini 5v5 pitches (two standard, one poor quality), one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to address overplay and build future capacity. | FA | Key Centre | M | L |
| Clay House | 27 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch, standard quality, no peak time capacity. Solely used by youth 9v9 teams. | Reconfigure pitch in order to better accommodate demand. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Cliffe Hill Primary School | 28 | Football | School | One mini 7v7 pitch standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Dual Seal Stadium | 32 | Football | Sport Club | One adult pitch, floodlit, standard quality and overplayed by 0.5 match sessions. One youth 9v9 pitch, standard quality, no peak time capacity. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | FA | Local | S | L |
| Elland Cricket & Bowling Club | 33 | Football | Sport Club | One adult, one mini 5v5, one mini 7v7 pitch, all good quality. No peak time capacity. The youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 over mark cricket outfield. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | FA | Key Centre | S | L |
| | | Cricket | | One cricket pitch, good quality, 12 grass wickets. No peak time capacity. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | ECB | | S | L |
| | | Tennis | | Two artificial courts, good quality. Good quality courts and well maintained despite being 12 years old. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order to sustain current levels of play. | LTA | | S | L |
| | | Bowls | | Two bowling greens with significant spare capacity. | Ensure appropriate maintenance to sustain green quality and consider options to maximise use. | Club | | S | L |
| Field Lane Recreation Ground | - | Football | Local Authority | Last used 2009/10 season after which the Brighthouse Football League folded. | If the site is unable to be brought back into use, mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified with the Assessment | Council | Lapsed | M | M |

¹⁵ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁶ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁵ | Indicative cost ¹⁶ |
|----------------------------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|--|---|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Goldfields Recreation Ground | 37 | Football | Local Authority | Two adult pitches, of which one is of poor quality and the other good quality. Two youth 9v9 pitches, both of standard quality, slopes severely goal to goal and touchline to touchline on one of the pitches. Two youth 11v11 pitches, of which one is of poor quality and overplayed and the other is standard quality, the standard pitch has slopes goal to goal and touchline to touchline, many weeds, poor levels. Two mini 5v5 pitches both of standard quality, three mini 7v7 pitches all of standard quality. | Reconfigure pitches to better accommodate current demand. Investigate options to improve quality in order to maximise use. | FA | Key Centre | M | L-M |
| | | Rugby league | | One senior pitch of standard quality overplayed by 4.5 match sessions. Senior play in winter and summer and junior play in summer, plus training on match pitches. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to address overplay and build future capacity. Where possible use alternative venues for training, e.g. AGPs. | RFL | | S | L-M |
| Greetland Academy | 39 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 and one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Greetland Allrounders | 40 | Rugby league | Sport Club | Three senior pitches, of which one is good quality and two are of poor quality. Overplayed by two match sessions. Senior play mostly in winter with juniors playing in summer. Also training on site. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to address overplay and build future capacity. Where possible use alternative venues for training, e.g. AGPs. | RFL | Local | M | L-M |
| Greetland Cricket & Bowling Club | 41 | Cricket | Sport Club | One cricket pitch, good quality with 10 natural grass wickets. No peak time capacity. Club reports occasional water ingress in changing facilities and score box is very basic. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. Consider funding options for clubhouse improvements. | ECB | Local | M | L-H |
| | | Bowls | | One bowling green which is considered to be overplayed due to membership levels. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order to sustain current levels of play. | Club | | L | L |
| Heath Rugby Club | 44 | Rugby union | Sport Club | A poor senior pitch which is overplayed by one match session. Used by Brooksbank Sports College rugby league team, as well as some training demand. A poor quality senior pitch which receives training demand and is overplayed by 0.5 match sessions. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to address overplay and build future capacity. Where possible use alternative venues for training, e.g. AGPs. | RFU | Local | S | L-M |
| Hammerstones Leach Lane | 47 | Football | School | One adult pitch of poor quality, one youth 9v9 pitch of poor quality. | This is an off-site pitch for Brooksbank School currently being redeveloped. No current plans for club usage. | Council | Local | L | L |
| | | Rugby league | | One senior pitch, good quality, pitch currently being redeveloped. | | | | | |
| Lightcliffe Academy | 49 | Football | School | Seven adult pitches, all good quality with no peak time capacity. An adult football pitch over marks a senior rugby union pitch. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order to sustain current levels of play. Consider site for second full size 3G pitch. | Council | Key Centre | L | L |
| | | Rugby union | | One senior pitch of poor quality, unused by the community but receives curriculum use and has one match session of capacity. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | | L | L |
| | | Football | | One full size medium pile 3G AGP (55-60mm), good quality, floodlit. FA tested. | Ensure sinking funding is in place for future refurbishment. | FA | | M | H |

