

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

January 2020

This document fulfils the requirement for a playing pitch strategy for North Lincolnshire, with actions and recommendations to maintain and improve the future delivery of sport playing pitches and associated facilities from 2020 to 2025.



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Glossary and abbreviations

3G	Third Generation (type of artificial surface)
ATP	Artificial Turf Pitch
CC	Cricket Club
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FTP	Football Turf Pitch (artificial surface)
LCB	Lincolnshire Cricket Board
MES	Match Equivalent Sessions
MOD	Ministry of Defence
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Policy Planning Framework
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PIP	Pitch Improvement Programme
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
TGR	Team Generation Rate

Section One – Introduction

- 1.1 This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for North Lincolnshire. North Lincolnshire Council has prepared it in partnership with the steering group that includes Sport England, Active Humber, North Lincolnshire Council (including representatives from Active Lifestyles, Active Communities and Place, Planning and Housing) along with the National Governing Bodies of Sports (NGBS) whose member clubs are the main users of playing pitches in the local area. NGB representation included England Hockey, Rugby Football Union, Lincolnshire Football Association, Football Foundation, Lincolnshire Cricket and the England and Wales Cricket Board.
- 1.2 The strategy has been prepared to replace the previous North Lincolnshire PPS that was adopted in June 2013. It has been developed in accordance with the Sport England methodology: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy (published October 2013).
- 1.3 The key highlights and successes from the 2013 North Lincolnshire PPS include:
- Supported the development of an improved ancillary and pitch infrastructure, for example, Klassic Park and Winterton Playing Field. Both built new clubhouses and additional playing pitches for their communities.
 - Assisted the leveraging in of external funding to improve the quality of existing pitches and supporting ancillary accommodation for example new ground care equipment (Bottesford Town FC) and changing room refurbishment (Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club).
 - Achieved developer contributions through Section 106 planning approvals.
 - Aided the training and development of a significant number of coaches and volunteers to improve capacity and quality.
 - Developed new artificial turf sports pitches and their supporting infrastructure at South Axholme Academy (Epworth), Axholme North Leisure Centre (Crowle), Brigg Recreation Ground (Brigg), Baysgarth School (Barton) and Frederick Gough School (Bottesford, Scunthorpe).
 - Supported the disposal of surplus pitch sites for example Dartmouth Road Playing Field that no longer had a strategic need due to proven over provision.
 - Helped the School Improvement Programme to reconfigure sites where loss of playing pitches might be an issue for example Crosby School relocation and the rebuilding of Melior Community Academy.
- 1.4 The PPS will run from 2020 to 2025; a five-year period based on Sport England recommendations. The steering group will continue to meet biannually to monitor the implementation of the strategy including the recommendations and actions and to review its findings on annual basis to keep it up to date and robust.

Vision

- 1.5 This strategy is based on the key strategic drivers and provides a framework for future provision and management of sport pitches across North Lincolnshire. A vision has been set out to provide a clear focus with desired outcomes for the North Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy:
- 1.6 *'Ensure that the quality and quantity of pitches meets the needs and aspirations of residents of North Lincolnshire now and in the future.'*

Objectives

- 1.7 The key objectives for the production of this strategy are related to the three strands of Sport England's planning aims to protect, enhance and provide playing pitches alongside the need to support local agenda, as follows:

- 1.8 **Protect existing facilities:** To protect sports and recreational buildings and land including playing fields. The strategy will provide adequate planning guidance to inform officers when assessing development proposals and help shape local planning policy.
- 1.9 **Enhance existing facilities:** Identify how existing facilities for pitch sports can be effectively utilised to grow participation at the facilities and maximize support for outdoor sites. The strategy will inform the response to budget pressures to ensure the most efficient management and maintenance of pitches. It will provide evidence for funding bids from NGB's of sport and regional/local organisations.
- 1.10 **Provide new facilities to meet demand:** Analyse the current level of pitch provision, identifying the demand and evaluate the levels of over/under supply to determine whether there is sufficient quantity and quality to meet local demand. This will ensure that communities have access to sufficient high quality sports facilities that are fit for purpose.
- 1.11 **Support local agenda:** Support and inform the North Lincolnshire Local Plan; that sets out the vision and objectives for the future development of the area, addressing needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure.

The Current Picture

- 1.12 This section of the report assesses the current context for playing pitch provision both nationally and locally within North Lincolnshire and explains how the development of the strategy fits with other related plans and strategies.

National Context

- 1.13 At a national level, several key policies impact upon the preparation of this PPS.
- 1.14 **The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)** Paragraph 96 states 'Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed which plans should then seek to accommodate.
- 1.15 **Public Health England** strategy "Everybody active, every day: an evidence based approach to physical activity" (2014) sets out the national vision to drive a step change in the public's health. Tackling physical inactivity is cited as critical to delivering the organisations priorities to reduce the risk of poor physical and mental health. If we want everybody to be active every day, physical activity needs to be made easy, fun and affordable. Exercise and active recreation must be available to all, in every community across England. To deliver this vision the strategy identifies four areas (below) that require action, at a national and local level:
- Active society: creating a social movement
 - Moving professionals: activating networks of expertise
 - Active environments: creating the right spaces
 - Moving at scale: scaling up interventions that make us active
- 1.16 **HM Government** in 2015 published its strategy "Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation". This cross government strategy aims to tackle flat lining levels of sports participation and high levels of physical inactivity. It specifically targets physical inactivity, under-represented groups,

young people, and the social value of sport. An important change in this strategy is it focuses on the broader outcomes that sport can deliver; outlining five key outcomes:

- Physical wellbeing
- Mental wellbeing
- Individual development
- Social and community development
- Economic development.

- 1.17 **Sport England** in 2016 launched its new five-year strategy “Towards an Active Nation”, a response to the Government’s “Sporting Future” Strategy. It sets a bold and ambitious direction for sport policy, looks beyond simple participation to how sport changes lives, and becomes a force for social good. The vision of the strategy is “that everyone, regardless of their age, background or level of ability, feels able to engage in sport and physical activity”. Success will be measured using the five key outcomes set out in “Sporting Future”.
- 1.18 **Sport England** has been a statutory consultee on planning applications affecting playing pitches since 1996 and has a long established policy of retention. They advocate that at the core of planning for sport there should be a clear strategy for meeting the identified need for sport and recreational facilities as well as opportunities for new provision. In practice, this is seen in their national planning objectives to protect and enhance existing facilities and provide new facilities to meet demand. Sport England advises that informed decision on playing pitch matters require all local authorities to have an up to date assessment of need and a strategy detailing this. Sport England recommend that a strategy is monitored and updated annually and refreshed every five years. This assessment will support the Council in implementing a robust strategic approach to the delivery of pitches across the district.
- 1.19 **Sport England** believe that providing the right opportunities and facilities in the right place is central to helping people take part in sport and activity. The PPS is one of the key documents designed to give a clear understanding of what is required in an area, alongside a sports facility needs assessment. This provides a sound basis on which to develop policy and make informed decisions for sports development and investment in facilities.

National Governing Body Facilities Strategies

- 1.20 The Football Association (FA), England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), Rugby Football Union (RFU) and England Hockey all set out strategies guiding the provision of facilities for their specific sport as follows:
- The Football Association – The FA National Game Strategy for Participation and Development 2018 – 2021
 - England and Wales Cricket Board – Cricket Unleashed (2016-2020)
 - Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan 2017-2021
 - England Hockey - The National Hockey Facility Strategy (2017-2021)
- 1.21 The PPS considers and builds upon the priorities set out in these nationwide documents.

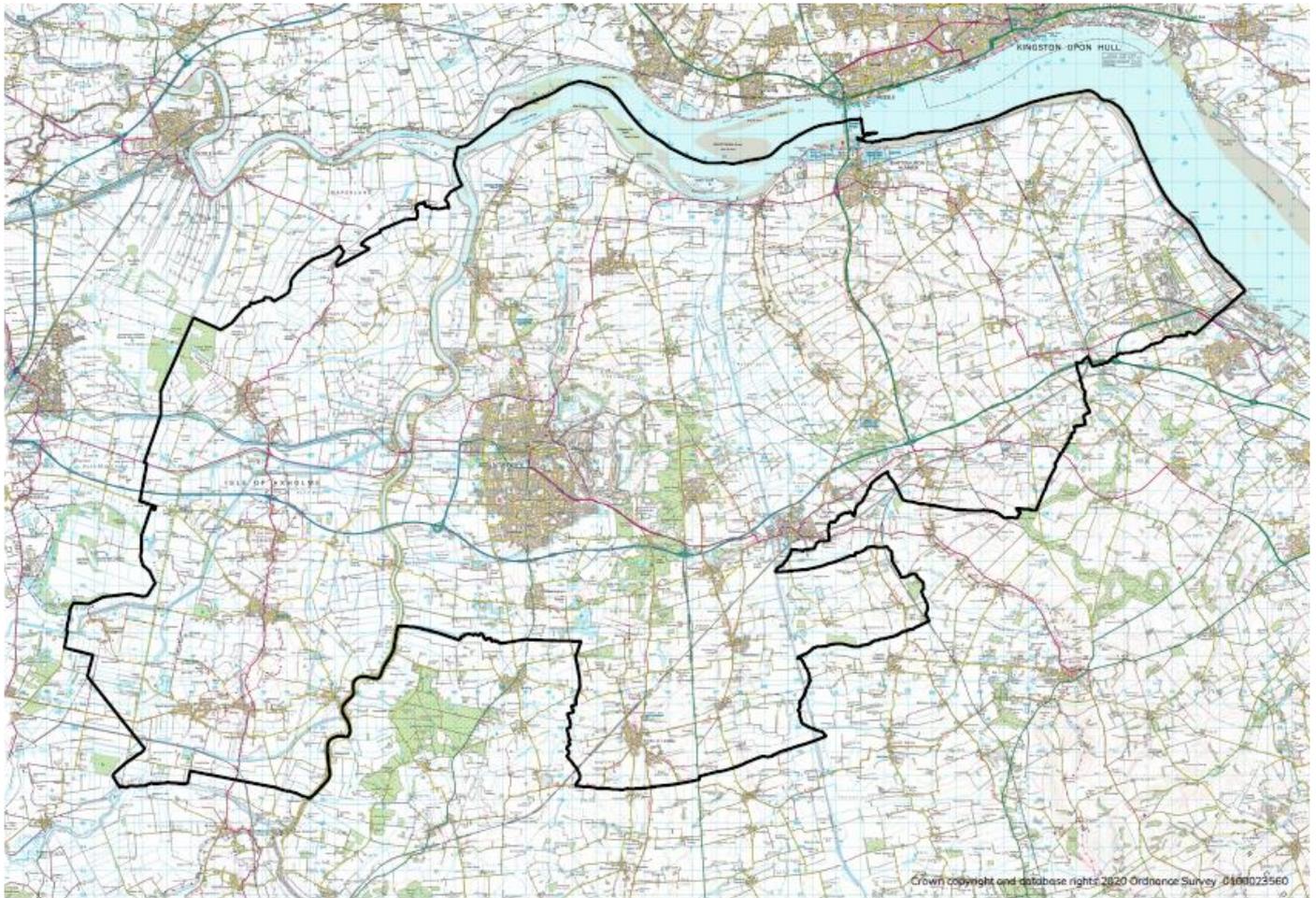
Local Context

- 1.22 Whilst consideration of the national and regional context is important, the local context of North Lincolnshire is of particular significance in determining the detail of the playing pitch strategy.

North Lincolnshire Profile

1.23 The PPS covers the administrative area of North Lincolnshire (see Figure 1.22). North Lincolnshire is a predominantly rural authority covering an area of 85,000 hectares. The area offers a diverse landscape, which includes the sub-regional town of Scunthorpe, the market towns of Brigg and Barton-upon-Humber, and the rural landscapes of the Lincolnshire Wolds and the Isle of Axholme. It sits on the south side of the Humber estuary and was formed as an administrative area in 1996 bringing together the boroughs of Scunthorpe, Glanford and part of Boothferry, which were all part of the former county of Humberside.

Figure 1.22 – Map illustrating North Lincolnshire Local Authority Boundary



- 1.24 North Lincolnshire's economy has changed considerably over the last two decades. Steel making and agriculture previously dominated the area's economy and identity. The agricultural sector has now become increasingly mechanised, and several major steel firms have closed their operations in the area. The British Steel plant in Scunthorpe remains one of the area's largest employers and North Lincolnshire had succeeded in attracting inward investment that has helped keep unemployment levels low. However, British Steel went into compulsory liquidation in May 2019 and at the time of writing, the plant faces closure unless current negotiations with a potential buyer reach a successful conclusion.
- 1.25 The population of North Lincolnshire is 172,005 (ONS, mid-year estimates 2018). Almost half of the population live in the main urban area of Scunthorpe and Bottesford, approximately 7% are located in the market towns of Brigg and Barton and almost 20% in medium growth settlements as identified in the North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2003. The remaining population is distributed throughout the area in settlements below 3,000 in population.

- 1.26 According to the latest Population Projections (2016-2041 ONS) North Lincolnshire's population is projected to increase to 176,881 by 2041, a 2.8% increase. North Lincolnshire has an elderly population (65 years or above) of 21.0%, higher than the average for Yorkshire and The Humber (18.5%) and England (18.2%). By 2041 the working age population is projected to fall by over 6,000 people, compared to a fall of almost 4,000 in the under 16 population. There is, however, projected to be a substantial increase of almost 15,000 in the population over retirement age (65+), a 41.2% rise. As the number of people, aged 65+ is projected to increase faster than the increase in the economically active age range the economic capacity of the community will reduce. Service and facilities will increasingly need to take account of these demographic changes when planning, delivering and financing future projects.
- 1.27 In the rural areas of North Lincolnshire there is a low population density, which makes delivering services effectively and efficiently more challenging in some cases. It is therefore crucial that there is a good spread of different types of open space, outdoor sport and recreational facilities across the area in and around urban areas and the more remote rural settlements. Good quality, accessible provision covering a range of local needs should be provided within rural areas, especially where poor transport services are available.
- 1.28 The Deprivation Indices are primarily a means of comparing the level and extent of deprivation within an area and is formulated by comparing one authority or neighbourhood with another. The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2015 score shows that North Lincolnshire is ranked 127 most deprived Local Authority in England (1 is the most deprived and 326 is the least deprived). North Lincolnshire therefore ranks outside the most deprived 30 per cent of Local Authorities nationally. At a local level, the most acute problems of deprivation are concentrated in the central urban areas of Scunthorpe. In addition, there are other smaller dispersed pockets of deprivation in the area.
- 1.29 Houses in North Lincolnshire are considerably more affordable than elsewhere in the UK. The average house price in North Lincolnshire is £136,769 compared to the national average of £243,220 (Source: Land Registry of England and Wales, July 2017).
- 1.30 The health of people in North Lincolnshire is similar to or worse than England for many of its health indicators. Life expectancy for males and female is lower in North Lincolnshire than in England. Early deaths from heart disease and stroke and cancer are higher than England averages. Also higher are the proportion of people diagnosed with diabetes and deaths from smoking (PHOF, Public Health England 2015). There are health inequalities in North Lincolnshire by gender and deprivation. For example, men from the least deprived areas can expect to live seven years longer than those in the most deprived areas.

North Lincolnshire Council Plan

- 1.31 North Lincolnshire Council Plan sets the context for the council's longer-term ambitions, with a key ambition to make North Lincolnshire the "best place to live, work, visit and invest". The plan articulates the council's desired outcomes for North Lincolnshire's residents - to keep them 'Safe, Well, Prosperous and Connected' through its priorities of 'Growing the Economy, Keeping People Safe and Well and Enabling communities to flourish

North Lincolnshire Local Plan

- 1.32 The North Lincolnshire Local Plan was adopted in May 2003 and is used to make planning decisions. The Local Development Framework, the Core strategy and the Housing and Employment Land Allocations DPD, has subsequently replaced some of its policies.

- 1.33 North Lincolnshire Council is preparing a new single Local Plan for North Lincolnshire. Once agreed (formally adopted), it will replace the plans cited above in accordance with the Government's preferred approach for each local planning authority to prepare a single Local Plan for its area. The timescale for its adoption has been set at 2020.
- 1.34 The new Local Plan will set out:
- The vision and objectives for the future development of the area, addressing needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure - as well as a basis for safeguarding the environment, adapting to climate change and securing good design.
 - The policies and proposals that will guide decisions and investment on development and regeneration up to 2036.
 - The Local Plan will consider sport pitches and green spaces within North Lincolnshire, and contains policies that are concerned with protecting and enhancing open land, including recreational open space and children's space provision where deficiencies have been identified or where new housing will lead to additional open space needs.
 - A new Open Spaces Strategy has been developed at the same time as the PPS. The study will inform the preparation of policies in the Local Plan and provide evidence for setting locally derived standards for the provision of open space, outdoor sport and recreational facilities.

Local Planning Considerations

- 1.35 **Developer Contributions:** The provision of high quality and accessible leisure facilities in North Lincolnshire is essential to improving the health, community cohesion, prosperity and wellbeing of our residents. The core strategy of the North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework, policy CS22 states that developers will be expected to make an appropriate contribution towards necessary improvements or additional provision for community services and facilities arising from their development proposals.

Therefore, where a need arises that has resulted from the amount of new development then the policy requires a contribution towards new provision.

It is therefore appropriate that leisure provision should be added to the Planning Requirements for development applications. Generally, for smaller developments, no request is made for any onsite formal leisure provision (as opposed to informal recreation and open space requirements, which are addressed by others). Instead, the developer is enabled to maximise the development potential of the site and instead a contribution to off-site leisure is requested towards the cost of improving catchment leisure facilities that new residents will expect to access.

- 1.36 Sport England has developed a 'sports facility calculator' for planning obligation purposes associated with leisure facilities. The calculator is used to determine the value of contribution required because of the development to support improvements at the catchment leisure facility as on site development of leisure facilities is both inappropriate and impractical.
- 1.37 The requirement for developers to contribute to sport and recreation infrastructure will be embedded in the emerging new Local Plan for North Lincolnshire.

Local Participation Trends

- 1.38 Sport England's Active Lives survey has researched the participation rates of adults. The survey measures levels of participation in sport and active recreation. In North Lincolnshire 28 per cent of adults (16+), are inactive and doing less than 30 minutes of physical activity per week compared to

24.8 per cent nationally. The survey also measures the percentage of people that are active and do at least 150 minutes per week. In North Lincolnshire 59.1 per cent are active, lower than the national average of 63.2 per cent (Active People Lives: May 18/19). Table 1.37 summarises the participation trend over the last three-year period of data that is available. In summary North Lincolnshire has, a less active population compared to the trend across England. Table 1.37 shows the levels of participation in physical activity are improving how statistically there has been “no significant change” between the 17/18 and current figures.

