



CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

ASSESSMENT REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2016

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial grass pitch)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
BC	Bowling Club
CC	Cricket Club
CSP	County Sports Partnership
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FE	Further Education
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GCB	Gloucestershire Cricket Board
GFA	Gloucestershire Football Association
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
HE	Higher Education
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
LMS	Last Man Stands
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
PF	Playing Field
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RFC	Rugby Football Club
RLFC	Rugby League Football Club
S106	Section 106
TC	Tennis Club
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Assessment Report prepared by Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for Cheltenham & Tewkesbury.

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

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

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

Stages A-C are covered in this report.

Stage A: Tailoring the approach

Why the strategy is being developed

The Joint Core Strategy (JCS) is a partnership between Gloucester City Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, and Tewkesbury Borough Council, supported by Gloucestershire County Council. The JCS was formed to produce a co-ordinated strategic development plan to show how this area will develop during the period up to 2031. This plan is currently subject to an examination, an Inspectors report is expected spring 2016.

Tewkesbury has an existing Playing Pitch Assessment and Strategy 2008. The strategy splits the Borough into five geographical areas and provides calculations for standards of provision.

Cheltenham has a Playing Pitch Strategy 2002 and audit of which much of the mapping and audit data is still relevant for the purposes of producing a new strategy and audit; however, it needs to be reviewed.

The overarching aims, objectives and key drivers for the development of the PPS are summarised below:

- ◀ To provide robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities and opportunities for new provision.
- ◀ To inform the development and implementation of planning policy and by doing so inform Local Plan requirements and relevant supplementary guidance documents.
- ◀ To inform the assessment of planning applications and masterplans in relation to new housing developments, particularly the four strategic sites; North West Cheltenham and North Gloucester (Innsworth), North Gloucester (North and South Churchdown / Brockworth), MOD Ashchurch and South Cheltenham.

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- ✦ The report should set out recommendations to address areas of deficiency, including opportunities for the enhancement of existing land, and recommendations to address an over-provision of land in some areas of each district, including options for a more effective use of open space.
- ✦ To provide evidence to help the councils and clubs secure both internal and external funding for the creation of new pitches and the upgrading of existing pitches.
- ✦ To ensure the most efficient management and maintenance of playing pitch provision in light of budgetary pressures.
- ✦ To help prioritise internal capital and revenue investment.
- ✦ To reflect awareness of any relevant sports development programmes and changes in how the sports are played in terms of what to deliver in the future.
- ✦ To account for local priorities as set out in the Cheltenham Corporate Strategy and the Tewkesbury Council Plan.

Scope of the project

Having assessed the characteristics and sporting habits of Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, it seems appropriate to focus on football, cricket, rugby union and hockey. Other pitch sports worthy of inclusion include rugby league (one club, All Golds RLFC), lacrosse (predominately in Cheltenham and at independent schools), rounders (in addition to school participation/pitches there is Cheltenham District Mixed Rounders League) and croquet (two clubs; Cheltenham Croquet Club and Beckford Croquet Club, Tewkesbury) and as such supply and demand for these sports will be carried out.

In addition, the scope has been extended to include the non-pitch sports of golf, tennis, netball, bowls and athletics. For these sports a light touch review is carried out using the supply and demand principals of Sport England's Guidance; Assessing Needs & Opportunities Guide (ANOG) are followed.

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

- ✦ Football pitches
- ✦ Cricket pitches
- ✦ Rugby union pitches
- ✦ Artificial grass pitches (AGPs – including use for hockey)
- ✦ Other pitch sports

Pitch sports will be assessed using the guidance set out in Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy.

Outdoor sports

- ✦ Bowling greens
- ✦ Tennis courts
- ✦ Athletics
- ✦ Golf
- ✦ Netball

The extent of the study area

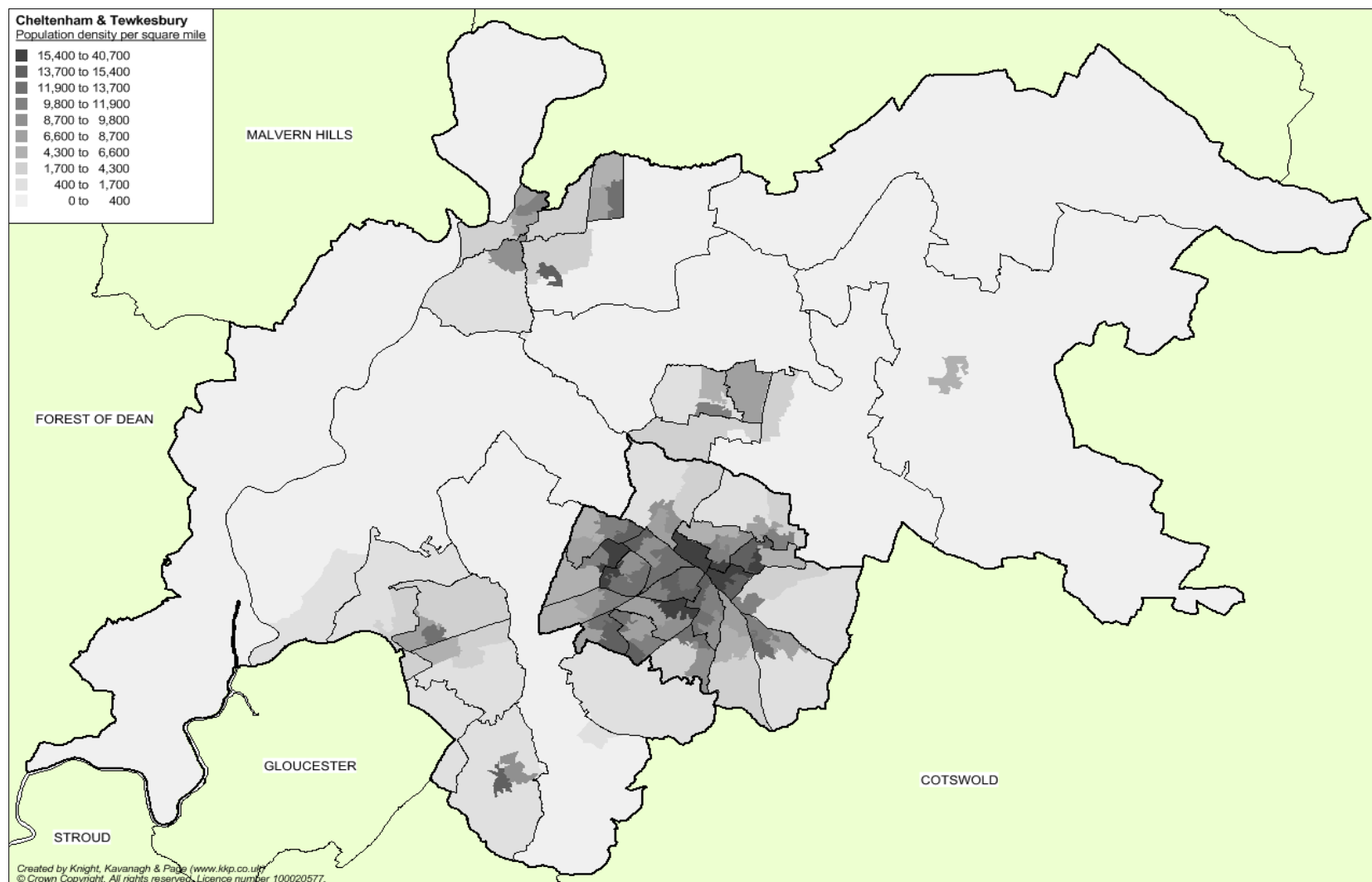
The study area will comprise the whole of the Cheltenham Borough Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council administrative areas. Neighbouring boroughs include

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Gloucester, Wychavon, Stroud, Forest of Dean, Malvern Hills and Cotswold. Please see map overleaf.

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The following has been defined as the full Study Area:



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What makes the area different?

Tewkesbury borough is the northernmost district in the south-west region. The population is approximately 86,890 spread across 160 square miles. The area is predominantly rural in nature with over 50% living in rural settlements and large market towns. Key settlements in addition to the main town of Tewkesbury include Ashchurch, Bishop's Cleeve, Churchdown and Winchcombe. Reflecting its predominately rural nature, there are 50 town/parishes.

In terms of deprivation nationally, Tewkesbury is ranked 275 out of 326 councils (1 being most deprived) this puts us in the top 20% of areas with low deprivation. Within the borough there are small pockets of deprivation within general areas of prosperity.

Cheltenham, also known as Cheltenham Spa, is a large spa town and borough in Gloucestershire, located on the edge of the Cotswolds. Its population is 116,781, ranked 186th out of 326 English districts based on population. It has the most complete 19th Century town plan in England and with its historic parks, squares and tree lined avenues makes the Borough unique and has given the title of 'a town within a park'.

The districts of Cheltenham include: Arle, Benhall, Charlton Kings, Cleevemount, Fairview, Fiddler's Green, Hesters Way, Lansdown Leckhampton, Lynworth, Montpellier, Oakley, Pittville, Prestbury, the Reddings, Rowanfield, St Luke's, St Mark's, St Paul's, St Peter's, Springbank, Springfields, Swindon Village, Tivoli, Up Hatherley, Whaddon and Wyman's Brook. The Borough has a great diversity of communities with well-established neighbourhood-based communities including five parish councils.

There are significant pockets of deprivation in Cheltenham with 19.6% of the population falling within the most deprived 30% nationally. Conversely, however, 43.6% are within the two least deprived groups (nationally this is 20%).

Around 10,000 students are accommodated at the University of Gloucestershire which has a vast range of sports clubs including football, rugby and hockey but also lacrosse. Its main grass pitch site is located in Cheltenham at the Folly which although well used for University fixtures is also used by community clubs at weekend. The University also operates a sports venue in neighbouring Gloucester, Oxstalls Campus which includes an artificial grass pitch (AGP) and a grass lacrosse pitch, however, it is expected that both will be lost in 2017 as the University plans to redevelop the site. At present, the AGP is used by Cheltenham Ladies Hockey Club for midweek training whilst the lacrosse pitch is used by Cheltenham Cougars Lacrosse Club. It is expected the clubs will need to find adequate provision locally once development work begins; this could be within Cheltenham or Tewkesbury and potentially lead to increased demand for both sports.

There are some other notable cross boundary issues identified through the Gloucester Playing Pitch Strategy, for example, Gloucester City FC is currently displaced to Cheltenham Town FC due to flood damage at Meadow Park in Gloucester. As there are no current third generation turf pitches in Gloucester, some clubs travel into Tewkesbury to access provision at Tewkesbury School and Winchcombe School.

Although rugby union is most popular in the Area, All Golds Rugby League FC (linked to the University) plays at the Prince of Wales Stadium and although there are some quality issues at the site, the Club is happy to continue playing within Cheltenham. However, if developments planned at Bishops College (Gloucester) are able to include facilities which meet Rugby League Championship 1 stadium requirements the Club would consider moving back into Gloucester.

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Context

Strategy	Key features and aims
<i>Joint Core Strategy- Cheltenham, Tewkesbury, Gloucester</i>	The Joint Core Strategy (JCS) is a partnership between Gloucester City Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, and Tewkesbury Borough Council, supported by Gloucestershire County Council. The JCS was formed to produce a coordinated strategic development plan to show how this area will develop during the period up to 2031.
<i>Cheltenham Sustainable Community Strategy 2008</i>	<p>The strategy has been prepared by Cheltenham Strategic Partnership (CSP) which brings together core partners, thematic partnerships, community and voluntary sectors. The aims of the CSP are:</p> <p>To be the partnership of partnerships for Cheltenham, providing strategic co-ordination, ensuring linkages with other plans and bodies established at the regional, sub-regional and local level and agreeing a community strategy that sets the vision and priorities for the area and gaining consensus about the way forward.</p> <p>To develop and drive the effective delivery of the community strategy action plan through effective performance management and holding delivery partners and partnerships to account.</p> <p>The strategy has four key aims;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ To set out local communities' needs and aspirations ▶ To provide an assessment of the future challenges facing Cheltenham and what we collectively need to do to respond. ▶ To set out an aspirational long term vision for the achievement of sustainable development in Cheltenham. ▶ To focus and shape existing and future activity of public, private, voluntary and community organisations that operate locally so that they effectively meet community needs and our longer term aspirations.
<i>Tewkesbury Borough Council Health & Wellbeing Framework 2016</i>	<p>The framework devised by Tewkesbury Borough Council sets out a clear fundamental vision, which is 'to help communities to help themselves to be healthy'. It aims to do so by encouraging the five ways to wellbeing highlighted by the New Economic Foundation, which are to connect, be active, take notice, keep learning and give. The framework links to other Council strategies and aims to do so in the following ways to help improve health in the Borough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Supporting partners to enable healthier communities. ▶ Supporting the health priorities that arise through the Place Programme. ▶ Using the Council Plan priorities that influence health improvement. ▶ Implementing the policies relating to health (i.e. infrastructure) identified through the Joint Core Strategy, Borough Plan and Neighbourhood Development Plans. ▶ By implementing the actions identified in the Sports, Social and Open Study (of which this PPS forms part of). ▶ By implementing the emerging county 'Enabling Active Communities' programme.

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Strategy	Key features and aims
<i>Gloucestershire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy</i>	<p>The strategy focuses on strengthening health and wellbeing and preventing ill health in Gloucestershire. It is underpinned by the following principles, which will help guide the focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting communities to take an active role in improving health. Encouraging people to adopt healthy lifestyles to stop problems from developing. Taking early action to tackle symptoms or risks. Helping people to take more responsibility for their health. Helping people to recover quickly from illness and return home to their normal lives. Supporting individuals or communities where life expectancy is lower than the county average or where quality of life is poor.
<i>Active Gloucester Sports Partnership</i>	<p>The vision is to make Gloucestershire a physically active and thriving sporting county. More simply, more people to be more active and more often.</p> <p>Active Gloucestershire aim to work in partnership with a whole range of public, not-for-profit and private sector organisations to increase and improve the range and quality of opportunities for people to be active and play sport.</p>
<i>Cheltenham Leisure and Culture Review</i>	<p>The Leisure and Culture Commissioning Review sets out a framework for delivery of services and in particular the sports facilities and delivery of some key outcomes, which for sport, play and active living is that “More people are inspired to be physically, socially and mentally active and are able to live life to the full”</p>

This PPS forms part of an overarching Green Space, Recreation, Community & Faith Facilities and Social Infrastructure Study. In some cases sports clubs which have ownership or leasehold of their home site may be able to offer opportunities for wider community benefit through use of ancillary facilities or car parking capacity, which link to other themes featured within the encompassing study. Use of sports club pitches generally does not extend further than club use with the exception of some school use in cases where clubs may host school fixtures or festivals. However, there may be potential for greater use of clubhouse and social facilities by local community groups, particularly midweek when many sports clubs are otherwise unused and often unmanned. Revenue generation is of key importance for sports clubs and letting facilities to other users such as playgroups, senior citizens clubs or for functions could provide a source of additional revenue to strengthen future sustainability. Limited community use of sports club facilities is likely due to a lack of promotion or organisation from within clubs as many representatives are volunteers and tend to commit what free time they are able to contribute towards pitch maintenance and improving or preparing facilities for sporting use at weekends.

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

It is essential that a PPS is based on the best and most accurate and up-to-date information available about the supply of and demand for playing pitches. This section provides detail about how this information has been gathered in Cheltenham & Tewkesbury.

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An audit of playing pitches

PPS guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field. These definitions are set out by the Government in the 2010 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order'.¹

- ✦ **Playing pitch** – a delineated area which is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.
- ✦ **Playing field** – the whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch.

This PPS counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply. The definition of a playing pitch also includes AGPs.

Quantity

All playing pitches are included irrespective of ownership, management and use. Playing pitch sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web based database. The Council and NGBs supported the process by checking and updating this initial data. This was also verified against club information supplied by local leagues. For each site the following detail is recorded in the project database. (It is supplied as an electronic file):

- ✦ Site name, address (including postcode) and location
- ✦ Ownership and management type
- ✦ Security of tenure
- ✦ Total number, type and quality of pitches
- ✦ A description and the quality of the ancillary facilities

Accessibility

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

- ✦ **Available for community use and used** - pitches in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ✦ **Secured community use** - there should be a good degree of certainty that the pitch will be available to the community for at least the following three years. A judgement is made based on the information gathered and a record of secured or unsecured community use put against each site.
- ✦ **Available but unused** - pitches that are available for hire but are not currently used by teams which play in community leagues; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire.
- ✦ **No community use** - pitches which as a matter of policy or practice are not available for hire or use by teams playing in community leagues. This should include professional club pitches along with some semi-professional club pitches where play is restricted to the first or second team.
- ✦ **Disused** – pitches that are not being used at all by any users and are not available for community hire either. Once these sites are disused for five or more years they will then be categorised as 'lapsed sites'.

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

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- ◀ **Lapsed** - last known use was as a playing field more than five years ago (these fall outside of Sport England's statutory remit but still have to be assessed using the criteria in paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework).

In addition, there should be a good degree of certainty that the pitch will be available to the community for at least the following three years. A judgement is made based on the information gathered and a record of secured or unsecured community use put against each site.

Disused/lapsed sites

Site name	Local Authority	Status	Comments
Alstone Croft Playing Field	Cheltenham	Disused	Three football pitches (two youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7) no longer marked or available for community use. However, the site continues to be regularly used by both Gloucester Road and Christ Church primary schools.
Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field	Cheltenham	Disused	CBC owned, former landfill site which had one adult football pitch over 15 years ago but no changing facilities. Subsidence meant the area did not serve well as a pitch and requires ball stop netting at one end due to neighbouring houses.
Elmfield Playing Field	Cheltenham	Disused	CBC owned, last marked as sports provision over 20 years ago. No changing onsite, not maintained as grass open space.
YMCA	Cheltenham	Disused	Full sized sand based AGP with floodlighting, resurfaced in 2007. Now closed and the site of Saxon Quarter housing development. Only indoor sports centre remains onsite.
Triscombe Way Open Space	Cheltenham	Disused	Mini soccer pitch with no changing facilities never used due to poor location and no through road. Deemed to cause too much traffic congestion and despite Council preference for the pitch to be located at the front of the development it was permitted on appeal.
Christ College Sports Pitches	Cheltenham	Lapsed	One youth 9v9 pitch and one youth 11v11 football pitch previously used by Christ College.

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Site name	Local Authority	Status	Comments
Pittville School	Cheltenham	Disused	One adult pitch situated at the top of the school grounds. Pitch not been used by either school or community clubs for a number of years. School intends to sell land for housing to develop hockey AGP.
Toby Carvery Brockworth	Tewkesbury	Lapsed	Previously the Cross Hands public house, had one natural turf cricket square and one adult football pitch.
Gloucester Road Football Pitch	Tewkesbury	Lapsed	One adult football pitch located adjacent to Gloucester Road. Tewkesbury Leisure Centre since built on the land.

Quality

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

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

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

The ratings are used to help estimate the capacity of each pitch to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

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

Developing a picture of demand

Current demand

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

- ◆ Organised competitive play
- ◆ Organised training
- ◆ Informal play

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

Future demand

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. Using population growth factors, an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for playing pitches in Cheltenham & Tewkesbury.

Population growth

The current resident joint population across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury is 203,671². By 2037 the population is projected to increase to 238,255³ which is an increase of 34,584 (or equivalent to a percentage increase of 17%) according to ONS data.

Team generation rates (TGR)

TGRs provide an indication of how many people it takes to generate a single team (for all pitch sports) and can help with estimating the change in demand for pitch sports that may arise from any population change in the study area.

A TGR can be calculated by dividing the current population within an age group for a sport by the number of teams in the area within that age group. In order to calculate future demand for pitches, current team generation rates (TGRs) are used.

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

Example

An area may have 10 youth boys' football teams of a particular age category and a current population of 900 boys within the relevant age group. This would equate to a TGR of one team per 90 boys in the age group (i.e. suggesting that it currently takes 90 boys within the age group to generate one team). A PPS may be looking ten years into the future at which point the population of this age group is projected to total 1,440. The TGR would therefore suggest that the projected increase of 540 junior boys within this age group may generate an additional six teams.

If it assumed that the six teams will play home and away fixtures they will demand a home pitch for matches every other week, equating to 0.5 match equivalent sessions a week or three match equivalent sessions a week for the six teams. The breakdown of when matches are played in the study area suggests that two thirds take place on a Sunday morning and the other third on a Saturday morning. Allocating the six teams in line with this current breakdown would generate a demand for two match equivalent sessions during the peak period of Sunday morning and one elsewhere in the week (i.e. Saturday

²Data Source: Mid-2015 Lower Layer Super Output Area population estimates for England and Wales

³ Data Source: ONS 2014-based projections 2014-2039

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mornings). The project team should also indicate the likely training requirements for such teams based on knowledge of how teams currently train and any known changes in how training activity may take place (e.g. use of AGPs once a week).

Consultation

A variety of consultation methods were used to collate demand information. Face to face consultation was carried out with key clubs from each sport. This allowed for collection of detailed demand information and exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed.

For data analysis purposes an online survey (converted to postal if required) was utilised. This was sent to all clubs not covered by face to face consultation.

Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views

Supply and demand information gathered within Section B was used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision. It focused on looking at how much use each site could potentially accommodate (on an area by area basis) compared to how much use is currently taking place.

Understand how a site is being used

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

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

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

Develop the current picture of provision

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

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

Develop the future picture of provision - scenario testing

Modelling scenarios to assess whether existing provision can cater for unmet, displaced and future demand is made after the capacity analysis. This will also include, for example, removing sites with unsecured community use to demonstrate the impact this would have if these sites were to be decommissioned in the future. Scenario testing occurs in the strategy report and therefore does not form part of the assessment report.

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Identify the key findings and issues

By completing Steps 1-5 it is possible to identify several findings and issues relating to the supply, demand and adequacy of playing pitch provision. This report seeks to identify and present the key findings and issues, which should now be checked, challenged and agreed by the Steering Group prior to development of the Strategy (Section D).

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

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PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

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

This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches. Part 3 captures supply and demand for third generation turf pitches (3G). In the future it is anticipated that there will be a growing demand for the use of AGPs for competitive football fixtures, especially to accommodate mini and youth football.

Consultation

In addition to face to face consultation with key clubs and the Cheltenham Saturday/Youth League, an electronic survey was sent to all football clubs playing in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury with contact details having been provided by the County FA. Consultation (either through a survey or face to face interview) represents a 67% club response rate and 85% team response rate. The results are used to inform key issues within this section of the report. The following clubs and leagues were met with face to face:

- ✦ Bishops Cleeve FC
- ✦ Bishops Cleeve Colts FC
- ✦ Charlton Rovers FC
- ✦ Charlton Rovers Youth FC
- ✦ FC Barometrics FC
- ✦ FC Barometrics Youth FC
- ✦ FC Lakeside Youth & Adult FC
- ✦ Leckhampton Rovers FC
- ✦ Tewkesbury Town FC
- ✦ Tewkesbury Town Colts FC

2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a total of 170 grass football pitches in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury of which 147 are available for community use on some level. There are three FA or FIFA certified 3G pitches on which competitive football matches can be played, located at All Saints Academy, Tewkesbury Secondary School and Winchcombe School. The map overleaf identifies all pitches within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury regardless of community use.

Table 2.1: Summary of grass pitches available for community use

Pitch type					Total
Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
79	8	22	31	7	147

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Table 2.2: Summary of grass pitches available for community use in Cheltenham

Pitch type					Total
Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
31	8	7	17	1	64

Table 2.3: Summary of grass pitches available for community use in Tewkesbury

Pitch type					Total
Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
48	-	15	14	6	83

Most pitches in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury are adult sized which is, in part, due to youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches. This is not ideal for youth players and is not in line with the recent FA Youth Review. Adult pitches used by both adult and youth teams (pitch numbers in brackets) include:

- ♦ Dowty Sport and Social, Tewkesbury (5)
- ♦ Bishops Cleeve Sports Field, Tewkesbury (5)
- ♦ King George V Playing Field, Cheltenham (4)
- ♦ Burrows, Cheltenham (3)
- ♦ Swindon Village, Cheltenham (3)
- ♦ The Folly, Cheltenham (3)

Disused and lapsed sites

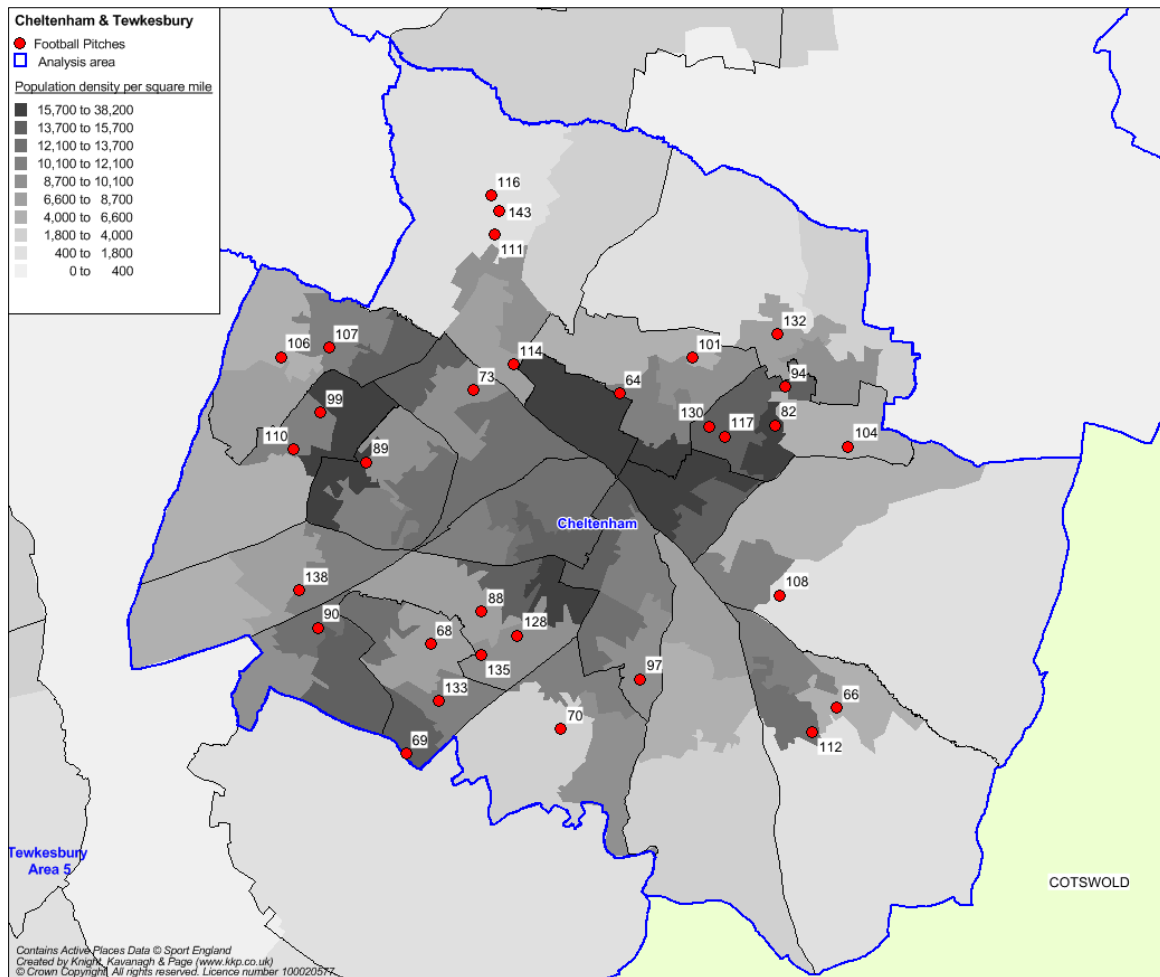
The following sites are recorded as previously having football provision which has since become either disused or lapsed.

Table 2.4: Disused sites with football provision

Disused site	Local authority	Comments	Changing provision?
Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field	Cheltenham	Previously had one adult football pitch on site.	No
Elmfield Playing Field	Cheltenham	Previously had one adult football pitch on site.	No
Sand Pits Playing Field	Cheltenham	Previously had one adult football pitch and one junior football pitch.	No
Triscombe Way Open Space	Cheltenham	Previously had one mini football pitch.	No
Pittville School	Cheltenham	One adult pitch situated at the top of the school grounds. Pitch not been used by either school or club for a number of years. School plan to sell land for housing to develop hockey AGP.	Yes
Christ College Sports Pitches	Cheltenham	One youth 9v9 pitch and one youth 11v11 football pitch previously used by Christ College.	No
Toby Carvery Brockworth	Tewkesbury	Previously had one adult football pitch marked onto a cricket outfield.	Onsite pavilion

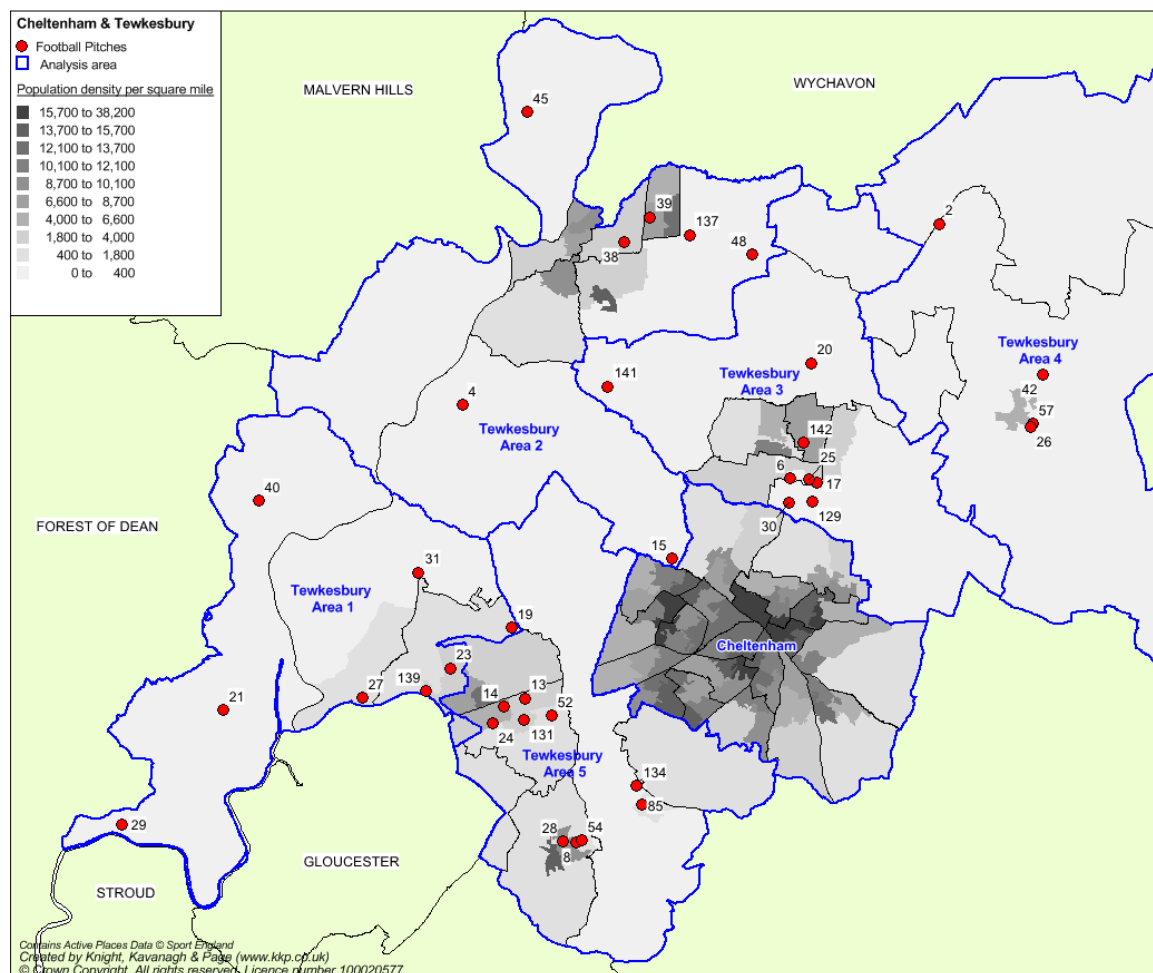
CHELTEMHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.1: Location of football pitches in Cheltenham



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Figure 2.2: Location of football pitches in Tewkesbury



Future supply

There are four planned developments for new football provision to be created in Tewkesbury over the next five years. These have not been included within the analysis but will form part of the accompanying action plan. They are:

- ❖ Cold Pool Lane (Tewkesbury Area 5) - newly refurbished site within Tewkesbury which is in the process of being asset transferred to a local club. Football provision will include two adult pitches, one junior pitch and four team changing facility.
- ❖ Coopers Edge (Tewkesbury Area 1/Stroud) – provisionally planned to open 2018 with one adult pitch four team changing facility. Right on the authority border and the development will be split across Tewkesbury and Stroud.
- ❖ Invista Ground (Tewkesbury Area 5) – provisionally planned to open 2017 with two junior pitches and pavilion shared with cricket provision.
- ❖ Longford (Tewkesbury Area 1) – planned to include one adult and two junior pitches accompanied by four team changing facility.

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Population increases and growth in housing developments anticipated are expected to generate additional demand for sports facilities including football pitches. The PPS findings should be used to guide the development of any new sporting provision which may include the creation of additional pitches, new ancillary facilities or new sites to best accommodate both the newly generated demand and current requirements. The subsequent increased population will create a need for further infrastructure developments which may include additional or extended school provision. Again, the PPS findings should be used to guide the composition of sports provision should this happen, to best serve the requirements of schools, communities and sport as a whole.

Pitch quality

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

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

Pitch quality is primarily influenced by the carrying capacity of the site; often pitches are over used and lack the required routine maintenance work necessary to improve drainage and subsequent quality. It is likely that pitches which receive little to no ongoing repair or post-season remedial work will be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games able to take place each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality. Conversely, well maintained pitches which are tended to regularly are likely to be of a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (50-80%), Poor (< 50%). It should be noted that all of the sites that received a 'standard' rating from the non-technical assessments scored between 50% and 57%.

The tables below summarises the quality of grass pitches that are available for community use.