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁵ | Indicative cost ¹⁶ |
|---|---------|-------------|-----------------|--|---|---------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Tennis | | Five macadam courts, good quality. School site currently unavailable for community use. | Retain for school use. | Council | | L | L |
| Hipperholme Grammar School Playing Fields | 50 | Football | School | Four adult pitches, one mini 5v5 pitch, one mini 7v7 pitch, all of standard quality. Mini pitches are overmarked on adult pitch. One of the adult pitches is overmarked with 7v7 and 5v5. Small overplay on the adult pitches. Used by Shelf FC. All pitches over marked with athletics track in the summer. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to address overplay and build future capacity. A formal community use agreement between the two parties should be sought. | FA | Key Centre | S | L-M |
| | | Rugby union | | Two poor quality senior pitches overplayed by 1.5 match sessions. Utilised by junior teams of Old Brodleians RUFC without a formal usage agreement in place. | Investigate options to improve quality in order to address overplay and build future capacity. A formal community use agreement between the two parties should be sought. | RFU | | S | L-M |
| Holywell Green Primary School | 56 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Hullen Edge Recreation Ground | 57 | Football | Local Authority | Two adult and one mini 7v7 pitch. Slopes touchline to touchline, evidence of poor drainage. Some peak time capacity. The ancillary facilities have now closed due to the poor quality, therefore only junior football can be played at this site. | Reconfigure pitches to better accommodate current demand. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Lane Head | 60 | Football | Local Authority | Two adult pitches of standard quality, both with peak time capacity. Poor quality ancillary facilities. | Maximise use and consider funding options for ancillary facility improvements. | Council FA | Local | M | M |
| Lightcliffe Cricket Club | 61 | Cricket | Sport Club | One cricket pitch, good quality, 15 natural grass wickets overplayed by 15 match sessions per season. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | ECB | Local | M | L |
| Longroyde Junior School | 64 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality, severe slope touchline to touchline. Grass too long. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| West Vale Playing Field (Macintosh Site) | 67 | Football | Sport Club | One adult pitch, good quality, with peak time capacity. | Retain spare capacity in order to help protect quality. | FA | Local | L | L |
| Old Earth Playing Fields | 83 | Football | Sport Club | Three adult pitches, good quality, one adult pitch over marked with a youth 9v9 pitch. 2.5 matches of spare capacity at peak time. | Retain spare capacity in order to help protect quality, particularly due to overmarking. | FA | Key Centre | | |
| Old Earth School | 84 | Football | School | One mini 7v7 pitch, good quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Outlane Cricket Club | 87 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior pitch, good quality, 12 natural grass wickets. Peak time capacity to accommodate one additional team. | Retain spare capacity to help protect quality. | ECB | Local | L | L |
| Park Tennis Club | 9 | Tennis | Sport Club | Two standard quality shale courts. Courts are over 40 years old and in need of resurfacing. | Explore funding opportunities to resurface courts in order to increase capacity and quality. | LTA Club | Local | M | M |
| Rastrick Cricket Club | 90 | Cricket | Sport Club | One senior pitch, good quality, 17 natural grass wickets. No peak time capacity. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. | ECB | Local | M | L |
| Rastrick High School Sports Centre | 91 | Football | School | Two adult pitches of standard quality, community use by two teams. | Ensure appropriate security of tenure is in place. | FA | Key Centre | L | L |

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁵ | Indicative cost ¹⁶ |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|---|---|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Rugby league | | One pitch unavailable for community use. Also used by the school for rugby union. | Retain for school use. | Council | | L | L |
| | | AGP | | One full size, sand filled AGP, of standard quality, floodlit, available for community use. | Consider future pitch for conversion to 3G to accommodate training demand. Utilise Sport England/NGB guidance on choosing the correct surface. | FA EH | | M | H |
| Rastrick Tennis Club | 12 | Tennis | Sport Club | Four good quality macadam courts. One outdoor court resurfaced and repainted and indoor court lines repainted both in 2015. | Maintain current maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. | LTA | Local | L | L |
| St Andrews | 118 | Football | School | One mini 7v7 pitch, of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| St Andrews Playing Field | 119 | Football | Sport Club | One adult pitch of standard quality, no peak time capacity. Solely by youth 11v11 teams. | Reconfigure pitch to better meet current demand. | FA | Local | S | L |
| St Chads C of E Primary School | 120 | Football | School | One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Stainland Recreation Ground | 123 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch which is of standard quality and has actual spare capacity amounting to one match equivalent session. There is also another adult, a mini 7v7 and youth 9v9 pitches which are currently disused. | Sustain current pitch quality through ongoing maintenance. Consider the value of retaining the other pitches to the local sporting context. | Council | Key Centre | S | L |
| | | Rugby league | | One senior pitch of standard quality. One senior team play here and train one match equivalent per week leaving some spare capacity. | Retain spare capacity in order to help protect quality. | Council | | S | L |
| | | Tennis | | One court closed to public due to poor quality. | No demand to retain in its current format. | Council | | L | L |
| Stainland Recreation Ground CC | 124 | Cricket | Sport Club | One pitch, good quality, 10 natural grass wickets. Peak capacity to accommodate one more tea. Club reports growth aspirations. Lack of disabled access, only two toilets (safeguarding issues for school use, not accessible from CC side for disabled users), lack of female/ junior/disabled facilities. | Retain spare capacity in order to help protect quality and to accommodate future growth. Explore funding options for to make improvements to clubhouse. | ECB | Local | M | M |
| The Greetland Academy | 129 | Football | School | Two mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Towngate, Clifton | 134 | Football | Sport Club | One youth 9v9 pitch, no spare capacity, one mini 7v7 pitch with one match of spare capacity at peak time. Both of standard quality. Used by Clifton Rangers. Club managed ancillary facilities are of poor quality, with club hoping to improve quality to aid club development. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. Explore funding options for to make improvements to clubhouse. | FA | Local | M | M |
| William Henry Smith School | 144 | Football | School | One adult pitch of poor quality. One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| | | AGP | | One half size, sand filled AGP of standard quality. | | | | | |
| | | Tennis | | One macadam court standard quality. No community use. | | | | | |

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁵ | Indicative cost ¹⁶ |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------------|---|---|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Withinfields Primary School | 145 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 pitch, of standard quality, no peak time capacity. Used by Beacon Rangers. | Ensure appropriate level of maintenance in order that pitch can sustain current levels of play. Ensure security of tenure for community use. | FA | Local | S | L |
| Woodhead (Old Brodleians RUFC) | 146 | Rugby union | Sport Club | Three poor quality senior pitches overplayed by 8.5 match sessions, in particularly the floodlit pitch used for training. | Improve maintenance regime in order to increase capacity and where possible use alternative venues for training, e.g. AGPs. | RFU | Local | S | M |
| Woodhead Recreation Ground | 147 | Football | Local Authority | One mini 7v7 pitch of poor quality unused due to quality. | No demand to retain in its current format. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Woodhouse Primary School | 149 | Football | School | One mini 5 v5 pitch of standard quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| Lightcliffe Primary School | 152 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality. No community use. | Retain pitches for school use, potential site for future community use if needed. | Council | Local | L | L |
| St Augustinian CC | - | Cricket | Sports Club | St Augustinian CC are developing a new cricket pitch at Woodhouse, Brighouse. | Work towards securing funding to complete the project if supported by the YCB. | YCB | Local | S | M |