Table 1.37 – Active Lives Survey (Sport England) current and previous survey data

	Levels of activity - Inactive: Less than 30 minutes a week	Levels of activity - Fairly Active: 30-149 minutes per week	Levels of activity - Active: at least 150 minutes a week
May 18/19	28.00%	12.90%	59.10%
May 17/18	32.00%	12.80%	55.10%
May 16/17	29.30%	14.20%	56.60%

1.39 To better understand the market segmentation of the population Sport England has developed 19 sporting segments to help realise attitudes and motivations – why people take part in physical activity and why they do not. This is particularly important so facilities in North Lincolnshire can be appropriately designed to cater for the needs and expectations of local residents. The dominant groups in North Lincolnshire are listed in Table 1.38

Table 1.38 – Sport England Market Segmentation – Dominant Groups for North Lincolnshire

Market Segment	Age	Characteristics	% of population
Elsie and Arnold (Retirement Home Singles)	66+	Health problems and disability are major inhibitors to activity. Those that do participate tend towards low intensity activities such as walking, bowls or dancing. Safe environments would encourage this group to walk more often	10.6%
Phillip (Comfortable Mid-Life Males)	44-55	Sporty. Has more time for himself. Most active within his peer group. Enjoys participating in a number of activities including team sports, racquet games and technical sports.	9.8%
Roger and Joy (Early Retirement Couples)	56-65	Free time couples nearing the end of their careers. Participate one/two times a week. Enjoy activities such as walking, swimming, table tennis or golf, and keep fit classes.	8.9%
Tim (Settling Down Males)	26-35	Sporty. Settling down with partner, buying a house. Enjoys technical sports. Likely to have private gym membership, and compete in some sports.	6.9%

1.40 The market segments reinforce that North Lincolnshire has an ageing population. The market segments with the highest participation rates and which are most likely to play pitch sports are aged between 16 and 34 years old. Only Tim falls in this age bracket, he is likely to be a member of a club to play sport (33 per cent of this segment are club members compared to 23 per cent of all

adults. Phillip does enjoy participating in team sports, with 30 per cent involved in organised sport. This suggests that a proportion of the population will be keen to play outdoor sports.

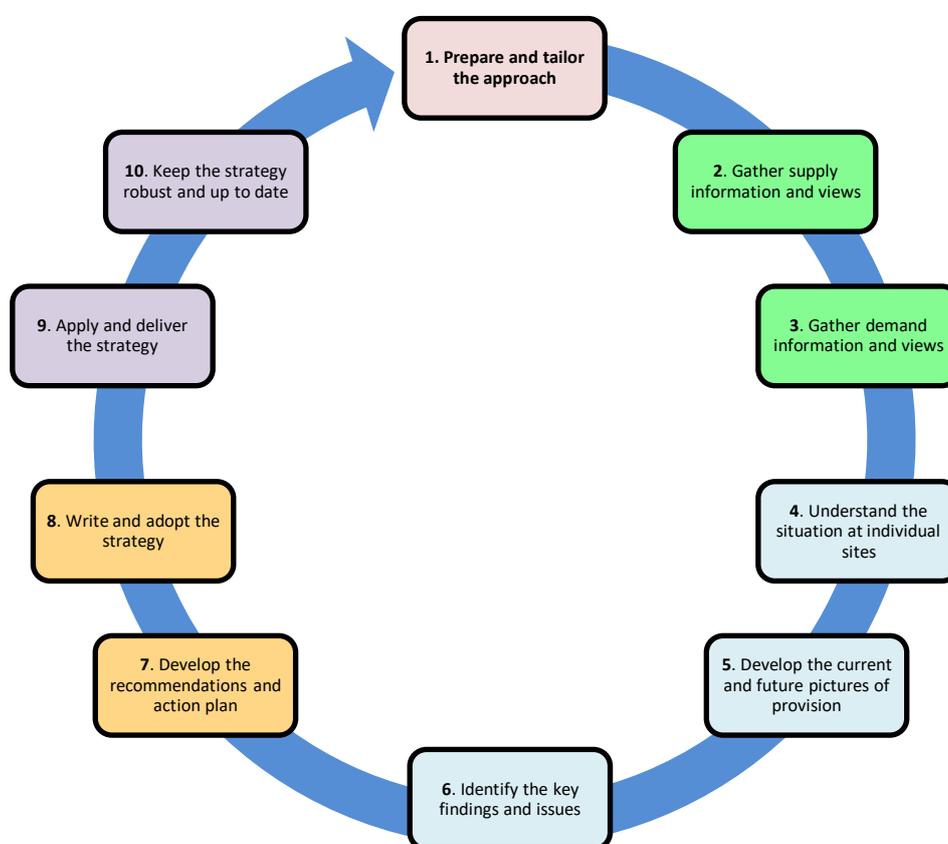
Section Two – Methodology

- 2.1. The methodology for the strategy is based upon the published guidance from Sport England (2013) “Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance – An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy”. The guidance comprises 10 steps which are grouped into the following five stages:
 - Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach
 - Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision
 - Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views
 - Stage D: Develop the strategy
 - Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date
- 2.2. The assessment covers the area within the local authority boundaries of North Lincolnshire Council.
- 2.3. In accordance with the Sport England guidance, the steps taken to deliver the evidence-based assessment are summarised below.
- 2.4. North Lincolnshire Council has researched the strategy under the direction of a steering group.
- 2.5. The national governing body for Rugby League was consulted during Stage A, however it was identified that North Lincolnshire did not have a Rugby League club, and it was therefore agreed they did not need to be represented on the steering group.
- 2.6. Stage B, the data collection process, included a full audit of formal outdoor playing pitches and their ancillary facilities, with web based surveys sent to all known pitch providers including town and parish councils, educational establishments and voluntary/privately run sites. This information was used to determine the supply of pitches across North Lincolnshire, the quality of these pitches and their ancillary facilities. This process was assisted with data from Active Places.
- 2.7. To evaluate the demand for playing pitches in North Lincolnshire data was captured from all known sports clubs on their match and training requirements using a web based survey. Surveys were sent to clubs affiliated to their NGB’s, other identified teams and educational establishments. This information was used to determine the current and possible future demand for playing pitches in North Lincolnshire.
- 2.8. To support this data capture NGB’s provided details of affiliated clubs, pitch quality assessments and a summary of specific issues for their sport.
- 2.9. Alongside the survey work described above, other consultation methods were adopted including face to face meetings, sport specific forums, site visits, professional grounds maintenance reports and communication with league secretaries. Consultation was also carried out with neighbouring local authorities to identify any cross boundary issues.
- 2.10. The benchmark of a 70 per cent response rate was achieved across all the groups that were consulted with. The response rate for individual sports is reflected below.
 - Football – 81 per cent
 - Cricket – 75 per cent
 - Hockey – 100 per cent
 - Rugby Union – 100 per cent
- 2.11. For the purpose of the strategy, the amount of play a site can accommodate (its carrying capacity) and how much play takes place there (the current demand) have been converted into the same unit

to allow a comparison. In line with NGB guidance, both are measured in Match Equivalent Sessions (MES) per week with the exception of cricket that is per season.

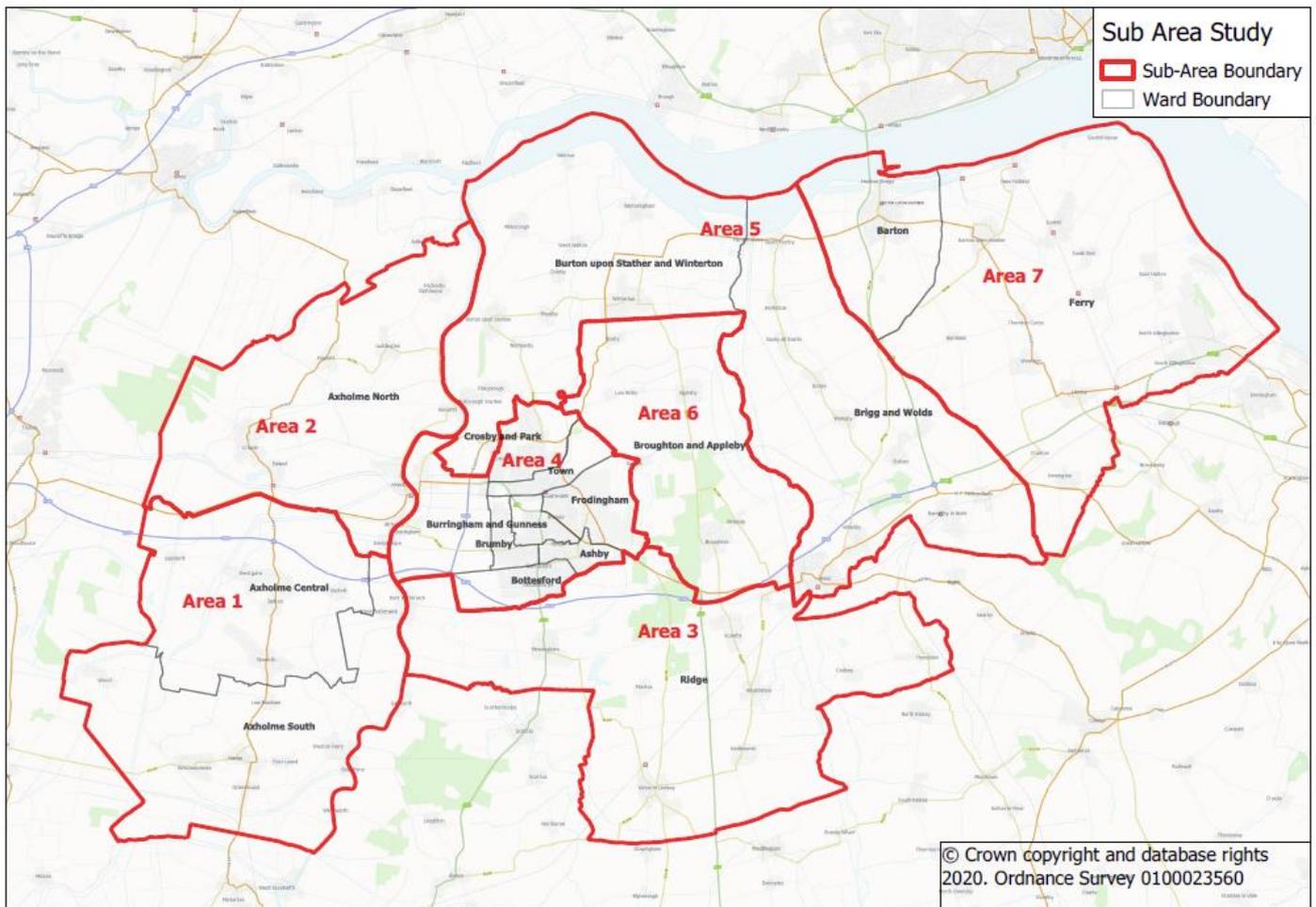
- 2.12. The concluding priorities have been established through the preparation of this full evidence based assessment. The proceeding strategy and action plan draw upon these findings and have been developed following scenario testing and in partnership with the steering group members. In Stage E, a consultation period provided key partners the opportunity to review the before it was formally adopted.
- 2.13. The key phases of the development process are shown in the Sport England diagram below (Figure 2.13).

Figure 2.13: Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy – The 10 Step Approach (Sport England)



- 2.14. Section Three provides a summary of the key findings from Stage B and C. The supply and demand information captured from the audit in Stage B has been analysed and a full assessment report produced.
- 2.15. The “Stage C Playing Pitch Assessment for North Lincolnshire 2019” is available as a separate document and contains detailed information including the calculations of the figures (for example match equivalent sessions) presented in this strategy.
- 2.16. For the purpose of this strategy North Lincolnshire has been broken down into seven sub areas (see Figure 2.16).

Figure 2.16 – Sub areas of North Lincolnshire



Section Three - Hockey Findings

Current Supply

3.1. There are four sites in North Lincolnshire with artificial grass pitch (AGP) facilities compatible for hockey (shown by sub area in Table 3.1). These are located at Brigg Recreation Ground, Winterton Synthetic Pitch and Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club. A full size sand based AGP is available at Melior Community Academy but is not currently used by the community for hockey.

Table 3.1 – Number of hockey pitches by sub area

Area	Hockey Pitches
Sub area 1 – Central and South Axholme	
Sub area 2 – North Axholme	
Sub area 3 – Ridge	
Sub area 4 – Scunthorpe including Burringham and Gunness	2 sites
Sub area 5 – Burton upon Stather, Winterton and Brigg and Wolds	2 sites
Sub area 6 – Broughton and Appleby	
Sub area 7 – Barton and Ferry	

- 3.2. Two of the pitches are local authority owned and managed. One is under the management of a community organisation who have a long-term lease for the site. The pitch that is not currently used for hockey is at a secondary school.
- 3.3. Appleby Frodingham Hockey Club have secure use at their home ground of Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club. Brigg Hockey Club need to renew their license to secure their use of Brigg Recreation Ground for the future.
- 3.4. Barton Ladies Hockey Club currently play at Winterton Synthetic Pitch. Their future use of this pitch is dependent on a decision on the type of surface that replaces the existing carpet.

Current Demand

- 3.5. Four hockey clubs play competitive fixtures in North Lincolnshire, providing 16 teams. All clubs are based in North Lincolnshire. Epworth Ladies Hockey Club recently moved their home ground from a site in a neighbouring local authority area.
- 3.6. Brigg Hockey Club has the highest number of teams with seven adult and five junior teams. Peak time of play for the adult game is a Saturday. No match play takes place on a Sunday.
- 3.7. Only Brigg Hockey Club has a junior section. They do not play any competitive fixtures in North Lincolnshire but instead travel out of the area (e.g. Leeds) to central venues, which host junior match play.
- 3.8. This assessment has used the England Hockey recommendations that four match equivalent sessions are available for play per site each Saturday and Sunday and each match slot equals 1.5 hours duration.
- 3.9. Together the adult teams require 5.5 match equivalent sessions (MES) per week for match play in the peak period. This leaves a spare capacity of 6.5 MES across the three sites currently used for hockey or 10.5 MES if Melior Community Academy is included.
- 3.10. The teams use 7 MES per week for training across the three sites. Each site has the potential to accommodate up to 20 hours of training each week so spare capacity is available. Football training also takes place on each of the sites. None of the hockey clubs reported an issue with competition from football teams for training slots however all hockey training slots need to be protected.

Exported/Imported Demand

- 3.11. The strategy has not identified any exported or imported demand for hockey. From the 2019/2020 season Epworth Ladies Hockey Club have moved their match play and training back into the North Lincolnshire from the neighbouring Doncaster local authority area.

Quality of the provision

- 3.12. The pitches at Brigg Recreation Ground and Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club are of "good" quality. The pitch at Winterton Synthetic Pitch is "poor" as the carpet is at the end of its life and in need of replacement.
- 3.13. Significant investment was made at Brigg Recreation Ground in 2017 to build a new pitch and ancillary facilities. Recently an issue with the pitch carpet has been identified, it is drifting and seams are becoming evident. This is a result of the build quality, the way the carpet is laid, the maintenance

regime and the amount of football taking place across the width of the hockey pitch. Partners should work collaboratively to address these issues to preserve the quality and life of the pitch.

- 3.14. The supporting ancillary facilities at Winterton Synthetic Pitch are also in “poor” condition and in need of improvement.

Future Provision

- 3.15. Population growth alone will not have an impact on the demand for hockey. Team generation rates comparing population size (ONS figures) from 2016 with projections for 2041 show no increase in the number of adult or junior teams.
- 3.16. Brigg Town Hockey Club are the only club to express an interest in growing the number of teams. Brigg Recreation Ground has the capacity to accommodate match play for one additional adult team during the peak period.
- 3.17. Brigg Town Hockey Club are exploring the opportunity to become a central venue to host junior fixtures. This match play will take place on a Sunday. Brigg Recreation Ground has the capacity to accommodate this play.
- 3.18. In the 2019/2020 season, Brigg Town Hockey Club will be offering the Hockey Heroes’ programme in Scunthorpe. England Hockey are in the early stages of creating a working group to increase the amount of junior hockey across North Lincolnshire, with a particular focus on Scunthorpe.
- 3.19. Due to the limited hockey play taking place at Winterton Synthetic Pitch it has not be classed as a priority site that needs protecting as a hockey compatible surface.
- 3.20. Under the scenario (see Appendix 3), that Winterton Synthetic Pitch becomes incompatible for hockey; Barton Ladies Hockey Club will be displaced. Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club is currently home to three ladies hockey teams. Moving Barton Ladies Hockey Club to Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club will add an additional 0.5 MES per week. The site can accommodate this play and still have a spare capacity of 2 MES per week. If they decide their preferred option is Brigg Recreation Ground then a match slot is available but this will take the site to its capacity in the peak period and might limit the growth of the adult game for Brigg Hockey Club. The preferred option is a move to Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club that will strengthen the hockey offer in Scunthorpe.

Key Issues to address

- 3.21. The key issues for hockey to address are:
- Protect community use of artificial hockey pitches at Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club and Brigg Recreation Ground (Protect)
 - Consider the best strategic fit for the replacement carpet at Winterton Synthetic Pitch in consultation with other sports (Provide)
 - North Lincolnshire Council to ensure license agreements are in place for Brigg Hockey Club at Brigg Recreation Ground. This is to ensure current and future hockey use to safeguard the required training and match slots currently required and that will be required in the future. (Protect)
 - Encourage the development of hockey in the Scunthorpe area to strengthen and protect the offer in this area (Enhance)
 - Support Barton Ladies Hockey Club to retain match play in the North Lincolnshire area should Winterton cease to be suitable for hockey (Provide)

- Ensure there must be consultation between England Hockey, North Lincolnshire Council and the Football Association regarding the usage of sand dressed and sand filled AGPs and particularly when considering a change in the type of surface (Protect/Provide).
- Work with planning to find a suitable approach to ensure the priority hockey sites have sufficient protection to prohibit changes to their type of artificial surface without consultation (Protect).
- Work with England Hockey, North Lincolnshire Council and Brigg Hockey Club to work collaboratively to address the pitch build and maintenance at Brigg Recreation Ground to preserve the quality of the pitch (Protect)
- Link hockey clubs into school provision and help the development of junior hockey (Enhance).

Section Four - Cricket Findings

Current Supply

- 4.1. In North Lincolnshire there are 16 sites containing grass facilities for cricket (shown by sub area in Table 4.1). 12 are actively used by a cricket club and provide secure community use.

