



# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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# KS/OPE/01

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# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for Rushcliffe Borough Council (RBC) and its partners Building upon the preceding Assessment Report it provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2017 and 2028.

A Steering Group has led and will continue to lead the PPS to ensure the delivery and implementation of its recommendations and actions. It is made up of representatives from the Council, Sport England, the County Sports Partnership, pitch sport National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs), namely the Football Association (FA), Nottinghamshire County Football Association (NFA), England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), Nottinghamshire Cricket Board (NCB) the Rugby Football Union (RFU), England Hockey (EH) and England Athletics (EA).

The following pitch sports were agreed by the Steering Group for inclusion in the Assessment and Strategy:

- ◀ Football pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Third generation artificial grass (3G) pitches
- ◀ Artificial grass pitches (for hockey)

Pitch sports were assessed using the guidance set out in Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy. Rugby league is not known to be played within Rushcliffe itself, albeit there is a nomadic club currently playing in Nottingham called Nottingham Outlaws which currently plays at Nottingham University and trains at a number of venues across the Borough.

The following other outdoor sports facilities were also agreed for inclusion within the Study:

- ◀ Outdoor bowling greens
- ◀ Outdoor tennis courts
- ◀ Athletics tracks
- ◀ Outdoor netball courts
- ◀ Skate parks

Outdoor sports were assessed using Sport England's Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance (2014). Non-pitch outdoor sports require a different methodology to assess demand and supply to that used for pitch sports.

A Playing Pitch Strategy will provide the evidence required to help protect playing fields to ensure sufficient land is available to meet existing and projected future pitch requirements. Planning Policy and other relevant sport related corporate strategies must be based upon a robust evidence base in order to ensure planning, local policies and sport development criteria can be implemented efficiently and effectively. The strategy is capable of the following in Rushcliffe:

- ◀ Providing a clear framework for all playing pitch providers, including the public, private and third sectors;
- ◀ Clearly addressing the needs of all identified sports within the local area, picking up particular local demand issues;
- ◀ Addressing issues of population growth, and or major growth/regeneration areas;

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- ◀ Addressing issues of cross boundary facility provision;
- ◀ Addressing issues of accessibility, quality and management with regard to facility provision;
- ◀ Standing up to scrutiny at a public inquiry as a robust study;
- ◀ Providing realistic aspirations which are implementable within the local authority's budgetary position and procurement regime.

The partner organisations have a vested interest in ensuring existing playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities can be protected and enhanced. Many of the objectives and actions will need to be delivered and implemented by sports organisations and education establishments in addition to the Council.

## Strategy structure

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

- ◀ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ A number of aims to help deliver the recommendations and actions.
- ◀ A series of sport by sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision
- ◀ A range of sport by sport and local authority wide scenarios to help inform policy recommendations and prioritisation of actions.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of provision.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area action plan to address key issues.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommends a number of priority projects for Rushcliffe which should be implemented over the next ten years. It provides a framework for improvement and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, potential partners and possible sources of external funding (see Appendix Four: Funding Plan<sup>1</sup>).

## Monitoring and updating

It is important that there is regular annual monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. This monitoring should be led by the Council and supported by the Steering Group. As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the Steering Group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date. If the PPS is used as a 'live' document, and kept up to date, the time frame can be extended to five years.

The PPS should be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the Steering Group. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment that would have been built up when developing the PPS. Taking into account the time to develop the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed. Part 8 of this strategy report contains a suggested process for carrying out the update and monitoring. The Steering Group will need to agree the process prior to adoption of this strategy.

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that Sport England funding streams will be subject to change throughout 2016/17.

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Rushcliffe Borough Council is presently part of a consortium application led by Nottingham City Council for the development of Parklife Football Hubs and is presently undertaking further work to understand the need for 3G pitches for football across the wider Nottinghamshire area. The potential development of Parklife football hubs in either Rushcliffe or accessible neighbouring local authorities has the potential to result in significant change in the supply of football facilities and way in which football is played in Rushcliffe. As such, should Rushcliffe be part of Parklife football hub developments in or accessible to the Borough, future review and update of this PPS should be brought forward in order to account for the impact.

## **Study area**

### ***The extent of the study area***

The Borough is split into five distinct areas (termed analysis areas) for the purpose of this study and site by site action plans will be developed for each. They are (including current population<sup>2</sup>):

- ◀ Bingham (21,552)
- ◀ Cotgrave & Radcliffe (14,674)
- ◀ East Leake (12,905)
- ◀ Keyworth (13,642)
- ◀ West Bridgford & Ruddington (51,701)

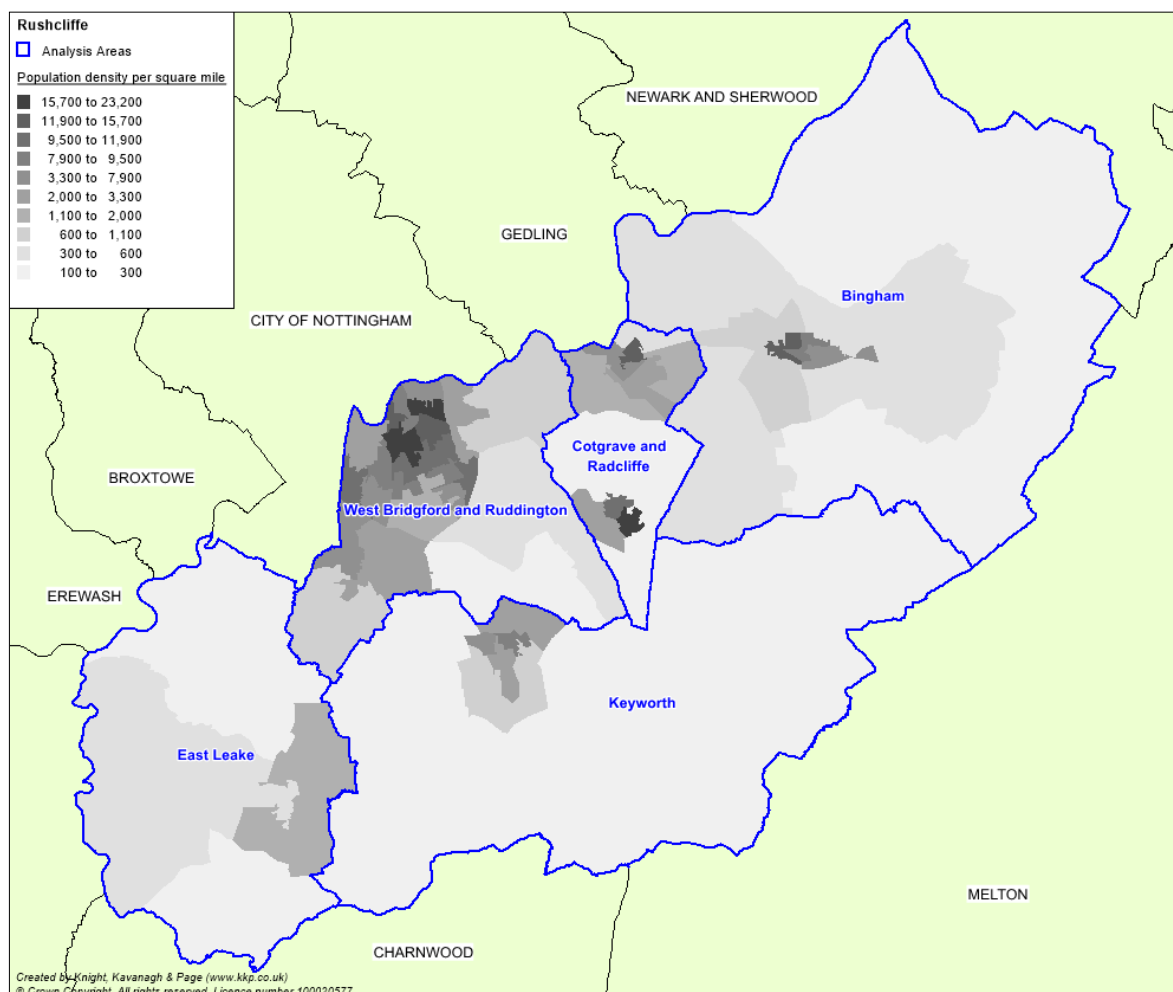
There is likely to be a level of imported demand and sports teams from outside the study area that use pitches located within Rushcliffe. In addition, sports teams from inside the Borough almost certainly make some use of facilities outside it. This cross-boundary movement will be taken into consideration and is underpinned by consultation with neighbouring authorities in relation to their PPS findings. The study area is the whole Rushcliffe borough together with any areas close to its boundary (within 1km) where significant facilities are sited and import/export participation occurs on a regular basis.

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<sup>2</sup> Data Source: ONS Mid-2015 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas in England and Wales by Single Year of Age and Sex

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Figure 1.1: Map of the Rushcliffe Study Area (including analysis areas)



## Population growth

The current resident population in Rushcliffe is 114,474<sup>3</sup>. By 2028 the Borough’s population is projected to increase to 125,984<sup>4</sup> an increase of 11,510 (or equivalent to a percentage increase of 10%) according to ONS data. However, local information from Rushcliffe Borough Council indicates that housing growth over the Local Plan period (2011 to 2028) is projected to deliver 5,018 new dwellings above ONS 2014 based housing projections, equating to additional population of 11,492 above ONS projections<sup>5</sup>.

Team generation rates were used to provide an indication of how many people it may take to generate a team (by gender and age group), in order to help estimate the change in demand for pitch sports that may arise from any population change in the study area and are set out in the Assessment Report.

<sup>3</sup> Data Source: ONS Mid-2015 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas in England and Wales by Single Year of Age and Sex

<sup>4</sup> Data Source: ONS 2014-based projections 2014-2039. Released: 25 May 2016

<sup>5</sup> Based on 2.29 persons per household figure from ONS 2014 based household projections, for the year 2028.

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## *Housing growth*

The Council's Housing Trajectory shows the total number of dwellings to be provided Borough-wide, during the Plan Period, from 2011 to 2028 to be 13,150 dwellings. The latest Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) housing trajectory identifies that there will be approximately 10,500 dwellings delivered in the district from 2017 to 2028.

Local Plan Part 2, Further Options consultation estimates that there is a requirement to develop around 7,000 new homes during the period 2019-2024. The estimated additional population derived from housing growth 2019-24 is 16,800 people. Further exploration and scenario testing of housing growth is detailed within Part 7.



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Table 1.1: Breakdown of playing pitches across Rushcliffe

Sport	Pitch type	Management					Total
		Borough Council	Education	Sports Club/ Community organisation	Private/ commercial	Parish Council	
Football	Adult	8	7	21	9	15	60
	Youth 11v11	-	4	2	1	-	7
	Youth 9v9	4	14	14	1	7	40
	Mini 7v7	3	5	13	1	8	30
	Mini 5v5	1	2	9	-	3	15
Cricket	Natural turf	1	-	24	-	3	28
	Non-turf	-	8	2	-	-	10
Rugby union	Senior	1	6	13	1	-	21
3G pitch	Full sized	1	1	1	1	-	4
	Small sized	-	3	-	2	-	5
Sand based AGP	Full sized	-	2	1	3	-	6
	Small sized	-	-	1	-	-	1
Bowling greens		-	-	14	-	-	14
Tennis		3	23	32	24	5	87
Netball <sup>6</sup>		-	19	-	13	2	34
Athletics		-	-	-	1	-	1
Skateparks		2	-	-	-	7	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>372</b>

<sup>6</sup> The majority of identified netball courts are overmarked on tennis courts.

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## Context

The primary purpose of the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) is to provide a strategic framework which ensures that the provision of outdoor playing pitches meet the local needs of existing and future residents across Rushcliffe. The Strategy is produced in accordance with Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (October 2013 as updated in March 2014) and the National Planning Policy Framework and provides robust and objective justification for future playing pitch provision throughout the Borough.

One of the core planning principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs. Section 8 of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities. Paragraph 73 discusses the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

The Rushcliffe Local Plan needs to be based upon a robust evidence base. Paragraph 73 of the NPPF requires “planning policies to be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of needs. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.” Paragraph 74 of the NPPF require assessments to be used to inform the protection of “existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields.”

Planning Policy and other relevant sport related corporate strategies must be based upon a robust evidence base in order to ensure planning and sports development policy can be implemented efficiently and effectively. A Playing Pitch Strategy will complement the objectives and action plan associated with other corporate strategies:

### Corporate and strategic:

- ◀ It ensures a strategic approach to playing pitch provision. The PPS will act as a tool for Rushcliffe Borough Council and partner organisations to guide resource allocation and set priorities for pitch sports in the future.
- ◀ It provides robust evidence for capital funding. As well as proving the need for developer contributions towards pitches and facilities a playing pitch strategy can provide evidence of need for a range of capital grants. Current funding examples include the Sport England Funding Programmes, Heritage Lottery Fund (for park improvements), the Football Foundation and the Big Lottery.

### Planning:

- ◀ The Playing Pitch Strategy will provide important evidence to support the Rushcliffe Local Plan and is an important sub-strategy of the Rushcliffe Borough Council Leisure Facilities Strategy 2017-2027.
- ◀ It will support strategic policies on green infrastructure, leisure, outdoor sports facilities and health and well-being.
- ◀ Evidence for Community Infrastructure Levy and Developer Contributions

### Operational:

- ◀ It can help improve management of assets management, which should result in more efficient use of resources and reduced overheads.
- ◀ The Action Plan will identify sites where quality of provision can be enhanced.
- ◀ An assessment of all pitches (in use and lapsed) will be undertaken to understand how pitches are used and whether the current maintenance and management regimes are appropriate or require change.

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## Sports development:

- It helps identify which sites have community use and whether that use is secure or not.
- It helps identify where community use of school sports pitches is most needed to address any identified deficits in pitch provision.
- It provides better information to residents and other users of sports pitches available for use. This includes information about both pitches and sports teams / user groups.
- It promotes sports development and can help unlock latent demand by identifying where the lack of facilities might be suppressing the formation of teams/community needs.

## Headline findings

Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>7</sup>
Football (grass pitches)	Bingham	Demand can presently be met.	<b>Shortfall of:</b> One youth 11v11 match equivalent session per week One youth 9v9 match equivalent session per week
	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	<b>Shortfall of:</b> Three adult match equivalent sessions per week. 0.5 youth 9v9 match equivalent sessions per week	<b>Shortfall of:</b> 3.5 adult match equivalent sessions per week. One youth 11v11 match equivalent session per week One youth 9v9 match equivalent session per week One mini 7v7 match equivalent session per week. One mini 5v5 match equivalent session per week.
	East Leake	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met.
	Keyworth	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met.
	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Shortfall of:</b> 5.5 adult match equivalent sessions per week.	<b>Shortfall of:</b> Nine adult match equivalent sessions per week. 3.5 youth 11v11 match equivalent session per week.
Football (3G pitches) <sup>8</sup>	Bingham	<b>Shortfall of one full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>	<b>Shortfall of one full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>
	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met.
	East Leake	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met.
	Keyworth	<b>Shortfall of one full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>	<b>Shortfall of one full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>
	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Shortfall of two full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>	<b>Shortfall of three full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>

<sup>7</sup> Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes any latent and displaced demand identified.

<sup>8</sup> Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for affiliated team training.

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Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>9</sup>
Rugby union	Bingham	Demand can presently be met.	<b>Shortfall of 0.5 senior match equivalent sessions per week</b>
	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met.
	East Leake	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met.
	Keyworth	Demand can presently be met.	<b>Shortfall of 0.5 senior match sessions per week.</b>
	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Shortfall of nine senior match sessions per week.</b>	<b>Shortfall of 11 senior match sessions per week.</b>
Cricket	Bingham	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met. <i>No future shortfall on the basis that actual spare capacity located at Butts Field, Sheldon Field or The Green can be accessed for clubs wishing to field new senior Saturday or Sunday teams.</i>
	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met.
	East Leake	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met.
	Keyworth	Demand can presently be met, although overplay at Keyworth CC is identified and equates to 17 match sessions per season.	Demand can be met <i>on the basis spare capacity at Colston Bassett CC can be accessed and utilised for future demand expressed by Keyworth CC. If not, future demand expressed by Keyworth cannot be accommodated and site expansion is required.</i>
	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Current shortfall of 34 match sessions on a Saturday and Sunday.</b>	<b>Future shortfall of 118 match sessions per season on a Saturday and 42 match sessions on a Sunday.</b>
Hockey (Sand/water AGPs)	Rushcliffe	<b>Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week.</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week.</b> <i>Possibly increasing to eight match equivalent sessions per week if the AGP at West Bridgford School becomes inaccessible.</i>
Touch	Rushcliffe	<b>Increased access to 3G capacity required in West Bridgford and Ruddington Area.</b>	<b>Increased access to 3G capacity required in West Bridgford and Ruddington Area.</b>

<sup>9</sup> Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes any latent and displaced demand identified.

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Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>9</sup>
Bowling	Rushcliffe	Current demand can be met in all analysis areas <b>with the exception of West Bridgford and Ruddington which has demand for one additional bowling green.</b>	Future can be met in all analysis areas <b>with the exception of West Bridgford and Ruddington which has demand for one additional bowling green.</b>
Tennis	Rushcliffe	Demand Borough wide is met <b>with the exception of East Bridgford TC and Upper Broughton TC.</b>	<b>Expected capacity shortfalls at East Bridgford TC (Butts Field) and Upper Broughton TC.</b>
Netball	Rushcliffe	Demand can be met Borough wide.	Demand can be met Borough wide.
Skateparks	Rushcliffe	Demand is met. Qualitative improvements required at several sites.	Demand can be met.

## Conclusions

The existing position for all pitch sports is either demand is currently being met or there is a shortfall. For football, there is evidence of current spare capacity, however, when factoring future demand this becomes a position of shortfall for all pitch formats except adult football where limited spare capacity should be retained in reserve. The future position for other sports such as rugby union shows exacerbation of current shortfalls. In addition, some sports and some areas where demand is currently being met will experience shortfalls.

As such, there is a need to protect all existing playing pitch provision until demand is met. Some shortfalls can be reduced through increased access to existing provision, for example increased certification of 3G pitches for competitive football match play would create new capacity to reduce future grass pitch shortfalls currently unavailable due to compliancy.

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## Recommended short term actions (12-18 months)

Site ID	Site/organisation name	Analysis Area	Action	Partners	Indicative cost <sup>10</sup>
General		Borough/ Nottingham City	Undertake further work to better understand supply and demand for full sized 3G pitch provision across the Nottinghamshire area including bordering authorities to Rushcliffe, in order to inform the outline portfolio application for the Parklife Football Hubs programme led by Nottingham City.	Council FA RFU England Hockey	Low
56	Rushcliffe School (Nottingham Football Centre)	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Progress proposals to develop a new hockey suitable AGP, ensuring that proposals are able to meet National Planning Policy. If progressed, seek to secure community use (especially for hockey) through formal agreement/planning condition.	School England Hockey	High
27	Gresham Sports Park	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Seek to resolve reported drainage issues through increased aeration and potential installation of drainage systems through Section 106 funding secured.	Council FA	Medium
47	Plumtree CC	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Progress plans to create a second pitch on land adjacent to the site to reduce overplay and allow exported teams to return to play at Plumtree CC.	Sports Club ECB	High
74	West Bridgford School	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Further negotiation required with the School to address cost accessibility issues and withdrawal of community use following previous Football Foundation investment into grass pitches onsite.	School England Hockey FA FF	Low
6	Bingham Leisure Centre/Toot Hill School	Bingham	Determine longer-term vision for the site and potential reconfiguration/layout, including resurfacing of the athletics track.	School England Athletics	Low

<sup>10</sup> Low - less than £50k; Medium - £50k-£250k; High £250k and above

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Site ID	Site/organisation name	Analysis Area	Action	Partners	Indicative cost <sup>11</sup>
37	Nottinghamshire Sports Club	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Clubs onsite (Nottingham Rugby and Nottingham Corsairs RFC) to continue exploring the feasibility of delivering a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in replacement of the current main natural turf pitch to help meet some of the overcapacity pitch issues on site.	Sports Clubs RFU	High
			Seek to improve changing and clubhouse facilities for shared rugby union, cricket and hockey use, potentially as part of a wider 3G development scheme.	Sports Clubs RFU ECB England Hockey	
72	Upper Broughton Tennis Club	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Explore feasibility to create additional courts and provide floodlighting for current courts to create additional capacity at the Club.	Sports Club LTA	Medium
1	Alford Road Playing Fields	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Seek to make qualitative improvements and improvement to maintenance across all pitches to reduce levels of overplay.	Council FA	Medium
52	Regatta Way				

<sup>11</sup> Low - less than £50k; Medium - £50k-£250k; High £250k and above

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## Definitions

### Match equivalent sessions

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

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

### Pitch capacity

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing 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, each NGB has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its current quality (pitch capacity):

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches per week		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3	2	1
	Youth pitches	4	2	1
	Mini pitches	6	4	2
Rugby league	Senior	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	N/A	N/A
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	N/A	N/A

Rugby union pitches		Maintenance rating			
Drainage rating					
			Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
	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	

### Shortfalls

Please note that shortfalls are expressed in match equivalent sessions rather than as pitches as it is possible that shortfalls could be accommodated in various ways (e.g. through pitch improvements) and not just by providing more pitches. For a full Glossary of terms please refer to Appendix Four.