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

UPPER VALLEY ANALYSIS AREA

Football

Summary of current and future demand for grass football

| Analysis area | Supply and Demand assessment (match equivalent sessions) | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| | Actual spare capacity ¹⁷ | Overplay | Current total | Latent demand | Future demand | Total |
| Adult pitches | 7 | 6.5 | 0.5 | - | 0.5 | - |
| Youth pitches 11v11 | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | 1.5 | 0.5 |
| Youth pitches 9v9 | - | - | - | - | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Mini pitches 7v7 | 2.5 | - | 2.5 | - | - | 2.5 |
| Mini pitches 5v5 | 2 | - | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |

- Adult pitches in the Upper Valley area currently have 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity, however with future demand this pitch type is then at capacity.
- Youth 9v9 pitches are currently at capacity and with future demand this becomes a shortfall amounting to 1.5 match equivalent sessions.
- The spare capacity of two match equivalent sessions for mini 5v5 pitches becomes a shortfall of one match equivalent session when latent and future demand are factored in.
- Ripponden Wood is significantly overplayed by three match equivalent sessions.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay, reduce shortfalls and to increase future capacity.
- Considers options to reduce unofficial use of pitches.
- Transfer youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches to youth 11v11 pitches. Use resultant spare capacity on adult pitches to create and build future youth pitch capacity.
- Seek use of currently unavailable sites in order to further reduce shortfalls and build future capacity.

Cricket

- There are 12 grass wicket cricket squares and one standalone non-turf wicket. All wickets are available for community use.
- Eleven squares are assessed as good quality with one natural grass wicket and the one NTP assessed as standard quality.
- Three clubs in the area own its current home venues and therefore can be considered to have security of tenure.
- Some sites across the analysis area have issues regarding ancillary facilities.
- There is currently no actual spare capacity in the analysis area, at senior peak time.
- Five sites are currently overplayed by an accumulative 80 match sessions per season.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- Sustain current pitch quality through ongoing maintenance.
- Explore use of equipment banks to improve maintenance regimes.

¹⁷ In match equivalent sessions

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Consider installing non-turf pitches alongside natural grass squares on sites which are overplayed and have a high amount of junior or short format play.
- ◀ Seek to address issues relating to ancillary facilities across all sites.

Rugby union

- ◀ There are six senior pitches, all are available for community use but all are unused.
- ◀ All six pitches are located at school sites.
- ◀ Five of the pitches are located on Rishworth School Playing Fields. The remaining pitch is located at Calder High School.
- ◀ All pitches are assessed as standard quality.
- ◀ No clubs access the pitches in this analysis area.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Seek to improve pitch quality by increasing pitch maintenance.
- ◀ Explore local demand for community use.
- ◀ Consider installing floodlighting to accommodate some club training demand.

Rugby league

- ◀ There is one rugby league pitch within the Upper Valley.
- ◀ The pitch is located at Ryburn Valley High School and is standard quality.
- ◀ The pitch is available for community use but is currently unused.
- ◀ Rugby union is played on the pitch by Ryburn Valley High School as part of the curriculum.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Continue to maintain the pitch to sustain pitch quality.
- ◀ Consider local demand for community use.

Hockey

- ◀ There is one full size, floodlit, sand based AGP in the analysis area; located at Ryburn Valley High School.
- ◀ The pitch is fully available for community use at peak time.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Consider whether local demand dictates protection for a hockey suitable surface in this area.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Sustain surface quality through ongoing maintenance.

Tennis

- ◀ There are 26 tennis courts in the Upper Valley Analysis Area, 12 of which are available for community use.
- ◀ Seven of the courts available for community use are managed by the local authority with the remaining five at educational sites.
- ◀ Four of the local authority managed courts are assessed as unplayable and therefore poor quality; whilst the three are assessed as standard quality.

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Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Improve court quality through increased maintenance.
- ◀ Explore local demand for tennis courts in the local area.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are in place for future resurfacing.

Bowls

- ◀ There are nine bowling greens in the Upper Valley Area.
- ◀ Overall there is spare capacity of current greens in the area.
- ◀ An additional green in the area is unusable due to flood damage.
- ◀ Centre Vale Park has four bowling greens but current demand for three.

Recommendations for partners and stakeholders

- ◀ Retain all bowling greens in the area to accommodate current demand.
- ◀ Ensure that current levels of demand does not have a detrimental effect on green quality.
- ◀ Consider the value of retaining the number of greens for the current levels of demand.

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

UPPER VALLEY ANALYSIS AREA

Given the extent of potential actions it is reasonable to assume partners will not necessarily be able to support all of the actions identified in this action plan; however, where the action is considered a priority and where resource is available, partners should endeavour to support.