Table 4.1 - Number of cricket pitches by sub area

Area	Cricket Pitches
Sub area 1 – Central and South Axholme	1 site
Sub area 2 – North Axholme	3 sites
Sub area 3 – Ridge	2 sites
Sub area 4 – Scunthorpe including Burringham and Gunness	2 sites
Sub area 5 – Burton upon Stather, Winterton and Brigg and Wolds	2 sites
Sub area 6 – Broughton and Appleby	1 site
Sub area 7 – Barton and Ferry	1 site

- 4.2. One site is in local authority ownership, two sites are Parish Council owned and nine sites are in club, community organisation or private ownership.
- 4.3. Outcasts Cricket Club lease their ground Hirst Priory from a private landlord. Typically, the landlords offer a short-term lease of between one and three years however this was recently extended to seven years allowing the club to draw down external funding. This short-term arrangement might in the future have an impact on the club's security of tenure.
- 4.4. In the peak period (Saturday) Scunthorpe Town Cricket Club has to use alternative cricket facilities due to insufficient cricket squares at their home ground.
- 4.5. East Halton Cricket Club use a home ground in Immingham, which falls in the North East Lincolnshire Local Authority area. This is the only known displaced demand.
- 4.6. There are three sites: Bottesford Football Club, Coop Sports Ground and Foxhill Sports Ground that have previously hosted cricket and currently no longer have this sporting function. Now each site is predominantly used for football.
- 4.7. Four educational sites stated they have a non-turf artificial wicket but are not currently used by the community for cricket and have no community use agreements in place for cricket.

Current Demand

- 4.8. North Lincolnshire has a total of 12 cricket clubs that run 29 adult teams and 31 junior teams. The area has no women's or girls' cricket teams.

- 4.9. Scunthorpe Town Cricket Club (CC) has the highest number of teams with four adult and four junior teams, followed by Outcasts CC, Messingham CC and Haxey CC who have over six teams each. Peak time of play for the adult game is a Saturday. Peak time of play for the junior teams is mid-week.
- 4.10. There is demand for 378 match equivalent sessions (MES) per season on grass pitches and the capacity is 632 MES equating to an underplay of 254 MES across North Lincolnshire. The demand for non-turf pitches is 18 match equivalent sessions per season and capacity is 240 MES equating to an underplay of 222 MES per season.
- 4.11. No sites are being overplayed however; some are close to capacity including The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre, Messingham Recreation Ground, Hirst Priory and Haxey Playing Fields. The adequacy of the pitches to meet demand should continue to be monitored to ensure the list set out in this strategy is up to date.
- 4.12. Boundary size and/or shared use of the site with other sports, in particular at the ends of seasons, might restrict potential carrying capacity at Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club, Brigg Recreation Ground, Heslam Park and Messingham Recreation Ground.

Exported/Imported Demand

- 4.13. East Halton Cricket Club use a home ground in Immingham that falls in the North East Lincolnshire local authority area. This is the only known displaced demand.

Quality of Provision

- 4.14. There are improvements required to grounds and clubhouse facilities, and provision of equipment and practice facilities. The consultation reported the following.
- 4.15. In general, a number of clubs cited ground maintenance as an issue in terms of knowledge and training, lack of equipment and the ongoing revenue costs of maintaining, in particular the square.
- 4.16. The following sites were identified as "standard" quality so improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered - Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club, Brigg Recreation Ground, Hibaldstow Playing Field, Luddington Playing Field, Messingham Recreation Ground and The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre.
- 4.17. The availability for outdoor training at some sites is limited. Haxey Playing Field, Hibaldstow Playing Field, Luddington Playing Field and Brigg Recreation Ground do not currently have any outdoor permanent net facilities.
- 4.18. Haxey Playing Field utilises its non-turf wicket and portable nets for training. However, with mid-week cricket taking place on this site training might be restricted, as it cannot happen at the same time as any competitive play.
- 4.19. Barton Town Cricket Club, Haxey Cricket Club and Scunthorpe Cricket Club have a desire to improve their outdoor nets and/or training facilities.
- 4.20. Across North Lincolnshire, only four sites have a non-turf wicket, a resource that is helpful for groundsmen providing a low maintenance wicket for busy grounds that increases a sites playing capacity.

- 4.21. Hibaldstow CC and Broughton CC felt their ancillary facilities did not meet the clubs' needs and requirements and could not ensure sustainability of use.
- 4.22. Where clubs have open access by the public to their site, this was having an impact on pitch quality due to use by recreational users and unauthorised vehicles.

Spare Capacity by Sub Area

- 4.23. Retaining some spare capacity of accessible playing pitches with secured community use is important and should be an outcome of the strategy. This is required to ensure a flexible amount of supply is available which can respond to a number of situations and changes in demand.
- 4.24. The spare capacity has been analysed by sub area to identify if there are areas with limited availability (see Table 4.24).

Table 4.24 – Cricket Spare Capacity (by MES per season)

Sub Area	Pitch Type	
	Grass	Non Turf
Sub area 1 – Central and South Axholme	5	51
Sub area 2 – North Axholme	34	0
Sub area 3 – Ridge	37	120
Sub area 4 – Scunthorpe including Burringham and Gunness	57	51
Sub area 5 – Burton upon Stather, Winterton and Brigg and Wolds	57	0
Sub area 6 – Broughton and Appleby	37	0
Sub area 7 – Barton and Ferry	27	0

- 4.25. Sub Areas 2, 5, 6 and 7 do not have a non-turf wicket present so there is no spare capacity on this type of surface in these areas.
- 4.26. Spare capacity on grass wickets is evenly spread across the different sub areas, with the exception of Sub Area 1 where there are only five MES per season as available spare capacity. Haxey Playing Fields is the only ground present in this sub area.

Future Provision

- 4.27. Population growth alone will not have an impact on the demand for cricket. Team generation rates comparing populations (ONS figures) from 2016 and 2041 show no increase in the number of adult or junior teams.
- 4.28. The club survey identified six clubs (Alkborough, Barton Town, Brigg Town, Broughton, Outcasts and Scunthorpe Cricket Clubs) that have the ambition to grow their number of teams in the future. These might generate demand for approximately 88 MES per season in the future. Across North Lincolnshire, there is capacity for a further 254 match equivalent sessions on grass per season so in general it can accommodate this demand. However, the location of growth may influence adequacy of provision, with some key sites reaching capacity.
- 4.29. Broughton Cricket Club and Outcasts Cricket Club currently do not have the pitch capacity to meet any additional demand. Scunthorpe Cricket Club does not have the capacity to meet this new demand if any of the play is during the peak period.

- 4.30. In addition, the home ground of Scunthorpe Cricket Club, Heslam Park, might face constraints on its ability to increase the wicket size if demand increased due to boundary restrictions and the usage availability at the ends of season due to other sports use of the outfield.
- 4.31. North Lincolnshire does not have any women's cricket teams however, women's softball does take place in Scunthorpe so it is possible that this will translate into a women's side in the future.
- 4.32. The growth of the ECB youth mass participation programme "All Stars Cricket" that caters for 5 to 8 year olds is significantly increasing junior figures. In 2020 the ECB are due to release a version of this game for the 8 to 11 year old age group named Dynamos that will also encourage the growth of the U9/U10 game.
- 4.33. From the 2018 to the 2019 season, the number of U9/U10 teams in North Lincolnshire has risen from two to five, representing a 150% growth. In 2019, nine clubs in North Lincolnshire ran the All Stars programme so the number of teams can be expected to grow again. It is possible that in 2020 a further two clubs will also join.
- 4.34. Under the scenario that the number of U9/U10 teams grew to 11 this could have a significant impact on four clubs ability to balance play. Haxey Playing Fields, Hirst Priory, Messingham Recreation Ground and the Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre will be exceeding or operating at near capacity if this projected growth is realised (see Appendix 3 – Scenario Testing).

Key Issues to Address

- 4.35. The key issues for cricket to address are:
- Protection of all cricket pitches that are available to the community and used (Protect)
 - Seek to support clubs to improve the quality of maintenance and provide education in grounds maintenance where required (Enhance).
 - Work with the local authority, ECB and Lincolnshire Cricket Board to support clubs, where required, to increase capacity and provide additional facilities if their clubs continues to grow and progress (Provide).
 - Support the improvement of non-turf pitches, pavilions and clubhouses, nets and car parking at existing facilities (Enhance).

Section Five - Rugby Union Findings

Current Supply

- 5.1. In Lincolnshire, 12 sites have rugby union grass pitches (shown by sub area in Table 5.1). Only three sites provide for clubs and can be classed as having secure community use. Nine schools reported they have rugby union facilities; none are used by a local rugby union club, with the exception of Baysgarth School that Barton and District RUFC use for Touch Rugby and winter training.

Table 5.1 - Number of rugby union pitches by sub area

Area	Rugby Union Pitches
Sub area 1 – Central and South Axholme	0
Sub area 2 – North Axholme	0
Sub area 3 – Ridge	1
Sub area 4 – Scunthorpe including Burringham and Gunness	6
Sub area 5 – Burton upon Stather, Winterton and Brigg and Wolds	3
Sub area 6 – Broughton and Appleby	0
Sub area 7 – Barton and Ferry	2

- 5.2. The pitches are predominantly concentrated in the Scunthorpe area with over half of the rugby pitches in North Lincolnshire located in this central locality. There is no rugby provision in the Isle of Axholme or the Broughton and Appleby area.
- 5.3. Barton and District RUFC use a pitch on land owned by Barrow upon Humber Parish Council. A lease will need to be agreed with the parish council for the long-term use of a second pitch.
- 5.4. Heslam Park is an area of land that was given to the community to play cricket and rugby. The land and buildings comprising Heslam Park is held by Trustees for and on behalf of all the members of the club, both cricket and rugby.
- 5.5. Scunthorpe and District RUFC own and manage Oglesby Park.
- 5.6. The amount of pitches containing floodlights is minimal; there are just two pitches in total. This means that opportunities for training are limited.
- 5.7. Both Heslam and Oglesby Park have one floodlit pitch on each site. The floodlighting of the main pitch at Heslam Park is an issue with a significant need to refurbish the existing system. Heslam Park also has a lit area behind the main stand with training grids.
- 5.8. Barrow upon Humber Playing Field has floodlighting along the perimeter of one pitch that does provide an illuminated area. The standard of this lighting is poor and not to a recognised standard. The illuminated area does not cover the whole pitch so play becomes concentrated in certain areas.
- 5.9. In North Lincolnshire, there is currently no rugby compatible ATP's. Barton and District RUFC train on the ATP at Baysgarth School that is a football compatible surface.
- 5.10. The former MOD site at RAF Kirton Lindsey had two adult rugby pitches. This base has now closed and all pitches are disused.
- 5.11. The reconfiguration of the pitches at South Axholme Academy to meet the requirements of Epworth Colts FC means the school now play rugby on a football pitch. The academy does have a need for a rugby pitch but are currently at capacity with their football provision.

Current Demand

- 5.12. There are two rugby union clubs in North Lincolnshire running 21 teams. All of these teams are amateur. Barton and District RUFC run a single adult male team in comparison to Scunthorpe RUFC that offers progression from mini/midi through to junior and seniors. There is no displaced demand and no teams play outside of the study area.
- 5.13. Scunthorpe RUFC has seen growth in its female participation with a junior girls section added to the club through the support of the RFU. Barton and District RUFC operate one team as a shortage of players caused their second team to fold.
- 5.14. Currently the supply of rugby union pitches does not meet demand. There is a demand for 15.25 match equivalent sessions (MES) per week across both clubs with a supply of 10.5 MES available across the three sites with secured community use.
- 5.15. Demand is met at Barton and District RUFC and the site has the capacity to accommodate 1 further MES per week.
- 5.16. Scunthorpe RUFC split their training and match play between Heslam Park and Oglesby Park. Demand for training and match equivalent sessions on the senior rugby pitches is 12.75 MES per

week. The capacity is currently 7 MES per week therefore there is overplay of 5.75 MES across both sites.

- 5.17. Oglesby Park has an issue with overuse from midweek training on the floodlit pitch. The RFU have reported that they think this is unsustainable going forwards.
- 5.18. The recent growth of the women and girls section has put pressure on the pitches at Heslam Park. The quality of the pitches at Heslam and the problems with poor drainage are also limiting the capacity of the pitches to accommodate match play without causing detriment to the surface.

Exported/Imported Demand

- 5.19. The strategy has not identified any exported or imported demand for rugby union. South Axholme Academy fed back that there is demand for rugby in the Isle of Axholme area that was driven by its proximity to Doncaster and its rugby provision. It is possible that some residents from the Isle of Axholme are accessing opportunities in the Doncaster Local Authority area.

Quality of Provision

- 5.20. The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements: the maintenance programme and the level of drainage. Each is scored and classified in one of three categories. Assessments of pitch quality for rugby are based on guidance produced by the RFU and Sport England. A breakdown for each of the two scoring elements and three respective categories is provided in Table 5.20 below.

Table 5.20 Rugby pitch scoring elements rugby pitch quality

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

- 5.21. Table 5.21 explores the quality of the pitches that are available for secured community use in North Lincolnshire. The ratings have been determined from consultation with the club on their maintenance regimes. Site visits were also undertaken at each site and non-technical assessments completed. The ratings are in agreement with the RFU.
- 5.22. The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate competitive play, training and other activity over a season is determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affect the playing experience and people's enjoyment of rugby.

Table 5.21 - Pitch quality of sites used by the local rugby union clubs

Site Name	Type of Pitch	Drainage Score	Pitch Maintenance Score	Pitch Capacity	Overall Capacity of Site
Heslam Park	Senior Rugby Union	D0	M1	1.5	3
Heslam Park	Senior Rugby Union	D0	M1	1.5	
Heslam Park	Mini Pitches	D0	M1	1.5	1.5
Oglesby Park	Senior Rugby Union	D1	M1	2	4
Oglesby Park	Senior Rugby Union	D1	M1	2	
Barrow Upon Humber Playing Field	Senior Rugby Union	D1	M0	1.5	2

Barrow Upon Humber Playing Field	Senior Rugby Union	D0	M0	0.5	
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- 5.23. Inadequate natural drainage is an issue at both Heslam Park and Barrow upon Humber Playing Field. Barton and District RUFC have recently taken steps to install an improved drainage system on their main pitch so the rating will improve. Heslam Park is recognised to suffer from poor drainage on occasions, to the detriment of the pitch quality.
- 5.24. The maintenance regime at Barton and District RUFC was classified as poor. Scunthorpe RUFC reported a regime that was classed as standard.
- 5.25. Drainage and maintenance are having an impact on the carrying capacity of the grass pitches at all three sites so improvements in both areas are required.
- 5.26. There are improvements required to ancillary facilities. The consultation reported that Heslam Park have a need to refurbish the changing facilities at Heslam Park to provide en-suite showering facilities to accommodate the difference sections using the site.
- 5.27. Floodlighting is an issue; Heslam Park has a significant need to re-furbish the existing system. The floodlighting at Oglesby Park is fit for training only and only lights one pitch. Barrow upon Humber Playing Field has no floodlit pitch. The lighting present is for training only and is poor quality. The club are accessing an ATP at Baysgarth School for winter training.
- 5.28. Scunthorpe RUFC have a need to access other mid-week training facilities.

Future Provision

- 5.29. Population growth alone will not have an impact on the demand for rugby union. Team generation rates comparing populations (ONS figures) from 2016 and 2041 show no increase in the number of adult or junior teams.
- 5.30. In Barton and District RUFC there is anticipation of a second men's team being created. This will equate to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week for match play and can be accommodated. The RFU felt that this would put pressure on their midweek training provision.
- 5.31. At Scunthorpe RUFC, it is anticipated that the growth in the girls' section will lead to the development of a second ladies team. This will equate to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week for match play only.
- 5.32. The RFU reported an anticipated increasing training demand from the growing numbers in the different junior age groups at Scunthorpe RUFC.
- 5.33. In the future, some match play is anticipated to take place on a Friday evening. Improved floodlighting will be required to deliver this at either Heslam or Oglesby.
- 5.34. This additional match play and training will put further pressure on the overplayed pitches at Heslam Park and Oglesby Park.

Scenario Testing (see Appendix 3)

- 5.35. The strategy has identified a capacity issue at Scunthorpe RUFC. To seek to address this issue a number of scenarios have been tested to inform the preferred approach.
- 5.36. Impact of an improvement or reduction in the maintenance programme applied to existing pitches.
 - Improving the maintenance regime at Heslam and Oglesby Park from a M1 (Standard) to a M2 (Good) rating will have an impact on the pitches carrying capacity. At Heslam Park the capacity of the senior pitches will increase from 3 to 4 match equivalent sessions per week.

At Oglesby Park the capacity will increase from 4 to 6. This intervention will improve the situation at the sites however the pitches will still be overplayed. Changes to the maintenance regime alone will not address the issues of overplay.

5.37. Impact of Installation of Pitch Drainage.

- Improving the drainage at Heslam Park from a DO (Natural Inadequate) to a D2 (Pipe) or D3 (Pipe and Slit drained) rating will have an impact on the pitches carrying capacity. If pipe and slit drainage was introduced this will balance capacity and demand at the site and provide a surplus of 0.75 match equivalent sessions per week. Pipe drainage alone will not overcome the issue of overplay.
- Improving the maintenance standard at Heslam Park to a M2 (Good) standard and introducing D2 drainage (Pipe) will have an impact on the pitches carrying capacity. The capacity of the senior pitches will increase from 3 to 6.5 match equivalent sessions per week. This will eliminate the current overplay and provide a surplus of 1.25 match equivalent sessions per week to provide the club with the capacity to increase demand

5.38. Impact of access to nearby venues with appropriate pitches and capacity.

- Currently the area does not have a 3G World Rugby 22 compliant pitch. There could be an opportunity to work with the Local Authority and the FA to provide this type of pitch. However a number of 3G football compliant surfaces are present in the Scunthorpe area that might be utilised for some rugby training. To overcome the current issue of overplay all training needs to move from Heslam and 63% from Oglesby.
- When the maintenance regime is improved to a “good” standard at Oglesby Park then 27% of midweek training has to be moved to an artificial surface or alternative venue to balance capacity and demand at the site. Together these measures will balance the capacity and demand at the site.