Table 2.5: Summary of football pitch quality (community use pitches)

Pitch type	Good	Standard	Poor
Adult	2	59	18
Youth 11v11	2	3	3
Youth 9v9	1	16	5
Mini 7v7	-	24	7
Mini 5v5	-	6	1
Total	5	108	34

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Table 2.6: Summary of football pitch quality in Cheltenham (community use pitches)

Pitch type	Good	Standard	Poor
Adult	1	20	10
Youth 11v11	2	3	3
Youth 9v9	1	4	2
Mini 7v7	-	15	2
Mini 5v5	-	1	-
Total	4	43	17

Table 2.7 Summary of football pitch quality in Tewkesbury (community use pitches)

Pitch type	Good	Standard	Poor
Adult	1	39	8
Youth 11v11	-	-	-
Youth 9v9	-	12	3
Mini 7v7	-	9	5
Mini 5v5	-	5	1
Total	1	65	17

The non-technical pitch quality audit shows that the majority (74%) of pitches available for community use are standard quality and only 23% are poor quality, with only five pitches rated as good quality (3%). Most adult pitches (75%) are rated as standard quality and the remaining are poor (23%), with only two good quality pitches. Most mini pitches are rated as standard quality (80%), with 15% poor and none good.

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

Specific comments relating to the pitch conditions at individual sites can be seen in the table below. The comments are a combination of club feedback and site assessment information.

Table 2.8: Summary of pitch quality comments

Site	Analysis Area	Comments
Priors Farm	Cheltenham	The pitch suffers from poor drainage. Each season large amounts of fixtures are cancelled due to waterlogging and poor pitch conditions.
Swindon Village	Cheltenham	Pitch has poor drainage and as a consequence large amounts of fixtures get cancelled per season.
The Beeches	Cheltenham	Goalmouth showing signs of wear. Drainage is inadequate and many fixtures are cancelled in the winter period.
Naunton Park	Cheltenham	The ground is compacted meaning the site quickly waterlogs.

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Site	Analysis Area	Comments
King George V Playing Field (Cheltenham)	Cheltenham	The pitch has good drainage, but some pitches are beginning to sink and this could become dangerous.
Bishops Cleeve FC	Tewkesbury Area 3	The main pitch was unplayable from December to the start of February due to poor drainage. Pitch on average plays between 90-100 games per season.

One of the main reasons cited by clubs for a decline in pitch quality is related to reports of limited pitch maintenance or a lack of available funds to carry out appropriate maintenance. Other reasons cited for the decline in pitch quality include:

- ✦ Over marked pitches
- ✦ High amount of rainfall this season (2015/16)
- ✦ Uneven and hard surfaces
- ✦ Overplay in bad weather
- ✦ Casual use
- ✦ Dog foul/litter
- ✦ Lack of investment and limited maintenance including infrequent grass cutting
- ✦ Lack of remedial work i.e. seeding
- ✦ Adult matches churning up pitches before afternoon youth games

Ancillary facilities

Generally, the standard of changing facilities within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury is considered to be good. Only two clubs replying to surveys and consultation noted changing provision to be of an overall poor standard.

FC Barometrics report that changing facilities are both of a poor quality and dated. The Club plays at Newlands Sports Ground owned by Cheltenham Tigers RFC, which similarly indicate that changing provision is poor. The size of individual changing rooms is inadequate for teams and there are 12 communal shower heads for all teams (including the rugby section).

The University of Gloucestershire FC indicate that changing rooms are too small at the Folly and when both rugby and football is being played at the same time the facility is inadequate to handle requirements for all teams. The site is also reported to suffer from break ins and vandalism.

New changing facilities were recently built at Alderton Playing Field. The site has two new changing rooms built and shower facilities to serve the two adult pitches on site. A new pavilion including changing provision was also recently built in September 2016 at King George V Playing Field (Tewkesbury), whilst changing provision may potentially be provided at Wheatpieces Playing Field linked to Section 106 funding as part of a current planning application for land nearby.

Rowanfield Rovers FC has recently entered into a ten year lease agreement with Cheltenham Borough Council on the changing facilities at King George V Playing Field (Cheltenham) and neighbouring adult pitch. The building was previously subject to arson and as a result has no roof, leaving it vulnerable to the weather which has left it derelict and unfit for purpose with need for a complete internal refit. The Club has three age junior groups with little potential for revenue generation yet plans to complete the required refurbishment

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by February. Pitch maintenance is the responsibility of the Club, though in practice it is likely that the Council will continue to maintain the pitch as it does the others onsite.

Security of tenure

The majority of teams in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury play on council, or parish council managed pitches and are therefore considered to have secured tenure as part of their maintained sports and leisure provision offering. The main allocation of pitch provision within Tewkesbury is managed individually by parish councils, in contrast, a high proportion of pitches are managed by the Council in Cheltenham.

Bishops Cleeve FC currently has five years left on the current lease agreement at Kayte Lane from a local farmer. Negotiations are currently underway to renew the lease until 2038; however, the Club indicates that the farm owner is reluctant to offer a longer term lease on the site.

Cheltenham Civil Service FC currently plays at the Cheltenham Area Civil Service Sports Association Ground. The site is considered to have secured tenure after the ground negotiated a new 14-year lease from Cheltenham Borough Council.

Cheltenham Saracens FC report that it has 15 years left remaining on its lease at Peters Field from Cheltenham Borough Council. The Club is keen to renew the lease and improve the current site for its long term use.

FC Lakeside, Tewkesbury Town Youth/Adult and Charlton Rovers FC all report a desire to move away from pitch rentals and look to secure tenure at a self-managed site if the opportunity was available. This could present opportunities for clubs to take on greater responsibility for maintenance and to develop playing provision. However, clubs looking to do so should be considered to have a robust infrastructure, sufficient personnel resource, be financially sound and able to realistically sustain and take responsibility for such an asset, whilst fully understanding the financial and legal implications of doing so.

Football pyramid facilities

There are four clubs in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury that play within the non-league football pyramid:

- ◀ Gloucester City FC (Step 2)
- ◀ Bishops Cleeve FC (Steps 4 & 7A)
- ◀ Cheltenham Saracens FC (Step 6)
- ◀ Cheltenham Civil Service FC (Step 7A)

Cheltenham FC has recently been promoted from the non-league pyramid (step 1) back into the Football League Division Two.

Clubs within the step system must adhere to ground requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football being played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league/step above if the ground requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Ground grading, as it is referred to, assesses grounds from A to H, with 'A' being the requirements for Step 1 clubs.

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Cheltenham Town FC has recently been promoted from the non-league pyramid (step 1) back into the Football League Division Two. Cheltenham Town FC plays the highest level of football in the area. Gloucester City FC has imported demand from nearby Gloucester since 2007 when its Meadow Park ground was again flooded and eventually condemned. The Club rents the Whaddon Road ground from Cheltenham Town FC and shares use in order to meet Step 2 ground grading requirements. Gloucester City FC has plans for a new stadium at Meadow Park which was recently addressed in the Gloucester PPS. The Club is in the process of preparing to submit a funding application to the Football Foundation Football Stadia Improvement Fund to help towards a new stadium.

All step football facilities are considered to be unavailable for community use with priority access given to the performance teams from the individual clubs. The site pitches are generally considered inaccessible by community teams as step football teams require pitches to be of a high standard for play and therefore limit the amount of use on the pitches.

2.3: Demand

A total of 289 affiliated teams are identified as playing matches on football pitches within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. This consists of 93 men's, seven women's, 111 youth boys', 10 youth girls' and 68 mini soccer teams. Of these, 16 teams were identified as consistently playing home matches on a 3G pitch.

As a further breakdown, Cheltenham consists of 42 men's, five women's, 61 youth boys, four youth girls and 37 mini teams. Tewkesbury consist of 51 men's, two women's, 50 youth boys, six youth girls and 31 mini teams.

Leagues

The vast majority of adult football takes place on Saturday afternoons with most teams playing in the Cheltenham Associational Football League. Most teams within this league are heavily reliant on the availability of council/parish council pitches. Around half of the teams within the League play on council managed pitches, for example, Swindon Village, The Beeches and Naunton Park.

The majority of youth football within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury is played within the Cheltenham Youth Football League, which is similarly reliant on council/parish council sites as playing venues.

Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision, which in turn is hindering the growth of the League. There is currently no specific unmet demand within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.

Latent demand

During the consultation process Charlton Rovers FC identifies that if more pitches were available, at its home ground or in the local area, it could develop more teams in the future.

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in football but are not currently doing so'. In Cheltenham the tool identifies latent demand of 1,317 people. The most dominant segment is 'Jamie – sports team lads'

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(28%). In Tewkesbury, the tool identifies latent demand of 765 people. The most dominant segment 'Ben – competitive male urbanites' (26%).

Displaced demand

Displaced or exported demand refers to Cheltenham and Tewkesbury registered teams that currently access pitches outside of the local authority for home fixtures, normally because pitch requirements cannot be met, usually because of pitch supply or in some cases quality issues.

In Cheltenham and Tewkesbury most of the displaced demand derives from adult teams, five of which are Vets teams displaced due to the nature of the GFA Vets league which takes place on 3G pitches at Hartpury College as a central venue format.

Some teams export demand to use pitches in Gloucester since the Cheltenham Sunday League folded in 2012, leading clubs to join the Gloucester & District Sunday League (GDSL). The GDSL hires a number of pitches at Plock Court in Gloucester for clubs to use.

Table 2.9: Summary of displaced match demand

Club	Team	Where displaced?	Local Authority
Ashleworth Woodpeckers Youth FC	U12, U13, U14	Hartpury College	Forest of Dean
C&G AFC	Vets	Hartpury College (3G Pitch)	Forest of Dean
Coopers Edge FC	Vets	Hartpury College (3G Pitch)	Forest of Dean
Cornerstone United FC	1st team	Evesham High School	Wychavon
Upton Cornerstone FC	2nd	Upton upon Severn RFC	Malvern Hills
CT Outcast FC	Vets	Hartpury College (3G Pitch)	Forest of Dean
FC St Leonards Youth	U11	Upton St Leonards Primary School	Stroud
FC Two 20	1st team	Plock Court	Gloucester
Gloster Rovers FC	1st team	Plock Court	Gloucester
Leckhampton Rovers FC	Vets	Hartpury College (3G Pitch)	Forest of Dean
Southside Star FC	Vets	Hartpury College (3G Pitch)	Forest of Dean
Tewkesbury Town Colts	U12 x2	Beckford Social Club	Wychavon

Future demand

Population increases

Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth.

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Table 2.10: Team generation rates (Cheltenham)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate (2037)	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men's (16-45)	24,088	47	513	25,777	50.3	3
Senior Women's (16-45)	24,053	5	4811	24,571	5.1	0
Youth Boys (12-15)	2,438	33	74	3,009	40.7	7
Youth Girls (12-15)	2,510	4	628	2,996	4.8	0
Youth Boys (10-11)	1,194	22	54	1,395	25.7	3
Youth Girls (10-11)	1,147	0	0	1,334	0	0
Mini Soccer Mixed (8-9)	2,517	17	148	2,698	18.2	1
Mini Soccer Mixed (6-7)	2,585	9	287	2,666	9.3	0

Table 2.11: Team generation rates (Tewkesbury)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate (2037)	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men's (16-45)	13,877	54	257	15,822	61.6	7
Senior Women's (16-45)	14,136	2	7068	15,373	2.2	0
Youth Boys (12-15)	1,868	26	72	2,424	33.7	7
Youth Girls (12-15)	1,716	5	343	2,265	6.6	1
Youth Boys (10-11)	932	19	49	1,193	24.3	5
Youth Girls (10-11)	923	1	923	1,137	1.2	0
Mini Soccer Mixed (8-9)	1,870	15	125	2,287	18.3	3
Mini Soccer Mixed (6-7)	1,995	4	499	2,262	4.5	0

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Team generation rates (TGRs) based on future population in Cheltenham indicate that participation is anticipated to create at least the following teams:

Cheltenham

- ▶ Three men's adult teams
- ▶ Seven youth 11v11 boys' teams
- ▶ Three youth 9v9 boys' teams
- ▶ One mini 7v7 team

Tewkesbury

- ▶ Seven men's adult teams
- ▶ Seven youth 11v11 boys' teams
- ▶ One youth girls' team
- ▶ Five youth 9v9 boys' teams
- ▶ Three mini 7v7 teams

It is important to note that TGRs are based on population figures and cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools. For example, there is a focus on developing girl's football within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury and this is likely to lead to more girls' teams in the future and therefore demand for more pitches.

There has been a recent decrease nationally in participation at adult level and that the number of FA affiliated adult teams playing competitive football has dropped. Similarly, there has been a decline in the number of youth players making the transition from youth football to adult leagues. The Cheltenham Association Football League chairman indicated that within the league the number of teams registering has declined in the past five years.

A number of clubs within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury indicate the desire to grow the number of teams:

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Table 2.12: Potential increases identified by clubs

Club	Future demand	Analysis area	Match equivalent sessions	Pitch type
Lakeside FC	1 x Adult 2 x U9	Cheltenham/ Tewkesbury Area 1	1.5	Adult Mini 7 v 7
Tewkesbury Town FC	1 x Adult	Tewkesbury Area 2	0.5	Adult
Leckhampton Rovers FC	3 x U9	Cheltenham	1.5	Mini 7 v 7
Churchdown Panthers FC	1 x Adult 2 x U9	Tewkesbury Area 5	1.5	Adult Mini 7v7
Prestbury Phantoms AFC	2 x U12 2xU14 2xU15 2xU16	Cheltenham	4	Youth 9 v 9 Youth 11 v 11
Brockworth Albion FC	2 x U13 1x U12 1x U9	Tewkesbury Area 5	2	Youth 11 v 11 Youth 9 v 9 Mini 7 v 7
Southside Star FC	1xU14 1xU15 1xU16	Cheltenham	1.5	Youth 11 v 11
Winchcombe Town FC	1xU13 1xU12 1xU9	Tewkesbury Area 4	1.5	Youth 11v 11 Youth 9 v 9 Mini 7 v 7
Cheltenham Spa Ladies FC	1xU13 1xU12	Cheltenham	1	Youth 11 v 11 Youth 9 v 9
Fintan FC	1x Adult 1 x U16	Cheltenham	1	Adult Youth 11 v 11
Regency FC	1 x Adult	Cheltenham	0.5	Adult
University of Gloucestershire Football FC	2 x Adult	Cheltenham	1	Adult

Training

Access to affordable floodlit training facilities is a key issue for most clubs in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, particularly those with a large number of youth and mini teams. There are only three full sized 3G pitches, located at All Saints Academy, Tewkesbury Secondary School and Winchcombe School all of which are on the FA register.

Further to this, there are three sand based AGPs within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury which are well used by teams for training located at Brockworth Sports Centre, Balcarras Sports Centre and Bourneside Sports Centre. Of responding clubs, 17 indicate a need for specific access to 3G pitch provision for midweek training across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, equating to 137 teams.

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2.4: Capacity analysis

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

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

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

Table 2.13 applies the pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

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

Education sites

For the purposes of capacity analysis only education sites with regular known and recorded community use have been included. All other schools with no recorded community are shown below in the Table. In many cases, where there is no identified community use at present there is little capacity to accommodate further play. Maintenance of school pitches is generally carried out to a basic standard and may not include much beyond grass cutting and line marking. This combined with the significant usage throughout the school week for curricular sport, extracurricular training sessions and fixtures often impacts on surface quality and far exceeds recommended capacity.

Some schools do not allow community use in order to manage poor quality pitches for their own use throughout the week. Schools may also play fixtures on Saturday mornings during the winter because of bad light after school which may limit capacity for community use, particularly in the case of youth and mini pitches as this coincides with the main junior football leagues which operate on Saturday mornings. In Cheltenham and Tewkesbury this is not the case and most school fixtures are played after school during the week until late October when visibility decreases, starting again in February when it improves.

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Table 2.13: Football pitch capacity analysis (recorded community use)

Site ID	Site name	Local Authority/Analysis Area	Available for community use?	Security of tenure ⁴	Management	Pitch type	Pitch size	Quality rating	No. of pitches ⁵	Current play (in match sessions)	FA recommended site capacity (in match sessions)	Capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Match sessions available in peak period
2	Alderton Playing Fields	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	0.5
4	Apperley Playing Fields	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	-
6	Bishops Cleeve Sports Field	Tewkesbury Area 3	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Adult		Standard	5	4.5	10	6.5	5
						Youth	9v9	Standard	2	3.5	5	1.5	1.5
								Poor	1				
						Mini	7v7	Poor	2	1	4	3	-
							5v5	Poor	1	0.5	2	1	1
8	Brockworth Sports Centre	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	Secure	School	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	0.5
						Youth	9v9	Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5
						Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	4	3	-
							5v5	Standard	2	1	8	7	1
13	Churchdown Park	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Youth (Mini)	9v9 (7v7)	Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	1
14	Churchdown Academy	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	Secure	School	Adult (Youth)	(9v9)	Standard	3	1	6	5	3
15	Civil Service Sports Association Ground	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	Secure	CSSC	Adult		Good	1	4	5	1	-
								Standard	1				
19	Dowty Sports and Social Club	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	Unsecure	Commercial Management	Adult		Standard	5	8.5	10	1.5	0.5
						Youth	9v9	Standard	2	2	4	2	1
						Mini	7v7	Standard	1	0.5	4	3.5	0.5
20	Gotherington Playing Field	Tewkesbury Area 3	Yes	Secure	Community Organisation	Adult (Youth)	(9v9)	Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	0.5
						Mini	7v7	Poor	1	0	2	2	1
21	Highham Playing Field	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Poor	1	1	1	-	-
						Mini	7v7	Standard	1	4	4	-	-
							5v5	Standard	1	4	4	-	-
24	John Daniels Playing Field	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	1
						Youth	9v9	Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	1
						Mini	7v7	Standard	1	2	4	2	-
25	Kayte Lane (Bishop Cleeve FC)	Tewkesbury Area 3	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Standard	2	2.5	4	1.5	0.5
26	King George V Playing Field (Tewkesbury)	Tewkesbury Area 4	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Standard	2	2	4	2	1
						Youth	9v9	Standard	1	0	2	2	1
27	Longford Parish Park	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Adult		Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	-
28	Mill Lane Playing Fields	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Poor	2	1	2	1	1
29	Minsterworth AFC	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1
30	Newlands Park Sports Ground	Tewkesbury Area 3	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Standard	2	3	4	1	-

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

⁵ Where pitches are overmarked, recommended capacity is based on the larger pitch size, whilst type and usage of smaller pitch sizes marked within are shown in italics.

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Site ID	Site name	Local Authority/Analysis Area	Available for community use?	Security of tenure ⁴	Management	Pitch type	Pitch size	Quality rating	No. of pitches ⁵	Current play (in match sessions)	FA recommended site capacity (in match sessions)	Capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Match sessions available in peak period
31	Norton Recreational Ground	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	0	4	4	1
38	Tewkesbury School	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	Unsecure	School	Adult		Standard	3	3	6	3	2.5
						Youth	9v9	Standard	1	0	2	2	1
						Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	4	3	-
							5v5	Standard	2	1	8	7	1
39	The Gould Field	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Adult		Standard	2	1	4	3	2
40	The Woodpeckers Sport and Social	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Youth	9v9	Poor	1	0	1	1	1
						Mini	7v7	Poor	1	0	2	2	1
45	Twynning CC	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Youth	9v9	Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	-
						Mini	7v7	Standard	2	1	8	7	1
48	Pamington Fields	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	Secure	Private	Adult		Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	0.5
52	Chosen Hill Old Boys RFC	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Standard	2	1	4	3	2
54	Brockworth RFC	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Poor	1	1.5	1	0.5	-
57	Winchcombe FC	Tewkesbury Area 4	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	0.5
64	AGG Gardeners	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5
68	Bourneside Sports Centre	Cheltenham	Yes	Unsecure	School	Adult		Poor	1	1.5	1	0.5	-
						Youth	9v9	Poor	2	1	2	1	1
69	Brizen Farm Playing Field	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	0	4	4	1
70	Burrows	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult		Standard	3	1	6	5	2.5
						Youth	11v11	Standard	1	3	2	1	-
73	Cheltenham Saracens FC	Cheltenham	No	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Standard	1	2	2	-	-
82	Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult		Standard	1	1	1	1	0.5
88	Hatherley Park	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Mini	7v7	Standard	1	0	4	4	1
89	King George V Playing Field (Cheltenham)	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult (Youth)	(11v11)	Standard	4 (3)	5	8	3	3
						Mini	7v7	Standard	2	1.5	8	6.5	0.5
90	Lakeside Primary School	Cheltenham	Yes	Unsecure	School	Youth (Mini)	9v9 (7v7)	Standard	1 (2)	2	2	-	-
94	Oakwood Primary School	Cheltenham	Yes	Unsecure	School	Youth (Mini)	9v9 (7v7)	Standard	1 (1)	1	2	1	0.5
97	Naunton Park	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult		Poor	2	2.5	2	0.5	-
						Youth	11v11	Poor	1	2	1	1	-
						Mini	7v7	Poor	1	0	2	2	1
101	Pittville School	Cheltenham	Yes	Unsecure	School	Adult (Youth)	(9v9)	Standard	2	3	4	1	0.5

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Site ID	Site name	Local Authority/Analysis Area	Available for community use?	Security of tenure ⁴	Management	Pitch type	Pitch size	Quality rating	No. of pitches ⁵	Current play (in match sessions)	FA recommended site capacity (in match sessions)	Capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Match sessions available in peak period
104	Priors Farm	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult		Poor	2	0.5	2	1.5	1.5
						Youth	11v11	Poor	1	2.5	1	1.5	-
107	Springfield's Park	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult (Youth)	(11v11)	Standard	2 (1)	5	4	1	-
111	Swindon Village	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult		Poor	3	4	3	1	-
						Mini	7v7	Poor	1	2	2	-	-
112	The Beeches	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult		Poor	2	3.5	2	1.5	-
						Youth	11v11	Poor	1	3	1	2	-
114	The Folly	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	University	Adult		Standard	3	8	6	2	-
117	Whaddon Recreation Ground	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Local Authority	Adult		Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	-
						Mini	7v7	Standard	1	1	4	3	-
128	University of Gloucestershire Park Campus	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	University	Mini	7v7	Standard	6	0.5	24	23.5	5.5
131	Churchdown Village Infants School	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	Secure	School	Youth	9v9	Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	-
132	Prestbury Playing Fields	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Adult		Standard	2	2.5	4	1.5	1
133	Warden Hill Primary School	Cheltenham	Yes	Secure	School	Youth	9v9	Standard	1	1	2	1	1
						Mini	5v5	Standard	1	0	4	4	1

Table 2.14: Football pitches at education sites (no recorded community use)

Site ID	Site name	Local Authority/Analysis Area	Available for community use?	Management	Pitch type	Pitch size	Quality rating	No. of pitches
17	Cleeve School Grass Pitches	Tewkesbury Area 3	Yes - Unused	School	Adult		Standard	2
42	Winchcombe School	Tewkesbury Area 4	No	School	Adult		Standard	1
66	Balcarras Sports Centre	Cheltenham	Yes - Unused	School	Adult		Good	1
					Youth	11v11		2
						9v9		1
106	Springbank Primary Academy	Cheltenham	No	School	Mini	5v5	Standard	1
108	St Edwards Preparatory School	Cheltenham	No	School	Adult		Good	1
					Mini	7v7	Good	1
110	St Thomas More Primary	Cheltenham	No	School	Youth	9v9	Standard	1
135	St James Primary	Cheltenham	No	School	Mini	5v5	Standard	1
137	Ashchurch Primary School	Tewkesbury Area 2	No	School	Mini	7v7	Poor	1
138	Benhall Infant School	Cheltenham	No	School	Mini	7v7	Standard	1
139	Innsworth Junior School	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes- Unused	School	Mini	7v7	Poor	1
141	Tredington Primary School	Tewkesbury Area 3	No	School	Mini	7v7	Standard	1
142	Bishops Cleeve Primary School	Tewkesbury Area 3	No	School	Mini	7v7	Standard	1

2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Peak time

The peak time varies for the different pitch types. Peak time for adult football in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury is Saturday PM, for youth 11v11 pitches peak time is Sunday PM and for youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches, peak time is Saturday AM. Though peak time for youth 9v9 pitches is Saturday mornings, it should be noted that the Cheltenham Youth League U11 and U12 leagues operate across both Saturday and Sunday mornings due to the limited number of youth 9v9 pitches. If more pitches of this format were available (or some play were to be transferred to 3G pitches), more or all of the 9v9 football within this league could take place on one morning.

Spare capacity

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

Table 2.15 considers site by site the capacity of the pitches to accommodate further play and for them to be deemed as having 'actual spare capacity'. A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of the game. Any pitch not meeting these criteria has been discounted.

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

Over marked pitches which are used and exhibit potential spare capacity have not been considered available to accommodate further play in order to protect pitch quality, given the nature of repeated and sustained use over a short period of time.

Where there is potential spare capacity exhibited at school sites beyond current community use, this has not been included due to the significant additional use during the week by schools for curricular, extracurricular and competitive sport.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.15: Actual Spare Capacity

Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period	Comments
2	Alderton Playing Fields	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 4	Adult		1	0.5	0.5	-	Spare capacity discounted due to the poor quality of the pitch.
4	Apperley Playing Fields	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 2	Adult		1	1	1	-	No match equivalent sessions available during the peak period.
6	Bishops Cleeve Sports Field	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 3	Adult		5	4.5	6.5	5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
					Youth	9v9	3	3.5	1.5	1.5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
8	Brockworth Sports Centre	Yes	Unsecure	Tewkesbury Area 5	Adult		1	1	1	0.5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
					Youth	9v9	1	0.5	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
13	Churchdown Park	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 5	Youth	9v9	1	0.5	1.5	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
14	Churchdown Academy	Yes	Unsecure	Tewkesbury Area 5	Adult (Youth)	9v9	3	1	5	3	Spare capacity exists on this site.
19	Dowty Sports and Social	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 1	Adult		5	8.5	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
					Youth	9v9	2	2	2	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
					Mini	7v7	1	0.5	3.5	0.5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
20	Gotherington Playing Fields	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 3	Adult (Youth)	(9v9)	1	0.5	0.5	-	Spare capacity discounted due to the poor quality of the pitch.
					Mini	7v7	1	0	2	-	Spare capacity discounted due to the poor quality of the pitch.
24	John Daniels Playing Field	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 5	Adult		1	0.5	1.5	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
					Youth	9v9	1	0.5	1.5	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
25	Kayte Lane (Bishops Cleeve FC)	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 3	Adult		2	2.5	1.5	-	Step 4 football club. Access only for teams associated to the club.
26	King George V Playing Field (Tewkesbury)	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 4	Adult		2	2	2	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
					Youth	9v9	1	0	2	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
28	Mill Lane	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 5	Adult		2	1	1	-	Spare capacity discounted due to the poor quality of the pitch.
29	Minsterworth AFC	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 1	Adult		1	0	1	-	Spare capacity discounted due to the poor quality of the pitch.
31	Norton Recreational Ground	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 1	Mini	7v7	1	0	4	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
38	Tewkesbury School	Yes	Unsecure	Tewkesbury Area 2	Adult		3	3	3	2.5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
					Youth	9v9	1	1	2	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
39	The Gould Field	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 2	Adult		2	1	3	2	Spare capacity exists on this site.
40	The Woodpeckers Sport and Social	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 1	Youth	9v9	1	0	1	-	Spare capacity discounted due to the poor quality of the pitch.
					Mini	7v7	1	0	2	-	Spare capacity discounted due to the poor quality of the pitch.
45	Twynning CC	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 2	Mini	7v7	2	1	7	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
48	Pamington Fields	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 2	Adult		1	1.5	0.5	-	Spare capacity discounted to protect quality.
52	Chosen Hill Old Boys RFC	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 5	Adult		2	1	3	2	Spare capacity exists on this site.

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Site ID	Site name	Available for community use?	Type of tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Match equivalent sessions available in peak period	Comments
57	Winchcombe FC	Yes	Secure	Tewkesbury Area 4	Adult		1	1	1	-	Spare capacity discounted to protect quality.
64	AGG Gardeners	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Adult		1	0.5	2	0.5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
69	Brizen Farm Playing Field	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Mini	7v7	1	0	4	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
70	Burrows	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Adult		3	1	5	2.5	Spare capacity exists on this site. Adult pitches may be used as alternative to youth 11v11 pitches by junior clubs therefore reducing capacity.
82	Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Adult		1	1	1	0.5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
88	Hatherley Park	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Mini	7v7	1	0	4	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.
89	King George V Playing Field (Cheltenham)	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Mini	7v7	2	1.5	6.5	0.5	Spare capacity exists on this site.
97	Naunton Park	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Mini	7v7	1	0	2	-	Spare capacity discounted due to the poor quality of the pitch.
104	Priors Farm	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Adult		2	0.5	1.5	-	Spare capacity discounted due to the poor quality of the pitch.
128	UoG Park Campus	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Mini	7v7	6	0.5	23.5	-	Although spare capacity exists further investigation is needed into community use aspects through the University.
132	Prestbury Playing Fields	Yes	Secure	Cheltenham	Adult		2	2.5	1.5	1	Spare capacity exists on this site.

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

Table 2.16: Actual Spare capacity summary

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match sessions per week)				
	Adult	Youth (11v11)	Youth (9v9)	Mini (7v7)	Mini (5v5)
Cheltenham	4.5	-	-	2.5	-
Tewkesbury Area 1	0.5	-	1	0.5	-
Tewkesbury Area 2	4.5	-	1	1	-
Tewkesbury Area 3	5	-	1.5	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 4	1	-	1	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 5	3	-	2	-	-
Cheltenham & Tewkesbury	18.5	-	6.5	4	-

This table shows a total of 18.5 match sessions of actual spare capacity across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury with the majority of space capacity being on adult pitches in the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Area 5 analysis areas.

Overplay

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

Table 2.17: Overall overplay summary

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Match sessions
54	Brockworth RFC	Tewkesbury Area 5	Adult		1	0.5
68	Bourneside Sports Centre	Cheltenham	Adult		1	0.5
70	Burrows	Cheltenham	Youth	11v11	1	0.5
97	Naunton Park	Cheltenham	Adult		2	0.5
			Youth	11v11	1	1
104	Priors Park	Cheltenham	Youth	11v11	1	1.5
107	Springfield Park	Cheltenham	Adult (Youth)	(11v11)	2 (1)	1
111	Swindon Village	Cheltenham	Adult		3	1
112	The Beeches	Cheltenham	Adult		2	1.5
			Youth	11v11	1	2
114	The Folly	Cheltenham	Adult		3	2

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Of the overplayed pitches, 11 are assessed as poor quality which accounts for eight match equivalent sessions of overplay. An improvement in quality at these sites will not only result in a reduction in overplay but, in some instances, create actual spare capacity.

All overplay occurs on adult and youth 11v11 pitches. Incidentally, all overplayed adult pitches are accessed by youth 11v11 teams. By transferring this demand to dedicated youth 11v11 pitches, most overplay would be alleviated.

2.18: Overplay Summary

Analysis area	Overplay (match sessions per week)				
	Adult	Youth (11v11)	Youth (9v9)	Mini (7v7)	Mini (5v5)
Cheltenham	6.5	3.5	-	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 5	0.5	-	-	-	-
Cheltenham & Tewkesbury	7	3.5	-	-	-

2.6: Conclusions

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify the overall spare capacity in each of the analysis areas for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand is based on reported club plans to increase the number of teams, whilst Team Generation Rates and displaced demand have been considered Borough wide and added to the total for each area.

Table 2.19: Spare capacity/ overplay of adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁶	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Displaced demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Cheltenham Total	4.5	6.5	1	3	2.5 +1.5 TGR	7
Tewkesbury Area 1	0.5	-	-	0.5	0.5	-
Tewkesbury Area 2	4.5	-	-	4.5	0.5	4
Tewkesbury Area 3	5	-	-	5	-	5
Tewkesbury Area 4	1	-	-	1	-	1
Tewkesbury Area 5	6.5	0.5	-	6	0.5	5.5
Tewkesbury Total	17.5	0.5	1	16	1.5 +3.5 TGR	14

The table above shows that supply is sufficient to cater for current demand across Tewkesbury. However, there is a shortfall of three adult match sessions in Cheltenham which is exacerbated by future demand, resulting in a shortfall of seven match sessions. As previously mentioned, removing youth 11v11 play from adult pitches will help to reduce shortfalls, as will quality improvements.

⁶ In match equivalent sessions

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Table 2.20: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁷	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Displaced demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Cheltenham Total	-	3.5	1	4.5	6 +3.5 TGR	14
Tewkesbury Area 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 4	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.5
Tewkesbury Area 5	-	-	-	-	1	1
Tewkesbury Total	-	-	-	-	1.5 +4 TGR	5.5

Table 2.20 shows that supply is sufficient to cater for current demand across Tewkesbury. However, there is a shortfall of 4.5 youth 11v11 match sessions in Cheltenham which is exacerbated by future demand, resulting in a shortfall of 14 match sessions. Future demand also produces a shortfall across Tewkesbury amounting to 5.5 match sessions.

In addition, a further 24.5 youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions (49 youth 11v11 teams) are recorded as taking place on adult pitches across the two areas and as such the shortfall of youth 11v11 pitches is greater in practice. As such, there is a clear need for an increase in youth 11v11 provision in order for this play to be transferred onto the correct pitch size.

Table 2.21: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁸	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Displaced demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Cheltenham Total	-	-	0.5	0.5	1.5 + 1.5 TGR	3.5
Tewkesbury Area 1	1	-	-	1	-	1
Tewkesbury Area 2	1	-	1	-	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 3	1.5	-	-	1.5	-	1.5
Tewkesbury Area 4	1	-	-	1	0.5	0.5
Tewkesbury Area 5	2.5	-	-	2.5	0.5	2
Tewkesbury Total	7	-	1	6	1 +2.5 TGR	2.5

Table 2.21 shows that supply in Tewkesbury is sufficient to cater for demand for youth 9v9 pitches both at present and in the future. However, there is a current shortfall of 0.5 youth 9v9 match sessions in Cheltenham which is exacerbated by future demand, resulting in a shortfall of 3.5 match sessions.

⁷ In match equivalent sessions

⁸ In match equivalent sessions

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Table 2.22: Spare capacity/ overplay of Mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Displaced demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Cheltenham Total	2.5	-	-	2.5	2 +0.5TGR	-
Tewkesbury Area 1	1.5	-	-	1.5	0.5	1
Tewkesbury Area 2	1	-	-	1	-	1
Tewkesbury Area 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 4	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.5
Tewkesbury Area 5	-	-	-	-	1	1
Tewkesbury Total	2.5	-	-	2.5	2 +1.5 TGR	1

Table 2.22 shows that supply is sufficient to cater for current demand in both Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. However, future demand produces a requirement for an additional one match session in Tewkesbury.