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁸ | Indicative Cost ¹⁹ |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------------|--|---|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bellholme Sports Ground | 6 | Football | Sports Club | Two adult pitches, standard quality. Since data collection it has been identified that the site is used by Todmorden Borough FC although there remains some spare capacity. | Continue with current maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. | Council FA | Local | S | L |
| Bridgeholme Cricket Club | 11 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior cricket pitch of good quality, with six natural grass wickets. The site is currently overplayed by one match session per season. | Sustain pitch quality by continuing with current maintenance regime ensuring that pitch quality does not deteriorate from current demand levels. | Club ECB | Local | S | L |
| Broadfold Park (Booth CC) | 15 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior pitch of good quality, with eight natural grass wickets, available for community use. The site is currently overplayed by ten match sessions per season. | Sustain current pitch maintenance regime to accommodate all current longer format senior cricket. Consider establishing an NTP alongside the current square to accommodate some junior and shorter format demand. | Club ECB | Local | M | L |
| Burnley Fields (Brearley Fields) | 17 | - | Local Authority | The pitches at Burnley Fields are disused due to persistent flooding of the site rendering the pitches unusable. | Consider the value of the pitches to local sport given their propensity to flood. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Burnley Road Academy | 18 | Football | School | One youth 9v9 pitch, poor quality, spare capacity discounted due to poor quality. | Improve pitch maintenance regime to improve pitch quality for curriculum use. Explore local demand for community use. | School | Local | S | L |
| Calder High School | 19 | Football | School | One adult pitch of standard quality which is currently at capacity from curriculum and community use by the school and two Warley Rangers FC teams. | Maintain pitch quality by continuing with the current maintenance programme. Ensure that some capacity is retained for curriculum use. Consider site for full size 3G pitch | School | Local | S | L |
| | | Rugby union | | A standard senior pitch which has one match session of spare capacity. The pitch does receive high amounts of curriculum use but is available for community use, yet remains unused. | Sustain current maintenance programme to retain pitch quality. Ensure that some capacity is retained for curriculum use. | School | Local | S | L |
| | | Tennis | | Two macadam courts of standard quality, three artificial courts of standard quality. Site currently only has one net. | Provide suitable nets to allow for continued curriculum use. Explore local demand for community use, generating a sinking fund for future resurfacing. | School LTA | Local | S | L |
| Calder Holmes Park | 20 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch of standard quality with one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity during peak time. | Continue with existing maintenance programme to sustain pitch quality. Continue to explore local demand for community use. | Council | Local | S | L |
| | | Tennis | | Two unplayable macadam courts. No nets up but open access and could be used free of charge. | Should local demand dictate, consider reinstating the courts to a playable condition, retaining a sinking fund for future resurfacing | Council LTA | Local | S | L |

¹⁸ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁹ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁸ | Indicative Cost ¹⁹ |
|----------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------|---|--|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Centre Vale Park | 25 | Football | Local Authority | One youth 9v9 pitch, good quality with no actual spare capacity. Three youth 11v11 pitches (two being good quality and one standard quality) with three match equivalent sessions of spare capacity at peak time; and two mini 7v7 pitch of good quality with 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity at peak time. | Sustain current pitch quality through ongoing maintenance. Explore local demand for community use, particularly with future demand considered. Consider site for full size 3G pitch | Council | Local | S | L |
| | | AGP | | A medium pile 3G AGP (55-60mm), of 5v5 size, standard quality and floodlit. | Retain pitch quality by continuing current maintenance regime. Ensure that the pitch remains available during peak time, particularly to accommodate some training demand. | Council | Local | S | L |
| | | Bowls | | Four bowling greens which, collectively, currently have spare capacity. | Sustain green maintenance to accommodate existing demand without compromising surface quality. Consider whether four greens at this one site are sustainable with current membership numbers. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Cragg Vale Tennis Club | 4 | Tennis | Sports Club | Two macadam courts of standard quality. One is floodlit. Line markings described by club as poor. | Increase maintenance and look to remark courts in order to increase quality. | LTA Club | Local | M | L |
| Ferney Lee Primary School | 35 | Football | School | Mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality, available for community use, one match equivalent session of spare capacity at peak time. | Retain pitch quality by continuing with current maintenance regime. Retain some capacity for curriculum use. | School | Local | S | L |
| Hebden Royd Primary School | 45 | Football | School | One mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality, available for community use, with one match equivalent session of spare capacity at peak time. | Retain pitch quality by continuing with current maintenance regime. Retain some capacity for curriculum use. | School | Local | S | L |
| Hebden Bridge Cricket Club | 48 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior cricket pitch of standard quality, seven natural grass wickets, available for community use. The pitch has spare capacity of 30 match sessions per season and 0.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity during peak period for senior cricket. | Sustain current pitch quality to ensure that current levels of demand do not have a detrimental effect on surface quality. Explore options for other teams to use the site to aid with maintenance costs. | Club ECB | Local | S | L |
| Holmes Park | 53 | Football | Local Authority | One standard quality adult pitch which is currently played to capacity by Weavers FC, Calder 76 and Hebden Royd United football clubs. | Seek to improve pitch quality to ensure that current levels of use do not have a detrimental effect on pitch quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Luddendenfoot | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which is currently over capacity. | Ensure green maintenance continues to allow for current demand without a detrimental effect on surface quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Luddendenfoot Cricket Club | 65 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior pitch, good quality, eight natural grass wickets. The pitch is currently overplayed by 17 match sessions per season. The ancillary facilities need updating with the current building being outdated and difficult to heat. | Retain grass wicket quality by continuing with current maintenance regime. Consider installing an NTP alongside the existing square to accommodate some junior and shorter format match play. Explore options regarding upgrading the ancillary facilities to ensure that they do not hinder club development. | Club ECB | Local | L | H |