Key Issues to Address

5.39. The key issues for rugby union to address are:

- There is a need to protect all existing playing fields that are currently available for rugby and used by the community (Protect)
- Secure a lease and security of tenure on an additional pitch at Barrow and District Playing Field for playing rugby (Provide).
- Explore the options to improve the drainage provided at Heslam Park to improve pitch quality (Enhance)
- There is a need to improve pitch quality by implementing recommended RFU maintenance at all sites to improve pitches to “good” quality. There is an RFU Pitch Contractor Partnership available to both clubs in North Lincolnshire, that clubs should be encouraged to use (Enhance)
- Support clubs to improve the quality and standard of existing floodlighting provision (Enhance)
- Recommend and support the transition of some midweek training onto artificial turf pitches (Provide)
- Discuss with the Local Authority and FA the possibility of a 3G World Rugby 22 compliant pitch that can be used for rugby and football, in particular for the Scunthorpe area (Provide)
- Support the refurbishment of the changing facilities at Heslam Park to provide en-suite showering facilities to accommodate the difference sections using the site
- Address the capacity issues (football) at South Axholme School to enable expansion of the rugby offer in the Isle of Axholme area (Provide)
- Grow the provision of secure rugby pitches on educational establishment sites. Support and plan the transition for young people into clubs

Section Six - Football Findings

Current Supply and Demand

- 6.1. There are 45 sites currently available and used for community use by football in North Lincolnshire; together they contain 136 formal football pitches of varying sizes (shown by sub area in Table 6.1).

Table 6.1 – Number of football pitches by sub area

Area	Football Sites	Total Provided
Sub area 1 – Central and South Axholme	4 sites	11 pitches
Sub area 2 – North Axholme	2 sites	8 pitches
Sub area 3 – Ridge	5 sites	14 pitches
Sub area 4 – Scunthorpe including Burringham and Gunness	15 sites	54 pitches
Sub area 5 – Burton upon Stather, Winterton and Brigg and Wolds	10 sites	30 pitches
Sub area 6 – Broughton and Appleby	3 sites	4 pitches
Sub area 7 – Barton and Ferry	6 sites	15 pitches

- 6.2. In addition North Lincolnshire has a further 16 sites that have football pitches and may have previously hosted teams but are not currently used by the community.
- 6.3. In the course of the data capture, the sites below, which were included in the 2013 North Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy, have subsequently closed. Although the sites are now closed all remain as open space.
- Conoco Football Pitch
 - Keadby Sports Field
 - McKays Football Pitch
 - RAF Kirton Lindsey
 - Winteringham Football Club

Supply and Demand

Adult football 11 v 11

- 6.4. There are 58 adult 11 v 11 pitches available in North Lincolnshire that are currently being used by the community for football.
- 6.5. Town and Parish councils along with Playing Field Associations together provide the most pitches reflecting the rural nature of the area. Educational establishments also provide a number of pitches. The local authority is the largest single provider of adult pitches managing 11 pitches including three hub sites, two in Scunthorpe and one in Brigg. Football clubs and private/community organisations own and manage other pitches.
- 6.6. There are 58 men's teams and 4 women's adult teams across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.7. The overall pitch capacity weekly when considering the quality of the 58 available adult pitches (available and used by the community) is 116 match equivalent sessions (MES) per week and there is a demand for 51.75 MES. There is capacity for an additional 64.25 MES per week across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.8. Peak time of play needs to be considered so that there are sufficient match equivalent sessions. North Lincolnshire operates both a Saturday and Sunday league. The Sunday league has the most teams and operates two kick off times Sunday AM and Sunday PM. The Sunday league fed back that the majority of games are played in the morning so Sunday AM is the peak period of play.

- 6.9. There is a requirement for 23.5 peak time MES and this demand is met. There is a further 30.75 spare MES on secured sites available in the peak period.
- 6.10. A further 22 pitches that can provide 42 MES per week are potentially available for community use in North Lincolnshire but are currently unused. Eleven of the pitches are on sites where the community use is unsecured. Lack of demand, management decisions and pricing policies were given as a reason for football use being unsecure at particular sites. A number of the pitches are on educational sites where community use agreements are not in place. The pitches do provide a potential resource to meet any future growth.
- 6.11. The assessment highlighted that pitches at Holme Meadow in Messingham are being overplayed. A number of sites are being played to a level the site can sustain including Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club, Barnetby Parish Field, Barton Town Football Club, Baysgarth School, Foxhill Sports Ground, North Lindsey College and Winterton Playing Field.
- 6.12. The adequacy of the pitches to meet demand should continue to be monitored to ensure the list set out in this strategy is up to date.

Youth 11 v 11

- 6.13. There are 20 youth 11 v 11 pitches available in North Lincolnshire, which are currently being used by the community for football.
- 6.14. The largest provider of this size pitch are town and parish councils along with playing field associations.
- 6.15. There are a further six sites that have eight pitches which are potentially available for community use but currently unused. Seven of the pitches are on secondary educational establishment sites and one on a parish council managed site (Belton Playing Field). They have the potential to provide a further 14 MES per week if community use can be secured.
- 6.16. There are currently 68 youth 11 v 11 boys' teams and six youth 11 v 11 girls' teams across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.17. The overall pitch capacity weekly when considering the quality of the 20 available pitches is 44 MES per week and there is a demand for 26.75 MES. There is capacity for an additional 17.25 MES per week across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.18. Peak time of play needs to be considered so that there are sufficient MES required at the peak time of play. The Jack Kalsen Junior Football League caters for the U13 – U16 age group. Sunday AM has been determined as the peak period of play. However, the league does allow flexibility with their kick off times and when games have to be staggered they introduce a 12.30pm kick off time.
- 6.19. There is a requirement for 22 peak time MES and this demand is met. There is a further 9.5 spare MES on secured sites available in the peak period.
- 6.20. Four sites are overplayed including Birkdale Park, Brigg Recreation Ground, Holme Meadow and Winterton Playing Field. Three sites: Klassic Park, Pasture Road Field and South Axholme Academy are being played to a level they can sustain.
- 6.21. There are some youth 11 v 11 matches played on adult grass pitches. This happens at Burton Playing Fields, Foxhill Sports Ground, The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre and John Leggott Sixth Form College.

Youth 9 v 9

- 6.22. There are 23 youth 9 v 9 pitches available in North Lincolnshire which are currently being used by the community for football.
- 6.23. The largest provider of this size pitch are town and parish councils along with playing field associations.
- 6.24. There are currently 42 youth 9 v 9 boys' teams and 3 youth 9 v 9 girls' teams across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.25. The overall pitch capacity weekly when considering the quality of the 23 available pitches is 52 MES per week and there is a demand for 25.5 MES. There is capacity for an additional 26.75 MES per week across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.26. Peak time of play needs to be considered so that there are sufficient match equivalent sessions required at the peak time of play. The Jack Kalsen Junior Football League caters for the U11 – U12 age group. Saturday AM has been determined as the peak period of play for these age groups. However, the league does allow flexibility with their kick off times and when games have to be staggered they introduce a 12.30pm kick off time.
- 6.27. There is a requirement for 20.75 peak time MES and this demand is met. There is a further 5.75 spare MES on secured sites available in the peak period.
- 6.28. The pitch at Pasture Road Field is being overplayed. Charles Le Quelenec Park, Guinness Playing Field and South Axholme Academy are all being played to a level the site can sustain.

Mini Soccer 7 v 7

- 6.29. There are 18 mini soccer 7 v 7 pitches available in North Lincolnshire that are currently being used by the community for football.
- 6.30. Across North Lincolnshire the largest provider of mini soccer 7 v 7 pitches are football clubs, town and parish councils along with the Playing Field Associations.
- 6.31. There are currently 43 mixed mini soccer 7 v 7 teams across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.32. The overall pitch capacity weekly when considering the quality of the 18 available pitches is 72 MES per week and there is a demand for 20 MES. There is capacity for an additional 52 MES per week across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.33. Peak time of play needs to be considered so that there are sufficient MES required at the peak time of play. The Liberty Steel Football League caters for the U7 – U10 age group. Saturday AM has been determined as the peak period of play. However, the league does allow flexibility with their kick off times so fixtures can take place at other times outside this peak period. When games have to be staggered they can also kick off at 11.30am.
- 6.34. There is a requirement for 17.5 peak time MES and this demand is met. There is a further 3.5 spare MES on secured sites available in the peak period.
- 6.35. There may be opportunities to move some of the 7 v 7 MES onto 3G rubber crumb pitches. This will help meet future demand.

Mini Soccer 5 v 5

- 6.36. There are 17 mini soccer 5 v 5 pitches available in North Lincolnshire that are currently being used by the community for football.

- 6.37. Across North Lincolnshire, the largest provider of mini soccer 5 v 5 pitches is town and parish councils along with the Playing Field Associations.
- 6.38. There are currently 32 mixed mini soccer 5 v 5 teams across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.39. The overall pitch capacity weekly when considering the quality of the 17 available 5 v 5 mini soccer pitches is 72 MES per week and there is a demand for 17.25 MES. There is capacity for an additional 55.25 MES per week across North Lincolnshire.
- 6.40. Peak time of play needs to be considered so that there are sufficient match equivalent sessions required at the peak time of play. The Liberty Steel Football League caters for the U7 – U10 age group. Saturday AM has been determined as the peak period of play. However, the league does allow flexibility with their kick off times so fixtures can take place at other times outside this peak period. When games have to be staggered they can also kick off at 11.30am.
- 6.41. There is a requirement for 15.5 peak time MES and this demand is met. There is a further 3.5 spare MES on secured sites available in the peak period.
- 6.42. There may be opportunities to move some of the 5 v 5 MES onto 3G rubber crumb pitches. This will help meet future demand.

Exported/Imported Demand

- 6.43. The strategy identified that no teams use a home ground in a neighbouring local authority area. However, North Lincolnshire does import play from North East Lincolnshire. Presently four teams from the Discoveries Football Club (Grimsby based) bring four teams (U11, U12, U14 and U15) to use pitches in North Lincolnshire. Immingham Pilgrims use the 3G FTP at Baysgarth School for training.

Quality of Provision

- 6.44. The Football Association has produced a guide on the number of match equivalent sessions a week that a natural grass pitch is likely to be able to regularly accommodate, based on an agreed quality rating, without adversely affecting its current quality (see Table 6.44)

Table 6.44 – Football Association agreed quality ratings and associated pitch carrying capacity for grass pitches

Agreed pitch quality rating	Adult Football	Youth Football	Mini Soccer
Good	3	4	6
Standard	2	2	4
Poor	1	1	2

- 6.45. Each site has been given a quality rating through information gathered from the online survey, non-technical assessments, professional assessments, pitch improvement programme reports and local knowledge. The ratings are in agreement with the county FA.
- 6.46. Across North Lincolnshire, pitches at the following sites were rated as “poor” quality:
- Baysgarth Leisure Centre
 - Baysgarth School
 - Foxhill Sports Ground
 - Holme Meadow
 - Scawby Playing Field
 - Broughton Primary School

- 6.47. Until recently the pitches at Coop Sports Ground, West Common Lane Playing Field, South Axholme Academy and The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre were also rated as “poor”. Each are high use sites so play and grounds maintenance need to be carefully managed to ensure the quality is sustained as “standard” and, where possible, progress to “good”.
- 6.48. In general, ground maintenance was cited as an issue across North Lincolnshire in terms of knowledge and training alongside the availability of resources. The ability to perform more comprehensive maintenance regimes beyond grass cutting was an issue raised by pitch providers.
- 6.49. The Football Association Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP) is delivered in partnership with the Institute of Groundsmanship and available to the suppliers of grass pitches to help them deliver improvements to their sites by providing a range of services including on site evaluations with practical advice and recommendations.
- 6.50. A number of clubs in North Lincolnshire are already part of the PIP. They have reported improvements to their pitch quality that has increased the sites’ carrying capacity.
- 6.51. Poor natural drainage was also cited as a problem at some grounds that will be contributing towards the pitch quality. The following clubs reported this was an issue: Barton Town Football Club, Baysgarth School, Coop Sports Ground, and Winterton Rangers FC. However, it is recognised that improvements to grounds maintenance should be actioned first as often this can alleviate drainage issues.
- 6.52. It is important that fit for purpose ancillary facilities are provided. There is a need to ensure that facilities provide a good experience for the player and allow the maximum number of sports teams to play at the site at peak times.
- 6.53. Bottesford Town Football Club currently operate from two sites. Their Sunningdale Road site currently has no ancillary facilities but a high number of teams use it.
- 6.54. A number of site owners reported a desire to improve their changing infrastructure (see Appendix 2 – Site Specific Action Plan). It is important sites develop ancillary facilities that meet the needs of the site main users and are sustainable for the future.

Spare Capacity by Sub Area

- 6.55. Retaining some spare capacity of accessible playing pitches with secured community use is important and should be an outcome of the strategy. This is required to ensure a flexible amount of supply is available which can respond to a number of situations and changes in demand. The spare capacity has been analysed by sub area to identify if there are areas with limited availability (see Table 6.55).

Table 6.55 – Football spare capacity (by MES per week) in the peak period

Sub Area	Pitch Type				
	Adult	Youth 11 v 11	Youth 9 v 9	Mini Soccer 7 v 7	Mini Soccer 5 v 5
Sub area 1 – Central and South Axholme	4	2	0	No pitches	No pitches
Sub area 2 – North Axholme	0.5	No pitches	1	0.5	0
Sub area 3 – Ridge	3	0	0.5	0	0
Sub area 4 – Scunthorpe including Burringham and Gunness	13.5	2	2.75	1	1
Sub area 5 – Burton upon Stather, Winterton and Brigg and Wolds	5	0.5	1	1	2.5
Sub area 6 – Broughton and Appleby	1.5	1	No pitches	0	No pitches
Sub area 7 – Barton and Ferry	3.25	4	0.5	1	0

- 6.56. Sub area 2 (North Axholme) and 6 (Broughton and Appleby) have limited spare capacity in the peak period for the adult game. There are no full sized FTP's in either of these sub areas.
- 6.57. Sub area 3 (Ridge) and 6 (Broughton and Appleby) have limited spare capacity for the junior game in the peak period. There is no FTP in either of these sub areas.
- 6.58. In the North Axholme area, the largest club is Crowle Colts that play at Crowle and Ealand Playing Fields. The junior game should be encouraged to move to the 9 v 9 FTP, located at Axholme North Sports Centre, to reduce the demand on the playing field site for the benefit of the adult game.
- 6.59. There is an ambition to build an Intermediate 11 v 11 FTP at The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre in Broughton. If this is achieved it will allow the junior game to move onto the FTP, increasing the spare capacity to 3.5 MES per week in the peak period (see Appendix 3 – Scenario Testing).
- 6.60. Sub area 3 (Ridge) includes pitches at Hibaldstow Playing Field, Holme Meadow, Messingham Recreation Ground and Scawby Playing Field. Two sites are rated as poor quality and the others standard. To increase spare capacity in the peak period improvements should be made to maintenance regimes to improve pitch quality.

Future provision

- 6.61. Population growth alone will not have an impact on the demand for football. Team generation rates, comparing populations (ONS figures) from 2016 and 2041, indicate there will be no increase in teams for any age group except the Boys (12-15yrs) that show a population change of nine in this age group. However, this only represents a 0.16 potential change in the team numbers so the impact is likely to be negligible.
- 6.62. Consultation with football clubs has identified 11 clubs that have an ambition to grow their number of teams.
- 6.63. Assuming that the future demand will be at peak time, it has been added to the current actual demand for each age group.
- 6.64. Table 6.64 lists the predicted number of match equivalent sessions that will be required in 2041. Ten per cent was added to the predicted numbers to ensure rest and repair of pitches. To capture the clubs with future demand who did not specify a particular junior age group a calculation on all junior play has been included (see Table 6.64).

Table 6.64 - A comparison between predicted future demand and current spare capacity

Sport and Age Groups	Current Demand	Future Demand	Predicted Demand 2041 *	Current Spare Capacity
Football Adult Men 11v11 (16-45yrs)	22	3	27.5 (+5.5)	37
Football Youth Boys 9v9 (10-11yrs)	21	0.5	23.5 (+2.5)	6
Football Mini Soccer Mixed 7v7 (8-9yrs)	15	0.5	17 (+2)	3.5
Football Mini Soccer Mixed 5v5 (6-7yrs)	15.5	1	18 (+2.5)	3
Across all Junior Age Groups	73.5	5	86 +12.5)	22

*Figure includes the current and latent demand plus 10% added for rest and repair

- 6.65. North Lincolnshire has the capacity to meet future demand in 2041 on the sites that are currently available to the community and used. Further capacity, if community use is agreed, exists on unused and unsecured sites.
- 6.66. This could equate to a further 65 match equivalent sessions per week. Spare capacity is limited for the junior game however; spare capacity exists on the 3G ATP football compatible pitches.

Section Seven - Artificial Grass Pitch Findings

- 7.1. The AGP's across North Lincolnshire are identified in Table 7.1. Six 3G rubber crumb pitches are football compatible. There are no World 22 rugby compliant 3G rubber crumb pitches and there are four sand based or sand dressed artificial grass pitches that are suitable for hockey.

Table 7.1 - AGP breakdown

Site Name	Area	Pitch Type	Sport	Size
Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club, DN16 1AA	Scunthorpe	3G FTP	Football	7 v 7
Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club, DN16 1AA	Scunthorpe	Sand Based	Hockey	Full size
Baysgarth School, DN18 6AE	Barton upon Humber	3G FTP	Football	Full size
Brigg Recreation Ground, DN20 8PJ	Brigg	Sand Dressed	Hockey	Full size
Frederick Gough School, DN16 3NG	Scunthorpe	3G FTP	Football	Full size
Melior Community Academy, DN17 1HA	Scunthorpe	Sand Based	Hockey	Full size
South Axholme Academy, DN9 1BY	Epworth	3G FTP	Football	9 v 9
St Lawrence Academy, DN15 7DF	Scunthorpe	3G FTP	Football	7 v 7
The Axholme Academy, DN17 4HU	Crowle	3G FTP	Football	9 v 9
Winterton Synthetic Pitch, DN15 9RG	Winterton	Sand Filled	Hockey	Full size

Current Demand and Supply

- 7.2. All hockey match play and training takes place on an AGP.
- 7.3. Barton and District RUFC men's team use the 3G ATP at Baysgarth School for training only during the winter months. This equates to a one-hour session on one night of the week. No other rugby union teams currently use an artificial pitch.
- 7.4. No cricket clubs reported using an AGP.
- 7.5. Football clubs are the main users of the AGP's. In the survey, many clubs reported using an AGP for training purposes. The use of AGP for match play is limited in North Lincolnshire. No adult match play takes place on an artificial surface except for an imported team. Only four junior clubs reported using an AGP for matches: Barton United, Barton Juniors, Barton Rangers Girls and Epworth Town Colts. Together they use 7 hours 45 minutes across two AGP's during the peak period on a Saturday. No match play has been reported on the ATP's at Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club, Frederick Gough School, St Lawrence Academy or The Axholme Academy.
- 7.6. Suppliers of the existing AGP's reported that they had spare capacity in the peak period (weekends) that was available for football clubs to utilise.
- 7.7. There are some temporary restrictions on the community use at Frederick Gough School, put in place to respond to problems with noise and its impact on surrounding residents. A noise

management plan is now in place and partners are working to resolve this issue to reinstate full use including match play.