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## PART 2: VISION

The strategy seeks to support the Council and its partners in the creation of the vision as follows:

*“To produce a robust and comprehensive Strategy which will provide the essential evidence base for informing decisions on planning and investment in the pursuit to provide appropriate outdoor sports provision for all.”*

To achieve this strategic vision, the strategy seeks to deliver the following objectives;

- ◀ Ensure that all valuable facilities are protected for the long-term benefit of sport
- ◀ Promote a sustainable approach to the provision of playing pitches and management of sports clubs
- ◀ Ensure that there are enough facilities in the right place to meet current and projected future demand
- ◀ Ensure that all clubs have access to facilities of appropriate quality to meet current needs and longer-term aspirations.

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## PART 3: AIMS

The following overarching aims are based on the three Sport England themes (see Figure 1 below). Delivery of the Strategy is the responsibility of and relies on, the Steering Group.

It is recommended that the following are adopted by the Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the Playing Pitch Strategy and Sport England's requirements.

### Aim 1

To **protect** the existing supply of playing pitches where it is needed for meeting current and future needs

### Aim 2

To **enhance** playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites

### Aim 3

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

Figure 1: Sport England planning objectives - Protect, Enhance and Provide



Source: Sport England 2015

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## PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to help develop the recommendations/actions and to understand their potential impact a number of relevant scenario questions are tested against the key issues in this section for the playing pitch sports resulting in the sport specific recommendations.

### Football pitches

**Current supply of football pitch provision is insufficient with shortfalls evident at the adult pitch format, though capacity exists for youth 9v9 and mini soccer pitches.**

**When considering future demand, there will be shortfalls for all pitch types except youth 9v9 pitches. However, some of this future demand may be able to be accommodated on 3G pitches where certified.**

### Summary – grass

- ◀ There are 152 grass football pitches in Rushcliffe
- ◀ 125 are reported to be available for community use on some level.
- ◀ 82% of pitches available for community use are rated as standard, 2% good and 14% poor.
- ◀ Changing facilities are a key issue at some football sites.
- ◀ Changing facilities at Spa Lane, Ridley Sports Ground and Costock Road Playing Field are particularly poor.
- ◀ There is a potential loss of one adult football pitch at Rushcliffe School (Nottingham Football Centre) because of School plans to develop a hockey suitable AGP on the site.
- ◀ There are 328 affiliated teams play competitive football within Rushcliffe in the 2016/2017 football season.
- ◀ 42 teams play on school sites and are thus considered to have 'insecure tenure'.
- ◀ Four clubs have aspirations for a long-term lease or asset transfer.
- ◀ Team generation rates based on population indicate the likely creation of an additional two adult teams, and eight youth teams.
- ◀ Spare capacity in Rushcliffe amounts to 19.5 match equivalent sessions per week across all pitches types, some on pitches which are available but currently unused.

### Scenarios - grass

- ◀ **Improving pitch quality (poor quality)** – improving poor quality pitches with secure tenure (either through increased maintenance or drainage improvements in order to increase pitch capacity) to standard quality will help to reduce overplay expressed.
- ◀ There are eight poor quality pitches across two sites where tenure is considered to be secure. Improving these pitches from poor to standard quality would generate an increase in potential carrying capacity of ten match equivalent sessions (MES) per week, though not all necessarily available at peak times.
- ◀ Adult pitches at both sites (Alford Road Playing Fields and Ridley Sports ground) are overplayed, due to a combination of limited capacity through poor quality and high level of intensified demand using overmarked pitches within.
- ◀ Improving the quality of the two adult pitches at Ridley Sports Ground from poor to standard would balance capacity across the site, enabling pitches to better sustain current overmarked use.

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- ◀ Similarly, improving the quality of pitches at Alford Road Playing Field would also eliminate overplay and create potential capacity across all pitch types, though reduced overmarking of pitches should be sought to reduce impact on quality in the longer term.
- ◀ **Improving pitch quality (overplay)** - Improving pitch quality at all overplayed sites with secured access to increase capacity as a means to reduce or eliminate overplay would have an effective impact on Borough wide levels of overplay.
- ◀ The table below shows the potential effect of improving pitch quality by one increment (poor to standard or standard to good) at overplayed sites where tenure is considered secure.
- ◀ Doing so would eliminate overplay completely at four of the five sites evidencing overplay, with the exception of Regatta Way Sports Ground which would remain overplayed to a total of 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week. There is a requirement for greater capacity in order to accommodate all demand at this site and qualitative improvements coupled with a reduction in overmarked use presents a more effective longer-term solution, though Alford Road Playing Fields represents the nearest site offering secure tenure and is presently overplayed also.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

The table below shows the possible effect of improving pitch quality (from poor to standard or standard to good) to increase potential capacity at only overplayed sites offering secure tenure:

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Security of tenure <sup>12</sup>	Management	Pitch type <sup>13</sup>	Pitch size	Quality rating	Number of pitches	Current play (in match sessions)	FA recommended site capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Overused, at capacity or potential to accommodate additional play <sup>14</sup>	New capacity (quality increase)	Potential capacity effect
1	Alford Road Playing Field	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Secure	Council	Adult (9v9)		Poor	2	3.5	2	1.5	4	0.5
					Adult		Poor	1	2	1	1	2	-
7	Bingham Road Playing Fields	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Secure	Sports Club	Youth (7v7)	(9v9)	Standard	1	2.5	2	0.5	4	1.5
9	Butt Field Sports Club	Bingham	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Standard	3	9	6	3	9	-
9	Butt Field Sports Club	Bingham	Secure	Sports Club	Youth (7v7)	(9v9)	Standard	1	2.5	2	0.5	4	1.5
52	Regatta Way Sports Ground	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Secure	Sports Club	Adult		Standard	3	10.5	6	4.5	9	1.5

<sup>12</sup> 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.

<sup>13</sup> Where pitches are over marked, recommended capacity is based on the larger pitch size, whilst type and usage of smaller pitch sizes marked within are shown in italics.

<sup>14</sup> Where spare capacity is evident at school sites beyond community usage, pitches are considered to have no spare capacity for additional use in light of unaccounted school use throughout the week.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Security of tenure <sup>12</sup>	Management	Pitch type <sup>13</sup>	Pitch size	Quality rating	Number of pitches	Current play (in match sessions)	FA recommended site capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Overused, at capacity or potential to accommodate additional play <sup>14</sup>	New capacity (quality increase)	Potential capacity effect
53	Ridley Sports Ground	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Secure	Parish Council	Adult (9v9)		Poor	1	2	1	1	2	-
					Adult (7v7) (7v7)			1	2	1	1	2	-

- Improving the quality of overplayed pitches where poor to standard and where standard to good would create an additional 15 match equivalent sessions per week. Based on the table above, this would be sufficient to eliminate overplay at all overplayed sites except Regatta Way Sports Ground.
- Eliminating overmarked use** – several teams use overmarked pitches for varying reasons, often so that all club teams can be retained playing in the home site environment, however can negatively impact on pitches and lead to overplay when combined with regular usage for the main pitch type.
- Six of the 13 presently overplayed pitches shown above are overmarked and therefore subject to intensified use by multiple playing formats. Qualitative improvements would create further capacity, whilst transfer of overmarked use to capacity elsewhere or on 3G pitches would further exacerbate this increase in potential capacity made available.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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- ◀ **Loss of access at school sites** – there are 12 pitches across Rushcliffe School (Nottingham Football Centre) and The Becket School where tenure is considered unsecure and there is current use by clubs, totalling 21 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ Loss of access to these pitches would generate a need to re-accommodate 3.5 adult match equivalent sessions per week, four youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions per week, four youth 9v9 match equivalent sessions per week, 4.5 mini 7v7 match equivalent sessions per week and five mini 5v5 match equivalent sessions per week in the West Bridgford & Ruddington Area which cannot be accommodated by grass pitch provision either at present or in future.
- ◀ **Loss of access to all unsecure sites** – in addition to the aforementioned school sites, only two adult pitches at Roko Health Club (West Bridgford & Ruddington Area) are considered to offer unsecure tenure for community clubs. Loss of access to these pitches would create a need to re-accommodate four adult teams, totalling two adult match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ Loss of access to all unsecure sites would therefore increase the demand to be re-accommodated to a total of 23 match equivalent sessions per week, not able to be accommodated by grass pitch provision in the Area at present or in future.
- ◀ **Loss of grass pitch provision** – proposals to develop a new AGP at Rushcliffe School (Nottingham Football Centre) which include the loss of one adult football pitch would exacerbate adult overplay onsite from two match equivalent sessions per week to three, increasing current and future shortfalls in the West Bridgford & Ruddington Area from 5.5 to 6.5 and eight to nine match equivalent sessions per week respectively.
- ◀ **Loss of access to low value pitch sites** – the Borough Council only manages grass football pitch provision at Alford Road, Gresham Sports Park and West Park, therefore there are no operational local authority sites considered to be 'low value'.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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### **Recommendations – grass**

- ◀ Existing quantity of football pitches to be protected, except for where low value/single pitch sites are considered suitable and feasible to be lost for development on the condition that re-provision of playing field land elsewhere represents a preferable and greater benefit to sport.
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and rated as standard or poor quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality.
- ◀ Seek to reduce or eliminate over marking of pitches in order to reduce level of use, either to capacity expressed elsewhere, capacity which may be created through new provision, or through increased use of FA/FIFA certified 3G pitches.
- ◀ Look to utilise actual spare capacity expressed on sites in order to cater for existing and future demand including overplay. This may require improvements to pitch quality and is explored on a site by site basis within the accompanying action plan.
- ◀ Consider potential for asset transfer or long term leasehold to clubs which are considered realistically able to sustain and maintain sporting provision as required, allowing for greater opportunities to access external funding streams for facility development.
- ◀ Seek to increase use of 3G pitches in order to increase capacity available to address current and future shortfalls and review impact on grass pitches as part of the PPS Annual Review.
- ◀ Determine sites with key qualitative issues which may benefit most from technical assessment and a composed bespoke programme of works through the FA Pitch Improvement Programme.
- ◀ Improve, provide and increase access to changing facilities which serve grass football pitches. Ensure any works ensure suitability for female and disability access to facilitate increased formats of football. Ridley Sports Ground and Costock Road Playing Fields are identified as having notably poor quality changing and ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Ensure adequate provision for increased demand generated by housing developments, secured through appropriately calculated developer contributions.



# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## 3G pitches

**Supply and demand analysis highlights that Rushcliffe has insufficient supply of full sized 3G pitches to meet current and future demand, based on the FA training model.**

**This is supported by other sports such as rugby union which also require access to 3G pitch provision and exhibit shortfalls or demand for increased access.**

**The shortfall for affiliated football team training equates to four full sized 3G pitches based on present demand, increasing to five in light of anticipated future demand.**

## Summary

- ◀ There are four full sized 3G pitches within Rushcliffe. All are floodlit and three are available for community use, with the exception of Nottingham Forest FC Academy which is not.
- ◀ There are six smaller sized 3G pitches able to accommodate some use and training demand.
- ◀ All three 3G pitches available for community use are FA certified and registered.
- ◀ All three pitches available for community use are rated as standard quality, whilst the unavailable pitch at Nottingham Forest FC Academy is rated as good.
- ◀ The pitch at South Nottingham Academy and Sixth Form is ten years old and subject to rate of deterioration should be considered for resurfacing in the short term.
- ◀ Based on the FA training model for 3G pitch provision, 328 teams currently playing in Rushcliffe equates to a requirement for seven full sized 3G pitches by analysis area. Given that three are presently available for community use there is a current shortfall of four.
- ◀ When considering future demand (an additional 60 teams), the shortfall increases to five full sized 3G pitches.
- ◀ The model indicates that the Bingham, Keyworth and West Bridgford & Ruddington areas currently require access to additional 3G pitch provision either within or in accessible distance to accommodate football training demand.
- ◀ There are no World Rugby Compliant 3G pitches in Rushcliffe though the RFU is keen to explore opportunities to create new World Rugby compliant provision in the Nottinghamshire area. This may potentially include Nottinghamshire Sports Ground where Nottingham Rugby Ltd and Nottingham Corsairs RFC have aspirations to develop one onsite.
- ◀ Neighbouring Nottingham City has been provisionally progressed to the first stage of the FA Parklife Programme to develop football hub sites, as a portfolio application in conjunction with neighbouring Boroughs Gedling, Broxtowe and Rushcliffe. There are plans to undertake further work as a regional approach including Rushcliffe to understand the impact and potential strategic locations for development of multiple 3G pitches, many of which would be accessible to residents of the Borough.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## Scenarios – 3G pitches<sup>15</sup>

- ▶ **Moving all mini teams to play on 3G pitches<sup>16</sup>** – there are currently 126 mini (5v5 and 7v7) teams playing competitive football on grass pitches in Rushcliffe which based on the FA model in Appendix One would require six full sized FA/FIFA certified 3G pitches to accommodate all mini teams. This is on the basis that both playing formats can be accommodated on one day using staggered kick off times. It should however be noted however that the Nottingham Youth Football League does operate across both Saturdays and Sundays which gives more flexibility for programming onto 3G pitches.
- ▶ **Use of 3G pitches to accommodate future grass pitch shortfalls** – in order to accommodate future grass pitch shortfalls across all pitch types, additional capacity equivalent to a total of four full sized FA/FIFA certified 3G pitches would be required (based on all new teams playing at peak times in the assessment).
- ▶ **Development of football hubs** – the FA Parklife Programme aims to create football hub sites, each to include multiple full sized 3G pitches which support grass pitch provision also onsite, allowing for sustainable, programmed football delivery. This as a single portfolio investment provides an all-in-one solution across a local authority area.
- ▶ Rushcliffe Borough Council will be undertaking further evidence base work with Gedling Borough Council, Broxtowe Borough Council and Nottingham City Council to understand current regional demand for full sized 3G pitches, including whether and how the FA Parklife Model could work across the four local authority areas.
- ▶ Should this further work identify a key need for additional full sized 3G pitches accessible across the four authorities, this would likely influence 3G pitch provision in Rushcliffe.

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<sup>15</sup> Refer to Appendix One: 3G Pitch Scenario for the programming model used.

<sup>16</sup> Figures are rounded up to the nearest full size pitch.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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### Recommendations – 3G pitches

- ◀ Explore opportunities to create multi-pitch (potentially multi-sport) hub sites where 3G provision is able to support grass pitches as a broader, sustainable, all-in-one community offer. This may potentially be delivered through (but not limited to) the FA Parklife Programme.
- ◀ Ensure current supply is maintained regularly and rigorously as required to ensure continued quality for use and ensure they are of sufficient quality to pass performance standing testing or certification renewal.
- ◀ Retain all certified 3G pitches on the FA register and ensure certification of each is renewed through performance standard testing so to maintain the level of 3G capacity available to accommodate demand.
- ◀ Given significant overplay identified from West Bridgford RFC, Nottingham Corsairs RFC, Nottingham Rugby Ltd and Nottingham City based Club Nottingham Moderns RFC there is a requirement to create a full-sized World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in the region as a way to alleviate shortfalls. Each respective site is landlocked and therefore site expansions are unrealistic.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility and financial case for sustainability to develop a full-sized World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in the region, including potential sites in Rushcliffe.
- ◀ Seek to maximise use of FA certified capacity where available at weekends to accommodate football match play in order to reduce grass pitch shortfalls.
- ◀ Should any new 3G pitches be built, seek to secure access through usage agreements where possible as a condition of partnership investment or planning conditions.
- ◀ Should any new 3G pitches be built, ensure they are constructed to required specifications and to meet FA recommended rather than minimum dimensions where land footprint allows, so to maximise opportunities for use for all formats of competitive play.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have a mechanism in place which ensures the long term sustainability of provision, such as sinking fund for repairs or resurfacing formed over time.
- ◀ Through the creation of new full sized 3G pitches, consider options to deliver a wide variety of football opportunities, including new formats of competitive football such as central venue midweek flexi and Vets leagues, as well as walking football and female development centres.
- ◀ Should any new 3G pitches be built, consider potential to certify for competitive use by sports additional to football as part of a shared scheme, for example to reduce shortfalls for rugby union or increase capacity available for the development of Touch rugby leagues.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## Cricket pitches

**Overall there is sufficient supply of cricket pitches Borough wide at present and in future to cater for demand from clubs at both senior and junior peak times.**

**However, when broken down by Analysis Area there are significant future shortfalls identified in the West Bridgford and Ruddington Area.**

## Summary

- ◀ In total, there are 28 grass cricket squares in Rushcliffe, all sites are available for community use with the exception of two squares located at Nottinghamshire Sports Ground.
- ◀ There are 14 NTPs accompanying grass squares and ten standalone NTPs.
- ◀ The non-technical assessments carried out on grass wicket squares found ten squares to be of good quality (36%) 17 standard quality (61%) and one poor quality (3%).
- ◀ The only poor-quality square in Rushcliffe is situated at the Woodview Ground.
- ◀ Five clubs report aspirations to develop or access a secondary square to accommodate additional cricket teams.
- ◀ The two changing rooms at Keyworth CC are condemned due to health and safety issues with the roof panels in
- ◀ Colson Bassett CC, Ruddington CC and Keyworth CC all report demand for additional training facilities.
- ◀ Nottinghamshire Sports Ground has poor quality changing and clubhouse provision.
- ◀ There are 25 affiliated cricket clubs in Rushcliffe generating 129 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of 64 men's, two women's, 58 junior boys' and five junior girls' teams.
- ◀ There are three Saturday senior teams displaced outside of Rushcliffe, all from clubs in the West Bridgford and Ruddington analysis area.
- ◀ Population growth using TGRs predict an increase of two junior boy's teams by 2028.
- ◀ Nine clubs have ambitions to increase the number of teams they currently operate.
- ◀ 13 sites in Rushcliffe contain actual spare capacity for either Saturday or Sunday cricket.
- ◀ There are eight sites overplayed which totals 126 match sessions per season which although considered to be high, is predominately due to high amounts of junior play.

## Scenarios

- ◀ **Improving quality at overplayed sites** – Of the eight overplayed sites, six have standard quality cricket squares. Improvements are required at Bingham, Ellerslie, Keyworth, Ruddington, Nottinghamians and West Bridgfordians CC to help mitigate the consequences of overplay.
- ◀ **Competitive senior match play on transferred to NTPs** – Where league rules permit, transfer play from grass wickets to non-turf wickets will allow shortfalls to be in part, reduced at seven of the overplayed sites in Rushcliffe, with the exception of Plumtree CC which does not have an NTP accompanying its cricket square.
- ◀ **Transfer of junior match play on to NTPs** - Overplay identified at Bingham, Ellerslie, Ruddington, Nottinghamians and Thrumpton CC can all be alleviated through greater use of NTP's by each junior section using the respective club site.
- ◀ **New provision** – Support Plumtree and Keyworth CC in its aspiration to develop a secondary square which will in turn allow overplay on its site to be fully alleviated, in addition to allowing each club to growth and re accommodate exported demand.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

- ◀ **Utilising spare capacity** – Future demand for senior Saturday teams by Ruddington and Bingham CC can be accommodated at either Regatta Way Sports Ground or West Park in the West Bridgford & Ruddington Analysis Area.
- ◀ **West Bridgfordians CC** – Given substantial overplay of 39 match sessions and the site not being able to extend its cricket square there is a requirement to access spare capacity in Rushcliffe.
- ◀ Spare capacity for additional play (including peak time Saturday) exists at ten sites across Rushcliffe which if accessed will be able to accommodate both current and future demand from West Bridgfordians CC (including junior teams) which in turn would significantly reduce overplay at West Bridgford Sports Club and Nottinghamians CC (which is the secondary site used by West Bridgfordians CC). The most suitable site to access would be Cotgrave Welfare Sports Club (situated 5.2 miles from West Bridgford Sports Club) which has the potential to accommodate both senior and junior play since Cotgrave CC folded in 2017 and is currently unused.

### Recommendations – cricket

- ◀ Existing quantity of cricket pitches to be protected.
- ◀ Work with clubs and grounds personnel to review quality issues on pitches and ensure appropriate requirements to improve quality are actioned.
- ◀ Work to support Plumtree and Keyworth CC in creating secondary squares.
- ◀ Ensure security of tenure for all clubs with appropriate lease agreements in place.
- ◀ Consider options to increase and improve stock of suitable practice facilities, particularly those servicing Colston Bassett, Ruddington and Keyworth Cricket Club.
- ◀ Address overplay via quality improvements, greater use of NTPs and of the creation of new squares.
- ◀ Seek to develop cricket within communities that more commonly play casual formats of the game.
- ◀ Explore options to provide for casual cricket formats.