Due to the nature of youth leagues in football within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, teams do not enter a league format until the U9 age group, requiring mini 7v7 pitches. Therefore, the demand for 5v5 pitches within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury is limited, with no teams reporting future aspirations to develop sides at age groups below the age of nine. Clubs on occasion do have younger age groups but competition and pitch usage is contained to unmarked grass space for training purposes.

Taking into account the above tables, the table below summarises the level of spare capacity and overplay on each pitch type across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury as a whole. As seen, overall shortfalls are identified across each pitch type with the exception of adult pitches.

Table 2.23: Cheltenham capacity/overplay summary

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ¹⁰	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Displaced Demand	Current Total	Future demand	Total
Adult	4.5	6.5	1	3	4	7
Youth 11v11	-	3.5	1	4.5	9.5	14
Youth 9v9	-	-	0.5	0.5	3	3.5
Mini 7v7	2.5	-	-	2.5	2.5	-

In conclusion, across Cheltenham there are shortfalls of match sessions across adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches at present, with future demand increasing these shortfalls. There are sufficient match equivalent sessions to cater for mini 7v7 football, whilst in future capacity at this format will be balanced.

⁹ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁰ In match equivalent sessions

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Table 2.23: Tewkesbury capacity/overplay summary

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ¹¹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Displaced Demand	Current Total	Future demand	Total
Adult	17.5	0.5	1	16	5	14
Youth 11v11	-	-	-	-	55	5.5
Youth 9v9	7	-	1	6	3.5	2.5
Mini 7v7	2.5	-	-	2.5	3.5	1

In conclusion, across Tewkesbury there are no current shortfalls at any pitch format, though future demand increases would create shortfalls and the need for additional match sessions at the youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 formats.

Football – Cheltenham grass pitch summary

- ▶ The audit identifies a total of 83 grass football pitches in Cheltenham of which 64 are available for community use on some level.
- ▶ There is one FIFA certified 3G pitch on which competitive football matches can be played, located at All Saints Academy.
- ▶ The majority (67%) of pitches available for community use are standard quality and 27% are poor quality, with only four pitches rated as good quality (6%).
- ▶ Generally, the standard of changing facilities within Cheltenham is considered to be good. Only one Club highlighted facilities at the Folly to be of a poor standard.
- ▶ Gloucestershire FA is concerned that Rowanfield Rovers FC has taken on lease of the clubhouse at King George V Playing Field (Cheltenham) given its current condition, cost and extent of works required and terms of the lease agreement.
- ▶ There are a total of 149 football teams recorded within Cheltenham.
- ▶ Team generation rates (TGRs) based on future population indicate that participation is anticipated to create at least an additional three men's adult teams, seven youth 11v11 boys' teams, three youth 9v9 boys' teams and one mini 7v7 team
- ▶ 10 clubs within Cheltenham indicated a need for specific access to 3G pitch provision for midweek training.
- ▶ The largest amount of overplay in Cheltenham (two match sessions) is located at The Beeches on the youth 11v11 pitch.
- ▶ In conclusion, across Cheltenham there are shortfalls of match sessions across adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches at present, with future demand increasing these shortfalls. There are sufficient match equivalent sessions to cater for mini 7v7 football, whilst in future capacity at this format will be balanced.

¹¹ In match equivalent sessions

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Football – Tewkesbury grass pitch summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 87 grass football pitches in Tewkesbury of which 81 are available for community use on some level.
- ◀ There are two FIFA certified 3G pitches on which competitive football matches can be played, located at Tewkesbury Secondary School and Winchcombe School.
- ◀ The majority (78%) of pitches available for community use are standard quality and 21% are poor quality, with only one pitch rated as good quality (1%).
- ◀ Generally, the standard of changing facilities within Tewkesbury is considered to be good. Only one Club highlighted facilities at the Newland Sports Ground to be of a poor standard.
- ◀ There are a total of 140 football teams recorded within Tewkesbury.
- ◀ Team generation rates (TGRs) based on future population indicate that participation is anticipated to create an additional seven adult men's teams, seven youth boys 11v11 teams, one youth girls 11v11 team, five youth boys 9v9 teams and three mini 7v7 teams.
- ◀ Eight clubs within Tewkesbury indicated a need for specific access to 3G pitch provision for midweek training.
- ◀ There are limited amounts of overplay recorded across Tewkesbury. The only overplay is recorded at Brockworth RFC (0.5 match sessions).
- ◀ In conclusion, across Tewkesbury there are no current shortfalls at any pitch format, though future demand increases would create shortfalls and the need for additional match sessions at the youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 formats.
- ◀ There are four planned developments for new football provision to be created in Tewkesbury over the next five years.

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PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF PITCHES

3.1 Introduction

There are several surface types that fall into the category of artificial grass pitch (AGP). The three main groups are rubber crumb (also known as third generation turf or 3G), sand (filled or dressed) and water based.

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces that have been FA or FIFA certified and a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play at mini soccer, youth and adult formats. The recommended FA dimensions for a full sized 3G pitch are 100x64 metres with additional run off areas of three metres required on each side. FIFA 3G pitch certification is required to host competitive adult match play at Step 3 and below, whilst for teams playing at Steps 1 or 2 pitches are required to have FIFA Pro standard certification, further information on which is included later in the section. Football training can take place on sand and water based surfaces but is not the preferred option.

World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for Artificial Grass Pitches for Rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union (this is also adopted by rugby league). The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the standard. Full contact activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts can take place.

Competitive rugby league play and contact practice is permitted to take place on 3G pitches which are deemed by the RFL to meet its Performance Standard for Synthetic Turf Pitches. Pitches fall under two categories, with community club pitches requiring a retest every two years and elite stadia pitches requiring an annual retest. Much of the criteria within the RFL performance standard test also forms part of the World Rugby test, consequently World Rugby certified 3G pitches are considered by the RFL to be able to meet rugby league requirements and are deemed suitable for rugby league use but must pass exclusive World Rugby and RFL performance standard tests.

England Hockey Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy (June 2016) advises that 3G pitches should not be used for hockey matches or training and that they can only be used for lower level hockey (introductory level) when no sand based or water based AGPs are available.

Table 3.1: 3G surface type and sport suitability

Surface	Category	Comments
Rubber crumb	Long Pile 3G (60mm with shock pad)	Rugby surface – must comply with World Rugby type 22 and/or RFL Community Standard, requires a minimum of 60mm pile.
Rubber crumb	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	Preferred football surface for training and competitive football subject to performance standard testing. Suitable for non-contact rugby union/league practice or play.
Rubber crumb	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	Acceptable surface for some competitive football subject to performance standard testing.

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3.2 Supply

As seen in the table below, there are three full size 3G pitches across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, all of which are medium pile.

Table 3.2: Full size 3G pitches

ID	Site name	Analysis Area	No. of pitches	Surface type	Community use?
38	Tewkesbury School	Tewkesbury Area 2	1	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	Yes
42	Winchcombe School	Tewkesbury Area 4	1	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	Yes
65	All Saints Academy	Cheltenham	1	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	Yes

All of the pitches are FA certified to host competitive matches but none are certified by World Rugby to host competitive rugby union play or contact practice.

Further to this there are 12 full sized sand based/filled AGPs within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury (please see Part 5: Hockey for further details). However, it should be noted that there is heavy use of these pitches for football training, particularly at Brockworth Sports Centre, Balcarras Sports Centre and Bourneside Sports Centre.

Future Supply

There are currently no present plans to develop any 3G pitches in either Cheltenham or Tewkesbury. However, The Cheltenham Trust has ambitions to create a Cheltenham Sport and Play Hub at Pittville Park to include the development of sports facilities at the neighbouring Prince of Wales Stadium. The Trust is currently exploring potential options for redevelopment including the creation of 3G pitch provision onsite.

As part of its strategy for 3G pitches, the RFU is exploring opportunities for the creation of a 3G pitch in the region. Cheltenham Tigers RFC was previously granted planning permission for the creation of a 3G pitch at Newlands Park Sports Ground, though the Club has not yet secured funding to undertake such a development.

Where possible, new 3G pitches to be used for football should meet FA recommended dimensions shown in Table 3.3 to maximise their potential for future use for competitive football, subject to performance standard testing.

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Table 3.3: FA recommended 3G pitch sizes

Age group	Playing format	Recommended pitch dimensions (metres excluding run offs)	Recommended pitch dimensions (metres including run offs)
Mini-Soccer U7/U8	5v5	37x27	43x33
Mini-Soccer U9/U10	7v7	55x37	61x43
Youth U11/U12	9v9	73x46	79x52
Youth U13/U14	11v11	82x50	88x56
Youth U15/U16	11v11	91x55	97x61
Youth U17/U18	11v11	100x64	106x70
Over 18/Adult	11v11	100x64	106x70

Conversion from hockey suitable AGP surface types

Since the introduction of 3G pitches and given their popularity for football, providers have seen this as a way to replace a worn sand or water based carpet and generate increased revenue from hiring out a 3G pitch to football and rugby clubs and commercial football providers. This has often come at the expense of hockey, with players now travelling further distances to gain access to a suitable pitch and many teams consequently displaced from their preferred local authority.

Due to its impact on hockey, it is appropriate to ensure that sufficient sand based AGPs are retained for the playing development of hockey. To that end, a change of surface will require a planning application and the applicants will need to show that there is sufficient provision available for hockey in the locality. Advice from Sport England and England Hockey should also be sought prior to any planning application being submitted.

It should also be noted that, if a surface is changed, it could require the existing floodlighting to be changed and in some instances noise attenuation measures may need to be put in place.

A 3G surface is limited in the range of sport that can be played or taught on it. Providers proposing a conversion should take advice from the appropriate sports' governing bodies or refer to Sport England guidance: <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/>

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3.3 Quality

All three 3G pitches within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury assessed as good quality. This is a consequence of a good maintenance regime and all three pitches being five years old.

Table 3.3: Summary of quality

Site ID	Site name	Surface type	Year built (refurbished)	Floodlit?	Quality
38	Tewkesbury School	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	2011	Yes	Good
42	Winchcombe School	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	2011	Yes	Good
65	All Saints Academy	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	2011	Yes	Good

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

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

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

Clubs playing in the football pyramid on 3G pitches meeting FIFA One Star or Two Star guidelines will still be required to certify their pitches annually, however, if any pitch replacement takes place the Club will need to meet the new FIFA performance criteria of FIFA Quality or Quality Pro. To stay on the FA register, pitches below the national league pyramid require FA testing every three years.

Bentham Country Club

Bentham Country Club (also known locally as Bentham Domes) is an indoor sports facility previously used for football, tennis, netball and other recreational activities. There are currently four years remaining on the lease from a private owner who has future plans for residential redevelopment of the site should it cease to be run as a sports facility. There is no intention to retain or install new sport provision as demand has subsequently fallen due

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to the poor quality of provision. A report was produced in October 2016 to support the reprovision of an off-site dome should the site close as a sports facility as proposed and the following findings of which have been used to inform this section of the PPS.

The site has two large domes, one measuring approximately 37.5m by 37.5m with two netball courts and the other measuring approximately 70m by 38m with two netball courts and two small AGPs. The quality of provision at the site is poor with the 3G surfaces laid by the site manager and installed to a poor standard, subsequent repair work has been of a low standard and therefore overall quality of the site is low with a need for replacement in the short term.

In the face of increased local competition, football use has declined significantly from over 250 teams in 2005/06 to approximately 45 as of October 2016. The facility has been decreasing in popularity since the opening of the 3G pitch at the All Saints Academy where Powerplay runs a competitive football league comparatively priced offering superior facilities. The dimensions of the AGPs are considered not to lend themselves to training for adult football, whilst though junior football teams have used the pitches for training in previous years there are currently no junior teams training onsite. There are presently 39 small sided football teams using Bentham Country Club in the evenings between Monday to Thursday, whilst a further six teams use on Sunday evenings.

The commissioned report finds that alternative capacity exists for 41 teams on Monday to Thursday evenings and 52 on Sunday evenings. It concludes that though demand for indoor netball provision remains high, demand for small sided football at Bentham Country Club has declined significantly and current users can be accommodated by spare capacity elsewhere. Moving this play to an improved facility may also allow Gloucestershire FA to affiliate these teams as the current league provider does not affiliate.

Availability

In the main, availability of provision in the peak period is generally good. All 3G surfaces within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury are well used throughout the weekday and weekends, with generally only the 5.00 to 6.00pm timeslots available, this is typically less desired because it is often too early for many teams whose players or volunteers are often just finishing work. There is also usually less demand for pitches on Fridays as teams prepare to play matches over the weekend.

3.4 Supply and demand analysis

The FA model

The FA considers high quality third generation artificial grass pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development. The FA can support intensive use and as such are great assets for both playing and training. Primarily such facilities have been installed for community use and training, however, are increasingly used for competition which The FA wholly supports.

The FA's long term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on floodlit 3G surface, together with priority access for every Charter Standard Community Club through a partnership agreement. The FA standard is calculated by using the latest Sport England research "AGPs State of the Nation March 2012" assuming that 51% of AGP usage is by sports clubs when factoring in the number of training

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slots available per pitch at peak times. It is estimated that one full sized AGP can service 42 teams.

On the basis there are 289 football teams playing across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, there is a recommended need for at least seven full sized 3G pitches (rounded up from 6.88). There are currently three across the two Borough areas. However, when teams are separated by local authority there is a need for three 3G pitches each in both Cheltenham, and Tewkesbury. This represents current shortfalls of two full sized 3G pitches in Cheltenham and one in Tewkesbury.

There are, however, four smaller sized pitches that help to accommodate demand, for example, from mini teams and for training. Please note, none of these pitches are listed on the FA register.

Table 3.4: Summary of smaller sized pitches

Site ID	Site name	Surface type	Quality	Quantity	Size
5	Bentham Country Club	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	Standard	2	35x17
6	Bishops Cleeve Sports Field	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	Standard	1	60x40
15	Civil Service Sports Association Ground	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	Standard	1	40x40
68	Bournside Sports Centre	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	Standard	1	37x17

Please note that the number of teams used in the FA model projection is subject to change given further collation of demand information and analysis.

It is important to consider the impact that development of new 3G pitch provision might have on 3G pitches in other nearby local authorities. For example, development of new provision in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury may provide locally for teams currently displacing training demand to Gloucester, whilst in turn the development of new 3G pitches in Gloucester may impact in the same manner on 3G pitches such as Hartpury College in Forest of Dean. Development of 3G provision should therefore be considered both locally and regionally so not to impact on business models and sustainability of existing pitches.

Local demand

The FA considers high quality third generation artificial grass pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development. The pitches can support intensive use and as such are great assets for both playing and training. Primarily such facilities have been installed for community use and training, however, are increasingly used for competition which The FA wholly supports. At present, 26 teams access 3G provision across the three school sites in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury to play competitive match fixtures.

Additionally, sand based pitches are frequently used for training within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. However, many of the singular team clubs within Cheltenham & Tewkesbury do not train throughout the week as hire of AGPs is generally considered to be too costly, whilst some teams have a more social ethos without a desire for structured training sessions.

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Access to affordable 3G provision is a priority for the FA as all of the multi team junior clubs have various teams strewn across various venues in Cheltenham & Tewkesbury and neighbouring authorities. Several AGPs (including small sized pitches) operate commercial small sided football leagues which may limit capacity available for club training. For example, PowerPlay runs leagues across Wednesday and Thursday at All Saints Academy for a total of 6 hours.

Imported demand

Due to the popularity of 3G pitches demand from clubs from surrounding local authorities is prominent. Winchcombe School indicates that the pitch is used regularly by Bredon Star RFC, Broadway Juniors FC and Eckington FC Juniors are regular users of Tewkesbury School.

Key trends and changes in demand for pitches

Demand from football for 3G AGPs has increased in recent years due to demand from clubs for training but also due to a growing acceptance by local leagues of use for competitive matches, where play on 3G pitches is now included within the FA Standard Code of Rule. This considered, the general condition of local authority pitches and increasingly limited budget for regular and adequate maintenance may lead more teams to consider AGPs as a possible alternative should it be financially viable.

A number of leagues around the country now use 3G pitches as central venues where all mini soccer play takes place, though this is not the case in Cheltenham & Tewkesbury. Some leagues are also held at 3G central venues. This trend is likely to increase in the future and more mini soccer and vets leagues could be played exclusively on 3G pitches.

Given the poor quality weather often experienced throughout the winter months of the rugby union season, more clubs are becoming increasingly receptive towards training on artificial pitches. Clubs traditionally train on match pitches where floodlights are in place or one pitch designated for all training in particular, this is the case at Cheltenham North RFC. It often results in deterioration in pitch quality coupled with decreasing maintenance budgets. At present there is no rugby union training recorded as taking place on full sized AGPs in the area and there is no World Rugby certified pitch.

The recent RFU strategy on investment in 3G pitches both at club and community based sites is indicative of the growing acceptance of 3G pitches amongst clubs nationally. This considered, all teams within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury reported demand to train on affordable artificial surfaces.

Nationally clubs identify the use of AGPs for training as a method of protecting the match pitches and providing a high quality surface for full contact practice. Competitive play continues to take place on grass pitches for the most part, with ad hoc use of AGPs for fixtures in the case of unsuitable pitches due to waterlogging or frost.

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Cheltenham 3G pitch summary

- ◀ There is one 3G pitch within Cheltenham which is FA certified located at the All Saints Academy
- ◀ There are currently no World Rugby Approved 3G pitches within Cheltenham.
- ◀ The FA estimates that there is a need for at least three full sized 3G pitches to service football training needs in Cheltenham, representing a current shortfall of two full sized pitches.
- ◀ A large number of clubs highlighted a need for further accessible 3G provision within Cheltenham.
- ◀ Many singular team football clubs within Cheltenham & Tewkesbury do not train throughout the week as hire of AGPs is generally considered to be too costly or there is no desire to train.
- ◀ Most football clubs use a variety of sites for team training, particularly those with a large number of teams.
- ◀ The All Saints Academy 3G pitch operates a commercial small sided football league which limits availability for club training.
- ◀ There are no plans for new provision within Cheltenham.
- ◀ The RFU is investigating the eligibility and feasibility of developing a World Rugby Complaint AGP in the locality, servicing both Cheltenham & Tewkesbury.

Tewkesbury 3G pitch summary

- ◀ There are two 3G pitches within Tewkesbury, both of which are FA certified located at Tewkesbury High School and Winchcombe School.
- ◀ There are currently no World Rugby Approved 3G pitches within Tewkesbury.
- ◀ The FA estimates that there is a need for at least four full sized 3G pitches to service football training needs in Tewkesbury.
- ◀ A large number of clubs highlighted a need for further accessible 3G provision within Tewkesbury
- ◀ Many singular team football clubs within Tewkesbury do not train throughout the week as hire of AGPs is generally considered to be too costly or there is no desire to train.
- ◀ Most football clubs use a variety of sites for team training, particularly those with a large number of teams.
- ◀ The small 3G pitch at Bishops Cleeve Sports Field operates a commercial small sided football league which limits availability for club training.
- ◀ There are no plans for new provision within Tewkesbury.
- ◀ The closure of Bentham Domes may create increased demand for AGPs within Tewkesbury as 76 not affiliated teams use the facility for mini leagues. This may put pressure on existing AGPs within the area and reduce the amount of available time for club training.
- ◀ The RFU is investigating the eligibility and feasibility of developing a World Rugby Complaint AGP in the locality, servicing both Cheltenham & Tewkesbury.

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PART 4: RUGBY UNION

4.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the national governing body responsible for grassroots and elite rugby in England. The RFU is split into six areas across the country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. Gloucestershire RFU administers the sport across the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, with a County Development Manager and a team of community rugby coaches that deliver core programmes in schools and clubs. The variety of programmes, which include 15-a-side, 10-a-side, 7-a-side, Tag and the O2 Touch programme, all aiming to increase and retain participation within the game. In order to sustain and increase participation in the game, facilities need to be appropriate, affordable and accessible. The rugby union playing season operates from September to May.

Consultation

The following ten clubs are based within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury:

- ✦ Brockworth RFC
- ✦ Cheltenham Civil Service RFC
- ✦ Cheltenham North RFC
- ✦ Cheltenham RFC
- ✦ Cheltenham Saracens RFC
- ✦ Chosen Hill Former Pupils RFC
- ✦ Norton RFC
- ✦ Old Patesians RFC
- ✦ Smiths (Industries) RFC
- ✦ Tewkesbury RFC

All clubs were consulted either through a face-to-face consultation or via completion of an online survey, resulting in a response rate of 100%.

4.2: Supply

In total, there are 63 senior and three mini grass rugby union pitches across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury located across 27 sites. Of these, 23 pitches are not available for community use and are predominantly located at private education sites.

See below for a breakdown of pitches unavailable for community use.

Table 4.1: Pitches unavailable for community use

Site ID	Site name	Number of pitches	Comments
10	Chosen Hill School	2	No community use to protect quality.
23	Imjin Barracks	1	No community use, strictly for employees of the MOD.
42	Winchcombe School	1	No community use to protect quality.
72	Cheltenham College	8	No community use to protect quality.
83	Dean Close School	3	No community use to protect quality.
99	Pates Grammar School	3	No community use to protect quality.
108	St Edwards Preparatory	3	No community use to protect quality.
115	The Richard Pate School	2	No community use

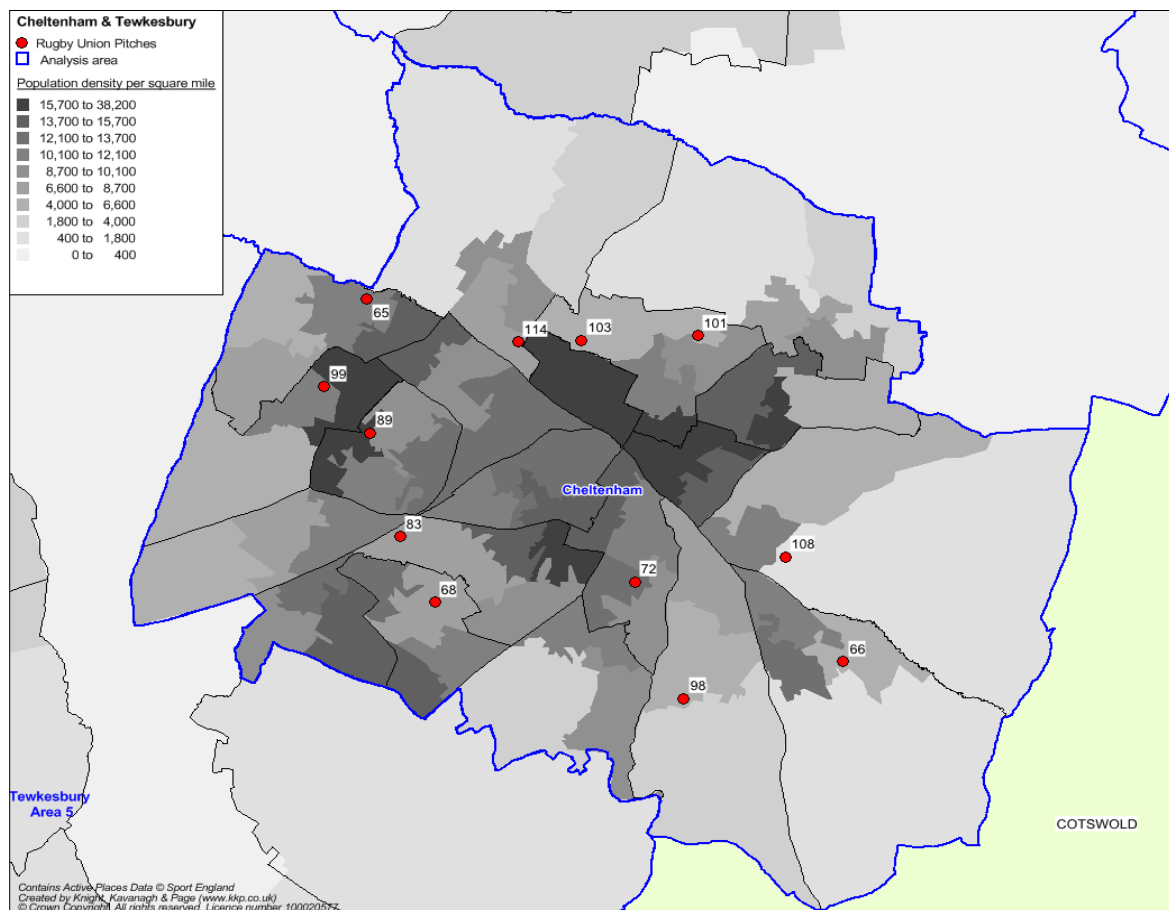
There are currently no World Rugby compliant artificial 3G pitches within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.

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Please note that the audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches. For the purposes of this report, being available for community use refers to pitches in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) that are recorded as being available for use/hire by teams/clubs.

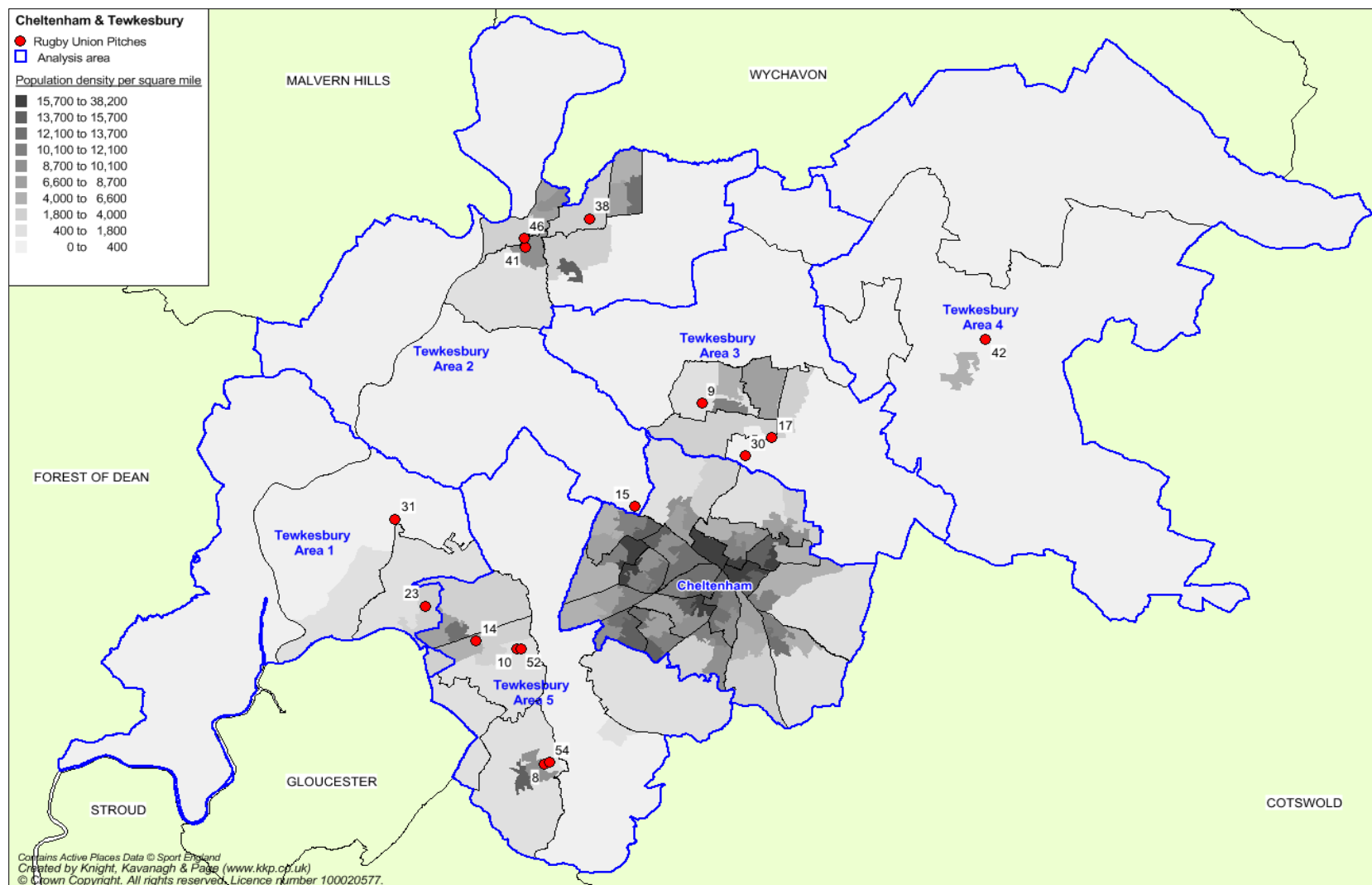
For rugby union pitch dimension sizes please refer to RFU 'Grass Pitches for Rugby' at: http://www.rfu.com/managingrugby/clubdevelopment/facilitiesandequipment/~/_media/files/2009/facilitiesandequipment/facilities%20guidance%20note%202.ashx

Figure 4.1: Location of rugby pitches in the Cheltenham



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Figure 4.2: Location of rugby pitches in the Tewksbury



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Future Supply

There are plans for the creation of a new senior rugby union pitch at the proposed Coopers Edge development on Lobleys Drive, a site which straddles the authority boundary with Stroud but would create additional capacity accessible to Tewkesbury Area 1. However, it is likely that the pitch would also be used by Stroud residents given the proximity which may limit capacity available for Tewkesbury based clubs.

Ownership/management

The majority of clubs within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury are thought to have secured tenure either ownership of their ground or through a secured lease agreement.

Cheltenham 'Tigers' RFC which plays at Newlands Park own all four rugby pitches and ancillary facilities on site, as well as two adult sized football pitches. Cheltenham North RFC, located at Stoke Orchard Rd own all ancillary provision on site, and one senior pitch, the Club also lease a secondary pitch (which is in the process of being established) on a 25-year agreement from Grundon Waste Management Ltd. Tewkesbury RFC, located at Ganders Lane currently own 30% of the site its two pitches and clubhouse lie on with the remaining 70% of the land leased on a 70-year agreement from Tewkesbury Council.

Cheltenham Saracens RFC, Norton RFC and Chosen Hill Former Students RFC all currently have lease agreements which are due to expire within the next ten years, the agreement at the latter due to expire in September 2019.

Old Patesians RFC, Brockworth RFC and Smiths (Industries) RFC are the only teams within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury which rent pitches and are considered to have insecure tenure.

Cheltenham Civil Service RFC is part of the Cheltenham Civil Service Association. The site has recently negotiated a new lease from CBC for 14 years to secure tenure on the site for all associated sport clubs.

Table 4.3: Summary of club ownership

Own	Mixed tenure	Leased	Rent
Cheltenham 'Tigers' RFC	Cheltenham North RFC Tewkesbury RFC	Cheltenham Saracens RFC Norton RFC Chosen Hill Former Students RFC Cheltenham Civil Service RFC	Old Patesians RFC Smiths (Industries) RFC Brockworth RFC

Pitch quality

The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements; the maintenance programme and the level of drainage on each pitch. An overall quality based on both drainage and maintenance can then be generated.

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The agreed rating for each pitch type also represents actions required to improve pitch quality. A breakdown of actions required based on the ratings can be seen below.

Table 4.4: Definition of maintenance categories

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

Table 4.5: Definition of drainage categories

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

Table 4.6: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores:

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

Of the 40 senior pitches available for community use, two pitches are rated as good quality, 13 pitches as standard and 25 as poor. Of the 25 poor quality pitches, 15 are located at education sites.

Table 4.7: Quality of senior pitches available for community use.

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Standard (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	3	2	-
	Natural Adequate (D1)	21	10	2
	Pipe Drained (D2)	1	1	-
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	-	-	-

The two pitches located at Everest Road, the home site of Old Patesians RFC are considered by both the Club and the RFU to be of a poor standard (M0/D0). The Club indicates that there are a high number of injuries due to the severe unevenness of the pitches which are inadequate to meet its needs of playing at National League standard. It is also feels that the pitches are of too poor quality for its junior section to use and therefore the Club annually rents pitches from education providers across Cheltenham to meet the needs of its 500 member junior section. As a consequence of its poor pitch provision it now struggles to recruit and retain players in the senior section.

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Cheltenham North RFC currently has access to two pitches on site at Stoke Orchard Rd, both rated (M0/D1). All current play and training takes place on the main pitch adjacent to the clubhouse as the secondary pitch is in the process of being established for long term use. Both pitches have no pipe drainage installed, but the Club indicate that the pitches drainage naturally to an adequate standard.

The two pitches located at Cheltenham Civil Service ground are rated as good quality (M2/D1). The pitches are maintained by a private contractor to a high standard as a consequence of being regularly aerated and fertilised.

Tewkesbury RFC has two pitches on site both rated poor (M1/D0). The site usually floods twice per year and as a repercussion the pitches receive a large amount of maintenance to make them playable throughout the season. The Club currently pays for regular verti draining and sanding to ensure an adequate standard. It also indicates that the first team pitch on site adjacent to the clubhouse is beginning to drop in the centre.

There are four pitches located at Newlands Park Sports Ground (Cheltenham Tigers RFC). One pitch is a dedicated senior/junior training pitch with match standard floodlighting. The pitch has planning permission for a 3G pitch, and the Club is actively looking to secure funding to progress this development. The three remaining pitches are used solely for fixtures and some junior/mini training.

Norton RFC report that part of its pitch was created from an old pond on site which was filled in with clay, consequently drainage is poor as water cannot pass through the soil.

Cheltenham Saracens RFC have access to two senior pitches and one mini pitch at its home site of King George V playing Fields – Cheltenham. Of the two senior pitches, one is assessed as standard quality (M1/D1), and the other poor (M1/D0). The Club report that the senior pitches are prone to waterlogging.

Ancillary facilities

All clubs in the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury have access to changing room facilities at their respective home grounds. The quality of facilities varies from site to site but changing facilities are generally described as good or acceptable, with the exception of Newlands Park and Old Patesians RFC.

Newlands Park Sports Ground (Cheltenham Tigers RFC) currently has eight changing rooms on site (and an additional room for the use of football/gym classes in the upstairs function room) all of which are dated and small. There are 12 shower heads available for all changing rooms shared in a communal block which are in a poor condition. The showers are often overcrowded and in poor working order.

Tewkesbury RFC has recently developed new changing rooms which elevate itself over potential floodwaters. The changing rooms were built to the latest RFU specifications and are consequently of a high standard. Similarly, Norton RFC has recently invested in its changing rooms to bring them up to current RFU standards.

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Chosen Hill Former Pupils RFC indicates that the boiler at the club, situated at Brookfield Road (Cheltenham) needs improving as it doesn't adequately provide enough hot water for both sets of showers, whilst Brockworth RFC indicates that its shower provision is poor as a consequence of weak water pressure.