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁸ | Indicative Cost ¹⁹ |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------------|---|---|-----------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Luddenden Dene School | 66 | 3G AGP | School | Good quality for short pile 3G AGP suitable for 5v5 format matches. Not floodlit but available for community use. | Maintain current pitch quality. Consider installing floodlighting, if demand dictates, to accommodate some training demand. | School FA | Local | S | L |
| Midgley Recreation Ground | 68 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch of standard quality, one mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality. Both available for community use and both have one match of actual spare capacity at peak time. | Sustain current pitch maintenance programme to retain pitch quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Mytholmroyd Bowls Club | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which is currently over capacity. | Ensure green maintenance continues to allow for current demand without a detrimental effect on surface quality. | Club | Local | S | L |
| Mytholmroyd Cricket Club | 72 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior pitch, good quality, eight natural grass wickets, available for community use. The site currently has eight match sessions of potential spare capacity but no actual spare capacity. | Continue with the current maintenance programme to sustain pitch quality. | Club | Local | S | L |
| Mytholmroyd Tennis Club | 8 | Tennis | Sports Club | Two macadam courts of standard quality. Club report that the courts are in need of resurfacing. | Explore funding opportunities to resurface courts in order to increase capacity and quality. | LTA Club | Local | M | M |
| Old Town Bowls Club | - | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which is currently over capacity. | Ensure green maintenance continues to allow for current demand without a detrimental effect on surface quality. | Club | Local | S | L |
| Old Town Cricket Club | 86 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior pitch of good quality with eight grass wickets. The site currently has spare capacity of 22 sessions per season but no actual spare capacity at peak time. | Continue with the current maintenance programme to sustain pitch quality. | Club | Local | S | L |
| Ripponden Junior And Infant School | 93 | Football | School | One mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality which is available for community use and has one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity at peak time. | Sustain current maintenance programme and continue to explore community use options. Retain some capacity to accommodate curriculum use. | School | Local | S | L |
| Ripponden Park | - | Bowls | Local Authority | One bowling green which is currently over capacity. | Ensure green maintenance continues to allow for current demand without a detrimental effect on surface quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Ripponden Wood | 94 | Football | Sports Club | One adult, two mini 5v5 and two mini 7v7 pitches; all of standard quality and at capacity. The site is the home venue of Ryburn United AFC. | Sustain pitch quality by continuing with pitch maintenance programme. Ensure that pitch quality does not deteriorate with current and future demand. | Club | Local | S | L |
| Rishworth New Road | 96 | Football | School | An adult pitch of standard quality with one match equivalent session of spare capacity. | Continue with existing maintenance programme whilst also exploring local demand for community use. | School | Local | S | L |
| Rishworth School Playing Fields | 97 | Rugby union | School | Five senior pitches all of standard quality each with one match of spare capacity and available for community use, yet unused. | Continue with current maintenance programme to ensure that pitch quality remains stable. Continue to explore local demand for community use. Consider site for full size 3G pitch | School | Local | S | L |

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁸ | Indicative Cost ¹⁹ |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ryburn Valley High School | 99 | Football | School | One adult pitch of poor quality overplayed by two match equivalent sessions; and one youth 11v11 pitch of standard quality overplayed by one match equivalent session. Both available for community use. | Improve pitch quality to increase site capacity. Retain some pitch capacity for curriculum use. | School | Local | S | L |
| | | Rugby league | | One senior pitch of standard quality, available for community use, not currently used for competitive matches but at capacity. | Ensure pitch maintenance sustains pitch quality. Retain some pitch capacity for curriculum use and explore demand for community use. | School | Local | S | L |
| | | Sand filled AGP | | Full size, sand filled AGP of standard quality floodlit which was last resurfaced in 2004. | Consider resurfacing the pitch to ensure that pitch quality is not detrimentally affected by use. | School EH | Local | M | H |
| | | Tennis | | Four macadam courts, good quality, not available for community use. Some evidence of unofficial use. Open access courts. | Maintain current court quality and explore local demand for community use. | School LTA | Local | S | L |
| Sacred Heart RC School | 100 | Football | Local Authority | A mini 5v5 pitch of standard quality which is available for community use but is currently unused. Actual spare capacity was discounted due to this. | Maintain current maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. Continue to explore local demand for community use, particularly with future demand factored in there will be overplay of 5v5 pitches in the Upper Valley area. | School Council | Local | S | L |
| Scout Road | 102 | Football | Community Group | A youth 9v9 pitch of standard quality which is available for community use and is at capacity. Used by three Hebden Bridge Saints teams, including one 7v7 team. | Continue with current maintenance regime whilst also exploring the possibility of a more suitable venue for the Club's 7v7 team to play at. | Club FA | Local | S | L |
| Sowerby St Peters Cricket Club | 116 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior pitch of good quality with eight natural grass wickets. Overplayed by 11 match sessions per season. | Sustain current pitch quality through continued maintenance. Consider installing a NTP to accommodate some junior and shorter format match play, reducing overplay on natural grass wickets. | Club ECB | Local | S | L |
| Sowerby Tennis and Bowling Club | 16 | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which currently has spare capacity. | Sustain green maintenance to accommodate existing demand without compromising surface quality. | Council | Local | S | L |
| | | Tennis | | Two good quality macadam courts. Courts resurfaced in 2012. | Maintain current maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. | LTA | | L | L |
| Stones Cricket Club | 125 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior pitch with 12 natural grass wickets, all of good quality. The pitch is currently overplayed by 23 match session per season. | Sustain current pitch quality through continued maintenance. Consider installing a NTP to accommodate some junior and shorter format match play, reducing overplay on natural grass wickets. | Club ECB | Local | S | L |
| Stubb Fields | 126 | Football | Community Group | Two poor quality adult pitches which are both at capacity. Used as a home venue for Hebden Bridge Saints FC | Improve pitch quality by improving the maintenance regime. Consider an asset transfer to Hebden Bridge FC, should the Club agree to take on the site as a dedicated home venue. | Club Council FA | Local | M | L |