### Rugby union pitches

***Current supply is not sufficient to cater for the level of demand expressed in Rushcliffe at present, totalling a need for a further seven match equivalent sessions per week on senior pitches. This is further exacerbated to create a future requirement for 11 match equivalent sessions per week.***

***There is also demand identified for full sized World Rugby compliant 3G pitch provision and consideration should be given to potential development of a compliant pitch in the Borough, able to help reduce shortfalls.***

### Summary

- ◀ There are 13 sites with 21 senior rugby union pitches.
- ◀ Of these, 16 senior pitches are available for community use.
- ◀ Of those available for community use, four are rated good, eight as standard and four as poor.
- ◀ Six clubs play within Rushcliffe plus teams fielded by South Notts Barbarians, Nottingham Trent University and Nottingham Moderns RFC.
- ◀ There are 15 men's teams, 15 junior boys' teams, one junior girls' team and 21 mini teams which access pitches in Rushcliffe.
- ◀ Tenure is considered to be secure for all clubs within Rushcliffe.
- ◀ Ancillary provision at Bingham RFC requires investment.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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- ◀ There is no World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in Rushcliffe (Nottingham Rugby Ltd has the aspiration to develop one at Nottinghamshire Sports Club).
- ◀ Future population increases (by 2028) may generate one additional junior boys team.
- ◀ Five clubs have aspirations to create additional teams which would create a need for an additional 2.5 match sessions of potential growth on senior pitches.
- ◀ There are five overplayed pitches on two sites (Nottinghamshire Sports Club and West Bridgford RFC). These total nine match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ Costock Road Playing Field – Site 2 is the only site across Rushcliffe which is identified as having two match sessions of actual spare capacity in Rushcliffe.
- ◀ There are Borough wide shortfalls identified both at present and in light of future demand.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on protecting the existing stock, as well as alleviating the overplay at Nottinghamshire Sports Ground and West Bridgford RFC - either via improvements to quality or creation of new provision.
- ◀ It is identified that there have been cases of displaced demand with clubs accessing provision at Nottingham Trent University for training and occasional match play.

## **Scenarios**

- ◀ **Improving pitch quality** – as shown in the table below, improving maintenance from poor (M0) to standard (M1) or standard (M1) to good (M2) at sites with secure tenure would create additional capacity of nine match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ This would create an additional seven match equivalent session per week where potential spare capacity already exists on sites (including sites which have a pitch/pitches played to capacity) and would reduce overplay at West Bridgford RFC by two match sessions, although not alleviate overplay in its entirety.
- ◀ It should also be noted that creating additional capacity at both West Bridgford RFC and at Nottinghamshire Sports Ground (Nottingham Corsairs and Nottingham Rugby Ltd) would not be available during the peak periods and would have minimal overall beneficial effect, as overplay would remain apparent, as can be seen in the tables below.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

- ✦ Maintenance improvements at Nottinghamshire Sports Ground would not impact on pitch capacity as maintenance is already undertaken to an M2 standard.
- ✦ Increasing maintenance to M2 at West Bridgford RFC would not eliminate overplay, with two match sessions of overplay still remaining.
- ✦ Maintenance improvements would create additional capacity at all remaining sites in Rushcliffe.

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Floodlighting	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Site capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Improved quality	Capacity effect
1	Alford Road Playing Field	Senior	Poor (M0/D1)	1	No	1.5	1.5	-	Standard (M1/D1)	0.5
16	Costock Road Playing Field – Site 2	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	2	No	0	4	4	Good (M2/D1)	6
43	Nottingham Cricket Club (Nottinghamians RFC)	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	1	Yes – partially	1.5	2	0.5	Good (M2/D1)	2.5
			Standard (M1/D1)	1	No	2	2	-	Good (M2/D1)	
83	Bingham RFC	Senior	Poor (M0/D1)	1	No	0.5	1.5	1	Standard (M1/D1)	1.5
84	Keyworth RFC	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	1	Yes	1.5	2	0.5	Good (M2/D1)	2.5
			Standard (M1/D1)	1	Yes - partially	2	2	-	Good (M2/D1)	
85	West Bridgford RFC	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	1	Yes	3	2	1	(Good) (M2/D1)	-
			Standard (M1/D1)	1	No	5	2	3	(Good) (M2/D1)	2



## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

- Alternatively, improving both maintenance (where currently below M2) and drainage by one increment would create additional capacity of 13 match equivalent sessions per week across the sites shown below. Despite improvements, overplay would still be apparent at both Nottinghamshire Sports Club and West Bridgford RFC totalling 5.75 match sessions.

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Floodlighting	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Site capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Improved quality	Capacity effect
1	Alford Road Playing Field	Senior	Poor (M0/D1)	1	No	1.5	1.5	-	Standard (M1/D2)	1
16	Costock Road Playing Field – Site 2	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	2	No	0	4	4	Good (M2/D2)	6.5
37	Nottinghamshire Sports Club	Senior	Good (M2/D1)	1	Yes	1	3	2	Good (M2/D2)	2.25
			Good (M2/D1)	1	No	5	3	2	Good (M2/D2)	1.75
			Good (M2/D1)	1	Yes	5	3	2	Good (M2/D2)	1.75
			Good (M2/D1)	1	Yes - partially	5.5	3	2.5	Good (M2/D2)	2.25
43	Nottingham Cricket Club (Nottinghamians RFC)	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	1	Yes – partially	1.5	2	0.5	Good (M2/D2)	1.75
			Standard (M1/D1)	1	No	2	2	-	Good (M2/D2)	1.25
83	Bingham RFC	Senior	Poor (M0/D1)	1	No	0.5	1.5	1	Standard (M1/D2)	2
84	Keyworth RFC	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	1	Yes	1.5	2	0.5	Good (M2/D2)	1.75
			Standard (M1/D1)	1	Yes - partially	2	2	-	Good (M2/D2)	1.25
85	West Bridgford RFC	Senior	Standard (M1/D1)	1	Yes	3	2	1	Good (M2/D2)	0.25
			Standard (M1/D1)	1	No	5	2	3	Good (M2/D2)	1.75



## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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- ◀ **Increased World Rugby compliant 3G provision** – The RFU is keen to explore opportunities to invest in the development of new World Rugby (WR) compliant provision in the Nottinghamshire region.
- ◀ One of several potential options, Nottingham Rugby Ltd has aspirations to develop a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in place of the main natural turf pitch at Nottinghamshire Sports Club, subject to further exploration of feasibility.
- ◀ As well as greater capacity to host midweek training, a new WR compliant 3G pitch in replacement of a grass pitch would create additional capacity of one match equivalent session per week at both senior and junior peak times (on the basis that 3G pitches can accommodate back to back matches without the same immediate impact on pitch quality).
- ◀ **Removal of training from match pitches** – There is a total of 8.5 match equivalent sessions per week of training demand exerted onto three grass pitches at Nottinghamshire Sports Ground. Transfer of this onto a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch would eradicate all overplay on site and create spare capacity equating to two match sessions on the three accessible grass pitches on site.
- ◀ Transferring training demand from West Bridgford RFC would help alleviate overplay by 2.5 match sessions, in turn leaving 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week on site. This can be addressed through qualitative improvements to the grass pitches on site.

### Recommendations – rugby union

- ◀ Existing quantity of rugby pitches to be protected.
- ◀ As a priority, seek to develop new World Rugby compliant provision in the region and determine potential strategic host sites. Establish feasibly to do so at Nottinghamshire Sports Club including model for sustainability, as a compliant 3G pitch here would have significant benefit in reducing overplay which mainly derives from training demand from a number of site user groups/clubs.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at poor quality sites used by clubs, particularly at Bingham RFC through marginal improvements to the basic maintenance regime, as well as Alford Road Playing Fields.
- ◀ Improve quality of maintenance regime and redial programme at West Bridgford RFC to increase capacity as a means of reducing level of overplay across the site.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at Nottingham Cricket Club (Nottinghamians RFC) through improvements to the maintenance regime in order to increase capacity available, both for the resident club and West Bridgford RFC to alleviate use at West Bridgford RFC.
- ◀ Seek to improve poor quality changing and ancillary provision at Bingham RFC.
- ◀ Should aspirations for the development of World Rugby compliant 3G pitch provision be progressed at Nottinghamshire Sports Club, consider potential to develop extended and improved changing and ancillary provision as part of a wider scheme to alleviate issues affecting all sports clubs using the site.
- ◀ Where any new 3G pitches may be built to World Rugby compliancy at school/Academy sites, consider use by clubs where required in order to manage usage levels of provision at club sites.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## Hockey pitches (AGPs)

**Current supply of AGPs is insufficient to cater for current demand and there is a requirement to accommodate an additional 3.5 match sessions in the West Bridgford & Ruddington Area.**

**Should the AGP at West Bridgford School be made inaccessible to community users, there would be a potential shortfall of eight match equivalent sessions per week in the West Bridgford & Ruddington Area.**

## Summary

- ◀ There are currently six full size floodlit hockey suitable AGPs in Rushcliffe - all available for community use.
- ◀ In addition, there is one small sided hockey suitable AGP situated at Bingham Playing Fields.
- ◀ Of the six, four are currently used.
- ◀ The two unused AGPs are poor quality and are not considered for use by local hockey clubs.
- ◀ Rushcliffe School (Nottingham Football Centre) is preparing to apply for planning permission to develop a hockey suitable AGP on site.
- ◀ All full size AGPs are readily available to the community during the peak period, as identified by Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM).
- ◀ AGPs situated at Bingham Leisure Centre, East Leake Leisure Centre and West Bridgford School have carpets exceeding recommended lifespans and are all of poor quality.
- ◀ Four clubs field teams in Rushcliffe contribute to a total of 19 senior men's teams (including one senior men's vets team), 13 women's teams and one mixed senior team.
- ◀ In addition, three of the four Clubs in Rushcliffe have junior sections. Manning HC is the only Club which does not operate a junior programme.
- ◀ South Nottingham Hockey Club, Manning Hockey Club and West Bridgford Hockey Club do not have secure tenure on the AGPs used.
- ◀ Boots Hockey Club has seven years remaining on its lease agreement from Nottinghamshire Sports Club.
- ◀ Boots Hockey Club expresses exported demand as it requires the usage of the AGP at Nottingham Trent University to accommodate Saturday fixtures.
- ◀ West Bridgford Hockey Club and Boots Hockey Club have a requirement for the use of a secondary site to accommodate all senior fixtures.
- ◀ West Bridgford has six years remaining on its clubhouse lease on West Bridgford School.
- ◀ It is recognised that access to the AGP at West Bridgford School for West Bridgford Hockey Club is becoming increasingly restricted and there is a requirement to explore other pitch options.
- ◀ South Nottingham Hockey Club has future demand aspirations of four senior teams whilst West Bridgford Hockey Club has future demand of one senior ladies team.
- ◀ Both West Bridgford and Boots Hockey Club have aspirations to keep growing the junior sections of each club.
- ◀ The priority for hockey in Rushcliffe should be to retain and protect the four AGPs which are regularly used for hockey.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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### Scenarios

- ◀ **Loss of access to education sites** – 18 of the 33 teams (55%) currently playing on Saturdays do so at education sites where tenure is considered to be unsecure. Loss of access to these sites would create a need to re-accommodate peak time demand of nine match equivalent sessions per week, primarily in the West Bridgford and Ruddington analysis area where eight match sessions would be required, which in itself equates for the need of two full sized hockey suitable AGPs.
- ◀ **Loss of access at West Bridgford School** – The AGP at West Bridgford School particularly is reported to be increasingly difficult to access due to cost of hire and relations between West Bridgford Hockey Club and the School. With a clubhouse facility adjacent to the Schools AGP a loss of access would make this facility redundant. In addition, there would be a requirement to accommodate demand of 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week in West Bridgford & Ruddington.
- ◀ **Creation of new hockey suitable AGPs** – The creation of a hockey suitable AGP at Rushcliffe school can alleviate all hockey shortfalls in Rushcliffe, on the basis that all currently used AGPs are retained and utilised for hockey use.
- ◀ If loss of access to the AGP at West Bridgford School occurs, there will be a requirement to create a new hockey suitable AGP in Rushcliffe or West Bridgford Hockey Club will be required to play fixtures outside of Rushcliffe as AGP's at East Leake Leisure Centre and Bingham Leisure Centre (secondary AGP) are poor quality and not suitable for performance level hockey.
- ◀ Should any new sand based AGPs be created at school sites, community access should be sought and secured through formal usage agreement. This would help to strengthen the position of tenure for hockey clubs and increase the proportion of capacity secured for hockey, given the level of current use at education sites where use is not secured.
- ◀ **Transfer of football training demand** – should new 3G pitches be created, there is a likely impact on the future sustainability of hockey suitable AGPs as some football demand is likely to transfer onto 3G pitches as more are provided.
- ◀ Access to this capacity should be sought for hockey use to accommodate and facilitate participation growth including access for clubs.
- ◀ Conversion of sand based AGP's to 3G should not take place unless consultation with England Hockey identifies the AGP in question is not required to meet existing or future predicted demand. Rushcliffe Borough Council could consider implementing planning conditions for any new Artificial Grass Pitches to prevent inappropriate conversion that has a detrimental impact on the existing sport.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## Recommendations – hockey

- ◀ Retain currently used hockey suitable AGPs as hockey suitable surfaces.
- ◀ Support plans to create a hockey suitable AGP at Rushcliffe School and seek to formally secure community use through agreement, potentially linked to any Section 106 funding should it contribute towards funding the development. Consider West Bridgford HC as a potential anchor hockey user in light of tenure issues at West Bridgford School.
- ◀ Look to secure community use through formal agreement where possible, especially through linked external funding and especially at education sites.
- ◀ Should access be lost at West Bridgford School, explore opportunities to work with West Bridgford HC to develop new provision on an alternative site with secured access, potentially at Rushcliffe School.
- ◀ Increase participation driven through community clubs and schools.
- ◀ Maintain AGPs regularly and to the standard required to preserve quality for performance. Monitor quality and rate of natural deterioration and seek resurfacing when required so not to impact on hockey use, for example at Bingham Leisure Centre where the surface is in excess of the recommended lifespan and used for club league hockey.
- ◀ Encourage providers to put sinking funds (formed by periodically setting aside money over time ready for surface replacement when required) in place to maintain AGP pitch quality in the long-term.

## Other sports

### *Touch*

**Current supply cannot sufficiently accommodate demand in winter and there is a need for additional capacity on pitches to accommodate existing unmet demand for touch expressed by the winter league**

## Summary

- ◀ In Rushcliffe, Touch Rugby leagues are operated by Perfect Motion with Gresham Sports Park as the site for competitive fixtures
- ◀ Approximately 100 of 400 participants in the Nottingham Summer and Nottingham Winter League reside in Rushcliffe.
- ◀ Rushcliffe Borough Council has allocated funding to Nottingham Touch to establish a satellite club at The Becket School.
- ◀ Summer league sessions held on the grass pitches at Gresham Sports Park are impacted upon by a reduction in playing field space available to mark touch pitches due to clashing with the ongoing football season.
- ◀ Nottingham Winter League reports only being able to access two-thirds of a pitch throughout the winter and as such has previously turned away teams interested in join the league.
- ◀ This highlights existing unmet demand for touch in Rushcliffe and a requirement for access to additional capacity on AGPs during the winter to facilitate growth in participation.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## Recommendations – Touch

- ◀ Develop touch participation in the Borough through greater engagement with Nottingham Touch, England Touch and the Nottingham Touch Leagues including outreach to the potential latent market amongst rugby union clubs in the Borough.
- ◀ Seek to secure access to additional capacity to facilitate the growth of the Nottingham Touch Leagues which is presently inhibited, particularly during the winter. This may include access to any new AGP or 3G pitch provision.
- ◀ Consider potential for Gresham Sports Park to act as a hub for the development of touch in Rushcliffe, to accommodate both summer and winter league play as well as club training.
- ◀ Continue to develop touch through links with local universities in the City in order to increase participation.
- ◀ Explore potential to link with both the club and league to deliver community touch sessions as a sport suitable and able to engage a range of participants including older adults, women and girls.

## Tennis

**Current supply is sufficient in catering for current levels of demand with the exception of club sites East Bridgford TC and Upper Broughton TC. A number of sites exhibit need for additional court capacity and/or floodlighting whilst there is also a need for qualitative improvements at some sites**

## Summary

- ◀ There is a total of 87 tennis courts identified in Rushcliffe, of which, nine courts are not available for community use situated at David Lloyd and South Wolds Academy School.
- ◀ Of these, 45 are floodlit courts, spread across ten sites. All of these courts are currently located at club sites, of these 42 courts are available for community use.
- ◀ The majority of courts were assessed as standard quality (38 courts), whilst the remaining courts were assessed as either good quality (19 courts) or poor (30 courts) quality.
- ◀ The majority of courts are macadam surfaces, representing 81% of existing supply.
- ◀ Tenure of all club sites is considered to be secure. However, tenure for Bingham TC hiring courts at Bingham Leisure Centre is considered to be unsecured in the long term.
- ◀ Four clubs highlight a requirement for additional floodlight provision in order to increase future capacity.
- ◀ It is likely that demand for recreational play increases annually following events such as Wimbledon and publicly accessible Council managed sites are generally assumed to be busier during the summer when the light allows for more evening play.
- ◀ Upper Broughton and East Bridgford TC are both considered to be overplayed.
- ◀ Upper Broughton TC cannot currently enter into competitive leagues due to a large membership base and two poor quality courts on its home site limiting what the Club can operate.
- ◀ West Bridgford TC will be overplayed if future demand aspirations are achieved.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on improving poor quality courts situated at Club sites.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## Recommendations – Tennis

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of tennis courts, particularly those used by clubs.
- ◀ Review quality issues relating to poor quality courts and seek improvements where appropriate.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision at council sites to improve the casual tennis offer.
- ◀ Work closely with both Upper Broughton TC and East Bridgford TC in increasing available capacity at each respective club site through either the creation of new courts or floodlighting.
- ◀ Regularly review membership details at West Bridgford TC. If it reaches future demand ambitions of 160 members (which will total 950 members) it will require support for additional court space.
- ◀ Work with clubs regarding increasing community engagement and pay and play aspects including schools and non-members.
- ◀ Assist clubs in engaging with the County LTA to obtain advice and potential funding streams.

## Bowling

**Current supply of bowling greens is insufficient and there is a need to investigate if an additional bowling green in the West Bridgford & Ruddington Analysis Area would better accommodate demand.**

## Summary

- ◀ There are 14 flat bowling greens in Rushcliffe provided across 13 sites. There is one double green provided at the Woodview Ground.
- ◀ There is one disused green located at Lady Bay Tennis & Sports Club.
- ◀ Non-technical site assessments and club feedback indicate that seven greens in Rushcliffe are good quality, five are standard quality and two poor quality.
- ◀ Poor quality greens are located at the Woodview Ground and Willoughby-On-The Wolds Bowls Club.
- ◀ Sutton Bonington Bowling Club's lease from a private landownership has expired and as such is considered to be unsecure.
- ◀ Keyworth, West Bridgford and Bingham bowling clubs are considered to be overplayed and as such green quality should be improved to sustain the levels of overplay at least in the short-term.
- ◀ West Bridgford BC has use of just one green to accommodate 120 members, double the recommended green capacity. The Club has aspirations to increase membership in future, therefore additional capacity should be sought in the West Bridgford & Ruddington area.
- ◀ Ruddington BC is the only other green in the West Bridgford & Ruddington area and has no spare capacity to accommodate this level of further use. As such, additional provision of at least one green is required in the West Bridgford & Ruddington area.
- ◀ Cotgrave Welfare Bowling Club has a low-level membership base (18 members) and as such consideration should be given the sustainability of the Club and support able to be offered.



# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## Recommendations – Bowling

- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality. Sustain quality of sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of creating a new flat green in the West Bridgford & Ruddington analysis area given identified shortfalls.
- ◀ Work closely with West Bridgford BC to identify if it has the infrastructure in place to manage a secondary green.
- ◀ Explore opportunities to reinstate disused bowling green at Lady Bay Sports Club to reduce identified shortfalls.
- ◀ Support Cotgrave Welfare BC given its low-level membership base as so it does not fold in the near future.

## Athletics

**Current supply of athletics provision is quantitatively sufficient to serve the level of current and future demand, though there is a need for qualitative improvements to the track at Bingham Leisure Centre.**

## Summary

- ◀ There is one athletics track in Rushcliffe located at Bingham Leisure Centre.
- ◀ The athletics track is past its anticipated life expectancy and requires resurfacing to improve quality in the near future and to ensure the Club's future sustainability.
- ◀ Changing and toilet facilities at Bingham Leisure Centre are a long distance from the athletics track and as such undesirable to use.
- ◀ There is one athletics club in Rushcliffe; Rushcliffe Athletics Club which caters for 500 members.
- ◀ In addition, there is a Park Run event as well as various running groups.
- ◀ There are no affiliated Run Together groups and no 3-2-1 routes are provided.
- ◀ Priority should be focused on improving quality at Bingham Leisure Centre.
- ◀ Precedence should also be placed on sustaining and increasing the popularity of the Park Run event as well as supporting the various running clubs.