Cheltenham Saracens RFC report that its ancillary provision at King George V playing Fields (Cheltenham) is of a good quality. The Club indicate that it has a total of 6 changing rooms (four with shower facilities) and that there are no issues to report about the facility. Similarly, Cheltenham Civil Service RFC report that its changing rooms are of an adequate standard.

Cheltenham North RFC has ambitions to redevelop and produce additional changing rooms in order to help sustain its potential future growth of a junior section. Current provision does not meet RFU regulations and is in need of renovation. Similarly, Old Patesians RFC have ambitions to develop improved ancillary provision in the future, at present its facility offers just two changing rooms and basic shower/toilet facilities and is an overall poor quality.

4.3: Demand

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

Competitive play

There is a total of 76 competitive rugby union teams within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, and five teams playing infrequent friendly matches. A breakdown of the number of competitive teams within each club is shown below.

Table 4.8 Summary of demand by analysis area

Club	Analysis area	No. of rugby union teams ¹²		
		Senior	Junior	Mini
Cheltenham Saracens RFC	Cheltenham	3	1	-
Old Patesians RFC	Cheltenham	3	5	4
Smiths (Industries) RFC	Cheltenham	2	-	-
Norton RFC	Tewkesbury Area 1	1	-	-
Cheltenham Civil Service RFC	Tewkesbury Area 2	3	-	-
Tewkesbury RFC	Tewkesbury Area 2	3	8	6
Cheltenham North RFC	Tewkesbury Area 3	2	2	2
Cheltenham Tigers RFC	Tewkesbury Area 3	3	7	6
Brockworth RFC	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	2	-
Chosen Hill Former Pupils RFC	Tewkesbury Area 5	3	4	5
Total		24	29	23

¹²Number of teams includes both male and female sides from the age of 13 and upwards.

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Training

Training on match pitches can have a detrimental effect on the overall quality of the provision due to concentrated activity, which reduces the capacity for match play on the pitches and consequently means they are more likely to be overplayed.

Cheltenham North RFC is the only team within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury which train on its floodlit match pitch. The Club indicates that it often has to cancel a high proportion of winter training sessions as a consequence of playing on its match pitch and furthermore, struggles to recruit and retain players.

Norton RFC indicates it trains on its pitch frequently but without floodlights. The Club view the need for floodlighting as a priority, similarly Cheltenham Saracens RFC report a strong demand for floodlights at its home site for training as it currently trains at the Prince of Wales Stadium.

The following clubs report having a floodlit training area or access to portable floodlights:

- ✦ Cheltenham Tigers RFC
- ✦ Cheltenham Civil Service RFC
- ✦ Tewkesbury RFC
- ✦ Smiths (Industries) RFC
- ✦ Chosen Hill RFC
- ✦ Old Patesians RFC
- ✦ Tewkesbury RFC
- ✦ Brockworth RFC

Cheltenham Civil Service RFC has access to a small 3G pitch on its facility which it uses twice a week for training. All clubs, with the exception of Cheltenham Civil Service RFC indicate a desire to train on 3G pitches.

Cheltenham Tigers RFC train on a dedicated floodlit pitch at its home ground (Newlands Sports Ground). It should be noted that the pitch has planning permission to be developed into a 3G pitch if necessary funding can be arranged.

Although Old Patesians RFC has a small floodlit training area, it isn't of a sufficient standard to host senior training and large segments of junior training. The Club therefore has to travel to various locations in and outside of the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury to find suitable training venues.

O2 Touch

O2 Touch is a non-contact form of rugby played socially across club sites across the country. The aim of the sport is to provide a fun environment to socialise and improve fitness levels. O2 Touch is currently played at the Newlands Sports Ground (Cheltenham Tigers RFC) throughout the year.

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Dual use

There are no dedicated rugby league pitches marked out in Cheltenham or Tewkesbury and rugby league is generally played on dual use pitches or pitches which are mainly used and marked for rugby union. The sites listed below used for rugby union are also used for rugby league during the summer, or throughout the rugby union season in the case of university play in which case rugby league is considered a winter season sport.

- ◀ Prince of Wales Stadium (dual use - Cheltenham)
- ◀ Old Patesians RFC (Cheltenham)
- ◀ Cheltenham North RFC (Tewkesbury Area 3)
- ◀ King George V Playing Fields (Cheltenham Saracens RFC - Cheltenham)
- ◀ The Folly (dual use - Cheltenham)

Summer rugby league use over the rugby union post-season can negatively impact on quality if not carefully managed. This year round use reduces time available for rugby union pitches to rest and recover and can also impact on the quality and effectiveness of remedial and maintenance work undertaken in preparation for the next rugby union season. Given that rugby league is a growing sport in the area, there are benefits to be had from dual use of rugby union pitches, particularly at club sites where there is potential for revenue generation throughout the summer and cross code transfer of players to grow membership of both sports. This considered, with regards to pitch quality the current level of rugby league use on rugby union pitches is sustainable providing the level of post-season maintenance is not compromised.

Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is unable to gain access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision, which in turn is hindering growth.

Old Patesians RFC report that it has a waiting list of 80 children which it cannot currently accommodate into its teams due to lack of available pitch space. The Club has ambitions of filtering these children into its teams to continuing the development into its junior section, if pitch space was available. This would quantity into four junior sides (with 20 children per squad), equating to two match equivalent sessions of pitch space required and additional training demand for either grass pitches or AGP surfaces.

Future demand

Consultation with clubs generally suggests that there is a desire to increase the number of teams with the following clubs reporting future demand:

- ◀ Brockworth RFC has ambitions to increase the number of teams at the Club by one senior men's team, two junior boy's teams and two mini teams, however, are aware it would need to increase the number of pitches currently available on site to accommodate any growth.
- ◀ Cheltenham Civil Service RFC has future demand of one additional male senior team but has no ambitions to develop a junior section as it feels that other clubs locally offer a good platform for juniors to develop.
- ◀ Cheltenham North RFC indicates it would like to continue developing a junior section in the coming seasons. It suggests that when its second pitch becomes established it will be in a position to offer more junior training/matches.

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- Cheltenham Tigers RFC has future demand of one male senior team, one U19 team and a junior girl's colts team. The Club has ambitions of maximising use of its four available pitches on site.
- Cheltenham Saracens RFC and Smiths (Industries) RFC both have future demand of one mini team each.
- Norton RFC reports ambitions to develop two male senior teams and three mini sides. The Club is aware that it will have to make sizeable improvements to its solitary pitch to handle play on the site.
- Tewkesbury RFC has future demand of one Veterans side, which would likely to play occasional friendly fixtures.

The above has quantified to total six senior men's teams, three junior boys team, one junior girls team and seven mini teams, creating a total of 6.75 match equivalent sessions.

In addition, team generation rates can also be used as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future, based on population growth.

Table 4.9: Team generation rates - Cheltenham

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (19-45)	22,011	10	2201	23,494	10.7	0
Senior Women (19-45)	21,860	1	21860	22,163	1	0
Junior Boys (13-18)	3,913	6	652	4,565	7	1
Junior Girls (13-18)	4,054	0	0	4,680	0	0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	7,394	4	1849	8,220	4.4	0

TGRs forecast that population increases in Cheltenham are likely create at least one additional junior boys' team.

Table 4.9: Team generation rates - Tewkesbury

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (19-45)	12,430	14	888	14,093	15.9	1
Senior Women (19-45)	12,807	3	4269	13,705	3.2	0
Junior Boys (13-18)	2,868	13	221	3,536	16	3
Junior Girls (13-18)	2,637	2	1319	3,371	2.6	0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	5,579	19	294	6,949	23.7	4

TGRs forecast that population increases in Tewkesbury are likely create at least one additional senior men's team, three junior boys teams and four additional mini rugby teams.

It is important to note that TGRs are based on population figures and cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools.

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4.4: Capacity analysis

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

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

- ◆ All sites that are used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◆ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches (with the exception of where mini pitches are provided).
- ◆ From U13 upwards, teams play 15-a-side rugby and use a full pitch.
- ◆ Mini teams (U7-12) play across half one adult team i.e. two teams per senior pitch.
- ◆ For senior and junior teams the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis (assumes half of matches will be played 'away').
- ◆ For mini teams, play per week is set at 0.25 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis and playing across half one adult team.
- ◆ All male senior club rugby takes place on a Saturday afternoon.
- ◆ All female senior club rugby takes place on Sunday afternoon.
- ◆ All U13-18 rugby takes place on a Sunday morning.
- ◆ Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by addition of team equivalents.
- ◆ Team equivalents have been calculated on the basis that 30 players (two teams) train on the pitch for 90 minutes (team equivalent of one) per night.

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate. Capacity is based upon a basic assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme ascertained through a combination of the quality assessment and the club survey as follows:

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

This guide should only be used as a very general measure of potential pitch capacity and does not account for specific circumstances at time of use and assumes average rainfall and an appropriate end of season rest and renovation programme.

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

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The peak period

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established. Peak time for senior rugby union pitches in the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury is Sunday AM due to the large number of junior and mini teams accessing senior pitches at this time. Peak demand from senior men's teams is Saturday PM.

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Table 4.10: Rugby union quality and capacity summary for sites available for community use

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Agreed quality rating	Floodlit	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
9	Cheltenham North RFC	Tewkesbury Area 3	Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	Yes	4.5	2	2.5	Main playing pitch. Pitch is floodlit and used all year round for fixtures and training.
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	0	1.5	-	Pitch is yet to be established therefore no activity occurs on it. Club hopes to have it in use by September 2017.
14	Churchdown Academy	Tewkesbury Area 5	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	School pitches. Match equivalent sessions added as a consequence of school use.
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	
15	Civil Service Sports Association Ground	Tewkesbury Area 2	Senior	M2/D1 (Good)	No	1.5	3	1.5	Main pitch used at the ground. The pitch is 64m away from the football pitch on site which is a requirement of the football league regulations for Cheltenham Civil Service FC.
			Senior	M2/D1 (Good)	No	0.5	3	2.5	Pitch is adjacent to the football pitch on site and therefore cannot be used when football is played on the site.
17	Cleeve School	Tewkesbury Area 3	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	School pitches. Match equivalent sessions added as a consequence of school use.
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	
30	Newlands Park Sports Ground	Tewkesbury Area 3	Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	1.5	2	0.5	Home of Cheltenham Tigers RFC. 1 st team pitch. Used solely for matches.
			Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	2	2	-	Used solely for matches.
			Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	2	2	-	Used for matches and some junior/mini training
			Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	Yes	3.25	2	1.25	Dedicated match standard floodlit training pitch. Pitch is used solely for training purposes only.
31	Norton Recreation Field	Tewkesbury Area 1	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1.5	1.5	-	Pitches used to capacity due to training/matches. Norton RFC
38	Tewkesbury School	Tewkesbury Area 2	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	School pitches. Match equivalent sessions added as a consequence of school use.
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	
41	The Vineyards	Tewkesbury Area 2	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1.5	1.5	-	Pitches owned and maintained by Tewkesbury Council. Pitches used as an overspill by Tewkesbury RFC.
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Agreed quality rating	Floodlit	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
46	Tewkesbury RFC	Tewkesbury Area 2	Senior	M1/D0 (Poor)	No	2	1.5	0.5	1 st team pitch. Prone to flooding. Used only match use.
			Senior	M1/D0 (Poor)	No	2	1.5	0.5	Very small pitch. Mainly used for junior training/matches.
52	Chosen Hill Old Boys RFC	Tewkesbury Area 5	Senior	M0/D2 (Poor)	No	2.25	1.75	0.5	First team pitch used for matches and some mini use. Pitches used midweek by Chosen Hill School for fixtures.
			Senior	M0/D0 (Poor)	No	5	0.5	4.5	Secondary match, half of which is also used for training using lights along the tree line on the site perimeter. Pitches used midweek by Chosen Hill School for fixtures.
			Mini	M0/D0 (Poor)	No	1	0.5	0.5	Mini pitch overplayed due to training/matches.
54	Brockworth RFC	Tewkesbury Area 5	Senior	M1/D2 (Good)	No	1	2.5	1.5	First team pitch used solely for matches on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.
			Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	1	2	1	School managed pitch used for junior matches and by the school during the week.
65	All Saints Academy	Cheltenham	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	0.5	1.5	1	School pitch only used for training/matches. Most of the educational use at the school is based on its 3G pitch.
66	Balcarras Sports Centre	Cheltenham	Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	1.5	2	0.5	School pitch. Match equivalent sessions added as a consequence of school use. Old Patesians RFC U15 team uses the pitch Sunday AM for training or a match fixture.
68	Bournside Sports Centre	Cheltenham	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	School pitches. Match equivalent sessions added as a consequence of school use.
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	
89	King George V Playing Field (Cheltenham)	Cheltenham	Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	1	2	1	1 st team pitch. Used solely for matches.
			Senior	M1/D0 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	Pitch used for fixtures and training for the U13 team.
			Mini	M1/D0 (Poor)	No	1.5	1.5	1.5	No mini teams at the club. Pitch reportedly unused.
98	Old Patesians Sports and Social Club	Cheltenham	Senior	M0/D0 (Poor)	No	2	0.5	1.5	1 st team pitch. Used for matches only. Open access site so pitch does have some casual use.
			Senior	M0/D0 (Poor)	No	0.5	0.5	0.5	Secondary pitch. No junior fixtures are allowed to be play as pitch is deemed to be dangerous. Holds one senior fixture per week.
101	Pittville School	Cheltenham	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	School pitch. Match equivalent sessions added as a consequence of school use
103	Prince of Wales Stadium	Cheltenham	Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	Yes	1.5	2	0.5	First team pitch for Smiths (Industries) RFC and the University of Gloucestershire Men's 1 st team.
			Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	Yes	5.5	2	3.5	Pitch used primarily as a training pitch. Used by Smiths (Industries) RFC, University of Gloucestershire and Cheltenham Saracens RFC.

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Agreed quality rating	Floodlit	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
114	The Folly	Cheltenham	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1.5	1.5	-	Pitches used by the University of Gloucestershire
			Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	

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4.5 Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

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

Table 4.11: Spare capacity summary on senior rugby pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Spare capacity	Comments
15	Civil Service Sports Association Ground	Tewkesbury Area 2	4	Spare capacity exists – however, site is only considered available for community use to civil servants.
17	Cleeve School	Tewkesbury Area 3	1.5	Spare capacity exists although further investigation is required to establish how accessible the pitches are to the community.
30	Newlands Park Sports Ground	Tewkesbury Area 2	0.5	Minimal spare capacity exists on the 1 st team rugby pitch. Preserve to maintain pitch quality.
38	Tewkesbury School	Tewkesbury Area 2	2	Spare capacity exists although further investigation is required to establish how accessible the pitches are to the community.
41	The Vineyards	Tewkesbury Area 2	0.5	Limited spare capacity. Preserve to maintain pitch quality.
54	Brockworth RFC	Tewkesbury Area 5	1.5	Actual spare capacity on main pitch.
			1	Considered to have no capacity for further use due to midweek school use.
65	All Saints Academy	Cheltenham	1	Spare capacity exists although further investigation is required to establish how accessible the pitches are to the community.
66	Balcarras Sports Centre	Cheltenham	0.5	Limited spare capacity at the school site. Preserve to maintain pitch quality.
68	Bournside Sports Centre	Cheltenham	0.5	Spare capacity exists although further investigation is required to establish how accessible the pitches are to the community.
89	King George V Playing Field (Cheltenham)	Cheltenham	1.5	Spare capacity exists.

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Spare capacity	Comments
101	Pittville School	Cheltenham	0.5	Spare capacity exists although further investigation is required to establish how accessible the pitches are to the community.
103	Prince of Wales Stadium	Cheltenham	0.5	Limited spare capacity on the 1 st team at the site. Preserve to maintain pitch quality.
114	The Folly	Cheltenham	0.5	Minimal capacity retained to protect quality.

All schools require further investigation into the community use aspects of their pitches and cannot be deemed spare capacity until it is clarified with the individual school.

There are 1.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity located at the King George V Playing Field (Cheltenham) on a mini pitch, not included in the table.

Overplay

The table below highlights the level of overplay on senior rugby pitches across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.

Table 4.12: Overplay summary

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Capacity rating
98	Old Patesians Sport and Social	Cheltenham	1.5
103	Prince of Wales Stadium	Cheltenham	3.5
46	Tewkesbury RFC	Tewkesbury Area 2	1
9	Cheltenham North RFC	Tewkesbury Area 3	2.5
30	Newlands Park Sports Ground	Tewkesbury Area 3	1.25
52	Chosen Hill Old Boys RFC	Tewkesbury Area 5	5

In total, overplay amounts to 14.75 match equivalent sessions. Overall, overplay is a result of poor quality pitches being used for both matches and training. There is a shortage of pitches at both Old Patesians RFC and Chosen Hill Old Boys RFC and therefore matches and training are concentrated on the pitches on site.

The Prince of Wales Stadium is used as a training venue for three clubs creating the high amount of overplay on site. Cheltenham North currently concentrates all training on its one match pitch resulting in the above overplay, once its secondary pitch is established overplay should reduce on site. Tewkesbury RFCs overplay is a direct result of having access to one senior pitch on its home site (not including the vineyards site). The overplay at Newlands Park Sports Ground (Cheltenham Tigers RFC) is solely on its dedicated training pitch, with limited spare capacity remaining on its first team pitch.

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Conclusions

Having considered supply and demand above, the table below identifies the overall spare capacity on senior pitches in each of the analysis areas, based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand is based on reported club plans to increase the number of teams, whilst Team Generation Rates have been considered Borough wide and added to the total for each area. Future demand for mini teams is expressed as requiring 0.25 match sessions based on playing on senior pitches.

Table 4.13: Spare capacity of match equivalent sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹³	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Unmet Demand	Current demand	Future demand ¹⁴	Total
Cheltenham Total	1.5	5	2	5.5	0.5 +0.5 TGR	6.5
Tewkesbury Area 1	-	-	-	-	1.75	1.75
Tewkesbury Area 2	-	1	-	1	1	2
Tewkesbury Area 3	-	3.75	-	3.75	1.5	5.25
Tewkesbury Area 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 5	1.5	5	-	3.5	2	5.5
Tewkesbury Total	1.5	9.75	2	10.25	6.25 + 3 TGR	19.5

In summary, there are existing shortfalls in Cheltenham of 5.5 match sessions on senior pitches, increasing to 6.5 match sessions in light of future demand. There is also a requirement for additional match sessions in Tewkesbury amounting to 10.25 match sessions, increasing to 19.5 match sessions when considering future demand.

Cheltenham currently has large amounts overplay due to the demand for pitches from Old Patesians RFC. The current situation in Cheltenham of restricted pitch access has therefore created two match equivalent sessions of unmet demand within the Borough through Old Patesians RFCs waiting list. Old Patesians RFC currently use five match venues for its junior teams and are only considered to have secure tenure on its home ground on an annual rent agreement. One pitch at Everest Road, the home site of Old Patesians RFC is considered by the Club to be unplayable for junior rugby due to its dangerous surface.

In Tewkesbury, both Cheltenham North RFC and Chosen Hill Old Boys RFC have a high amount of overplay on both sites. This is a consequence of the shortage of pitches on each individual site for the amount of matches and training which occurs on by the respective club.

As there is a total of 65 rugby pitches within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, priority should be with making these pitches more accessible as an option to alleviate overplay. Cheltenham College has eight rugby union pitches on site rated as good (M2/D1) and could alleviate large amounts of overplay if it became accessible.

¹³ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁴ Future demand is taken from both population growth and expressed club growth

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The future demand column above does not account for the aspirations of Cheltenham North RFC to develop a junior section at the Club as it is not quantifiable.

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Cheltenham rugby union summary

- ◀ In total, there are 32 senior and two junior grass rugby union pitches in Cheltenham located across 13 sites. Of these 34 pitches, only 15 are considered available for community use.
- ◀ Of the 15 grass pitches available for community use, four pitches are assessed as standard, the remaining 11 are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ There is no World Rugby approved 3G pitch in the Cheltenham.
- ◀ There are a total of 22 competitive rugby union teams within Cheltenham; 8 senior teams, 10 junior teams and 4 mini teams.
- ◀ Consultation suggests that there is a desire to create a mini team at two clubs within Cheltenham, equating to 0.5 match sessions of future demand.
- ◀ Pitches situated at Everest Road (Old Patesians RFC) are of a particularly poor standard and require investment.
- ◀ Peak time for senior rugby union matches in Cheltenham is Saturday PM, however due to large amounts of junior and mini play the peak demand for pitches is Sunday AM.
- ◀ There are two match equivalent sessions of unmet demand in Cheltenham derived from a waiting list at Old Patesians RFC
- ◀ Overplay in both Cheltenham is a result of a shortage of available pitches for club use.
- ◀ In summary, there are existing shortfalls in Cheltenham of 5.5 match sessions on senior pitches, increasing to 6.5 match sessions in light of future demand. TGRs anticipate the creation of one mini team.
- ◀ The Prince of Wales Stadium has the highest amount of overplay in Cheltenham.
- ◀ As there are 32 senior rugby pitches in Cheltenham, priority should be with making pitches more accessible as an option to alleviate overplay, and improving pitch quality on club sites.

Tewkesbury rugby union summary

- ◀ In total, there are 31 senior grass rugby union pitches and one mini pitch in Tewkesbury located across 14 sites. Of these, 28 pitches are available for community use.
- ◀ Of the 31 senior pitches, two pitches are classified as good quality, nine pitches as standard and 20 poor quality pitches.
- ◀ There is no World Rugby approved 3G pitch in Tewkesbury, however, Cheltenham Tigers RFC has planning permission for a pitch on site at the Newlands Sports Ground.
- ◀ There are a total of 55 competitive rugby union teams within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury; 16 senior teams, 20 junior teams and 19 mini teams.
- ◀ Consultation suggests that there is a desire to increase the number of teams within six clubs in Tewkesbury equating to 6.25 match sessions of future demand.
- ◀ TGRs anticipate the creation of one senior team, two youth teams and five mini teams.
- ◀ Peak time for senior rugby union matches in Tewkesbury is Saturday PM, however, due to large amounts of junior and mini play the peak demand for pitches is Sunday AM.
- ◀ Overplay in Tewkesbury is a result of a shortage of available pitches at club sites.
- ◀ In summary, there is a requirement for additional match sessions in Tewkesbury amounting to 10.25 match sessions, increasing to 19.5 match sessions when considering future demand.
- ◀ Chosen Hill Former Pupils RFC has the highest amount in the Borough with the site overplayed by five match sessions per week.
- ◀ As all pitches in Tewkesbury are available for community use, priority should be with improving pitch quality at club sites to reduce shortfalls.

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PART 5: HOCKEY

5.1: Introduction

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

Competitive league hockey matches can only be played on sand filled, sand dressed or water based artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Although competitive, adult and junior club training cannot take place on third generation turf pitches (3G), 40mm pitches may be suitable for introductory level hockey, such as school curriculum low level hockey. England Hockey Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy details suitability of surface type for varying levels of hockey shown in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1: England Hockey guidelines on artificial surface types suitable for hockey

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

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

CHELTHENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

It is considered that a hockey pitch can accommodate a maximum of four matches on one day (peak time) provided that the pitch has floodlighting. Training is generally midweek and requires access to a pitch and floodlights.

Club consultation

There are nine hockey clubs within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, of which three were met with face to face, and four responded to an online survey request equating to an 78% response rate. Two clubs were unresponsive to an online survey.

5.2: Supply

There are currently 12 hockey compliant pitches suitable for matches across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, all of which offer community use, to some extent. Three are fully available for community use and the remaining nine pitches either offer restricted access or are not floodlit. Please refer to table 5.1 for individual pitch details.

Table 5.2: Full size sand AGPs by location

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Number of AGPs	Floodlit	Surface type	Community use?
8	Brockworth Sports Centre	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	Yes	Sand filled	Yes
50	IMJIN Barracks (on base)	Tewkesbury Area 1	1	Yes	Sand filled	Restricted
66	Balcarras Sports Centre	Cheltenham	1	Yes	Sand filled	Yes
68	Bournside Sports Centre	Cheltenham	1	Yes	Sand dressed	Yes
72	Cheltenham College	Cheltenham	1	Yes	Sand filled	Restricted
			1	No		
80	CLC Sports Centre	Cheltenham	1	Yes	Sand filled	Restricted ¹⁵
			1	No		
83	Dean Close School	Cheltenham	2	Yes/No	Water based	Restricted
99	Pates Grammar School	Cheltenham	1	No	Sand filled	Restricted
109	St Edwards Senior School	Cheltenham	1	No	Sand filled	Restricted

The maps overleaf (Figures 5.1 & 5.2) show the location of all AGPs suitable for hockey, regardless of size.

¹⁵ CLC College only allows access to its AGP for those aged 19 or below.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

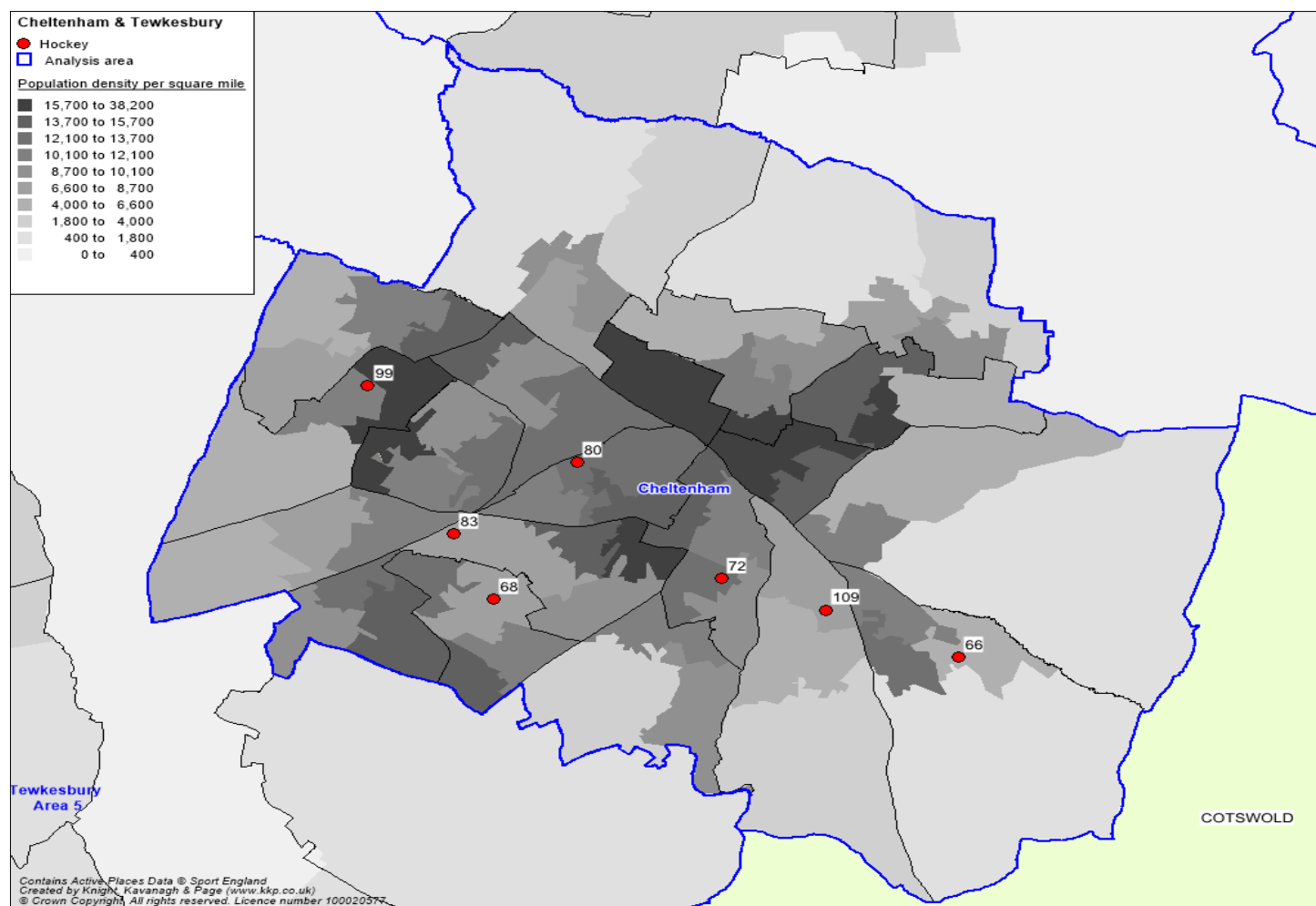
Future supply

There are proposals for the creation of a new full sized AGP at Cleeve School within the main grounds rather than the playing fields located nearby. The school currently has over 1500 pupils but expects demand to increase by 400 pupils to around 1900 by the year 2022. A past proposal for a full sized AGP with surrounding athletics track was unsuccessful based on floodlighting and noise issues given local housing behind the school. The area has land drains installed and manholes in the grass surface which limits what pitches can be marked and only a small grass hockey pitch can fit. The school is undecided of an intended surface type but has preference for one which can accommodate both football and hockey, possibly a sand based surface which can be marked for curricular tennis use in summer. It has six hockey teams but finds that most other schools will not play on the grass pitch and so most fixtures are played away at other schools, most of which have AGPs onsite, incurring around £15,000 per year in travel costs.

The school already operates as a dual use facility and proposes to make community use available at evenings and weekends, whilst it believes that local primary schools would be interested in using the pitch during the day. A working group set up supporting proposals includes five local hockey clubs, notably Cleevillians HC which currently exports from Cleeve to Gloucester. Bishops Cleeve Colts FC is also part of the supportive group and has a large number of teams, stating that it would use the pitch for training due to the small size and poor quality of 3G provision at Bishops Cleeve Playing Fields. The school also used this pitch previously but states too much time is lost during curriculum time walking across to access it that it was not suitable, especially in light of quality issues.

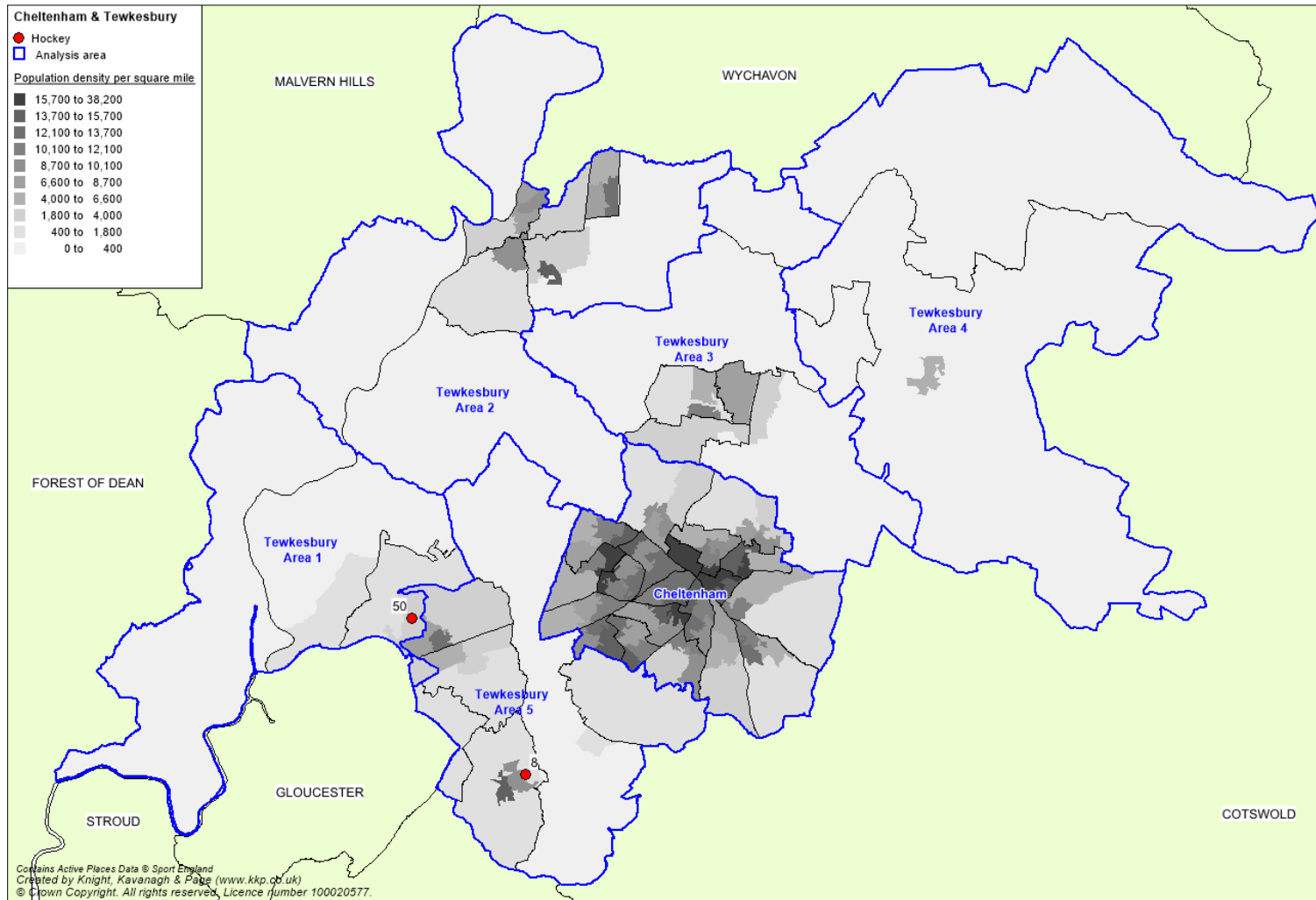
CHELTEMHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 5.1: Location of all sand AGP's in Cheltenham



CHEL TENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 5.2: Location of all sand AGPs in Tewkesbury



CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Ownership/management

All pitches are owned and managed by education establishments with the exception of the pitch located at Imjin Barracks which is owned by the Ministry of Defence (MOD)

Quality

Eight pitches assessed as standard quality or above. The two Dean Close AGPs are currently standard quality but are due for resurfacing in 2017.

Pates Grammar School, St Edwards Senior School and CLC sports centres pitches are assessed as being poor due to the poor quality of the carpet surface. This accounts for four AGPs. Bournside Sports Centre is assessed as standard, however, is expected to gradually deteriorate in quality.

Cheltenham Hockey Club reports that the surface of the pitch at the Balcarras Sports Centre is of an inadequate standard for high level hockey since its refurbishment in 2015 as it inhibits a fast style of play. It also indicates that the pitch floodlights are of a poor standard with the Herefordshire, Gloucestershire & Wiltshire Umpire Association unwilling to appoint an umpire after 3.30pm.

East Gloucestershire Hockey Club and Shipton Oliffe Hockey Club both report that the pitch at St Edwards Senior School is of a poor standard. The pitch is reported to flood in the winter period, doesn't defrost adequately and has a poor surface grip underfoot.