**CALDERDALE
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁸ | Indicative Cost ¹⁹ |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------|--|--|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| The Calder High School | 128 | Football | School | One adult pitch of standard quality. One match equivalent session of actual spare capacity is discounted due to the pitch being unused and on a school site. | Sustain current pitch quality by continuing with the maintenance programme. Explore local demand for community use. | School | Local | S | L |
| | | 3G AGP | | A half size medium pile 3G (55-60mm) of standard quality, which is floodlit. | Continue with the current maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. Ensure that the pitch remains available for community use to accommodate play at peak time. | School | Local | S | L |
| Todmorden Cricket Club | 131 | Cricket | Sports Club | One good quality senior pitch with 15 natural grass wickets. The site is available for community use and has spare capacity to accommodate an additional 11 match sessions per season, but does not have any actual spare capacity at peak time for senior cricket. | Continue with the current maintenance programme to sustain pitch quality. Ensure that surface quality is not detrimentally affected by current demand and future demand. | Club | Local | S | L |
| Todmorden High School | 132 | Football | School | Two adult pitch of standard quality and available for community use. Two match sessions of actual spare capacity available during peak time. | Maintain current pitch quality whilst also retaining some capacity to accommodate curriculum use. Explore local demand for community use. | School | Local | S | L |
| Todmorden Sports Centre | 133 | 3G AGP | Local Authority | One half size, standard quality, medium pile 3G AGP (55-60mm) which is floodlit and available for community use. | Continue with the current maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. Ensure that the pitch remains available for community use to accommodate play at peak time. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Triangle Cricket Club | 135 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior cricket pitch with eight good quality, natural turf wickets, which are overplayed by four match sessions per season. The site is available for community use. | Sustain current pitch quality through continued maintenance. Consider installing a NTP to accommodate some junior and shorter format match play, reducing overplay on natural grass wickets. | Club ECB | Local | S | L |
| Todmorden Tennis Club | 17 | Tennis | Sports Club | Two standard quality shale courts. Weather impacted on shale courts. In order to grow and attract more younger players the Club wishes to relocate to Centre Vale Park and use funds from the sale of their current site for housing to match fund improved facilities at Centre Vale, however, a recent planning application has been turned down | Work with the Club to ensure Sport England planning policy is met in relation to relation plans. | Club LTA Council | Local | M | M |
| Walsden Cricket & Bowling Club | 137 | Bowls | Sports Club | One bowling green which is currently not in use due to flood damage. | Repair the green back to operational standards, then maintain to an appropriate level ensuring that surface quality does not deteriorate as a result of demand. | Club | Local | S | L |
| | | Cricket | | One senior natural turf pitch with 15 good quality grass wickets, in addition to a standalone non-turf pitch. The site currently has 32 match sessions of spare capacity per season but does not have any actual spare capacity at peak period for senior cricket. | Continue with the current maintenance regime to sustain pitch quality. Ensure that pitch quality is not detrimentally affected by current and future demand. | Club | Local | S | L |

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| Site | Site ID | Sport | Management | Current status | Recommended actions | Partners | Site hierarchy tier | Timescales ¹⁸ | Indicative Cost ¹⁹ |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------|--|--|---------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Walsden Recreation Ground | 138 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch of poor quality which is currently overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. | Improve pitch quality to increase site capacity. | Council | Local | S | L |
| White Lee Recreation Ground | 142 | Football | Local Authority | One poor quality adult pitch which is currently by one match equivalent session. | Improve pitch quality to increase site capacity. | Council | Local | S | L |
| Woodhouse | 148 | Football | Sports Club | One adult pitch of standard quality which is available for community use. Since data collection a further team has been identified as playing at the site resulting in no spare capacity at peak time. | Sustain current pitch maintenance regime to ensure pitch quality. | Club | Local | S | L |
| Woodland (Barkisland CC) | 150 | Cricket | Sports Club | One senior pitch, good quality, 12 natural grass wickets available for community use. The site is currently overplayed by 19 match sessions per season. | Sustain current pitch quality by continuing with maintenance regime. Consider installing an NTP alongside the current square to accommodate some junior and shorter formats, reducing current overplay on the natural turf square. | Club ECB | Local | M | L |
| Harley Wood Playing Fields | 151 | Football | Local Authority | One adult pitch, poor quality with spare capacity discounted due to the site being unavailable for community. The site also has drainage issues. | Consider the value of the pitches to local sport given their poor quality and lack of community use. | Council FA | Local | S | L |
| Walsden School Playing Fields | 153 | Football | School | Mini 5v5 pitch, poor quality with spare capacity discounted as the site is unavailable for community use. | Improve current maintenance regime to increase pitch quality and capacity. Retain some capacity for curriculum use and consider exploring local demand for community use. | School | Local | S | L |

PART 7: KEEP THE STRATEGY ROBUST AND UP TO DATE

Delivery

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

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

The production of this Strategy should be regarded as the beginning of the planning process. The success of this Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach.

Each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence. The role of the steering group should not end with the completion of the PPS document. The steering group should continue to comprise of NGB representatives (FA, ECB, EH, RFU) as well Sport England, selected members of the Council and, if applicable, key stakeholders (such as leisure providers, universities and partner clubs).

To help ensure the PPS is well used it should be regarded as the key document within the study area guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved the steering group need to have a clear understanding of how the PPS can be applied and therefore delivered. Key uses for the PPS include evidence for supporting funding bids, guidance to inform planning decisions and planning applications and decision making for capital investment.

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

Monitoring and updating

It is important that there is regular annual monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. This monitoring should be led by the local authority and supported by all members of, and reported back to, the steering group. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPS has been applied should also form a key component of monitoring its delivery. This should form an on-going role of the group. It is possible that in

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the interim between annual reviews the steering group could operate as a 'virtual' group; prepared to comment on suggestions and updates electronically when relevant.