## Recommendations – Athletics

- ◀ Seek to resurface the track at Bingham Leisure Centre in the short-term to ensure suitability and safety for use, given it presently exceeds the recommended surface lifespan.
- ◀ Consider wider development of the Bingham Leisure Centre site as a whole given the need to resurface the AGP which sits within the track at present. This may include changes to the layout of the site and potential feasibility to develop ancillary provision for Rushcliffe AC located nearer to the track itself.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## *Netball*

**Current supply of outdoor netball court provision is quantitatively sufficient to serve the level of current and future demand, though there is a need for qualitative improvements to key netball sites.**

### **Summary**

- ◀ There is currently adequate supply of outdoor netball courts to satisfy both current and future demand in Rushcliffe.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on improving court quality particularly at East Leake Leisure Centre and Bingham Leisure Centre which are rated as poor quality and are accessed by community clubs, leagues and participation programmes.
- ◀ There are 34 netball courts located across six sites.
- ◀ Of these, 19 courts are rated as standard quality and 15 are rated as poor quality, with none rated as good.
- ◀ All of the courts are available for community use.
- ◀ East Leake Leisure Centre and Rushcliffe School provide floodlit courts whilst Gotham Village Recreation Ground and The Becket School do not. Bingham Leisure Centre has floodlights on six out of the ten courts available. 59% of all courts in Rushcliffe are floodlit.
- ◀ The Nottingham County Netball Association (NCNA) previously held fixtures at Rushcliffe School, however a decision to relocate outside of the area was based upon perceived poor-quality courts and inadequate parking.
- ◀ Back to Netball sessions are due to start in July 2017 at East Leake Leisure Centre and walking netball from September.

### **Recommendations – Netball**

- ◀ Seek to improve quality of outdoor court provision at Bingham Leisure Centre and East Leake Leisure Centre as key venues used for outdoor netball.
- ◀ Sustain and improve court quality at Nottingham Emmanuel C of E School to ensure suitability for club matches and training.
- ◀ Seek to formally secure tenure at education sites where possible.



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## Skateparks

**Current supply of skatepark provision is considered sufficient based on population density and accessibility.**

**However, there is a need for qualitative improvements particularly at the poor quality Lady Bay Skatepark (The Hook) which services the densely populated West Bridgford & Ruddington Area, as well as the development of concrete park provision at Radcliffe-on-Trent Skatepark.**

## Summary

- ◀ There are nine skateparks in Rushcliffe situated across nine sites.
- ◀ Six skateparks are rated as poor quality (67%) and three are rated as standard quality (33%).
- ◀ Lady Bay Skatepark (The Hook) has recently been the target of arson and vandalism.
- ◀ Radcliffe-On-Trent skatepark was partly sectioned off at time of assessment due to poor quality and safety issues. This has since been temporarily resolved through short-term repairs and the skatepark is again operational.
- ◀ Radcliffe-On-Trent Parish Council and Skatepark User Group have aspirations to redevelop provision as a concrete skatepark rather than the present dated wooden structures.
- ◀ Highly populated areas of Cotgrave and Bingham are without accessible skatepark provision locally.
- ◀ Further investigation is required to establish if demand exists for skatepark provision in Cotgrave and Bingham. This should be led from within the local community.

## Recommendations – Skateparks

- ◀ Retain existing skate provision and seek to make sustainable and maintainable, for example through the conversion of the wooden equipment at Radcliffe-on-Trent skatepark to a concrete park.
- ◀ Ensure the rigorous maintenance of skateparks, especially those which have a good range of equipment and act as larger hub parks to which people from around the Borough and City fringes are willing to travel.
- ◀ Seek to work with both Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council and the resident skatepark user group in order to learn more about developing and operating effective, user-led skateparks so that a similar model may be adopted at other sites if suitable.
- ◀ Consider grant funding opportunities to support Town and Parish Council's to convert existing poor quality timber facilities into more robust, low maintenance concrete provision.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The strategic recommendations for the Strategy have been developed from the key issues cutting across all playing pitch sports and categorised under each of the Strategy Aims. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed which apply across outdoor sports facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.

### Aim 1

To **protect** the existing supply of playing pitch facilities where it is needed for meeting current or future needs

#### Recommendations:

- a. Protect playing field sites through local planning policy
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. Maximise community use of education facilities where there is a need to do so.

### Recommendation a – Protect playing field sites through local planning policy

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

Paragraph 74 of the Framework states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

**Lapsed and disused** – playing field sites that formerly accommodated playing pitches but are no longer used for formal or informal sports use.

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

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Table 5.1: Disused and lapsed playing field sites in Rushcliffe

Site name	Sport(s)	Status	Comments
Sellor's Playing Field	Football	Disused	Pitch site with village hall owned by Ruddington Parish Council. Previously had one football pitch and also accommodates a small area of play provision. Proposed re provision of playing fields and a new village hall on land North of Packman Dyke.
Community Field	Football	Lapsed	Playing field site owned by private landowner and leased at a peppercorn rate to Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council. Previously had one adult football pitch but the land is now used only by Belvoir Archers.

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used playing field sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. Lapsed, disused, underused and poor quality sites should also be protected from development or replaced as there is potential need for playing field land to accommodate more pitches to meet the identified shortfalls.

It is recommended that the Council allocates all disused/lapsed sites as playing field in the first instance until such time as the Council, NGB/Community group or a developer expresses an interest in the site. It is also recommended that the following priority order of options is adopted with regards to addressing disused/lapsed sites:

- 1) Firstly, explore the feasibility of bringing the site back into use. A feasibility study may show either:
  - a) The site can be brought back into sustainable use where funding is available and use is secured by the Council and relevant NGBs/Community Groups; or
  - b) The site is not in a sustainable location and in which case no amount of money will make it desirable.
- 2) The site could become public open space to meet a need identified in the Open Space Study; or
- 3) Redevelop the site for an alternative use but use the capital receipt to invest in existing sites in the locality

Each currently disused/lapsed site is included within the action plan together with a recommendation in relation to the need to bring the site back into use or mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified with the Assessment.

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

Housing Growth scenarios have been provided in Part 7 to estimate the additional demand generated by housing by sport and pitch type.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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**Development management** - the PPS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis taking into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England as statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing field will use the PPS to help assess that planning application against paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and their<sup>17</sup> Playing Fields Policy.

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

Policy Exception E1:

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

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

Policy Exception E4:

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

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

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

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

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

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<sup>17</sup><http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/development-management/planning-applications/playing-field-land/>

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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### **Recommendation b – Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs through a range of solutions and partnership agreements**

A number of school sites are being used in Rushcliffe for competitive play, predominately for football. In all cases use of pitches has not been classified as unsecure, however, use is not necessarily formalised and further work should be carried out to ensure an appropriate Community Use Agreement (CUA) is in place (including access to changing provision where required).

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

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

Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council, NGBs or the County Sports Partnership (CSP) to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership working. For example, support club development and encourage clubs to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate an income through their facilities. All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)<sup>18</sup>. Clubs should also be encouraged to work with partners locally whether volunteer support agencies or linking with local businesses.

As well as improving the quality of well-used, local authority sites, there are a number of sites which have poor quality (or no) ancillary facilities. **The Borough Council and parish/town councils should further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted to the clubs playing on these sites (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs) so the clubs are in a position to apply for external funding to improve the ancillary facilities.**

Further to this there could be examples in Rushcliffe where long term leases could be put into place for the continued use of a site. Each club should be required to meet service and/or strategic recommendations. However, an additional set of criteria should be considered, which takes into account the quality of the club, aligned to its long-term development objectives and sustainability.

In the context of the Comprehensive Spending Review, which announced public spending cuts, it is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations in order that they may be able to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities.

To facilitate this, the Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds to allow this.

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<sup>18</sup> <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Recommended criteria for lease of sport sites to clubs/organisations:

Club	Site
<p>Clubs should have Clubmark/FA Charter Standard accreditation award.</p> <p>Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links.</p> <p>Clubs are sustainable, both in a financial sense and via their internal management structures in relation to recruitment and retention policy for both players and volunteers.</p> <p>Ideally, clubs should have already identified (and received an agreement in principle) any match funding required for initial capital investment identified.</p> <p>Clubs have processes in place to ensure capacity to maintain sites to the existing, or better, standards.</p>	<p>Sites should be those identified as 'Club Sites' (recommendation d) for new clubs (i.e. not those with a Borough wide significance) but which offer development potential. For established clubs which have proven success in terms of self-management 'Key Centres' are also appropriate.</p> <p>As a priority, sites should acquire capital investment to improve (which can be attributed to the presence of a Clubmark/Charter Standard club).</p> <p>Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site.</p> <p>An NGB/Council representative should sit on a management committee for each site leased to a club.</p>

The Council can further recognise the value of NGB club accreditation by adopting a policy of prioritising the clubs that are to have access to these better quality facilities. This may be achieved by inviting clubs to apply for season long leases on a particular site as an initial trial.

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

- ◀ Increasing participation.
- ◀ Supporting the development of coaches and volunteers.
- ◀ Commitment to quality standards.
- ◀ Improvements (where required) to facilities, or as a minimum retaining existing standards.

In addition, clubs should be made fully aware of the associated responsibilities/liabilities when considering leases of multi-use public playing fields.

## Community asset transfer

The Council should continue to work towards adopting a policy which supports community management and ownership of assets to local clubs, community groups and trusts. This presents sports clubs and national governing bodies with opportunities to take ownership of their own facilities; it may also provide non-asset owning sports clubs with their first chance to take on a building.

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



## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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### **Recommendation c – Maximise community use of education sites where there is a need to do so**

Given the mix of provider in Rushcliffe, including for example, parish/town councils and private clubs, there is a need for the Council and NGBs to work with other partners to help maximise use of outdoor sports facilities and in particular grass pitches and AGPs.

In order to maximise community use of educational facilities it is recommended to establish a more coherent, structured relationship with schools. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train. In Rushcliffe, pricing policies at facilities can be barrier to access at some of the education sites but physical access and resistance from schools to open up provision is also an issue.

A number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the school/college and the local clubs. For example, both Rushcliffe School (Nottingham Football Centre) and The Becket School are significantly used for football, each accommodating 21 teams for matches as well as training on AGPs/3G pitches at the respective sites, whilst the AGP at the latter is also well used by local hockey clubs. The Council and other key partners must work with schools and colleges to develop an understanding of the issues that restrict or affect community access. Support should be provided, where appropriate, to address underlying problems.

Where appropriate, it will be important for key partners to negotiate and sign formal and long-term agreements that secure community use of school facilities.

It is not uncommon for school pitch stock not to be fully maximised for community use. Even on established community use sites, access to grass pitches for community use is limited.

In some instances, grass pitches are unavailable for community use due to poor quality and therefore remedial works will be required before community use can be established.

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

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

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## **Aim 2**

To **enhance** playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites

### **Recommendation:**

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

### **Recommendation d – Improve quality**

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality and these are explored below. One way for improving quality on football sites is via the FA's pitch improvement programme.

#### *The FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)*

The key principles behind the service are to provide football clubs with advice/practical solutions (upon inspection and a technical report produced by an Institute of Groundsmanship pitch advisor) on a number of areas and discounts on machinery and materials to support improving the clubs' playing surface. The programme should be utilised in order to help any clubs that take on the management and maintenance of sites or which are currently managing and maintaining their own pitch site.

As subsidy is removed for pitch maintenance the PIP is an essential toolkit in supporting self-management/maintenance of sites, particularly on adult sites that have historically been maintained by the Council. Four sites in Rushcliffe have previously already received an assessment as part of the PIP process, they are:

- ◀ Butt Field Sports Club (August 2016)
- ◀ Keyworth Normanton Playing Fields (December 2015)
- ◀ Loughborough Road Playing Field (October 2016)
- ◀ Regatta Way Sports Ground (April 2015)

### **Addressing quality issues**

Generally, where pitches are assessed as standard or poor quality and/or overplayed, review/improve maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring existing maintenance of good quality pitches continues is also important.

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



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

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

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

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

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

In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate size of changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old dated interior.

Without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, good quality pitches may be underutilised. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer and therefore key sites such as those mentioned above should be given priority for improvement.

In order to prioritise investment into key sites **it is recommended that the steering group works up a list of criteria, relevant to the Area, to provide a steer on future investment.**

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

[www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/](http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/)

## **Addressing overplay**

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

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Sport	Pitch type	Number of match equivalent sessions per week		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union <sup>19</sup>	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Rugby league	Senior	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	N/A	N/A
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season		

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

Whilst it works both ways in so much as poor pitch condition is a symptom of pitches being over played, potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular.

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

## Increasing pitch maintenance

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

For example, the FA and ECB have recently introduced a Pitch Advisor Scheme and have been working in partnership with Institute of Groundmanship (IOG) to develop a Grass Pitch Maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots football clubs with the simple aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide football clubs with advice/practical solutions on a number of areas, with the simple aim of improving the club's playing surface.

At local authority sites in Rushcliffe, maintenance of grass pitches is deemed to be basic and for football covers grass cutting and seeding only, resulting in many pitches being assessed as poor quality. Where local authority pitches are recommended for improvement within the action plan, carrying out additional regular work such as aerating, sand dressing, fertilising and/or weed killing will all improve quality. An improvement in post season remedial work is also recommended. It is recommended that the Council works with users and the County

<sup>19</sup> The RFU believes that it is most appropriate to base the calculation of pitch capacity upon an assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme afforded to a site.

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Football Association (Nottinghamshire FA) to fully determine the most appropriate pitch improvements on a site by site basis.

In relation to cricket, maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. The ECB recommends full technical assessments of wickets and pitches available through a Performance Quality Standard Assessment (PQS). The PQS assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether the pitch meets the Performance Quality Standards that are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship. Please note that PQS assessments are also available for other sports.

## **Improving changing provision**

There are some sites reported to have poor quality changing provision, though none managed by the Borough Council. For example, both Costock Road Playing Fields (managed by East Leake Playing Field Association on which East Leake Parish Council is represented) and Ridley Sports Ground (managed by Cotgrave Town Council) are reported to have poor quality changing facilities serving a number of football pitches onsite and in the case of the former other sport pitches. Improvement of accompanying changing and toilet provision, especially at multi-pitch sites and those used by juniors, leads to a more attractive and better experience and adds value to the usability of the pitches onsite.

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

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 7: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

## **Recommendation f – Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding**

Partners, led by the Council, should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision is directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in playing pitch facilities.

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

Some investment in new provision will not be made by the Council directly, it is important, however, that the Council therefore seeks to direct and lead a strategic and co-ordinated approach to facility development by education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector to address community needs whilst avoiding duplication of provision.

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

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

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## **Aim 3**

To **provide** new outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so

### **Recommendations:**

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

### **Recommendation g - Rectify quantitative shortfalls in the current pitch stock**

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

It is important that the current levels of grass pitch provision are protected, maintained and enhanced to secure provision now and in the future. For most sports, the future demand for provision identified in Rushcliffe can be overcome through maximising use of existing pitches through a combination of:

- ◀ Improving pitch quality in order to improve the capacity of pitches to accommodate more matches.
- ◀ The re-designation of pitches for which there is an oversupply.
- ◀ Securing long term community use at school sites.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.

While maximising the use of existing pitches offers scope to address the quantitative deficiencies for most sports, new or additional pitches may be required to meet the levels of demand identified for football and rugby both now and in the future.

There may be an opportunity to use some senior pitches to provide senior, junior or mini pitches (through different line markings/coning areas of the pitch). However, further work should be undertaken on this as an action for the Council/NGBs. Furthermore, the re-designation of adult pitches that are not currently used may lead to a deficiency of adult pitches in the medium to longer term as younger players move up the ages. It is likely that for some sports, particularly football, that the provision of new pitches and facilities will be required in the future to support the predicted future demand.

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

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

Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends

Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
Football	As a result of the FA Youth Development Review pitch demands are changing. This could also see changes in the seasonal demand of pitches (youth football).	Consider re-allocating leases to Community Charter Standard clubs with a large number of teams. Work with clubs to identify facility development opportunities. Work with clubs in relation to their pitch demands as a result of the FA Youth Development Review.
	Demand for senior football is likely to be sustained based on current trends and the move to small sided football. County FA focus to maintain growth of youth football through to adults.	Sustain current stock but consideration given to reconfigure pitches if required.
	An increase in women and girls football following £2.4m investment from Sport England between 2014 and 2016 to increase the number of women and girls taking part in football sessions. Additionally, one of the major goals of The FA's 'Game Changer' strategy for Women's and Girls' football (2017-2020) is to double participation from the current 6,000 teams to 12,000.	A need to provide segregated ancillary facilities and the potential need for more pitches.
Cricket	Demand is likely to remain static for grass wickets for adult participation. The ECB targets participation increases at junior level through the Allstars Cricket Programme which may have a subsequent future impact on requirement for grass and non-turf cricket provision.	Isolated pockets of demand for access to additional facilities where pitches are operating at capacity. A need to encourage greater use of non-turf wickets particularly for junior use to help meet shortfalls.
	Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish two girls' and one women's team in every local authority over the next five years.	Support clubs to ensure access to segregated changing and toilet provision and access to good quality cricket pitches to support growth.
Rugby union	Locally, the RFU wants to ensure access to pitches in Rushcliffe that satisfies existing demand and predicted growth. It is also an aim to protect and improve pitch quality, as well as ancillary facilities including changing rooms and floodlights.	Clubs are likely to field more teams in the future. It is important, therefore, to work with the clubs to maintain the current pitch stock, support facility development where appropriate and increase the number of floodlit pitches where necessary.
Rugby league	RFL is working towards growing rugby league participation including through growth at junior clubs, Play Touch RL and 9 aside RL.	Review the need for dedicated rugby league pitches in the next three years. Seek 3G pitch venues for Play Touch and grass pitches for 9 aside.

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Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
AGPs	<p>Demand for 3G pitches for competitive football will increase. It is likely that future demand for the use of 3G pitches to service competitive football, particularly mini and youth will result in some reduced demand for grass pitches.</p> <p>Provision of 3G pitches which are World Rugby compliant will help to reduce overplay as a result of training on rugby pitches.</p>	<p>Ensure that access to new AGP provision across the Borough is maximised and that community use agreements are in place.</p> <p>Utilise Sport England/NGB guidance on choosing the correct surface:  <a href="http://www.sportengland.org/media/30651/Selecting-the-right-artificial-surface-Rev2-2010.pdf">http://www.sportengland.org/media/30651/Selecting-the-right-artificial-surface-Rev2-2010.pdf</a></p>
Hockey	Potential increase of participation particularly junior teams.	Sinking funds in place to improve quality and ensure continued use of provision for current and future hockey demand.
Tennis	With the delivery of targeted participation initiatives such as Tennis Tuesdays and Local Tennis Leagues whilst allowing bookable playing opportunities, it is likely that informal participation will increase amongst LTA target audiences.	The key aim is to ensure sustainability of park sites through improved quality and implementing online booking systems and gated access.
Bowls	Although demand for bowling in the Area is high there is unlikely to be enough future demand generated to sustain new provision.	Likely that future increase could be accommodated on existing greens.

### **Recommendation h - Identify opportunities to add to the overall pitch stock to accommodate both current and future demand**

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

Furthermore, any potential school sites which become redundant over the lifetime of the Strategy may offer potential for meeting community needs on a localised basis. Where schools are closed their playing fields may be converted to dedicated community use to help address any unmet community needs.

Some sites (or adjacent land) in Rushcliffe also have the potential to accommodate more pitches which may be a solution to meeting shortfalls identified as is further explored within the action plan.



# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## PART 6: ACTION PLAN

### Introduction

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

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

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

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

To allow for facility developments to be prioritised and programmed within a phased approach a tiered model to for the improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities is useful.

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

Hub sites	Key sites	Local sites	Reserve sites
Strategically located. Priority sites for NGB.	Strategically located within the Analysis Area.	Serves the local community. Likely to include education sites.	Serves the local community.
Accommodates three or more good quality grass pitches. Including provision of at least one AGP. Potential for development as a Parklife football hub.	Accommodates two or more good quality grass pitches.	Accommodates more than one pitch.	Likely to be single-pitch site.
Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.	Supports informal demand and/ or training etc.
Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime either by the club or in-house maintenance contract.	Basic level of maintenance i.e. grass cutting.
Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Appropriate access changing to accommodate both senior and junior use concurrently (if required).	No requirement for access changing to accommodation.

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**Hub sites** are of Borough wide importance where users are willing to travel to access the range and high quality of facilities offered and are likely to be multi sport. These have been identified on the basis of high impact on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

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

[http://www.sportengland.org/facilities\\_planning/planning\\_tools\\_and\\_guidance/sports\\_hubs.aspx](http://www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/planning_tools_and_guidance/sports_hubs.aspx)

**Where development of Hub Sites includes provision of 3G pitches for football it is recommended that further modelling/feasibility work is carried out to ensure sustainability of new 3G pitches to accommodate competitive fixtures.** However, as a priority consultation should be carried out with leagues/clubs to gauge acceptance/buy in of moving competitive play to 3G pitches in the future.

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

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

**Local sites** refer to those sites which are generally one and two pitch sites and may be Council owned hired to clubs for a season or are sites which have been leased on a long-term basis. However, they are also likely to be private club sites serving one particular sport.