Table 5.3: Summary of quality

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Surface type	Year built (refurbished)	Floodlit	Quality	Quality score %
8	Brockworth Sports Centre	1	Sand filled	2011	Yes	Standard	78%
50	IMJIN Barracks (on base)	1	Sand filled	2000 (2010)	No	Standard	N/A
66	Balcarras Sports Centre	1	Sand filled	2000 (2015)	Yes	Standard	76%
68	Bournside Sports Centre	1	Sand dressed	1990 (2003)	Yes	Standard	59%
72	Cheltenham College	2	Sand filled	1999 (2015)	Yes No	Good	83%
80	CLC Sports Centre	2	Sand filled	1994	Yes No	Poor	49%
83	Dean Close	2	Water Based	1991 (2010)	Yes/No	Standard	52%
99	Pates Grammar School	1	Sand filled	2000	No	Poor	48%
109	St Edwards Senior School	1	Sand filled	1996	No	Poor	45%

The carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately 10 years. Five pitches in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury have carpets which are past the ten year expected lifespan and may require resurfacing in the near future.

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The pitch at Pates Grammar School is currently 16 years old. The school has no plans to resurface it as it is believed to be of a good enough standard for current use. The pitch located at St Edwards Senior School is assessed as poor quality and its carpet is currently 20 years old. The school is aware of its poor quality but doesn't have adequate funds to resurface it, similarly CLC has no plans in place to resurface its two pitches.

Conversion to 3G surfaces

Since the introduction of 3G pitches and given their popularity for football, providers have seen this as a way to replace a worn sand or water based carpet and generate increased revenue from hiring out a 3G pitch to football and rugby clubs and commercial football providers. This has often come at the expense of hockey, with players now travelling further distances to gain access to a suitable pitch and many teams consequently displaced from their preferred local authority.

Due to its impact on hockey, it is appropriate to ensure that sufficient sand based AGPs are retained for the playing development of hockey. To that end, a change of surface will require a planning application and the applicants will need to show that there is sufficient provision available for hockey in the locality. Advice from Sport England and England Hockey should also be sought prior to any planning application being submitted.

It should also be noted that, if a surface is changed, it could require the existing floodlighting to be changed and in some instances noise attenuation measures may need to be put in place.

A 3G surface is limited in the range of sport that can be played or taught on it. Providers proposing a conversion should take advice from the appropriate sports' governing bodies or refer to Sport England guidance: <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/>

Ancillary provision

No clubs who have access to ancillary provision at school sites recorded any issues, as such it is assumed ancillary provision is of an adequate standard. As access to pitches at school sites are usually separate to ancillary provision, on occasion, access issues can occur – however, no issues were reported.

Usage

Only three hockey compliant AGPs are fully available to the community during the peak period (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00) as identified by Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) with no restrictions on use of floodlighting throughout these hours. They are located at Brockworth Sports Centre, Balcarras Sports Centre and Bourneside Sports Centre.

The nine remaining pitches either offer restricted access or are not floodlit. A breakdown of pitch usage can be seen in table 5.5

Pitches located at St Edwards Senior School and Pates Grammar School both do not have floodlights and therefore cannot be used as training venues. Further to this, both sites are selective with community bookings and therefore only have limited midweek use. However, St Edwards Senior is used as a home venue for East Gloucestershire Hockey Club and Shipton Oliffe Hockey Club, whilst Pates Grammar School is used as a home venue for Puffins Hockey Club and Winchcombe Hockey Club.

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All floodlit AGPs are extensively used, especially in winter months for football training purposes. However, some sites report that they are unable to offer weekend use for hockey matches, for example, Cheltenham College reports that is unable to let out its pitches on Saturdays for community use due to internal school use. Similarly, Dean Close only lets out one of its two pitches to Cheltenham Civil Service Hockey Club on a Saturday, requiring its additional pitch for private school use. CLC is only able to offer its pitches to those aged U19 years and below due to planning conditions which also restrict available floodlit hours to longer than 6:45pm, therefore given these issues the venue is of limited use for training or weekend fixtures for senior teams.

Consultation with Cheltenham Hockey Club and Lansdown Hockey Club suggests that clubs are struggling to access pitches for midweek training. Both clubs do access provision as can be seen in Table 5.4

Winchcombe Hockey Club currently train on a 3G pitch at Winchcombe School which is not in accordance with EH playing surface guidelines. The Club reports demand to access a sand based AGP in the local area. Please refer to Table 5.4 for a full break down of club playing and training venues.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 5.4: Club Information

Club	Training venue	Playing venue	Comments
Cheltenham Hockey Club	Cheltenham College Balcarras Sports Centre Oxstalls Sports Park (Gloucester)	Balcarras Sports Centre	Would like to secure more training hours but are unable to due to availability.
Cheltenham Junior Hockey Club	Cheltenham College Balcarras Sports Centre	Variable	-
Cheltenham Civil Service Ladies Hockey Club	Dean Close School	Dean Close School	Club content with pitch availability at the school.
East Gloucestershire Ladies Hockey Club	Dean Close School	St Edwards Senior School	Club only has access to half a pitch at Dean Close. Limits the ability to structure training sessions. Ideally would access a full pitch. Club reports it struggles to get long term bookings on any pitch within Cheltenham.
Lansdown Hockey Club	Brockworth Sports Centre (Seniors) Bourneside Sports Centre (Juniors)	Brockworth Sports Centre	Club indicates that it cannot get enough access to midweek pitch space to develop its junior section. Club would like additional midweek slots to provide more frequent, and more structured training sessions.
Puffins Hockey Club	-	Pates Grammar School	Club doesn't train – social hockey team playing Monday mornings.
Shipton Oliffe Hockey Club	Balcarras Sports Centre	St Edwards Senior School	One team Club trains for one hour at Balcarras sports centre on half a pitch. Reports that quality of St Edwards Senior School pitch is poor.
Winchcombe Hockey Club	Winchcombe High School	Pates Grammar School	Club train on the 3G surface at Winchcombe High School. Not hockey compliant.
Brockworth Badgers Hockey Club	Imjin Barracks (on base)	Brockworth Sports Centre	Club train at Imjin Barracks owned by the MOD. This is subject to a short cancellation period and regarded as a solitary agreement with the Club.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Club	Training venue	Playing venue	Comments
Hockey Fever	N/A	Cheltenham College	Hockey Fever is a new pilot scheme aiming to increase participation in hockey held at Cheltenham College. The scheme aims to introduce non-club players and individuals into a sport they may have never played before.

In total, six pitches are accessed on Saturday by eight clubs (Puffins Hockey Club play social hockey on a Monday). The three largest clubs in the area, Cheltenham Hockey Club, East Gloucestershire Hockey Club and Lansdown Hockey Club all reported that they require more pitch space, for longer periods to develop and grow the junior sections of each club.

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Availability

The following table summarises the availability of full size AGPs for community use in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. In addition, it records the availability of provision within the peak period. Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours a week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00). For an AGP to be considered fully available during this period it must be fully floodlit and availability must not be limited by hours of floodlighting which may in some cases be restricted by existing planning conditions.

Table 5.5: Summary of AGP availability and usage (for community use pitches)

Site ID	Site name	Surface type	Floodlit	Quality ¹⁶	Number of pitches	Comments	Community use?
8	Brockworth Sports Centre	Sand Filled	Yes	Standard	1	Pitch fully available for community use.	Yes
66	Balcarras Sports Centre	Sand Filled	Yes	Standard	1	Pitch fully available for community use.	Yes
68	Bournside Sports Centre	Sand dressed	Yes	Standard	1	Pitch fully available for community use.	Yes
72	Cheltenham College	Sand filled	Yes (restricted)	Good	2	Pitch only available on weekdays for club training but use is restricted as planning conditions dictate that floodlighting must be switched off by 6.45pm. No weekend access permitted as pitches are used for school use.	Restricted
83	Dean Close School	Water based	Yes/No	Standard	2	Only Cheltenham Civil Service Hockey Club has access to the pitch on a weekend. Limited midweek training slots available for clubs.	Restricted
99	Pates Grammar School	Sand filled	No	Poor	1	Pitch cannot be used for midweek training because there are no floodlights. School selective on club users.	Restricted
109	St Edwards Senior School	Sand filled	No	Poor	1	Pitch has no floodlights and therefore cannot be used midweek.	Restricted

¹⁶ Quality is assessed via a combination of non-technical assessments carried out by KKP but also take account of user views and opinions.

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Of the private schools in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, Cheltenham College does not let its AGPs on a Saturday, whilst Dean Close allows for only one pitch to be hired; this is due to the pitches being used solely for school activities. Both schools report high demand for its pitches and indicate that they cannot adequately meet demand from local hockey clubs for senior match day use. Both schools did not provide a booking sheet to establish total community hours available/used but indicated they are well used. Cheltenham College reported its pitches were at a 100% capacity.

Due to the nature of junior hockey fixtures within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury being on a predominantly monthly basis (fixtures played Sunday AM/PM) AGPs are generally considered to have spare capacity on Sunday. Venues for the festivals rotate around Cheltenham and Tewkesbury and therefore spare capacity is generally considered available on all sites – with the exception of when a festival occurs. Festivals are planned at the beginning of the hockey season and each site will be aware of planned events/available capacity.

Additionally, junior demand arises from Junior Development Centres (JDCs) and Junior Academy Centres (JACs). These are local training centres which aim to promote a player pathway at junior age hockey. These are running at the following locations in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury:

- ✦ Balcarras School
- ✦ Cheltenham College
- ✦ Cheltenham Ladies College
- ✦ Dean Close
- ✦ Pates Grammar School

As Pates Grammar School, St Edwards Senior School and Dean Close have pitches which are not floodlit; mid-week capacity for these sites is reduced, and therefore limited.

5.3: Demand

There are nine hockey clubs playing across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury consisting of 50 teams, which as a breakdown equates to 10 men's, 13 women's, one veteran (men's) and 26 junior teams. Cheltenham Hockey Clubs' senior men's first team play at the highest level in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, competing in the National Hockey League – Conference West. The majority of other senior teams fall into the GoCrea8 Men's League or the West Clubs Women's Hockey League. Junior hockey is generally played under a festival format known as the Gloucestershire Hockey Association festival.

The table below highlights the number of teams within each club as well as the number of (playing) members.

Table 5.3: Number of teams in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury

Name of club	Number of teams				Number of members	
	Men's	Women's	Veteran	Junior	Senior	Junior
Cheltenham Hockey Club	5	4	-	2	306	-
Cheltenham Junior Hockey Club	-	-	-	9	-	257
Cheltenham Civil Service Ladies Hockey Club	-	1	-	-	31	-
East Gloucestershire Ladies Hockey Club	-	1	-	3	N/A	N/A

CHELTHENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Name of club	Number of teams				Number of members	
	Men's	Women's	Veteran	Junior	Senior	Junior
Lansdown Hockey Club	5	4	1 Men's	7	102	120
Puffins Hockey Club	-	1	-	-	20	-
Shipton Oliffe Hockey Club	-	1	-	-	21	-
Winchcombe Hockey Club	1	-	-	-	15	4
Brockworth Badgers Hockey Club	-	1	-	-	26	-
Hockey Fever					108	-
Total	11	13	1	21	629	381

All responsive clubs indicate that they struggle to access training facilities in the week due to the competitive nature of bookings. Clubs report that preference is given to football clubs and the ability to achieve structured training for all teams and age groups is difficult.

Displaced demand

Cleevillians HC is based in Cleeve (Tewkesbury) and has two senior men's teams. Both teams currently export demand and play at Oxstalls Indoor Tennis Centre (Gloucester) where the club uses one match session per week and shares use of the pitch with Gloucester HC. The Club is part of a group involved with proposals for a new full sized AGP at Cleeve School and the school believes that a pitch would provide an opportunity for the Club to be accommodated back within the local community.

Unmet/latent demand

As previously mentioned, all clubs report unmet demand for additional training hours on hockey suitable AGPs.

Lansdown Hockey Club believes it could develop a large junior section if pitch space was readily available. At present the Club has a block booking at Bourneside Sports Centre which adequately suits the need for all team training. However, if the Club grew it would have unmet demand for additional training facilities. It also indicates that it would be unable to add any additional senior teams at present due to the lack of pitch availability within both Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that St Edwards Senior School is considering using its AGP on Saturdays in the next academic year for school use, similar to Cheltenham, College and Dean Close; this location is the home site for East Gloucestershire Hockey Club and Shipton Oliffe Hockey Club (and on occasion Cheltenham Hockey Club Juniors). If this did occur, both of the main hockey club users would struggle for pitch space and may have to export demand to neighbouring areas.

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables the analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in hockey but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 197 people in Cheltenham. The most dominant segment is 'Leanne – Supportive Singles', of which 24 people (12%) would like participate in hockey. The tool also identifies latent demand of 131 people in Tewkesbury. The most dominant segment is 'Chloe – Fitness Class Friends', of which 18 (14%) would like to participate in hockey.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Future demand

The vision of England Hockey is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters' supported by five objectives:

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

Since 2012 there has been approximately a 65% increase in participation by U16 and 8% increase in over 16s nationally. At a local level growth in Gloucestershire has been almost 40% in U16s, which equates to an increase of over 400 junior participants. A number of clubs in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury have indicated they want to develop their junior sections further but are restricted by lack of available pitch space. England Hockey's aspiration is to double the number of participants in the sport over the next ten years.

In addition to traditional 11-a-side league hockey, England Hockey are encouraging clubs to increase their informal hockey offerings, such as small-sided-game sessions and play and pay sessions to engage new participants and increase participation in the sport, especially where lifestyle means players would not be able to commit to regular training and matches. Fitting within this approach is Hockey Fever, a new initiative that has commenced in Cheltenham. It is aimed at non-club players and those that have not played hockey before.

Of the consulted clubs, Cheltenham Hockey Club has ambitions to develop an additional senior ladies team as so it has an equal number to the men's section. Similarly, East Gloucestershire Hockey Club has ambitions to grow by one senior ladies team.

Lansdown Hockey Club reports ambitions to grow by two senior teams and to keep developing its junior section, however, lack of pitch availability is currently inhibiting this growth.

Winchcombe Hockey Club, Cheltenham Civil Service Hockey Club, Brockworth Badgers Hockey Club and Shipton Oliffe Hockey Club all report no planned future demand.

In addition, team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating whether the number of teams is likely to increase in the future based on population growth. Forecasts indicate the likely creation of one junior boys team and two junior girls' teams across the two Boroughs.

Table 5.4: Team generation rates

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men's (16-45)	52,462	12	4372	55,189	12.6	0
Senior Women's (16-45)	52,712	13	4055	53,795	13.3	0
Junior Boys (11-15)	5,381	9	597	6,466	10.8	1.8
Junior Girls (11-15)	5,312	12	447	6,470	14.5	2.5

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Peak time demand

The majority of men's and women's teams (24) currently play matches on a Saturday. Junior teams tend to play in festival style matches which are organised on an ad hoc basis usually played on a Sunday throughout the day.

5.4 Supply and demand analysis

There are currently 24 senior teams which require a pitch at peak time (Saturday) equating to 12 match sessions. However, displaced demand from Cleevillians HC amounts to one match session (two teams), therefore when accounting for this there is current demand of 13 match sessions which is able to be sufficiently accommodated by existing supply. Future demand increases will generate a further four senior teams, creating a future requirement for 15 match sessions or four pitches (rounded from 3.75) which too is able to be accommodated by current supply.

The PPS guidance considers a floodlit pitch as able to accommodate a maximum of four matches on a Saturday with teams playing in a home and away format. At present there are three pitches (Balcarras Sports Centre, Bourneside Sports Centre and Brockworth Sports Centre) which meet these conditions, in addition to a further two (Pates Grammar School and St Edwards Senior School) which have no floodlighting and are therefore considered only able to accommodate two matches per day. As such, there are 16 match sessions available on these pitches.

Dean Close School currently only has one team using one of its floodlit AGPs at peak time and is unlikely to allow further use of its pitch facilities at weekends. Based on anecdotal evidence that St Edwards Senior School may consider using its AGP for school use on Saturdays rather than allowing club use as is presently the case, there could potentially be a loss of one available and currently used AGP. This would reduce the number of pitches available at peak time from five to four at a loss of two match timeslots but current demand would still be able to be accommodated, however it would not be sufficient to accommodate future demand.

Due to the nature of junior hockey in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury and its festival format primarily accessing pitches on Sundays, current supply is deemed to meet demand.

Access to training provision is a key issue and clubs in both Cheltenham (Cheltenham HC and East Gloucestershire Ladies HC) and Tewkesbury (Lansdown HC) highlight issues with accessing sufficient pitch space for training. There is a need to access greater capacity for midweek hockey training which could be achieved through use of capacity freed up by transfer of football demand to increased 3G provision, creation of new AGPs suitable for hockey, improving existing facilities with floodlights and through securing greater access at sites where community use is currently limited or not permitted.

With a minimum of four fully accessible, floodlit pitches being required in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury for matches, priority should be placed on ensuring the sustainability of the current pitch stock, making the current stock of pitches more accessible, working with England Hockey, leagues and clubs to look at alternative days of play, such as Sunday.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Cheltenham hockey summary

- ◀ There are currently 10 full size AGPs, suitable for hockey across Cheltenham, all of which offer community use to some extent. All community use full size AGPs are located on education owned/managed sites.
- ◀ The AGPs at Cheltenham College are considered to be of good quality. In contrast resurfacing is needed at CLC sports centre, Pates Grammar School, St Edwards Senior School and shortly at Bourneside Sports Centre. This represents five AGPs.
- ◀ There are eight¹⁷ hockey clubs with a total of 36 teams playing and/or training in Cheltenham, made up of eight men's (one a midweek Vets team), eight women's, and 20 junior teams.
- ◀ Cheltenham Hockey Club, East Gloucestershire Hockey Club all report future demand of at least one senior team.
- ◀ Team generation rate forecasts indicate the likely creation of one junior boys team and two junior girls' teams across the two Boroughs.
- ◀ All clubs report unmet demand for additional training hours on hockey suitable AGPs for both adults and juniors.
- ◀ Cheltenham HC exports demand for training to Gloucester.
- ◀ Lansdown Hockey Club reports unmet demand for additional training hours on hockey suitable AGPs. The Club considers itself a Cheltenham based club and juniors train at Bourneside Sports Centre, yet the Club accesses the pitch at Brockworth Sports Centre in Tewkesbury for training and senior matches as it cannot access capacity within Cheltenham.
- ◀ There is adequate provision of AGPs in Cheltenham to service current demand. If accessibility issues & floodlight provision were to be resolved it would also meet future demand. This is on the basis that four matches/eight teams can be accommodated per AGP at peak time.
- ◀ Although there are six AGPs available on a Saturday, only Balcarras Sports Centre and Bourneside Sports Centre offer full availability in the peak period of four match equivalent sessions each.
- ◀ Accessibility and capacity on Saturdays at the four other sites is limited. Pates Grammar School and St Edwards School offer capacity of two match equivalent sessions due to lack of floodlighting, whilst one pitch at Dean Close is also without lighting. Capacity and access at Dean Close School is also limited due to school fixtures played on Saturdays, whilst like Pates Grammar School it offers selective community use made available on a club by club basis rather than broadly available.
- ◀ Given that all provision is located on education sites, this presents accessibility issues which need to be resolved to enable existing provision to meet current and future demand identified.
- ◀ The key issue for clubs in Cheltenham is access to sufficient capacity for midweek training for both adults and juniors.

¹⁷ Lansdown HC accesses provision in both Cheltenham (junior training) and Tewkesbury (senior training and matches)

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Tewkesbury hockey summary

- ◀ There are currently two full size AGPs, suitable for hockey within Tewkesbury located at Brockworth Sport Centre and IMJIN barracks.
- ◀ The AGP located at IMJIN barracks offers very limited community use with Brockworth Badgers HC using the facility for one training session per week.
- ◀ The AGPs at Brockworth Sports Centre and IMJIN barracks are both assessed as standard quality.
- ◀ There are two¹⁷ hockey clubs with a total of 10 teams playing and/or training in Tewkesbury, which as a breakdown equates to four men's, five women's and one junior team.
- ◀ Lansdown Hockey Club reports future demand of at least one senior team. The Club also has ambitions to develop the junior section.
- ◀ Team generation rate forecasts indicate the likely creation of one junior boys team and two junior girls' teams across the two Boroughs.
- ◀ Cleevillians HC exports demand for one match session to Gloucester amounting to two senior teams.
- ◀ Lansdown Hockey Club reports unmet demand for additional training hours on hockey suitable AGPs. The Club considers itself a Cheltenham based club yet accesses the pitch at Brockworth Sports Centre for training and senior matches as it cannot access capacity within Cheltenham.
- ◀ On the basis that a floodlit AGP can accommodate four matches/eight teams at peak time, there is a need for an additional AGP to accommodate current, displaced and future demand for both training and matches.
- ◀ The main issue surrounding clubs in Tewkesbury is access to training time provision midweek for both adults and juniors.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 6: RUGBY LEAGUE

6.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football League (RFL) is the governing body for rugby league in Britain and Ireland. It administers the England national rugby league team, the Challenge Cup, Super League and the Championships which form the professional and semi-professional structure of the game structure in the UK.

The RFL also administers the amateur and junior game across the country in association with the British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA).

Club consultation

There are currently two rugby league clubs, Cheltenham Phoenix RLC and All Golds RLFC. Both clubs are based within Cheltenham and there are no clubs based in Tewkesbury. The University of Gloucestershire also fields two men's student teams which play within Cheltenham. Face to face consultation was undertaken with both All Golds RLFC and the University of Gloucestershire as part of the Gloucester PPS, whilst this information was refreshed via telephone conversation as part of this study. Cheltenham Phoenix RLFC was also consulted by telephone in order to register its feedback.

6.2: Supply

There are no dedicated rugby league pitches marked out in Cheltenham or Tewkesbury. All play takes place on dual use pitches or pitches which are mainly used and marked for rugby union but accommodate rugby league matches during the summer months. This occurs at the following sites:

- ✦ Prince of Wales Stadium (dual use - Cheltenham)
- ✦ Old Patesians RFC (Cheltenham)
- ✦ Cheltenham North RFC (Tewkesbury Area 3)
- ✦ King George V Playing Fields (Cheltenham Saracens RFC - Cheltenham)
- ✦ The Folly (dual use - Cheltenham)

As there are no dedicated rugby league pitches in either Cheltenham or Tewkesbury, rugby union pitch assessment scores have been applied to accurately reflect pitch quality, though it is acknowledged that because rugby league operates throughout the summer season rather than winter, maintenance regimes may differ between the seasons. All pitches located at Old Patesians RFC and The Folly are rated as poor quality with the remaining pitches rated as standard quality.

The Prince of Wales Stadium is a multi use venue and the grass area within the athletics track is used for rugby union throughout the winter, then during the summer season it is marked as a rugby league pitch used by All Golds RLFC and is used for athletics field events. During the summer areas of the pitch can be damaged as a result of discus and javelin impact and repairs are required to ensure the surface is safe to play on.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

6.3: Demand

All Golds RLFC is the largest club within the Cheltenham area and operates semi-professionally, with one senior team playing in RFL Championship League One at weekends as well as an academy team which plays in the Conference League South (CLS). All Golds RLFC is a club founded from the University of Gloucester and the two are strongly linked. The University also has two student rugby league teams playing on Wednesday afternoons in the BUCS League, with many of the players also making up part of the All Golds team.

All Golds RLFC first team and University of Gloucestershire first team play at the Prince of Wales Stadium whilst both their remaining teams play at The Folly. Both club and university teams currently train at various sites, including the sand based AGP at University of Gloucestershire Oxstalls Campus (Gloucester) and the Prince of Wales Stadium.

The University of Gloucestershire has proposals alongside ASPIRE Leisure Trust to develop the site at Bishop's College (Gloucester) to include the construction of two new World Rugby certified 3G pitches which in turn meet RFL Community Standard criteria, one of which would have an accompanying spectator stand. The University reports it is likely that student teams will transfer training and match play to these pitches once they are operational. All Golds RLFC will also likely relocate training to these pitches but for the foreseeable future the first team will continue to play at the Prince of Wales Stadium.

At present All Golds RLFC first team is happy in the short term to remain playing at Prince of Wales Stadium in order to meet RFL stadia requirements through an annual renewable agreement with Cheltenham Leisure. However, the Club is exploring longer term, more secure options for a home ground including a potential move in the medium term to play at Bishops College (Gloucester). Another option would be to remain at the Prince of Wales Stadium as Cheltenham Leisure has aspirations to develop the site as part of a wider hub development including provision for a number of sports, potentially including a 3G pitch. All Golds RLFC has engaged with the Trust as part of initial discussions and potential involvement as part of any development.

Further to this, a representative of All Golds RLFC has aspirations for the creation of a community rugby league site in either Cheltenham or Gloucester to include three or four senior pitches and to act as a key community site for rugby league. The Club is open to exploring this vision which could also serve to provide a permanent base for both Cheltenham Phoenix RLFC and Gloucestershire Warriors RLFC (Gloucester) which are currently nomadic.

Increased student numbers at the University are likely to increase demand for rugby league, as are RFL participation initiatives such as Play Touch Rugby League, a mixed sex, non-contact form of the game which is delivered on a franchise basis across the following venues across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury:

- ✦ The Folly (Cheltenham)
- ✦ University of Gloucestershire Park Campus (Cheltenham)
- ✦ Imjin Barracks (Tewkesbury Area 1)
- ✦ Winchcombe School (3G pitch – Tewkesbury Area 4)

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Cheltenham Phoenix RLFC plays on Saturday afternoons in the South West Regional League between March and September. The Club has one senior team playing league fixtures and two junior teams which formed in June 2016. The junior section of the Club is not expected to be playing competitive fixtures this season but teams will train.

The Club has no immediate plans to grow and its immediate priority is to sustain current playing numbers. Its main aim is to establish and grow its junior teams to eventually feed into the senior team and hopes to run a second senior men's team in three to five years time should it be successful in developing and retaining interest.

The Club is presently nomadic and plays senior fixtures on rugby union pitches across the following venues:

- ✦ Old Patesians RFC (Cheltenham)
- ✦ Cheltenham North RFC (Tewkesbury Area 3)
- ✦ King George V Playing Fields (Cheltenham Saracens RFC - Cheltenham)

Each venue is the home of a rugby union club which has priority over pitch usage. The Club has subsequently found it difficult to find a consistent home site as it has to compete for capacity and access with rugby union preseason training, pitch maintenance time required and summer rugby union sevens festivals. Senior and junior teams train regularly at Old Patesians RFC on the training pitch amounting to two match sessions per week, however, Old Patesians RFC believes that the pitch is poor quality, so much so that it is dangerous and unsafe to use. This pitch is considered able to accommodate 0.5 match sessions per week and as such training demand exceeds recommended capacity by 1.5 match sessions.

The Club has ambitions to secure a permanent home through the security of a lease agreement on a site where facilities are of a good standard. At present, the Club believes its inability to find a site at which to base itself and its consequent nomadic nature is detrimental to attracting players and is limiting its development.

Displaced demand

Displaced demand refers to Cheltenham or Tewkesbury based teams that are currently accessing pitches outside of the local authority for their home fixtures, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met. This is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities. No displaced demand was identified

Future demand

Population increases

Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 6.1 Team generation rates (Cheltenham)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (19-45)	22,011	4	5503	23,494	4.3	0
Senior Women (19-45)	21,860	0	0	22,163	0	0
Junior Boys (12-18)	4,515	0	0	5,291	0	0
Junior Girls (12-18)	4,703	0	0	5,403	0	0
Primary rugby mixed (7-11)	6,143	0	0	6,771	0	0

Team generation rates (TGRs) based on future population in Cheltenham indicate that participation is likely to increase at the senior men's age group, though not by enough to create an additional team. It is likely that these new players will join existing squads. Given that there are no rugby league teams in Cheltenham, there are no TGR projections to forecast future demand, however it is likely that some Tewkesbury residents already play for Cheltenham based teams and that new players in the future will probably do so too.

It is important to note that TGRs are based on population figures and cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools. For example, the All Golds RLFC community development team delivers coaching sessions in primary schools across Gloucestershire as part of the Sky Try programme in order to develop primary rugby league participation, culminating in a primary rugby league schools festival. The programme has been successful in the area with several schools enrolling in subsequent years.

6.4: Conclusions

Despite there being no specific rugby league pitches in Cheltenham or Tewkesbury, all current match demand for rugby league is able to be accommodated on rugby union or dual use pitches. Cross code pitch usage is not uncommon within rugby league, particularly in areas where the sport is developing and there has not previously been much or any demand. All Golds RLFC aside, both university teams and Cheltenham Phoenix RLFC play only five or six home matches per year. Therefore, given the level of demand at present and the likelihood of university demand to be transferred to 3G pitches in Gloucester, it is considered acceptable for demand from Cheltenham Phoenix RLFC to continue to use rugby union pitches. However, training demand exceeds capacity available at Old Patesians RFC where the training pitch is rated as poor and potentially unsafe. Consequently, there is a requirement for an additional 1.5 match sessions to cater for training demand. Alternatively, transfer of training demand onto a suitable unmarked grass training area or RFL Community Standard 3G pitch would resolve this requirement.

Rugby league growing in popularity across Gloucestershire and though TGR projections do not indicate the likely creation of new teams, should demand continue to increase then key priority should be to establish a permanent home pitch for Cheltenham Phoenix RLFC. This should be through the creation of a specific rugby league pitch to act as a club base from which to grow community rugby league participation in the area. Given aforementioned aspirations linked to All Golds RLFC, the potential creation of a rugby league focus site would help to address the need for specific rugby league pitches in the future.

At present, All Golds RLFC stadia and match day requirements as stipulated by the RFL are able to be met at the Prince of Wales Stadium. Strong links with the university which has campuses across both Cheltenham and Gloucester means that the Club does not define itself as being based in one particular local authority. It may in future decide that it would like to align itself to Gloucester but until such decision might be made then requirements are able to be met as part of the community multisport offer at the Prince of Wales Stadium.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Cheltenham rugby league summary

- ◀ There are no pitches specifically marked for rugby league in Cheltenham. Play currently takes place at The Prince of Wales Stadium, King George V Playing Fields (Cheltenham), Old Patesians RFC and The Folly, all of which are also used for rugby union.
- ◀ The University of Gloucestershire is a key driver behind rugby league in the area. It has two men's student teams and links to All Golds RLFC, its semi-professional club arm with one team playing in RFL Championship One.
- ◀ The only other club in Cheltenham is Cheltenham Phoenix RLC which is nomadic.
- ◀ University of Gloucester has proposals with ASPIRE to develop the site at Bishop's College to create two new RFL compliant 3G AGPs. Should this go ahead, intentions are for student teams to play matches and train on the 3G pitches which consequently leave only All Golds RLFC and Cheltenham Phoenix RLC as the only teams playing in the area.
- ◀ Rugby league interest and participation is likely to increase in the future through the introduction of Play Touch Rugby League (PTRL) in the area.
- ◀ There is great potential for crossover of players between both codes of rugby given the popularity of rugby union in Cheltenham.
- ◀ Despite the lack of a specific rugby league pitch, the current level of rugby league match play taking place on rugby union pitches is considered to be sustainable. Given the cross code transfer of players and the number of fixtures each season, continued play on rugby union pitches with vigilant management of usage is suitable.
- ◀ However, training demand exceeds capacity available at Old Patesians RFC where the training pitch is rated as poor and potentially unsafe. Consequently, there is a requirement for an additional 1.5 match sessions to cater for training demand. Alternatively, transfer of training demand onto a suitable unmarked grass training area or RFL Community Standard 3G pitch would resolve this requirement.
- ◀ Key priority should be to establish a home base for Cheltenham Phoenix RLFC either through the creation of a specific rugby league pitch or a strengthened partnership with a rugby union club.
- ◀ Team generation rates do not anticipate the creation of any new teams based on population; however, any future increases in demand at Cheltenham Phoenix RLFC would prompt the need for the creation of a specific rugby league pitch to accommodate community matches and training.

Tewkesbury rugby league summary

- ◀ There are no pitches specifically marked for rugby league in Tewkesbury. Some takes place at Cheltenham North RFC where the floodlit rugby union pitch is also used for rugby league on an adhoc basis.
- ◀ The University of Gloucestershire is a key driver behind rugby league in the area. It has two men's student teams and links to All Golds RLFC, its semi-professional club arm with one team playing in RFL Championship One.
- ◀ There are no clubs based in Tewkesbury and no reported demand for rugby league, though it is likely that Tewkesbury residents play within Cheltenham based teams.
- ◀ There are a number of rugby league initiatives taking place in Tewkesbury which are likely to develop interest in the sport, including Play Touch Rugby League (PTRL) sessions at Winchcombe School and the Sky Try coaching programme delivered in local primary schools.
- ◀ To summarise, there is no rugby league demand in Tewkesbury and no subsequent requirement for rugby league pitches. Use of rugby union pitches at Cheltenham North RFC is minimal and on an infrequent basis when required.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 7: CRICKET

7.1: Introduction

Gloucestershire County Cricket Board (GCCB) is the main governing and representative body for cricket within the County, including Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. Its aim is to promote the game at all levels through partnerships with professional and recreational cricketing clubs, and other appropriate agencies.

Consultation

There are 20 cricket clubs based within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. Ullenwood Bharat CC is currently based in Cotswold District, however, has ambitions to permanently relocate to Tewkesbury and therefore has been included in the audit. The following clubs were met with face to face:

- ◆ Charlton Kings CC
- ◆ Cheltenham CC
- ◆ Down Hatherley CC
- ◆ Shurdington CC
- ◆ Tewkesbury CC
- ◆ Ullenwood Bharat CC

In addition to face to face consultation with key clubs, an electronic survey was sent to all remaining cricket clubs playing in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. Contact details were provided by GCCB which also distributed the invitation to complete the survey via email. A total response rate of 70% was achieved.

7.2: Supply

In total, there are 34 grass cricket squares in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury located across 26 sites, of which, 24 grass squares are available for community use. All squares unavailable for community use are located at either Cheltenham College or Dean Close School.