As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the steering group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date. If the PPS is used as a 'live' document, and kept up to date, the time frame can be extended to five years.

Furthermore, the process of refreshing the PPS would be much less resource intensive if changes and updates have been made throughout the five years. If there are no updates to the document within the period the nature of the supply and in particular the demand for playing pitches is likely to have changed. Therefore, without any form of review and update within this time period it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.

Ideally the PPS should be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the steering group. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment that would have been built up when developing the PPS. Taking into account the time to develop the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed.

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

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

Once the PPS is complete the role of the steering group should evolve so that it:

- ◀ Acts as a focal point for promoting the value and importance of the PPS and playing pitch provision in the area
- ◀ Monitors, evaluates and reviews progress with the delivery of the recommendations and action plan
- ◀ Shares lessons learnt from how the PPS has been used and how it has been applied to a variety of circumstances
- ◀ Ensures the PPS is used effectively to input into any new opportunities to secure improved provision and influence relevant programmes and initiatives
- ◀ Maintains links between all relevant parties with an interest in playing pitch provision in the area;
- ◀ Reviews the need to update the PPS along with the supply and demand information and assessment work on which it is based. Further to review the group should either:
 - ◀ Provide a short annual progress and update paper;
 - ◀ Provide a partial review focussing on particular sport, pitch type and/or sub area; or
 - ◀ Lead a full review and update of the PPS document (including the supply and demand information and assessment details).

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Alongside the regular steering group meetings it is recommended that Calderdale Council holds annual sport specific meetings with the pitch sport NGBs and other relevant organisations. These meetings should look to update the key supply and demand information, if necessary amend the assessment work, track progress with implementing the recommendations and action plan and highlight any new issues and opportunities. Things to consider include formation of new teams or loss of teams, any new formats of the sports that would impact on facilities, changes in quality or creation of new facilities.

These meetings could be timed to fit with the annual affiliation process undertaken by the NGBs which would help to capture any changes in the number and nature of sports clubs in the area. Other information that is already collected on a regular basis such as pitch booking records for local authority and other sites could be fed into these meetings. The NGBs will also be able to indicate any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area. Discussion with the league secretaries may also indicate annual league meetings which it may be useful to attend to pick up any specific issues and/or enable a review of the relevant club details to be undertaken.

The steering group should regularly review and refresh area by area plans taking account of any improvements in pitch quality (and hence increases in pitch capacity) and also any new negotiations for community use of education or other private sites in the future. Updating the action plans will make the task of updating the PPS much easier.


It is important that the Council maintains the data contained with the accompanying Playing Pitch Database. The Council 'owns' the database but it is the responsibility of NGBs and partners to supply up to date information that can be fed into it. This will enable it to refresh and update area by area plans on a regular basis. The accompanying databases are intended to be refreshed on a season by season basis and it is important that there is cross-departmental working, including for example, grounds maintenance and sports, to ensure that this is achieved and that results are used to inform subsequent annual sports facility development plans. Results should be shared with partners via a consultative mechanism.

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Checklist

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

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/playing-pitch-strategy-guidance/>

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

APPENDIX ONE: STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The recommendations within this Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis. They reflect key areas to be addressed over its lifetime. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to also meet planning considerations.

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.

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

The FA National Game Strategy (2015 – 2019)

The main aims of the National Game Strategy are summarised below:

- ◀ 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 maximise playing opportunities

‘The right pitches in the right places’²⁰

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

²⁰

<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

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APPENDIX TWO: FUNDING PLAN

Funding opportunities

In order to deliver much of the Action Plan it is recognised that external partner funding will need to be sought. Although seeking developer contributions in applicable situations and other local funding/community schemes could go some way towards meeting deficiencies and/or improving provision, other potential/match sources of funding should be investigated. Below is a list of current funding sources that are relevant for community improvement projects involving sports facilities.

| Awarding body | Description |
|--|---|
| Big Lottery Fund http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/ | Big invests in community groups and to projects that improve health, education and the environment |
| Sport England The current funding streams will change throughout 2016/17 so refer to the website for the latest information: https://www.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/ | Sport England is keen to marry funding with other organisations that provide financial support to create and strengthen the best sports projects. Applicants are encouraged to maximise the levels of other sources of funding, and projects that secure higher levels of partnership funding are more likely to be successful. |
| Football Foundation http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/ | This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development. |
| Rugby Football Foundation - The Grant Match Scheme www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org | The Grant Match Scheme provides easy-to-access grant funding for playing projects that contribute to the recruitment and retention of community rugby players. Grants are available on a 'match funding' 50:50 basis to support a proposed project. Projects eligible for funding include: 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts and floodlights. 2. Club House Facilities – Changing rooms, shower facilities, washroom/lavatory, and measures to facilitate segregation (e.g. women, juniors). 3. Equipment – Large capital equipment, pitch maintenance capital equipment (e.g. mowers). |
| EU Life Fund http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm | LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU. |
| EH Capital Investment Programme (CIP) | The CIP fund is for the provision of new pitches and re-surfacing of old AGPs. It forms part of EH's 4 year Whole Sport's Plan. |
| National Hockey Foundation http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/ | The Foundation primarily makes grants to a wide range of organisations that meet one of our chosen areas of focus: Young people and hockey. Enabling the development of hockey at youth or community level. |

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Protecting Playing Fields

Sport England's Strategy: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021) will simplify the funding reducing the number of investment programmes from 30 to 7:

- ◀ Tackling Inactivity
- ◀ Children and Young People
- ◀ Volunteering
- ◀ Taking sport and activity into the mass market
- ◀ Supporting sports core markets
- ◀ Local delivery
- ◀ Creating welcoming sports facilities

The current funding streams listed below will remain operational during 2016/17 but will be phased out and replaced by one or more of the seven listed above.