The level of priority attached to them for Council-generated investment may be relatively low and consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking a long-term lease on the site (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought.

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

**Reserve sites** could be used as overspill for neighbouring sites and/or for summer matches/competitions, training or informal play. They are most likely to be single-pitch sites with no ancillary facilities or school sites where there is no current demand for community use.

## Management and development

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

- ◀ Financial viability.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ◀ Adequacy of existing finances to maintain existing sites.



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- ◀ Business Plan/Masterplan – including financial package for creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ◀ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ◀ The availability of opportunities to lease sites to external organisations.
- ◀ Options to assist community groups to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ◀ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.
- ◀ Availability of funding for hub site development.
- ◀ Impact on all sports that use a site regardless of the sport that is the subject of enhancements.

## Action plan columns

### Partners

The column indicating Partners refers to the main organisation that the Council will liaise with in helping to deliver the actions. The next stage in the development of the action plan will be to agree a Lead Partner to help deliver the actions.

### Site hierarchy tier and priority level

Although Strategic Sites are mostly likely to have a **high** priority level as they have Borough wide importance, high priority sites have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the key issues identified in the assessment and therefore some Key Centres are also identified as having a high priority level. It is these projects/sites which should generally be addressed within the short term (1-2 years).

**It is recommended that as the Steering Group reviews and updates the action plan that medium and low priority sites are then identified** as the next level of sites for attention. As a guide, it is recommended that:

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

**Low** priority sites are club or education sites with local specific importance and have been identified on a site by site basis as issues appertaining to individual sites but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment

### Costs

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

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

These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at [www.sportengland.org/media/198443/facility-costs-4q13.pdf](http://www.sportengland.org/media/198443/facility-costs-4q13.pdf)

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## Timescales

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

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

## Aim

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

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## BINGHAM ANALYSIS AREA

Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>20</sup>
Football (grass pitches)	Bingham	Demand can presently be met.	<b>Shortfalls:</b> One youth 11v11 match equivalent session per week One youth 9v9 match equivalent session per week
Football (Full sized 3G pitches) <sup>21</sup>	Bingham	<b>Shortfall of one full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>	<b>Shortfall of one full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>
Rugby union	Bingham	Demand can presently be met.	<b>Shortfall of 0.5 senior match equivalent sessions per week</b>
Cricket	Bingham	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met <i>on the basis that actual spare capacity located at Butts Field, Sheldon Field or The Green can be accessed for clubs wishing to field new senior Saturday or Sunday teams.</i>
Hockey (Sand/water AGPs)	Bingham	Demand can presently be met.	Demand can be met.
Tennis	Bingham	Demand can be met at all sites with the exception of East Bridgford TC (Butts Field).	Expected shortfalls at East Bridgford TC (Butts Field).
Bowls	Bingham	Demand can presently be met.	Future demand can be met.
Netball	Rushcliffe	Demand can be met Borough wide.	Demand can be met Borough wide.
Touch	Bingham	No current demand	No anticipated future demand
Skateparks	Bingham	Demand to access skateparks can be met. Qualitative improvements needed at East Bridgford Skate Park and Cropwell Bishop Skatepark.	Demand to access skateparks can be met.
Athletics	Rushcliffe	<b>Demand able to be met Borough wide. Qualitative improvements required.</b>	<b>Future demand anticipated able to be met Borough wide.</b>

<sup>20</sup> Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

<sup>21</sup> Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>22</sup>	Cost <sup>23</sup>	Aim
3	Aslockton Cranmers FC	Football	Sports Club	An adult and youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality each with an actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions.	Sustain pitch quality through continued standard and regularity of maintenance.	Sports Club FA	Local site	Medium	L	L	Protect Enhance
4	Aslockton Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Two floodlit macadam courts rated as standard quality.	Ensure quality of courts are sustained for current and future use.	Sports Club LTA	Local site	Medium	L	L	Protect
5	Bingham Bowling Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One bowling green rated as standard quality. The green is identified as being overplayed by a total of 18 members and future demand expressed by the Club exacerbates the level of overplay.	It is imperative that the quality of the green is sustained as a minimum and improved when possible through both more regular, and improved maintenance regime to prevent quality deterioration from overplay.	Sports Club	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
6	Bingham Leisure Centre/Toot Hill School	AGP	Commercial	Floodlit 92mx55m hockey suitable AGP resurfaced in 2016. Good quality, available for community use and used by South Nottingham HC for midweek training and weekend matches.	Ensure quality is sustained through regular and rigorous maintenance. Encourage the provider to establish a mechanism for long-term sustainability such as a sinking fund.	School England Hockey	Hub site	Medium	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				Floodlit 92mx55m hockey suitable AGP within the athletics track, built in 2000 and rated as poor quality. Reportedly receives little use and near to becoming disused such is the poor quality. Unused by community hockey clubs.	Consider future opportunities to convert the pitch to a 3G surface to accommodate demand in the Bingham Area and Rushcliffe, provided there is no foreseen impact on hockey in the area and that it is feasibly reasonable to do so.	School England Hockey FA		High	S	H	
		Tennis	Commercial	11 macadam courts, four of which, are floodlit and rated as standard quality, seven of which are without floodlights and rated as poor quality. All courts are available for community use.	Ensure quality of standard quality courts are sustained and improved when possible for both current and future use from Bingham Tennis Club and Toot Hill School.	School LTA England Netball	Medium	L	L		
				Netball	Ten poor quality courts overmarked on tennis courts.	Explore potential opportunities to improve quality of courts through resurfacing.		Low	L	M	
		Athletics	Commercial	An eight-lane athletics track with a synthetic surface. Home to the only dedicated multi-discipline athletics club in Rushcliffe (Rushcliffe Athletics Club). Surface of the track is deteriorating in quality and it is past its anticipated life expectancy. Throwing facilities situated elsewhere on neighboring playing fields.	Seek to resurface the track in the short-term, potentially as part of wider site development.	School England Athletics	High	S	H		
		Football	Commercial	Three standard quality adult pitches unavailable for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use through more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Low	L	L		
		Rugby union	Commercial	Two poor quality (M0/D1) senior pitches unavailable for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use through more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School RFU	Low	L	L		

<sup>22</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>23</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>24</sup>	Cost <sup>25</sup>	Aim
9	Butt Field Sports Club	Football	Sports Club	Three adult pitches rated as standard quality and cumulatively overplayed by three match sessions per week. One youth 9v9 pitch overmarked with a 7v7 rated as standard quality. overplayed by 0.5 match sessions. One youth 9v9 rated as standard quality and played to capacity. FA Pitch Improvement Programme visit undertaken in August 2016.	Improve pitch quality through more regular enhanced maintenance and remedial work as detailed within the produced technical programme of works.	Sports Club FA	Local site	Medium	S	L	Protect Enhance
				Seek to reduce overplay by increasing pitch capacity through qualitative improvements.							
				Explore the feasibility of acquiring more pitch space to alleviate over play on current pitch stock.							
		Cricket		A standard quality natural grass cricket square with ten wickets. The pitch is overplayed by 10 match equivalent sessions per season (and 27 match sessions per season when considering future demand). Club user Bingham CC has aspirations to develop a third senior Saturday team in 2018 and therefore the Club has aspirations to develop an additional grass cricket square on site.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB		Medium	M	L/M	
Explore the feasibility of acquiring more land to create an additional square to accommodate future growth aspirations.											
Explore opportunities to accommodate future growth aspirations on squares which are identified as having actual spare capacity in Bingham.											
10	Butts Field	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch overmarked with a youth 9v9 rated as standard quality. Pitch has no spare capacity. One mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard quality has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions per week.	Sustain and improve pitch quality through more regular enhanced maintenance and remedial work to better sustain overmarking.	Parish Council Sports Club FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		A good quality natural grass cricket square with eight wickets. The pitch has actual spare capacity both midweek and on Sundays equating to 17 match sessions per season.	Maximise use. Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.						
		Tennis		Three macadam courts without floodlights rated as poor quality. East Bridgford Tennis Club uses the site and has a total membership of 144. LTA guidance suggests this is over capacity by 24 members.	Resurface courts to improve quality. Improved court quality will help, in part, to sustain current overplay. Explore opportunities to install floodlights at the site to increase court capacity.	Parish Council LTA		High	S	M	
		Bowls		One bowling green rated as good quality.	Sustain quality of the green through consistent, good quality maintenance.						
18	Cropwell Bishop Primary School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality unavailable for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
24	Flintham Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports club	A good quality natural grass cricket square with ten wickets. The pitch has a capacity rating of 21 and has an actual spare capacity on both Saturday and Sundays of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect

<sup>24</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>25</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

**RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY  
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>24</sup>	Cost <sup>25</sup>	Aim
46	Orston Primary School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
64	The Sheldon Field	Football	Parish Council	Two adult pitches rated as standard quality. Pitches cumulatively have actual spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions per week.	Sustain and improve pitch quality through more regular enhanced maintenance and remedial work.	Parish Council FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		A standard quality natural grass cricket square with 5 wickets. The pitch has a capacity rating of 18 and has actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session on a Saturday and 0.5 match equivalent sessions on a Sunday.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Parish Council ECB		Medium	M	L	
78	Whatton Sports Ground	Football	Trust	One adult pitch rated as standard quality and has an actual spare capacity of one match session per week. One mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard quality has an actual spare capacity of one match session.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for current use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	Trust FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		A standard quality grass square with 10 wickets. Site has actual spare capacity on both Saturdays and Sundays for additional matches. Ancillary provision is of an overall poor quality.	Seek to improve poor quality pavilion provision. Explore options to develop new pavilion and changing provision to be shared by Whatton & Aslockton CC and user football clubs, potentially part funded by Section 106 funding secured from development nearby at Abbey Lane.	Trust ECB FA		Medium	S-M	M	
83	Bingham RFC	Rugby union	Sports Club	One senior pitch rated as poor quality (M0/D1). Pitch is maintained to a basic level by Bingham Town Council. Small training area which is of an overall poor quality. Clubhouse is outdated and of an overall poor quality. Club has recently seen significant growth in the mini age groups.	As advised by RFU Pitch Report for Bingham RFC it is recommended that the pitch receives a higher, more consistent level of maintenance.	Sports Club RFU Town Council	Local site	Medium	S	L	Protect Enhance
					The pitch requires aerating at least once per year, but more aeration would benefit it substantially.						
					The pitch would highly benefit from fertilisation in April/May and then in August prior to the rugby union season starting. Additionally, an autumn feed would be highly beneficial prior to harsh winter weather.						
					Regular use of a chain harrower would be highly beneficial. It would allow soil to breath (which is an issue during the winter months as grass and soil is heavily compacted due to heavy rain and play) and it would aid water infiltration.						
					Explore potential funding opportunities to improve clubhouse.						
Explore opportunities with Bingham Town Council to mark out mini pitches in the park site to ensure main senior pitch does not become overplayed.	Medium	M	H								

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>24</sup>	Cost <sup>25</sup>	Aim
86	Robert Miles Junior School	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
93	The Green	Cricket	Sports Club	Used by Colston Bassett CC. One standard quality natural grass cricket square with 10 wickets. The square has a capacity rating of 44 and has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on a Saturday and one on a Sunday.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
96	Barnstone Bowls Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One bowling green rated as good quality.	Sustain quality of the green through consistent, good quality maintenance.	Sports Club	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
	East Bridgford Skate Park	Skate park	Parish Council	Poor quality skatepark.	Seek to improve quality through repair and more regular maintenance work. Explore opportunities to replace provision with low cost maintenance alternatives.	Parish Council	Local site	Low	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
	Barnstone Skate Park	Skate park	Parish Council	Standard quality skatepark.	w	Parish Council	Local site	Low	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
	Cropwell Bishop Skate Park	Skate park	Parish Council	Poor quality skatepark.	Seek to improve quality through repair and more regular maintenance work. Explore opportunities to replace provision with low cost maintenance alternatives.	Parish Council	Local site	Low	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
NEW	Royal Airforce Newton	To be confirmed		Proposals for mixed development including up to 500 dwellings, to include 2.3 hectares of playing field land due to the isolated and poor connected links to the development, to serve and facilitate the establishment and growth of this new community.	Determine management and maintenance model for new playing field provision and determine optimal sporting pitch type based on demand from the new community, given the site is not considered easily accessible or local to existing demand requiring additional capacity.	Council	Local site	Low	M-L	M	Provide



# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## COTGRAVE & RADCLIFFE ANALYSIS AREA

Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>26</sup>
Football (grass pitches)	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	<b>Shortfalls:</b> Three adult match equivalent sessions per week. 0.5 youth 9v9 match equivalent sessions per week	<b>Shortfalls:</b> 3.5 adult match equivalent sessions per week. One youth 11v11 match equivalent session per week One youth 9v9 match equivalent session per week One mini 7v7 match equivalent session per week. One mini 5v5 match equivalent session per week.
Football (Full sized 3G pitches) <sup>27</sup>	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Rugby union	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Cricket	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Hockey (Sand/water AGPs)	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Tennis	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Bowls	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Netball	Rushcliffe	Demand can be met Borough wide.	Demand can be met Borough wide.

<sup>26</sup> Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

<sup>27</sup> Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training.



## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>28</sup>
Touch	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Skateparks	Cotgrave & Radcliffe	Demand to access skateparks is able to be met. Qualitative improvements needed at Radcliffe-On-Trent Skate Park	Demand to access skateparks is able to be met.
Athletics	Rushcliffe	Demand bet Borough wide. Qualitative improvements required.	Future demand anticipated to be met Borough wide.

<sup>28</sup> Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>29</sup>	Cost <sup>30</sup>	Aim
7	Bingham Road Playing Fields	Football	Sports Club	An adult and a youth 11v11 pitch which are both standard quality and contain no spare capacity. Site also contains a youth 9v9 pitch overmarked by a mini 7v7 pitch which is overplayed by 0.5 match sessions per week.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for current use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	Sports Club FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
17	Cotgrave Leisure Centre	Football	Commercial	One adult pitch rated as standard quality available with no recorded community use.	Explore opportunities for the pitch to be greater utilised. Ensure quality of the pitch is sustained for future use.	Commercial FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
48	Radcliffe On Trent Junior School	Cricket	School	One standard quality NTP. Wicket is unavailable for community use.	Ensure the quality of the wicket is sustained and that adequate funds are available to resurface the wicket in the future.	School ECB	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
49	Radcliffe-On-Trent Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	Two good quality natural grass cricket squares, one square has 14 wickets and one has 8 wickets. The 14 wicket square has a capacity rating of 30, the eight wicket square has a capacity rating of 12. Over the two squares there is actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on Saturday and one on a Sunday.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
50	Radcliffe-On-Trent Bowling Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One bowling green rated as good quality.	Sustain quality of the green through consistent, good quality maintenance.	Sports Club	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
53	Ridley Sports Ground	Football	Parish Council	Two poor quality adult pitches. One pitch is overmarked by a youth 9v9 and one is overmarked by two mini 7v7 pitches. Each pitch is overplayed one match session each.	Sustain and improve pitch quality through more regular enhanced maintenance and remedial work. Seek to reduce overplay by increasing pitch capacity through qualitative improvements.	Parish Council	Local site	High	S	L	Protect Enhance
57	South Nottingham Academy and Sixth Form	3G pitch	Education	104mx60m floodlit 3G pitch available for community use built in 2007. FA certified and rated as standard quality. The pitch was due for renewal of FA certification in June 2017 and since the initial PPS assessment has undergone retesting for retention on the FA register until 2020.	Seek to resurface the pitch in the short-term subject to rate of deterioration and performance for use. Ensure the pitch is maintained to sufficient quality to maintain certification and encourage the provider to ensure a mechanism for sustainability such as an adequate sinking fund is in place.	School	Key site	High	S-M S-M	H L	Protect Enhance
72	Upper Saxondale Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Three macadam courts without floodlights rated as good quality and available for community use.	Ensure quality of courts is sustained for both current and future use.	Sports Club	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
		Bowls		One bowling green rated as standard quality.	Sustain quality of the green through consistent, good quality maintenance.			Low	L	L	

<sup>29</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>30</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>31</sup>	Cost <sup>32</sup>	Aim
77	Wharf Lane Recreation	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch rated as standard quality. Match pitch for Radcliffe Olympic FC.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for current use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	Parish Council FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
				Pitch meets requirements for Step 6 football.	Support Radcliffe Olympic FC with meeting FA grounding regulations if it aspires to gain promotion.						
80	Woodview Ground	Football	Community Organisation	Two adult pitches rated as standard quality. Pitches have a cumulative spare capacity of one match session per week. The site also contains two mini 5v5 pitches rated as standard quality which have a cumulative actual spare capacity of one match session per week.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for current use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work	Community Organisation FA	Key site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Bowls	Sports Club	The ground has two bowling greens of which one is a standard quality, the other is a poor quality. Cotgrave Bowling Club is the site user and at present has just 18 members.	Sustain quality of the standard quality green through consistent, good quality maintenance. Support Cotgrave Bowling Club to increase membership to prevent the Club folding.	Sports Club		High	S	L	
		Cricket	Community Organisation	A poor-quality grass cricket square with six wickets. Site now unused since Cotgrave CC folded mid 2016-2017 season.	Improve quality of the grass square through improved, and more regular maintenance and remedial work. Explore opportunities to work with Cotgrave CC to reform Club and utilise the site.	Community Organisation		High	S	L	
91	Kinoulton Primary School	Football	Education	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality available with no recorded community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
92	The Cotgrave Candleby Lane Primary School	Football	Education	One mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
	Radcliffe-On-Trent Skate Park	Skate park	Parish Council	Poor quality skatepark. Previously closed off in part due to safety reasons and only repaired following fundraising by the Radcliffe-on-Trent Skatepark user group. The group and Parish Council have aspirations to re-develop the presently wooden skatepark as a concrete course in the short-term.	Support the user group and Parish Council with plans to re-develop the skatepark as a concrete course and explore opportunities to help access external funding to help facilitate this. Explore opportunities to replace provision with low cost maintenance alternatives.	Parish Council Skatepark User Group	Local site	High	S-M	M	Protect Enhance

<sup>31</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>32</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## EAST LEAKE ANALYSIS AREA

Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>33</sup>
Football (grass pitches)	East Leake	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Football (Full sized 3G pitches) <sup>34</sup>	East Leake	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Rugby union	East Leake	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Cricket	East Leake	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Hockey (Sand/water AGPs)	East Leake	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Tennis	East Leake	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Bowls	East Leake	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Netball	Rushcliffe	Demand is able to be met Borough wide.	Demand is able to be met Borough wide.
Touch	East Leake	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Skateparks	East Leake	Demand to access skateparks is able to be met. Qualitative improvements needed at East Leake Skate Park.	Demand to access skateparks is able to be met. Qualitative improvements needed at East Leake Skate Park.
Athletics	Rushcliffe	Demand is able to be met Borough wide. Qualitative improvements required.	Future demand anticipated is able to be met Borough wide.