- 7.8. Demand for AGP use is also imported from the neighbouring North East Lincolnshire area with the Discoveries FC and Immingham Pilgrims FC both using the AGP at Baysgarth School for match play totalling 1 hour 30 minutes of use per week.
- 7.9. The cost of hire, limited availability (for training purposes) and lack of match play on 3G pitches are issues that need addressing as well as the specific issues related to access at Frederick Gough School.

Future Provision

- 7.10. Every affiliated team should have the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G surface, together with priority access for every Charter Standard Community Club. Demand for full sized 3G FTPs has been calculated using the approved FA model, that one full sized FTP can service 38 teams.
- 7.11. When considering latent demand and future population growth the football team total for North Lincolnshire becomes 271. This requires seven 3G full size rubber crumb pitches in the future based on 38 teams accessing one pitch for training.
- 7.12. Currently North Lincolnshire has two full size rubber crumb pitches that suggest a further five are required to meet this ambition. However consideration should be given to the fact that the area has a further eight ATPs, of different sizes and surface type, that are all used by football clubs for training. Other floodlit multi use games also exist in local communities that have a function in offering a facility for winter training. Data from the Local Football Facilities Plan supports the proposed additional 5 pitches are distributed as follows : Sub Area 4 x three: Sub Area 5 x one, Sub Area 6 x one
- 7.13. The 2019 Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) drew the conclusion that “there is a requirement for seven full sized 3G FTPs. There is, thus, a shortfall of five full sized 3G FTPs”. However “due to the fact that there are also two 9 v 9 3G FTPs available for community use, it was agreed that the shortfall position with regard to full-sized 3G FTPS might need to be reviewed”.
- 7.14. Consideration should be given to changing the surface of Winterton Synthetic Pitch to make it compatible for football due to the high number of football teams in close proximity to the site. Hockey do not identify it as a priority site due to the limited hockey play taking place there.
- 7.15. Rugby Union has a need to transfer some of its midweek training onto artificial turf pitches to alleviate the pressure on its grass pitches in the Scunthorpe area; both sites are currently being overplayed.
- 7.16. It is felt that discussions should take place with the Local Authority and FA on the possibility of a 3G World Rugby 22 compliant pitch that can be used for rugby and football, in particular for the Scunthorpe area due to the demand and pressure on the existing sites.

Section Eight – Impact of population and housing growth

Introduction

- 8.1. This section considers the impact that projected changes in population and planned housing growth will have on sports participation and the demand for formal playing pitches.
- 8.2. It looks at the impact of projected population growth for North Lincolnshire, using forecasts from the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

- 8.3. At a local level the North Lincolnshire Local Plan is currently emerging but this strategy draws on the most recent projected housing growth figures from North Lincolnshire Council. The strategy assesses the likely scale of the overall impact of the projected housing developments on population growth and resulting pitch demand.

Population Growth

- 8.4. According to the latest Population Projections (2016-2041 ONS) North Lincolnshire's population is projected to increase to 176,881 by 2041, a 2.8% increase. North Lincolnshire has an elderly population (65 years or above) of 21.0%, higher than the average for Yorkshire and The Humber (18.5%) and England (18.2%). By 2041 the working age population is projected to fall by over 6,000 people, compared to a fall of almost 4,000 in the under 16 population. There is, however, projected to be a substantial increase of almost 15,000 in the population over retirement age (65+), a 41.2% rise. As the number of people, aged 65+ is projected to increase faster than the increase in the economically active age range the economic capacity of the community will reduce. Service and facilities will increasingly need to take account of these demographic changes when planning, delivering and financing future projects.
- 8.5. To analysis the impact on pitch demand by changes in the population, this strategy has used the Team Generation Rate Calculator (Sport England).
- 8.6. Team Generation Rates are the ratios between the number of teams within a defined area, and the total population within a given age range for that area. They can be used to provide an indication of how many people it may take to generate a team and therefore help estimate the change in demand that might arise from a population change.
- 8.7. Population totals from the Office of National Statistics compare the population from 2016 with the projected total in 2041.
- 8.8. Across each of the sports, the team generation rates indicate there will be no increase in the number of teams for any age groups in North Lincolnshire. With the exception of Boys Football (12-15 years old), that shows a potential minor change in team numbers of +0.16. Population growth alone will not have a significant impact on the demand for playing pitches.
- 8.9. This finding is consistent with the population trend displayed in Figure 4.4 that shows a decline across all age groups except those aged 65+. The 65+ age group is not associated with playing formal pitch sports.

Housing Growth

- 8.10. Proposed housing growth figures suggest that the new Local Plan may seek to deliver 441 homes per annum over the period of 2017 to 2036, 8384 new homes in total. The new local plan is currently in development and the consultation phase to agree the preferred options for housing growth is expected to take place in January 2020 so the figures and locations are subject to change.
- 8.11. Table 8.11 shows the proposed growth in Scunthorpe, the principal towns and large service centres, with moderate level growth proposed across all of North Lincolnshire.

Table 8.11 - Draft proposed housing growth by main areas for North Lincolnshire up to 2036

Area	Settlement	Current number of dwellings	Potential Dwelling Capacity 2017/2036	Per Annum
Scunthorpe and Bottesford	Scunthorpe & Bottesford Urban Area	35583	4190	221
Principal Towns	Barton upon Humber	5343	1089	57
	Brigg	3245	1006	53
Large service centres	Epworth	1937	101	5
	Kirton in Lindsey	1509	335	18
	Winterton	2109	218	11
	Broughton	2071	310	16
	Crowle	1807	184	10
	Messingham	1576	92	5
	Barnetby le Wold	744	84	4
	Goxhill	863	84	4
	Haxey	823	84	4
	Barrow upon Humber	1245	151	8

- 8.12. The proposed housing growth figures include the 3,000 new homes planned as part of the Lincolnshire Lakes project, the creation of a new residential development with supporting infrastructure, to the west of Scunthorpe. Part of the infrastructure includes a school site that will create new playing pitch provision.
- 8.13. Redevelopment of Scunthorpe United FC Ground: whilst original proposals for a new stadium in the Lincolnshire Lakes development included substantial community pitch provision, the club are now seeking to redevelop their existing site, Glanford Park. The revised proposal does not significantly enhance community pitch provision.
- 8.14. The impact of this growth on the population of the local authority area is described below in Table 8.14, firstly for the five-year period of this Playing Pitch Strategy.

Table 8.14 - Impact of new housing on population size over five-year period

Number of proposed new dwellings per annum	Total number of new dwellings over 5 year period	Number of people per dwelling	Impact of growth on population size
441 per annum	2,205	2.36	5,204

- 8.15. The Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator has been used to assess the impact of this projected population growth on the demand for pitches in the peak period. Table 8.15 shows this impact and the resulting number of pitches that will be required to meet this growth in population.

Table 8.15 - Impact of housing growth on demand for sports pitches to 2025

Sport	Increased demand in the peak period of match equivalent sessions	Increased demand for pitches (number of pitches required)
Adult Football	0.63	0-1 pitches
Youth	1.80	1-2 pitches
Mini Soccer	1.13	1-2 pitches
Rugby Union	0.26	0-1 pitches
Hockey	0.25	0-1 AGP
Cricket	17	0-1 pitches
AGP (3G)	7.73 (per week)	0-1 pitches

8.16. The proposed housing projections are for a period of 19 years and forecast growth until 2036. Table 8.16 forecasts the impact of growth on population size over this longer period.

8.17. The Playing Pitch Calculator has been used to assess the impact of this population growth on pitch requirements (see Table 8.17)

Table 8.16 - Impact of new housing on population size over period of housing projections to 2036

Number of proposed new dwellings per annum	Total number of new dwellings over 5 year period	Number of people per dwelling	Impact of growth on population size
441 per annum	8,384	2.36	19,786

Table 8.17 - Impact of housing growth on demand for sports pitches to 2036

Sport	Increased demand in the peak period (AGP per week)	Number of pitches
Adult Football	2.39	1-2 pitches
Youth	6.38	5-6 pitches
Mini Soccer	4.31	4-5 pitches
Rugby Union	1	1 pitch
Hockey	0.92	0-1 pitch
Cricket	63	1-2 pitches
AGP (3G)	29.39 (per week)	0-1 pitches

8.18. The Playing Pitch Calculator suggests that the planned new developments will have an impact on the pitch requirements in North Lincolnshire both in the short and long term. While this is indicative only at this point it is essential that this be considered as part of this strategy and action planning.

8.19. The Lincolnshire Lakes residential development includes the proposed building of new schools. It is anticipated that these sites will include pitch provision secured for community use. This may provide playing pitch capacity within the new development and contribute towards any shortfalls because of an increase in the population due to housing growth.

8.20. There is also a need to consider using developer contributions for existing pitch sites where additional capacity is required as opposed to creating provision on the new housing developments.

8.21. Table 8.21 evaluates the adequacy of the pitch provision in North Lincolnshire to meet current and the future demand from this projected population growth.

Table 8.21 - The adequacy of pitch provision to meet future demand up until 2036

Sport	Current Picture	Future Picture	Comments
Cricket	There are 254 available match equivalent sessions per season. Further supply is available on non-turf wickets. 5 clubs have been identified as reaching capacity so the potential for future growth is limited.	Population growth is likely to see the requirement for 63 additional match equivalent sessions (MES) per season.	Broadly, this can be met by the existing spare capacity. Location of growth may influence adequacy of provision, with some key sites reaching capacity. Additional growth may require investment at some sites to add additional capacity and facilities.
Hockey	There are 10.5 match equivalent sessions (MES) available per week in the peak period.	Population growth is likely to see the requirement for 1 additional MES per week.	This demand can be met. Consideration should be given to the impact on this capacity if a pitch is lost, in particular Winterton Synthetic Pitch as the carpet is in need of replacement.
Rugby Union	Currently the supply does not meet demand, with a shortfall of 5.75 MES per week. Both sites run by Scunthorpe RUFC are being overplayed.	Population growth is likely to see the requirement for 1 additional MES per week, equating to 1 further pitch.	Demand for another pitch is likely to add further pressure for Rugby Union, in particular in Scunthorpe with the significant housing developments. Recommendations should include improvements to pitch capacity through maintenance and drainage. The use of developer considerations should be considered to improve provision at existing sites. Consideration should also be given to how mid-week training can be moved from the grass pitches possibly onto an ATP.
Adult Football	Currently there are 30.75 MES available in the peak period	Population growth is likely to see the requirement for 2-3 additional MES per week.	Broadly, this demand can be met by the existing spare capacity. Some sites are currently being played to a level they can sustain. Location of growth may influence adequacy of provision, with some key sites reaching capacity. Recommendations should include improvements to pitch capacity through maintenance and drainage.
Youth Football	Across youth, 11 v11 and 9 v 9 pitches there are currently 15.25 MES during the peak period.	Population growth is likely to see the requirement for 6-7 additional MES per week.	In the future supply will become closely balanced with demand in the peak period. There is already pressure at 5 sites and the location of the growth will influence the adequacy of provision. Further capacity is available on the 3G ATP's and recommendations

Sport	Current Picture	Future Picture	Comments
			should include an action to move match play onto these surfaces.
Mini Soccer	Across mini soccer, 7 v7 and 5 v 5 pitches there are 7 MES available during the peak period.	Population growth is likely to see the requirement for 4-5 additional MES per week.	In the future supply will become closely balanced with demand in the peak period. The location of the growth will influence the adequacy of provision. Further capacity is available on the 3G ATP's and recommendations should include an action to move match play onto these surfaces.

Section Nine - Recommendations and Action Plan

- 9.1. This section summarises the key recommendations and actions. The recommendations draw upon the key findings and issues that were summarised in Section 3 and 4. A report of the full supply and demand assessment is set out in a separate document "North Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy Stage C Assessment".
- 9.2. The recommendations are in agreement with the steering group that includes the National Governing Bodies of Sport. In accordance with Sport England guidance, the recommendations are included in a prioritised sport and site-specific action plan (Appendix 1 and 2 – Sport and Site Specific Action Plan).
- 9.3. The Sport Specific Action Plan (Appendix 1) sets out recommendations to address the key issues identified for each sport. This action plan is also broken down under the three headings "Protect", "Enhance" and "Provide", to reflect the three Sport England objectives when planning for sport.
- 9.4. The Site Specific Action Plan (Appendix 2) provides an outline of the main issues raised by pitch suppliers and users across all sites that are available to the community and both used and unused in North Lincolnshire.
- 9.5. In regards to the timescales and resources included in the Sport Specific Action Plan (Appendix 1), the following should be used as a guide:

Timescale

- Short term 0-2 years
- Medium term 3-5 years
- Long term 5 years plus

Resources

- Low – less than £50k
- Medium – £50k - £250k
- High – £250k upwards

- 9.6. The implementation of the recommendations and action plan will be a collaborative process, not limited to the steering group, involving a range of parties with an interest and responsibility for playing pitch provision in North Lincolnshire. It will require the resources and expertise of all these parties. The steering group will continue to maintain an ongoing role to monitor, evaluate and review their implementation.

Section Ten - Strategic Recommendations

- 10.1. This section provides the strategic recommendations (SR) that transcend across all sports and seek to ensure the findings of the PPS inform the strategic policy in North Lincolnshire for playing pitches. They aim to maximise the future sustainability of facilities as well as to drive sports participation across the area.

Recommendation One (SR1)

- 10.2. The strategy provides a strong evidence base that has been checked and challenged by partners on the steering group and as such should guide and support the emerging North Lincolnshire Local Plan and inform local planning policy and decisions.
- 10.3. The policies within the new Local Plan should be in accordance with the NPPF and seek to protect playing pitches. Sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing pitches, should not be built on unless the criteria in paragraph 97 of the NPPF apply or any of the Sport England Exception Criteria.
- 10.4. All pitches listed in Appendix 2 – Site Specific Action Plan should be protected including sites that that are not currently used by the community but should be retained as open space to give potential for that sport to be reinstated in the future (unless 10.3 applies).
- 10.5. If any playing field sites, sport facilities, and/or pitches are not contained within this Playing Pitch Strategy, this is due to an oversight, and does not in any way mean that they can be redeveloped. Planning applications to develop any omitted sites will still need to be considered against Paragraph 97 of the NPPF and the Council's own planning policies.

Recommendation Two (SR2)

- 10.6. The supply of pitch provision in North Lincolnshire is broadly sufficient to meet current and future demand. However, there remain some specific issues for each sport to address (see Appendix 1 – Sport Specific Action Plan).
- 10.7. We have not identified any specific sites for disposal. However, while it is essential to maintain an overall surplus of pitches to ensure that participation growth and projected population increases can be accommodated, the identified surplus of pitches means that there is scope for the rationalisation of a small number of pitches in North Lincolnshire if one of a series of exception criteria (set by Sport England to ensure disposal results in overall sporting benefit) are met.
- 10.8. The area should seek to retain the match play and training of all North Lincolnshire teams in the local authority area.

Recommendation Three (SR3)

- 10.9. Proposed new large scale housing developments should use the Playing Pitch Calculator, developed by Sport England, to indicate how much demand will be created by a proposed development and the cost associated with this.
- 10.10. Developers are expected to make an appropriate contribution (for example Section 106) towards necessary improvements or additional provision for community services and facilities arising from their development proposals. The requirement for developers to contribute to sport and recreation infrastructure should be embedded in the emerging new Local Plan for North Lincolnshire.
- 10.11. Where new pitches are provided supporting ancillary facilities should be located on site that meet the requirements for the main user groups. There is a need to ensure that existing facilities are not placed under undue pressure by the provision of new pitches.

Recommendation Four (SR4)

- 10.12. A coordinated approach should be adopted across sports for the improvement and development of pitch provision across North Lincolnshire to meet the needs of users, pool resources and maximise investment into the area.
- 10.13. North Lincolnshire does not have a sufficient number of AGP's. There is a requirement for five new AGP's across North Lincolnshire to meet the FA's ambition and Rugby Union has a need for an artificial midweek training facility in the Scunthorpe area. Consideration should be given to the fact that the area has a further eight ATPs, of different sizes and surface type, that are all used by football clubs for training and that other floodlit multi use games exist in local communities that have a function in offering a facility for winter training. Data from the Local Football Facilities Plan supports the proposed additional 5 AGP pitches are distributed as follows: Sub Area 5 x one, Sub Area 6 x one, Sub Area 4 x three.
- 10.14. The decision to develop a particular AGP must be based on strategic priority and need. The scheme must have a robust business case that demonstrates its readiness, viability and sustainability for the future.
- 10.15. The strategy should work in partnership with the Local Football Facility Plan to meet the need for more football compatible AGP provision in North Lincolnshire.
- 10.16. Where possible the transition of match play, in particular for football, onto 3G pitches should be encouraged to utilise their potential carrying capacity and relieve pressure on grass pitches.

Recommendation Five (SR5)

- 10.17. Grounds maintenance is a key issue across most sports. Pitch suppliers must seek to utilise the resources made available through NGB's to improve maintenance regimes. In particular, there is a need to improve the education and training in professional grounds maintenance.
- 10.18. Suppliers should continue to explore the option for shared arrangements related to grounds maintenance and changes of management at particular sites should be looked at where resources are an issue.

Monitoring and Review (Role of the Steering Group)

- 10.19. It is important that the steering group keep this strategy up to date and relevant.
- 10.20. The steering group will continue to meet biannually to monitor the implementation of the strategy including the recommendations and actions. It is expected that the strategy will be refreshed every five years.
- 10.21. In order for a Playing Pitch Strategy to remain relevant, it is essential that it be kept up to date. This Playing Pitch Strategy is intended as a working document and must be reviewed on a regular basis and it is best practice for this to be done annually.
- 10.22. Understanding and learning lessons from how the Playing Pitch Strategy has been implemented should also form a key component of the steering groups monitoring.

10.23. In summary, once the strategy is complete the role of the steering group should include to:

- Provide governance to check and challenge actions related to playing pitches in North Lincolnshire are in accordance with the findings of the strategy.
- Monitor, evaluate and review progress the delivery of the strategy including the recommendations and actions.
- Share learning from the implementation of the strategy.
- Ensure the strategy is used effectively to secure improved provision and support investment into the local authority area.
- Update the supply and demand information to ensure it remains relevant; identify any key changes to participation and the likely implications.
- Share information on emerging issues and opportunities.
- Maintain links with all relevant parties with an interest in playing pitches in the area.