It launched Protecting Playing Fields (PPF) as part of its Places People Play Olympic legacy mass participation programme and is investing £10 million of National Lottery funding in community sports projects.

The programme is being delivered via five funding rounds (with up to £2 million being awarded to projects in each round). Its focus is on protecting and improving playing fields and developing community sport. It will fund capital projects that create, develop and improve playing fields for sporting and community use and offer long term protection of the site for sport. Projects are likely to involve the construction of new pitches or improvement of existing ones that need levelling or drainage works.

Sport England's 'Inspired Facilities' funding programme will be delivered via funding rounds and where clubs, community and voluntary sector groups and local authorities can apply for grants of between £25k and £150k where there is a proven local need for a facility to be modernised, extended or modified to open up new sporting opportunities.

The programmes three priorities are:

- ◀ Organisations that haven't previously received a Sport England Lottery grant of over £10k.
- ◀ Projects that are the only public sports facility in the local community.
- ◀ Projects that offer local opportunities to people who do not currently play sport.

Besides this scheme providing an important source of funding for potential voluntary and community sector sites, it may also providing opportunities for Council to access this funding particularly in relation to resurfacing the artificial sports surfaces.

Strategic Facilities Fund

Facilities are fundamental in providing more people with the opportunity to play sport. The supply of the right facilities in the right areas is key to getting more people to play sport. Sport England recognises the considerable financial pressures that local authorities are currently under and the need to strategically review and rationalise leisure stock so that cost effective and financially sustainable provision is available in the long-term. Sport England has a key role to play in the sector, from influencing the local strategic planning and review of sports facility provision to investing in major capital projects of strategic importance.

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The Strategic Facilities Fund will direct capital investment into a number of key local authority projects that are identified through a strategic needs assessment and that have maximum impact on growing and sustaining community sport participation. These projects will be promoted as best practice in the delivery of quality and affordable facilities, whilst demonstrating long-term operational efficiencies. The fund will support projects that bring together multiple partners, including input from the public and private sectors and national governing bodies of sport (NGBs). The fund is also designed to encourage applicants and their partners to invest further capital and revenue funding to ensure sustainability. Sport England has allocated a budget of circa £30m of Lottery funding to award through this fund (2013-17).

Key features which applications must demonstrate are:

- ◀ A robust needs and evidence base which illustrates the need for the project and the proposed facility mix
- ◀ Strong partnerships which will last beyond the initial development of the project and underpin the long-term sustainability of the facility
- ◀ Multi-sport provision and activity that demonstrates delivery against NGB local priorities
- ◀ A robust project plan from inception to completion with achievable milestones and timescales.

Lottery applications will be invited on a solicited-only basis and grants of between £500,000 and £2,000,000 will be considered.

The Strategic Facilities Fund will prioritise projects that:

- ◀ Are large-scale capital developments identified as part of a local authority sports facility strategic needs assessment/rationalisation programme and that will drive a significant increase in community sports participation
- ◀ Demonstrate consultation/support from two or more NGBs and delivery against their local priorities
- ◀ Are multi-sport facilities providing opportunities to drive high participant numbers
- ◀ Are a mix of facility provision (indoor and/or outdoor) to encourage regular & sustained use by a large number of people
- ◀ Offer an enhancement, through modernisation, to existing provision and/or new build facilities
- ◀ Have a long-term sustainable business plan attracting public and private investment
- ◀ Show quality in design, but are fit for purpose to serve the community need
- ◀ Have effective and efficient operating models, combined with a commitment to development programmes which will increase participation and provide talent pathways.

Projects will need to demonstrate how the grant will deliver against Sport England's strategic priorities. The funding available is for the development of the capital infrastructure, which can contribute to the costs of new build, modernisation or refurbishment and purchasing of major fixed equipment as part of the facility development.

Funder's requirements

Below is a list of funding requirements that can typically be expected to be provided as part of a funding bid, some of which will fall directly out of the Playing Pitch Strategy:

- ◀ Identify need (i.e., why the Project is needed) and how the Project will address it.
- ◀ Articulate what difference the Project will make.

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- ◀ Identify benefits, value for money and/or added value.
- ◀ Provide baseline information (i.e., the current situation).
- ◀ Articulate how the Project is consistent with local, regional and national policy.
- ◀ Financial need and project cost.
- ◀ Funding profile (i.e., Who's providing what? Unit and overall costs).
- ◀ Technical information and requirements (e.g., planning permission).
- ◀ Targets, outputs and/or outcomes (i.e., the situation after the Project/what the Project will achieve)
- ◀ Evidence of support from partners and stakeholders.
- ◀ Background/essential documentation (e.g., community use agreement).
- ◀ Assessment of risk.

Indicative costs

The indicative costs of implementing key elements of the Action Plan can be found on the Sport England website:

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>

There are two sets of costs that are highlighted here; facility capital costs and lifecycle costs.

Facility capital costs

- ◀ Facility capital costs are calculated using estimates of what it typically costs to build modern sports facilities, including fees and external work, naturally taking into account varying conditions, inflation and regional adjustments.
- ◀ Costs are updated regularly in conjunction with information provided by the BCIS (Building Cost Information Service) and other Quantity Surveyors.
- ◀ The document is often referred to as the Planning Kitbag costs as the figures are often used by planners and developers when reviewing potential planning contributions to site developments.

Lifecycle costs

- ◀ Life cycle costs are how much its costs to keep a facility open and fit-for-purpose during its lifetime.
- ◀ It includes costs for major replacement and planned preventative maintenance (PPM) – day to day repairs. The costs are expressed as a percentage of the capital cost.
- ◀ You should not underestimate the importance of regular maintenance and the expense in maintaining a facility throughout its life.

APPENDIX THREE: GLOSSARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CALDERDALE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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