<sup>33</sup> Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

<sup>34</sup> Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>35</sup>	Cost <sup>36</sup>	Aim
15	Costock Road Playing Fields (Site 1)	Football	Charity Organisation	An adult and youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality. Adult pitch played to capacity, youth 9v9 pitch has actual spare capacity of one match session per week.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for current use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	Community Organisation FA	Key site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
				Ancillary provision outdated and requires modernisation.	Improve quality of changing facilities, potentially assisted by Section 106 funding secured and linked to Costock Road.						
16	Costock Road Playing Fields (Site 2)	Football	Charity Organisation	Two standard quality adult pitches played to capacity. Site also have two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches which both cumulatively have one match session of capacity per week, per pitch type.	Sustain quality of all pitches through continued regular maintenance to accommodate both current and future use.	Charity Organisation FA	Key site	Medium	M	L	Protect
		Rugby union		Two senior pitches rated as standard quality (M1/D1). Both pitches receive minimal use since East Leake RFC folded in 2015. Pitches are irregularly used by South Notts Barbarians RFC.	Ensure pitches are retained and protected for potential future use by East Leake RFC if the Club is to reform.	Community Organisation RFU		Medium	L	L	
				Explore opportunities to work with Clubs with overplayed sites to utilise pitches to reduce overall shortfalls.							
20	East Leake Bowling Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One bowling green rated as good quality	Sustain quality of the green through consistent, good quality maintenance.	Sports Club	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
21	East Leake Leisure Centre/East Leake Academy	Football	Commercial School	Two adult pitches, one youth 11v11 pitch, and a mini 7v7 pitch, all standard quality. Pitches used solely by East Leake Academy for curricular use. One adult pitch has dual football/rugby posts and is marked up to the specific need of the school as and when desired.	Sustain quality of all pitches through continued regular maintenance to accommodate both current and future use.	Commercial School FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		AGP		Full sized hockey suitable AGP with floodlighting. Built in 2003, now rated as poor quality and in excess of the recommended surface lifespan. No hockey demand in the area and no present community hockey club use.	Resurface the AGP and consider optimal surface type in consultation with the Academy, given the area evidences no requirement for additional full sized 3G pitch provision but has no community club demand for hockey.	Commercial School FA England Hockey		High	S	H	
		Tennis		Eight macadam courts rated as poor quality. Courts only receive curricular use. Overmarked by netball courts.	Explore funding opportunities to resurface courts to improve overall quality for curricular use. Resurfacing courts will also improve quality of poor quality netball courts.	Commercial School LTA		Medium	M	M	
		Netball		Three poor quality netball courts overmarked on tennis courts.							
		Rugby union		One senior pitch rated as poor quality (M0/D0) played to capacity through curricular use. Pitch used solely by East Leake Academy for curricular use. Pitch has dual football/rugby posts and is marked up to the specific need of the school as and when desired.	Look to improve the quality of the pitch for curricular use through increased maintenance and remedial work.	Commercial School RFU FA		Medium	M	L	

<sup>35</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>36</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

**RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY  
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN**

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>35</sup>	Cost <sup>36</sup>	Aim
26	Gotham Village Hall Recreation Ground	Football	Parish Council	Two standard quality adult pitches which have actual spare capacity of 1.5 match sessions per week. One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch which has actual spare capacity of one match session per week. Two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches which have an actual spare capacity of two match sessions per week.	Sustain quality of all pitches through continued regular maintenance to accommodate both current and future use.	Parish Council FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		An eight-wicket standard quality grass cricket square with an NTP. Site has no peak time capacity.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	
				Access to changing rooms on site are accessed through male toilets and therefore this restricts entry for potential female participants.	Explore feasibility of redeveloping access to changing rooms to encourage female participation at the site.			Medium	M	M	
		Tennis		Two poor quality floodlit artificial turf courts. Home base of Gotham LTC.	Explore funding opportunities to resurface courts to improve overall quality for both tennis and netball.	Parish Council LTA	Local site	Medium	M	L	
		Netball		Two non-floodlit courts rated as poor quality.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place to resurface courts	England Handball					
		Bowls		One bowling green rated as good quality.	Sustain quality of the green through consistent, good quality maintenance.	Parish Council	Local site	Medium	M	L	
32	Kegworth Imps FC	Football	Sports Club	A standard quality youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitch. No peak time capacity exists.	Sustain quality of all pitches through continued regular maintenance to accommodate both current and future use.	Sports Club FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
58	Sutton Bonington Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council	One standard quality adult pitch. Pitch has 0.5 match sessions of actual spare capacity per week. Site also contains an unused, standard quality mini 7v7 pitch.	Sustain quality of all pitches through continued regular maintenance to accommodate both current and future use.	Parish Council FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
		Cricket		A good quality natural grass cricket square with 11 wickets. The pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on both Saturday and Sunday.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
60	Sutton Bonington Tennis & Bowls Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One bowling green rated as standard quality.	Sustain quality of the green through consistent, good quality maintenance.	Sports Club	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Four floodlit macadam courts. Two courts are good quality, two are poor quality.	Ensure that the quality of poor quality courts does not deteriorate to an extent where they are unusable. Look to improve quality of courts through resurfacing.			Medium	M	L	
				Ensure a sinking fund is in place to resurface courts in the future.							
66	Thrumpton Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	One standard quality grass cricket square with six grass wickets and an NTP. Square is identified as being overplayed by a total of nine matches per season.	Improve square quality through increasing the current maintenance regime and improving the quality of remedial and preparatory regimes to help mitigate effects of overplay.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
				Greater use of the NTP accompanying the grass wicket square is required to negate match sessions on the grass square.							

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>35</sup>	Cost <sup>36</sup>	Aim
69	University of Nottingham (Sutton Bonington Sports Centre)	Football	University	One adult pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	University FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
		Rugby union		A standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch used exclusively by the University of Nottingham.	Ensure quality of the pitch is sustained for use from the University.	University RFU		Low	L	L	
89	Brookside Primary School	Football	School	One standard quality youth 9v9 pitch not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
95	Willoughby-On-The Wolds Bowls Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One bowling green rated as standard quality.	Sustain quality of the green through consistent, good quality maintenance.	Parish Council	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
East Leake Skatepark		Skate park	Parish Council	Poor quality skatepark.	Seek to improve quality through repair and more regular maintenance work. Explore opportunities to replace provision with low cost maintenance alternatives.	Parish Council	Local site	Low	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
NEW	Land South of Clifton			Allocation proposing the development of circa 3000 new dwellings, yet to secure planning permission.	Subject to approval, develop new onsite playing provision and establish a sustainable maintenance and management model for the new playing field provision. See Part 7 scenarios for further detail on potential demand for additional playing pitch provision as a result of new development.	Council	N/A	Low	L	H	Provide



# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## KEYWORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>37</sup>
Football (grass pitches)	Keyworth	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Football (Full sized 3G pitches) <sup>38</sup>	Keyworth	<b>Shortfall of one full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>	<b>Shortfall of one full sized, floodlit 3G pitch within or accessible to the Area.</b>
Rugby union	Keyworth	Demand is able to be met.	<b>Shortfall of 0.5 senior match sessions per week.</b>
Cricket	Keyworth	Demand is able to be met, although overplay at Keyworth CC is identified and equates to 17 match sessions per season.	<i>Demand is able to be met on the basis spare capacity at Colston Bassett CC can be accessed and utilised for future demand expressed by Keyworth CC. If not, future demand expressed by Keyworth cannot be accommodated and site expansion is required.</i>
Hockey (Sand/water AGPs)	East Leake	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Tennis	Keyworth	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Bowls	Keyworth	Current demand is able to be met.	Future demand is able to be met.
Netball	Rushcliffe	Demand is able to be met Borough wide.	Demand is able to be met Borough wide.
Touch	Keyworth	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Skateparks	Keyworth	Demand to access skateparks is able to be met. Qualitative improvements needed at Keyworth Skate Park.	Demand to access skateparks is able to be met. Qualitative improvements needed at Keyworth Skate Park.
Athletics	Rushcliffe	Demand is able to be met Borough wide. Qualitative improvements required.	Future demand anticipated is able to be met Borough wide.

<sup>37</sup> Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

<sup>38</sup> Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training.



## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>39</sup>	Cost <sup>40</sup>	Aim
8	Bunny C of E Primary School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
13	Colston Bassett Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	A standard quality natural grass square with eight wickets. The pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions on both Saturday and Sundays.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
				Colston Bassett CC has demand for additional training nets to accommodate midweek training.	Explore potential funding opportunities to purchase net training nets.						
14	Costock C of E Primary School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
30	Keyworth Bowling Club	Bowls	Sports Club	One bowling green rated as standard quality.	Sustain quality of the green through consistent, good quality maintenance.	Parish Council	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
31	Keyworth & District Lawn Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Four standard quality floodlit macadam courts.	Ensure quality of courts are sustained for current and future use.	Sports Club LTA	Local site	Medium	L	L	Protect
					Ensure a sinking fund is in place for the replacement of courts in the future to protect court quality.						
34	Keyworth Normanton Playing Fields	Football	Sports Club	Five standard quality adult pitches of which two are overmarked by youth 9v9 pitches, two standard quality mini 7v7 and 5v5 pitches. Spare capacity exists on all pitch types with the exception of two adult pitches overmarked by youth 9v9 pitches. FA Pitch Improvement Programme assessment undertaken December 2015.	Improve pitch quality through more regular enhanced maintenance and remedial work as detailed within the produced technical programme of works.	Sports Club FA	Key site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
				Keyworth FC has aspirations to develop a full sized 3G pitch in place of its adult football first team pitch which current meets FA grounding regulations for Step 7 football.	Given identified shortfalls of 3G pitches in Rushcliffe, explore the feasibility of building a 3G pitch to accommodate Keyworth FCs high level training demand and competitive match demand.	Sports Club FA		High	M	H	

<sup>39</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>40</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>41</sup>	Cost <sup>42</sup>	Aim
34	Keyworth Normanton Playing Fields	Cricket	Sports Club	A standard quality natural grass cricket square with nine wickets and an NTP. The pitch is overplayed by 17 match equivalent sessions.	Improve square quality through improved and more regular maintenance to mitigate the effects of overplay.	Sports Club ECB	Key site	High	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
					Utilise the accompanying NTP more regularly to negate some of the identified overplay.						
				Keyworth CC has aspirations to develop a secondary square on its home site to further accommodate its growing number of teams.	Explore feasibility of creating an additional square on site. An additional square would mitigate overplay on the main square and allow future demand to be accommodated on site.			High	S	M	
				Keyworth CC's changing facilities are condemned due to health and safety reasons. Club currently pays to access changing facilities of Keyworth FC.	Explore potential funding opportunities to work with Keyworth CC to create new changing facilities.			High	S	M	
			Keyworth CC has demand for both fixed training nets and a mobile cage to accommodate its midweek training demand.	Explore potential funding opportunities to purchase training equipment to facilitate training requirements.			Medium	M	L		
35	Keyworth Primary and Nursery School	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
36	Kinoulton Cricket Club	Cricket	Keyworth	A standard quality natural grass square with nine wickets and an accompanying NTP.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
38	Langar C of E Primary School	Football	School	One mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
65	The South Wolds Academy & Sixth Form	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as poor quality not available for community use.	Pitch requires improved maintenance and remedial work during academic closures to improve quality.	School FA	Local site	Low	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Four macadam courts without floodlights rated as standard quality. Courts not available for community use.	Ensure quality of courts are sustained for current and future use.	School LTA	Local site	Low	M	L	
				Ensure a sinking fund is in place for the replacement of courts in the future to protect court quality.							
	Rugby union	One poor quality (M0/D0) senior rugby union pitch, unavailable for community use.	Pitch requires improved maintenance and remedial work during academic closures to improve quality.	School RFU	Low site	Low	M	L			
70	Upper Broughton Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	A good quality natural grass square with eight wickets. Minimal spare capacity which cannot accommodate additional play.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect

<sup>41</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>42</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>41</sup>	Cost <sup>42</sup>	Aim
71	Upper Broughton Youth Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Two poor quality artificial surface courts without floodlights. Home venue of Upper Broughton TC which is deemed as being 53 members over capacity.	Explore funding opportunities to resurface courts to increase quality. Explore feasibility of installing floodlights to create additional capacity or alternatively creating new courts to increase overall capacity.	Sports Club LTA	Local site	High	M	M	Protect Enhance
79	Willow Brook Primary School	Cricket	School	One standard quality NTP. Wicket is unavailable for community use.	Ensure the quality of the wicket is sustained and that adequate funds are available to resurface the wicket in the future.	School ECB	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
84	Keyworth RFC	Rugby Union	Sports Club	Two standard quality (M1/D1) senior rugby union pitches. Main pitch is fully floodlit, the other is partially floodlit.	As advised by RFU Pitch Report for Keyworth RFC it is recommended that the pitch receives a higher, more consistent level of maintenance.	Sports Club RFU	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
				Issues with moles on second pitch which cause potential safety issues for players due to the holes and tunnels under the pitch.	Both pitches require more regular fertilisation, ideally three times per year.			Medium	M	L	
					Explore options to humanely remove badgers from the immediate pitch area.			High	S	L	
					Both pitches need more regular aeration. Regular verti-draining would be highly beneficial to overall pitch quality.			Medium	M	L	
87	Crossdale Drive Primary School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for school use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
94	Bridegate Lane	Cricket	Sports Club	A standard quality natural grass cricket square with eight wickets. Square has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions on Saturday and Sunday.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
	Keyworth (Platt Lane) Skate Park	Skate park	Parish Council	Poor quality skatepark.	Seek to improve quality through repair and more regular maintenance work. Explore opportunities to replace provision with low cost maintenance alternatives.	Parish Council	Local site	Low	S-M	L	Protect Enhance

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## WEST BRIDGFORD & RUDDINGTON ANALYSIS AREA

Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>43</sup>
Football (grass pitches)	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Shortfalls:</b> 5.5 adult match equivalent sessions per week.	<b>Shortfalls:</b> Nine adult match equivalent sessions per week. 3.5 youth 11v11 match equivalent session per week.
Football (Full sized 3G pitches) <sup>44</sup>	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Shortfall of two full sized, floodlit 3G pitches within or accessible to the Area.</b>	<b>Shortfall of three full sized, floodlit 3G pitches within or accessible to the Area.</b>
Rugby union	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Shortfall of nine match equivalent sessions per week.</b>	<b>Shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions per week.</b>
Cricket	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Current shortfall of 34 match sessions on a Saturday and Sunday.</b>	<b>Future shortfall of 118 match sessions per season on a Saturday and 42 match sessions on a Sunday.</b>
Hockey (Sand/water AGPs)	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions per week.</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Increasing to eight match equivalent sessions per week if the AGP at West Bridgford School becomes inaccessible.</b>
Tennis	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Demand is able to be met.	West Bridgford Tennis Club will require additional court space if future demand aspirations are realised.
Bowls	West Bridgford & Ruddington	<b>Shortfall of one flat bowling green.</b>	<b>Shortfall of one flat bowling green.</b>
Netball	Rushcliffe	Demand is able to be met Borough wide.	Demand is able to be met Borough wide.

<sup>43</sup> Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

<sup>44</sup> Based on accommodating 42 teams to one full size pitch for training.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Sport	Analysis area	Current picture	Future picture (2028) <sup>45</sup>
Touch	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Demand is able to be met.	Demand is able to be met.
Skateparks	West Bridgford & Ruddington	Demand to access skateparks is able to be met. Qualitative improvements needed at Rushcliffe Country Park Skate and Lady Bay Skate Park.	Demand to access skateparks is able to be met. Qualitative improvements needed at Rushcliffe Country Park Skate and Lady Bay Skate Park.
Athletics	Rushcliffe	Demand is able to be met Borough wide. Qualitative improvements required.	Future demand anticipated is able to be met Borough wide.

<sup>45</sup> Future demand based on ONS calculations and club consultation which also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>46</sup>	Cost <sup>47</sup>	Aim
1	Alford Road Playing Field	Football	Council	Three poor quality adult pitches, two of which are overmarked by youth 9v9 pitches, cumulatively overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week. One youth 9v9 pitch played to capacity and two poor quality mini 7v7 pitches, one overmarked with a mini 5v5.	Improve quality of all pitches on site through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work to reduce overplay and shortfalls in the Analysis Area.	Council FA	Local site	High	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		One senior pitch rated as poor quality (M0/D1) overmarked by a 9v9 football pitch.	Ensure quality is improved through an increased maintenance regime.	Council RFU					
11	Bridgford Park	Tennis	Council	Two poor quality macadam courts which are not floodlit.	Explore funding opportunities to resurface courts to increase quality.	Sports Club LTA	Local site	Medium	M	M	Protect Enhance
19	David Lloyd (West Bridgford)	Tennis	Commercial	Five artificial turf courts rated as good quality of which three are floodlit.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained for private use.	Commercial LTA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
23	Ellerslie Cricket Club	Cricket	Sports Club	A standard quality natural grass square with 10 wickets and an NTP. The pitch is overplayed by 25 match equivalent sessions per season.	As a priority, improve quality of the cricket square through increased remedial and preparatory work to mitigate overplay.	Sports Club	Local site	High	S	L	Protect Enhance
					Greater utilisation of the NTP will reduce shortfalls on main square.						
					Explore feasibility of extending cricket square to accommodate additional match sessions.						
27	Gresham Sports Park	Football (Touch)	Council	Five standard quality adult pitches which have minimal spare capacity. A standard quality youth 9v9 pitch with minimal spare capacity and a mini 7v7 pitch with no peak time capacity. Two adult pitches reported to be waterlogged throughout the winter months. Pitches overmarked with touch pitches in the summer for use by Nottingham Touch and Nottingham Touch Leagues.	Sustain and improve pitch quality through continued and better standard and regularity of maintenance and remedial works. Consider options to resolve drainage issues reported through increased aeration and potential installation of drainage systems through Section 106 funding secured.	Council FA	Hub site	Medium	S	L	Protect

<sup>46</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>47</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>48</sup>	Cost <sup>49</sup>	Aim
27	Gresham Sports Park	3G pitch (Touch)	Council	A standard quality, full-sized 3G pitch with floodlighting. Carpet is nine years old and will soon require resurfacing. Pitch was due for certification renewal on 15/6/17 and since the initial PPS assessment has recently undergone retesting for retention on the FA register until 2020. Nottingham Touch Leagues report insufficient capacity for touch during the winter months and unmet demand, with the league unable to grow and accept these new teams due to a lack of pitch space.	Resurface the pitch in the short-term dependent on rate of deterioration, ability to meet performance standard testing and performance for use. This may be facilitated by linked Section 106 funding secured.	Council FA	Hub site	High	S	H	Protect Enhance
					Seek to secure additional capacity where possible to facilitate growth of the Nottinghamshire Touch League, either onsite or through use of a second venue.			Medium	S	L	
					Consider potential for development of additional full sized 3G pitch provision onsite as a football hub to address Area 3G pitch shortfalls for football, with potential links to The Nottingham Emmanuel School and The Becket School to maximise daytime use outside of the peak period.			Medium	M	L	
29	Jubilee Playing Field (Elms Park)	Football	Parish Council	Two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches with minimal actual spare capacity. One standard quality mini 7v7 pitch with no peak time capacity.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for both current and future use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	Parish Council FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
37	Nottinghamshire Sports Club	Rugby union	Sports Club	One floodlit senior pitch rated as good quality (M2/D1). First team pitch for professional club Nottingham Rugby Ltd. Three good quality senior pitches (M2/D1) of which two are floodlit, cumulatively overplayed by 6.5 match sessions per week, largely due to daily training demand from Nottingham Rugby Ltd. Site also used by Nottingham Corsairs RFC and Nottingham Trent University. Nottingham Rugby Ltd has aspirations to develop a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in place of the main senior natural turf pitch which presently exists. Changing and clubhouse provision reported to be inadequate and congested when site is in use by multiple sports clubs playing home matches.	Clubs (Nottingham Rugby and Nottingham Corsairs RFC) onsite to continue exploring the feasibility of delivering a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in replacement of the current main natural turf pitch to help meet some of the overcapacity pitch issues on site.	Sports Club RFU	Hub site	High	S	L	Protect
					Ensure pitch quality and standards of maintenance and remedial work are sustained to best accommodate current levels of overplay.			Medium	M-L	M-H	
					Consider feasibility to extend and improve quality of clubhouse and ancillary/changing provision to service all sports using the site, potentially as part of a wider development should aspirations to develop a 3G pitch be progressed.	Sports Club RFU ECB England Hockey	Medium	M-L	M-H		

<sup>48</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>49</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above



## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>50</sup>	Cost <sup>51</sup>	Aim
37	Nottinghamshire Sports Club	Hockey	Sports Club	Floodlit hockey suitable AGP 98mx61m available for community use and used. Resurfaced in 2014 and rated as good quality. Boots Hockey Club has short-term lease of the pitch with six years of the term remaining.	Ensure pitch quality is sustained through regular and rigorous maintenance.	Sports Club England Hockey		Low	M	L	
				Seek to renegotiate the existing lease agreement to secure long-term future use of the site for Boots HC.	Medium						
		Cricket		Two good quality natural turf cricket squares with 12 wickets each. Pitches used exclusively by Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB		Low	L	L	
		Tennis		Seven floodlit macadam courts rated as standard quality.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	Sports Club LTA		Low	L	L	
38	Lady Bay Sports & Social Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Seven standard quality macadam courts, all fully floodlit.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	Sports Club LTA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Bowls		Disused bowling green. Former site of Lady Bay Bowling Club.	Retain green given shortfall of green space within Rushcliffe. Explore opportunities for it to be utilised.	Sports Club		Medium	L	L	
39	Lothian Road Open Space	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch rated as standard quality available with no recorded community use.	Sustain quality of the pitch to accommodate future use.	Parish Council FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect

<sup>50</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>51</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>52</sup>	Cost <sup>53</sup>	Aim
40	Loughborough Road Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Two adult pitches rated as good quality played to capacity. One mini 7v7 pitch rated as standard quality has no peak time capacity. Site user Ruddington FC has aspirations to move up the football pyramid (currently step 7) but requires floodlighting, turnstiles and seating. Fa Pitch Improvement Programme assessment undertaken October 2016.	Sustain and improve pitch quality through more regular enhanced maintenance and remedial work as detailed within the produced technical programme of works.	Parish Council Sports Club FA	Key site Local site	Medium	S	M-H	Protect Provide Enhance
					Work with Ruddington FC to establish if potential ground improvements can be made to play step 6 football. Alternatively, explore feasibility of the Club utilising an appropriate facility to play at Step 6.						
		Cricket		A standard quality natural grass square with nine wickets. The pitch is overplayed by eight match equivalent sessions per season.	Improve square quality through improved maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime. Increasing quality of the square will partially mitigate effects of overplay.	Sports Club ECB		Medium	M	L	
					Explore feasibility of creating additional grass wickets on site to accommodate additional matches.						
					Greater utilisation of the NTP accompanying the grass cricket square would help alleviate overplay.						
					Ruddington CC has aspirations to create secondary ground towards the edge of Ruddington with accompanying changing facilities to accommodate future growth.						
		Ruddington CC has demand for additional for a mobile cage to better accommodate its training demand.		Explore potential funding opportunities to purchase a mobile cage to accommodate training demand.							
Bowls	Sports Club	One bowling green rated as good quality. Green is close to capacity, and will operate over capacity if future demand of ten members is achieved.	Ensure quality of the green is sustained through regular and consistent maintenance to sustain current and future levels of play.	Sports Club	Medium	M	L	Protect			
41	Musters Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	Four artificial turf courts rated as standard quality without floodlights.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	Sports Club LTA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Bowls		One bowling green rated as good quality.	Ensure quality of the green is sustained through regular and consistent maintenance.	Sports Club		Medium	M	L	
43	Nottingham Cricket Club (Nottinghamians RFC)	Rugby union	Sports Club	Two standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitches with minimal spare capacity. Pitches are primarily utilised by Nottinghamians RFC and West Bridgford RFC as a secondary venue.	Ensure current levels of maintenance are sustained as a minimum to ensure pitch quality does not deteriorate.	Sports Club	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		A standard quality natural grass cricket square with nine wickets. The pitch is overplayed by five match equivalent sessions per season.	Improve square quality through improved maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime. Increasing quality of the square will partially mitigate effects of overplay.						