Table 7.1: Summary of grass cricket squares available for community use

Analysis area	Number available for community use
Tewkesbury Area 1	4
Tewkesbury Area 2	4
Tewkesbury Area 3	2
Tewkesbury Area 4	4
Tewkesbury Area 5	4
Tewkesbury	18
Cheltenham	6

Non-turf pitches

Non-turf wickets accompany natural turf cricket squares at Cheltenham Civil Service Ground, Pates Grammar School, St Edwards Preparatory School and Tewkesbury CC. These artificial wickets are not only used for training (with the help of mobile nets) but also junior matches which can help reduce and manage use of grass wickets.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

In addition, there are standalone non-turf pitches (NTPs) at the following sites:

- ◀ Millbrook Academy
- ◀ Churchdown School
- ◀ Balcarras School
- ◀ Pittville School
- ◀ Tewkesbury School Sports Centre
- ◀ The Richard Pate School

Of the standalone NTPs, Churchdown School, Tewkesbury School Sports Centre and Balcarras School are considered to be available for community use. Both Millbrook Academy and Pittville School are unavailable due to a perceived lack of demand.

Many senior cricket leagues operating at weekends do not sanction NTPs as suitable for match play although the ECB highlights that pitches which follow its TS6 guidance on performance standards are suitable for high level play.

Lapsed/disused sites

There was previously a natural turf cricket square located at Toby Carvery Brockworth, previously known as the Cross Hands Inn. The site is privately owned by a brewery company which took over the old public house and was previously used by Bharat CC which amalgamated in 2012 with Ullenwood CC to form Ullenwood Bharat CC. Cricket provision is now considered to be lapsed as the area of land and accompanying pavilion are no longer maintained and the area has become overgrown.

Future provision

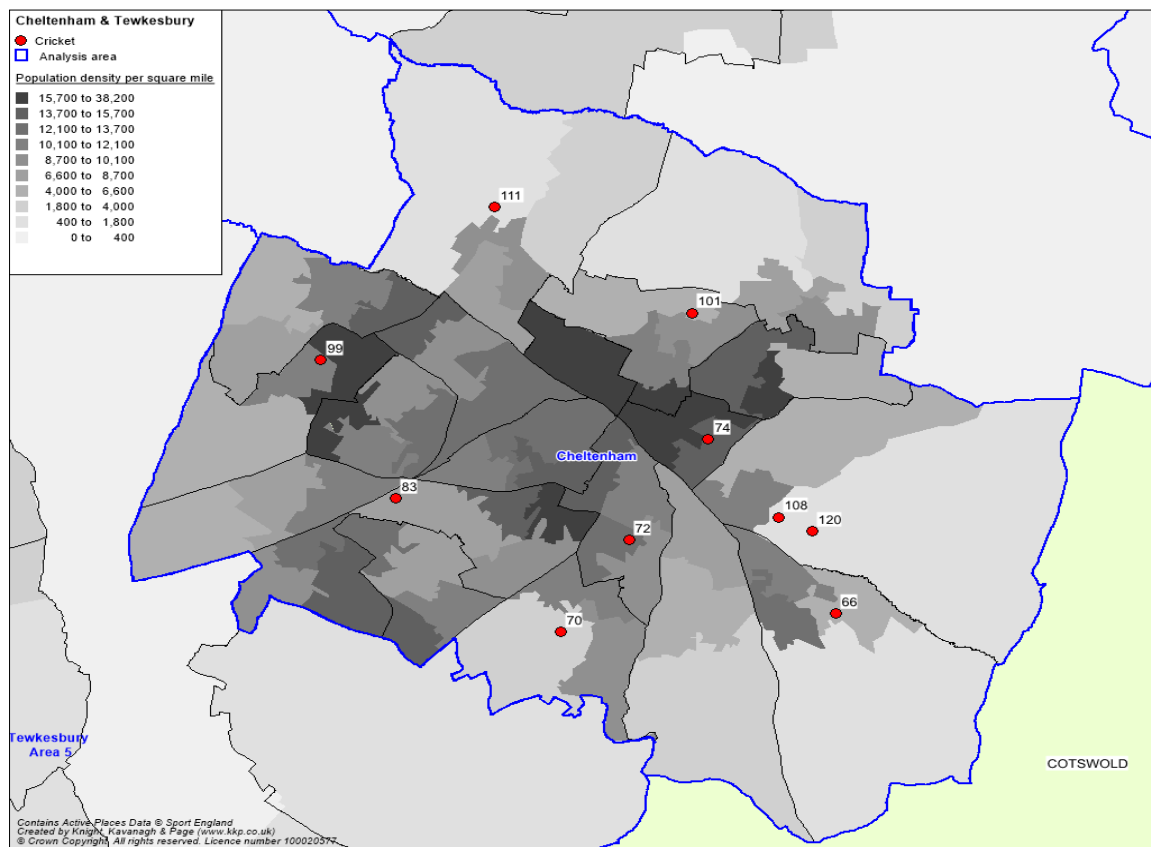
A housing developer is set to create a new cricket square and pavilion to meet latest ECB specifications, known presently as Invista Cricket Ground and located off Green Street in Brockworth (Tewkesbury Area 5) on land to the rear of the Invista Textile Factory. The ground is expected to be complete by 2018 and plans are for it to be used by Ullenwood Bharat CC which would purchase it for a nominal value. The Club is currently based on the local authority border within the Cotswold District but considers itself to be a Tewkesbury based club and will permanently relocate to Brockworth. The Club believes it will require at least nine wickets on site to be able to meet its requirements.

Winchcombe School has recently purchased additional land surrounding the existing school site. There are plans to create a new cricket square in partnership with Winchcombe CC to cater for any future growth by the Club and to act as a site for junior matches. Additionally, Dumbleton CC have applied for planning permission to develop a new ground behind its current site to accommodate its senior growth ambitions.

A new senior cricket square has been provided at Cold Pool Lane (Tewkesbury Area 5). The square is completed and resides next to two adult football pitches and a junior football pitch. The site is now opened and is awaiting an asset transfer to a suitable club for use from the 2017 season onwards.

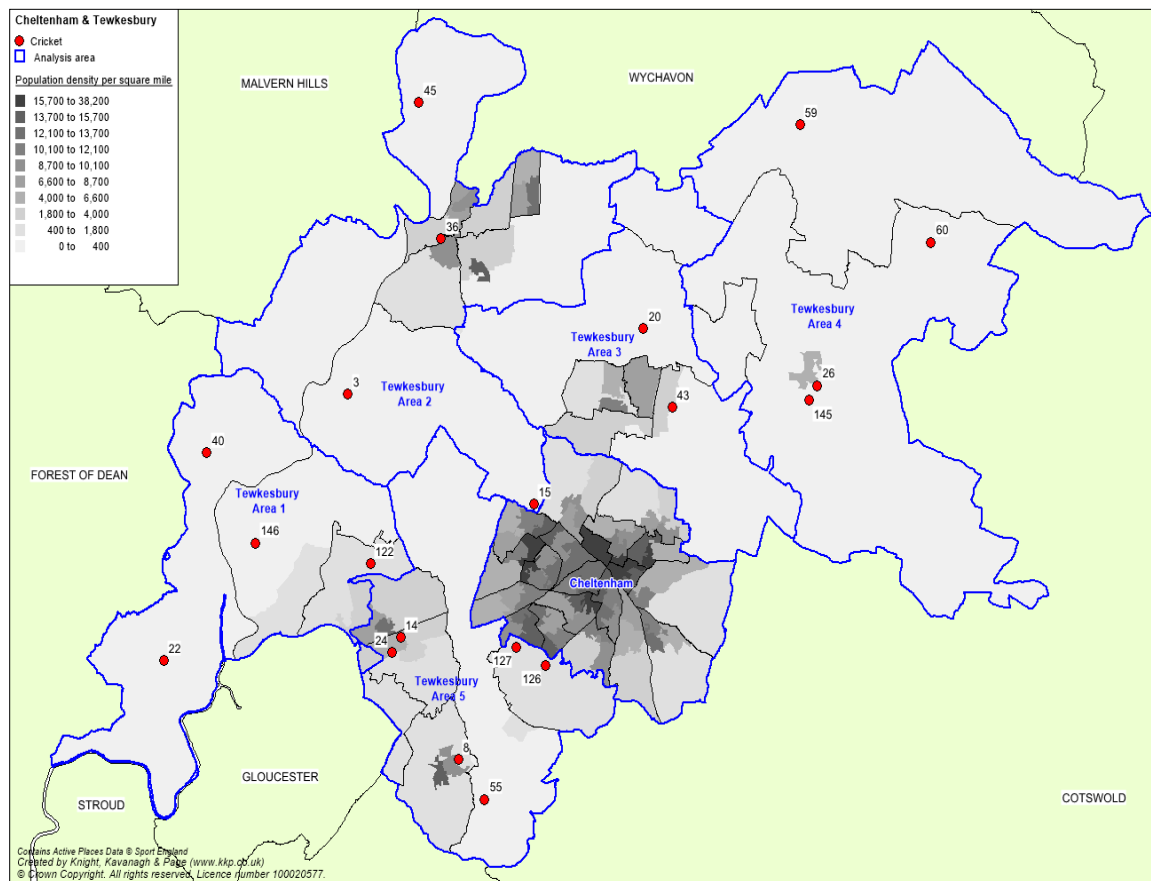
CHELTHENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 7.1: Location of natural turf cricket pitches in Cheltenham



CHELTHENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 7.2: Location of natural turf cricket pitches in Tewkesbury



CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 7.2: Key to map of cricket pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Available for community use	No. of grass pitches	No. of grass pitches with non-turf wickets	No. of standalone non-turf pitches
3	Apperley Cricket Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	1	-	-
8	Brockworth Sport Centre	Tewkesbury Area 5	No	-	-	1
14	Churchdown Academy	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	-	-	1
15	Cheltenham Civil Service Ground	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	-	1	-
20	Gotherington Playing Field	Tewkesbury Area 3	Yes	1	-	-
22	Highnam Court Cricket Club	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	1	-	-
24	John Daniels Playing Field	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	1	-	-
26	King George V Playing Field (Tewkesbury)	Tewkesbury Area 4	Yes	1	-	-
36	Tewkesbury Cricket Ground	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	-	1	-
38	Tewkesbury School Sports Centre	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	-	-	1
40	Woodpeckers Sport & Social Club	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	1	-	-
43	Woodmancote Playing Field	Tewkesbury Area 3	Yes	1	-	-
45	Twyning Cricket Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	Yes	1	-	-
49	MOD Aschurch	Tewkesbury Area 2	No	-	-	1
55	Witcombe Cricket Club	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	1	-	-
59	Dumbleton Cricket Club	Tewkesbury Area 4	Yes	1	-	-
60	Stanway Cricket Club	Tewkesbury Area 4	Yes	1	-	-
66	Balcarras Sports Centre	Cheltenham	Yes	-	-	1
70	Burrows	Cheltenham	Yes	1	-	-
72	Cheltenham College	Cheltenham	No	1	-	-
74	Cheltenham Cricket Club	Cheltenham	Yes	1	-	-
83	Dean Close School	Cheltenham	No	3	-	-
99	Pates Grammar School	Cheltenham	No	-	-	1
101	Pittville School	Cheltenham	No	-	-	1
108	St Edwards Preparatory School	Cheltenham	Yes	1	-	1
111	Swindon Village	Cheltenham	Yes	1	-	-
115	The Richard Pate School	Cheltenham	No	-	-	1
120	Charlton Kings Cricket Club	Cheltenham	Yes	1	-	-
122	Down Hatherley Cricket Club	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	1	-	-
126	Hatherley & Redding Cricket Club – North Park	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	1	-	-
127	Hatherley & Redding Cricket Club – South Park	Tewkesbury Area 5	Yes	1	-	-
145	Winchcombe Cricket Club	Tewkesbury Area 4	Yes	1	-	-
146	Kingsholm Cricket Club	Tewkesbury Area 1	Yes	1	-	-

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Ownership and management

Cricket clubs in both Cheltenham and Tewkesbury are generally considered to have security of tenure at their home sites with continued use confirmed for at least the next three years. Of the four clubs recorded as playing in Cheltenham, both Cheltenham CC and Charlton Kings CC own their home sites. St. Stephens CC rents Swindon Village from CBC whilst Cheltenham Civil Service CC rents The Burrows to cater for its Saturday third team, both of which do so annually.

In Tewkesbury, all clubs are generally considered to have security of tenure through either site ownership or long term lease agreement. Tewkesbury has a large number of parish councils making it easier for clubs in individual parish areas to negotiate tenure agreements locally. As a result, the majority of clubs have either freehold or an established lease agreement.

Cheltenham Civil Service CC, part of the Cheltenham Civil Service Association has recently agreed a 14-year lease agreement with Tewkesbury Borough Council for use of the site.

Ullenwood Bharat CC currently leases its home site in Ullenwood from the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust as an annual rolling agreement. The site itself is not within either of the two study areas but its location in the Cotswold district is in close proximity to the Tewkesbury authority border and the Club considers itself to be Tewkesbury based. As such, the Club is part of plans to be the resident club at the new Invista Cricket Ground which is to be built in Tewkesbury.

Kingsholm CC is based in Tewkesbury but considers itself a Gloucester based club given it originates from the Kingsholm area in the City. Most members travel from Gloucester and Cheltenham to play at the Club. It relocated from Gloucester when one of its patrons offered to purchase farming land in Sandhurst, on which the Club would be able to build its own ground and therefore have full ownership and management. The decision to leave Gloucester was therefore solely based on the appeal and advantages of having ownership of its home ground and access to better quality facilities, rather than a lack of access to pitches in the City.

Pitch quality

Maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. As part of the PPS guidance there are three levels to assess quality; good, standard and poor.

The audit of grass wicket pitches in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury found seven pitches to be good quality and 17 pitches to be of a standard quality. No pitches were rated as poor. Details of individual pitches can be found in table: 4.7. Good quality pitches are located at the following sites:

- ♦ Cheltenham CC (Cheltenham)
- ♦ Apperley CC (Tewkesbury)
- ♦ Cheltenham Civil Service Ground (Tewkesbury)
- ♦ Gotherington Playing Field (Tewkesbury)
- ♦ Hatherley & Reddings CC – North Park (Tewkesbury)
- ♦ Kingsholm CC (Tewkesbury)
- ♦ Dumbleton CC (Tewkesbury)

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

All of the above pitches are maintained entirely by club volunteers or paid groundsmen to a high standard. Both Cheltenham CC and Dumleton CC have both hosted country matches such is the high standard of the pitch at each ground.

All remaining pitches in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury are rated as standard quality. Tewkesbury CC is prone to flooding and has been flooded severely in both 2007 and 2012; the effects of which the Club attributes as being a key factor in being unable to produce a good quality square.

The square at Ullenwood Bharat CC is assessed as standard quality but the Club itself perceives it to be poor. All maintenance is done by the Club which is unable to afford new maintenance equipment to improve the quality of the wickets on site.

Ancillary facilities

All clubs in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury have access to changing room facilities at their home ground and the majority of clubs access suitable provision with the exceptions of Shurdington CC, Ullenwood Bharat CC and Charlton Kings CC.

Shurdington CC in partnership with Shurdington Rovers FC recently raised funds to refurbish its facility including grant funding from Sport England, Tewkesbury Borough Council, charitable donations and other smaller contributions made by various local organisations. The Club now has a new good quality pavilion which opened in September 2016.

Ullenwood Bharat CC currently has use of one large shed, subdivided into two sections which it uses as changing room provision. Two showers are attached to the inside and are used by both home and away teams. The Club is unable to insure either the clubhouse or changing provision because they are wooden structures. Due to the location of the Club and its close proximity to the A417 the highway agency is looking to develop a potential link road through the Club car park to ease congestion in the area. Subsequently, this potential development would significantly limit car parking which would cause issues on match days.

Charlton Kings CC recently won a land ownership dispute regarding a section of its home site known as Ryeworth Playing Fields, which consequently led the Club to incur debts as a result of the legal process. Both the clubhouse and changing provision are in poor condition and require large scale investment to comply with current ECB specifications. Facilities are outdated and in areas are severely inadequate for Club use, especially considering the high number of teams the Club has. Furthermore, the Club has car parking capacity to accommodate just two cars which causes problems on match and training days, leading cars to park on the narrow roadside causing congestion. The Club have recently started to make initial plans to construct a new pavilion in partnership with the ECB.

Training facilities

Access to cricket nets is important, particularly to provide structured training sessions throughout the cricket season. In Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, the majority of clubs have good quality net training provision. However, some clubs highlighted a need for additional training nets as current facilities on site are of a poor standard.

Woodmancote CC indicated that training nets have been a target for vandalism and as a consequence has moved all senior training to Cleeve School at an additional cost to the Club. Winchombe CC also indicated that its nets are of a very poor quality and that it is fundraising to purchase new nets.

CHELTENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Ullenwood Bharat CC currently has no access to outdoor training facilities. The Club is unable to afford to purchase training nets and is reluctant to train on the grass square in order to protect quality for match play. Consequently the Club chooses not to train at a detriment to skill and player development. The Club plans to train should it successfully move to the newly created Invista Cricket Ground where it hopes to have suitable training facilities.

7.3: Demand

There are 20 clubs based in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. Five clubs are recorded as playing in Cheltenham and 17 are recorded as playing in Tewkesbury. Both Cheltenham Civil Service CC and Woodmancote CC access pitches in each study area.

As shown in Table 4.3, cricket is a popular sport in both Cheltenham and Tewkesbury with a combined total of 80 senior teams and 66 junior teams playing competitive fixtures.

Table 7.3: Summary of teams by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of competitive teams	
	Senior	Junior
Cheltenham	16	23
Tewkesbury Area 1	15	6
Tewkesbury Area 2	16	9
Tewkesbury Area 3	8	5
Tewkesbury Area 4	15	12
Tewkesbury Area 5	10	11
Cheltenham Total	16	23
Tewkesbury Total	64	43

The National Player Survey (NPS) conducted over the past three years by the ECB reveals that the nature of participation in traditional league cricket has declined. This is offset by a rapid increase in non-traditional formats (such as Last Man Stands and T20 competitions) which are shorter, quicker formats of the game.

St Stephens CC Cheltenham has suffered a decline in senior playing membership and fears that the Club may be forced to fold if it is not able to merge with another club. Similarly, Shurdington CC Tewkesbury regularly struggles to consistently field a second senior team.

In contrast, participation amongst Tewkesbury clubs is on the increase. Kingsholm CC, Winchcombe CC and Woodpeckers CC all report an increase in the amount of junior teams whilst both Kingsholm CC and Woodpeckers CC report an increase in the number of men's senior teams.

Ullenwood Bharat CC currently has seven senior men's teams of which five will play in Brockworth (Tewkesbury Area 5) should the Club move to the Invista Cricket Ground. Two teams would continue to play outside of Tewkesbury at either their current pitch King George V Playing Fields (Gloucester) or at the Club's current home site in Ullenwood (Cotswold) should it be retained. As such, relocation of Ullenwood Bharat CC to Tewkesbury is likely to increase demand by five senior teams.

Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority for the ECB. There is a target to establish more female teams in every local authority over the next five years and 8-10% of the Whole Sport Plan funding is focused around women and girls and talent identification.

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Currently, only Bushley CC and Charlton Kings CC run senior ladies' teams. Shurdington CC currently has ambitions to establish a ladies team and has group of ladies currently training but does not have enough players to field a team.

Last Man Stands (LMS)

Last Man Stands (LMS) was founded in 2005, in London. The social outdoor eight-a-side T20 cricket game is played midweek, lasts approximately two hours and is generally played on NTPs. This shorter format of the game has encouraged more people to participate in the sport and affiliates to the ECB, operating nationwide on a franchise basis.

At present there is no LMS league servicing either Cheltenham or Tewkesbury and it is not considered as a target area by either the ECB or GCCB. This may in part be due to existing midweek leagues which are already established and cater for short format cricket, including the Gloucester Evening Cricket League and the Abbey Business Challenge Cup which are both T20 competitions.

Displaced demand

Displaced demand refers to teams incorporates both imported and exported demand. Exported demand refers to clubs or teams based in either of the two study areas which currently access pitches outside of the local authority for their home fixtures. This is normally because pitch requirements cannot be met, usually because of pitch supply or in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities. Conversely, imported demand refers to teams based in other local authorities which play at sites within either of the two study areas for any of the same reasons.

Cheltenham Civil Service CC based in Tewkesbury plays at The Burrows in Cheltenham as a secondary venue. Vice versa, Woodmancote CC based in Tewkesbury plays at Swindon Village in Cheltenham as a secondary site.

Coopers Edge CC was formed in 2011 by residents of the residential development at Coopers Edge in Brockworth. After playing a few friendly matches, 2012 was the club's inaugural season in which it entered into the Gloucester Evening League. The Club has just one team which still plays midweek in the league, as well as occasional Sunday friendlies, but is enthusiastic to develop. Coopers Edge CC is nomadic, currently playing home games at Upton St Leonards Cricket Club (Stroud), it's third home ground in three seasons. The Club is in search of a more permanent home and was unsuccessful in applications to use the new Cold Pool Lane site and the proposed new Invista Ground site.

Future demand

Future demand is based on a combination of population data and participation increases reported by local clubs linked to club development plans. Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2037) based on population growth.

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Table 7.4: Team generation rates (Cheltenham)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate ¹⁸	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (18-55)	30,791	19	1621	31,683	19.6	0
Senior Women (18-55)	30,660	1	30660	30,434	1	0
Junior Boys (7-17)	7,649	16	478	8,759	18.3	2
Junior Girls (7-17)	7,712	7	1102	8,705	7.9	0

Table 7.5: Team generation rates (Tewkesbury)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate ¹⁹	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (18-55)	19,351	79	245	20,812	85	6
Senior Women (18-55)	19,734	1	19734	20,638	1	0
Junior Boys (7-17)	5,719	42	136	7,128	52.3	10
Junior Girls (7-17)	5,365	2	2683	6,728	2.5	0

Team generation rates (TGRs) based on future population indicate that participation is anticipated to increase in both study areas. In Cheltenham, team generation rates forecast the likely creation of at least two junior boys' teams. In Tewkesbury, it is anticipated that there will be the likely creation of six new senior men's teams and ten junior boys' teams.

It is important to note that TGRs are based on population figures and cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools. For example, there is a focus on developing girl's football within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury and this is likely to lead to more girls' teams in the future and therefore demand for more pitches.

Additionally, club consultation highlights that nine clubs have plans to increase the number of teams as seen below. It is considered that future demand expressed by clubs will include future demand numbers expressed within the team generation rates.

¹⁸ Please note TGR figures are rounded to the nearest whole number.

¹⁹ Please note TGR figures are rounded to the nearest whole number.

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Table 7.6: Future demand expressed by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Senior		Junior
		Men's	Women's	
Cheltenham CC	Cheltenham	-	1	3
Down Hatherley CC	Tewkesbury Area 1	-	-	1
Woodpeckers CC	Tewkesbury Area 1	-	-	3
Kingsholm CC	Tewkesbury Area 1	1	-	1
Tewkesbury CC	Tewkesbury Area 2	1	-	-
Cheltenham Civil Service CC	Tewkesbury Area 2	1	-	2
Woodmancote CC	Tewkesbury Area 3	-	1	-
Shurdington CC	Tewkesbury Area 4	-	1	3
Winchcombe CC	Tewkesbury Area 4	-	-	1
Cheltenham		-	1	3
Tewkesbury		3	2	11

The potential growth in senior teams equates to the need for 1.5 pitches during peak time on the basis that one team can be accommodated on 0.5 of a pitch (playing on a home and away basis). There is less need for pitches to accommodate the potential increase in junior teams as junior teams generally play on a variety of days during midweek. Though TGRs forecast the likely creation of at least six adult men's teams, it is considered more realistic that three of these teams will play at peak time and any additional increase in senior men's demand is likely to be reflected at non-peak times such as Sundays or midweek, in line with the broadening cricket offer and new formats of play such as T20 and short-format matches.

Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies the peak time for use of cricket squares as Saturday afternoons, with 42 teams (53% of senior teams) playing at this time compared to 16 teams (20% of senior teams) which play on Sundays. Those playing on Saturdays play in a variety of leagues locally, with Cheltenham CC playing at the highest level in the West of England Premier League.

The majority of junior teams compete in the Cheltenham & Gloucester Cricket Association. Peak time demand of cricket squares for junior matches is considered to be midweek and 31 teams (47% of junior teams) play at this time. It should be noted that midweek cricket has the potential to be spread across five days and as a result pitches have greater capacity to carry junior demand providing the pitches are not overplayed, not withstanding time required to access the square for training and maintenance or wicket preparation.

Informal demand

Although no informal use is recorded on cricket pitches in Cheltenham or Tewkesbury, it is considered that informal or social cricket is likely being played elsewhere such as on parks, recreation grounds and even on macadam surfaces such as car parks and multi-use games areas. Informal modes of play such as tapeball or informal knocks are often favoured amongst South Asian communities and the ECB considers the development of cricket within South Asian communities and non-traditional forms of participation to be key focuses.

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7.4: Capacity analysis

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

The capacity of a pitch to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. This section of the report presents the current pitch stock available for cricket and illustrates the number of competitive matches per season per square. To help calculate spare capacity, the ECB suggests that a good quality grass wicket should be able to take five (senior) matches per season. This is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

The ECB suggests that an NTP can accommodate 60 matches per season. No NTPs are recorded as accommodating more than this in Cheltenham or Tewkesbury and as such are considered able to accommodate additional training use or match play. Table 4.7 shows the capacity of natural turf squares and NTPs have been discounted, though it should be acknowledged that some NTPs are situated on the edge of natural turf squares and are not always accessible if the square is being used for match play.

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Table 7.7: Cricket pitch capacity

Site ID	Site name	Club users	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Pitch quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (sessions per season)	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)	Actual Spare Capacity (Pitches available in peak period)
70	Burrows	Cheltenham Civil Service CC	Cheltenham	1	Standard	8	40	10	30	0.5
74	Cheltenham CC	Cheltenham CC	Cheltenham	1	Good	34	170	118	52	-
99	Pates Grammar School	School Teams	Cheltenham	1	Standard	8	40	20	20	1
108	St Edwards Preparatory School	Charlton Kings CC	Cheltenham	1	Standard	4	20	16	4	-
111	Swindon Village	St Stephens CC/ Woodmancote CC	Cheltenham	1	Standard	15	75	29	46	-
120	Charlton Kings CC	Charlton Kings CC	Cheltenham	1	Standard	12	60	96	36	-
22	Highnam Court CC	Cheltenham Civil Service CC	Tewkesbury Area 1	1	Standard	6	30	25	5	-
40	Woodpeckers Sport & Social Club	Woodpeckers CC	Tewkesbury Area 1	1	Standard	8	40	39	1	-
122	Down Hatherley CC	Down Hatherley CC	Tewkesbury Area 1	1	Standard	11	55	51	4	-
146	Kingsholm CC	Kingsholm CC	Tewkesbury Area 1	1	Good	18	90	52	38	-
3	Apperley CC	Apperley CC	Tewkesbury Area 2	1	Good	14	70	60	10	-
15	Cheltenham Civil Service CC	Cheltenham Civil Service CC	Tewkesbury Area 2	1	Good	9	45	39	6	-
36	Tewkesbury Cricket Ground	Tewkesbury CC	Tewkesbury Area 2	1	Standard	13	65	59	6	-
45	Twynning CC	Twynning CC/ Tewkesbury CC	Tewkesbury Area 2	1	Good	12	60	21	39	-
20	Gotherington Playing Field	Gotherington CC/Dumbleton CC	Tewkesbury Area 3	1	Good	8	40	39	1	-
43	Woodmancote Playing Field	Woodmancote CC	Tewkesbury Area 3	1	Standard	10	50	48	2	-
26	King George V Playing Field (Tewkesbury)	Shurdington CC	Tewkesbury Area 4	1	Standard	10	50	43	7	-
59	Dumbleton CC	Dumbleton CC	Tewkesbury Area 4	1	Good	15	75	82	7	-
60	Stanway CC	Stanway CC	Tewkesbury Area 4	1	Standard	8	40	11	29	0.5
145	Winchcombe CC	Winchcombe CC	Tewkesbury Area 4	1	Standard	8	40	47	7	-
24	John Daniels Playing Field	Churchdown CC	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	Standard	8	40	35	5	-
55	Witcombe CC	Witcombe CC	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	Standard	12	60	32	28	-
126	Hatherley & Reddings CC (North Park)	Hatherley & Reddings CC	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	Good	21	105	80	25	-
127	Hatherley & Reddings CC (South Park)	Hatherley & Reddings CC/Oakley Vipers CC	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	Standard	9	45	29	16	-

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7.5: Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'spare capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular training sessions, or to protect the quality of the site.

Where there is a significant amount of potential capacity available, however, this may not represent actual space capacity, i.e. whether a pitch capacity is available at the peak time. The peak time for playing senior cricket is Saturday.

There are five natural turf squares in Cheltenham which show potential spare capacity, however, realistically only The Burrows is capable of adequately being able to accommodate additional usage. Pates Grammar School is highlighted as showing actual capacity however, further investigation with the school is required to establish if the site can adequately host regular club games and has therefore been discounted from further conclusion calculations.

Similarly, in Tewkesbury, there are 14 pitches which show potential spare capacity, despite this, only the square located at Stanway CC is capable of hosting additional use.

Overplay

There are three natural turf squares in Cheltenham which show potential spare capacity totalling 50 match equivalent sessions per season. Charlton Kings CC is the only site in Cheltenham to exhibit overplay to the total of 36 matches per season. There are two sites in Tewkesbury which are each overplayed by seven matches per season, both of which are located in Analysis Area 4.

Table 7.8: Summary of overplay in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Site Capacity	Amount of overplay (sessions per season)	Comments
120	Charlton Kings CC	Cheltenham	60	36	High level of overplay as a result of the high number of teams the Club operates.
59	Dumbleton CC	Tewkesbury Area 4	75	7	Relatively low level of overplay due to the large amount of teams the club operates.
145	Winchcombe CC	Tewkesbury Area 4	40	7	Relatively low level of overplay due to relatively low number of wickets on the square

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7.6 Conclusions

Consideration must be given to the extent to which current provision can accommodate current and future demand. The tables below take in available spare capacity at peak time for senior cricket on a Saturday, considered against overplay, displaced demand to be accommodated back within the study area and future demand.

Both displaced and future demand have been converted into match equivalent sessions based on the average number of home matches senior teams play per season (12 matches for senior men and eight matches for senior women). The capacity tables below are based on senior peak time and therefore include only future demand at peak time. Additional future demand for women's and junior cricket is considered able to be accommodated.

Junior teams typically play midweek across different days and therefore have a greater number of timeslots per week in which they can play. Each pitch with potential spare capacity is considered able to accommodate potential increases in midweek demand, whilst all NTPs have spare capacity to accommodate such play should teams choose to use them for match play.

Table 7.9: Capacity of Cheltenham cricket pitches (senior peak time)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future peak time demand ²⁰	Total
Cheltenham	30	36	6	-	6

In conclusion, there is a shortfall of six match sessions per season on natural turf cricket squares in Cheltenham at peak time. This is almost solely due to the significant level of overplay at Charlton Kings CC which is overplayed by 36 matches per season. Actual spare capacity exists at the Burrows at peak time to accommodate one additional senior team but the capacity the pitch has overall to be able to accommodate additional play is offset by the level of overplay in the Borough.

Table 7.10: Capacity of Tewkesbury cricket pitches (senior peak time)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future peak time demand ²¹	Total
Tewkesbury Area 1	-	-	-	12	12
Tewkesbury Area 2	-	-	-	24	24
Tewkesbury Area 3	-	-	-	-	-
Tewkesbury Area 4	29	14	15	-	15
Tewkesbury Area 5	-	-	-	-	-
Total	29	14	15	36	21

There is overall current spare capacity of 15 match sessions per season across Tewkesbury borough wide even when overplay at Dumbleton CC and Winchcombe CC is considered.

²⁰ Future demand includes both TGRs and growth aspirations of clubs.

²¹ Future demand includes both TGRs and growth aspirations of clubs.

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Spare capacity is located at Stanway CC where there is peak time availability for additional play amounting to 0.5 match sessions.

All sites with actual spare capacity or recorded overplay lie within Tewkesbury Area 4, however, clubs in Areas 1 and 2 are those which report plans to increase senior demand. Consequently, these two areas evidence future shortfalls amounting to one team (12 matches per season, 0.5 match sessions at peak time) in Area 1 and two teams (24 matches per season, one match session at peak time). Existing spare capacity at Stanway CC (Area 4) considered, there is a resulting Borough wide future shortfall of 21 match sessions per season, with a requirement for access to one additional match session at peak time.

Cheltenham cricket summary

- ▶ In total, there are six natural turf cricket squares identified in Cheltenham which are available for community use. Two grass squares are unavailable for community use are located at Cheltenham College and Dean Close School.
- ▶ The audit of grass wicket cricket pitches found one pitch to be good quality and five pitches to be standard quality.
- ▶ Changing facilities at Charlton Kings CC are considered to be poor quality and are in need of refurbishment.
- ▶ In total, there are four clubs which have 16 men's and 23 junior teams.
- ▶ Cheltenham CC has ambitions to add one senior women's team and three junior girls' teams.
- ▶ There are five pitches which have potential spare capacity on grass wickets, however, only one pitch at Burrows has actual spare capacity at senior peak time.
- ▶ Charlton Kings CC is overplayed to a total of 36 matches per season.
- ▶ In conclusion, there is a current shortfall of six matches per season in Cheltenham at peak time. There is no future demand anticipated at peak time, though additional demand for women's and junior cricket at non-peak times is considered able to be accommodated.

Tewkesbury cricket summary

- ▶ In total, there are 18 grass cricket pitches identified in Tewkesbury and all are available for community use.
- ▶ There was a cricket square and pavilion at Toby Carvery Brockworth (formerly Cross Hands Inn) previously used by Bharat CC. The pitch is now lapsed and overgrown since the Club amalgamated with Ullenwood CC and is now based in Ullenwood (Cotswold).
- ▶ The audit of grass wicket cricket pitches found six pitches to be good quality, and 12 pitches to be standard quality.
- ▶ Dumbleton CC has applied for planning permission to develop a new ground behind its current site to accommodate its senior growth ambitions.
- ▶ Woodmancote CC reports additional demand for training facilities after suffering vandalism to the nets at its home venue. The Club currently pays to use the facilities located at Cleeve School.
- ▶ In total, there are 17 clubs which have 64 men's and 43 junior teams.
- ▶ Eight clubs have plans to increase the number of teams in the future, resulting in the likely creation of three senior men's teams, two senior ladies' teams and eleven junior teams across Tewkesbury.
- ▶ There are 14 pitches which display potential spare capacity on natural turf wickets. However, only one pitch at Stanway CC has actual spare capacity at senior peak time.
- ▶ Two pitches are identified as being overplayed at Dumbleton CC and Winchcombe CC, each by seven matches per season.
- ▶ In conclusion, there is sufficient capacity across the Borough to accommodate current demand despite existing overplay. However, future demand anticipated in Analysis Areas 1 and 2 would create shortfalls not only within but overall, resulting in a future Borough wide shortfall of 21 match sessions per season and a requirement for one match session at peak time.