Appendix 1
SPORT SPECIFIC ACTION PLAN

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Section One - Hockey Action Plan

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
Hockey	Protect	<p>Protect community use of hockey suitable AGP's. Ensure there remains sufficient AGP pitches to meet hockey need both now and in the future.</p> <p>Change of use of existing hockey AGP's should be discussed and agreed with NLC, England Hockey and Football Association.</p>	<p>Brigg Recreation Ground</p> <p>Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club</p>	<p>Ensure an up to date license agreement is in place for Brigg Hockey Club use at Brigg Recreation Ground. Agreement must safeguard current and future hockey use for match play and training.</p>	Short	NLC, EH, Club	Low
				<p>Work with planning to find a suitable approach to ensure the priority hockey sites have sufficient protection to prohibit changes to their type of artificial surface without consultation.</p>	Short	NLC, EH	Low
				<p>Work with England Hockey and the Football Association to protect the hockey AGP at Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club. A site identified in the Local Football Facility Plan with potential for an additional 3G FTP.</p>	Long	NLC, EH, FA, Pitch Supplier	Low

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
				<p>Winterton Synthetic Pitch is not included as a priority site due to the limited hockey play taking place there. Consideration should be given to changing it to a football compatible ATP in discussion with the appropriate NGB's.</p> <p>Continue to monitor the adequacy of pitches to meet the needs of hockey clubs.</p>	<p>Short</p> <p>Long</p>	<p>NLC, EH, FA, School, Clubs</p> <p>NLC, EH</p>	<p>High</p> <p>Low</p>
Hockey	Provide	Retain the match play and training of all North Lincolnshire teams in the local authority area.	<p>Brigg Recreation Ground</p> <p>Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club</p> <p>All clubs</p>	<p>Support Barton Ladies Hockey Club to retain match play in North Lincolnshire should Winterton Synthetic Pitch cease to be suitable for hockey. Spare capacity is available at Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club.</p> <p>Work with the two priority sites and existing clubs to ensure all match play and training is accommodated and hockey has priority access to all sand based facilities.</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Long</p>	<p>EH, Club</p> <p>EH, Clubs</p>	<p>Low</p> <p>Low</p>
Hockey	Enhance	Maintain the quality and carrying capacity of existing hockey suitable AGP's	<p>Brigg Recreation Ground</p> <p>Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club</p> <p>All clubs</p>	<p>Work to address the issues with pitch build and maintenance procedures at Brigg Recreation Ground to preserve the quality of the pitch</p> <p>All owners to ensure the quality of hockey suitable AGP's are maintained.</p>	<p>Short</p> <p>Short – Long</p>	<p>NLC, EH</p> <p>EH, NLC, Clubs, Pitch Suppliers</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p>

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
				Provide education and training to improve a clubs ability to “self help” with fund raising and drawing down external and/or partnership funding.	Short	EH, Clubs	Low
Hockey	Enhance	Work with the key clubs to encourage the growth of the game to protect and raise awareness of the hockey offer in North Lincolnshire	Scunthorpe	Support clubs with the engagement of the local community, including educational establishments, to increase the number of people playing hockey in North Lincolnshire.	Short	EH, Clubs	Low
				Work with the Get Ahead Partnership to link hockey clubs into school provision and help the development of junior hockey	Short	EH, Clubs	Low
				Encourage the development of hockey in Scunthorpe to strengthen and protect the offer in this area for example introduction of Hockey Heroes	Short - Long	EH, Clubs	Low

Section Two – Rugby Union Action Plan

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
Rugby Union	Protect	<p>Protect all existing playing fields that are currently available for rugby and used by the community.</p> <p>Ensure clubs have the appropriate level of security of tenure to secure the long-term future of the club.</p>	<p>Heslam Park</p> <p>Oglesby Park</p> <p>Barrow and District Playing Field</p>	Secure a lease and security of tenure on an additional pitch at Barrow and District Playing Field for playing rugby.	Short	RFU, Club, PC	Low
Rugby Union	Provide	Seek to address capacity issues at existing sites to ensure the clubs can meet both the current and future demand.	<p>Heslam Park</p> <p>Heslam Park is currently overplayed by 2.25 match equivalent sessions (MES) per week.</p> <p>Oglesby Park</p> <p>Oglesby Park is currently overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions (MES) per week.</p>	<p>Scunthorpe RUFC should seek to improve pitch quality and carrying capacity by implementing recommended RFU maintenance at both sites. The club should be supported to achieve a “Good” (M2) maintenance rating</p> <p>There is an RFU Pitch Contractor Partnership available to both clubs in North Lincolnshire for aeration, that clubs should be encouraged to use.</p> <p>Drainage has been cited as an issue at Heslam Park. The introduction of pipe and slit drainage is recommended. This will balance capacity and demand at the site and provide a surplus of 0.75 MES per week.</p> <p>If costs prohibit the above then pipe drainage is an option but it must be</p>	<p>Short</p> <p>Short</p> <p>Long</p> <p>Long</p>	<p>RFU, Club</p> <p>RFU, Clubs</p> <p>RFU, Club</p> <p>RFU, Club</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>High</p> <p>High</p>

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
				<p>done in conjunction with an improved maintenance regime.</p> <p>Recommend and support the transition at Scunthorpe RUFC of some midweek training onto artificial turf pitches.</p> <p>The maintenance standard at Oglesby Park should be improved to a "good" (M2) rating at Oglesby Park. Then a minimum of 27 per cent of mid-week training should be encouraged to transfer to an ATP or alternative venue to balance capacity.</p> <p>Grow the provision of secure rugby pitches on educational establishment sites with secured community use and explore the options for Scunthorpe RUFC to utilise these to address their capacity issues.</p> <p>Football to address the capacity issues at South Axholme School to enable expansion of the rugby offer in the Isle of Axholme area.</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium/Long</p> <p>Long</p> <p>Short</p>	<p>RFU, Clubs</p> <p>RFU, Club</p> <p>RFU, NLC, Schools</p> <p>RFU, FA, NLC, School, Clubs</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>Low</p> <p>Medium</p>
Rugby Union	Enhance	Support clubs to improve the quality and standard of existing floodlighting provision	Heslam Park Oglesby Park	Support Scunthorpe RUFC to refurbish their old floodlighting provision at Heslam Park. Currently it can only be used for training but upgrading it for match play will	Medium	RFU, Clubs	High

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
			Barrow and District Playing Field	<p>extend the times when competitive fixtures can be played.</p> <p>Work with clubs to support the provision of additional floodlights so sites are equipped to spread the training load across pitches rather than concentrated on one (where possible).</p>	Long	RFU, Clubs	High
Rugby Union	Enhance	Seek to improve the quality of the ancillary facilities and enhance the ability to provide for the different groups playing Rugby (e.g. women and girls)	Heslam Park	<p>Support the refurbishment of the changing facilities at Heslam Park to provide ensuite showering facilities to accommodate the different sections using the site.</p> <p>Provide education and training to improve a clubs ability to “self help” with fund raising and drawing down external and/or partnership funding.</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>RFU, Club</p> <p>RFU, Clubs</p>	<p>High</p> <p>Low</p>
Rugby Union	Provide	Explore the opportunity to develop a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch to improve access to match and training facilities	Scunthorpe	Discuss with the Local Authority and FA the possibility of a 3G World Rugby 22 compliant pitch that can be used for rugby and football, in particular for the Scunthorpe area. Explore opportunities through the Local Football Facility Planning process to provide a pitch that is compatible for both sports.	Long	NLC, RFU, FA, Clubs	High
Rugby Union	Provide	Consider the need to supply additional carrying capacity in the Scunthorpe area to	Scunthorpe (highest housing growth and	Using the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator, it is estimated that 1 MES per week in the peak period is	Long	NLC, RFU, Clubs	High

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
		meet a possible increased demand due to population growth as a result of housing development	development of 3,000 homes as part of Lincolnshire Lakes project)	<p>required to meet the population growth due to proposed housing developments. This cannot be met by current provision, as sites are overplayed.</p> <p>Consider use of developer contributions to existing rugby union sites to increase capacity as opposed to creating provision on the new housing developments.</p>	Long	NLC, RFU, Clubs	High

Section Three – Cricket Action Plan

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
Cricket	Protect	Protect and retain the existing grass cricket pitches in North Lincolnshire.	All sites	Continue to monitor the adequacy of pitches to meet the demand of cricket clubs and ensure that the list set out in this strategy is up to date.	Long	NLC, LCB, Clubs	Low
		Ensure clubs have the appropriate level of security of tenure to secure the long term future of the club		Outcasts Cricket Club occupy the Hirst Priory Ground that is owned by a Private Landlord. Typically, they are granted short-term leases. Support the club to secure a longer-term lease to provide security of tenure.	Medium	LCB, Club	Low
Cricket	Enhance	Seek to support clubs to improve the quality of pitches through improved maintenance regimes that meet with ECB guidance.	All sites (Various sites cited ground maintenance as an issue in terms of knowledge, equipment and the revenue cost)	Work in partnership with the ECB to support clubs to ensure that all groundsmen receive appropriate education and training.	Long	ECB, LCB, Clubs	Low
				Clubs should also be encouraged to consider planning who will succeed their existing groundsmen.			
				Better utilise the available resource of a County Pitch Advisor (from the Institute of Groundsmanship) to support clubs to improve pitch quality.	Long	ECB, LCB, Clubs	Low
				Support clubs who share a site with other sports (e.g. football, rugby union) to establish grounds maintenance regimes that take in to account its other use.	Long	LCB, RFU, FA, Clubs	Low

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
				<p>Support clubs to explore the opportunities to draw down external funding to provide better maintenance equipment. Where possible this could be done in partnership between clubs and equipment shared through a joint agreement.</p> <p>Work with North Lincolnshire Council to explore the opportunities for funding through their Community Grant Fund Scheme and/or Lincs Lotto.</p> <p>Work with North Lincolnshire Council to review maintenance procedures on the outfield of Brigg Recreation Ground.</p>	<p>Long</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>Short</p>	<p>ECB, LCB, Clubs</p> <p>NLC, Clubs</p> <p>NLC, LCB, Club</p>	<p>Low</p> <p>Low</p> <p>Low</p>
Cricket	Provide	<p>Support clubs, close to capacity, to meet a change in demand and/or growth of the game.</p> <p>In particular considering the growth in the U9 game due to the ECB All Stars (5-8 year olds) and Dynamos (8-11 year olds) programmes.</p> <p>Alongside the ECB priority to develop girls, cricket in North Lincolnshire.</p>	<p>Broughton Cricket Club</p> <p>Messingham Cricket Club</p> <p>Haxey Cricket Club</p> <p>Outcasts Cricket Club</p> <p>Scunthorpe Cricket Club</p>	<p>Work with the site owners, ECB and Lincolnshire Cricket Board to support the clubs at risk to take steps that allow them to continue to grow and progress including:</p> <p>Supporting clubs to switch to the use of non-turf wickets for junior training and match play</p> <p>Improvements in maintenance regimes to improve quality and subsequently carry capacity</p>	Long	ECB, LCB, Clubs, Site Owners	Medium

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
			(sites identified as at risk of not being able to meet capacity if the game grows, see Appendix 3 – Scenario Testing)	<p>Securing the use of secondary grounds and developing necessary agreements where applicable</p> <p>ECB priority to develop girl's cricket. Seek hub site to develop team, this might be at another venue that does not already host cricket.</p> <p>Provide education and training to improve a clubs ability to "self help" with fund raising and drawing down external and/or partnership funding.</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>ECB, LCB, Clubs</p> <p>LCB, Clubs</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Low</p>
Cricket	Provide/Enhance	Support the provision and improvements of training nets	<p>Haxey Cricket Club</p> <p>Barton Town Cricket Club</p>	<p>Work with clubs to provide appropriate training nets where there is evidence of need.</p> <p>Seek to develop a permanent training net facility at Haxey Cricket Club.</p> <p>Support Barton Town Cricket Club to relocate their training nets to a more suitable location.</p>	<p>Long</p> <p>Short</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>ECB, LCB, Clubs</p> <p>LCB, Club</p> <p>LCB, Club</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p>
Cricket	Enhance	Ensure that ancillary facilities meet club needs and requirements to ensure sustainability of use	<p>Hilbaldstow Cricket Club</p> <p>Broughton Cricket Club</p>	Work with proactive clubs in seeking to improve their offer, to make improvements to clubhouses and pavilions where they are required through providing support (e.g. on sourcing external funding)	Long	ECB, LCB, Clubs	High

Section Four – Football Action Plan

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
Football	Provide	All football pitches across North Lincolnshire, as listed in this strategy, should be protected.	All existing sites and sites that are not currently marked out but have previously been used as a formal playing pitch (see Appendix 2- Site Specific Action Plan)	Ensure that the findings of this Strategy are considered in local planning policy and used to inform the emerging Local Plan.	Long	NLC, FA	Low
				Continue to monitor the adequacy of pitches to meet the demand of football clubs and ensure that the list of sites suitable for protection and disposal set out in this strategy is up to date.	Long	NLC, FA	Low
				Use this evidence base and scenario testing to inform planning decisions for example on the proposal to build a Special School on land adjacent to the West Common Lane Playing Field pitches (see Appendix 3 – Scenario Testing)	Long	NLC, FA, SE	Low
Football	Enhance	Seek to support clubs to improve the quality of pitches through improved maintenance regimes and pitch infrastructure that meet with FA guidance	Various sites, see site specific action plan Key sites: Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic and Social Club Bottesford Town FC – Birkdale	Encourage pitch suppliers to register on the FA Pitch Improvement Programme, run in partnership with the Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG) and access the resource of a Pitch Advisor.	Short	FA, Clubs	Low
				The strategy should aim to support all community based clubs to achieve a good standard under the revised official pitch quality ratings.	Long	FA, Clubs, Pitch Suppliers	Medium

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
			Park and Sunningdale Road	Seek to improve the education and training in professional grounds maintenance for staff and volunteers to facilitate better maintenance regimes. Utilising the available IOG resource to facilitate this.	Medium	NLC, FA, Clubs	Low
			Brigg Recreation Ground				
			Coop Sports Ground	At key sites, encourage site managers to adopt a site management maintenance plan to allow for the needs of separate users.	Medium	FA	Low
			Foxhill Sports Ground				
			Holme Meadow, Messingham	Support clubs to explore the opportunities to draw down external funding to provide better maintenance equipment. Where possible this could be done in partnership between clubs and equipment shared through a joint agreement.	Long	FA, FF, Clubs	Medium
			Pasture Road Field, Barton				
			South Axholme Academy				
			The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre	Work with North Lincolnshire Council to explore the opportunities for funding through their Community Grant Fund Scheme and/or Lincs Lotto.	Medium	NLC, Clubs	Low
			Winterton Playing Field	Improvements to maintenance regimes (for example better aeration) should be actioned first. If these do not improve pitch, quality then support changes to pitch infrastructure for example new drainage. Where they are required	Long	FA, Clubs	Medium

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
				assist clubs to draw down external capital funding.			
Football	Protect/Provide	<p>Recommend the movement of match play onto 3G rubber crumb pitches and to work with leagues and site managers to support this transition.</p> <p>This is of particular importance for the mini soccer leagues where capacity in peak demand is limited on grass pitches and to meet the growth in the U7 game.</p>	Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club	Seek to provide guidance and support on the pricing of school facilities for both parties to sustain and maximise the use of school facilities for community use.	Long	NLC, FA, Clubs	Low
			Baysgarth School	Work to restore full community use of Frederick Gough 3G FTP as currently restricted due to the impact of noise on local residents.	Short	NLC, FA, FF, School	Low
			Frederick Gough School	Work in partnership with Baysgarth School and clubs to improve the usage of the schools full size FTP for match play in the peak period.	Medium	School, FA, Clubs	Low
			South Axholme Academy	Support local football leagues to encourage the movement of match play onto artificial pitches.	Medium	FA, Clubs	Low
			St Lawrence Academy	It is strongly recommended that all new and existing 3G FTPs be on the FA register to enable more match play on 3G pitches.	Medium	FA, Club, School	Low
North Axholme Sports Centre							
Football	Enhance	Work to improve the quality of ancillary facilities/changing infrastructure in particular sites where they have been identified as poor or in need of improvements	Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club	All priority sites listed require improvements to their ancillary facilities/changing infrastructure to deliver what is required to meet the needs of its main users.	Long	NLC, FA, FF, Clubs, Pitch Suppliers	High

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
			Bottesford Town FC – Sunningdale Road	It is recommended that where different sports operate from the same site any improvements to the supporting infrastructure be done in partnership to maximise resources and meet the needs, where possible, of all users.	Short	NGB, Clubs	Low
			Carrside Playing Field				
			Foxhill Sports Ground	The Sunningdale Road Ground presently has no associated ancillary facilities despite it being a high use site for junior football. This will need addressing if the club continue to utilise this site.	Long	FA, FF, Club, NLC	High
			Hibaldstow Playing Field				
			Pasture Road Field, Barton				
			The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre	Improvements to West Common Lane Playing Field will only be required if North Lincolnshire Council continue to use this as a site for adult football. Previously it had been made redundant as the local authority consolidated their resources. Increased demand in the 2019/2020 lead to it being reinstated.	Long	NLC, FA, FF	High
			West Common Lane Playing Field				
			Winterton Community Academy	The need at Winterton Community Academy will be dependent on if Winterton Synthetic Pitch changes to a football compatible ATP.	Long	NLC, FA, FF, EH, Clubs, School	High
				Provide education and training to improve a clubs ability to “self help” with fund raising and drawing down external and/or partnership funding.	Medium	FA, Clubs	Low

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
Football	Provide	Seek to address capacity issues at existing sites that are currently “overplayed” to ensure the clubs can meet both the current and future demand.	South Axholme Academy	Seek to increase capacity in Epworth and through continued community use by Epworth Colts JFC at Carrside Playing Field.	Short	FA, Club	Low
			Bottesford Junior Football Club	Address maintenance issues to improve pitch quality and subsequent carrying capacity (see above) and encourage clubs to sign up to the Pitch Improvement Programme.	Long	FA, Clubs	Medium
			Coop Sports Ground				
			Holme Meadow	Support clubs to reconfigure their playing field to provide the required pitch sizes and arrangements to meet their club needs.	Medium	FA, Clubs	Medium
			Brigg Recreation Ground				
			Winterton Playing Field				
				Explore the options to improve drainage at Birkdale Park.	Long	FA, FF, Club	High
				Maximise use of nearby 3G FTP’s for both training and match play to remove demand from grass surfaces.	Short	NLC, FA, FF, Clubs	Low
	Work to restore full community use of Frederick Gough 3G FTP as currently restricted due to the impact of noise on local residents.	Short	NLC, FA, FF, School	Low			
	Support the ambition of The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre committee to develop a 3G FTP to increase the sites capacity, in particular the peak period as	Medium	NLC, FA, FF, Clubs	High			