<sup>52</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>53</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>52</sup>	Cost <sup>53</sup>	Aim
44	Nottingham Forrest FC Academy	Football	Sports Club	A good quality full sized 3G pitch. Pitch is not available for community use, and is exclusively utilized by Nottingham Forest FC.	Ensure quality is sustained for use from Nottingham Forest FC.	Sports Club	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect
					Explore any potential opportunities to allow for community use to alleviate training demand shortfalls across Rushcliffe.						
				Four adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch all good quality. No community use permitted.	Ensure quality is sustained for use from Nottingham Forest FC.			Medium	M	L	
47	Plumtree CC	Cricket	Sports Club	A good quality natural grass cricket square with 10 wickets. The pitch is overplayed by 32 match equivalent sessions per season.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime to mitigate consequences of high overplay.	Sports Club ECB	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Provide
				Plumtree has an aspiration to develop a secondary square adjacent to its main site. Club has planning permission in place and has a 50-year lease agreement principally arranged on the lane. The Club is not however in a financial position to begin the project. Club currently exports demand out of Rushcliffe due to a lack of adequate cricketing facilities available.	Explore funding opportunities to allow the project to begin. A secondary ground will allow exported demand to be played back at the Club and will mitigate overplay from the main square.			High	S	M-H	
52	Regatta Way Sports Ground	Football	Sports Club	Three standard quality adult pitches overplayed by a total of 4.5 match sessions per week. Two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches played to capacity, two mini 7v7 and five mini 5v5 pitches which don't have any peak time capacity. FA Pitch Improvement Programme assessment undertaken April 2015.	Improve pitch quality through more regular enhanced maintenance and remedial work as detailed within the produced technical programme of works, in order to reduce and better sustain levels of overplay across the site.	Sports Club FA	Key site	High	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Two standard quality grass squares with nine wickets each. Both squares can accommodate additional competitive play. Cumulatively both squares have actual spare capacity of 0.5 match sessions every Saturday and one match session every Sunday.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.			Sports Club ECB	Medium	M	

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>54</sup>	Cost <sup>55</sup>	Aim
56	Rushcliffe School	Football	Commercial	Four standard quality adult pitches cumulatively overplayed by two match sessions per week as well as a youth 9v9 pitch which is played to capacity. Proposals to develop a new hockey suitable AGP which include the loss of one existing adult football pitch. Section 106 funding secured through the Sharphill housing development may be allocated to facilitate developing the new AGP.	Improve quality of grass pitches through an increased and improved maintenance regime to alleviate overplay.	School Commercial FA	Hub site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
					Explore opportunities to alleviate overplay by transferring football match demand onto the FA certified 3G pitch on site.						
					Ensure that any proposed development affecting the net loss of playing pitches is able to meet National Planning Policy.	School Commercial Council FA England Hockey		High	S	H	
					3G pitch	Full-sized floodlit low pile 3G AGP available for community use installed/resurfaced in 2014 rated as standard quality. Pitch is on the FA register and can accommodate competitive fixtures.		Ensure pitch is regularly maintained to avoid quality deterioration.	School Commercial FA	Medium	
		Ensure a sinking fund is in place to resurface the carpet of the pitch when required in the future.									
		AGP	Two small sided 3G pitches which are not floodlit. Pitches are not on the FA register.	Ensure a sinking fund is in place to resurface the carpet of the pitches when required in the future.	School Commercial FA	Medium	M	L			
				Proposals to develop a new hockey suitable AGP which include the loss of one existing adult football pitch. Section 106 funding secured through the Sharphill housing development may be allocated to facilitate developing the new AGP.	Ensure that any proposed development affecting the net loss of playing pitches is able to meet National Planning Policy.	School Commercial Council FA England Hockey	High	S-M	H		
		Tennis	School	Seven standard quality floodlit macadam courts. Courts are available for community use but receive limited use.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.					School LTA	
					Netball	Six floodlit courts rated as standard quality. Courts are available for community use but receive limited use.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	School England Netball	Low	L	

<sup>54</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>55</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>56</sup>	Cost <sup>57</sup>	Aim
61	The Becket School	Football	School	An adult, two youth 11v11, two youth 9v9 (one overmarked on an adult pitch), one mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 all rated as standard quality. Pitches are all deemed to be at capacity through both usage from curricular use and main external site user Holy Spirit Celtic FC.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for both current and future use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	School FA	Hub site	Medium	M	L	Protect
		AGP		One full sized hockey suitable AGP with floodlighting. Available for community use and used by Manning HC and as a secondary venue by West Bridgford HC. Standard quality pitch built in 2009 and thus approaching the ten year recommended surface lifespan.	Maintain the pitch rigorously and regularly to ensure quality for use. Consider resurfacing in the coming years subject to natural deterioration of quality. Encourage the provider to put in place a mechanism for future sustainability such as a sinking fund formed over time.	School England Hockey		Medium	S-M	L-M	Protect
		Rugby union		A poor quality (M0/D1) senior pitch overmarked by a youth 9v9 football pitch. Pitch not available for community use due to Holy Spirit Celtic FC accessing overmarked youth 9v9.	Look to improve pitch quality through improved maintenance for curricular use.	School RFU		Low	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Six macadam courts rated as standard quality without floodlights and are available for community use.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	School LTA		Low	L	L	
		Netball		Five non-floodlit courts rated as standard quality.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	School England Netball		Low	L	L	
		Football		Nottingham Forest FC stadium.	Ensure stadium is protected for professional use.	Sports Club		Key site	High	S	
63	The Nottingham Emmanuel C of E School	Football	School	Two adult and a youth 9v9 pitch unavailable for community use due to pitch quality. Pitches have issues with geese foul.	Explore opportunities to increase pitch quality through removing geese from the immediate area.	School FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		A poor quality (M0/D1) senior pitch primarily used for curricular use, but also as an overspill pitch my Nottingham City based Club, Nottingham Moderns RFC.	Explore opportunities to increase quality of the pitch through increasing levels of maintenance.	School RFU		Medium	M	L	
		Tennis		Six floodlit macadam courts rated as good quality and are available for community use.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	School LTA		Low	L	L	
		Netball		Five non-floodlit courts rated as standard quality.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	School England Netball		Low	L	L	

<sup>56</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>57</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>58</sup>	Cost <sup>59</sup>	Aim
74	West Bridgford School	Football	School	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches, and a standard quality youth 9v9 pitch. Pitches are unavailable for community use, although have previously received Football Foundation funding to improve quality of pitches prior to pitches being unable to be used for community use.	Explore opportunities to work with the school to provide community access to the pitches to alleviate shortfalls in the analysis area.	School FA	Key site	High	S	L	Protect Enhance
		AGP		Full sized floodlit hockey suitable AGP, built in 2007 and rated as poor quality. Main site used by West Bridgford HC. Pitch hire costs reported to have increased significantly over the last five years. Concerns over long-term viability of club use and cost accessibility.	Seek to work with the School and club regarding price of hire and issues regarding accessibility. Alternatively, consider other more sustainable and potentially more secure options including the potential new AGP proposed at Rushcliffe School if permitted.	School England Hockey		High	S	H	
				Seek to resurface the pitch which is in excess of the recommended surface lifespan, in order to improve quality.				S	H		
75	West Bridgford Tennis Club	Tennis	Sports Club	There are six floodlit courts, three of which are artificial turf and rated as standard quality and the remaining clay surface and rated as good quality.	Ensure quality of the courts is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	Sports Club LTA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
76	West Park	Football	Sports Club	Two standard quality youth 9v9 pitches played to capacity and three standard quality mini 7v7 pitches with no peak time capacity.	Sustain and improve pitch quality for both current and future use, through better and more regular maintenance and remedial work.	Sports Club FA	Key site	Medium	M	L	Protect
		Cricket		A standard quality natural grass square with 10 wickets. The pitch has a capacity rating of 28 match equivalent sessions per season and during peak time has an actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.	Sustain square quality through continued maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB		Medium	M	L	
		Tennis		One macadam court without floodlights rated as standard quality.	Ensure quality of the court is in sustained and a sinking fund is in place for future resurfacing.	Sports Club LTA		Low	L	L	
82	Roko Health Club	Football	Commercial	Two poor quality adult pitches played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality through improved and more regular maintenance.	Commercial FA	Local site	Medium	M	L	Protect Enhance

<sup>58</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>59</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above



## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>60</sup>	Cost <sup>61</sup>	Aim
85	West Bridgford Sports Club	Rugby Union	Sports Club	One floodlit senior pitch rated as standard quality (M1/D1) overplayed by 1 match session. One senior pitch rated as standard quality (M1/D1) overplayed by 3 match sessions.	West Bridgford RFC to explore opportunities and be prioritised in gaining access to any new World Rugby compliant 3G pitch in the South Nottinghamshire area.	Sports Club RFU	Key site	High	S	L	Protect Enhance
					As advised by RFU Pitch Report for West Bridgford RFC it is recommended that the pitch receives a higher, more consistent level of maintenance.						
					Pitches would highly benefit from verti-draining in the spring, followed by spreading sand. This should be followed by a secondary verti-draining in September/early October followed by fertiliser. The last major aeration of the year should be in December/January to relieve the compaction from half of the season played.						
					Regular use of a chain harrower would be highly beneficial. It would allow soil to breath (which is an issue during the winter months as grass and soil is heavily compacted due to heavy rain and play) and it would aid water infiltration.						
				A standard quality natural grass cricket square with 10 wickets and an NTP, in addition to a standalone NTP on site. The square is overplayed by 39 match equivalent sessions per season.	Improve quality of grass square to mitigate consequences of overplay through improved maintenance, remedial and preparatory regime.	Sports Club ECB					
				Greater utilisation of both NTPs on site would in part alleviate overplay.							
88	Abbey Road Primary	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain quality of pitch for curricular use through regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
90	Greythorn Primary School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 pitch rated as standard quality not available for community use.	Sustain quality of pitch for curricular use through regular maintenance.	School FA	Local site	Low	L	L	Protect
Tollerton Skate Park		Skate park	Parish Council	Standard quality skatepark.	Seek to improve quality through repair and more regular maintenance work.	Parish Council	Local site	Low	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
Lady Bay Skate Park (The Hook)		Skate park	Council	Poor quality skatepark. Has been the target of both graffiti and arson and has consequently been unavailable for community use in recent months as ramps have been removed for safety reasons.	Facility requires replacement with more robust and low maintenance concrete facility.	Council	Local site	Low	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
Rushcliffe County Park Skate Park		Skate park	Council	Standard quality skatepark.	Seek to improve quality through repair and more regular maintenance work. Explore opportunities to replace provision with low cost maintenance alternatives.	Council	Local site	Low	S-M	L	Protect Enhance

<sup>60</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>61</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above



**RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY  
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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Lead partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales <sup>62</sup>	Cost <sup>63</sup>	Aim
NEW	Land East of Gamston			Allocation proposing the development of circa 4000 new dwellings, yet to apply for planning permission.	Subject to application and approval, develop new onsite playing provision and establish a sustainable maintenance and management model for the new playing field provision. See Part 7 scenarios for further detail on potential demand for additional playing pitch provision as a result of new development.	Council	N/A	Low	L	H	Provide

<sup>62</sup> (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years)

<sup>63</sup> (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The PPS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sports based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2028 (in line with the Local Plan). This future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required. The Playing Pitch Demand Calculator adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converts the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required. This is achieved via TGRs in the Assessment Report to determine how many new teams would be generated from an increase in population derived from housing growth and gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision. The scenarios tested within this section sit exclusive of future demand from TGRs forecasted within the preceding Assessment Report. As such, teams forecasted to be created from TGRs are not included within these scenario outcomes which are tested independently.

The scenarios below show the additional demand for pitch sports generated from projected housing growth. The demand is shown in match equivalent sessions per week for the majority of sports, with the exception of cricket, where match equivalent sessions are by season. The indicative figures are based on the assumption that population growth will average 2.4 people per dwelling as based on average household size contained within the 2011 census. The indicative figures will be applied to two scenarios, based on the population figures contained within the Borough Council's Housing Trajectory, together with background information produced in support. The scenarios are as follows:

- ◀ **Scenario One:** Likely demand generated for pitch sports from housing growth requirement over the remainder of the Local Plan period (April 2017 up to March 2028). This is based on the updated development assumptions during the remainder of the plan period
- ◀ **Scenario Two:** Likely demand generated for pitch sports from housing growth over the period 2019-2024 based upon the updated assumptions contained within Appendix A of Local Plan Part 2, Further Options consultation<sup>64</sup>.

Please note that the scenarios can be updated as required over the Local Plan period throughout the lifespan of the PPS to reflect population projections and change in the average household size.

The number of pitches required in the following tables has been rounded up or down accordingly, however capital and revenue costs are based on indicative pitch costs, proportionate to the total match equivalent sessions required rather than just whole pitches required. Though increases in match sessions for some sports are not sufficient to warrant the creation of new pitches, the associated costs have been incorporated and investment into alternative sites could instead be considered to increase capacity to accommodate this new demand.

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<sup>64</sup><http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/media/rushcliffe/media/documents/pdf/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/lapp/furtheroptions/Further%20options%20final.pdf>

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## **Scenario 1: Likely demand generated for pitch sports from housing growth requirement over the Local Plan period (2028)**

The Council's Housing Trajectory shows the total number of dwellings to be provided Borough-wide, during the Plan Period, from 2011 to 2028 to be 13,150 dwellings. The latest Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) housing trajectory identifies that there will be approximately 10,500 dwellings delivered in the district from 2017 to 2028. Table 7.1 shows a likely breakdown of where new dwellings will be developed from April 2017 up to 2028.

*Table 7.1: Summary of planned housing growth across Rushcliffe Borough to 2017-2028.*

<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of New Dwellings (October 2017-2028)</b>
<b>Bingham</b>	
Land North of Bingham Strategic Allocation	1,050
Strategic Allocation at Former RAF Newton	550
Elsewhere in the Bingham sub-area	200
<b>Cotgrave and Radcliffe</b>	
Strategic allocation at former Cotgrave Colliery	200
Cotgrave potential allocations	350
Radcliffe potential allocations	700
Elsewhere in the Cotgrave and Radcliffe sub-area	200
<b>East Leake</b>	
Assumption for other development across the area	150
<b>Keyworth</b>	
Keyworth potential allocations	590
Elsewhere in the Keyworth sub-area	200
<b>West Bridgford and Ruddington</b>	
Melton Road Edwalton	1460
Ruddington	400
	200
<b>Sustainable Urban Extensions without planning permission</b>	
Strategic Allocation South of Clifton	2,250 <sup>65</sup>
Strategic Allocation East of Gamston/North of Tollerton	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,500</b>

The estimated additional population derived from the housing growth April 2017 to March 2028 is 25,200<sup>66</sup> people (10,500 dwellings). This equates to 39.35 match equivalent sessions per week for grass pitch sports, 3.74 for hockey and 245.67 match equivalent sessions per season for cricket.

<sup>65</sup> In the case of the strategic allocations, development will continue beyond the plan period to 3,000 dwellings for south of Clifton and 4,000 dwellings for East of Gamston/North of Tollerton.

<sup>66</sup> Based on a predicted household size of 2.33 persons, taken from an overall average of 2019, 2024 and 2029 average household sizes from Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG) 2014-based household projections, change in average household size, local authority districts and England 2012-2039

## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Table 7.2: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from housing growth (2017-2028)

Pitch Sport	Estimated demand by sport (2017-28)	
	Match equivalent sessions (MES) per week <sup>67</sup>	Pitch equivalent
Adult football	8.26	8 pitches
Youth football	13.76	14 pitches
Mini soccer	13.54	14 pitches
Rugby union	3.33	3 senior pitches
Rugby league	0.47	No pitches
Hockey	3.74	1 artificial grass pitch
Cricket	245.67 per season	5 pitches

Should new pitches be required to accommodate all of this demand, the total capital cost is estimated at £4,317,302<sup>68</sup> and the total life cycle cost (per annum) is £808,514<sup>69</sup>.

### **Scenario 2: Likely demand generated for pitch sports from housing growth over the next five years (2019-2024)**

Local Plan Part 2, Further Options consultation estimates that there is a requirement to develop around 7,000 new homes during the period 2019-2024. The estimated additional population derived from housing growth 2019-24 is 16,800 people.

This equates to 26.23 match equivalent sessions per week for grass pitch sports, 2.49 for hockey and 163.78 match equivalent sessions per season for cricket.

Table 7.3: Likely demand for pitch sports from housing growth over the period 2019-2024

Pitch Sport	Estimated demand by sport (2019-24)	
	Match equivalent sessions (MES) per week <sup>70</sup>	Pitch equivalent
Adult football	5.5	6 pitches
Youth football	9.17	9 pitches
Mini soccer	9.03	9 pitches
Rugby union	2.22	2 senior pitches
Rugby league	0.31	No new pitches
Hockey	2.49	1 artificial grass pitch
Cricket	163.78 per season	4 pitches

Should new pitches be required to accommodate all of this demand, the capital cost is estimated at £2,878,201<sup>2</sup> and the total life cycle cost (per annum) is £539,009<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>67</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week

<sup>68</sup> Capital cost is based on 2016 second quarter calculations.

<sup>69</sup> Sport England Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces April 2012

<sup>70</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

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## Strategic Allocations without Planning Permission

There are two large strategic allocations contained within the adopted Local Plan Part 1, Rushcliffe Core Strategy. These are South of Clifton (3,000 dwellings, of which 2,250 are set to be complete by 2028, and East of Gamston/North of Tollerton (4,000 dwellings, of which 2,000 are set to be complete by 2028).

Location	Analysis Area	Number of new homes	Associated population increase <sup>71</sup>
South of Clifton	East Leake	3,000	7,200
East of Gamston/North of Tollerton	West Bridgford and Ruddington	4,000	9,600

Notwithstanding existing planning permissions for which Section 106 contributions have already been agreed, it is important that the Council secures appropriate contributions from all new developments to provide for the sporting needs arising from the residents of those developments.

The Council could consider using CIL (if adopted) to obtain contributions to priority sites, or pooling S106 contributions from major housing schemes to invest in priority sites. In either case, the preceding Action Plan and future consultation with NGBs should inform the playing fields that most require investment.

Using team generation rates<sup>72</sup> from the PPS Assessment Report it is possible to estimate the likely minimum level of provision to be generated from each development:

Location	Analysis Area	Pitch type	Requirement <sup>73</sup>	
			Match equivalent sessions (MES) per week <sup>74</sup>	Pitch equivalent
South of Clifton	East Leake	Adult football	2.36	2 pitches
		Youth football	3.93	4 pitches
		Mini football	3.87	4 pitches
		Rugby union	0.95	1 senior pitch
		Rugby league	0.13	No pitches
		Hockey	1.07	No AGPs
		Cricket	70.19 per season	2 pitches
<p><b>Total requirement: 11.24 match equivalent sessions per week on grass pitches, 1.07 for hockey and 70.19 match equivalent sessions per season for cricket.</b>  <i>Total capital cost of £1,233,515, total life cycle cost (per annum) of £231,004</i></p>				

Development at land South of Clifton may present opportunities to link any new provision with Clifton All Whites FC which has recently ceased playing within Rushcliffe to relocate to sites in Nottingham, off Farnborough Road on the City side of the border with Ruddington. Nottingham is presently undertaking an update of its PPS and any new provision developed as a result of this development should consider supply and demand balance around the Clifton/Ruddington border area, given accessibility to users in both areas/authorities.

<sup>71</sup> Based on a predicted household size of 2.4 people

<sup>72</sup> District wide team generation rates, not Analysis Area level.