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PART 8: BOWLS

8.1: Introduction

All bowling greens in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury are flat greens and Bowls England (BE) is the governing body responsible for ensuring effective governance of the sport across the Country. The bowling season for flat greens generally runs from April to September.

Consultation

There are eight clubs using bowling greens in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. Four clubs replied to the online survey representing a response rate of half. Several teams play on multiple days of the week as part of different leagues. The main leagues servicing the area are:

- ◆ North Gloucester League (Mens & Womens Sections)
- ◆ Gloucestershire Ladies League
- ◆ Les Thomas Triples League

8.2: Supply

All nine bowling greens in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury are flat greens, provided across eight sites. There are three bowling greens in Cheltenham and five in Tewkesbury. There is only one double green site, located at Cheltenham Bowling Club.

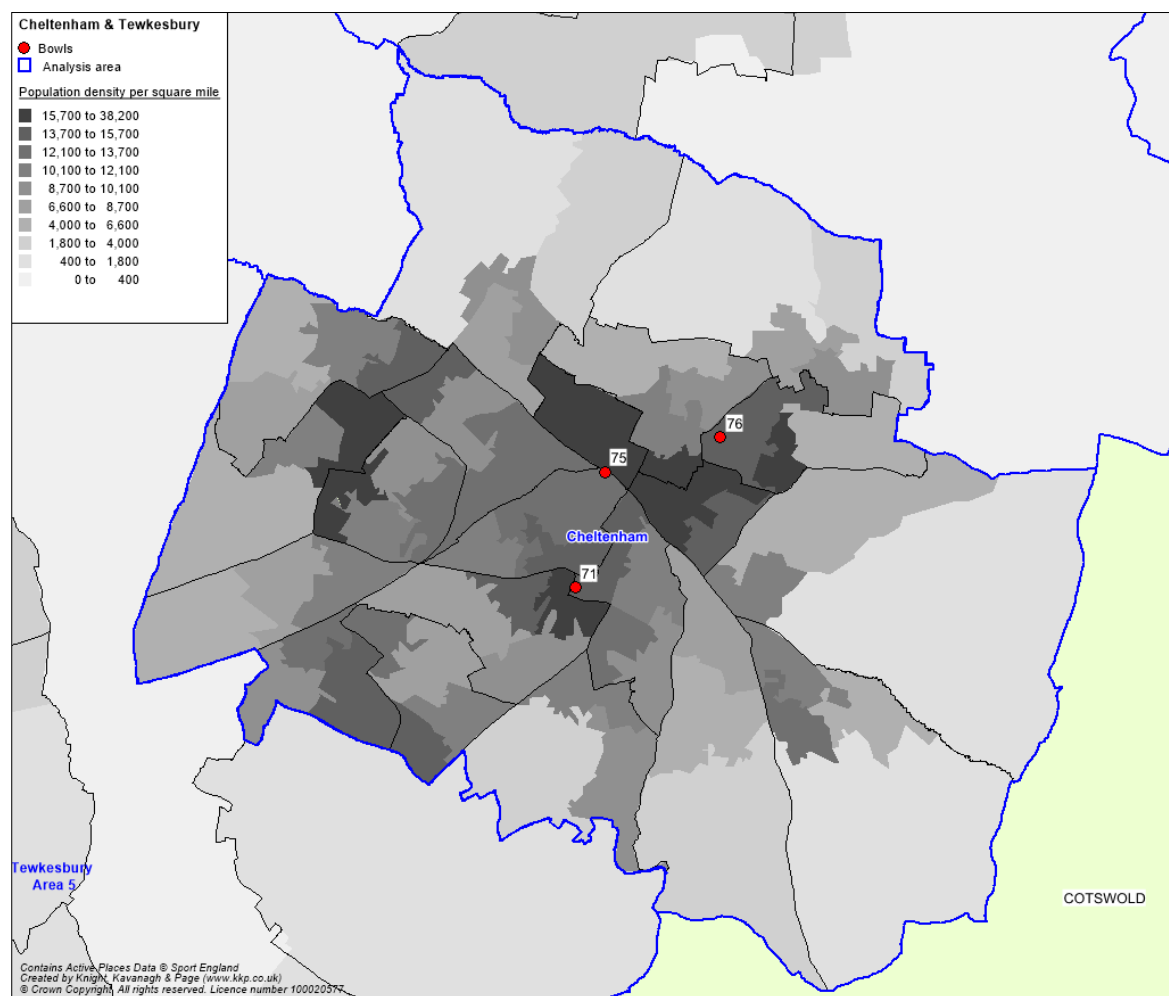
Table 8.1: Summary of bowling green provision

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of greens	Quality ²²	Management
6	Bishops Cleeve Sports Field	Tewkesbury Area 3	1	Good	Sports Club
11	Churchdown Club	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	Good	Sports Club
19	Dowty Sport & Social Club	Tewkesbury Area 1	1	Good	Sports Club
35	Tewkesbury Bowling Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	1	Good	Sports Club
53	Pineholt Bowls Club	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	Good	Sports Club
71	Cheltenham Bowling Club	Cheltenham	2	Good	Sports Club
75	Cheltenham Spa Bowling Club	Cheltenham	1	Good	Sports Club
76	Cheltenham Whaddon Bowling Club	Cheltenham	1	Good	Sports Club

²² Assessed via a non technical assessment

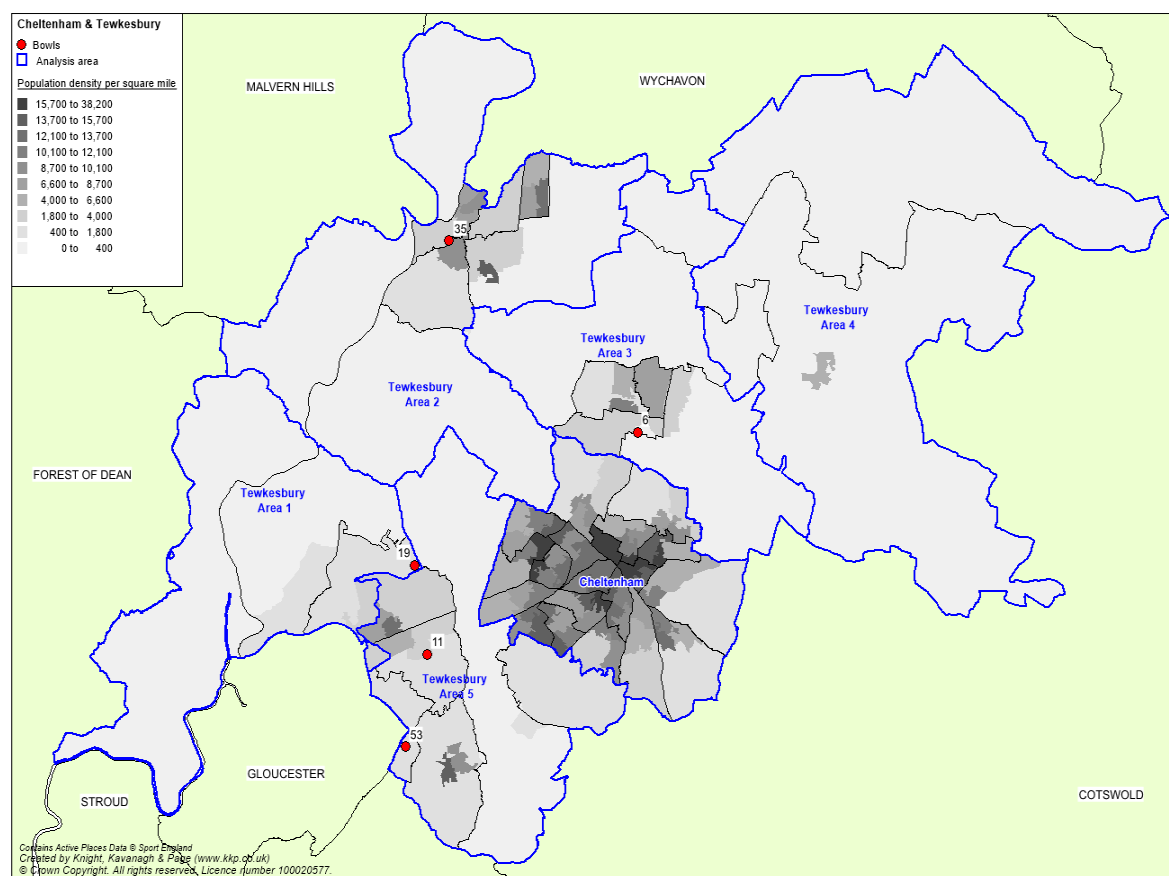
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Figure 8.1: Distribution of bowling greens across Cheltenham



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Figure 8.2: Distribution of bowling greens across Tewkesbury



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Quality

Non-technical site assessments and club feedback indicate that all greens in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury are good quality and no greens were rated as either standard or poor quality. The number of good quality greens may be influenced by the nature of management, with all operating as club sites. Clubs are likely to be able to store maintenance equipment onsite and club members or subcontractors able to take time to properly maintain the surface, whilst some greens have security from public access.

Cheltenham BC reports that the green quality is much improved since last season, largely due to better management of the green by the maintenance team at the Club. Similarly, Tewkesbury BC highlighted that green quality has improved by green staff having received improved training in the past year.

Ancillary facilities

Dowty BC (Tewkesbury) is of the opinion that improvements are required at Dowty Sport & Social Club in order to foremost improve the quality of access pathways and areas surrounding the green. It also identifies further need to improve changing facilities, green fencing and storage facilities. The Club reports that it is restricted in what improvements it is able to make because it is unable to apply for grant funding due to being a part of the overarching sports club.

Tewkesbury BC indicates that club changing facilities are particularly small and on match days are overly crowded. The Club has future ambitions to develop an extension onto its existing changing facilities however currently does not have adequate funds.

Cheltenham BC and Bishops Cleeve BC (Tewkesbury) highlight that the quality of its ancillary provision has improved since last season as a consequence of internal works carried out by each club.

Ownership and management

The majority of greens in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury operate as sports club sites on lease agreements, including, for example, Tewkesbury BC and Bishops Cleeve BC.

Tewkesbury BC is leased from Tewkesbury Borough Council on a 30 year lease agreement which is due to expire in March 2024. Bishops Cleeve BC leases its site from Bishops Cleeve Parish Council on a 20 year arrangement.

Cheltenham BC has ownership of the green and all ancillary provision onsite. In contrast, Dowty BC pays an annual rent to Dowty Sport & Social Club for use of the green each season and therefore its tenure is considered unsecure.

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8.3: Demand

There are eight bowling clubs in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, each with multiple teams playing various evenings and afternoons throughout the week. The analysis below summarises information gathered from consultation with bowls clubs playing in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury:

- ◀ The level of membership of clubs varies from 51 to 145 members.
- ◀ Dowty BC has the smallest membership with 51 members.
- ◀ The largest club is Cheltenham BC with 145 members.

Generally, clubs and leagues in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury report that membership levels have remained static over the last three years and no clubs have a waiting list for new members. The sport has experienced an overall decline in participation nationally which may be due to access to facilities in some cases; however, most clubs acknowledge a lack of interest in the sport amongst the local community, with few new bowlers taking up the sport. This adds to which is a generally an aged player base and in most cases the fall in numbers has been attributed to aging players, with a lack of younger or newer players coming into the sport to sustain demand. Cheltenham BC reports that it has five junior members, whilst Dowty BC reports having just one junior member. No other club identifies having junior members.

There are three main leagues based within the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury area. Many clubs, teams and bowlers may play in a number of these leagues simultaneously throughout the week and so although there may be a substantial number of teams; many are made up of the same players, thus representing a smaller player base despite the number of teams overall.

Future demand

Using ONS projections (2012-2037) the number of persons aged 65 and over in Cheltenham is likely to increase from 20,047 in 2012 to 33,098 in 2037. This represents an increase of 65% and accounts for 25% of Cheltenham's total future population (compared to 17% currently). Similarly, In Tewkesbury the number of persons aged 65 and over is likely to increase from 17,484 to 29,930 in 2037. This represents an increase of 71% and accounts for 30% of Tewkesbury's future population (compared to 21% currently). Due to this age band being the most likely to play bowls, demand for bowling greens is likely to increase.

Of the consulted clubs, two have plans to increase their members, with an increase in advertising cited as the key factor in attracting more people. When asked to quantify future potential growth, Tewkesbury BC express future demand for 15 senior members and 10 junior members, whilst Bishops Cleeve BC express demand for five senior members and six juniors. Both clubs report that they will be hosting an open day in the near future to make these growth aspirations a reality.

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8.4: Capacity analysis

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

The largest club identified in the Cheltenham is Cheltenham BC with 145 members. The two greens cater for a large membership base playing consistently throughout the week, sometimes twice daily. The largest identified club in Tewkesbury is Bishops Cleeve BC with 99 members. Bowls England advises that a green accommodating less than 60 playing members is considered to have spare capacity for further play. Consideration should also be given to the sustainability of greens which operate with a playing membership of less than 20.

Table 8.2: Bowling green capacity

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of greens	Clubs	Number of club members
6	Bishops Cleeve Sports Field	Tewkesbury Area 3	1	Bishops Cleeve BC	99
11	Churchdown Club	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	Churchdown BC	Unknown
19	Dowty Sport & Social Club	Tewkesbury Area 1	1	Dowty BC	51
35	Tewkesbury Bowling Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	1	Tewkesbury BC	81
53	Pineholt Bowls Club	Tewkesbury Area 5	1	Pineholt BC	Unknown
71	Cheltenham Bowling Club	Cheltenham	2	Cheltenham BC	145
75	Cheltenham Spa Bowling Club	Cheltenham	1	Cheltenham Spa BC	Unknown
76	Cheltenham Whaddon Bowling Club	Cheltenham	1	Cheltenham Whaddon BC	Unknown

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8.5: Conclusions

Based on the aforementioned guidance and known membership figures from club feedback, four greens are considered to be overplayed; Bishops Cleeve Sports Field (99 members), Tewkesbury BC (81 members) and Cheltenham BC (145 members across two greens). The green at Dowty Sport & Social Club is considered to be approaching capacity but can accommodate some additional members.

It is difficult to clearly ascertain whether there is spare capacity on bowling greens across either Cheltenham or Tewkesbury as capacity is driven by membership rather than recorded play and membership at half of the available greens is unknown due to outstanding club responses. This notwithstanding, four of the five greens where membership is known to display overplay totalling 85 members.

Cheltenham bowls summary

- ◀ There are four bowling greens in Cheltenham provided across three sites. All are flat greens and there are no crown greens.
- ◀ There are no artificial greens located in Cheltenham.
- ◀ All greens in Cheltenham assessed as good quality. There are no standard or poor quality greens in the area.
- ◀ There are no Council operated bowling greens and the majority of sites are operated by clubs with lease agreements securing tenure.
- ◀ There are three clubs in Cheltenham accessing four greens.
- ◀ Cheltenham Bowls Club is considered to be over capacity with 145 members.

Tewkesbury bowls summary

- ◀ There are five bowling greens in Tewkesbury provided across five single green sites. All are flat greens and there are no crown greens.
- ◀ There are no artificial greens located in Tewkesbury.
- ◀ All greens in Tewkesbury assessed as good quality. There are no standard or poor quality greens in the area.
- ◀ There are no Council operated bowling greens and the majority of sites are operated by clubs with lease agreements securing tenure.
- ◀ There are five clubs in Tewkesbury accessing five greens.
- ◀ Both Bishops Cleeve Bowls Club and Tewkesbury Bowls Club are both considered to be over capacity.

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PART 9: TENNIS

9.1: Introduction

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis in the UK. The South West Regional Team within the LTA is responsible for the growth and development of the sport in all parts of the South West Region. Gloucestershire LTA also work locally primarily with the function of co-ordinating local competitions and organising county teams for representative competitions.

Consultation

A survey was distributed to all 19 tennis clubs in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, of which, 11 responded, equating to 58% response rate.

9.2: Supply

There is a total of 159 outdoor tennis courts identified in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury located across 31 sites including private sports clubs, parks and schools. This is made up of 108 courts in Cheltenham across 15 sites and 51 courts in Tewkesbury across 16 sites which can be seen by analysis area in table 9.1.

Table 9.1: Tennis summary

Analysis Area	Number of Courts
Cheltenham	108
Tewkesbury Area 1	2
Tewkesbury Area 2	20
Tewkesbury Area 3	7
Tewkesbury Area 4	4
Tewkesbury Area 5	18

An additional 12 courts have previously been marked on the AGP at Balcarras Sports Centre (Cheltenham) for curricular use and can be marked if required; however, these courts have not been included within the audit as they are temporary. Similarly, six courts are marked on the sand filled AGP at The Richard Pate School, however these are permanently marked and so have been included within the audit.

There are 41 floodlit courts in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury (28 in Cheltenham and 13 in Tewkesbury), equating to 26% of all courts. However, it should be noted that 21 of all floodlit courts are located at East Glos Club (Cheltenham). Details of all courts can be found in Table 9.3.

In Cheltenham, 86% of all courts are considered to be available for community use. Similarly, 95% of all courts in Tewkesbury are considered to offer community use on some level.

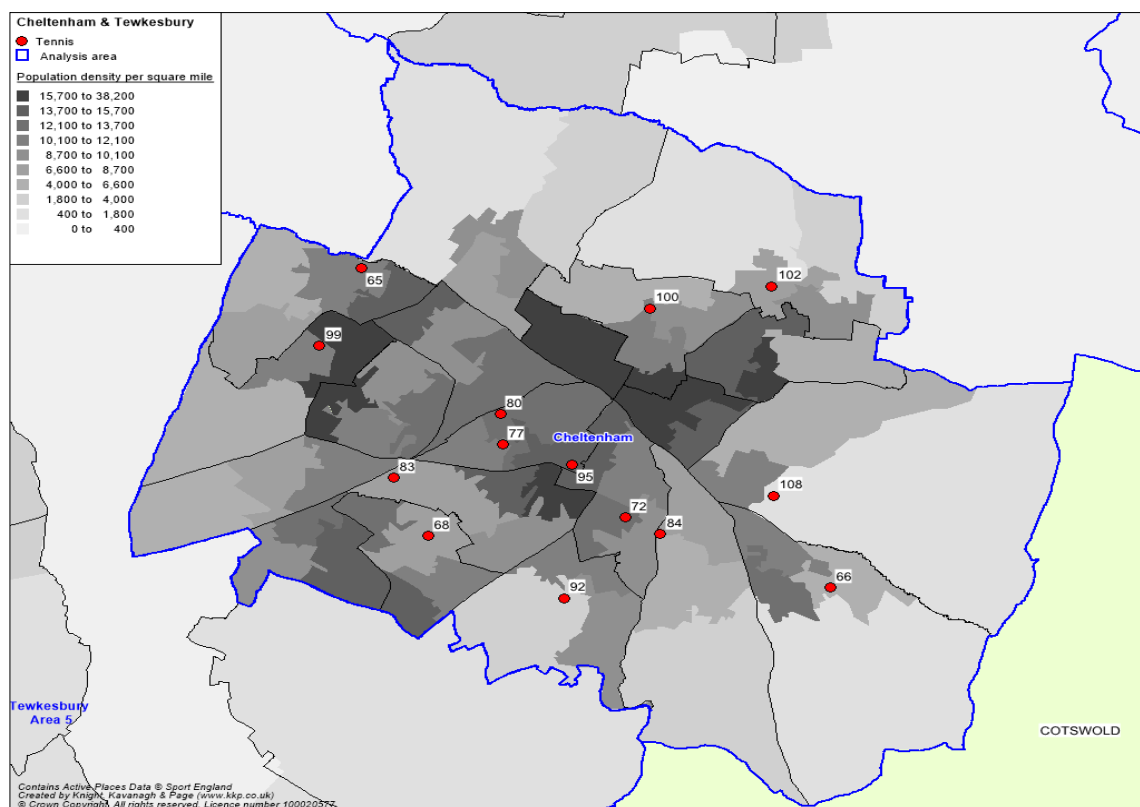
For the purposes of this report, availability for community use refers to courts in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management recorded as being available for hire by individuals, teams or clubs.

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Courts located at private fitness or health clubs including Virgin Active in Brockworth (Tewkesbury) and Jurys Inn Health & Leisure Club (Cheltenham) are only available through private membership. As such they are considered to be unavailable for community use and are not included within the audit. Though not broadly accessible, Virgin Active Health Club and also Oxstalls Indoor Tennis Centre (both in neighbouring Gloucester) are likely to attract a significant level of demand from residents in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury given the extensive tennis facilities and professional coaching available.

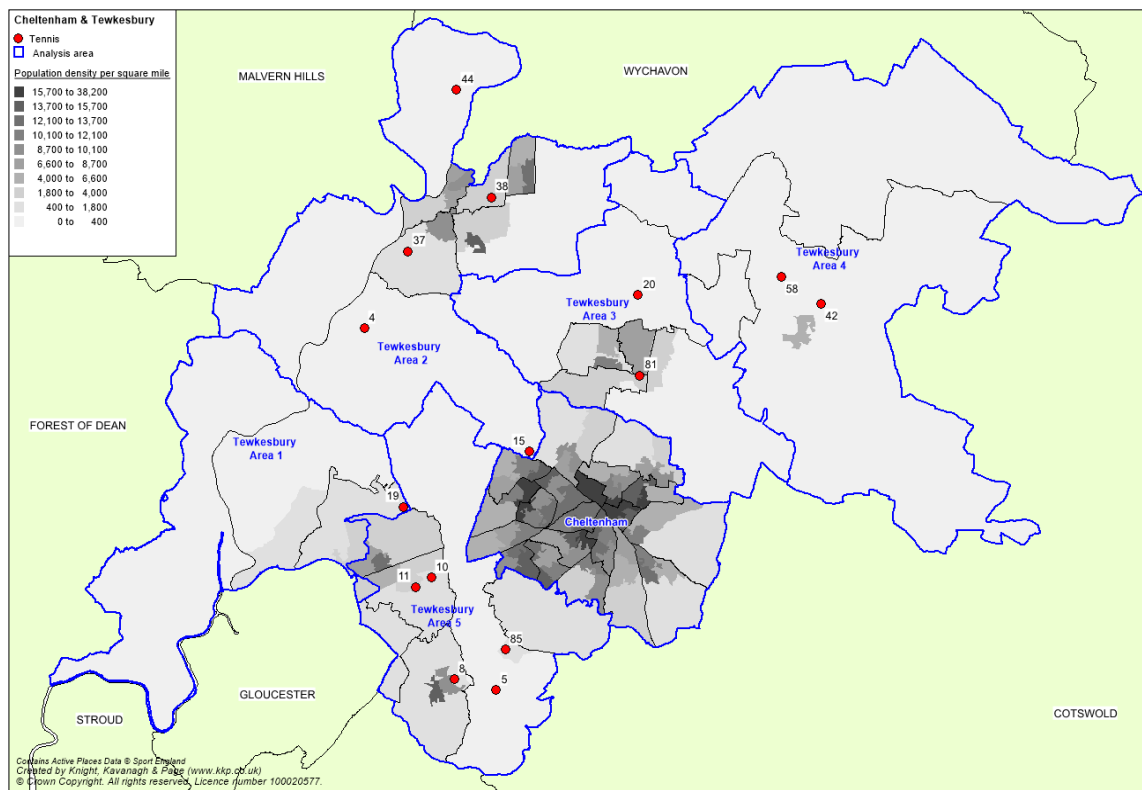
There are two courts at Endsleigh Insurance in Tewkesbury which are not available for community use. The site has sports provision for both football and tennis which is only available for use by industry employees. Similarly, there are two courts without floodlighting at MOD Ashchurch which are available only to staff.

Figure 9.1: Location of tennis courts in Cheltenham



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Figure 9.2: Location of tennis courts in Tewkesbury



The majority (68%) of courts in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury are located on school sites. Generally, these are multipurpose facilities used as playgrounds and are often over marked for other sports most commonly netball. In most cases schools identify that provision is not floodlit or used outside of school hours. A summary of school provision is provided below.

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Table 9.2: School provision summary

Site ID	School	Analysis area	Number of courts	Summary
8	Millbrook Academy (Brockworth Sports Centre)	Tewkesbury Area 5	5	Five tarmac courts assessed as standard quality.
10	Chosen Hill School	Tewkesbury Area 5	5	Five tarmac courts assessed as standard quality. Courts are over marked with netball court markings. Courts actively used by five netball teams.
18	Cleeve School	Tewkesbury Area 3	5	Five tarmac courts assessed as poor quality. Courts are over marked with netball court markings. Courts used by NE14 Tennis Club.
38	Tewkesbury Secondary School	Tewkesbury Area 2	8	Eight tarmac courts assessed as poor quality. Courts are spread about the school site and rarely used.
42	Winchcombe School	Tewkesbury Area 4	3	All three tarmac courts assessed as poor quality. School has plans to create an additional four courts.
65	All Saints Academy	Cheltenham	4	All courts are tarmac surfaces with floodlights and are assessed as good quality.
66	Balcarras School (Balcarras Sports Centre)	Cheltenham	3	All courts are tarmac and assessed as good quality. Courts won an LTA award for good quality in 2015. Courts over marked with two netball court markings. An additional 12 courts can be marked onto the onsite AGP and are available if required but are marked primarily for curriculum use.
68	Bourneside School	Cheltenham	8	All courts are tarmac and are assessed as poor quality. All courts are considered to have poor grip underfoot and have loose gravel.
77	Christchurch Road Tennis Club (CLC)	Cheltenham	17	All courts are a tarmac surface and assessed as good quality.
80	CLC Sports Centre	Cheltenham	6	Six courts all assessed as standard quality.
83	Dean Close School	Cheltenham	4	All courts are tarmac and assessed as good quality.
99	Pates Grammar School	Cheltenham	5	All tarmac courts assessed as poor quality. Poor quality rating as a consequence of poor grip underfoot and poor line markings.
108	St Edwards Preparatory School	Cheltenham	7	All courts assessed as good quality. School offer no community use to protect quality.
115	The Richard Pate School	Cheltenham	8	Two tarmac tennis courts overmarked with netball courts, whilst the sand filled AGP is marked for six tennis courts with floodlighting.

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Table 9.3: Summary of provision site by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Management	Availability for community use?	No. of courts	No. of floodlit courts	Court type	Court quality ²³
4	Apperley Playing Field	Tewkesbury Area 2	Community Organisation	Yes	1	-	Tarmac	Good
5	Bentham Country Club	Tewkesbury Area 5	Commercial	Yes	4	-	Tarmac	Poor
8	Brockworth Sports Centre	Tewkesbury Area 5	School	Yes	5	-	Tarmac	Standard
10	Chosen Hill School	Tewkesbury Area 5	School	Yes	5	-	Tarmac	Standard
11	Churchdown Club	Tewkesbury Area 5	Community Organisation	Yes	2	-	Tarmac	Good
15	Civil Service Sports Association Ground	Tewkesbury Area 2	Sports Club	Yes	4	4	Tarmac	Good
18	Cleeve School	Tewkesbury Area 3	School	Yes	5	-	Tarmac	Poor
19	Dowty Sport and Social Club	Tewkesbury Area 1	Commercial	Yes	2	2	Tarmac	Good
20	Gotherington Playing Field	Tewkesbury Area 3	Community Organisation	Yes	2	-	Tarmac	Good
37	Tewkesbury Park Hotel Leisure Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	Commercial	Yes	2	2	Tarmac	Good
38	Tewkesbury School	Tewkesbury Area 2	School	Yes	8	-	Tarmac	Poor
42	Winchombe School	Tewkesbury Area 4	School	Yes	3	3	Tarmac	Poor
44	Twynning	Tewkesbury Area 2	Sports Club	Yes	3	2	Tarmac	Good
49	MOD Ashchurch	Tewkesbury Area 2	MOD	No	2	-	Tarmac	Standard
58	Gretton Royal Oak Tennis	Tewkesbury Area 4	Commercial	Yes	1	-	Tarmac	Standard
65	All Saints Academy	Cheltenham	School	Yes	4	4	Tarmac	Good
66	Balcarras Sports Centre	Cheltenham	School	Yes	3	-	Tarmac	Good
68	Bourneside Sport Centre	Cheltenham	School	Yes	8	-	Tarmac	Poor
72	Cheltenham College	Cheltenham	School	Yes	4	-	Tarmac	Good
77	Christchurch Road Tennis Club (CLC)	Cheltenham	School	Yes	17	-	Tarmac	Good
80	Cheltenham Ladies College Sport Centre	Cheltenham	School	Yes	6	-	Tarmac	Standard
83	Dean Close School	Cheltenham	School	Yes	4	-	Tarmac	Good
84	East Glos Club	Cheltenham	Commercial	Yes	7	7	Clay	Good
					4	4	Tarmac	Good
					7	7	Artificial	Good
					11	-	Grass ²⁴	Standard
85	Endsleigh Insurance	Tewkesbury Area 5	Private	No	2	-	Tarmac	Standard
92	Leckhampton Tennis Club	Cheltenham	Sport Club	Yes	2	-	Grass	Standard
95	Montpellier Gardens	Cheltenham	Local Authority	Yes	6	-	Tarmac	Standard
99	Pates Grammar School	Cheltenham	School	Yes	5	-	Tarmac	Poor
100	Pittville Park	Cheltenham	Local Authority	Yes	3	-	Tarmac	Standard
102	Prestbury Tennis Club	Cheltenham	Sport Club	Yes	2	-	Tarmac	Good
108	St Edwards Preparatory School	Cheltenham	School	No	7	-	Tarmac	Good
115	The Richard Pate School	Cheltenham	School	No	2	-	Tarmac	Standard
					6	6	Artificial	Standard

²³ Assessed using a non-technical site assessment pro-forma and also takes account of user comments.

²⁴ Grass courts only available from May – September.

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Quality

In Cheltenham, a total of 59 courts (55%) are rated as good quality and 36 courts (33%) as standard. Only 13 courts are rated as poor quality (12%).

Table 9.4: Summary of the quality of courts by surface type in Cheltenham

Surface type	Good	Standard	Poor
Clay	7	-	-
Artificial	7	6	-
Tarmac	45	17	13
Grass	-	13	-
Total	59	36	13

In Tewkesbury, a total of 16 courts (31%) are assessed as good quality, 15 courts (30%) as standard and 25 courts as poor (49%).

Table 9.5: Summary of the quality of courts by surface type in Tewkesbury

Surface type	Good	Standard	Poor
Clay	-	-	-
Artificial	-	-	-
Tarmac	16	15	20
Grass	-	-	-
Total	16	15	20

All courts assessed as poor quality are located at school sites, with the exception of the four courts located at Bentham County Club. Generally, courts located at school sites are subject to regular wear and tear as a consequence of the courts being used as general playground areas. Issues affecting court quality include evidence of moss, loose gravel, poor grip underfoot, and/or poor line markings.

Ancillary provision

No community club highlights issues with ancillary or changing facilities or identified a need for greater access to provision.

Where tennis courts are located at park sites such as Montpellier Park and Pittville Park, there is generally no clubhouse facilities at these parks as Café cater for wider community need. These courts mainly cater for social, family and summer based demand from residents. Although there is generally no demand for changing provision that is not to say that access to toilets, for example, isn't required and is likely to help increase usage at key sites.

As identified earlier, school sites receive little community use beyond social bookings such as at All Saints Academy (Cheltenham) where changing is provided within the sports centre if required.

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Future developments

East Glos Club reports future demand to increase the number of courts by investigating opportunities to create additional outdoor courts, though the creation of new indoor courts is considered to be of greater priority. The LTA supports the view that indoor courts is the principal facility development potential but states that this should not be at the expense of outdoor courts and should be in addition to. The Club commissioned a feasibility study completed in 2014 (also produced by KKP); however, plans for the development have not yet progressed further.

Court redevelopment projects will take place this autumn (2016) at Montpellier Park and Pittville Park (Cheltenham) with partnership between the LTA and Cheltenham Borough Council. The courts at both sites have been resurfaced within the past five years and markings will be re-lined, with additional improvements to be made to the surrounding fencing at Pittville Park. Plans include for management of the courts to be continued to be leased from the Council to the cafes within the parks (In the Park Ltd) which will manage use including bookings and pay and play. As per the current LTA focus on park sites, an online booking system is also to be implemented at a user cost of £40 per year whereby players can book courts online in advance. Coaching sessions will be exclusively delivered by East Glos Club which was successful as part of a tender process, whilst the courts at both sites will be continue to be available to hire for Cheltenham Parks Tennis League matches.

9.3: Demand

Competitive tennis

There are various competitive tennis leagues within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. The majority of competitive senior age tennis occurs within the Gloucestershire Summer League. The League encapsulates both high level single and doubles fixtures. Junior tennis in the area is generally played within the Aegon Tennis League which caters for junior tennis from U8s.

Table 9.6: Summary of demand within Cheltenham & Tewkesbury

Club	Analysis Area	Total members	Seniors	Juniors
Montpellier Gardens	Cheltenham	-	-	-
Prestbury Tennis Club	Cheltenham	100	80	20
Leckhampton Lawn Tennis Club	Cheltenham	24	-	-
East Gloucestershire Club	Cheltenham	1,121	687	434
Christchurch Road Tennis Club	Cheltenham	-	-	-
Cheltenham Ladies College Tennis Club	Cheltenham	-	-	-
Cheltenham Civil Service Tennis Club	Tewkesbury 2	85	80	5
Cheltenham College Tennis Club	Cheltenham	-	-	-
Charlton Kings Tennis Place	Cheltenham	170	90	80

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Club	Analysis Area	Total members	Seniors	Juniors
Tewkesbury Park Golf and Country Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	30	25	5
Twynning Tennis Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	52	38	14
Apperley Tennis Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	50	40	10
NE14 Tennis Club	Tewkesbury Area 3	110	10	100
Endsleigh Tennis Club	Tewkesbury Area 5	-	-	-

East Gloucestershire Club is the largest Club in both Cheltenham and Tewkesbury with 1,121 members. The Club indicate that despite its 29 courts, LTA benchmarking on its members to court capacity is over 90%. It is aiming to create a new long term strategy to increase the number of courts so it can sustainably continue to grow in the future. The Club has increased its playing membership in the past five years by a total of 88 senior members and 233 juniors.