Sport	Objective (Protect Provide Enhance)	Recommendation	Priority Site/Area/Club	Action	Timescale	Organisation(s)	Cost
				demonstrated in the scenario testing (see Appendix 3 – Scenario Testing)			
Football	Provide	Work to increase community use agreements with schools in particular secondary education and key priority sites	Baysgarth School	Work with schools providing unsecured access to formalise community use agreements.	Medium	NLC, FA, Clubs	Low
			South Axholme Academy	Support clubs to maintain strong links with the schools to ensure the ongoing success and sustainability of the school facilities for community use.	Long	NLC, FA, Clubs	Low
			Frederick Gough School	Seek to provide guidance and support on the pricing of school facilities for both parties to sustain and maximise the use of school facilities for community use.	Long	NLC, FA, Clubs	Low
Winterton Community Academy							
Football	Provide	Support the development of five new 3G FTP's in North Lincolnshire at sites where a business case can demonstrate their strategic need and sustainability.	To be agreed	Work in partnership with the Local Football Facility Steering Group to increase the number of full size 3G FTP from 2 to 5. Consideration should be given to the existing smaller FTP's that provide capacity and the number of required full sized 3G FTP's might need reducing to reflect this.	Long	NLC, FA, FF, AH	High



Appendix 2
SITE SPECIFIC ACTION PLAN

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
ALKBOROUGH CRICKET CLUB, DN15 9JU	Protect. Maintain the existing quality. Provide for the anticipated U9 growth in the 2020/2021 season.			
ALTHOPRE SPORTS FIELD, DN17 3JF				Not currently in use as a football, pitch used as open space. Pitches not marked out for 10+ years.
APPLEBY FRODINGHAM SOCIAL CLUB, DN16 1NU				Protect. Enhance. Long term changing rooms need investment. Peak period at capacity. Utilise staggered kick off times.
APPLEBY FRODINGHAM WORKS ATHLETIC CLUB, DN16 1AA	Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Provide for the anticipated U9 growth in the 2020/2021 season.	Protect. Priority site. Enhance. Changing infrastructure (boiler replacement priority work). Enhance. Encourage the development of Hockey in Scunthorpe to strengthen the offer.		Protect. Priority Site forms part of central hub provision. Site close to capacity for adult game. Enhance. Changing infrastructure (boiler replacement work priority). Maintain pitch quality as high use site. Provide. Explore feasibility of building full size FTP to enhance offer and provide more capacity in the peak period.
APPLEBY PLAYING FIELD, DN15 0AN				Protect. Secure community use with new lease beyond 2025.
BARNETBY PARISH FIELD, DN38 6HS				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Close to capacity for adult game.

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
BARROW AND DISTRICT PLAYING FIELD, DN19 7BD			Protect. Secure lease for second pitch. Improve pitch quality through recommended RFU maintenance procedures and/or improved drainage. Enhance. Either improve site floodlighting or secure community use of Baysgarth School for training.	Pitch not required for football. Protect. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.
BARTON TOWN CRICKET CLUB, DN18 5JD	Protect. Enhance. Explore feasibility to relocate training nets to location that is more suitable.			
BARTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB, DN18 5JD				Protect. Site near to capacity. Improvements to maintenance regimes and/or drainage should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Enhance. New entrance to site, planning permission granted.
BAYSGARTH LEISURE CENTRE, DN18 5DT				Protect. Not currently in use as a football pitch, forms part of Baysgarth Park so used as open space. Pitch quality "poor".
BAYSGARTH SCHOOL, DN18 6AE			Seek to explore possible community use of rugby pitch	Protect. Close to capacity for adult game. Adult pitch "poor" quality. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Seek to put in place community use

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
				agreement with local sports clubs. Increase community use of 3G FTP.
BELTON PLAYING FIELD, DN9 1NR				Protect. Not currently in use as a football pitch. Retain potential to be used in the future.
BONBY PLAYING FIELD				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.
BOTTESFORD TOWN FC – BIRKDALE, DN17 2TQ				Protect. At capacity for adult game. Youth 11 v 11 pitch being overplayed. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as a high use site. Explore reconfiguration of pitch sizes. Partner club in 3G FTP at Frederick Gough, need to maximise use of this site to address capacity issues at home ground. Enhance. Floodlights recently replaced.
BELTON PLAYING FIELD, DN9 1NR				Protect. Not currently in use as a football pitch. Retain potential to be used in the future.
BOTTESFORD TOWN FC – SUNNINGDALE, DN17 2TD				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
				pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as a high use site. Enhance. Need to build changing infrastructure on this site, if club continues to use.
BRIGG RECREATION GROUND, DN20 8PJ	Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality in particular the outfield. Provide. Support the club to build a sustainable junior section.	Protect. Priority Site. Secure future license agreement for the site by Brigg Hockey Club. Enhance. Address the pitch build and improve ongoing maintenance procedures to maintain pitch quality.		Protect. Overplay of intermediate 11 v 11 youth pitch. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as high use site.
BRIGG TOWN FC, DN20 8PG				Protect. Enhance existing site through building improvement works.
BROUGHTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, DN20 0JW				Protect. Address chafer grub infestation. Not currently in use as a football pitch. Retain potential to be used in the future.
BURRINGHAM PLAYING FIELD, DN17 3NB				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.
BURTON PLAYING FIELDS, , DN15 9ES				Protect. Has the potential to accommodate more play but car parking restrictive.
CARRSIDE PLAYING FIELD, DN9 1DX				Protect. Secure long-term community use agreement. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
				carrying capacity. Enhance. Improve changing infrastructure. Explore the feasibility of providing floodlighting.
CEMEX UK CEMENT FOOTBALL FIELD, DN18 6JL				Protect. Not currently in use as a football pitch. Retain potential to be used in the future.
CHARLES LE QUELENEC PARK, DN17 1AF				Protect. In close proximity of central hub provision. Lease expired. Secure lease from local authority. 5 v 5 pitch needs relaying as built on former tennis court. Site close to capacity for youth 9 v 9 game. Improvements to maintenance regimes and/or drainage should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as a high use site. Enhance. Improve changing infrastructure.
CO-OP SPORTS GROUND, DN17 1AA				Protect. Priority Site forms part of central hub provision. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Enhance. Changing room infrastructure.
CROWLE AND EALAND PLAYING FIELD, DN17 4EE				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
				carrying capacity as a high use site. Explore the community use of Crowle Colts at Axholme North Sports Centre to increase spare capacity in the peak period for the adult game.
EAST BUTTERWICK PLAYING FIELD, DN17 3AE				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.
FOXHILL SPORTS GROUND, DN15 8LJ				Protect. Adult provision at capacity. Pitch quality "poor". Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as a high use site. Explore the feasibility to reinstate the MUGA. Enhance. Improve changing infrastructure.
FREDERICK GOUGH SCHOOL, DN16 3NG				Protect. Work to reinstate full community use of the 3G FTP.
GARTHORPE PLAYING FIELD, DN17 4AE				Protect. Not currently in use as a football pitch. Retain potential to be used in the future.
GLANFORD PARK, DN15 8TD				Protect. Home of the professional football club.
GOXHILL PLAYING FIELD, DN19 7JR				Not currently in use as a football, pitch as no changing facilities. Retain potential to be used in the

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
				future if funding can be found to replace infrastructure.
GUNNESS PLAYING FIELD, DN15 8TW				Protect. Youth 9 v 9 pitch at capacity. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as a high use site.
HAXEY PLAYING FIELDS, DN9 2ND	Protect. Monitor capacity. Enhance. Development of permanent net facility. Provide for the anticipated U9 growth in the 2020/2021 season.			Protect. Shared changing facilities with tennis in need of updating. Low priority - only one football team play on the site.
HESLAM PARK, DN16 2AG	Protect. Monitor capacity. Shared arrangement with Rugby Union might be restrictive on progression to higher league.		Protect. Priority Site. Site at capacity and being overplayed. Improve pitch quality through recommended RFU maintenance procedures. Seek to build new drainage to improve capacity. Enhance. Improve standard of floodlighting. Improve changing infrastructure to include ensuite showering facilities.	
HIBALDSTOW PLAYING FIELD, DN20 9EB	Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase the grounds carrying capacity. Enhance. Improve changing infrastructure -			Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Enhance. Improve changing

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
	planning permission granted. Provide for the anticipated U9 growth in the 2020/2021 season.			infrastructure - planning permission granted.
HIRST PRIORY, DN17 4BU	Protect. Secure long-term lease of the ground from private owner. Monitor capacity. Support the club with improvements to maintenance procedures in particular to the outfield and to address recent flooding of the site.			
HOLME MEADOW, DN17 3SG				Protect. Pitch quality "poor". Site overplayed. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as high use site. Overplay of youth 11 v 11 pitch. Consider number of pitches required to meet demand.
HUNTCLIFF SCHOOL, DN21 4NN				Protect. Not currently used by a football club.
JOHN LEGGOTT SIXTH FORM COLLEGE, DN17 1DS			Seek to explore possible community use of rugby pitches	Protect. Potential for community use in the future for the Scunthorpe area.
KIRMINGTON PLAYING FIELD, DN39 6YZ				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future. No ancillary facilities.
KLASSIC PARK, DN21 4BX				Protect. Close to capacity for youth 11 v 11 game.

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
				Continue to maintain “good” pitch quality as high use site.
LUDDINGTON PLAYING FIELD, DN17 4QP	Protect. Support club with improvements to maintenance procedures and purchase wicket covers. Enhance. Explore feasibility to improve the clubhouse. Low priority as only one adult cricket team play at this site.			Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality. Enhance. Explore feasibility to improve the clubhouse. Low priority as only one football team play on site.
MELIOR COMMUNITY ACADEMY, DN17 1HA		Existing sand based pitch. Currently not used for hockey and not required to meet long-term hockey needs.	Seek to explore possible community use of rugby pitches	Protect. Some football teams for winter training use the ATP.
MESSINGHAM RECREATION GROUND, DN17 3SA	Protect. Support club with improvements to maintenance procedures. Length of the boundary might be a problem if the club progresses. Shared arrangement with football. Enhance. Club need new covers. Provide for the anticipated U9 growth in the 2020/2021 season.			Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as a high use site.
NEW GENERATION PARK, DN17 3BS				Protect. Not currently in use as a football pitch. Retain potential to be used in the future.
NEW HOLLAND RECREATION GROUND, DN19 7QJ				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality.

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
NORMANBY PARK SPORT AND ACTIVITY CLUB, DN15 9BE	Protect. Support club with improvements to maintenance procedures in particular the outfield where a chafer grub infestation has a problem.			
NORTH LINDSEY COLLEGE, DN17 1AJ				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Close to capacity for adult game.
OUTWOOD ACADEMY (FOXHILLS), DN15 8LJ				Protect. Not currently used by a football club.
OUTWOOD ACADEMY (BRUMBY), DN16 1NT			Seek to explore possible community use of rugby pitches	Protect. Not currently used by a football club.
OWSTON FERRY RECREATION GROUND, DN9 1RE				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality.
PASTURE ROAD FIELD, BARTON, DN18 5RB				Protect. Site at capacity for youth game. Youth 9 v9 pitch overplayed. Improvements to maintenance regimes and/or drainage should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Explore the potential use of Baysgarth School 3G FTP and the cost implications. Enhance. Improve the changing infrastructure. Seek to address car parking issues.

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
QUIBELL PARK, DN17 1SR				Protect. Site not currently used for football. Predominantly used by athletics and cycling. Grass pitches hired out for American Football.
SCAWBY PLAYING FIELD, DN20 9AN				Protect. Pitch quality "poor". Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality.
OGLESBY PARK, SCUNTHORPE, DN17 2AB			Protect. Priority Site. Site at capacity and being overplayed. Improve pitch quality through recommended RFU maintenance procedures. Enhance. Improve standard of floodlighting. Seek to move a proportion of midweek training from grass pitches onto 3G provision or alternative venue.	
SCUNTHORPE UNITED TRAINING GROUND, DN15 8TY				Protect. Professional Club training ground.
SHEFFIELD PARK, DN15 8PJ				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.
SIR JOHN NELTHORPE SCHOOL, DN20 8AA				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality.

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
SOUTH AXHOLME ACADEMY, DN9 1BY			Address the capacity issues for football to enable the expansion of the Rugby offer in the Isle of Axholme Area.	Protect. Site close to capacity. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as a high use site. Reconfigure community use of the 3G to Provide a larger portion to Epworth Colts.
SOUTH FERRIBY PLAYING FIELDS, DN18 6HW				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.
ST LAWRENCE ACADEMY, DN15 7DF				Protect. Maintain pitch quality.
ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY, DN16 2TF				Protect. Not currently used by a football club.
THE AXHOLME ACADEMY, DN17 4HU				Protect. Not currently used by a football club.
AXHOLME NORTH LEISURE CENTRE, DN17 4HU				Protect. Increase usage of 3G FTP by local sports clubs.
THE PHIL GRUNDY SPORTS & COMMUNITY CENTRE, DN20 0AB	Support club with improvements to maintenance procedures in particular the outfield. Enhance. Improve changing infrastructure and outdoor seating. Work alongside other sports to achieve this to maximise resources and meet the needs of all users.			Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity as a high use site. Enhance. Improve changing infrastructure. Work alongside other sports to achieve this to maximise resources and meet the needs of all users. Provide.

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
				Support the development of a 3G FTP.
THE VALE ACADEMY, DN20 8AR				Protect. Not currently used by a football club.
THURLOW PLAYING FIELD, EPWORTH, DN9 IJU				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.
ULCEBY PLAYING FIELD, DN39 6UL				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes and/or drainage should be considered to improve pitch quality.
WEST BUTTERWICK VILLAGE HALL, DN17 3LD				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.
WEST COMMON LANE PLAYING FIELDS, DN17 1DS				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Enhance. Improve changing infrastructure to support sustainable use of the site based on need.
WEST HALTON RECREATION GROUND, DN15 9AP				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
WESTWOODSIDE PLAYING FIELD, DN9 2DX				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality.
WINTERINGHAM FOOTBALL CLUB, DN15 9PF				Football team stopped playing after 2016/2017 season. Field now returned to agricultural use. A further protected site is available on Winteringham Playing Field for football.
WINTERINGHAM PLAYING FIELD, DN15 9NN				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.
WINTERTON COMMUNITY ACADEMY, DN15 9QD				Protect. Site has spare capacity. Improvements to maintenance regimes and/or drainage should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Enhance. Improve changing room infrastructure. Explore the feasibility to change the surface of the synthetic pitch to a 3G FTP and put in place other management arrangements.
WINTERTON PLAYING FIELD, DN15 9RG				Protect. Close to capacity for adult game. Youth 11 v 11 pitch being overplayed. Explore potential to develop a section of the site to add a further pitch. Improvements

Site Name	Cricket Actions	Hockey Actions	Rugby Union Actions	Football Actions
				to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality and increase carrying capacity. Explore the feasibility to become a partner club if new 3G FTP is built.
WINTERTON RANGERS FC, DN15 9QF				Protect. Maintain pitch quality. Explore the feasibility to become a partner club if new 3G FTP is built.
WINTERTON SYNTHETIC PITCH, DN15 9RG		Existing sand based pitch. Currently used for hockey but not required to meet long-term hockey needs.		Explore the feasibility to change the surface of the synthetic pitch to a 3G FTP and agree other management arrangements.
WRAWBY PLAYING FIELD, DN20 8RY				Protect. Improvements to maintenance regimes should be considered to improve pitch quality. Enhance. Explore the opportunities to improve the offer of ancillary facilities.
WROOT PLAYING FIELDS, DN9 2BT				Protect. Currently used as open space. No action to be undertaken that will prejudice the potential to reinstate football in the future.



Appendix 3
SCENARIO TESTING

Section One - Rugby Union Key Scenarios

Scenario 1 - Improve maintenance regime to a “good” standard at Scunthorpe Rugby Club

Improving the maintenance regime at Heslam and Oglesby Park from a M1 (Standard) to a M2 (Good) rating will have an impact on the pitches’ carrying capacity. At Heslam Park, the capacity of the senior pitches will increase from 3 to 4 match equivalent sessions per week. At Oglesby Park the capacity will increase from 4 to 6 (see Table 1.0). This intervention will improve the situation at the sites however; the pitches will still be overplayed (see Table 1.1). Changes to the maintenance regime alone will not address the issues of overplay.

Table 1.0 Pitch capacity - M2 rating

Site Name	Number of pitches	Type of Pitch	Drainage Score	Pitch Maintenance Score	Overall Pitch Capacity
Heslam Park	2	Senior Rugby Union	D0	M2	4
Oglesby Park	2	Senior Rugby Union	D1	M2	6

Table 1.1 Difference between capacity and demand - M2 rating

Site Name	Number of Adult Pitches	Floodlit pitches	Midweek Training Match Equivalents (Demand)	Match Play Demand (Weekend)	Overall Weekly Demand Match Equivalent Sessions	Pitch Capacity (based on quality rating)	Difference
Heslam Park	2	1	2	3.25	5.25	4	-1.25
Oglesby Park	2	1	5.5	2	7.5	6	-1.5

Scenario 2 - Improve drainage at Heslam Park

Improving the drainage at Heslam Park from a D0 (Natural Inadequate) to a D2 or D3 (Pipe/Pipe and Slit drained) rating will have an impact on the pitches’ carrying capacity. The capacity of the senior pitches will increase from 3 MES to approximately 5 to 6 match equivalent sessions per week (see Table 1.2). If pipe and slit drainage was introduced this will balance capacity and demand at the site and provide a surplus of 0.75 match equivalent sessions per week (see Table 1.3). Pipe drainage alone will not overcome the issue of overplay.