<sup>73</sup> Based on one team sharing a pitch and playing on a home and away basis at peak time

<sup>74</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Location	Analysis Area	Pitch type	Requirement <sup>75</sup>	
			Match equivalent sessions (MES) per week <sup>76</sup>	Pitch equivalent
East of Gamston/North of Tollerton	West Bridgford and Ruddington	Adult football	3.14	3 pitches
		Youth football	5.24	5 pitches
		Mini football	5.16	5 pitches
		Rugby union	1.27	1 senior pitch
		Rugby league	0.18	No pitches
		Hockey	1.43	No AGPs
		Cricket	93.59	2 pitches
<p><b>Total requirement: 14.99 match equivalent sessions per week on grass pitches, 1.43 for hockey and 93.59 match equivalent sessions per season for cricket.</b></p> <p><i>Total capital cost of £1,644,686, total life cycle cost (per annum) of £308,005</i></p>				

The exact nature and location of provision associated with developments should be fully determined through the local planning process and in partnership with each specific NGB, which may, for example, include off site contributions in the form of upgrading pitches at existing sites where appropriate.

## Conclusions

Experience shows that only housing sites with 600 dwellings or more are likely to generate demand in their own right; however, the cumulative impact of housing across the local authority clearly shows that there will be demand generated over the next five years and up to 2028 and beyond, given their size.

<sup>75</sup> Based on one team sharing a pitch and playing on a home and away basis at peak time

<sup>76</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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

### ***Delivery***

The Playing Pitch Strategy (that will be adopted for one year from 2017) seeks to provide guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across Rushcliffe in the years up to 2028. By addressing the issues identified in the Assessment Report and using the strategic framework presented in this Strategy, the current and future sporting and recreational needs of Rushcliffe can be satisfied. The Strategy identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and identifies how best to resolve this in the future.

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

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

Each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence. The role of the steering group should not end with the completion of the PPS document

To help ensure the PPS is well used it should be regarded as the key document within the study area guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on the how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved the steering group need to have a clear understanding of how the PPS can be applied and therefore delivered.

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

### ***Monitoring and updating***

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

As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the steering group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date.



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The nature of the supply and in particular the demand for playing pitches will likely to have changed over the three years. Therefore, without any form of review and update within this time period it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The steering group should regularly review and refresh area by area plans taking account of any improvements in pitch quality (and hence increases in pitch capacity) and also any new negotiations for community use of education sites in the future.


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

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## Checklist

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

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

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

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## APPENDIX ONE: INCREASING FOOTBALL USE OF 3G PITCHES

During the last decade 3G AGPs have played an increasing role within the national game. They are regarded by the Football Association (FA) as the optimum facility for training by clubs. In recent seasons, they have also become more popular for competitive matches. With this in mind, before developing the recommendations and action plan for this PPS, two scenarios have been looked at to help with understanding what demand there may be for full sized<sup>77</sup> floodlit 3G AGPs in Rushcliffe if increased amounts of play were to take place on them.

In order to do so, information from the 'Assessment' stage of developing this PPS, alongside details from the FA, have been used to help answer the following questions:

How many full sized floodlit 3G AGPs may be required to meet demand within Rushcliffe if:

- ◀ All teams playing competitive football had access to a full size floodlit 3G AGP to train on once a week?
- ◀ All matches for teams currently playing competitive football on Rushcliffe Borough Council (RBC) managed natural grass pitches in Rushcliffe were played on full size floodlit 3G AGPs?

The answers to these questions are set out below and are based on full sized floodlit 3G AGPs which have full community use during peak periods<sup>78</sup>. However, the results should be viewed as providing an indication of the 'full size pitch equivalents' that may be demanded. In practice, the most appropriate ways of meeting any such increase in demand will vary depending on the nature of the local area. For example, in some areas new full size floodlit AGPs may be appropriate, whereas in others small sided provision to cater for increased training use, or securing greater community use/hours of existing provision may be the best way forward.

Given the above, what the answers may mean for the Rushcliffe area, taking into account the wider findings from the Assessment stage of developing the PPS, is also presented below. These details have been used to help inform the development of the PPS's recommendations and the action plan in Part 6.

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<sup>77</sup> A full sized 3G AGP measuring FA recommended dimensions of 106m x 70m (including run off/safety margins)

<sup>78</sup> Weekdays 17:00 - 21:00 (or 19:00 on Fridays) and 09:00 - 17:00 on weekends.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

## Scenario results

### *i. If all teams playing competitive football had access to a full size floodlit 3G AGP to train on once a week.*

- ◀ As a guide, the FA suggests that one full sized floodlit 3G AGP could potentially accommodate this training demand from 42 teams (Ratio of 1:4279).
- ◀ It is considered that there are 328 teams which require access to train once per week on floodlit 3G surface in Rushcliffe.

Analysis Area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of available 3G pitches	Current shortfall	Future number of teams	Future shortfall
Bingham	42	1	-	1	49	1
Cotgrave & Radcliffe	42	1	1	-	50	-
East Leake	22	0 <sup>80</sup>	-	-	24	-
Keyworth	34	1 <sup>81</sup>	-	1	34	1
West Bridgford & Ruddington	188	4	2	2	231	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>5</b>

- ◀ Using the FA's 1:42 ratio suggests that seven full sized floodlit 3G AGPs would be required to meet this increased training use within Rushcliffe.
- ◀ At present, there are three available full sized 3G pitches across the Borough. Therefore, there is a current shortfall of four full sized 3G pitches in order to meet affiliated team training demand.
- ◀ Future demand forecasted by population based team generation rates (not accounting for club growth aspirations) indicates an increase of 60 new teams by 2028. This would create a subsequent total of 388 teams (assuming all were to train and play in Rushcliffe) by 2028.
- ◀ This would increase the future requirement to five full sized floodlit 3G pitches to accommodate affiliated training demand.

<sup>79</sup> The FA developed the training ratio following their facilities strategy vision to provide all affiliated clubs with access to a 3G AGP for training. An original ratio of 1:56 was based on a full size pitch providing 56 slots per week (Mon-Thurs 6-9pm, Fri 6-8pm). The ratio was subsequently revised to 1:42. This was due to evidence of a number of local authority areas reaching the perceived required number of 3G AGP facilities based on the 1:56 ratio yet still evidencing latent demand. Further FA analysis of 3G AGP facility usage also showed that many affiliated teams seek more than one slot for training and that significant amounts of non FA affiliated and recreational demand also use 3G AGPs during the peak time, creating a need for further 3G AGP provision.

<sup>80</sup> The East Leake analysis area has one sand based pitch which can accommodate football demand for 22 teams and therefore is not considered to require a full sized 3G pitch.

<sup>81</sup> Demand of 34 teams considered sufficient to require a full sized 3G pitch given there are no full-sized sand based surfaces in the Keyworth Area to accommodate football training.

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### ii. If all matches for teams playing competitive football on Council managed natural grass pitches were played on full size floodlit 3G AGPs.

- ◀ The FA is keen to work with local authorities (LAs) to understand the potential demand for full size floodlit 3G AGPs should all competitive matches, currently played on LA managed natural grass pitches, be transferred to one.
- ◀ Table A.1 takes information from the Assessment stage of this PPS to present the number of teams playing on LA managed natural grass pitches (not including school sites or sites leased to clubs) and the relevant peak periods.
- ◀ There are just two sites managed by the Borough Council with football pitch provision – Alford Road Playing Field and Gresham Sports Park.

Table A.1: Number of teams playing on Rushcliffe Borough Council managed natural grass pitches

Pitch type	Pitch size	Peak period	Number of teams
Adult	11v11	Sunday AM	20
Youth	11v11	Saturday AM	7
Youth	9v9	Saturday AM	3
Youth	7v7	N/A	-
Mini	7v7	Saturday AM	6
Mini	5v5	Saturday AM	4
<b>Total</b>			<b>40</b>

- ◀ The FA suggests an approach (see below) for estimating the number of full size floodlit 3G AGPs that teams may demand for competitive matches. Table A.2 presents the results of this approach for the teams set out in Table A.1.

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

Format	Number of teams per time (x)	Number of matches at PEAK TIME (y)= x/2	3G units per match (z)	Total units required formats (A)=(y)*(z)	3G pitches required B= (A)/64
5v5	4	2	4	8	0.125
7v7	6	3	8	24	0.375
9v9	3	1.5	10	15	0.234375
11v11 (Youth)	7	3.5	32	112	1.75
11v11 (Adult)	20	10	32	320	5

- ◀ Transferring all matches for teams currently playing competitive football on Rushcliffe Borough Council managed natural grass pitches may equate to a demand for five full sized floodlit 3G AGPs all the different formats of the game.
- ◀ In order to accommodate all mini soccer (both formats) and youth 9v9 football on Saturday mornings there would be a need for one full sized pitch (rounded up from 0.73) in Rushcliffe. This could also accommodate a proportion of adult demand on Sunday mornings, equating to four teams or two match equivalent sessions per week.

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- ◀ The FA approach for estimating the number of full size floodlit 3G AGPs that teams may demand for competitive matches is based on:
  - ◀ A team playing a 'home' match every other week - therefore dividing the number of teams by two with the result rounded up to provide a figure for the number of matches a week during the peak period (Table A.2 Column y).
  - ◀ A 3G AGP being available for 4 hours<sup>82</sup> a day during the peak period (e.g. 10am to 2pm). Therefore, all demand being programmed over the four hour period.
  - ◀ Using a unit measure which can be applied to the different formats of the game to quantify how a pitch can be used during this 4 hour period (Table A.2 Column z). One unit is taken as equating to a quarter of a full size 3G AGP for 15 minutes. Therefore, a full size 3G AGP provides 4 units per 15 minutes and 16 units per hour. Across the four hour period this totals a capacity of 64 units (16 units per hour x 4 hours).
  - ◀ As set out in Table A.3 below, each format of the game will require a certain amount of units of a full size 3G AGP per match based on the required pitch size and match duration.

Table A.3: FA set units of a full size 3G AGP per match for each format

Format of the game	No. of pitches that fit on a full size 3G AGP	No. of matches per hour on a full size 3G AGP	No. of matches per 2 hour period on a full size 3G AGP	Number of units per match
<b>5v5</b>	4	4	8	<b>4</b>
<b>7v7</b>	2	2	4	<b>8</b>
<b>9v9</b>	2	2	2	<b>10</b>
<b>11v11 Youth</b>	1	0	1	<b>32</b>
<b>11v11 Adult</b>	1	0	1	<b>32</b>

## Current supply

- ◀ There are four full sized 3G pitches in the Borough each with floodlighting, of which three are available for community use.
- ◀ All three available full sized pitches are presently certified for competitive use and listed on the FA 3G Football Turf Pitch Register.
- ◀ There are also five small sized 3G pitches, three of which are floodlit.
- ◀ None of the small sized 3G pitches are FA/FIFA certified for competitive football, though only University of Nottingham (Sutton Bonington) is of sufficient dimensions (60x40m) to be able to host mini soccer matches.

## Scenario ii Conclusion

Based on a requirement for five FA/FIFA certified full-sized pitches to accommodate all competitive football demand from Borough Council managed grass pitch sites, there is shortfall of two full sized 3G pitches, FA/FIFA certified and available for community use.

<sup>82</sup> The rationale for 4 hours is based on a standard approach for match programming nationally and the ability to facilitate 2 adult games.



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## APPENDIX TWO: 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.

#### ***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

#### ***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.

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## ***National Planning Policy Framework***

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

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

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

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

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

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

## ***The FA National Game Strategy (2015 – 2019)***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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term needs, however in some areas, pitches may not be in the right places in order to maximize playing opportunities

## ***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 be 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.

## ***England Athletics: Whole Sport Plan 2013-2017***

The England Athletics plan outlines a strategy to attract and retain 3 million athletics participants by 2017, from a current base of 1.9 million as measured by Active People, whilst cementing athletics as the most popular individual sporting activity in England.

*“The ambition is to make England an athletic nation. Traditional athletics for some, running for many, fitness for all”.*

In order to achieve this, the goals of the strategic plan are:

- ◀ To grow and sustain participation levels in the sport.
- ◀ To improve the experiences of every participant in the sport.

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- ◀ To improve performance levels and to grow the next generation of senior athletic champions.

The plan also reflects a total commitment to delivering an inclusive sport, setting specific disability targets that are woven into the core measures for growth and retention of participation. Key personnel within the England Athletics staffing structure will now lead this area of work, focusing on:

- ◀ Delivering inclusive formats of the sport.
- ◀ National policy and programme development.
- ◀ Coaching and teaching resources.

### ***UK Athletics Facilities Strategy (2014-2019)***

Facilities are essential to attracting, retaining and developing athletes of the future. Having the right facilities in the right place will be crucial in meeting growing demand, increasing participation in physical activity and athletics, improving the health of the nation and supporting a new generation of athletes in clubs and schools through to national and world class level.

UKA and the Home Country Athletics Federations (HCAFs) recognise the challenges faced by facility owners and venue operators, and our 5 year Facility Strategy (2014-2019) uses a Track & Field facility model designed to support a sustainable UK network of development, training and competition venues that meet Home Country needs aligned to UKA's Athlete/Participant Development Model. In addition to Track and Field provision, UKA recognises the huge amount of club activity that takes place on roads, paths and trails and the strategy also maps out a plan for future "running" facilities.

The strategy does not seek to identify priority facilities, clubs or geographical areas. Instead, it provides the direction and guidance that will enable the four Home Country Athletics Federations (England Athletics, Athletics Northern Ireland, Scottish Athletics and Welsh Athletics) to establish their own priorities and deliver the principles of the UKA Facilities Strategy within their own national context.

### **UKA's 2014-19 Facilities Strategy key outcomes:**

- ◀ Increased participation across all athletics disciplines
- ◀ Increased club membership by providing facilities that support a participation pathway from novice through to club member
- ◀ Increased talent pool
- ◀ Long term improvement in the development of athletes of all ages and abilities
- ◀ Securing the long-term future of existing facilities
- ◀ More attractive and inspiring facilities for existing and potential athletes
- ◀ Improving the athletics experience for all participants

Improved relationships and interactions between stakeholders, particularly clubs and facility operators

### ***England Netball - Your Game, Your Way 2013-17 Whole Sport Plan***

England Netball remains committed to its '10-1-1' mission, vision and values that form the fundamentals for its strategic planning for the future for the sport and business.



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To facilitate the successful achievement of Netball 10:1:1 and Goal 4, England Netball will:

- ◀ Accelerate the participation growth by extending our market penetration and reach through the activation of a range of existing and new participant-focused products and programmes that access new and targeted markets.
- ◀ Increase the level of long-term participant retention through targeting programmes at known points of attrition and easy transition through the market segments, supported by an infrastructure that reflects the participant needs and improves their netball experience.
- ◀ Build a sustainable performance pathway and system built on the principles of purposeful practice and appropriate quality athlete coach contact time.
- ◀ Develop sustainable revenue streams through the commercialisation of a portfolio of products and programmes and increasing membership sales. This will also include the creation of cost efficiencies and improved value for money through innovative partnerships and collaborations in all aspects of the business.
- ◀ Establish high standards of leadership and governance that protect the game and its people and facilitates the on-going growth and transformation of the NGB and sport.

## ***2015-2018 British Tennis Strategy***

The new strategy is presented in a concise one page framework that includes key strategies relating to three participation "focus" areas, six participation "drivers" and three participation "enablers". To achieve success, the 12 strategy areas will need to work interdependently to stem the decline and unlock sustainable growth:

The three participation "focus" areas are where tennis is consumed:



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- ◀ Deliver great service to clubs
- ◀ Build partnerships in the community, led by parks
- ◀ Enhance the tennis offer in education

The six participation "drivers" are the areas that will make the biggest difference where tennis is consumed. They must all be successful on a standalone and interconnected basis and include:

- ◀ Becoming more relevant to coaches
- ◀ Refocusing on recreational competition
- ◀ Providing results orientated facility investment
- ◀ Applying best in class marketing and promotion
- ◀ Jump starting the peak summer season
- ◀ Establishing a "no compromise" high performance programme with focus

The final layer is comprised of three participation "enablers" that underpin our ability to be successful. These enablers are rooted in how the LTA will get better; how the entire network of partners must be harnessed to work together and the need to raise more financial resources to fund our sport's turnaround. They include:

- ◀ Becoming a more effective and efficient LTA
- ◀ Harnessing the full resource network
- ◀ Generating new revenue

For further information and more detail on the framework please go to <http://www.lta.org.uk/about-the-lta/structure-vision>

### ***Bowls England: Strategic Plan 2014-2017***

Bowls England will provide strong leadership and work with its stakeholders to support the development of the sport of bowls in England for this and future generations.

The overall vision of Bowls England is to:

- ◀ Promote the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ◀ Recruit new participants to the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ◀ Retain current and future participants within the sport of flat green bowls.

In order to ensure that this vision is achieved, ten key performance targets have been created, which will underpin the work of Bowls England up until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

- ◀ 115,000 individual affiliated members.
- ◀ 1,500 registered coaches.
- ◀ Increase total National Championship entries by 10%.
- ◀ Increase total national competition entries by 10%.
- ◀ Medal places achieved in 50% of events at the 2016 World Championships.
- ◀ 35 county development plans in place and operational.
- ◀ County development officer appointed by each county association.
- ◀ National membership scheme implemented with 100% uptake by county associations.
- ◀ Secure administrative base for 1st April 2017.
- ◀ Commercial income to increase by 20%.

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Despite a recent fall in affiliated members, and a decline in entries into National Championships over the last five years, Bowls England believes that these aims will be attained by following core values. The intention is to:

- ◀ Be progressive.
- ◀ Offer opportunities to participate at national and international level.
- ◀ Work to raise the profile of the sport in support of recruitment and retention.
- ◀ Lead the sport.
- ◀ Support clubs and county associations.

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## APPENDIX THREE: FUNDING PLAN

### Funding opportunities<sup>83</sup>

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

Awarding body	Description
Big Lottery Fund <a href="http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/">http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/</a>	Big invests in community groups and to projects that improve health, education and the environment. For example, Awards for All which is for small Lottery grants of between £300 and £10,000.
Sport England The current funding streams will change throughout 2016/17 so refer to the website for the latest information: <a href="http://funding.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/">http://funding.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/</a>	Sport England is keen to marry funding with other organisations that provide financial support to create and strengthen the best sports projects. Applicants are encouraged to maximise the levels of other sources of funding, and projects that secure higher levels of partnership funding are more likely to be successful.
Football Foundation <a href="http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/funding-schemes/">http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/funding-schemes/</a>	This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development.
Rugby Football Foundation <a href="http://www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=14&amp;Itemid=113">http://www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=14&amp;Itemid=113</a>	The Grant Match Scheme in particular provides easy-to-access grant funding for playing projects that contribute to the recruitment and retention of community rugby players. Grants are available on a 'match funding' 50:50 basis to support a proposed project. Projects eligible for funding include: 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts, floodlights. 2. Club House Facilities – Changing rooms, shower facilities, washroom/lavatory, and measures to facilitate segregation (e.g. women, juniors). 3. Equipment – Large capital equipment, pitch maintenance capital equipment (e.g. mowers). Other loan schemes are also available.
The England and Wales Cricket Trust <a href="https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding">https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding</a>	Interest Free Loan Scheme provides finance to clubs for capital projects and the Small Grant Scheme is also open to applications from affiliated cricket clubs.
EU Life Fund <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm</a>	LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU.
National Hockey Foundation <a href="http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/">http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/</a>	The Foundation primarily makes grants to a wide range of organisations that meet one of the areas of focus: Young people and hockey, Enabling the development of hockey at youth or community level.

<sup>83</sup> Up to date as of April 2017.

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## Protecting Playing Fields

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

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

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

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

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

Sport England's Community Asset Fund<sup>84</sup> programme will be delivered via funding rounds and replaced its previous Inspired Facilities Fund. The Community Asset Fund opened in late January 2017 with an annual budget of £15 million, anticipating funding applications to range anywhere from £1000 to £150,000.

A key difference of the new programme is that it not only aims to support improvement of facilities within traditional sports clubs and recreational or sporting environments, but seeks explore new ways to invest in communities where improvement of facilities can offer wider benefit for not just sporting groups but other physical activities and local organisations which use or could use the site. The change in approach reflects the Towards an Active Nation Strategy and a contribution to delivering the five outcomes: physical wellbeing, mental wellbeing, individual development, social and community development and economic development.

The four main aims of the Community Asset Fund programme are:

- ◀ Improve and protect existing sports facilities that support the needs of local communities
- ◀ Invest in new and different places that meet the needs of local communities, which include our target audiences
- ◀ Ensure our capital investment reaches organisations who have not accessed our funding before
- ◀ Create a more resilient, sustainable, less grant dependent sport sector

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<sup>84</sup> <https://www.sportengland.org/media/11425/community-asset-fund-guide-january-2017.pdf>

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

## STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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### Strategic Facilities Fund

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

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

Key features which applications must demonstrate are:

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

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

The Strategic Facilities Fund will prioritise projects that:

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

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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

## Funder's requirements

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

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

## Indicative costs

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

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

The costs are for the development of community sports facilities and are based on providing good quality sports facility based on the last quarter. The Facilities Costs are updated on the Sport England website every quarter. These rounded costs are based on schemes most recently funded through the Lottery (and therefore based on economies of scale), updated to reflect current forecast price indices provided by the Building Cost Information Service (BCIS), prepared by Technical Team Lead of Sport England.

# RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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## APPENDIX FOUR: GLOSSARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## RUSHCLIFFE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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