NE14 Tennis Club in Tewkesbury is an independent Club which is not currently affiliated to the LTA. It accesses the outdoor courts located at Cleeve School and uses the indoor sport hall for indoor training. The facilities at the school are poor, and that the courts in particular suffer from neglect with little maintenance carried out to the surfaces. The Club highlights that there is no indoor tennis provision locally and reports high demand to access such provision. It also highlights that Cleeve School is actively trying to develop a 3G pitch and is fearful this will result in the loss of tennis courts at the school.

Cheltenham Civil Service Tennis Club is a small members club and a section of the wider Cheltenham Civil Service Association. It is predominately made up of senior members, with just five juniors and highlights that it has struggled to recruit a new coach and therefore junior membership has suffered as a consequence. The Club's facilities are leased from Tewkesbury Borough Council on a new 14-year agreement.

Apperley Tennis Club is a small private members club in Tewkesbury. The Club describes itself as a small club, which does not have ambitions to grow. All members are accommodated on one court and denote that this is sufficient to service current and future demand.

Twynning Lawn Tennis Club in Tewkesbury is a section of a voluntary organisation known locally as TRAC. The land the Club is built on was leased to a committee of local people from Twynning Parish Council which created the TRAC committee. When members join the Club, a high proportion of the membership fee is given to TRAC which has the responsibility of maintaining the courts and other facilities upon which the lease gives responsibility to such as the local play area. The Club highlights that the courts are 15 years old and gradually worsening in quality.

Prestbury Tennis Club is a small private members Club located in Cheltenham. The Club highlights it is currently at capacity and is unable to grow as a consequence of limited court space. It currently has two courts located within Prestbury Playing Fields, however, does have ambitions to develop an additional two floodlit courts. It indicates that negotiations with Prestbury Parish Council over future court developments have been negative and as such is unwilling to consider the possibility of expanding tennis provision locally.

Education sites

No education sites which are available for community use report any regular demand from the community, with the exception of Balcarras School and Cleeve School. It is believed that the lack of demand is a result of a lack of understanding at schools on how to market effectively to the community and ascertain what offers / price points are needed to improve use. The LTA report that approximately 1/3 of participation in the South West 14+ is on education sites and that the opportunity to improve the customer experience in playing tennis at these sites exists. The LTA regional team have started a more detailed audit in autumn 2016 to understand the detailed opportunity in this area and design appropriate interventions in the strategic cycle to 2019.

LTA insight reports that the demand for recreational play increases markedly between April and September and specifically following events such as Wimbledon. Although it is hard to measure casual use as some courts, it is assumed that courts are generally busy throughout the summer months when weather is favourable. Council managed courts at park sites often serve a similar market and as a result of interventions are in very good condition and with data on court usage and numbers of people using them.

Parks tennis

LTA Tennis Tuesday (Coaching Project) sessions were trialled at Montpellier Park in 2015 where participants attend and receive professional coaching to learn a new skill, followed by an informal match at the end of the session to practice it. The LTA believes that Montpellier Park is a well suited tennis site especially given its location where it is relatively easy to access.

The Cheltenham Parks Tennis League generally operates across three sites at Montpellier Park, Pittville Park and Chosen Hill School. The League is run by local tennis leagues which affiliate to the LTA, though players themselves arrange matches against others in their league at days, times and locations most convenient for both parties with results administered and inputted online. The flexibility of play is conducive to use of park sites which are typically more easily available.

The initial success of the improvements of operating models and customer experience at Montpellier and Pittville Parks suggests that if opportunities arose in other parks and green spaces to build tennis courts that demand would exist to sustain them.

9.4: Conclusions

It is concluded that in general courts accessed by clubs have the capacity to accommodate both current and future demand. As such improving quality and sustainability at sites assessed as poor quality (of which indicate tennis demand) and sustaining quality at the remaining club sites. However, support should also be offered to East Gloucestershire Club with its aspiration to develop its facilities to create additional outdoor and indoor courts to meet growing future needs. The LTA insight notes that the club network maintains the majority of regularly participation (weekly) and must be maintained but only serves 14% of annual participation (once a year) in the UK. Therefore, growth in participation may come outside of the club network, but the needs of this group of venues should be considered in any strategy.

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As all remaining (non-club) courts are also deemed to have spare capacity, focus should be on improving quality of facilities for informal play, particularly at publically available sites that are assessed as poor or standard quality. This must be completed in conjunction with clear advice to operators of courts on how to make a strong customer experience. This is particularly referring to use of booking systems and the correct price points.

Cheltenham Tennis summary

- ◀ There are a total of 108 tennis courts provided in Cheltenham across 15 sites. Provision can be found on a range of sites including sports clubs parks, and schools.
- ◀ There are 15 courts unavailable for community use, located at St Edwards School and The Richard Pate School.
- ◀ There are 28 floodlit courts in Cheltenham, spread across three sites; East Gloucestershire Club, All Saints Academy and The Richard Pate School.
- ◀ Floodlighting of existing courts could be seen as a priority to increase year round playing hours, but only where need and sustainable future are displayed.
- ◀ In Cheltenham, a total of 59 courts (55%) are rated as good quality and 36 courts (33%) as standard. Only 13 courts are rated as poor quality (12%).
- ◀ East Glos Club highlights that LTA benchmarking indicates it is operating over 90% capacity on all of its courts and as such has aspirations to develop new outdoor and indoor courts.
- ◀ Improvements at Montpellier Park and Pittville Park are close to conclusion in 2016 including introduction of new technology and access to help the Café manage the courts.
- ◀ The success of schemes in parks suggests that if opportunity arose the increase of tennis facilities in parks would increase participation.
- ◀ It is concluded that in general courts accessed by clubs have the capacity to accommodate both current and future demand in Cheltenham. However, potential for indoor court development at East Glos Club exists.
- ◀ Demand exists to improve community access to schools facilities in the area, this may be seen as a priority by the LTA which is conducting an audit to understand opportunity.

Tewkesbury Tennis summary

- ◀ There are a total of 51 tennis courts provided in Tewkesbury across 16 sites. Provision can be found on a range of sites including sports clubs parks, and schools.
- ◀ There are four courts unavailable for community use in Tewkesbury, located at MOD Ashchurch and Endsleigh Insurance where use is exclusively for workers.
- ◀ There are 13 floodlit courts in Tewkesbury, spread across five locations.
- ◀ In Tewkesbury, a total of 16 courts (31%) are assessed as good quality, 15 courts (30%) as standard and 25 courts as poor (49%).
- ◀ NE14 Tennis Club indicates that the facilities at Cleeve School are of a poor standard and are in need of refurbishment. The Club highlights concern over the future protection of the courts.
- ◀ It is concluded that in terms of quantity, there are enough tennis courts in Tewkesbury to cater for demand and casual use.
- ◀ Demand exists to improve community access to schools facilities in the area, this may be seen as a priority by the LTA which is conducting an audit to understand opportunity.

PART 10: OTHER SPORTS

10.1: Rounders

Rounders England governs rounders nationally and provides a structure for the sport, from the county associations and clubs through to individual members and volunteers.

There are two known rounders league structures playing within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury known as the Cheltenham & District League and 'fun leagues'. The Cheltenham & District League access pitches at the following five locations:

- ✦ Cheltenham Civil Service Ground (Tewkesbury Area 2)
- ✦ Balcarras School (Cheltenham)
- ✦ Winchcombe School (Tewkesbury Area 4)
- ✦ Cleeve School (Tewkesbury Area 3)
- ✦ Gotherington Playing Fields (Tewkesbury Area 3)

The league indicates that there are five teams which play the sport between May and August each season. Participations levels have reportedly decreased over the past five years with the League previously having 28 teams. Reasons cited for the participation drop is a perceived lack of awareness of the leagues existence within the local community.

The 'fun leagues' structure which is offered in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury runs individual mini leagues at various venues. Similar to the Cheltenham & District League, the season runs from May to August. Venues used are as follows:

- ✦ Newlands Sports Club (Tewkesbury Area 3)
- ✦ Cheltenham Civil Service Ground (Tewkesbury Area 2)
- ✦ All Saints Academy (Cheltenham)
- ✦ Chosen Hill Rugby Club (Tewkesbury Area 5)

Consultation did not highlight any particular issues in either Cheltenham or Tewkesbury; however, the Cheltenham and District League did indicate that generally, ground staff were not always aware on how to mark a suitable rounders pitch.

As detailed earlier, the League would also benefit from support to increase awareness through local advertising in order to help increase participation.

10.2: Netball

England Netball governs rounders nationally and provides a structure for the sport, from the county associations and clubs through to individual members and volunteers.

Predominantly, Netball is played indoors so it can be played continuously throughout the year without the detrimental effect of adverse weather conditions. Indoor usage is becoming increasingly common and is the basis of most league play. For example, BUCS has over 400 teams competing in netball leagues across the university season all played within indoor sports halls.

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Outdoor courts are located at the following education sites:

- ✦ Brockworth Sports Centre (Tewkesbury Area 5)
- ✦ Chosen Hill School (Tewkesbury Area 5)
- ✦ Winchcombe School (Tewkesbury Area 4)
- ✦ Balcarras School (Cheltenham)
- ✦ Bourneside Sports Centre (Cheltenham)
- ✦ Cleeve School (Tewkesbury Area 3)

Consultation with the Gloucestershire Netball did not highlight any particular issues in either Cheltenham or Tewkesbury. However, it was noted that due to the insecure tenure at Benthams County Club (known locally as Benthams Domes), all league netball will be relocated to Sir Thomas Rich's School (Gloucester) and Leisure @ Cheltenham.

A report was commissioned regarding the potential residential redevelopment of Benthams Country Club, produced in October 2016 to support the off-site provision of a replacement sports dome. The site has two sports domes, one measuring approximately 37.5m by 37.5m with two netball courts and the second measuring approximately 70m by 38m with two netball courts. The report findings indicate that Benthams Country Club plays an important role in supporting netball across Gloucestershire, however uncertainty over the future of the site has led many netball users to relocate to alternative venues. The report concludes that there is a high level of demand for indoor or covered netball facilities in Gloucestershire and there is a need for replacement with a high quality netball facility to meet such needs. It also indicates highlights that the relocation of netball teams has impacted on both participation in the sport and the site offer as a central venue for netball as well as its operational viability.

10.3: Lacrosse

Lacrosse is a contact sport played using a small rubber ball and long-handled stick to catch and hold the lacrosse ball. It is governed nationally by English Lacrosse. Play is permitted to take place on grass pitches or AGPs, both sand based or 3G surfaces. Lacrosse is played across Cheltenham and Tewkesbury by Cheltenham Cougars Lacrosse Club, the University of Gloucestershire and Cheltenham Ladies College.

There are three lacrosse pitches in Cheltenham all located at Cheltenham Ladies College. A lacrosse pitch has in the past been marked at the University of Gloucestershire Park Campus over 12 years ago but this area is now used as a general grass space marked for activities as and when required with no lacrosse taking there.

The University of Gloucestershire has one men's and one women's team. All matches take place on the sand based AGP at the University's Oxstalls Campus in Gloucester, which is also the pitch used for training each week on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, each session lasting 90 minutes. The University has plans for development of the site which includes the possible loss of this AGP. Should the pitch be lost it is possible that lacrosse matches may be played at The Folly as most of the football and rugby union play currently occupying the site on Wednesday afternoons is likely to relocate to the Bishop's College in Gloucester where the University is developing new sports provision. However, this is at present undecided and is dependent on the progress of development plans at both Oxstalls Campus and Bishop's College.

Cheltenham Cougars Lacrosse Club had a men's and a women's team until 2013 when it experienced a decline in membership and both teams withdrew from their respective leagues. The Club has since worked to increase membership and has links with the

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University of Gloucestershire to provide playing opportunities for students at weekends, hoping to re-establish the women's team. The Club has re-established a men's team which has again entered a league for the 2016/17 season, playing on Saturday afternoons and training midweek at Oxstalls Campus in Gloucester. The aforementioned threat of losing the pitch means that there may be a potential need for the Club to be reaccommodated in future, either in Gloucester or Cheltenham dependant on where the Club wishes to be based.

Lacrosse is a prominent sport for girls at Cheltenham Ladies College which has 11 teams, with two at each year group from U12 to U18 and a main first team. Matches take place on the grass pitches onsite, typically on Saturday afternoons though some fixtures are held on Saturday morning or evenings throughout the week.

10.4: Croquet

The Croquet Association is the national governing body for the sport of Croquet in England. The sport is continuing to grow in popularity with over 200 clubs now registered with the Croquet Association. A full size croquet lawn measures 35 yards (32m) by 28 yards (26.6m).

Cheltenham Croquet Club is the only club in either Cheltenham or Tewkesbury and currently has 11 full sized croquet lawns with 200 active members. The Club regularly hosts the British Open Championship and the World Championship, and is regarded as one of the premier croquet sites within the country. It has continual ambitions to increase its membership and annually hosts a taster session with the aim of growing the sport. Consultation with the Club indicates it is in need of an indoor facility for use in the winter to continue playing whilst weather conditions are adverse.

The governing body recommends an average of 25 participants per lawn as a capacity guideline, therefore using membership data it is deemed that the site has spare capacity and can accommodate any future growth.

10.5: American Football

The British American Football Association is responsible for the governance of American football. The sport is continuing to grow in popularity and there are now hundreds of clubs and thousands of players competing regularly across the country.

There is limited American Football being played in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. The sport is played only by the University of Gloucestershire which regularly fields one team playing within the BUCS League. The Club plays on dedicated rugby union pitches located at the Folly as a home venue. There are currently no dedicated American Football pitches located in Cheltenham or Tewkesbury.

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PART 11: GOLF

11.1 Introduction

There are seven golf facilities within Cheltenham and Tewkesbury; one located in Cheltenham and six located in Tewkesbury.

There are also three golf facilities located within the Cotswold District which cater for some demand from Cheltenham and Tewkesbury residents due to proximity and have therefore been included within the report. The nature in which golf is played means that these courses are often accessed by residents within the study area as players tend to seek variation in course obstacles and layout or play at other venues with friends.

Table 11.1: Summary of golf provision

Site ID	Site	Local authority
7	Brickhampton Court Golf Complex	Tewkesbury
16	Cleeve Hill Golf Course	Tewkesbury
32	Puckrup Hall Golf Club	Tewkesbury
33	Rodway Hill Golf Course	Tewkesbury
34	Sherdons Golf Centre	Tewkesbury
37	Tewkesbury Park Hotel Leisure Club	Tewkesbury
93	Lilley Brook Golf Club	Cheltenham
96	National Star College	Cotswold (outside)
147	Cotswold Hills Golf Club	Cotswold (outside)
148	Shipton Golf Course	Cotswold (outside)

All clubs were asked to complete a survey regarding their facilities and key issues. Five clubs responded equating to a 50% response rate.

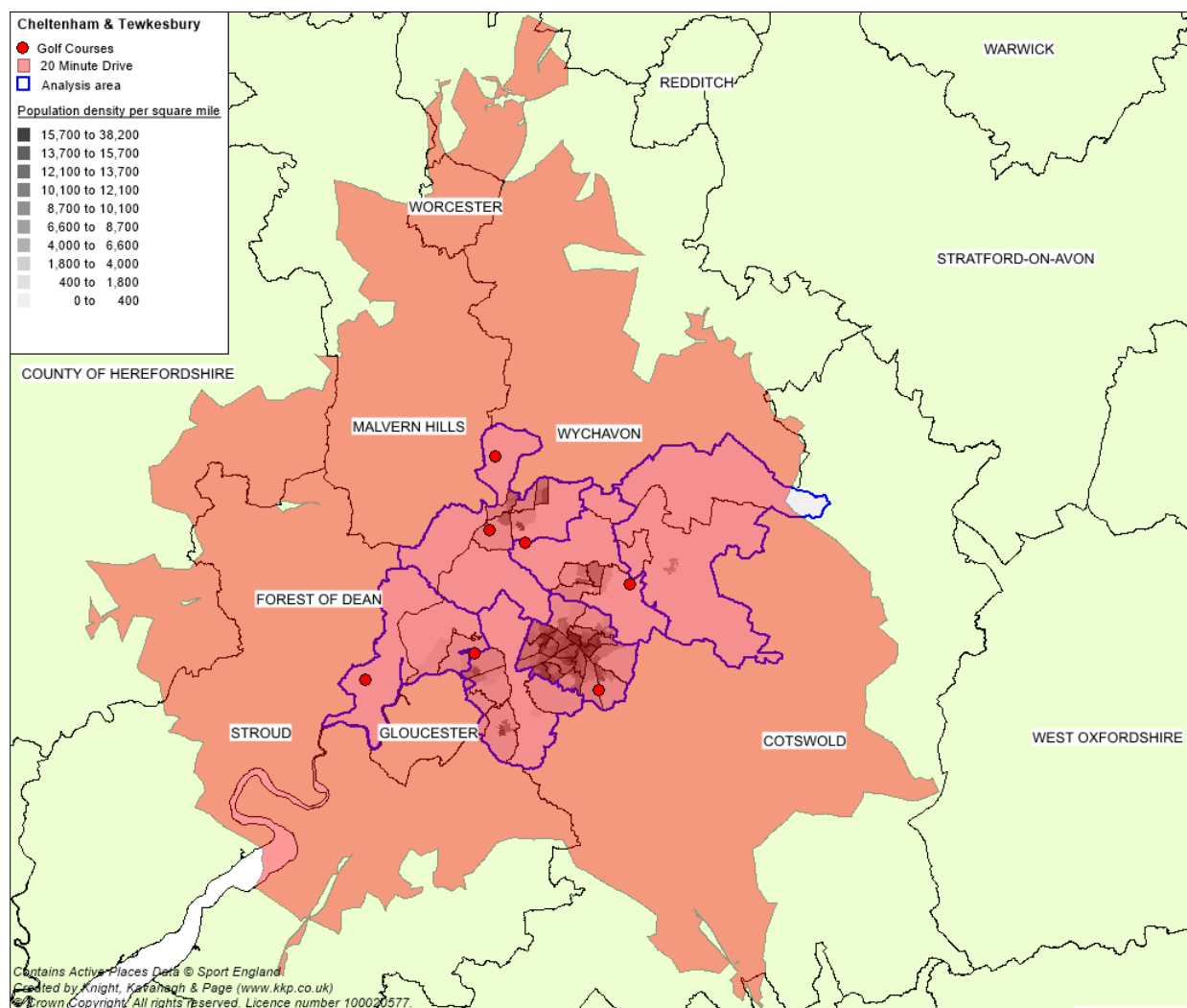
Sport England recommends that the drive-time catchment for golf courses be set at 20 minutes. In addition, consultation reports that this is considered by clubs to be an appropriate distance to travel to access provision and, as such, has been used in the mapping to help determine if there are any shortfalls.

The majority of clubs report that less than 10% of their members are from outside of Cheltenham and Tewkesbury with most members travelling 2-5 miles to access the facility. Therefore, as mapping of the courses shows, the current level of supply is deemed sufficient for residents. It should also be noted that golf provision in the below maps services all populated areas within the specified 20 minute catchments set for each study area and can, for example, service the demand for residents in areas such as Malvern Hills and Stroud as can be seen below.

It should be noted that StarGolf (located in the Cotswold District) estimates that 26-50% of its membership derive from Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. Rodway Hill Golf Club also indicated that 51-75% of its members are from outside of Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.

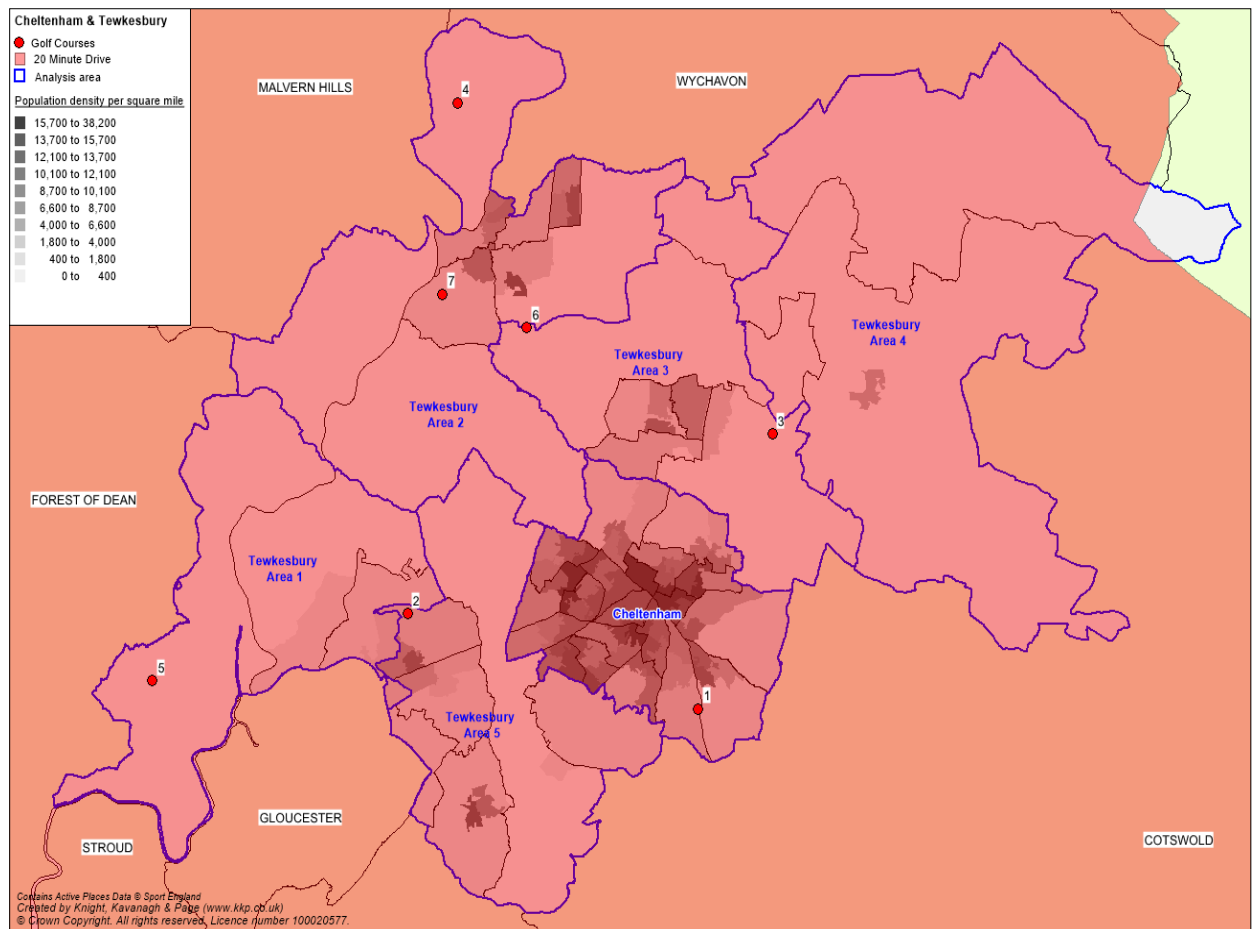
CHEL TENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 11.1: Location and accessibility of golf clubs in Cheltenham



CHEL TENHAM & TEWKESBURY PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 11.2: Location and accessibility of golf clubs in Tewkesbury



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Table 11.2: Key to golf map

Site ID	Site	Ownership	Holes	Comments
2	Brickhampton Court Golf Complex	Private	18	18-hole private golf course which also has a driving range.
3	Cleeve Hill Golf Course	Council	18	Municipal golf course, with attached private members club.
4	Puckrup Hall Golf Club	Private	18	Private golf course belonging to Puckrup Hall Hotel.
5	Rodway Hill Golf Course	Private	18	Private golf course attached to a range of ECO pod hotels.
6	Sherdons Golf Centre	Private	9	Private golf course with 9 holes. Course also operates a 26 bay floodlit driving range.
7	Tewkesbury Park Hotel Leisure Club	Private	18	Private golf course part of the facilities at Tewkesbury Park Hotel.
1	Lilley Brook Golf Club	Private	18	The privately owned club has 18 holes. Only golf course located within Cheltenham.
-	National Star College (Cotswold)	Private	18	Located in the Cotswold District, the 18-hole golf course caters for exported demand from Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.
-	Cotswold Hills Golf Club (Cotswold)	Private	18	Located in the Cotswold District, the 18-hole golf course caters for exported demand from Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.
-	Shipton Golf Course (Cotswold)	Private	9	Located in the Cotswold District, the 9-hole golf course caters for exported demand from Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.

11.2 Supply

Quality

Consultation indicates that each golf club has plans to either improve or retain the quality of its facilities and to improve the overall playing experience for players. Each club has designated green keepers whose main responsibility is to maintain the course, ensuring that members' concerns and issues are quickly dealt with.

Overall, the majority of clubs viewed vandalism, dog-fouling and misuse of footpaths as the most detrimental factors affecting the quality of the courses.

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Table 11.3: Facility plans overview

Site	Analysis Area	Ownership	Quality of golf course	Quality of ancillary facilities	Development plans
Lilley Brook Golf Club	Cheltenham	Private	Good	Good	The Club have recently invested between £60,000 – £70,000 on maintenance equipment in the past 9 months to improve course quality.
Brickhampton Court Golf Complex	Tewkesbury Area 5	Private	Good	Good	
Cleeve Hill Golf Course	Tewkesbury Area 3	Private	Good	Good	
Puckrup Hall Golf Course	Tewkesbury Area 2	Private	Good	Good	
Rodway Hill Golf Course	Tewkesbury Area 1	Private	Good	Good	Plans to make alterations to the course to improve aesthetics through planting new trees and the addition of more bunkers.
Sherdons Golf Centre	Tewkesbury Area 3	Private	Good	Good	Club are currently in the process of identifying ways to sustain/improve good course quality.
Tewkesbury Park Hotel Leisure Centre	Tewkesbury Area 2	Private	Good	Good	The course does currently not have any development plans.
StarGolf (National Star College)	Outside	Private	Good	Adequate	Club has plans to create a driving range and to replace toilets on site.
Cotswold Hills Golf Club	Outside	Private	Good	Good	None identified

Cost

Access to all courses is available via both membership and pay and play, although this may be limited at specific times (during club competitions), and in some instances players would have to be booked in by current members or book in advance.

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Many of the clubs have begun to alter their pricing structure to allow for discounted rates following a nationwide decline in golf membership. For instance, Lilley Brook Golf Club now offers a five-day membership (whereby members can access the course Monday-Friday but not at weekends) as well as the standard seven-day membership. The majority of clubs also offer discounted rates for younger members depending on their age bracket, e.g. members 24-30 years old pay less than those over 30.

Table 11.4: Summary of cost

Club	Analysis Area	Membership	Pay and play
Lilley Brook Golf Club	Cheltenham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full membership - £895 5-day membership - £745 Youth membership (19-30) - £250-£845 Junior membership (up to 18) - £85-£195 Flexible membership £510 Country £385 Social £135 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midweek 18 holes - £30 Weekend 18 holes - £40
Brickhampton Court Golf Complex	Tewkesbury Area 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full membership £838.80 5-day membership £664.80 Under 30s £344.40-£838.80 Juniors £165 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitor rate - £30 Driving range: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 balls - £6.40 70 balls - £5.50 35 balls – £4.25
Cleeve Hill Golf Course	Tewkesbury Area 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full membership £550 Senior membership £500 Membership 26-30 £450 Membership 21-25 £425 Colt Membership £325 Junior membership £85 	N/A
Puckrup Hall Golf Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full membership £760 5 Day membership £540 Intermediate 1 (18-21) £180 Intermediate 2 (22-25) £335 Country £380 Junior (U18) £95 Golf and Leisure combined 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer weekday visitor - £30 Summer weekend visitor - £35 Winter weekday visitor - £20 Winter weekend visitor - £25
Rodway Hill Golf Course	Tewkesbury Area 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full membership £540 5-day membership £420 Student/Colt membership £200 Junior membership £50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekday 18 holes - £17 Weekend 18 holes - £20

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Club	Analysis Area	Membership	Pay and play
Sherdons Golf Centre	Tewkesbury Area 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full membership (40+) £460 Full membership (30-40) £360 Full membership (22-29) £250 Colt (18-21) £150 Junior (12-17) £100 Mini (5-11) £50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekend/Bank Holiday - £19 Adult weekdays - £18 Seniors £17 Junior £15
Tewksbury Park Hotel Leisure Club	Tewkesbury Area 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full membership £770 Full membership (22-29) £399 Full membership (18-21) £170 5-day membership £570 Junior (U18) £80 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer Rates: Weekday £28 Weekend £38 Student £16 Junior £12 Winter Rates: Weekday £20 Weekend £24 Student £16 Junior £10
National Star College	Outside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full membership £230 Senior £180 5-day membership £170 Junior £40 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekday/Weekend £10 Members guest £8 Junior £5
Cotswold Hills Golf Club	Outside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer Rates: Weekday £38 Weekend £45 Junior weekday £15 Junior weekend £25 Winter Rates: Weekday £30 Weekend £39 Junior weekday £15 Junior weekend £20
Shipton Golf Course	Outside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekdays £14 Weekends £17

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Table 11.4 identifies the cost and membership criteria is very complex for golf within both Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, it does, however, give new players wanting to join clubs a variety of flexible options, from five day to seven day membership, concessions to specific market segments and a flexible approach to golf societies and visitors. On the negative this does further squeeze the market. Consultation suggests that the increase in nomadic golfers is leading to a reduction in the actual number of club members and that this phenomenon is being felt across many golf clubs. This is leading to:

- ◀ A reduction in regular income levels for many golf clubs.
- ◀ More clubs are open to market fluctuations
- ◀ The impact of the weather is greater as more reliance is placed on nomadic golfers rather than club members.
- ◀ More clubs are offering greater flexibility in pricing and entering into the 'municipal market'.

11.3 Demand

Golf participation in Cheltenham and Tewkesbury for senior membership has stayed relatively static over recent years through the retention of senior players through to retirement age and also juniors moving to senior age. Generally, junior membership has also remained static. Only StarGolf highlights a decrease in senior membership and outlines that it was due to the rise in popularity of pay and play offerings locally. Of all the clubs which replied to consultation, only Cotswold Hills Golf Club highlights that it had a senior male waiting list for its full membership package.

Both StarGolf and Lilley Brook Golf Club have written sports development plans in place, with the general aims of:

- ◀ Increasing junior membership.
- ◀ Retaining existing members.
- ◀ Introducing flexible memberships to bring affordable golf to the wider community.
- ◀ Increasing the usage of the clubhouse and facilities by the community.

Table 11.5: Membership within golf clubs

Club	Membership			
	Male	Female	Junior	Total
◀ Lilley Brook Golf Course	500	125	25	650
◀ Brickhampton Court Golf Complex	-	-	-	-
◀ Cleeve Hill Golf Course	-	-	-	-
◀ Puckrup Hall Golf Course	-	-	-	-
◀ Rodway Hill Golf Course	260	45	15	320
◀ Sherdons Golf Centre	-	-	-	280
◀ Tewkesbury Park Hotel Leisure Club	285	65	10	360
◀ StarGolf	93	18	2	113
◀ Cotswold Hills Golf Club	-	-	-	-
◀ Shipton Golf Course	-	-	-	-

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Future demand

All clubs report an intention to increase membership.

Latent demand

Only Cotswold Hill Golf Club expresses a waiting list, however, this was for a specific seven-day full membership and other membership options remain available at the Club. It is therefore assumed that although a waiting list is apparent, demand can be met through alternative membership options or pay and play alternatives.

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in golf but are not currently doing so'. In Cheltenham the tool identifies latent demand of 1,382 people. Of the population that would like to participate in golf, 347 (25.1%) is the segment 'Tim – settling down males'. In Tewkesbury, the tool identifies latent demand of 1,048 people. Of the population that would like to participate in golf, 347 (25.8%) is also the segment 'Tim – settling down males'.

Cheltenham golf summary

- ◀ There is one golf club in Cheltenham; Lilley Brook Golf Club.
- ◀ The Club has a total of 650 members.
- ◀ The Club has recently invested £60,000-£70,000 into maintenance equipment to ensure green quality is kept to a high level.
- ◀ Lilley Brook Golf Club reported no issues with either the quality of its course or ancillary provision.
- ◀ Sport England segmentation suggests there is a total of 1,382 people who want to play golf in Cheltenham, who are not currently doing so.
- ◀ There is an opportunity to work with the Golf club to drive participation for juniors and women as the Club have intentions to grow.
- ◀ Many residents export demand to nearby clubs located in either Tewkesbury or the Cotswolds.

Tewkesbury golf summary

- ◀ There are a total of six golf clubs located in Tewkesbury.
- ◀ There are no reported issues relating to quality of the courses or ancillary facilities, however, the majority of clubs have plans in place in relation to the course and associated facilities. All clubs rate their courses as good.
- ◀ The cost and membership criteria is very complex for golf within Tewkesbury, it does however give new players wanting to join clubs a variety of flexible options.
- ◀ Sport England segmentation suggests there is a total of 1,048 people who want to play golf in Tewkesbury, who are not currently doing so.
- ◀ There is an opportunity to work with the Golf club to drive participation for juniors and women as the Club have intentions to grow.
- ◀ There is an opportunity to work with the Golf club network to drive participation for juniors and women as Clubs have intentions to grow.
- ◀ The current level of supply is deemed sufficient for residents.

APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

National context

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

Department of Media Culture and Sport Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation (2015)

The Government published its strategy for sport in December 2015. This strategy confirms the recognition and understanding that sport makes a positive difference through broader means and that it will help the sector to deliver five simple but fundamental outcomes: physical health, mental health, individual development, social and community development and economic development. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of 23 performance indicators under nine key headings, as follows:

- ✦ More people taking part in sport and physical activity.
- ✦ More people volunteering in sport.
- ✦ More people experiencing live sport.
- ✦ Maximising international sporting success.
- ✦ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ✦ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ✦ A more productive sport sector.
- ✦ A more financially and organisationally sustainable sport sector.
- ✦ A more responsible sport sector.

Sport England: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)

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

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

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

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

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National Planning Policy Framework

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

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

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

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

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

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

The FA National Game Strategy (2015 – 2019)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners. It identifies that with 470 grass root clubs and 1500 players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

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

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

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

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

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

'The right pitches in the right places'²⁵

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

²⁵

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

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- ◀ 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

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

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

Our club market is well structured and clubs are required to affiliate to England Hockey to play in community leagues. As a result only relatively few occasional teams lie outside our affiliation structure. Schools and Universities are the other two areas where significant hockey is played.

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

1. PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision

We currently have over 800 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (club, school, universities.) We need to retain the current provision where appropriate to ensure that hockey is maintained across the country.

2. IMPROVE: To improve the existing facilities stock (physically and administratively).

The current facilities stock is ageing and there needs to be strategic investment into refurbishing the pitches and ancillary facilities. There needs to more support for clubs to obtain better agreements with facilities providers & education around owning an asset.

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

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