Table 1.2 Pitch capacity (Heslam Park) - D2 and D3 rating

Site Name	Number of Pitches	Type of Pitch	Drainage Score	Pitch Maintenance Score	Overall Pitch Capacity
Heslam Park	2	Senior Rugby Union	D2 (pipe)	M1	5
Heslam Park	2	Senior Rugby Union	D3 (pipe and slit)	M1	6

Table 1.3 Difference between capacity and demand – D2 and D3 rating

Site Name	Number of Adult Pitches	Floodlit pitches	Midweek Training Match Equivalents (Demand)	Match Play Demand (Weekend)	Overall Weekly Demand Match Equivalent Sessions	Pitch Capacity (based on quality rating)	Difference
Heslam Park	2	1	2	3.25	5.25	5 (D2)	-0.25
Heslam Park	2	1	2	3.25	5.25	6 (D3)	+0.75

Scenario 3 - Improve maintenance to a “good” standard and introduce pipe drainage at Heslam Park

Improving the maintenance standard at Heslam Park to a M2 (Good) standard and introducing D2 drainage (Pipe) will have an impact on the pitches’ carrying capacity. The capacity of the senior pitches will increase from 3 to 6.5 match equivalent sessions per week (see Table 1.4). This will eliminate the current overplay and provide a surplus of 1.25 match equivalent sessions per week to provide the club with the capacity to increase demand (see Table 1.5).

Table 1.4 Pitch capacity (Heslam Park) – M2 and D2 rating

Site Name	Number of Pitches	Type of Pitch	Drainage Score	Pitch Maintenance Score	Overall Pitch Capacity
Heslam Park	2	Senior Rugby Union	D2	M2	6.5

Table 1.5 Difference between capacity and demand (Heslam Park) – M2 and D2 rating

Site Name	Number of Adult Pitches	Floodlit pitches	Midweek Training Match Equivalents (Demand)	Match Play Demand (Weekend)	Overall Weekly Demand Match Equivalent Sessions	Pitch Capacity (based on quality rating)	Difference
Heslam Park	2	1	2	3.25	5.25	6.5	+1.25

Scenario 4 - Transfer midweek training to an artificial pitch or alternative venue

An alternative would be to consider transferring some of the midweek training onto an artificial surface or an alternative grass pitch. Currently the area does not have a 3G World Rugby 22 compliant pitch. There could be an opportunity to work with the Local Authority and the FA to provide this type of pitch. However, a number of 3G football compliant surfaces are present in the Scunthorpe area that might be utilised for some rugby training. The scenario below looks at the impact of moving 50% of midweek training from Scunthorpe Rugby Club grass pitches onto artificial surfaces or an alternative site. Although this will improve the situation at both sites alone it will not address the issues of overplay (see Table 1.6). To overcome the problem of overplay through this scenario all training needs to move from Heslam and 63% from Oglesby.

Table 1.6 Difference between capacity and demand – transfer 50% of midweek training

Site Name	Number of Adult Pitches	Floodlit pitches	Midweek Training Match Equivalents (Demand)	Match Play Demand (Weekend)	Overall Weekly Demand Match Equivalent Sessions	Pitch Capacity (based on quality rating)	Difference
Heslam Park	2	1	1	3.25	4.25	3	-1.25
Oglesby	2	1	2.75	2	4.75	4	-0.75

Scenario 5 - Transfer midweek training from Oglesby Park and improve maintenance regime to a “good” standard

When the maintenance regime is improved to a “good” standard then 27% of midweek training has to be moved to an artificial surface or alternative venue to balance capacity and demand at the site. Together these measures could address overplay at Oglesby Park. Table 1.7 shows the potential spare capacity that might be available if 50% of the midweek training can be moved from Oglesby Park.

Table 1.7 Difference between capacity and demand (Oglesby Park) – M2 rating and transfer of 50% midweek training

Site Name	Number of Adult Pitches	Floodlit pitches	Midweek Training Match Equivalents (Demand)	Match Play Demand (Weekend)	Overall Weekly Demand Match Equivalent Sessions	Pitch Capacity (based on quality rating)	Difference
Oglesby Park	2	1	2.75	2	4.75	6	+1.25

Summary

Below summarises the key points identified in this scenario testing.

- Improving the maintenance regimes from “standard” to “good” will not on its own address the issue of overplay at Heslam and Oglesby Park.
- The introduction of pipe and slit drainage at Heslam Park will balance the capacity and demand, providing a surplus of 0.75 match equivalent sessions per week.
- If only pipe drainage is an option at Heslam Park then this must be done in conjunction with an improved maintenance regime to balance capacity and demand, and provide a surplus of 1.25 match equivalent sessions.
- Spare capacity is required at Heslam Park to accommodate a further 0.5 match equivalent sessions for the growth of a second ladies team.
- To overcome overplay at Oglesby Park the maintenance regime must be improved to “good” and 27% of the midweek training transferred to an alternative venue or 3G surface. This will balance the capacity and demand at the site.

Section Two – Hockey Key Scenarios

Scenario 1 - Winterton Synthetic Pitch is no longer available for hockey play

Winterton Synthetic Pitch is 23 years old and the carpet is in need of replacing. Currently only Barton Ladies Hockey Club play their fixtures at this site. They do not use it for training. Table 1.0 makes an assessment on the impact on demand if this play moved to Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club. Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club is currently home to three ladies hockey's teams (Appleby Frodingham (1 team) and Epworth (2 teams)). Moving the Barton Ladies team would add an additional 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week. The site can accommodate this play and still has a spare capacity of 2 match equivalent sessions per week (Table 1.0).

Table 1.0 Difference between capacity and demand – play moved from Winterton

Site Name	Supply		Demand		Spare Capacity	
	Saturday Matches	Sunday Matches	Saturday Matches	Sunday Matches	Saturday Matches	Sunday Matches
APPLEBY FRODINGHAM WORKS ATHLETIC CLUB	4	4	2	0	2	4

Summary

Below summarises the key points identified in this scenario testing.

- Hockey play can be accommodated at Appleby Frodingham Works Athletic Club if Winterton Synthetic Pitch was no longer hockey compatible surface.

Section Three – Football Key Scenarios

Scenario 1 – The U7 game continues to grow significantly

Between the 2018/2019 season and 2019/2020 season the number of U7 teams affiliating to the league has grown by 18%, from 17 to 20 teams in North Lincolnshire.

In the 2018/2019 season the overall pitch capacity weekly when considering the quality of the 16 available 5 v 5 mini soccer pitches is 64 match equivalent sessions per week and there is a demand for 17.25 match equivalent sessions per week. There is capacity for an additional 47.25 match equivalent sessions per week across North Lincolnshire.

In the 2019/2020 season the demand for this pitch type will be 18.75 MES per week. This leaves a spare capacity of 45.75 MES per week.

Peak time of play needs to be considered so that there are sufficient match equivalent sessions required at the peak time of play. The Liberty Steel Football League caters for the U7 – U10 age group. Saturday AM has been determined as the peak period of play. However, the league does allow flexibility with their kick off times so fixtures can take place at other times outside this peak period. When games have to be staggered they can also kick off at 11.30am.

In the 2018/2019 season, there was a requirement for 15.5 peak time mini soccer 5 v 5 match equivalent sessions and this demand is met. There is a further 3 spare match equivalent sessions on secured sites available in this peak period.

In the 2019/2020 season this demand will increase up to 17 match equivalent sessions per week in the peak period, this increase of 1.5 MES per week will use half of the spare capacity that was available in the 2018/2019 season.

Further capacity is available on the 3G FTP pitches. To meet the demand some play should transfer onto these artificial surfaces. Currently they provide 16 match equivalent sessions per week. This will increase when the new FTP is built at The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre. Across North Lincolnshire currently teams on a regular basis, including teams from Barton Junior Football Club and Epworth Colts, use only use up to 5.5 of these match equivalent sessions.

Scenario 2 - Impact on spare capacity if match play is moved onto FTP surfaces at priority sites where play is at capacity

Priority Site 1 - The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre

Table 1.1 – Grass Pitch Demand and Capacity no FTP

Pitch Type	Current Demand	Current Capacity	Spare Capacity	Spare Capacity in Peak Period
Adult 11 v 11	1.25	2	0.75	0
Mini Soccer 7 v 7	1	4	3	0
Mini Soccer 5 v 5 (2 pitches)	1.5	8	6.5	0.5

Table 1.2 – Grass Pitch Demand and Capacity with FTP

Pitch Type	Current Demand	Current Capacity	Spare Capacity	Spare Capacity in Peak Period
Adult 11 v 11	0.75	2	1.25	0.5
Mini Soccer 7 v 7	0	4	4	1
Mini Soccer 5 v 5 (2 pitches)	0	8	8	2

Table 1.1 shows that currently The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre has a spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session across its grass pitches. This provides the site with the potential to grow by 1 further mini soccer 5 v 5 side so is very close to capacity.

If an FTP was built on this site, working on the assumption that the intermediate 11 v 11 FTP can be configured to host a 7 a side game alongside 2 x 5 a side games, all under 10 match play can move to the FTP on a Saturday morning. As a result, all under 10 match play can move off the grass pitches. The FTP would also provide the capacity for a further 7 a side team to be developed. As the league also allows staggered kick off times this might provide further capacity for the growth of the under 10 game.

An FTP will also allow the youth 11 v 11 team to move its match play onto the artificial surface on a Sunday morning, adding a further 0.5 match equivalent sessions in the peak period for the adult or youth 11 v 11 game.

In this scenario the site will be left with 3.5 match equivalent sessions in the peak period to allow potentially 7 teams to be developed depending on how the site chooses to configure its grass pitches (Table 1.2).

Priority Site 2 – Barton upon Humber

During the consultation, feedback from clubs in the Barton upon Humber area suggested there was not enough capacity to meet demand. The situation has been analysed in Table 1.3.

Table 1.3 - Grass pitch capacity and demand across all sites in Barton upon Humber

Pitch Type	Number of Pitches	Capacity	Demand for Match Equivalent Sessions per Week	Demand in Peak Period	Total
Adult 11 v 11	3	4	2.75	1 (Sun AM)	+1.25
Youth 11 v 11	2	4	2.5	2.5 (Sat AM)	0
Youth 9 v 9	2	4	3	3 (Sat AM)	0.5
Mini 7 v 7	1	4	0	0 (Sat AM)	1
Mini 5 v 5	1	4	1.5	1.5 (Sun AM)	0

Table 1.3 confirms that across all sites there is the capacity to meet the current demand. However, this may involve clubs using a school or local authority owned site rather than their home ground. Demand is being met in the peak period however there is limited capacity for further growth in match play, in particular across the junior game.

Baysgarth School is home to a full size 3G FTP. Currently match play is limited on the pitch with only 1 to 2 U7 teams routinely using it for match play. Clubs did cite that cost is a barrier to their use of this pitch. However, it does have the potential to provide capacity for the junior game in the peak period.

The 3G FTP could offer 2 MES in the peak period on a Saturday AM for the youth and mini soccer sides or if kick off times can be staggered 4 MES in the peak period.

The 3G FTP could offer 2 MES in the peak period on a Sunday AM for the youth 11 v 11 sides.

Scenario 3 - Educational Establishment built on West Common Lane Playing Field leading to the removal of 1 adult pitch and the potential of 1 junior 9 v 9 pitch

North Lincolnshire Council are considering building an educational establishment on land adjacent to the site of the West Common Lane Playing Field pitches. Subject to the finalising of plans for the proposed school this may lead to the removal of an adult pitch and a potential junior pitch. However, the portion of the playing field enclosed to form part of the school site may itself form a natural turf sports pitch secure for community use. Given the nature of the special school, this may present an opportunity to support the growth of disability sport in the locality.

Table 1.5 – The impact on Adult 11 v 11 capacity if the number of pitches is reduced by 1

*Site	No of Pitches	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Demand for Match Equivalent Sessions Weekly	Total Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use	Demand match equivalent sessions in the peak period	Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use During the Peak Period (where relevant)
WEST COMMON LANE PLAYING FIELD	5	5	2	3	2	3
Current Totals Across all Sites with Adult 11 v 11 Pitch(s)	59	102	51.75	50.25	23.5	28.75
Scenario – if pitch removed at West Common Lane Playing Field	58	101	51.75	49.25	23.5	27.75

Table 1.5 shows that North Lincolnshire has 50.25 match equivalent sessions available each week as spare capacity that is available to be used by the community. Consideration must also be given to the peak period. The peak period has been determined as Sunday AM when North Lincolnshire currently has a spare capacity of 28.75 match equivalent sessions per week, of these 11.5 sessions are available in the Scunthorpe area. The loss of 1 pitch does not have a significant impact on the supply of adult 11 v 11 pitches in North Lincolnshire.

Table 1.6 – The current supply and demand for junior 9 v 9 pitches across North Lincolnshire

*Site	No of Pitches	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Demand for Match Equivalent Sessions Weekly	Total Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use	Demand match equivalent sessions in the peak period	Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use During the Peak Period (where relevant)
Current Totals Across all Sites with Junior 9 v 9 Pitch(s)	24	48	25.5	22.75	20.75	5.75

The size of the West Common Lane Playing Field site might, in the future (if demand required it), provide a further junior 9 v 9 pitch. If the educational establishment is built then this possible future resource will be lost. The current situation in North Lincolnshire, shown in Table 1.6, demonstrates that the area has

sufficient supply of 9 v 9 pitches and 22.75 match equivalent sessions as spare capacity each week. However, the peak period of play should be considered. Demand is currently met in the peak period but spare capacity is limited should the area experience a growth in this area bracket.

During the peak period, there are currently only 5.75 match equivalent sessions per week available as spare capacity and 2.75 of these sessions are available in the Scunthorpe area. Other sites in Scunthorpe also provide opportunities to expand the 9 v 9 pitch supply if the educational establishment is built on West Common Lane Playing Field. Coop Sports Ground has the potential to be reconfigured to include a further 9 v 9 pitch utilising the former cricket square and bowls green. Both sports are no longer played on this site. The full size 3G pitch at the Frederick Gough School also has the potential to accommodate junior match play, it is currently not utilised due to restrictions on community use. A working group are seeking to address the current restrictions (put in place to manage issues with noise) to allow more community use and match play at weekends.

Summary

Below summarises the key points identified in this scenario testing.

- To meet the demand in the growth of the U7 game the 3G Football Artificial Turf Pitches need to be utilised for match play.
- If the quality of the pitch can be improved from “poor” to “standard” at the Coop Sports Ground, Holme Meadow and South Axholme Academy pitch capacity will meet demand. These sites should utilise the Lincolnshire FA Pitch Improvement Programme to help them achieve this and improve maintenance regimes.
- At Holme Meadow, consideration needs to be given to increasing the number of youth 11 v 11 pitches to limit overplay.
- The introduction of a FTP at The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre site will allow teams to move back to their home ground and reduce demand on the grass pitches of between 6 and 7.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
- Spare peak period capacity in the junior game in Barton upon Humber is limited. Match play should be encouraged onto the 3G FTP at Baysgarth School that provides between 4 and 6 MES per week for match play.
- Adult pitch provision will not be significantly affected by the removal of 1 adult pitch on West Common Lane Playing Field.
- Demand is currently met for the junior 9 v 9 game but there is a limited amount of spare capacity in the peak period. Other sites provide the possibility to increase supply including Coop Sports Ground and Frederick Gough 3G ATP.

Section Four – Cricket Key Scenarios

Scenario 1 - Impact if each club running the All Stars programme starts an U9/U10 teams in the 2020 and 2021 seasons.

The introduction of the ECB All Star programme in 2017 has led to a significant increase in the number of 5-8 year olds playing cricket. This is translating into increasing junior numbers in clubs and as a result developing new U9 teams.

From the 2018 to the 2019 season, the number of U9/U10 teams in North Lincolnshire has risen from 2 to 5, representing a 150% growth. In 2019, 9 clubs in North Lincolnshire ran the All Stars programme so the number of teams can be expected to grow again. It is possible that in 2020 a further 2 clubs will also join the All Star programme. Table 1.0 reflects this possible growth and its impact on demand.

In 2020 the ECB are launching their Dynamos programme to serve as a follow on for All Stars, catering for the eight to 11 year old age group. This action will support the projected growth in the U9/U10 age group shown below (Table 1.1).

Table 1.1 – Projected number of U9/U10 teams per season and demand generated

Season	No. of U9/U10 teams	Demand
2019	5	4 MES per season *
2020	9	5 MES per season **
2021	11	6 MES per season **

*number of fixtures higher due to teams from North East Lincolnshire in the league

**due to length of junior season, assumption that each team only plays each other once, rather than on a home and away basis.

Table 1.2 - Demand and capacity numbers at Cricket Grounds (grass wickets) in 2021 adjusted for projected growth in U9/U10 game.

Site Name	Capacity per Season (Grass)	Capacity per Season (Non Turf)	Demand per Season (Grass)	Demand per season (Non Turf)	Capacity Demand Balance (Grass)	Capacity Demand Balance (Non Turf)
ALKBOROUGH CRICKET CLUB	60	0	40	0	+20	
APPLEBY FRODINGHAM WORKS ATHLETIC CLUB	64	0	44	0	+20	
BARTON TOWN CRICKET CLUB	75	0	50	0	+25	
BRIGG RECREATION GROUND	36	0	14	0	+22	
HAXEY PLAYING FIELDS	45	60	46	9	-1	+51
HESLAM PARK	65	60	36	9	+29	+51
HIBALDSTOW PLAYING FIELD	48	60	28	0	+20	+60
HIRST PRIORY	55	0	46	0	+9	
LUDDINGTON PLAYING FIELD	28	0	5	0	+23	
MESSINGHAM RECREATION GROUND	56	60	51	0	+5	+60
NORMANBY PARK SPORT AND ACTIVITY CLUB	60	0	31	0	+29	
THE PHIL GRUNDY SPORTS & COMMUNITY CENTRE	40	0	33	0	+7	
Total	632	240	424	18	208	222

*where club currently has no U9/U10 team demand has been adjusted by 6 MES per season

**where the club currently has U9/U10, team demand has been adjusted by 2 MES per season to reflect the increasing number of teams in the league

Table 1.2 shows that the increase in this age group could have a significant impact on 4 clubs' ability to balance play. Haxey Playing Fields, Hirst Priory, Messingham Recreation Ground and the Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre will be exceeding or operating at near capacity if this projected growth is realised.

Messingham Recreation Ground and The Phil Grundy Sports and Community Centre are currently rated as "standard" quality so capacity can be increased by improving the pitch quality.

Haxey Playing Fields and Hirst Priory are currently rated as "good" so other options should be considered to increase capacity such as increasing the number of wickets, the use of non-turf wickets or alternative sites for match play.

Summary

Below summarises the key points identified in this scenario testing.

- The All Stars programme is going to have an impact on the demand for cricket across North Lincolnshire.
- Four sites are at risk of not being able to meet this demand or becoming overplayed.
- At this sites priority should be given to increase capacity through:
 - Improving pitch quality
 - Increasing the number of wickets
 - The use of non-turf wickets
 - The use of alternative sites